



# The Signal Flag

## BRANDYWINE VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Campaign # 21

Skirmish # 7

March 2008

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### From the Rear Ranks:

*March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1863 – The Nation's First Conscription Act is Passed in Congress*

*The Conscription Act of 1863 Authorized the Federal Government to draft citizens. It was the first general conscription act in our nation's history. Congress passed the law in accordance with a constitutional provision in Article I. to "Raise and Support Armies." The Act's terms included: military obligation imposed on males ages 20-45, the Federal Agency headed by the provost Marshall in the War Department had jurisdiction over all Union states, The U.S. was divided into 185 military districts, A military officer was assigned to each district with the responsibility of registering and calling up draftees, Men were enlisted for 3 years or until the end of the war, whichever came first, Commutation fees or substitutes were accepted.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Mike Liddy, President  
Brandywine Valley Civil War Roundtable*



*~ Officers ~*

**President:** Mike Liddy  
**Vice President:** John Walls  
**Secretary:** Ted Pawlik  
**Treasurer:** Dave Walter

*~ Committee Members ~*

**Preservation:** John Walls, Bob Sprague  
**Nominating / Speakers Committee:**  
Vince Carosella, John Whiteside  
**Speakers:** Roger Arthur, Joe Lehman  
**Trips:** Susan Mahoney  
**Credentials:** Bill Sitman  
**Greeter:** Loretta Thomas  
**Publicity:** Harriett Mueller  
**Historians:** Bill Sitman  
**Social Dir:** Flo Williams

*~Members at Large ~*

David Hoffritz, James Lawler

*~ Official Sutler ~*

Bob Sprague: Books / Periodicals  
610-644-0353

*~ Annual Membership ~*

Individual \$25.00; Family \$40.00; Student \$15.00  
(Full time student up to age 23)

**? Questions ? Contact:**

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Unsolicited articles from our members are welcome.  
Please contact Lynne!

\* Our meetings are handicap accessible \*



**What is the BVCWRT all about???**

We were founded in 1987. According to our by-laws, "the purpose of the Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table shall be to provide a congenial medium through which persons having a common interest in the events of the American Civil War - its causes and effects, engagements, personages, units, armaments and other things pertaining thereto - may satisfy their interest and broaden individual knowledge through discussion, lectures, field trips and the exchange of books, paper and other data. The purposed is also to consider the preservation and protection of the battlefields, sites, landmarks, relics and collection of the period."

In plain English, we are an organization of diverse people brought together by our common interest in the American Civil War. This interest can range from the casual to the obsessive. We intend to tailor our activities and presentations to appeal to all our members, novice or expert.

**Welcome New Members & Reenlistments**

The Round Table welcomes our new members since our last meeting. Please welcome them and share your Civil War enthusiasm.

**New Members:**



# The Barefooted Boys

*Author unknown*

I.

By the sword of St. Michael  
    The old dragon through;  
By David his sling  
    And the giant he slew;  
Let us write us a rhyme,  
    As a record to tell  
How the South on a time  
    Stormed the ramparts of Hell  
        With her barefooted boys!

II.

Had the South in her border  
    A hero to spare,  
Or a heart at her altar,  
    Lo! its life's blood was there!  
And the black battle-grime  
    Might never disguise  
The smile of the South  
    On the lips and the eyes  
        Of her barefooted boys!

III.

There's a grandeur in fight,  
    And a terror the while,  
But none like the light  
    Of that terrible smile --  
The smile of the South,  
When the storm-cloud unrolls  
The lightening that loosens  
The wrath in the souls  
    Of her barefooted boys!

IV.

It withered the foe  
Like the red light that runs  
Through the dead forest leaves,  
And he fled from his guns!  
Grew the smile to a laugh,  
Rose the laugh to a yell.  
As the iron-clad hoofs  
Clattered back into Hell  
    From our barefooted boys!

**From: <http://www.civilwarpoetry.org/>**



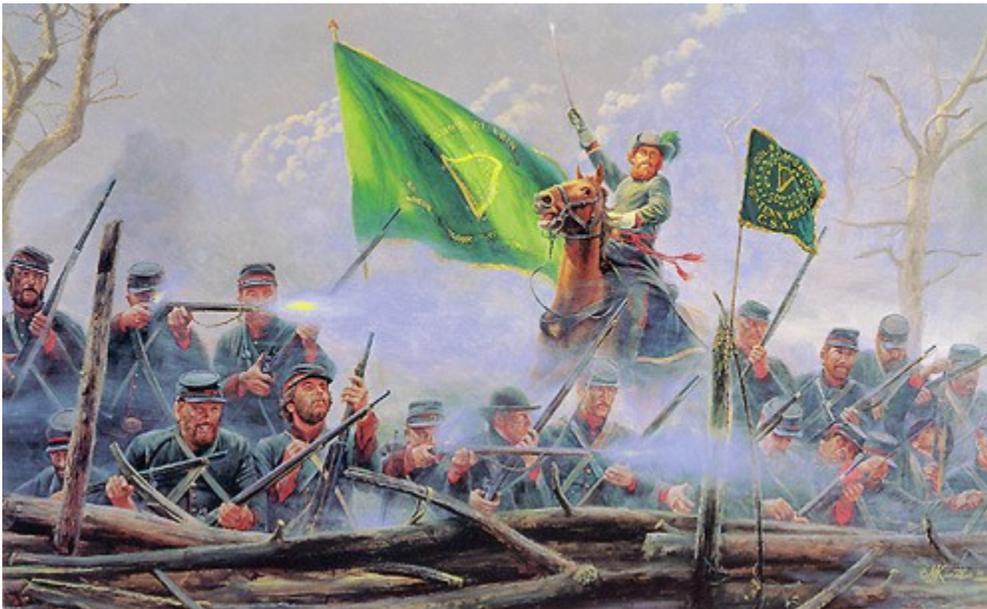
*Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table*  
*Come to our next meeting*  
*6 February 2008*

**Speaker:** Our Members  
**Topic:** "Show and Tell"  
**Time:** 7:00 PM  
**Place:** West Chester Borough Hall, Gay Street

We are again hosting a Show and Tell meeting. These have always turned out so well. So many of our members have various interests and hobbies pertaining to the Civil War which they welcome to share with us. Each year I am amazed at what is presented. The presenter this year will be as follows:

- **Bob Sprague** - Preservation
- **Dan Cashin** - Heavy Artillery – The really BIG Guns  
*Samples of the tubes that were part of the fortification systems protecting the Nations ports prior to and during the Civil War. What they were, what they could do and how they worked.*
- **Mike Kochan** - Aviation
- **Chester Co. Ladies** - Sanitary Commission
- **Bruce Grant** - Original Copies of Grant's Memoirs.

We will also have some refreshments at the end of this meeting so please plan to stay after.



**Artist:** Mort Kunstler

**Minutes of the February 6, 2008 Meeting  
BVCWRT  
Submitted by Ted Pawlik**

**The President's Report/Announcements (Mike Liddy)**

- The Executive Board Meeting will meet on February 20, 2008 at John Walls house.
- Anyone interested in serving on the Executive Board or any Committee for the next campaign is asked to see any Executive Board member, John Whiteside or Vince Carosella.
- Dates to remember: **May 13, 2008** – Annual Banquet to be held at the Elks Lodge in West Chester. The guest speaker will be Jean Edward Smith. He is the John Marshall Professor of Political Science at Marshall University and has written a book on Grant: **May 17, 2008** – Field trip to the Wilderness.
- On March 15, 2008, National History Day will be held at Immaculata University. The purpose of the event is to encourage the study of history among grade school and high school students. A contest will be held among grade school students. The round table has been invited to participate with a table and handouts. There is interest in having re enactors participate. Anyone interested is asked to see Mike Liddy.
- Mike Liddy reported on the meeting with the Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum. A number of Round Tables were invited to hear a status report on the move of the museum to their new location to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in the historic area.

**Treasurer's Report (Dave Walter)**

- To date we have 92 members
- Financial Report: Balance as of 01/01/08 = \$3400.37. Total Receipts for January = \$262.00. Expenditures for January = \$32.51. Net Revenue for the month = \$229.49. Balance as of 01/31/08 = \$3629.86.

**Other Announcements and Items of Interest**

- Mike Kochan is organizing a weekend trip to the Mariner's Museum, the Museum of the Confederacy and the Confederate White House for March 8 and 9, 2008. There will be room for 10 people with an overnight stay at a motel. Final arrangements will be made at the March 5, 2008 meeting.
- Dave Cashin is selling his coin collection. The proceeds from the sale will be divided between preservation and the Fort Delaware Society.
- John Whiteside announced that there would be presentation on February 20, 2008 at West Chester Borough Hall on the Mississippi River Campaign.
- On February 9, 2008, the Union League in Philadelphia will have an open house from 10 AM to 2 PM. Among the items available for viewing are a printed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by Abraham Lincoln and the Tanner manuscripts detailing events at the Peterson house the night Lincoln died.
- Roger Arthur will be presenting a course at the Main Line Night School (Conestoga High School) on "Discover Mr. Lincoln."
- Andy Wasky is asking for a representative from the Round Table to assist in the planning of a symposium.
- On February 17, 2008, the General Meade Society will be holding a symposium at the Laurel Hill Cemetery building.
- The GAR will hold their annual dinner on April 5, 2008. The topic will be acts of kindness during the Civil War.
- The following books, just released, were recommended: House of Abraham by Stephen Barry (Lincoln's relationship with the Todd family) and This Republic of Suffering by Drew Gilpin Faust.
- Anyone interested in making a presentation at the March Show and Tell meeting is asked to see Mike Liddy.

Speaker for the evening was Chip Crowe, a member of the Round Table. His topic was George Thomas.

## **Executive Board Minutes February 20, 2008**

**Attendees: Mike Liddy, John Walls, Ted Pawlik, Roger Arthur, Vince Carosella, Lynne Fulton,  
Susan Mahoney, Harriet Mueller and John Whiteside**

### **The President's Report/Announcements:**

1. There are 5 members who volunteered to present at the March Show and Tell Meeting.
2. Mid Campaign Re Cap – In the 07/08 campaign, the Round Table made 2 major donations to preservation. It was noted that Round Table members made 6 out of 9 presentations. This has the additional advantage of having more money available for preservation donations.
3. The Executive Committee is researching the use of a wireless microphone to be used for presentations at meetings. Roger Arthur is to talk to the AV person at Bishop Shanahan for recommendations.
4. Mike Liddy will contact by telephone those who have not paid their dues for the year.
5. The Banquet is scheduled for May 13, 2008. The cost will be \$38.00 per person. The deadline for signing up is April 30, 2008. It was recommended the Dave Duncan from the Civil War Preservation Trust and Sharon Smith from the Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum be invited as guest of the Round Table.
6. In order to streamline the monthly meetings, the following goals were established: Announcements will be completed by 7:15 PM; Presentations, including time for questions and answers, will be limited to 1 hour.
7. Mike Liddy indicated he had at least one volunteer to participate in Immaculata College History Day on March 15, 2008. He will coordinate the Round Table's participation.
8. The Executive Committee discussed the possibility of a summer social at the time of the Hibernia Park Reenactment during August.

**Treasurer's Report:** There was no Treasurer's report due to the absence of Dave Walter

### **Speakers Committee/Trips:**

1. The Committee brainstormed ideas for next campaign's speakers. It was suggested that since the new Gettysburg Visitor's center will be open, that might be an appropriate field trip for the 08/09 campaign. We can tie this in by getting someone from the Gettysburg Park Service to make a presentation prior to the field trip.
2. Susan Mahoney reported that an Archeologist from Montpelier has been lined up to make a presentation on the winter encampment prior to the battle of the Wilderness. Mac Wyckoff will give a tour of the Wilderness Battlefield. The tour will be on May 17, 2008. Members are to make their own arrangements for lodging. A group dinner will be arranged for Saturday night.

### **Membership Communications/Newsletter/Web Site/Telegram:**

1. The Committee discussed the recommendation that members be given the opportunity to opt out of the Round Table Telegram. It was pointed out that if a member were deleted from the distribution list of the Telegram, they would be omitted from other important announcements affecting the organization. Members who do not want the Telegram are encouraged to simply use the delete button. This will simplify matters.

### **Nominations:**

1. Anyone interested in serving on a Committee for the 08/09 campaign is asked to see John Whiteside or Vince Carosella or any member of the Executive Committee.
2. Harriet Mueller has asked to be relieved from the Public Relations Committee. The Executive Board expressed their appreciation for her efforts in getting information about the Round Table to the public. We will be looking for a replacement for Harriet to continue our public relations efforts.

### **Miscellaneous:**

1. The Committee decided to have a scaled down spring social. Mike Liddy will provide the soda, Harriett Mueller will provide brownies, Susan Mahoney will provide a ring bologna, John Whiteside will provide a cheese tray, and Ted Pawlik will provide a table, napkins, plates, and chips.

Respectively Submitted: Ted Pawlik – Secretary

**Preservation Committee Report: Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table  
Donations made between August 2000 and December 2007**

8/10/00	Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg	\$1,000.00
10/26/01	Central Virginia Battlefield Trust	\$1,000.00
10/26/01	Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg	\$1,000.00
11/6/02	Civil War Preservation Trust (Chancellorsville)	\$1,000.00
11/25/02	Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg	\$500.00
11/3/03	Civil War Preservation Trust (2 <sup>nd</sup> Manassas)	\$1,000.00
11/3/03	Civil War Preservation Trust (Bentonville)	\$1,000.00
10/6/04	Civil War Preservation Trust (Antietam)	\$1,500.00
10/18/04	Central Virginia Battlefield Trust (Chancellors)	\$500.00
10/6/05	CWPT (Morris Island, S.C.)	\$1,000.00
10/6/05	CWPT (Spotsylvania Ct. House, VA)	\$1,000.00
4/9/05	CWPT (Slaughter Pen Farm) Bearss	\$1,000.00
5/10/05	CWPT (Slaughter Pen Farm) McPherson	\$1,000.00
5/19/05	Civil War Institute (Book donation)	\$300.00
9/6/06	CWPT (Slaughter Pen Farm)	\$1,000.00
3/4/07	CWPT (Bentonville, NC)	\$500.00
10/11/07	CWPT (Franklin, TENN)	\$500.00
10/11/07	CWPT (Chancellorsville, VA)	\$500.00
12/7/07	CWPT (Averasboro, Fisher Hill, Brices Cross Roads, The Crater)	\$500.00

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE: \$15,800.00**

Chairman: Robert Sprague

## The mystery trailing Gen. Sherman's horse 2/6/08

**MCT NEWSFEATURES By Colleen Mastony - Chicago Tribune – Send by Ed Colimore**

FRANKFORT, Ill. — Vern Harvey's yard doesn't look like a historic site. It's a neat rectangle of browning grass, with two maple trees, a stone wishing well and a few scraggly bushes, all enclosed by a wooden split-rail fence. But according to Harvey, somewhere under this humble patch of earth lies one of the most famed war horses in our nation's history. That's right, a gallant steed ridden by Civil War Union Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman is believed — by some people, at least — to be buried right here in Harvey's yard. He isn't sure where, exactly; maybe under the birdbath. "It could be anywhere in here," said Harvey, 73, a white-haired wisp of a man who walked along a cracked concrete pathway, waving a hand across a swath of his front lawn. He has considered having the land X-rayed. Others have suggested excavation. But "where would you dig?"

A village of 16,500 people about 30 miles southwest of Chicago, Frankfort doesn't have many — OK, it doesn't have any — historic attractions. But the body of a horse named Sam, who was retired to a farm in Frankfort around 1870, has landed this village in the footnotes of history and embroiled the locals in a curious historical debate. While everyone agrees that the horse is buried somewhere in Frankfort, no one knows where exactly. While Harvey insists the horse is interred in his yard, others argue the steed is buried under a nearby strip mall, or beneath a housing development, or atop a hill near Alsip Home & Nursery Super Store.

An 8-foot memorial to the horse was installed near the village's downtown in 2004, but that has only inflamed the debate about the grave and the monument. "I think the statue should be where it belongs — in my yard!" Harvey declared. Harvey lives in an 1870s-era farmhouse that is likely very close to the area where Sam was buried about 1874. Yet most of the farm's 400 acres were sold and turned into a housing development in the 1960s, and it's quite possible that Sam is buried under one of those 500 ranch and split-level homes. "Poor Sam". We think there's a house on top of him," said Judy Herder, president of the Frankfort Area Historical Society, who — after carefully studying historical maps and land records — believes the horse is under what is now the Connecticut Hills subdivision.

Though his final resting place remains shrouded in mystery, the life of "Old Sam" is surprisingly well-documented. A dark-chestnut-colored, half-thoroughbred bay, the animal stood about 5 feet 4 inches from hoof to withers, weighed about 1,000 pounds and was famed for its strength. Sherman acquired the horse after the battle of Shiloh, when his previous mount was shot. Over the war's course, Sam was wounded several times but was said to be "as calm and steady as his master, even during the chaos of battle," according to the book "The Photographic History of the Civil War," first published in 1911.

Sam was believed by some to have carried Sherman on one of the longest and most difficult campaigns of the war, the brutal March to the Sea, though that has been disputed. Nevertheless, by all accounts Sam served nobly, and Sherman eventually retired his faithful steed. He sent the animal to a farm in Frankfort that was owned by the family of an acquaintance, William Sanger.

In the years that followed, the horse became a familiar sight in the village. The Sanger grandchildren often rode to town on Sam, who was known to be loyal. When left, the horse would stand for a few minutes or an hour waiting for his masters' return. In 1874, the horse died and was buried near a grove of oak trees not far from the Sanger home. "He was always hungry and fat — never got lame and was never on the sick list," Sherman wrote after hearing of the horse's death, according to the book "Citizen Sherman," published in 1995 and written by Michael Fellman. The general described Sam as so steadfast that even when a musket ball passed through the horse's neck, "he didn't complain and went right along at his work as though he was used to it." "I can only hope that he now rests from his worldly labors in the place where good horses go," Sherman wrote.

As time passed in Frankfort, the story faded from memory. Farmland gave way to housing developments; the population more than doubled between 1990 and 2007. Many of the newcomers had never heard the story of Sam. So in 2004, in an attempt to preserve the history, a group of local Organizations commissioned a metal sculpture — depicting Sam, Sherman and two Sanger grandchildren — and placed it near the downtown. At the dedication, a Civil War re-enactment troop honored the horse with a gun salute. In the Connecticut Hills development, residents sometimes look out their windows and wonder if the Civil War horse could be buried beneath their children's sandboxes or under their vegetable gardens. "I thought, how cool would it be if Sam was buried under my pool?" said resident Rachel Gilmore, 39, who is writing a book about the horse's life. Many in town would like to solve the mystery. But Teresa Stinnett prefers the ambiguity. For her, every patch of grass offers a chance to wonder and every oak tree presents a bit of intrigue.

Because no one knows exactly where Sam is buried, all can claim the horse is buried on their property. In the afternoons, Stinnett likes to look out her own yard and think of the possibility. "There's a great field out there. I look out the window and know that Sam just might be there."

**c) 2008, Chicago Tribune. Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.**

## **Book Review:**

### **How the South Could Have Won the Civil War**

#### **The Fatal Errors That Led To Confederate Defeat**

By Bevin Alexander Crown. 337 pp. \$25.95 (2/26/08 from Temple website)

Alternative history is an alluring parlor game. Pick a crucial historical event -- Gettysburg, say -- and try to pinpoint exactly where things started to go wrong for the losing side. That's what military historian Bevin Alexander does in his latest book, "How the South Could Have Won the Civil War".

Alexander argues persuasively that the wartime policies of President Jefferson Davis and the military strategy of Gen. Robert E. Lee led to the failure of the Confederacy. Had Davis and Lee listened to Gen. Stonewall Jackson, the South might have won. Some battles and campaigns -- including the Shenandoah Valley and Seven Days campaigns, Second Manassas, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and those that ended with the final surrender at Appomattox, which all led to tremendous loss of life -- might not have been fought at all.

Jackson wanted to bring the war directly into Union territory. He would have moved the Confederate army "north of Washington, where it would threaten Baltimore, Philadelphia, and the capital's food supply and communications," writes Alexander. By destroying vital industries, thereby undermining the Union's means of production and livelihood, Jackson hoped "to win indirectly by assaulting the Northern people's will to pursue the war." Alexander also contends that Jackson's tactics of "maneuver," rather than the frontal assaults favored by Lee, would have led to fewer casualties, an important point given the difficulty of replacing soldiers from the comparatively small Southern population.

Alexander's opinions are firmly stated, but his assertions are not always well documented. There is no evidence that I am aware of that Union Gen. George Meade "ordered the entire Union army to retreat back to Pipe Creek" in Maryland from Gettysburg on June 30, 1863. Nor does Alexander provide any proof for this. He may be referring to Meade's so-called Pipe Creek Circular, a contingency plan the general never implemented.

How the South Could Have Won the Civil War echoes chapters from two of Alexander's earlier books, *Lost Victories* and *Robert E. Lee's Civil War*. Even the chapter headings are essentially the same. It is not clear why Alexander felt compelled to repackage these previous works for public consumption, since the arguments he made in them are not substantially changed. Yet, despite the book's limitations, readers who are unfamiliar with Alexander's earlier works will find *How the South Could Have Won the Civil War* thought provoking and informative.



**Artist: John Paul Strain**



**ANNUAL BANQUET  
BRANDYWINE VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

**WHEN:** **Tuesday, May 13, 2008**  
 6:00 pm: Cash Bar and Hors D'oeuvres  
 7:00 pm: Dinner  
 8:00 pm: Guest Speaker

**WHERE:** **The Elks Lodge**  
**335 West Washington Street**  
**West Chester, PA 19381**

**MENU:** Fresh Fruit Cup, Tossed Garden Salad  
 Choice of:  
 - Virginia Baked Ham  
 - Boneless Breast of Chicken Marsala, with sliced mushrooms and herbs in a Marsala wine sauce  
 - Roasted Prime Rib of Beef (12 oz.), us jus  
 Includes: Oven roasted potato, vegetables, rolls and butter, coffee and tea  
 Dessert: Cheesecake with strawberry topping

**SPEAKER: Jean Edward Smith – “U. S. Grant”**

**COST: \$38.00 PER PERSON - (SAME AS LAST YEAR!)**

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, April 30, 2008 at NOON!  
 NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**Order Form: Detach, complete reservation, and send with payment to:**

Dave Walter, Treasurer, 937 Thorne Drive, West Chester, PA 19382 (61-363-8900)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_ Beef \_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$38.00 = Total Amount Due \_\_\_\_\_ (DEADLINE – April 30, 2008 at NOON!)

**Checks made payable to: Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table  
 (Checks are your receipt)**

## Irish-Americans in the Civil War

There is perhaps no other ethnic group so closely identified with the Civil War years and the immediate aftermath of the war as Irish Americans.

Of those Irish who came over much later than the founding generations, fully 150,000 of them joined the Union army. Unfortunately, statistics for the Confederacy are sketchy at best; still, one has but to listen to the Southern accent, and listen to the sorts of tunes Southern soldiers loved to sing, to realize that a great deal of the South was settled by Irish immigrants. But because the white population of the Confederate states was more native-born than immigrant during the Civil War years, there did not seem as much of a drive in the Southern army to recognize heritage in the names and uniforms of regiments as there was in the Union forces.

In the Federal army there was the fabled Meagher's Irish brigade, led by the flamboyant Thomas Meagher; they went into battle with an emerald green flag with a large golden harp in its center, celebrating their heritage even in the midst of death.

In the North, centers of Irish settlement were Boston and New York, both of which had sizeable Irish neighborhoods. There were major immigration periods in the 1830s, 1840s, and 1850s; the numbers steadily increased until, according to the 1860 census, well over one and a half million Americans claimed to have been born in Ireland. The majority of these lived in the North. There were periods of severe economic difficulties both before and after the war when the immigrant Irish were singled out for the distrust and hatred of their fellow Americans; "No Irish Need Apply" was a frequently seen placard sign above the doors of factories, shops, warehouses, and farms.

The Irish were chiefly distrusted because they were Catholic, and there was much opposition in the United States to the Church of Rome. The frustration this prejudice caused led indirectly to the boil-over of tempers in July 1863, when the first official draft was held; a mob of mostly immigrant laborers gathered at the site of the draft lottery, and as names were called and those not wealthy enough to purchase a substitute were required to join up, the mob's temper flared. The situation escalated into full-scale rioting; for three days, cities like New York and Boston were caught up in a rampage of looting, burning, and destruction. Many of the rioters were frustrated Irish laborers who could not get jobs, and their targets were draft officials, as well as free blacks living in the North, who seemed able to get jobs that the Irish were denied. It took the return of armed troops from the fighting at Gettysburg to bring the cities back to peace and quiet.

Such events did little to help the image of the Irish in America, until many years after the war. Despite their wartime heroics, many Irish veterans came home to find the same ugly bias they faced before going off to fight for the Union. Many of them chose to go into the post war army. Still others followed Thomas Meagher into Canada, where they joined up in an attempt to free Canada from British domination. Many simply chose to remain in the Eastern cities, hoping matters would improve as time went by. Eventually things did get better for the Irish, but it was many long years before ugly anti-Irish prejudice faded.

Source: The Civil War Society's "Encyclopedia of the Civil War."



2<sup>nd</sup> Model Irish Brigade Battle Flag of the 69<sup>th</sup> New York

**FOX'S REGIMENTAL LOSSES  
CHAPTER IX**

**FAMOUS DIVISIONS AND BRIGADES.**

**IRISH BRIGADE**

The Irish Brigade was, probably, the best known of any brigade organization, it having made an unusual reputation for dash and gallantry. The remarkable precision of its evolutions under fire ; its desperate attack on the impregnable wall at Marye's Heights; its never failing promptness on every field; and its long continuous service, made for it a name inseparable from the history of the war. It belonged to the First Division of the Second Corps, and was numbered as the Second Brigade. The regiments which properly belonged to the Irish Brigade, together with their losses, were :

*Killed and Died of Wounds*

63rd New York Infantry	156
69th New York Infantry	259
88th New York Infantry	151
28th Massachusetts Infantry	250
116th Pennsylvania Infantry	145
<i>Total (during the war)</i>	961

The Irish Brigade lost over 4,000 men in killed and wounded; it being more men than ever belonged to the brigade at any one time. With the exception of the Twenty-eighth Massachusetts, the regiments were small. At the start they were not recruited to the maximum, but left New York with about 800 men each. The three New York regiments became so reduced in numbers that, at Gettysburg, they were consolidated into two companies each; the One Hundred and Sixteenth Pennsylvania had been consolidated into four companies.

The brigade, which was organized in 1861, consisted originally of three New York regiments, which selected numbers corresponding to those of certain famous Irish regiments in the British Army. The One Hundred and Sixteenth Pennsylvania and Twenty-eighth Massachusetts were added in the fall of 1862. Each of the five regiments carried green flags, in addition to the national colors. While on the Peninsular and Antietam campaigns, the Twenty-Ninth Massachusetts was attached to the brigade, but after Antietam it was detached and its place was taken by the Twenty-eighth Massachusetts. In September, 1864, the remnant of the Seventh New York Heavy Artillery was added; but it was detached in February, 1865, and the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery took its place. In July, 1864, the One Hundred and Sixteenth Pennsylvania was transferred to the Fourth Brigade. But the Irish Brigade was composed, substantially, as above; and, each of the regiments having reenlisted, its service was continuous and unbroken. It was commanded, in turn, by General Thomas Francis Meagher, Colonel Patrick Kelly (killed), General Thos. A. Smyth (killed), Colonel Richard Byrnes (killed), and General Robert Nugent.

From <http://www.civilwarhome.com/irishbri.htm>



## *Scheduled Speakers for 2007 - 2008:*

- Sep 05, 2007:** Dan Cashin - "Ben Butler"  
**Oct 03, 2007:** Ed Bonekemper - "McClellan: The Failed General"  
**Nov 07, 2007:** Dave Kohler - "Whatever Happened to our Favorite Civil War Heroes"  
**Dec 05, 2007:** Elizabeth Brown Pryor - "Reading the Man: A Portrait of Robert E. Lee Through His Private Letters", plus our Christmas Social  
**Jan 02, 2008:** Dennis Kelly - Topic is to be announced  
**Feb 06, 2008:** Chip Crowe - "General George Thomas"  
**Mar 05, 2008:** BVCWRT Members - "Show and Tell", plus our Spring Social  
**Apr 02, 2008:** Jean Baker - "Mary Todd Lincoln"  
**May 07, 2008:** Roger Arthur - "The Importance of John Brown"  
**May 13, 2008:** (Annual Banquet): Jean Edward Smith - "U. S. Grant"
- 

### **Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table Membership Application**

Application Type: New  Renewal

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Monthly newsletters are distributed by E-mail only.

Membership Type: Individual (\$25)  Family (\$40):  Student (\$15):

If family membership, please list other names: \_\_\_\_\_

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Bring the completed form and a check payable to BVCWRT to a meeting or mail it to:

**Dave Walter, Treasurer, 937 Thorne Drive, West Chester, PA 19382**