

Campaign 63
Skirmish 8
April 15, 2022

The Dispatch

Editor
Tracy Sommers
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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 virtually on Zoom

Online: harrisburgcwr.org

Friday, April 15 — Barton A. Myers, Ph.D.

Gen. Robert E. Lee, The Army of Northern Virginia and the 1865 Guerrilla War Option: A Reconsideration

Dr. Barton A. Myers is Class of 1960 Professor of Ethics and History at Washington and Lee University and the author of the awarding winning *Executing Daniel Bright: Race, Loyalty, and Guerrilla Violence in a Coastal Carolina Community, 1861-1865* (LSU Press, 2009), *Rebels Against the Confederacy: North Carolina's Unionists* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2014), and co-editor with Brian D. McKnight of *The Guerrilla Hunters: Irregular Conflicts during the Civil War* (LSU Press, 2017).

Dr. Myers received his B.A., Phi Beta Kappa from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Georgia. Professor Myers has taught at Cornell University, the University of Georgia, and Texas Tech University, and before becoming a professor, served as a public historian with the National Park Service at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park where he led tours of some of America's most historic battlefields.

He is also a past nominee for the "Rising Star Faculty Award" given by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, and the recipient of a Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation fellowship for his research on violence, aggression, and dominance in American history. Dr. Myers' work has been featured in the national media, including the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Smerconish.com, Sirius XM's "The Michael Smerconish Program", CSPAN's "American History TV", National Public Radio's *Virginia Insight*, and the *Civil War Monitor*. Most recently, he was featured in the acclaimed HISTORY Channel documentary series GRANT, produced by Leonardo DiCaprio and historian Ron Chernow.

Dr. Myers' talk examines the reasons for General Robert E. Lee's strategic military decision to surrender his army to General Ulysses S. Grant as opposed to adopting an irregular warfare strategy with his remaining force in April 1865. It follows Lee's own life as well as his specific wartime experiences related to the use of partisan and guerrilla warfare. As such, it sheds new light on an often-studied event and familiar cast of historical characters.

He will deliver his talk via Zoom. To join the meeting, click on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85973234309>

Meeting ID: 859 7323 4309. [Password not required]

Or call 1-301-715-8592

(if you are not local, click link below for your call in number)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85973234309>



Dr. Myers' website is: www.bartonamyers.com

Facebook page: "The Art of Command during the American Civil War" <https://www.facebook.com/artofcommand/>

Please join the meeting by 7:15 pm

Attending Zoom Meetings

To download the Zoom app (one time only):

1. Click on the Zoom link in the newsletter or Web site and then click *OK* to skip the prompt
2. At the bottom of the browser window click the link *download & run Zoom*
3. Type your name and select *Join Meeting*
4. Select *Join with Video* and *Join with Computer Audio*

To join a Zoom meeting—2 ways:

- ◆ Click on the invitation link—to see attendees and speaker
 - ◆ Dial in on the phone number—to only hear meeting
1. Either way you join, then key the *Meeting ID*
 2. At the end of the meeting, click *Leave Meeting* button at the bottom right of the screen

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smith337@erau.edu

Vice President, John West
john@johnwest.com

Treasurer, Norm Daniels
nld500@aol.com

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secretary@harrisburgcwr.org

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Newsletter, Tracy Sommers

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President's Pen

Now is the Time for All Good Men and Women to Come to the Aid of Their Round Table!

My two-year tenure as President of the Harrisburg CWRT will come to an end in June, and I will be handing off the reins to our very capable and well-rehearsed Vice-President, John West. John has helped guide us through the most difficult period in our organization's long and storied history, and I have absolute confidence in his ability to lead us through future challenges. But he cannot do it alone. He will need the help of our members who are willing to step up and take their turn in filling the vacancies that will open on our Board of Directors at the end of Campaign 63.

If you are interested in filling any of the positions listed below, now is the time to speak up and let John or me know of that interest, so we can prepare a ballot for the elective positions and hold elections at our June engagement. Here are the openings we need to fill this spring:

- ◆ **Program Chair:** Al Mackey has done a superb job attracting world-class Civil War historians to speak to our Round Table. Whoever volunteers for this elective position will need to carry on his good work by staying current on who is writing the best books and giving the most interesting talks on Civil War topics, and persuade those authors of the value of addressing one of the oldest and most dynamic CWRTs in the country. The Program Chair provides contact info, bios, photos, and synopses of upcoming talks to the Round Table leadership, newsletter editor, and webmaster, and performs other related duties as needed.
- ◆ **Membership Chair:** Don Madar has worked hard over the last two years in this elective position to recruit new members in the midst of a pandemic, no easy task. He and our Treasurer, Norm Daniels, developed new spreadsheets to help keep track of who has paid their dues and made donations, which should make the job of his successor easier. As the pandemic subsides, the Membership Chair will help lead the effort to address civic groups, colleges, and sister organizations and develop recruiting and advertising materials so we can continue to attract new members and raise the profile of our Round Table. PR is a big part of this job.
- ◆ **Preservation Chair:** This appointive position involves, among other duties, keeping track of opportunities to help the American Battlefield Trust save historic battlefields from development. The incumbent needs to stay current on matching offers, and make recommendations to the Board on where our preservation dollars will have the most impact. For example, at our winter Board meeting, we voted to send \$500 to help save an important piece of the Williamsburg 1862 battlefield. This opportunity had a \$163 to \$1 match, which instantly turned our \$500 contribution into \$81,500! Talk about getting bang for your buck. You can really make an impact in this job.
- ◆ **Director:** Bruce Apgar's six-year term to this elective position comes to an end in June, and we are looking for someone to fill his shoes. Directors are expected to attend engagements and all Board meetings, and help advise the leadership team on important decisions that will affect the future of our Round Table. Prior Round Table experience is helpful, but not required. A desire to serve and make a difference is.



Anyone interested in serving in any of these critical positions should contact John West at 412-217-1234 or john@johnfwest.com or me at 717-433-0209 or smith337@erau.edu for more information. *Please do your part to ensure the continued success of our Round Table!*

Steve Smith

Meeting Schedule—Campaign 63

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

Spring Field Trip Update

As announced in the March edition of this newsletter, the Harrisburg and Hershey Civil War Round Tables will sponsor a spring field trip to the Pipe Creek Line in northern Maryland, which was Major General George G. Meade's fallback position during the Gettysburg campaign. Licensed Battlefield Guide Chris Army has agreed to take us from one end of that line to the other on Sunday, May 22, 2022.



This will be excellent preparation for our Nye-Sommers lecture on June 9, at which celebrated author Kent Masterson Brown will speak on his latest book, *Meade at Gettysburg: A Study In Command*. Much of that book is devoted to the Pipe Creek Line and its impact on how the Union Army approached the town of Gettysburg. You will get a lot more out of his lecture if you join us on this trip on May 22.

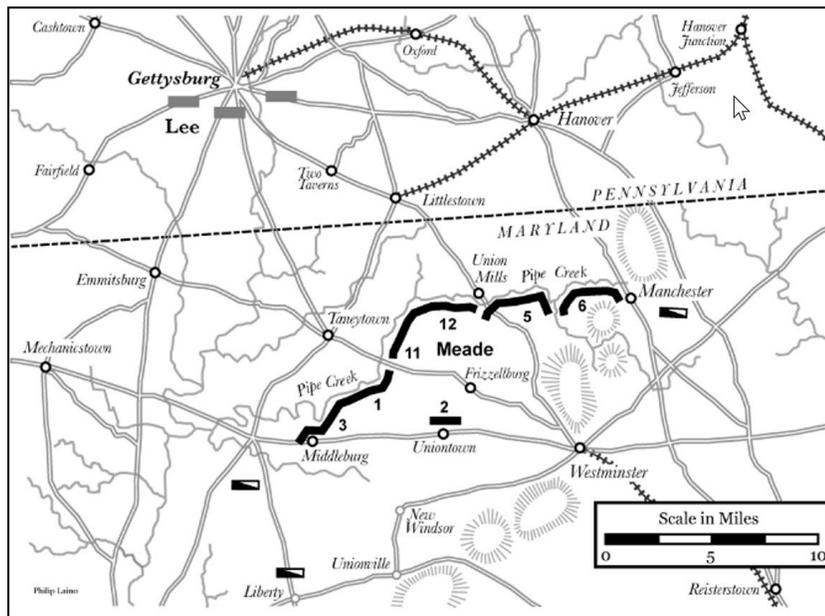
The price of the trip is \$95.00, which includes round trip transportation by motor coach, lunch, guide honorarium, driver gratuity, and entrance fees. We will depart Lower Dauphin High School in Hummelstown at 8:30 am and the Camp Hill Penn Harris Hotel at 9:00 am. We'll stop briefly in Gettysburg to pick up our guide, then spend five hours in the rolling hills of northern Maryland exploring the entire Pipe Creek Line. We'll get you back to your original pick-up point before 5:00 pm. Participants will emerge with a fresh perspective on how the Gettysburg campaign evolved.

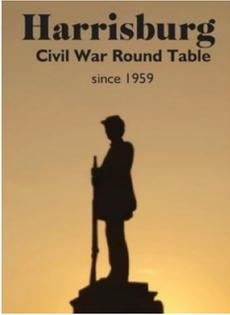
As was the case on our field trips last fall, in the interests of safety, participants will be required to provide proof they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before boarding the bus. Masks are optional, but you should bring one along in case any of the places we visit require one.

As this newsletter goes to press, we have only **nine** empty seats on the bus to fill, having given first dibs to those who had signed up for a spring field trip to explore Mosby's Confederacy that had to be cancelled when our guides dropped out due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict. We anticipate these remaining seats will fill up fast, so if you would like to join us, **don't delay, register today!** If you would like to participate, email our Treasurer, Norm Daniels, at nld500@aol.com or call him at 717-712-7494 and ask him to hold a seat for you. Norm will send you a registration form to complete.

If we should run out of seats on the bus, we will put the names of those who would like to attend on a waiting list, and, as participants drop out for one reason or another, as they inevitably do, we will move names up on the waiting list. Rarely have we had to turn anyone away who wishes to join us on one of our field trips.

This promises to be an exciting and timely trip that will keep our popular field trip program alive and our campers happy. Don't miss it!





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

April 2022

130th PA Monument
Antietam National
Battlefield

The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table

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

Meetings will be held virtually on Zoom until further notice.

Online: harrisburgcwr.org



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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
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: _____