

## Newsletter of The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table

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

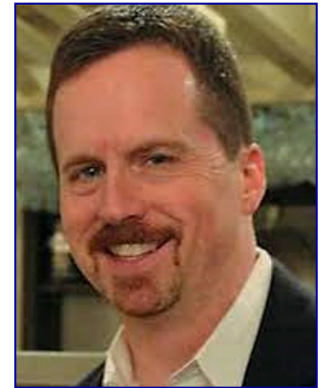
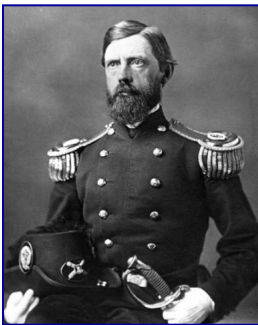
Meetings held at Central Penn College Conference Center and virtually on Zoom

*April 14 — James A. Hessler*

### *July 1, 1863: What Did Reynolds Know and When Did He Know It?*

Join us on Friday, April 14, as celebrated historian James A. Hessler discusses the events of the fateful first day of the battle of Gettysburg, focusing on what Major General John F. Reynolds knew, and when he knew it.

Mr. Hessler is a popular Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg National Military Park. His book, *Sickles at Gettysburg*, was awarded the R.E. Lee Civil War Round Table's Bachelder Coddington Award and the Gettysburg Civil War Round Table's Distinguished Book Award as the most outstanding work on the Gettysburg Campaign of 2009. His book, *Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg*, which he co-authored with longtime Harrisburg CWRT member Wayne Motts, was published in 2015. His most recent book, *Gettysburg's Peach Orchard: Longstreet, Sickles, and the Bloody Fight for the "Commanding Ground" Along the Emmitsburg Road*, which he co-authored with Britt C. Isenberg, was published in 2019.



Mr. Hessler has been a guest on NPR, the Travel Channel, PCN-TV, Breitbart News, and Civil War Radio, and has taught courses for the Gettysburg Foundation and Harrisburg Area Community College. He lives in Gettysburg with his wife and children.

He last spoke to our Round Table in December 2016 on Pickett's Charge. He and Licensed Battlefield Guide Chris Army planned the tour that formed the basis of our Pipe Creek Line field trip in May 2022. Mr. Hessler's talk on General Reynolds will pick up where that tour left off.

Those who are unable to attend this engagement in person are invited to tune in to the lecture and Q&A session via Zoom. Please click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89355934220>. No password is required. To dial in by phone, call 1-301-715-8592 or click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89355934220>. The meeting ID # is 893 5593 4220.

**Zoom participants should join the meeting by 7:30 pm.**

#### DINNER IS SERVED!

Friday, April 14

6:00 pm—Refreshments

7:45 pm—Announcements

6:45 pm—Dinner

8:00 pm—Presentation



#### *Buffet Dinner Selections*

Herb-marinated Flank Steak, Tilapia Olivia, Olive Oil Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans with Mushrooms & Shallots, Classic Caesar salad, House-made Soup du Jour, Assorted Cookies, Rolls and Butter, Drinks

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

**Dinner reservations must be made no later than noon on Monday, April 10**

Phone: Brian Foster at 717-962-6122 or  
Email: [hcwrt.membership@gmail.com](mailto:hcwrt.membership@gmail.com)



#### Executive Officers

**President**, John West  
[john@johnfwest.com](mailto:john@johnfwest.com)

**Vice President**, Mark Blanchard  
[almvp1980@gmail.com](mailto:almvp1980@gmail.com)

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

**Secretary**, Steve Williamson  
[secretary@harrisburgcwrt.org](mailto:secretary@harrisburgcwrt.org)

**Web Links** (CTRL + click)

[harrisburgcwrt.org](http://harrisburgcwrt.org)

**Register For:**

MEMBERSHIP

[harrisburgcwrt.org/membership/](http://harrisburgcwrt.org/membership/)

FIELD TRIPS

[harrisburgcwrt.org/events/](http://harrisburgcwrt.org/events/)

#### Directors

Mo Becker

Joe Boslet

Greg Hillebrand

Dana Ledger

Don Madar

Tracy Sommers

#### Standing Committees

**Audit**, Joe Boslet

**Communications/PR**, Todd Little

**Field Trips**, Steve Smith

**Membership**, Brian Foster

**Newsletter**, Tracy Sommers

**Nominating**, Steve Smith

**Preservation**, Ed Hicks

**Programs**, Steve Smith

**Webmaster**, Dana Ledger

## President's Pen

"The Civil War defined us as what we are and it opened us to being what we became, good and bad things...It was the crossroads of our being, and it was a hell of a crossroads."

— Shelby Foote



Now that spring is here, we hope more of our members will come out for dinner for the final three engagements of Campaign 64. Mark your calendars for the dates that appear at the bottom of this page, and note that the date of our June engagement has changed from Thursday, June 8 to Saturday, June 10. (See the article on our June engagement on page 3 for more details.)

I am pleased to report that our Secretary, Steve Williamson, has agreed to stand for election in June to fill our Treasurer position, which Norm Daniels has held for the last decade. Norm did a spectacular job keeping track of our finances, and I am confident Steve will carry on his good work. We are looking for someone to stand for election to the Secretary position which Steve currently holds. Anyone interested should contact me at 412-217-1234. My sincere thanks to all who have served or are willing to serve on our Board of Directors. We could not run the Round Table without your dedicated efforts. I tip my hat to all of you!

Those who attended our March engagement enjoyed a delicious meal, and a very stimulating presentation by Brad Gottfried. His book, *Lee Invades the North: A Comparison of the Antietam and Gettysburg Campaigns* is a must for your bookshelf.

As always, the food, facilities, and staff support at Central Penn College were exceptional. If you haven't been to our new venue, what are you waiting for? Now that the sun lingers longer, come out and break bread with us. Licensed Battlefield Guide Jim Hessler's talk on Major General John F. Reynolds at our April engagement promises to be informative and entertaining, and a perfect sequel to our Pipe Creek Line field trip last spring. Come see what all the excitement is about. You will not be disappointed!

John West

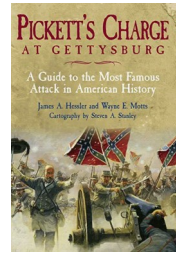
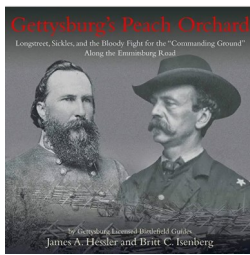
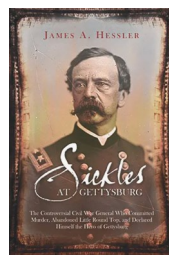


An enthusiastic group of history lovers came out on St. Patrick's Day for our March event.

Donations to the Harrisburg CWRT have been made in memory of

**Graeme Goodsir**

### Books by our April Speaker



### Meeting Schedule—Campaign 64

5/19/23

*Copperheads and Draft Resistance in PA During the Civil War*

Dr. Robert M. Sandow

6/10/23 (SATURDAY) — 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 on Saturday, May 6, is sold out and we've started a waiting list. If you are interested in having your name added to that list, contact Norm Daniels at 717-712-7494. As participants fall out for one reason or another, he will move you into an open seat. We've never had to leave anyone on a waiting list behind in the past. If you have already signed up and have paid your \$25.00 deposit, the \$70.00 balance is due to Norm by April 6. For more information on the trip, click on: <https://harrisburgcwr.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Chancellorsville-2023-Field-Trip-Flyer.pdf>

### CHANCELLORSVILLE 1863

#### *Upcoming Events*

Tuesday, April 11 – The 2023 Gilder-Lehrman Lincoln Prize will be presented at 8:00 pm to Jon Meacham for *And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle* and to Jonathan W. White for *A House Built by Slaves: African American Visitors to the Lincoln White House*. Register to watch via livestream at [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_JpOYrPOORNW9sP5ri7qliw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JpOYrPOORNW9sP5ri7qliw)

Saturday, April 15 & Sunday, April 16 – Grand Opening of the Adams County Historical Society's new facility and its *Beyond the Battle* museum at 625 Biglerville Rd. in Gettysburg. Tickets are required. For more info, click on: <https://www.achs-pa.org/visit/>

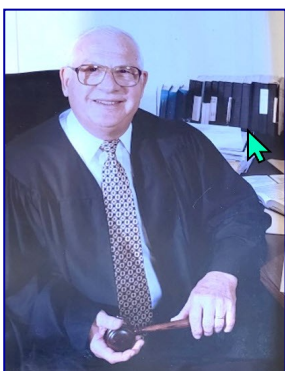
#### *Change of Date for our June Engagement:*



Due to a change in our speaker's schedule, we have to change the date of our June engagement from Thursday, June 8 to Saturday, June 10.

Please mark your calendars, and plan to join us on Saturday night for our annual Nye-Sommers lecture, with Gilder-Lehrman Lincoln Prize-winning author, Dr. Caroline E. Janney, who will speak on *Lee's Army After Appomattox*. Central Penn College has graciously agreed to host us that night. This will be our last meeting before we adjourn for the summer, so we are hoping for a large turnout to hear this celebrated professor from the University of Virginia. Consider inviting spouses, family members, neighbors, and friends for a special weekend night out!

#### *#CWR7 Past President's Novel Published Posthumously*



Robert D. Myers, a prominent Harrisburg attorney and judge who served as our Round Table's president in the early 1980s, wrote a novel about the cavalry skirmish that was fought in his home town of Hanover on the eve of the battle of Gettysburg.

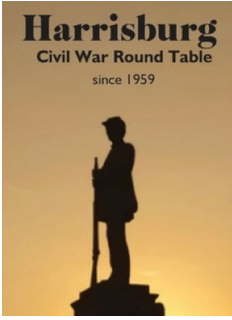
He was unable to find a publisher before his death in 2011, but thanks to the efforts of his daughter, Rev. Rebecca Myers, who found a way to self-publish the book, *A Gathering of Armies: A Novel of the Battle of Hanover, Pennsylvania* is now available from Amazon. It's a great read! To order a copy, go to: <https://amzn.to/3yKgbbD>



A  
Gathering of Armies

A Novel of the Battle of Hanover, Pennsylvania

Robert D. Myers



## The Dispatch

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

April 2023

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



Follow the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table on  
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: \_\_\_\_\_