

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

Friday, September 12—Wayne E. Motts

"...Duty Well and Faithfully Done":

The United States Regular Army at the Battle of Gettysburg

Join us on Friday, September 15 as we kick off our 67th campaign year with a presentation by Wayne E. Motts to celebrate his return as CEO of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg.

While most soldiers fighting at Gettysburg, both North and South, were members of their respective state volunteer forces, over 7,100 troops fighting in the Union Army at Gettysburg were part of the United States Regular Army. These soldiers served in the infantry, artillery, and cavalry at Gettysburg and participated in the fighting during all three days of the battle. Many of the regular organizations at the Battle of Gettysburg are still on active duty with today's army. Join us as Mr. Motts explores just a few stories of the thousands of regular army soldiers who fought at Gettysburg.



Mr. Motts is a longtime member of the Harrisburg Civil War Round Table. He returned this summer as CEO of the National Civil War Museum, a position he previously held from 2012 to 2021. He is also the previous President & CEO, as well as President Emeritus & Historian, of the Gettysburg Foundation, which operates the Museum and Visitor's Center at Gettysburg. He has been a licensed battlefield guide at the Gettysburg National Military Park for the past 37 years. For many years, Mr. Motts has devoted much time to the study of the regular army in the Civil War and at the Battle of Gettysburg. He last spoke to our Round Table in 2016 on the book he co-authored with James A. Hessler on Pickett's Charge.

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/85608708456>. 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/85608708456>. The meeting ID # is 856 0870 8456.

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

5:30 pm—Doors Open

6:00 pm—Call to Order

6:15 pm—Dinner

7:15 pm—Presentation

8:30 pm—Square Table



Buffet Dinner Selections

Herb-marinated Flank Steak, Lemon Cod Fish Filet, Olive Oil Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, Mixed Field Greens House Made Soup du Jour, Assorted Cookies

Cost: \$35 per person

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



Dinner reservations must be made no later than noon on Monday, September 8

Email: Michael Margolius at:
membership@harrisburgcwrt.org

Executive Officers

President, Mo Becker
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Their bones are dust; their good swords rust; their souls are with the saints we trust."

-- Major John C. White, US Army (Retired)



The searing summer of 2025 is winding to a close, and our 67th campaign is underway. We hope you had a wonderful summer filled with history, camaraderie and relaxation. As we transition into the fall, we have some exciting news and updates to share with you.

First and foremost, thanks to program chair Steve Smith who has been working diligently over the summer to add to our growing slate of fabulous speakers for Campaign 67.

To show support for our programs and preservation efforts, we encourage our members to re-enlist and pay their dues. You should have already received an invoice with instructions on how to pay.

While you can still enlist or reenlist and sign up for dinners as you have in past campaigns, you can save the expense of postage and envelopes and complete such transactions with just a few clicks on our website. Thanks to a dedicated effort by webmaster Dana Ledger, our website is up and running again after some temporary glitches this summer.

Here's what you can now do online:

- ♦ **Dinner payments:** Dinners for Campaign 65 will cost \$35.00. You can easily make your payment on the Events tab of our website using PayPal or a credit card.
 - If you choose not to book your dinner reservation online, please email our membership chair indicating that you plan to attend the dinner and will pay at the door.
 - **Note:** the deadline for making dinner reservations remains noon on the Monday before the event. Email your reservation to our membership chair, Michael Margolius, at: membership@harrisburgcwrt.org.
- ♦ **Membership dues:** You can enlist as a new member of the HCWRT or renew your membership and re-enlist by paying your dues (\$30.00 for individuals/\$45.00 for families) on the Membership tab of our website, effortlessly using PayPal or your credit card. Or you can pay in person in September.
- ♦ **Donations:** If you'd like to support our organization through donations, you can do so via the yellow donations button at the bottom of our website's Membership page, or you can hand a check to our treasurer or at our monthly dinner meeting. I ask that every member re-enlist and consider donating at least \$70.00 to the Round Table over the course of Campaign 67.

We kicked off our membership recruitment efforts for the coming year at the Carlisle Barracks Expo in August, and will do additional recruiting at the upcoming Army Expo at USAHEC in September (see below). Experience has shown that members bringing friends or acquaintances to our dinner meetings is another particularly effective recruiting method, so please bring a friend to our September engagement, so they can watch Wayne Motts knock one out of the park. **YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!!**

I look forward to seeing you again on September 12th.

Mo Becker

Recruiting for HCWRT



The HCWRT will be recruiting new members at the 2025 Army Expo at USAHEC in Carlisle on Saturday and Sunday, September 13 & 14.

We need volunteers to help man our display table.

Anyone interested in helping should contact our membership chair, Michael Margolius, at membership@harrisburgcwrt.org.

Eisenhower Returns to Gettysburg

The Majestic Theater in Gettysburg is offering two showings of *Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground*, a one-man play starring Tony award-winning actor John Rubinstein as our 34th president, on Friday, October 3, at 7:30 pm and a matinee on Saturday, October 4 at 3:00 pm. The play, which won rave reviews when it debuted off-Broadway in 2023, takes place in Ike's study at his farm in Gettysburg in the 1960s, with him reminiscing about his experiences during his military career and his two terms as president. This is a rare opportunity to see Ike brought back to life in a theater that he regularly attended, only a mile or so away from his Gettysburg home. For more information and to buy tickets, go to: <https://gettysburgmajestic.showare.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=415>

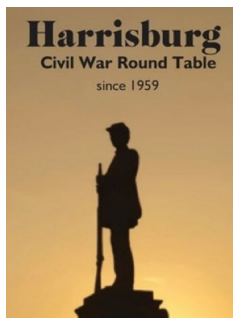


Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Wednesday, August 27, 6:30 pm:** Historian Dr. Michael S. Neiberg will speak at USAHEC in Carlisle on *History as a Strategic Tool: How to Understand Europe Today*. Doors open at 6:00.
- ◆ **Saturday and Sunday, September 13 & 14, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm:** Army Expo at USAHEC. Over 7,000 visitors expected. Used book sale with vast selection of military books. See page 2 of this newsletter for more information. <https://ahec.armywarcollege.edu/armyexpo.index.cfm>
- ◆ **Wednesday, September 17, 6:30 pm:** Author Cory M. Pfarr will deliver a Perspectives on Military History lecture at USAHEC on "Longstreet at Gettysburg." [He spoke to our Round Table on a similar topic last October.] Doors open at 6:00 pm.
- ◆ **Thursday to Saturday, September 18-20:** Civil War Fall Seminar at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, WV. For more information, go to: <https://www.shepherd.edu/civilwar/2025-fall-seminar> [currently sold out, but waiting list is being compiled.]
- ◆ **Friday, September 19, 6:00 to 8:00 pm:** Third Annual *Cocktails and Cannonballs* fundraising event at the National Civil War Museum. <https://www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org/events-exhibits/>
- ◆ **Friday, September 19, 6:30 pm:** Rick Atkinson will discuss his Liberation trilogy on WWII and Eisenhower's leadership at the Gettysburg National Military Park's Visitor's Center. Free tickets must be reserved in advance at: <https://cart.gettysburgfoundation.org/34195>
- ◆ **Saturday and Sunday, September 20 & 21:** WWII weekend focusing on 1945 and the end of the war at the Eisenhower Farm in Gettysburg. Outstanding speakers. Hundreds of reenactors. For more information, go to: <https://www.nps.gov/eise/world-war-ii-weekend.htm>
- ◆ **Friday to Sunday, October 3-5:** Antietam Institute Fifth Annual Fall Conference, *Beyond the Battle: Civilians, Casualties, and Remembering the Bloodiest Day in American History*. For more information, go to: <https://antietaminstitute.org/2025-fall-conference/>

Trivia

1. From what state did Abraham Lincoln's first Secretary of War come?
2. What mounted Pennsylvania unit, serving in the western theater, was nicknamed "The Saber Regiment?"
3. What U.S. Army military post was largely burned by Fitzhugh Lee during the Gettysburg campaign?
4. What is the name of the famous Confederate song very prominent early in the war with the opening line "We are a band of brothers and native to the soil."
5. What was the insignia of rank of a Confederate colonel?



130th PA Monument
Antietam National
Battlefield

The Dispatch

Harrisburg Civil War Round Table
P.O. Box 115
Dillsburg, PA 17019-0115

September 2025

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

Annual Dues

- ☐ Individual \$30
- ☐ Family \$45
- ☐ Full Time Student \$5

Donations*

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

Individual or Family Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Contacts:

For questions email: Michael Margolius, Membership Chair, membership@harrisburgcwrt.org

Mail checks to: Harrisburg Civil War Round Table, P.O. Box 115, Dillsburg, PA 17019-0115

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