



# The Signal Flag



## BRANDYWINE VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

**Campaign # 25**

**Skirmish # 4**

**December 2011**

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### From the Rear Ranks:

I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving this year, for your interest I have included an article regarding a Thanksgiving message published in the New York Times November 29, 1861.

I am respectfully,  
Richard (Chip) Crowe  
President, Brandywine Valley Civil War Roundtable

### THANKSGIVING DAY IN THE CITY.

Thanksgiving Day, which, taking its origin among the pious and hospitable people of New-England, was for a long period of our history confined in its observance almost exclusively to them, but has at length become a national festival, was fraught with a deep and peculiar interest at its present year's recurrence. The Empire State, under the proclamation of her Governor, and the Empire City by the public call, knelt, also, at the common altar, and rejoiced once more, around the common board. In this City unusual life and gayety prevailed. Wednesday evening, for a long time, promising snow, which would have fitly graced the holiday, had, at length, settled down into a brief and cool but not cold rain. Before midnight the stars were bright again, and by morning a soft, autumnal atmosphere enveloped the City with a partial cloud and partial sunshine, which was the very thing for exercise, tingling veins and ruddy cheeks. The town was brilliant with national flags which waved lazily above the City Hall, the forts and shipping in the harbor, public buildings and hotels and thousands of private homes. Chiming bells summoned the community to church services of every denomination, and Thanksgiving sermons reflect themselves by the score in our columns. The main thoroughfares rustled with silks, merinoes, and calicoes, of festive freshness, and the parks opened their bare and leafless arms with gaunt surprise, to hail the troops of happy children who sported over the fallen honors of the grove with a playfulness that coaxed the dying year to smile. Generally, places of business were closed, excepting such as ministered to creature comfort, and everywhere in their vicinity strata of roast turkey and mince-pie odors diversified the atmosphere. The firemen had their time, too, and at 3. P.M. steamer No. 7 threw its watery tribute fifteen feet above the tip of the great West Broadway pole, to the delight of admiring thousands. Teutonia in New York was merry yesterday, and gave thanks, with all her heart, for the shelter and the privileges she finds in the land of freedom. The sons and daughters of Fatherland, with that jollity and heartiness that is the soul of them, had balls and Tanz-Kraenzchen, or dance of garlands -- i. e., cotillon parties in public and private, by the hundred. The delicacies of old-fashioned Winter holidays by the Rhine, the Danube and Elbe, were reproduced, with Yankee accompaniments; and the most wonderful compounds, fluid and solid, known to man, were offered up on all sides. During the day every German place of amusement and refreshment rang with custom, and, during the afternoon and evening, song and the drama delighted the hours. The Stadt-Theatre, the Atlantic Vaudeville, the Turn-halle, the National Halle, the Steuben House, Harmonie Garten, the Volks Garten, the Union Assembly Rooms, the Metropolitan Rooms, the Rhein-halle, and minor places without number, entertained (literally) thousands of gay and happy people. The Zweibrueckeners had a high festival at BUSAN's Fortuna Hall, where a rare array of national dishes loaded the board. Gymnastics exhibitions, concerts, wedding parties, grand theatricals and club meetings, left no moment unemployed, and toward the small hours of the night the scene was one wide carnival. At the various encampments in and about the City of New-York, Thanksgiving Day was generally observed. The men were allowed more relaxation than usual, and amused themselves by playing various games of an athletic nature. Some men, more fortunate than their companions, had some of the good things of this life sent them by their friends. Many were the laughs raised at the attempt at cooking made by some of the men. One lucky individual had a turkey, and the interest that was taken in the cooking of that ornithological specimen was highly amusing. No doubt an epicure would not have been satisfied with the culinary part of the arrangement; but he could not have eaten it with greater gusto than this man and his comrades did when it was done, as they said, "to a turn." Pumpkin pies were without number, and those who could not get turkey thought that article of pastry the next best thing to it, and something not to be done away with on Thanksgiving Day. The whole day was one of great enjoyment to the men, and passed off with evident satisfaction to all. A new feature at private houses brightened the close of the day, and repeated, in hundreds of cases what the missions of charity were doing elsewhere. After dinner, all passing poor were called in to the remnants of the least, and fed there by good men and gentle women, until they, too, gave thanks. War made no visible sign all day, and night returned to light up the City with the mirth and pageantry of last year's peace.

Happy Holidays



~ Officers ~

**President:** Chip Crowe  
**Vice President:** Robert Sprague  
**Secretary:** Ted Pawlik  
**Treasurer:** Dave Walter

~ Committee Members ~

**Preservation:** Bob Sprague, John Walls  
**Nominating Committee:** Vince Carosella  
**Speakers:** Roger Arthur  
**Trips:** Greg Buss  
**Credentials/Greeter:** Ted and Marilyn Pawlik  
**Round Table Telegram:** Robert Sprague  
**Publicity:** Jim Lawler  
**Historians:** Bob Sprague  
**Social Dir:** Flo Williams  
**Banquet:** Jim Lawler  
**Photographs –** Hank Fisher

~Members at Large ~

David Hoffritz, Dave Kohler, John Whiteside

~ Official Sutler ~

Harriett Mueller: Books / Periodicals  
302-429-6201

~ 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!

*\*We are wheelchair assessable*



**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:**

*Happy Holidays to our Members.*





*Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table*  
*Come to our next meeting*  
*December 7, 2011*

**Speaker:** Dave Cashin  
**Topic:** "Confederate Privateers, Don't Bring a Schooner to a Frigate Fight"  
**Time:** 7:00 PM  
**Place:** West Chester Borough Hall, Gay Street

We are honored this month to have Dave Cashin, who is one of our long standing members, speak to our membership on "Confederate Privateers". Dave has spent most of his working life on the waterfront in the Philly Navy Yard and now with Aker Shipyard teaching crane safety, rigging and other sailor type skills. He started at the Navy Yard at the age of 17 and is now in his 45th years of service. He has walked the decks of every imaginable type of ship which has lead to his intense interest in all things nautical. He reenact as a Union Boatswain's Mate at various events, including on the USS Constellation in Baltimore.

His talk will be on the Confederate Privateers and their brief life at the start of the War. The story is both tragic and comic at the same time. He will concentrate on the schooner "*Petrel*" and her crew who were brought to Philadelphia for trial as pirates and the effect this charge had on the course of the War regarding the treatment of prisoners. The story connects the early enthusiasm of the rebels, the first strategic moves by the Lincoln administration, mortal combat, revenge and Irish politics all wrapped up in one story.



**Privateer Petrel**

## **Minutes of the November 2, 2011 Meeting**

**BVCWRT**

*Submitted by Ted Pawlik*

**Bob Sprague – Presiding**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Report for September: Opening balance was \$1732.19. Total receipts for the month were \$1488.00. Expenditures for the month were \$231.68 leaving net revenue for the month of \$1256.32. The closing balance as of September 30, 2011 was \$2,988.51.

Report for October: Opening balance was \$2,988.51. Total receipts for the month were \$318.00. Expenditures for the month were \$15.00 leaving net revenue for the month of \$303.00. The closing balance as of October 30, 2011 was \$3291.51.

There are 65 paid members.

### **Preservation Committee: (Bob Sprague)**

The Civil War Trust advised they have an opportunity to save 285 acres at Gainesville that was part of the 7 Days Battle. For every \$1.00 contributed, there is a match of \$2.67. A motion was made to donate \$300.00 to this effort. The motion was seconded and approved by the members present.

### **Field Trip: (Greg Buss)**

Tentative plans for the field trip are: Culps Hill in Gettysburg; members to provide own transportation; suggested place to stay and dinner arrangements for those who wish to stay overnight; contacting Charlie Fennel as tour guide – if firm arrangements cannot be made with him an alternative will be found; arrangements for a bus at Gettysburg to take to various sites; date of April 28, 2012. Greg passed around a list for those interested in the field trip and also a trip to Laurel Hill Cemetery.

### **Other Business:**

Bob Sprague reminded the members of the guidelines for the use of Borough Chambers by the members. They are, in summary, no food or drink is permitted in the Chambers, members are responsible for picking up trash and debris from the floor and to align the chairs. We are to leave the Chambers as we found it. We are reminded to be good stewards of the Chamber.

Roger Arthur reported that he is presenting two programs at the Hankins Library in Ludwig's Corner. The programs are free and open to the public. On November 3, 2011, he will talk on Gettysburg. On November 10, 2010, he will talk on Vicksburg.

### **Program for the Evening:**

Dave Walter and Don Ernsberger: The Battle of Ball's Bluff

# The Storm That Nearly Lost the War

NOVEMBER 2, 2011, By ALBIN J. KOWALEWSKI *Obtained from Temple Website*

During the first week of November 1861 the worst storm in years struck the Atlantic Seaboard. Lacking modern meteorological equipment and techniques to predict its arrival, millions of people were caught unprepared. Floodwaters swamped Newark, Manhattan and Newport, R.I. Violent winds splintered fishing fleets off New England. On Nov. 3, 26 people on board the 990-ton square-rigger *Maritana* drowned when their ship capsized near Boston Harbor. As bad as the damage was, though, most Northerners feared the worst news was still to come. Just days earlier, in an aggressive campaign to take control of the Atlantic, the largest Union naval fleet ever amassed had set sail from Fortress Monroe in Hampton Roads, Va., for the South Carolina coast. When the wind and rain finally stopped, nearly everyone asked the same thing: Had the fleet survived the storm? Eager to establish a coastal depot for the Union blockade in the heart of enemy territory, President Lincoln, Secretary of State William Henry Seward and their top advisers had secretly authorized the Navy to capture the Confederate garrisons at Port Royal, S.C., located midway between the leading Southern ports of Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, Ga. Thus far, implementing the blockade and securing the Southern coastline had proven difficult: for much of the summer, the Navy had struggled to provide adequate coverage of the immense maritime border stretching from Virginia to Texas. Rebel ships were getting through, and whispers of open Southern harbors made the Union look outmatched — all the more so given its poor performance in the ground war. Still reeling from the loss at Bull Run, administration officials were anxious to complete the blockade and finally strangle the southern war effort.

Establishing a beachhead along the Southern coast could make all the difference. Library of Congress Samuel F. du Pont :The blockade had also become a litmus test for what Capt. Samuel F. du Pont, 46-year Navy veteran, called “the international question.” The blockade had legal standing only if it worked, and its vulnerabilities raised the question whether the Old World would finally intervene, recognize Confederate independence and rescue its lost commerce. “[T]here are much greater interests involved in leaving a port uncovered than the getting in and out of vessels,” du Pont noted in late September 1861. When paired with the North’s high tariffs, people everywhere wondered how long Europe would stand by counting its losses. Much depended on what England’s diplomat in Washington, Richard Bickerton Pemell Lyons, made of the situation: “If Lord Lyons finds out what has happened,” du Pont said, alluding to the overburdened blockade, “Mr. Seward will have a hard road to hoe.”

The Union decision to go on the offensive, however, was as bold as it was haphazard. du Pont had been tapped to lead the fleet weeks earlier, but Port Royal became the intended target only days before the fleet was scheduled to sail. During a late-night meeting at Seward’s home in Washington, General George B. McClellan, then-commander of the Army of the Potomac (he would be promoted to general-in-chief within weeks), agreed to divert 9,000 troops from the nation’s capital and an additional 5,000 from New York. du Pont’s combined force of over 70 vessels (frigates, tugs and colliers —all for transport or combat) met the army in Hampton Roads. The Union had the advantage so long as the fleet’s destination stayed secret and it sailed within the month. du Pont knew the perils in waiting: “October,” he cautioned McClellan, “was the golden month for operations on our seacoast.” After that, he said, the sea turned violent.

The mystery and anticipation surrounding “The Great Naval Expedition” stood in stark contrast to other more troubling news that October. Two rebel diplomats recently assigned to Europe, James Mason and John Slidell, had escaped the blockade near Charleston, and because of faulty intelligence the Navy spent the rest of the month looking for the wrong ship. Then, a sitting senator was killed in the Union loss at the Battle of Balls Bluff. Suddenly, the fleet carried more importance than ever. “Those vessels,” wrote the *Hartford Daily Courant*, “are laden with the prayers and aspirations of the American people. ... “Much of our future hangs upon the fulfillment of the design of this expedition.” du Pont was confident: “If we can take, we hold.” But he needed to get there first. A few hundred miles to the south, a massive storm was forming into a hurricane and spinning straight

toward him. Library of Congress - "Great Expedition," on its way to Port Royal, S.C. On Oct. 29 the expedition sailed under blue skies; by Nov. 1, the barometer had plummeted and the winds roared. The storm would rage for two straight days. Off the coast near Georgetown, S.C., the fleet broke formation and dispersed far in all directions, each vessel doing whatever it needed to stay afloat. The smaller transports pitched everything overboard, from cargo to cannon. The living quarters below deck were "hot and close," du Pont said, intensifying the danger as even the biggest ships began to "twist, roll and writhe." The heavy seas flung trunks and "huge iron safes" from side to side. Cabins flooded, rudders snapped and mattresses were stuffed into shattered portholes. At one point during the harrowing but deadly rescue of the transport ship Governor, sailors above deck could hear "the bubbling cry of drowning men."

Even the oldest of salts confronted the very real possibility that they might not make it. "A gloom rested on everybody," wrote the New York Times reporter aboard the steamship Atlantic. Later he admitted, "We fancied how we should feel sailing back ... having accomplished nothing; we recollected the fate of the Spanish Armada; we thought how the Southerners would pronounce the storm an interference of Providence, and the London Times would proclaim that even the elements were in favor of recognizing Southern independence." Even more upsetting, he wrote, "We thought of the gloom that would be cast over the entire North." With no news arriving, Northern civilians tried to stay optimistic. From Connecticut to Chicago, newspapers had at first "reason to believe that the fleet escaped the worst of the storm." But before long, it seemed as if their worst fears had come true. Not so in the Confederacy, where reports of the supposedly secret fleet had reached a few days before it set sail. "The blast of the storm has sounded in our ears like sweetest music," gloated the Richmond Enquirer on Nov. 4. "[Whether by the winds of Heaven, or by the blessing of Heaven on Southern valor, we trust soon to be able to announce that the fleet which sailed from Hampton Roads ... shall never more return, unless, indeed, under another flag." Related Disunion Highlights Explore multimedia from the series and navigate through past posts, as well as photos and articles from the Times archive.

As everyone awaited word from the Atlantic, the expedition limped into Port Royal Sound — worse for the wear, but in fighting shape. The storm had caused few casualties, and du Pont was relieved when most of his fleet checked in. Unable to coordinate a ground assault because of the hurricane's damage, however, he directed the campaign from sea. The battle for Port Royal began on Nov. 7; it ended in a decisive Union victory after five hours of sustained bombardment. The victory electrified the North and helped stabilize the blockade, but the Union quickly lost what little leverage it had won in its dealings with Britain. The day after du Pont took Port Royal, the Navy captured Mason and Slidell on board a private English mail ship off the coast of Cuba — sparking a second international crisis in the process. Today's meteorologists suspect that the hurricane in November 1861 hit with Category 1 force. Had it been stronger, the battle for Port Royal — and the war — may have ended differently. As it was, the Union leveled a strategic blow: "You can form no idea of the terror we have spread in the whole Southern country," du Pont boasted to a friend two days after the battle. The Union's seafaring force had accomplished what its army had been unable to do. "The navy," wrote The New York Times, "has once again proven its inestimable importance in this war."

Sources: Baltimore Sun, Nov. 6, 1861; Chicago Tribune, Nov. 4 and 7, 1861; Hartford Daily Courant, Oct. 15, 28 and 31 and Nov. 4, 1861; New York Times, Oct. 28 and Nov. 3, 4, 7, 9, 14, 22 and 24, 1861; John D. Hayes, ed., "Samuel Francis du Pont: A Selection From His Civil War Letters," Volume 1; Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion, Series 1, Volume 12; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Atlantic Oceanographic Meteorological Laboratory, Hurricane Research Division; Michael D. Coker, "The Battle of Port Royal"; James B. Elsner and A. Birol Kara, "Hurricanes of the North Atlantic: Climate and Society"; Amanda Foreman, "A World On Fire: Britain's Crucial Role in the American Civil War"; Howard Jones, "Blue and Gray Diplomacy: A History of Union and Confederate Foreign Relations"; David M. Ludlum, "Early American Hurricanes: 1492–1870"; James M. McPherson, "Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era"; Craig L. Symonds, "Lincoln and His Admirals: Abraham Lincoln, the U.S. Navy and the Civil War." Albin J. Kowalewski is a public historian in Washington.

# **Morbid Army Medical Museum settles in new MD. Home**

11/21/2011

From: Temple website

SPRING, Md. The bullet that killed Abraham Lincoln is mounted under glass, like a diamond in a snow globe, in its new home at the National Museum of Health and Medicine. The lead ball and several skull fragments from the 16th president are in a tall, antique case overlooking a Civil War exhibit in a museum gallery in Silver Spring, just off the Capital Beltway. The military museum, known for its collection of morbid oddities, moved in September from the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington. At Walter Reed, visitors had to pass through a security gate and find the museum on the campus, where parking could be a problem. The new building stands outside the gates of Fort Detrick's Forest Glen Annex. Visitors can just drive up, walk in, and come face to face with a perpetually grinning skeleton directing them to an exhibit on the human body. There, one can see a hairball from the stomach of a 12-year-old girl and the amputated leg of a man with elephantiasis a disease that causes limbs to become bloated. The leg floats upright in a glass jar like an enormous, pickled sausage. The museum's collection of 25 million objects includes plenty to inspire fascination, disgust, or both. But it's also a treasure trove for researchers such as Candice Millard, author of the new book *Destiny of the Republic*, about the assassination of President James Garfield. She wrote in her acknowledgments that she held in her gloved hands at the museum the section of Garfield's spine pierced by a .44-caliber bullet from Charles Guiteau's gun. Guiteau's brain and partial skeleton are also in the museum's collection. Deputy Director Tim Clarke Jr. said the museum would close in January and reopen by May 21 with its largest- ever display of objects to mark its 150th anniversary. The scope of the exhibits is still being decided, he said. "We are sure, though, that we are programming and planning an exhibit that will astound our visitors," Clarke said. "The \$12 million relocation established a permanent home for an institution that has had 10 addresses since 1862". That's when Surgeon General William Hammond directed medical officers in the field to collect specimens of morbid anatomy for study at the newly founded museum, along with projectiles and foreign bodies. A photograph nearly covering one wall of the museum's new Civil War exhibit shows amputated legs stacked like firewood. The exhibit also includes the shattered bones of U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Daniel Sickles' lower right leg, mounted for display beside a 12-pound cannonball similar to the one that hit him during the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863. Most of the museum's objects, including 2,000 microscopes and hundreds of thousands of human brain specimens, are in an off-site warehouse. They will be moved by the spring to a renovated warehouse across the street from the new museum. Clarke said the requirement to safely pack, move, and unpack each artifact would enable the museum to get a better handle on the number of artifacts in any given collection and the grand scope of the entire collection. One thing the museum won't do is destructive testing of artifacts. That's what the Grand Army of the Republic Museum and Library in Philadelphia learned when it explored the possibility in 2009 of comparing DNA from a Lincoln bloodstain in its own collection to the Lincoln anatomical specimens at the National Museum of Health and Medicine. Eric J. Schmincke, president of the Philadelphia museum, said he appreciates the desire to keep artifacts intact. "You don't want to take any chances like that, he said. "It's because you want them to see what you have. It's history."

## **ANECDOTES AND NOTES FROM REUNION OF BLUE AND GRAY at Gettysburg, 1913**

11/2/2011

Obtained Temple Website

Many Incidents, Touching and Amusing, at Gettysburg Celebration

General Daniel E. Sickles, Only Surviving Corps Commander, A Picturesque Figure.

GENERAL DANIEL E. SICKLES, now nearly ninety-three years old and the only surviving corps commander of either side who participated in the battle, was one of the most picturesque figures at the Gettysburg celebration. His quarters were in a big tent on the grounds of the Rogers House and only a few score yards separated him from the spot where he lost his leg half a century ago.

Directly in front of the Rogers House Sickles avenue turns from the Emmitsburg road and leads off toward Devil's den, at the foot of Little Round Top. In a little triangle at the junction stand some polished but antiquated cannon, the effigy of a federal battery belonging to Carr's brigade, which the Confederates took and then relinquished. Carr's brigade was a part of the corps which General Sickles commanded.

The line of the corps bent almost in front of the house in what is now known as the Bloody Angle. Here on July 2, 1863, the men, who in 1913 met and fraternized on the lawn, the porch and in the old farmhouse, fought like wildcats.

Chaplain Joe Twitchell, who accompanied the general, related again and again how that game old soldier lost his leg.

"It was after the fight had been going on about half an hour," said Chaplain Twitchell, " that the general was struck by a shot below the knee. It came from so squarely in front that it didn't touch his horse, but it tore his leg all to flinders.

"I met an aid, Captain McBlair, and his horse was so exhausted with the day's work that he laid his head right down on the ground the moment the captain stopped him.

"The general is shot!" he cried to me.

"Where is he?" I asked.

"In the ambulance."

"I went to the ambulance, and there he lay. The floor of it was flowing with blood, and the sides of it were all splashed with blood. They took him to the corps hospital at Rock creek, and there his leg was amputated by Surgeon Sims. As he lay on the pine operating table I administered the anesthetics. He said a pretty good thing at that time, I thought for he thought he was going to die. He said: "In a war like this one man's life is of small account."

"He thought he was making a fine dying speech," chuckled the chaplain, "but he didn't die after all.

As we weren't sure then that the Confederates wouldn't be swarming over our quarters the next day, they carried him on a stretcher to the nearest railroad after the operation and shipped him to Washington. And the day after he arrived there Mr. Lincoln went to see him."

General Sickles great infirmity brought many a tear to the eyes of all who saw him. It was plain that he was in almost constant pain, but with grim determination he insisted on receiving his old soldiers as well as those of other commands. During the day his tent was constantly filled with visitors.

Once a stranger, with ill timed solicitude, was heartless enough to ask the general whether he was afraid of dying on the field where he was

wounded fifty years ago.

"Sir," came promptly from the little withered man, "I know of no place on God's green footstool where a man, a soldier and a gentleman had rather die. The leg I lost is in the grave, and the foot I have is in a similar fix."

#### After Fifty Years.

Two G.A.R. men of Pennsylvania met on the first day at Gettysburg and after recounting various war time experiences each recognized in the other fellow prisoner at Andersonville. They had lived in Pennsylvania within a few miles of each other during most of the intervening half century.

They were Sergeant H.R. Anthony, formerly of the Fifth Pennsylvania volunteer infantry, and Sergeant Herman J. Hambleton, formerly of the Fourth Pennsylvania cavalry. Sergeant Anthony lives at Collingswood, Pa., and Sergeant Hambleton is from Morton, Pa.

Both had been at Andersonville prison and recalled the same experiences of the killing of prisoners too near the dead line by the guards on the stockade walls and the methods of avoiding starvation employed by the imprisoned men of the north.

Sergeant Anthony weighed eighty-six pounds when he left the prison. He was five feet eight inches tall. When he entered he weighed 163 pounds. He claims to have been the lightest man ever discharged from the prison who survived the ordeal.



Major General Sickles  
circa 1862



Sickles's leg, along with a cannonball  
similar to the one that shattered it, on  
display at the National Museum of  
Health and Medicine

## First-ever Book-length Study of Lincoln and Grant

By Edward H. Bonekemper, III

Thu, 1 Dec 2011

I am happy to report that my fifth book is now up and running as an e-book on Kindle and Nook. The book is the first-ever book-length study of Lincoln and Grant: *Lincoln and Grant: The Westerners Who Won the Civil War*. As usual, it took me a few years to write this book. This is a story I felt needed to be told; the victorious team of Lincoln and Grant has been pushed into the background by the admirers of the overrated Robert E. Lee, who was successfully promoted as a demi-god by the creators of and believers in the Myth of the Lost Cause. I found it unbelievable that no single book had ever been devoted to studying one of the most successful partnerships in military history. More details follow: *Lincoln and Grant: The Westerners Who Won the Civil War*

*Published as e-book on Kindle and Nook, November 2011  
To be published as softcover and hardcover book, February 2012*

*Incredibly, this is the first-ever book-length study of President Abraham Lincoln and General Ulysses S. Grant. It explores the reasons for their successful teamwork as commander-in-chief and general-in-chief of the victorious Union forces in the American Civil War.*

*Building on his prior studies of Grant, Lee and McClellan, Ed Bonekemper has produced the first-ever book-length study of Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant. They formed one of the great partnerships in American history and were the primary players in the Union's Civil War victory.*

*This book examines their similar "Western" backgrounds, pre-Civil War experiences (including a shared opposition to the instigation of the Mexican War), Civil War experiences on military and political battlefields, common personality traits (humility, decisiveness, clarity of communication, moral courage and perseverance), and mutual respect and loyalty.*

*Its chapters tell the story of a president desperate to find a general with the courage and skills the North needed for a Civil War victory, a general who had difficulty even getting a command at the start of the war but rose to and through the ranks of senior generals with victory after victory, Lincoln's protection of Grant when he came under political and public attack, and the full-blown development of one of the greatest civilian-military partnerships in history.*

*Bonekemper also explains their productive working relationship in areas of national policy, military strategy, military operations and tactics, and military personnel decisions concerning manpower in the field, recruiting and use of black soldiers, and the promotion and firing of Union generals.*

*Lincoln and Grant's relationship as commander-in-chief and general-in-chief, respectively, set the standard and precedent for all significant later American wars. This book is a "must" for Civil War buffs, admirers of Lincoln and Grant, and students of military-civilian relations*

*In addition, both Kindle and Nook are carrying a new mini-book excerpted from this major study. That small summary book is *Lincoln and Grant's Teamwork: Keys to Their Civil War Success*.*

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### Victory at Franklin

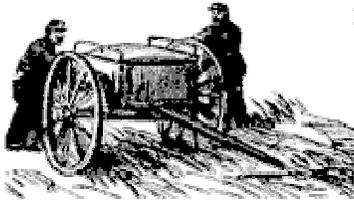
Thu, 1 Dec 2011

Obtained: Temple Website

The Civil War Trust Reaches its Fundraising Goal for "Walthall's Advance" Property In September of this year, the Civil War Trust announced a new campaign with the Save the Franklin Battlefield Trust to save 5 acres of the Franklin Battlefield. This field, one of the last undisturbed portions of the battlefield, witnessed some of the most harrowing action of the Civil War. Coming under fire from entrenched Union troops just 750 yards to their front, many of the Confederates who stepped onto this field surely took their last breath here. Now, on the 147th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, I am proud to announce that, thanks to your generosity, we have reached our fundraising goal for this tract. Thanks to you, this section of the battlefield will now be preserved for all the future generations to come. With Gratitude,

Jim Lighthizer: President, Civil War Trust

Obtained: Temple Website



# 2011-2012 Scheduled Speakers

- September 7, 2011 Dr. Sidney Copel "Civil War Entertainment"
- October 5, 2011 Louis Caban "Lee's Retreat"
- November 2, 2011 Dave Walter and Don Ernsberger "Battle of Ball's Bluff"
- December 7, 2011 Dan Cashin "Confederate Privateers"
- January 4, 2012 Hugh Boyle "Dan Sickles"
- February 1, 2012 Jack Lieberman, Capt USN (Ret) "Commodore Percival Drayton, USN"
- March 7, 2012 Charles Zahn "Musical Presentation" plus Annual Spring Social
- April 4, 2012 Flo Williams "The Postal Service"
- May 2, 2012 Carol Berkin "Civil War Women"
- May TBD Trip to Culp's Hill, Gettysburg, PA is being planned by Greg Buss
- May 15, 2012 Annual Banquet – Dennis Frye, Chief Historian, Harpers Ferry National Park "Antietam"

*Additional Trips planned possibly to an Exhibit at the Union League and a guided tour of Laurel Hill Cemetery*

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## 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:

\_\_\_\_\_

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**

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**BRANDYWINE VALLEY  
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

*c/o Lynne Fulton  
144 W. King Street  
Malvern, PA 19355*

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

