

Campaign 61  
Skirmish 9  
May 15, 2020

# The Dispatch

Editor  
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## Newsletter of The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table

Welcome to our fellowship forum where we discuss our past, emphasizing remembrance, education & preservation.

Meetings held at The Radisson Penn-Harris Hotel—1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania  
Online: [harrisburgcwrt.org](http://harrisburgcwrt.org)

## Friday, May 15 — Meeting Cancelled

“Stay-at-home” orders are extended into May. As such, the HCWRT will not meet this month due to the continuing need for social distancing to combat the COVID-19 virus.

We were very much looking forward to this year's Nye-Sommers lecture. Dr. Allen C. Guelzo, formerly of Gettysburg College and now a Senior Research Scholar at Princeton, was to speak on Robert E. Lee. The good news is that he has agreed to reschedule and be our speaker for the Nye-Sommers lecture in May of 2021.

We hope all our members are safe and well, and will stay that way until we can meet again. In the meantime, please continue to enjoy the alternate electronic sources listed in April's newsletter. In case you missed it, here is a link: <https://harrisburgcwrt.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2020-Apr.pdf>

This month, Joe Boslet graciously shares with us titles of some of his go-to books in his study of Gettysburg. In the February newsletter we listed his favorite “basic” books that should be in every Civil War library. That list is repeated here.

Take a look at these two lists and add some of your favorites—let the editor know and they will be included in an upcoming newsletter.

### Meeting Schedule—Campaign 61

6/19/20  
Cold Harbor  
Bert Dunkerly  
(maybe)

New Officers and Committee members will be listed in the June newsletter

#### Executive Officers

**President**, Linda Meenaghan  
Meenaghan1961@comcast.net

**Vice President**, Steve Smith  
smith337@erau.edu.

**Treasurer**, Norm Daniels  
nld500@aol.com

**Secretary**, Ed Hicks  
secretary@harrisburgcwrt.org

#### Web Links (CTRL + click)

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Joe Boslet

Rick Eiserman

Greg Hillebrand

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**Communications/PR**, Todd Little

**Field Trip**, Steve Smith

**Membership**, Sam Waldrop

**Newsletter**, Tracy Sommers

**Nominating**, Jim Moss

**Preservation**, Curtis Wolf

**Program**, Al Mackey

**Webmaster**, John West

## *The President's Pen*

I hope all of you continue to be well! It was hard to cancel meetings the last two months—especially the Nye/Sommers lecture—but I know it was the right decision. I really hope that this is not the “new normal” for our round table.

If you are missing our meetings as much as I am, there are opportunities to view lectures online via YouTube, on Facebook, and archived on various sites including American History Channel, (CSPAN3) and AHEC. Make use of these opportunities until we can meet again.

Please look for future announcements about our June meeting. This is traditionally our business meeting where the new officers are installed. We are still looking for volunteers. Please let one of the board members know of your willingness to serve.

Hoping to see you soon,

Linda Meenaghan

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### *20 Best Books on the Battle of Gettysburg*

Here is one for everyone in our Gettysburg-centric area to ponder: “what would you consider the best books on Gettysburg and ones that serious buffs should have in their library”? This should raise some dust. I will not repeat ones that were included on the 25 books list to have in your basic Civil War library (like Coddington). So here it is for your consideration:

- The Bachelder Papers*, 3 Vol., Ladd and Sauers, Morningside Press
- The Gettysburg Papers*, 2 Vol., Bondy, Freeland, and Bearss, Morningside Press
- Gettysburg Campaign Atlas*, Laino, Gettysburg Press
- Morning at Willoughby Run*, Shue, Thomas Publications
- Guide to the Battle of Gettysburg*, Luvass, Nelson, and Fullenkamp, Kansas Press
- Gettysburg July 1*, Martin, Combined Books
- Brigades of Gettysburg*, Gottfried, De Capo
- Gettysburg July 2: The Ebb and Flow of Battle*, Woods, Canister Press/*Gettysburg Day 2: A Study in Maps*, Imhof, Butternut and Blue
- The Maps of Gettysburg*, Gottfried, Savas Beatie
- Gettysburg – The First Day, Gettysburg – the Second Day; and Gettysburg – Culp’s Hill and Cemetery Hill*, Pfanz, UNC – Chapel Hill Press
- The Battle of Gettysburg Cyclorama – A History and Guide*, Boardman and Porch, Thomas Publications/*The Gettysburg Cyclorama: The Turning Point of the Civil War on Canvas*, Boardman, Brenneman, and Dowling, Savas Beatie
- Pickett’s Charge – The Last Attack at Gettysburg*, Hess, UNC – Chapel Hill/*Pickett’s Charge at Gettysburg*, Hessler and Motts (Stanley maps), Savas Beatie
- The Union Generals Speak*, Hyde, LSU
- The Gettysburg Campaign in Numbers and Losses*, Petruzzi and Stanley, Savas Beatie/*Regimental Strengths and Losses at Gettysburg*, Busey and Martin, Longstreet House Press
- Early Photographs at Gettysburg/Gettysburg – A Journey in Time*, Frassanito, both Thomas Pub.
- The Complete Gettysburg Guide*, Petruzzi and Stanley, Savas Beatie/*A Field Guide to Gettysburg*, Reardon and Vossler, UNC Press
- Gettysburg*, Sears, Houghton Mifflin
- One Continuous Fight*, Wittenberg, Petruzzi, and Nugent, Savas Beatie/*Retreat From Gettysburg*, Brown, UNC – Chapel Hill Press
- Civil War Art – Gettysburg*, Kunstler/Gallon/Rocco/Price/Gettysburg Diographics
- Spies, Scouts, and Secrets in the Gettysburg Campaign*, Ryan, Savas Beatie
- Three Days at Gettysburg – Essays on Confederate and Union Leadership*, Gallagher, Kent State

I know, there are more than 20 but enjoy the ‘extra’ listings. You should find that this will provide good coverage of the battle from many perspectives and give you something to think about. Read onward!

Compiled by: Joe Boslet, March 5, 2020

## *The 25 Books in a Basic Civil War Library*

Members have always been interested in this subject. This has been talked about often and it may be time again to get this out in front of everyone for further conversation. The last time we did this was, well, too long ago so strap yourselves in. In a Gettysburg-centric area, it was a little tough to assemble the listing without having any books on Gettysburg, even though I have Coddington's book, but that is for a particular reason. And there are no specific battle books except Dr. Sommers' and that was for it being a prime example of sheer scholarship. We would appreciate your comments and look forward to informed discussions. The listing is in no particular order (that would be madness) so enjoy:

1. *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War* including Volume 5 and 6 edited by Peter Cozzens
2. *The Image of War: 1861-1865*, 6 Vols, The National Historical Society
3. *The Gettysburg Campaign*, Edwin Coddington (inclusion for model campaign study)
4. *Lee's Lieutenants*, 3 Vols, Douglas Southall Freeman
5. *The Civil War Dictionary*, Mark Boatner III
6. *The Civil War: A Narrative*, 3 Vols, Shelby Foote
7. *West Point Atlas of the Civil War*
8. *Richmond Redeemed*, Dr. Richard Sommers (inclusion for model of sheer scholarship)
9. *Numbers and Losses in the Civil War in America 1861-1865*, Thomas Livermore
10. *Mary Chesnut's Civil War*, Mary Chesnut
11. *The Annals/New Annals of the Civil War*, 2 Vols
12. *The Civil War Day by Day*, E.B. and Barbara Long
13. *Battle Tactics of the Civil War*, Paddy Griffith
14. *The Civil War*, 4 Vols, The Library of America
15. *The Bloody Crucible of Courage*, Brent Nosworthy
16. *The Art of War*, Baron De Jomini
17. *Generals in Blue/Gray*, Ezra Warner
18. *Campaigns of the Civil War*, 14 Volumes incl Supplement (Gettysburg to Rapidan) Scribners
19. *A Compendium of the War of Rebellion*, 2 Vols, Frederick Dyer
20. *Uniforms, Weapons, and Equipment of the Civil War*, David Miller OR *Arms and Equipment of the Civil War*, Jack Coggins
21. *American Heritage Picture History of The Civil War*, Bruce Catton
22. *Civil War Art of Mort Kunstler*
23. *Crucible of Command*, William C. (Jack) Davis

And for the truly ambitious,

24. *War of the Rebellion Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 128 Vols
25. *Southern Historical Society Papers*, 52 Vols plus 3 Index Vols.

Compiled By: Joe Boslet, HCWRT February 2, 2020



## The Dispatch

The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table  
PO Box 124  
Mechanicsburg, PA

May 2020

Gen. John W. Geary  
Gettysburg NMP

### The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table

Where we discuss our past, emphasizing remembrance, education & preservation. **All Are Welcome!**  
Meetings held (usually) the fourth Friday of the month at The Radisson Penn-Harris Hotel, Route 15, Camp Hill, PA

Online: [harrisburgcwr.org](http://harrisburgcwr.org)



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#### \*\*New Members Only\*\*

- Individual \$34 (includes badge)
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- Full Time Student \$9 (includes badge)

Individual or Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Contact: Norm Daniels, Treasurer, 500 Bonneymeade Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17111

E-mail: [hcvrt.membership@gmail.com](mailto:hcvrt.membership@gmail.com)