

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 Central Penn College Conference Center and virtually on Zoom
Online: harrisburgcwrt.org

Friday, November 11—John S. Heiser The Great Reunion of 1913 at Gettysburg

Join us on November 11 for a special Veterans Day presentation on The Great Reunion of Civil War veterans that took place on the Gettysburg battlefield in the summer of 1913. We are privileged to have as our speaker John S. Heiser, who served as a National Park Service Historian at Gettysburg prior to his retirement in 2020, and whose eloquent lectures and inspiring battle walks attracted large and enthusiastic audiences.



The Reunion of 1913 was hoped to be a unique encampment, a massive assembly of Union and Confederate veterans gathered together on one of the most significant of Civil War battlefields to observe and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, what many considered to have been the “High Water Mark of the Rebellion.” Not only was it an opportunity for Pennsylvania to host such a momentous event, but a chance for the United States Government to showcase the transformation of Gettysburg from battlefield to memorial park, where the armies of both North and South would forever be memorialized.



The response from veterans North and South was overwhelming - over 50,000 former foes came to Gettysburg. It was a gathering that some believed would be a disaster with no good coming from it. But America was at a turning point, both socially and internationally, and the politicians who chose to ignore the event were caught off guard by its significance and the spirit of brotherhood and unification exhibited by former enemies who camped side by side on the battlefield where so many of them had lost comrades and risked so much to decide the fate of this nation. Was this Great Reunion finally the “national reunification” so many had hoped for 50 years after the final shot of the battle had been fired?

Doors open at 6:00 pm, dinner begins at 6:45 pm. Those who are unable to attend this engagement in person are invited to tune in to the lecture and Q&A session via Zoom. The link is in the box below.

Please join the Zoom meeting by 7:30 pm.

Attending On Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84374216530>

Meeting ID: 843 7421 6530 [Password not required]

Or local call: 1-301-715-8592

For a non-local call in number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84374216530>



Buffet Dinner Selections

Chicken Caprese, Citrus Salmon, Smashed Yukon Gold Potatoes, Sugar Peas and Julienne Carrots, Mixed Field Greens, House-made Soup du Jour, Assorted Cookies, Rolls and Butter, Iced Tea, Lemonade, Water, Coffee and Tea

Cost: \$24 per person (pay at the door)

Dinner reservations must be made no later than noon on Monday, November 7

Phone: Brian Foster at 717-962-6122 or
Email: hcwrt.membership@gmail.com



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"This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave."
—Elmer Davis

We had a small but loyal turnout for our October speaker, Peter C. Miele, and his presentation on Dr. W.W. Keen and the advancement of Civil War medicine. A singular individual, Dr. Keen had a long and fascinating medical career spanning the American Civil War and the First World War. Along the way he treated several presidents and lived well into his 90's. Our new venue, Central Penn Conference Center, provided delicious and plentiful fare for our famished participants. A photo of our October attendees appears below.

Please consider being a part of our next engagement on Friday, November 11, 2022, which is Veterans Day. Members are encouraged to invite veterans to come as their guests. All veterans are encouraged to wear their medals. To honor the service of those who have worn the nation's cloth, all veterans who come for dinner will enjoy a free meal courtesy of the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table.



I cannot imagine a better topic for Veterans Day than The Great Reunion of 1913 at Gettysburg, or a better speaker on that historic event than John Heiser, who is coming out of retirement to reprise one his most popular battle walk topics for us. John spent 44 years with the National Park Service, 40 of them at Gettysburg. A master raconteur, he is also a skilled cartographer who has produced maps for numerous books and magazine articles on Gettysburg. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from this celebrated NPS historian and honor the service of all our veterans, past and present.

November's meeting will be at the Central Penn Conference Center located at 600 Valley Rd. in Summerdale, near Enola. Doors open at 6:00 pm. A large collection of books, magazines, and prints that were donated during the pandemic will be for sale.

Dinner will be served at 6:45 pm. Those planning to join us for dinner should RSVP to our membership chair, Brian Foster, at HCWRT.membership@gmail.com or at 717-962-6122. Those who order dinner are responsible for paying for their meal whether or not they attend.

Dinner is still only \$24.00 (pay at the door). ***The deadline for making dinner reservations is noon on Monday, November 7.***

Those planning on attending the lecture only should arrive by 7:45, and those attending by Zoom will be admitted around 7:30 pm and must be on by 7:45.

Mark your calendars now and plan on joining us for this special salute to our vets!

John West

Meeting Schedule—Campaign 64

12/8/22 (THURSDAY)

Union Army Provost Marshals and Emancipation
Cooper H. Wingert

1/20/23

Toward a Theory of War for Robert E. Lee: New Archival Evidence
Dr. Christian B. Keller

2/17/23

Reel History: Black Troops in Civil War Cinema
Jared T. Frederick

3/17/23

Lee Invades the North: A Comparison of the Antietam and Gettysburg Campaigns
Dr. Bradley M. Gottfried

4/14/23

July 1, 1863: What Did Reynolds Know and When Did He Know It?
James A. Hessler

5/19/23

Copperheads and Draft Resistance in PA During the Civil War
Dr. Robert M. Sandow

6/8/23 (THURSDAY) — Nye-Sommers Lecture

Lee's Army After Appomattox
Dr. Caroline Janney, winner of the prestigious Gilder-Lehrman Lincoln Prize

Spring Field Trip to Chancellorsville

Our spring field trip to Chancellorsville, VA will take place on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Chris Mackowski did such a superlative job as our guide to The Wilderness and Fredericksburg battlefields, we asked what he could do for an encore. What better way to commemorate the 160th anniversary of “Lee’s Greatest Battle” than do have Chris guide us through the Chancellorsville battlefield!

The flyer for this field trip is posted in the Events section of our website, and can be accessed by clicking on this link: <https://harrisburgcwr.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Chancellorsville-2023-Field-Trip-Flyer.pdf> Lunch will be at the ever-popular Battlefield Country Store.

Cost of the trip per person remains only \$95.00. If you’d like to join us, print out a copy of the flyer, fill out the registration form at the bottom, and mail it to our treasurer, Norm Daniels, at 500 Bonnymead Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17111, along with a check for \$25.00 to hold your seat. [The \$70.00 balance is not due until April 6.]

This promises to be truly memorable excursion. *Don’t delay, register today!*



Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, November 5, 2022** at 1:00 pm — National Civil War Museum Lessons in History Series, “The Civil War in Maryland Reconsidered” with Charles W. Mitchell. Free event.
- **Wednesday, November 9, 2022** at 7:00 pm — Army Heritage Center Foundation Webinar – “Romance Amid the Ruins: The Confederate Letters of General Gabriel Wharton and Nannie Radford” with HCWRT lifetime member William C. (Jack) Davis. Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RndPAAV6RkOmkd0KwjAjmO
- **Saturday, November 12, 2022** at 6:00 pm — Illumination and lantern tour of veterans’ graves at Paxton Presbyterian Churchyard, 3500 Sharon Street, Paxtang – bring a flashlight or cell phone.

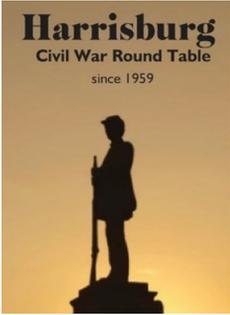
Reminder—Dues & Donations



All HCWRT members are encouraged to re-enlist for Campaign 64 by the end of October. If you have already done so, many thanks. If you have yet to “re-up,” you can use the form on the back of this newsletter or the one at the bottom of the membership page on our website: <https://harrisburgcwr.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/HCWRT-Enlistment-Form-FINAL-rev.pdf> .

If you are in a position to make a donation in addition to paying your dues, please consider doing so. The generosity of our members got us through Campaign 63, enabling us to defray the costs of Zoom technology, honoraria, publicity, and battlefield preservation. For more information, contact our Membership Chair, Brian Foster, 717-962-6122 or hcwrt.membership@gmail.com.

New with Campaign 64 is the sale of a wide variety of books, magazines and prints at each engagement.



The Dispatch

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

November 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 are held at Central Penn College Conference Center, 600 Valley Road, Summerdale, PA



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Facebook and on Twitter@HarrisburgCWRT



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: Brian Foster, Membership, Phone: 717-962-6122, 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: _____