

NOTE

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.

Thursday, June 6 — D. Scott Hartwig

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly, and the Mediocre: Leadership in the Battle of South Mountain

Join us on Thursday, June 6, for our annual Nye-Sommers lecture, which will be presented by D. Scott Hartwig, the leading authority on the Maryland Campaign of 1862.

Fought on September 14, 1862, The Battle of South Mountain was the important prelude to the Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862. The landscape of the battlefield was rugged and confusing for the participants and posed numerous challenges for the leaders of both sides. It was also a battle that neither army planned, what a modern soldier would describe as a meeting engagement. This program will analyze and assess the performance and decisions of the key leaders of the action that unfolded at Turner's, Fox's and Crampton's Gaps.

D. Scott Hartwig retired in 2014 as the supervisory park historian at Gettysburg National Military Park after a 34-year career in the National Park Service, nearly all of it spent at Gettysburg. He won the regional Freeman Tilden Award for excellence in interpretation in 1993, and was a key player for the design of all aspects of the new Gettysburg museum/visitor center. He is the author of *To Antietam Creek: The Maryland Campaign from September 3 to Sep-*



tember 16, published in 2012 by Johns Hopkins University Press, and *I Dread The Thought of the Place: The Battle of Antietam and End of the Maryland Campaign*, published in 2023.

The Nye-Sommers lecture honors two pillars of the Harrisburg CWRT, Colonel Wilbur S. Nye and Dr. Richard J. Sommers. Please honor their memory by planning to attend.

Those who are unable to attend this engagement in person are invited to tune in to the lecture and Q&A session via Zoom. Click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86461282203>. No password is required. To dial in by phone call 1-301-715-8592 or click the following link for your call-in number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdxCxtA14X>. The meeting ID # is 897 3393 0929.

Zoom participants should join the meeting by 7:00 pm.



DINNER IS SERVED!

5:30 pm—Refreshments
6:15 pm—Dinner

7:15 pm—Announcements
7:30 pm—Presentation

Buffet Dinner Selections

Lemon Chicken, Mediterranean Cod, Smashed Yukon Gold Potatoes, Green Bean, Yellow Bean and Carrot Medley, Fruit and Nut Salad, House-made Soup du Jour, Brownies

Cost: \$26 per person

pay at the door or on our website: harrisburgcwrt.org/events

Dinner reservations must be made no later than noon on Monday, June 3

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



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President's Pen

"Nunc Coepi: Begin Again"



As I ponder, reflecting on the past two years, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and pride. Serving as your president has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, and I am deeply appreciative of the support and dedication each of you has shown. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Board of Directors and the officers of our leadership team, whose tireless efforts have been critical to our success. I want to express my gratitude to:

- Mark Blanchard, our vice-president, for his steadfast support and insightful advice.
- Steve Williamson, our treasurer, for his meticulous handling of our finances.
- Frank Mroczka, our secretary, for filling in when we needed one.
- Brian Foster, our membership chair, for his efforts in growing and maintaining our membership.
- Tracy Sommers, our newsletter editor, for her excellent work in keeping everyone informed and engaged.
- Norm Daniels, our book salesman and former treasurer, for his invaluable contributions over the years.
- Stephen Smith, our programs and field trip chair, for recruiting excellent speakers and organizing remarkably enlightening field trips.
- Dana Ledger, for working behind the scenes as our Zoom co-host and webmaster.
- Rev. George Minick, for his inspiring and heartfelt invocations.

A special thank you goes to Mo Becker, Don Madar, Tracy Sommers, and Mark Blanchard for their exceptional work in organizing our wonderful 65th Anniversary celebration. Your dedication and hard work made it an unforgettable event.

There are so many people who have helped along the way, and while I cannot name everyone individually, please know that your contributions have not gone unnoticed. Each of you has played a crucial role in our community, and I am deeply grateful for your support.

Most importantly, I want to thank you, the members of the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table. Your time, your talent, and your treasure have been the foundation of our organization. Whether through good times or challenging ones, your unwavering support has been a testament to the strength and resilience of our Round Table.

As we look forward to Campaign 66 this fall, I am excited to see members stepping up to lead. Mo Becker will be running for president. Mark Blanchard will run again for vice-president. Michael (and Gideon) Margolias are running for membership, and Rev. Rebecca Myers is running for secretary. David Atkinson and Rick Eiserman will be running for positions on our Board of Directors. I have every confidence in their abilities and know that they will lead us with the same passion and dedication that has brought us this far. I encourage all of you to support our new leaders in every way possible. Together, we can continue growing and achieving great things.

Let us begin again, with a renewed sense of purpose and commitment. Thank you for the honor of serving as your president. It has been an incredible journey, and I am excited to see what the future holds for the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table.

John West



We had a record turnout for our 65th Anniversary celebration in May.

Field Trip Updates

Our fall field trip, entitled "Flames Beyond Gettysburg," will take place on Saturday, October 19, and will pick up where our fall field trip for 2023 left off. Guide Scott Mingus will be back, and will trace the route of the Confederate invasion of Adams and York counties in June 1863, culminating in the burning of the Columbia-Wrightsville bridge over the Susquehanna. More details are in the flyer which is posted on our website at <https://harrisburgcwrt.org/events/>. Note that you can now register for the trip on the website, or you can fill out the form at the bottom of the flyer and mail it to Steve Williamson with a check for the \$25.00 deposit. More than 30 participants have already signed up. Our bus only holds 55. We anticipate this trip will fill up fast, so the best advice is: "don't delay, register today!"

Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, May 25:** Victorian Dance Ensemble dance demonstrations and G.A.R. and civilian artifact displays at the Gettysburg Visitors Center, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Monday, May 27** (Memorial Day): Civil War weapons display by Larry Keener-Farley at the Gettysburg Visitors Center, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Saturday, June 1:** Used Book Sale at the US Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, 10:00 am-4:00 pm.

In Memoriam



We received notice in early May that Rev. James W. Moss, Sr., who served as our Round Table's president from 2017 to 2018, passed away on March 4. Jim was a gentle spirit and a devoted man of God, who stepped up to lead us through a difficult period.

Jim compiled letters written home by Civil War soldiers and that were printed in a church newspaper into a well-received book, *A History of the Civil War as Presented by the Church Advocate*.

Our Chaplain, Rev. George Minick, eloquently remembered his colleague in his invocation at our 65th Anniversary banquet. Jim will be greatly missed.

65th Anniversary Banquet a Big Success!

Our 65th Anniversary Banquet on May 17 set a record for post-pandemic attendance. More than 80 members and guests came out to celebrate our Round Table's founding in 1959, and all that it has accomplished since then. Biographer C.W. Goodyear gave a spellbinding talk on "President Garfield's Civil War." The slides Don Madar compiled listing every speaker we've had and every field trip we've taken since 1959 will be posted on our website. Thanks to all who made this event such a big success.

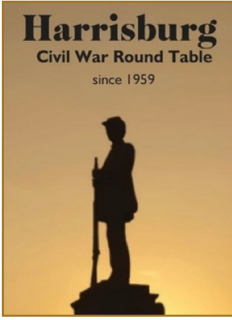


The Bucktails' Color Guard kicked off the banquet.



C.W. Goodyear was a mesmerizing speaker, capturing our attention from the first sentence—and keeping it.

Who knew Garfield was so interesting?



The Dispatch

The Harrisburg Civil War Round Table
121 Windrush Lane
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-9236

June 6, 2024

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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Harrisburg Civil War Round Table Enlistment Form

Membership

Current Member Renewal

New Member Enlistment

Individual \$24

Family \$36

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Individual or Family Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

An additional \$10 for a name badge is optional. If you want a badge, name should appear as follows: _____

Donations*

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

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

Contacts:

For questions call: Brian Foster, Membership, Phone: 717-962-6122, email hcwrt.membership@gmail.com

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