

## 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—150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania and on Zoom  
Online: [harrisburgcwrt.org](http://harrisburgcwrt.org)

### September 24 — Dr. Mo Becker, Colonel, USMC (Ret.) “Stinkpots & Turtles”—1862 Combined Army & Navy Operations on the Muddy Mississippi

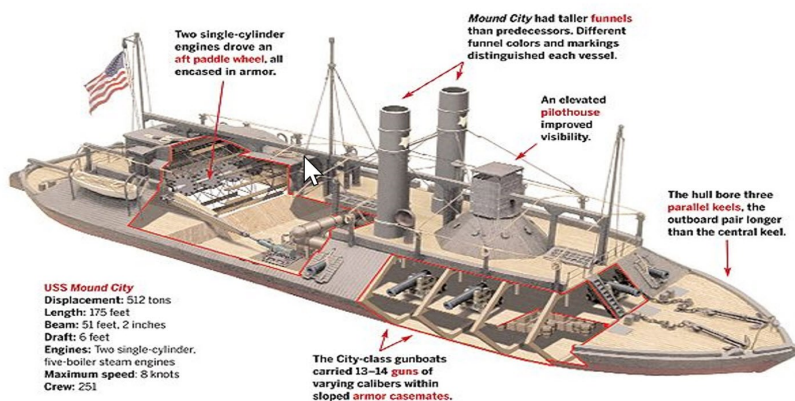
Please join us on Friday, September 24, as we resume live dinner meetings at the Radisson Hotel with a presentation on riverine operations by HCWRT member, Dr. Michael “Mo” Becker.

A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Dr. Becker served as a commanding officer of Marines at every rank from Second Lieutenant to Colonel. His assignments included duties in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific region with more than 200 days deployed at sea. He retired with the rank of Colonel after 28 years of active service. He received an M.S. from University of Southern California in Systems Management, an M.A. from the U.S. Naval War College in National Security and Strategic Studies, and was awarded his Ph.D. from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in Administration and Leadership Studies. He most recently served as the Senior Director of Enrollment Management at Milton Hershey School until August 2018.



A published author, he has been interviewed by ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, the Wall Street Journal, USA Today.

While the Civil War was essentially a land war, naval forces on both sides affected the trajectory of the conflict. The story of the battles in the Mississippi River Valley is one of people and untried weapons technology, the ironclad. The River War of 1862 constituted a pivotal factor in turning the tide against the Confederacy, splitting the Confederacy from their important western states with vast resources of food and materiel, and forcing the Confederacy into an untenable strategic position.



USS Mound City  
Displacement: 512 tons  
Length: 175 feet  
Beam: 51 feet, 2 inches  
Draft: 6 feet  
Engines: Two single-cylinder, five-boiler steam engines  
Maximum speed: 8 knots  
Crew: 251

#### DINNER IS SERVED!

FRIDAY, September 24  
Keystone E—Convention Center

6:00 pm—St. James Punch      6:45 pm—Dinner  
7:45 pm—Meeting              8:00 pm—Talk

#### Menu Options:

- (A) Grilled Salmon with Citrus Ginger Butter
- (B) Lemon Basil Chicken

The dinner also includes

Mixed Green Salad, Freshly Baked Rolls with Butter

Dessert: Chef's Choice

Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$24 per person.

Dinner reservations must be made no later than 12:00 noon  
MONDAY, September 20

Email menu choices to Don Madar at [krivan12@yahoo.com](mailto:krivan12@yahoo.com), or  
phone Don at (814) 397-0072

#### Executive Officers

President, Steve Smith  
[smith337@erau.edu](mailto:smith337@erau.edu)

Vice President, John West  
[john@johnwest.com](mailto:john@johnwest.com)

Treasurer, Norm Daniels  
[nld500@aol.com](mailto:nld500@aol.com)

Secretary, Ed Hicks  
[secretary@harrisburgcwrt.org](mailto:secretary@harrisburgcwrt.org)

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## President's Pen

*"Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more!"*

—William Shakespeare, Henry V

On Friday, September 24, the Harrisburg CWRT will hold its first live dinner meeting at the Radisson Hotel in Camp Hill in over 18 months. Our Board of Directors met last June and voted unanimously to return to our traditional dinner meeting format for Campaign 63, based on a membership survey that showed overwhelming support for doing so. If you are fully vaccinated, we hope you will join us as we attempt to resume normal operations. If you are not fully vaccinated, please do not put yourself or others at risk; continue to participate in our meetings virtually via Zoom from the safety of your own home.

Our Board felt we owed it to members who have been waiting patiently for such a long time to resume live meetings. There will undoubtedly be some growing pains as we try to get our battle rhythm back, so please be patient with us. Attempting to broadcast via Zoom from the Radisson will present new challenges, but we will make every attempt to continue to reach out virtually to our members who are unable to join us in person for our engagements.

The HCWRT has a long tradition of inviting our members to address our meetings. To kick off Campaign 63, Dr. Mo Becker, a retired USMC Colonel who joined our ranks several years ago, has put together a fascinating presentation on riverine operations in the Western theater. It is unlike anything you've seen or heard before. Please come out and show your support for a member who has been a big supporter of our Round Table.

September's meeting will take place in the Keystone E meeting room in the Convention Center portion to the Radisson Hotel. The evening's festivities will begin at 6:00 pm with a social hour. We'll sit down to dinner at 6:45 pm. Announcements begin at 7:45 pm, and the speaker will begin his talk at 8:00 pm. As in the past, there will be seats in the back of the room for those who just want to come for the talk. If you are not coming for dinner, we ask that you be in your seats by 7:45 pm.

Those planning to join us for dinner should email their menu choices to our Membership Chair, Don Madar, at [krivan12@yahoo.com](mailto:krivan12@yahoo.com) by 12:00 noon on Monday, September 20. Those without email accounts may call in their orders to Don at (814) 397-0072.

To help celebrate our return to normal operations, we will be unveiling our new HCWRT banner and holding a silent auction of a framed Mort Kunstler print donated by one of our members. It is entitled, appropriately, "Until We Meet Again." See page 3 for more details.

If you are tuning in by Zoom, we will begin admitting folks to the "Zoom room" at 7:30, and ask that everyone tune in not later than 7:45. Here's the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87615454810> No password is required. If you are dialing in to watch, the number to call is (301) 715-8592. The meeting ID number is 876 1545 4810.

Steve Smith

## Meeting Schedule—Campaign 63

**10/15/21**

*Gettysburg 1963*

Dr. Jill Oglie Titus

**11/12/21**

*Confederate Monuments and More History*

Dr. Scott Hancock

**12/9/21 (Thursday)**

*Confederate Catastrophes: Strategic Reasons for Southern Defeat*

Dr. Christian Keller

**1/21/22**

*The Battle of Antietam*

D. Scott Hartwig

**2/18/22**

*Gettysburg's Rebel Commissioner: Life & Legacy of William Robbins*

Christopher Gwinn

**3/18/22**

*Educational Programs at Gettysburg*

Barbara Sanders

**4/15/22**

*Gen. Robert E. Lee, The Army of Northern Virginia and the 1865 Guerrilla War Option Revisited*

Dr. Barton Myers

**5/20/22**

*At the Cannon's Mouth: Battlefield Relics & the Making of Civil War Memory*

Dr. James Broomall

**6/9/22 (Thursday) — Nye-Sommers Lecture**

*Meade at Gettysburg: A Study in Command*

Kent Masterson Brown



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## *An Update on Our Fall Field Trips*

Our long-awaited and twice-postponed field trip to Antietam took place on Saturday, September 11, 2021. We had fabulous weather and a wonderful lunch at the Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown, WV.

Guide Dennis Frye delivered a brilliant performance, and made us reassess any preconceived notions we had about the battle, while paying tribute to those we lost on 9/11. It was a moving and unforgettable experience.

We took a group photo in front of the monument to the 130th PA Infantry, which was composed of troops from our area. The 130th saw its first combat at Antietam, where they fought valiantly and helped turn a sunken road into what was thenceforth called "Bloody Lane."



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Our second field trip of the fall, to Fredericksburg, VA with guide Chris Mackowski, will take place on Saturday, October 23. As this newsletter goes to press we still have a dozen seats available for that trip, so if you are interested, ***don't delay, register today!***



*Battle of Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862*

If you have already signed up and only paid the \$25.00 deposit, the \$70.00 balance is due not later than September 23, 2021.

If you are signing up now, send our Treasurer, Norm Daniels, a check for the full \$95.00 cost of the trip. As in the past, if more people sign up than the bus can accommodate, we will start a waiting list.

Don't miss this opportunity to visit the battlefield where the 130th PA engaged in their second big battle. Here is the link to the Fredericksburg flyer:

<https://harrisburgcwrt.org/events/field-trip-fredericksburg-va/>

**As a reminder, everyone participating in our field trips this fall is required to provide proof of a vaccination against COVID-19 before boarding the bus.**

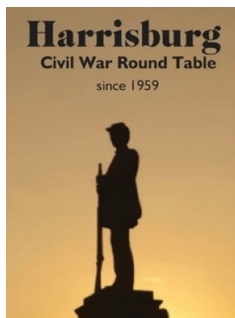
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## *Silent Auction*

At our September engagement we will hold a silent auction of this beautifully framed print by Mort Kunstler. It depicts General Stonewall Jackson and his wife outside the Hudson River Gothic Revival style cottage in Winchester, VA that served as his headquarters during the winter of 1861-1862. The house is open to the public and contains the largest collection of Jackson memorabilia.

If you are unable to attend the September meeting but would like to bid on the print, email your bid to our Treasurer, Norm Daniels, at [nld500@aol.com](mailto:nld500@aol.com) or call him at (717) 712-7494 with your bid. The winner will be announced at our October engagement.





130th PA Monument  
Antietam National  
Battlefield

## *The Dispatch*

The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table  
500 Bonnymead Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17111

September 2021

### The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table

Where we discuss our past, emphasizing remembrance, education & preservation. **All Are Welcome!**

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



Follow the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table on  
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### Harrisburg Civil War Round Table Enlistment Form

#### Current Member Renewal

- ☐ Individual \$24
- ☐ Family \$36
- ☐ Full Time Student \$5

#### Donations\*

- ☐ \$25
- ☐ \$50
- ☐ \$100
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (specify)

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Contacts:

For questions call: Don Madar, Membership, Phone: (814) 397-0072, email [hcwrt.membership@gmail.com](mailto:hcwrt.membership@gmail.com)

Mail checks to: Norm Daniels, Treasurer, Phone (717) 561-0613, 500 Bonnymead Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17111

If your donation is made in memory or in recognition of someone, please provide name(s) here: \_\_\_\_\_