

Williamsburg Civil War Roundtable  
2014 Newsletters



*Williamsburg Civil War  
Roundtable*

Meeting Place

*Williamsburg*

Volume XXXVIII Number 1

September 24, 2013

Dr Michael Stevens

Preserving the Land, Preserving the Stories

The next meeting is September 24, 2013. Dr Michael Stevens, President of Central Virginia Battlefields Trust will present "Preserving the Land, Preserving the Stories: Central Virginia Battlefields Trust and Its Fight to Save America's Sacred Soil"

Dr. Michael P. Stevens, earned a B.S. from Texas A & M University and a M.D. from Tulane School of Medicine. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1971-73. He entered in private practice of dermatology in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Dr. Stevens is married to his wife Pat and they have three grown children.

Dr. Stevens is a member of Rappahannock Valley CWRT, Friends of Fredericksburg Area Battlefields, Founding member of Central Virginia Battlefields Trust. One Great-grandfather served in the 1st Maine Heavy Artillery while the other served in Hart's Battery, Stuart's Horse Artillery.

On September 19 at 7 PM a memorial brick will be placed with Scott Bowers' name on it at a memorial wall in Darling Stadium, Hampton. Scotty

of course for many years was the newsletter editor as well as a charter member of WCWRT.

**Dues for 2013-2014** are due in September. Dues for the year are \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. Please make checks payable to WCWRT.

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President: Bill Miller                      Vice-President: Gene Danko  
Secretary: Teri Teopke                  Treasurer: John Hale

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### **Upcoming Meetings and Speakers**

- October 22, 2013 – Scott Williams will present "Bermuda Hundred Campaign"
- November 26, 2013 - Jeffry Burden will present "Unionist Gone Underground; Life in a Divided Richmond"
- December 17, 2013 - Peggy Vogtsberger will present "The Battle of Nashville"

### **Upcoming Outside Events**

**April 16 - September 29, 2013** -National Civil War Museum spring summer programs announced.

**Sept. 13-Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013** - Liberty University to host the 2013 CIVIL WAR SEMINAR, "1863—THE CONFLAGRATION CONTINUES". Liberty University will present its 17th annual Civil War Seminar, at the Arthur S. DeMoss Learning Center, located on the main campus of LU. For details click [here](#)

The following nationally renowned speakers will cover key topics of 1863:

- Rod Gragg—"Gettysburg: An Eyewitness History" (Key Note Address) "The 26th North Carolina at Gettysburg"
- Dr. John Brinsfield—"Chaplains at Gettysburg"
- Hunter Lesser—"Lincoln's Odd Trick: Heroes, Rascals & Rogues of West Virginia Statehood"

- Major John Plaster—“Sharpshooters of the Civil War” “The Rifles of Gettysburg”
- Michael Leavy—“Railroads of the Civil War: An Illustrated History”

**September 14-15, 2013** - "Lee's Last Move North - The Battle of Bristoe Station." Two day Symposium Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Bristoe Station Campaign. For details click [here](#)

**September 14-15, 2013** - Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site will host a two day Civil War Symposium. Sunday will feature guided bus tours of the battlefield, one each led by Ed Bearss and Mark Bradley. Please contact the site at (910) 594-0789 or visit [www.fobb.net](http://www.fobb.net) for details and tickets.

**September 28 - October 6, 2013** - The 8th Annual Members' Tour of Gettysburg. Join A. Wilson Greene and a group of the nation's Gettysburg experts to explore the epic story of the Civil War's most famous campaign from its bold inception at Brandy Station to its fateful conclusion on the Maryland shore of the Potomac. Details [here](#)

**October 4-6, 2013** - The Mosby Heritage Area Association announces its 16th Annual Conference on the Art of Command in the Civil War. This year's topic will be "Prelude to Gettysburg - The Armies Move North". For details click [here](#)

**October 5, 2013** - Battle of Bristoe Station bus ride,  
**October 13-14, 2013** - two day commemoration of the battle of Bristoe station. For details click [here](#)

**December 29, 2013** - Arlington House :The Robert E Lee Memorial cordially invites you to "Freedom Comes to Arlington :Manumission and the Emancipation". For details click [here](#)

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Volume XXXVIII Number 2

October 22, 2013

Scott Williams

## Bermuda Hundred Campaign

The next meeting is October 22, 2013 at 7PM. Mr. Scott Williams will present "The Bermuda Hundred Campaign". In May of 1864, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler landed the 38,000 man Army of the James on the Bermuda Hundred Peninsula in Chesterfield County. Butler made tentative advances toward Richmond and Petersburg but fell back to his defenses each time. Meanwhile, Confederate Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard scrambled to find enough troops to place in Butler's path. Scott's talk will highlight these actions and the lost opportunities of one of the most overlooked campaigns of the war. He will also discuss some of the little known events that took place on the James River in the early days of the campaign.

Scott Williams is a Geographic Information System Analyst for Chesterfield County. He has worked for Chesterfield County for 17 years. He is a Volunteer for the Chesterfield Historical Society and has been Chairman of the Military History Committee since 2006. Scott has assisted with the preservation and interpretation of several Civil War Sites in Chesterfield. He most recently helped obtain funding to preserve the Confederate Gun position on the James River known as Battery Dantzler. Scott wrote several sections of the Bermuda Hundred Campaign Tour Guide and created all of the maps for that book. He also created the maps for the regimental history

of the 7th South Carolina Cavalry. Scott is a 1986 graduate of Old Dominion University. He and his wife Sandy live within earshot of the falls of the James in Richmond.

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February 25, 2014: Robert Doares:

March 25, 2014: Jeff Toalson: "Mama, I Am Yet Still Alive"

April 22, 2014: Steve French: "Imboden's Wagon Train of the Wounded"

May 27, 2014: TBD

### **Upcoming Outside Events**

**October 13-14, 2013** - Two day commemoration of the battle of Bristoe station. For details click [here](#)

**November 2, 2013** 1:00pm-2:00pm The National Civil War Museum welcomes James Hayney in our Education Gallery, main floor. James Hayney will speak as President Lincoln and lead a discussion regarding the Gettysburg Address including Gettysburg Facts & Fiction. Hayney visits the Museum many times each year as Lincoln and also appears as Lincoln in the Museum's interactive exhibit, "Meet Mr. Lincoln." This presentation is

included in the price of admission and free to members. For a complete listing of other events at the Museum, please visit the Museum website: [www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org](http://www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org) or call 717.260.1861.

**December 29,2013** - Arlington House :The Robert E Lee Memorial cordially invites you to "Freedom Comes to Arlington :Manumission and the Emancipation". For details click [here](#)

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Volume XXXVIII Number 3

November 26, 2013

Jeffry Burden

“Unionists Gone Underground: Life in a Divided  
Richmond”

Our November 26th meeting features Jeffry Burden presenting “Unionist Gone Underground: Life in a Divided Richmond”. Our November 26th meeting features Jeffry Burden presenting “Unionist Gone Underground: Life in a Divided Richmond”. This talk focuses on the widespread -- and surprisingly effective -- Unionist activity in Richmond during the War.

Elizabeth Van Lew may be the most famous such Richmonder, but she was only one part of a widespread network that worked to thwart the Confederate war effort. Just as Copperheads proved troublesome in the Northern states, Van Lew, John Minor Botts, Erastus Ross, and many other Richmonders from all walks of life demonstrated how divided the "Solid South" really was.

Jeffry Burden is a native of California, but a resident of Virginia for the past 27 years. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Missouri and his law degree from the University of Richmond.

He has long been a freelance writer on Civil War and other topics. In 2008, he edited and released the previously-unpublished regimental history of the

22nd Iowa Infantry -- the only Iowa regiment to serve in the Richmond theater.

Jeffry is now serving as Commander-in-Chief of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, the first Civil War hereditary organization. He follows in a line of Commanders-in-Chief including Winfield Scott Hancock, Phillip Sheridan, and Rutherford B. Hayes.

In recent years, he has served on the advisory committee for the "Virginia Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission", and also as a member of the Commonwealth's "Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Committee".

He also is the current President of the "Friends of Shockoe Hill Cemetery". This Richmond cemetery is the final resting place of Chief Justice John Marshall, four Virginia governors, and Confederate Brig. Gen. Patrick Moore, as well as an estimated 300 to 400 other Confederate soldiers. To date, the Friends group is responsible for marking 13 unmarked C.S.A. graves, with several more in the pipeline.

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Volume XXXVIII Number 4

December 17, 2013

**Peggy Vogtsberger**  
**"The Galant Pelham"**

Our December 17th meeting features Peggy Vogtsberger presenting the life of Lieut. Col. John Pelham, C.S.A. Known as "the Gallant Pelham," he was killed at the Battle of Kelly's Ford (March 17, 1863), age 24. John Pelham was a war-time hero of the South. He was good-looking and charismatic. He already had gained a high reputation, if not already a living legend, even before his death in 1863.

John Pelham was born near Jacksonville, Alabama in 1838. He entered the U.S. Military Academy in 1856, part of the divided Class of May, 1861. He left before his graduation. Assigned to command a battery of artillery in Virginia, he soon came to the attention of Gen. J.E.B. Stuart, who asked him to command his horse artillery. He commanded the Stuart Horse Artillery until his death at Kelly's Ford. Pelham was noted for tactical innovations and aggressive use of the horse artillery, and his artillery was placed in key areas of many battlefields -- notably at Second Manassas, Antietam, and Fredericksburg.

Peggy Vogtsberger first saw a picture of John Pelham in Dr. Douglas Southall Freeman's *Lee's Lieutenants* (Vol. 2) when she was age 16. She developed a "crush" on him and began researching everything she could on him. In 1981 she began the movement and collected the funds necessary to erect a stone monument to Pelham at Kelly's Ford. In 1982, at age 26, she founded the John Pelham Historical Association. In that

organization, she was the editor for over 15 years of their newsletter *The Cannoneer*. She organized 18 conventions. No longer active in the association, she has maintained close friendships with many of its members, former members, and the Pelham family.

Ms. Vogtsberger gave her first talk to the Williamsburg CWRT on John Pelham in December 1978. She returns to give this talk this month with, she hopes, more maturity and insight. She will especially talk on the development of Pelham's legend in the immediate aftermath of his death and the rather unusual honors given to him. She will speak on the continued fascination that many have on him, even today: books are still written, articles, and years ago a character was based on him on a TV special. For that all has been written and said about Pelham, his true personality is obscure, and even the events surrounding his death are something of an enigma.

Ms. Vogtsberger edited the letters of Col. Richard H. Dulany, 7th Virginia Cavalry, in *Welbourne: A Family in Mosby's Confederacy* (1995). She wrote an introduction for a reprint of Philip Mercer's book *The Gallant Pelham*. For years she was the editor of the WCWRT newsletter, served as its President, and was active on the Executive Board. Recently, she returned from a trip to Tennessee, where she began research on Private Frederick Vogtsberger, Company H, 32nd Indiana Infantry, who fought at Shiloh, Stones River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and various battles during the Atlanta Campaign. She is researching his regiment, and has developed an interest in his brigade commander, General August Willich.

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The "1864" exhibit will cover the battles, strategies, and civilian lives throughout the fourth year of the American Civil War with a cost of \$10.00 for the general public and free to Museum members.

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Volume XXXVIII Number 5

January 28, 2014

**Dr. Anna Holloway**  
**"The Last Voyage of the Monitor"**

Our January 28th meeting features Dr. Anna Holloway presenting "The Last Voyage of the Monitor". Although the USS Monitor may have ended her career in a gale off Cape Hatteras in December 1862, her story does not end there. Discovered in 1973, and the subject of recovery operations by NOAA since then, the "cheese box on a raft" which famously fought the CSS Virginia (ex-Merrimack) still has stories to tell. This lively, illustrated presentation brings the Monitor to life by combining log entries, official correspondence, personal letters from officers and crew, and evidence found in the ship itself. Holloway will place a special emphasis on the last moments of the Civil War ironclad.

Anna Gibson Holloway is the Vice President of Museum Collections and Programs at The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, VA, where she oversees the Curatorial, Collections Management, Education, Conservation, Photography & Licensing, USS Monitor Center, and Exhibition Design functions of the institution. At the Mariners' she holds the Archer M. Huntington Chair for the Study of Maritime History and is also serves as the Curator of the USS Monitor Center. Known as one of the leading experts on the Union ironclad, she has lectured internationally on the subject and has published several articles in national magazines and journals, with a monograph forthcoming from Kent State University Press. She also serves as adjunct faculty in the Leadership and American Studies Department of Christopher Newport University, and on the board of

directors of the Virginia Association of Museums, the Council of American Maritime Museums, and on the curatorial committee of the Museum of Science Fiction. Before the cheese box on a raft entered her life, she was the Director of Education and Resident Pirate, also at The Mariners' Museum. She has also served as Manager of School Tour Programs for the Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, VA; as interpretive and sailing crew of the Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery at the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation; and as a puppeteer and understudy fire eater for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. This Winston-Salem native graduated from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro with baccalaureate degrees in English Literature and Medieval Civilization. She received her Masters degree in Tudor/Stuart History and her Ph.D. in American History from the College of William and Mary.

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**January 31-February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014** The Civil War of Smithfield: 150th Commemoration. For details click [here](#).

**February 21, 2014** - H.L.Hunley Sinks the Housatonic" brown bag talk at the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond. Details click [here](#).

**February 22, 2014** -Symposium: "Person of the year 1864" at the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond. Details click [here](#).

**March 14, 2014** -"Diabolical Designs: The Story of Delgren's Raid" brown bag lunch at the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond. Details click [here](#).

**March 15, 2014** - Fifteenth annual Appomattox Court House National Historic Park and Longwood University free Civil War Seminar. Click [here](#) for details.

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Volume XXXVIII Number 6

February 25, 2014

**Robert Doars**  
**"God's Wayward Boy: The Revolutionary Lives of  
the Rev. Charles Minnigerode"**

Our February 25th meeting at 7PM in the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre will feature Robert Doars presenting "God's Wayward Boy: The Revolutionary Lives of the Rev. Charles Minnigerode".

Richmond's most prominent Civil War clergyman, the Rev. Charles Minnigerode of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, began his career as a social and political revolutionary in his native Germany, where he was incarcerated five years for sedition before fleeing to Philadelphia in 1839. Landing a classical language professorship at William and Mary in 1842, he sojourned six years in Williamsburg, where he married, embraced the Southern way of life, and received ordination to the priesthood at Bruton Parish Church. Celebrated each holiday season in Williamsburg today as the man who introduced the Christmas tree to Virginia, Minnigerode's ultimate notoriety derived from his intimate friendship with Jefferson Davis, his wartime ministry to Robert E. Lee and numerous other Confederate military and civilian notables, and his steady presence during the evacuation of Richmond in April 1865.

Bob Doares will discuss his ongoing research for a comprehensive biography of the man. A native North Carolinian and graduate of Davidson College and Ohio University, Bob is a museum educator in the Department of Training and Historical Research at Colonial Williamsburg. Fluent in German and French, he occupies his free time with independent scholarship on a variety of subjects. He has numerous published articles to his credit, as well as a book on French decorative arts.

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**February 26, 2014** - The Sons of Confederate Veterans Historical Honor Society meets for dinner @6:30 PM at the Colonial Heritage Club. Mr. John Sharrett will present a program depicting the events at the "Sesquicentennial Reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg" which took place this past July.

**March 7-9, 2014** - The Mariners' Museum will present the annual "Battle of Hampton Roads Weekend" which commemorates the Battle of the Ironclads. For details, visit [www.BattleofHamptonRoads.com](http://www.BattleofHamptonRoads.com).

**March 8, 2014** - The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District will present a sesquicentennial conference entitled "1864 - The War Returns to the Valley". The conference will take place at the Virginia Museum of the Civil War at Newmarket VA from 10 AM to 5 PM. For details, call 540-740-4545 or email [theder@svbf.net](mailto:theder@svbf.net).

**March 14, 2014** -"Diabolical Designs: The Story of Delgren's Raid" brown bag lunch at the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond. Details click [here](#).

**March 15, 2014** - Lee Hall Mansion Civil War Van Tour: "Wilderness & Spotsylvania (8 AM-5PM). Follow the Overland Campaign through the first bloody battles of the Union advance toward Richmond in 1864 with historian J. Michael Moore. For details & reservations, call 757-888-3371, ext 306.

**March 15, 2014** - Fifteenth annual Appomattox Court House National Historic Park and Longwood University free Civil War Seminar. Click [here](#) for details.

**March 29 -April 26, 2014** - [The National Civil War Museum](#) will host four lectures as the 150th Civil War Spring Lecture Series begins on March 29, 2014. Each lecture is scheduled from 1pm-2pm in our Education Gallery and is included in the cost of admission and Free to members.

- March 29, 2014 – “Guns of 1864” presented by author and firearms expert, Joseph G Bilby. The lecture will explore the evolution of weaponry during the Civil War from 1863-1864 and address the standard weapons of the era, along with new innovations including repeating firearms such as the Spencer and Henry rifles.
- April 5, 2014 – “US Colored troops in the Virginia Theater” presented by Hari Jones, Assistant Director and Curator of the African American Civil War Memorial Freedom Foundation and Museum. The 25th Army Corps, the only army corps in American history comprised entirely of African descent regiments, was organized in the Virginia Theater in December of 1864.
- April 12, 2014 – “The 48th Pennsylvania & The Battle of the Crater” presented by John Hoptak. John Hoptak, author and Interpretative Park Ranger at Antietam National Battlefield and Gettysburg National Military Park. Join him as he narrates the dramatic tale of the battle that General Ulysses S. Grant famously described as the "saddest affair" of the war.
- April 26, 2014 – “Monocacy: The B & O’s Battle” presented by Dan Toomey. The Battle of Monocacy has often been called “The Battle that saved Washington”. Through the extraordinary relationship between John Work Garrett, president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, troops were transferred with great efficiency to the scene of conflict.

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Volume XXXVIII Number 7

March 25, 2014

**Jeff Toalson**  
**"Mama, I Am Yet Still Alive – A Composite Diary  
of 1863 in the Confederacy"**

Our March 25th meeting at 7PM in the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre will feature Jeff Toalson presenting "Mama, I Am Yet Still Alive – A Composite Diary of 1863 in the Confederacy."

When local Williamsburg author and historian Jeff Toalson was offered access to a treasure trove of Civil War diaries, letters and journals at the Brewer Library of the United Daughters of the Confederacy he embarked on a two year effort to create a companion volume for his 2006 work: *No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion – A Composite Diary of the last 16 months of the Confederacy from 1864-1865.*

Tonight you will take a journey through 1863 as Toalson shares selected letters from farm wives, privates, doctors, ministers, sergeants, clerks, nurses and refugees. He will complement his presentation with a variety of historical artifacts and perhaps share some medical 'wisdom' from Mackenzie's *Five Thousand Receipts in all the Useful & Domestic Arts* including suggested cures for dysentery and other ailments.

Toalson feels that there is no better historian than the common soldier and civilian. Their correspondence is written 'in the moment' and is intimate, personal and very revealing. He uses the 'voices' of 50 women and 220

men to tell the story of 1863. Three of the women and twelve of the men are 'major voices' and appear in the correspondence for each month and are 'major voices' that you met in No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion. They are destined to become your good friends and tour guides as you travel through 1863 and then on into 1864-1865.

The letter, diary and journal entries of more than 100 of the 'voices' in Mama, I Am Yet Still Alive were previously unpublished. These soldiers and civilians provide us with rare personal glimpses into our collective past.



**Join local historian Jeff Toalson as he shares stories from unpublished letters and diaries while taking you on a journey back to 1863**

Jeff Toalson has a B. S. in Business Management from Missouri State University, is a 23 year resident of Williamsburg and a regular speaker at roundtables, historical societies, SCV Camps, UDC Chapters and National Park Battlefields. Jeff is the author of two books on the WBTS: Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls - The Civil War Letters of Richard and Mary Watkins, 1861-1865, which was published in 2009, and his first book No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion - A Composite Diary of the Last 16 Months of the Confederacy

**Last month**, Robert Doares presented "God's Wayward Boy: The Revolutionary Lives of the Rev. Charles Minnigerode".

Richmond's most prominent Civil War clergyman, the Rev. Charles Minnigerode of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, began his career as a social and political revolutionary in his native Germany, where he was incarcerated five years for sedition before fleeing to Philadelphia in 1839. Landing a classical language professorship at William and Mary in 1842, he sojourned six years in Williamsburg, where he married, embraced the Southern way of life, and received ordination to the priesthood at Bruton Parish Church. Celebrated each holiday season in Williamsburg today as the man who introduced the Christmas tree to Virginia, Minnigerode's ultimate notoriety derived from his intimate friendship with Jefferson Davis, his wartime ministry to Robert E. Lee and numerous other Confederate military and civilian notables, and his steady presence during the evacuation of Richmond in April 1865.

Bob Doares will discuss his ongoing research for a comprehensive biography of the man. A native North Carolinian and graduate of Davidson College and Ohio University, Bob is a museum educator in the Department of Training and Historical Research at Colonial Williamsburg. Fluent in German and French, he occupies his free time with independent scholarship on a variety of subjects. He has numerous published articles to his credit, as well as a book on French decorative arts.

National Parks website for soldiers and sailors. There you can search a given soldier on either side and learn his outfit, where he fought, his rank and lots of other things. It is [www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/](http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/)

**Dues for 2013-2014** are due. Dues for the year are \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. Please make checks payable to WCWRT.

### **2013-2014 Officers of WCWRT:**

President: Bill Miller  
Secretary: Teri Teopke

Vice-President: Gene Danko  
Treasurer: John Hale

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members include Norm Cooper, Lisa Heuval, Tom Lamb, and John Marsh.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Speakers**

- April 22, 2014: Steve French: “Imboden’s Wagon Train of the Wounded”
- May 27, 2014: Jonathon Stoltz: “Civil War Medicine: Myths and Misconceptions”

## Upcoming Outside Events

**March 7-9, 2014** - The Mariners' Museum will present the annual "Battle of Hampton Roads Weekend" which commemorates the Battle of the Ironclads. For details, visit [www.BattleofHamptonRoads.com](http://www.BattleofHamptonRoads.com).

**March 8, 2014** - The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District will present a sesquicentennial conference entitled "1864 - The War Returns to the Valley". The conference will take place at the Virginia Museum of the Civil War at Newmarket VA from 10 AM to 5 PM. For details, call 540-740-4545 or email [theder@svbf.net](mailto:theder@svbf.net).

**March 14, 2014** -"Diabolical Designs: The Story of Delgren's Raid" brown bag lunch at the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond. Details click [here](#).

**March 15, 2014** - Lee Hall Mansion Civil War Van Tour: "Wilderness & Spotsylvania (8 AM-5PM). Follow the Overland Campaign through the first bloody battles of the Union advance toward Richmond in 1864 with historian J. Michael Moore. For details & reservations, call 757-888-3371, ext 306.

**March 15, 2014** - Fifteenth annual Appomattox Court House National Historic Park and Longwood University free Civil War Seminar. Click [here](#) for details.

**March 29 -April 26, 2014** - [The National Civil War Museum](#) will host four lectures as the 150th Civil War Spring Lecture Series begins on March 29, 2014. Each lecture is scheduled from 1pm-2pm in our Education Gallery and is included in the cost of admission and Free to members.

- March 29, 2014 – “Guns of 1864” presented by author and firearms expert, Joseph G Bilby. The lecture will explore the evolution of weaponry during the Civil War from 1863-1864 and address the standard weapons of the era, along with new innovations including repeating firearms such as the Spencer and Henry rifles.
- April 5, 2014 – “US Colored troops in the Virginia Theater” presented by Hari Jones, Assistant Director and Curator of the African American Civil War Memorial Freedom Foundation and Museum. The 25th

Army Corps, the only army corps in American history comprised entirely of African descent regiments, was organized in the Virginia Theater in December of 1864.

- April 12, 2014 – “The 48th Pennsylvania & The Battle of the Crater” presented by John Hoptak. John Hoptak, author and Interpretative Park Ranger at Antietam National Battlefield and Gettysburg National Military Park. Join him as he narrates the dramatic tale of the battle that General Ulysses S. Grant famously described as the "saddest affair" of the war.
- April 26, 2014 – “Monocacy: The B & O’s Battle” presented by Dan Toomey. The Battle of Monocacy has often been called “The Battle that saved Washington”. Through the extraordinary relationship between John Work Garrett, president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, troops were transferred with great efficiency to the scene of conflict.

**April 5, 2014** - The Mason-Dixon Civil War Round Table of Morgantown, West Virginia is pleased to announce its annual Civil War Symposium. [details](#)

Visit our web site at [www.wcwrt.org](http://www.wcwrt.org).



*Williamsburg Civil War  
Roundtable*

**Meeting Place**  
*Williamsburg*

Volume XXXVIII Number 8

April 22, 2014

**Steve French**  
**“Captain Redmond Burke - Stuart’s  
Border Scout”**

Our April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 7PM in the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre will feature Steve French presenting “Captain Redmond Burke - Stuart’s Border Scout.”

In the first two years of The War between The States, Irish immigrant Redmond Burke first served as a scout and later personal aide to General J.E. B. Stuart. The colorful off- told stories of his thrilling exploits behind enemy lines, spread by newspaper and word-of-mouth throughout Northern Virginia and the lower-Shenandoah Valley, eventually turned him into an almost mythical figure. One scribe wrote. “His character seemed to belong to romance rather than every-day life, and may one day figure, in the pages of a future Sir Walter Scott.”

Mr. French’s presentation will briefly examine some of Burke’s exploits, including his adventures during the Battle of Williamsburg and Stuart’s Chickahominy Raid, before focusing on his last behind-the-lines mission that resulted in his death in a Union ambush in Shepherdstown, Va., on the night of Nov. 24-25, 1862.

Steve French is a member of a number of historical organizations including the Harpers Ferry Civil War Round Table and the Stuart-Mosby Historical

Society. He is the author of the critically acclaimed Imboden's Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign, which received the prestigious 2008 Bachelder-Coddington Literary Award, the 2009 Round Table of Gettysburg Book Award and the Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal. He is also the author of Rebel Chronicles: Raiders, Scouts, and Train Robbers of the Upper-Potomac, the Blue&Gray Education Society monograph The Jones-Imboden Raid on the B&O Railroad at Rowlesburg, Virginia, and edited Four Years Along the Tihance, the Civil War Dairy of Elisha Manor. French has written more than seventy Civil War articles and numerous book reviews that have appeared in national and international publications such as The Washington Times, Gettysburg Magazine, North& South Magazine, Crossfire: The Magazine of the American Civil War Round Table U.K., and The Southern Cavalry Review. He has appeared in internet and television documentaries including The Civil War in Washington County, Maryland. French's other activities include speaking at various round tables and seminars and serving as guide for Civil War tours of the lower-Shenandoah Valley, Potomac Highlands, and the Retreat From Gettysburg.

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- May 27, 2014: Jonathon Stoltz: "Civil War Medicine: Myths and Misconceptions"

### **Upcoming Outside Events**

**2014** Walking historic tours of Isle of Wight. Click [here](#) for details.

**April 26, 2014** - [The National Civil War Museum](#) will host "Monocacy: The B & O's Battle" presented by Dan Toomey. The Battle of Monocacy has often been called "The Battle that saved Washington". Through the extraordinary relationship between John Work Garrett, president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, troops were transferred with great efficiency to the scene of conflict.. The lecture is scheduled from 1pm-2pm in our Education Gallery and is included in the cost of admission and Free to members.

**June 27-29, 2014** - Stratford Hall will offer their annual Robert E. Lee Symposium on the Civil War. This year, we will be visiting North Anna and Cold Harbor. For details visit <http://www.stratfordhall.org/event/robert-e-lee-symposium-on-civil-war-history>

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**Meeting Place**  
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Volume XXXVIII Number 9

May 27, 2014

**Dr. Jonathan L. Stolz**  
**“Civil War Medicine:  
Myths and Misperceptions”**

Our May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7PM in the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre will feature Dr. Jonathan L. Stolz presenting “Civil War medicine: myths & misperceptions”.

Medical care during the fratricidal struggle that divided our nation 150 years ago harbors many historic misunderstandings about the insurmountable challenges that doctors from the North and South faced. The myths and misperceptions about the two thirds of the war fatalities from disease will be the topic of the discussion. The surgical aspects of care will be presented at another time. The qualification of the physicians, the various maladies, the treatments, and innovations that took place during the war will be highlighted.

Doctor Stolz is a physician who practiced in the specialty of radiology in Reading, Pennsylvania before retiring to Williamsburg in 2004. He has had a longtime interest in the history of medicine in the United States. He has taught courses at William & Mary's Christopher Wren Association including Presidential Illnesses, Civil War Medicine: Myths & Misperceptions, and in the 2014 Fall Semester will present Medicine in Colonial America (1607-1783). In 1863 his great grandfather John Christopher Keatley was

appointed as one of the assistant paymasters of the Army of the Potomac by President Lincoln.

**Last month**, Steve French presented "Captain Redmond Burke - Stuart's Border Scout."

In the first two years of The War between The States, Irish immigrant Redmond Burke first served as a scout and later personal aide to General J.E. B. Stuart. The colorful off-told stories of his thrilling exploits behind enemy lines, spread by newspaper and word-of-mouth throughout Northern Virginia and the lower-Shenandoah Valley, eventually turned him into an almost mythical figure. Mr. French's presentation briefly examined some of Burke's exploits, including his adventures during the Battle of Williamsburg and Stuart's Chickahominy Raid, before focusing on his last behind-the-lines mission that resulted in his death in a Union ambush in Shepherdstown, Va., on the night of Nov. 24-25, 1862.

Steve French is a member of a number of historical organizations including the Harpers Ferry Civil War Round Table and the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. He is the author of the critically acclaimed Imboden's Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign, which received the prestigious 2008 Bachelder-Coddington Literary Award, the 2009 Round Table of Gettysburg Book Award and the Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal. He is also the author of Rebel Chronicles: Raiders, Scouts, and Train Robbers of the Upper-Potomac, the Blue&Gray Education Society monograph The Jones-Imboden Raid on the B&O Railroad at Rowlesburg, Virginia, and edited Four Years Along the Tihance, the Civil War Dairy of Elisha Manor. French has written more than seventy Civil War articles and numerous book reviews that have appeared in national and international publications such as The Washington Times, Gettysburg Magazine, North& South Magazine, Crossfire: The Magazine of the American Civil War Round Table U.K., and The Southern Cavalry Review. He has appeared in internet and television documentaries including The Civil War in Washington County, Maryland. French's other activities include speaking at various round tables and seminars and serving as guide for Civil War tours of the lower-Shenandoah Valley, Potomac Highlands, and the Retreat From Gettysburg.

**The Williamsburg Battlefield** (historic) made the Preservation Virginia "most endangered sites list" I wanted to share this with you ASAP. Such a listing wouldn't have been possible without the actions of this past summer

and the support and encouragement from the round table. The idea of the list is to bring awareness and interpretation to the sites and not to shame or insult the developers or land owners. I would ask that you share this news listed below with the Roundtable. Please also encourage those that use Facebook to "friend" our site which is also listed below.

Drew Gruber

<http://preservationvirginia.org/press-room/release/2014-most-endangered-historic-sites-list-press-release>

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/many-of-virginias-historic-sites-are-in-jeopardy/2014/04/29/711a2cc6-cfc7-11e3-937f-d3026234b51c\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/many-of-virginias-historic-sites-are-in-jeopardy/2014/04/29/711a2cc6-cfc7-11e3-937f-d3026234b51c_story.html)

<https://www.facebook.com/WilliamsburgBattlefieldAssociation>

**Williamsburg Battlefield Association Book Sale:** Drew Gruber and his wife, Kate, of the Williamsburg Battlefield Association are conducting a Civil War book sale to raise revenue to assist in the purchase and preservation of local properties where fighting occurred during the Battle of Williamsburg on May 4 and 5, 1862.

The Civil War books were originally part of a private collection that belonged to a Colonial Williamsburg member who recently passed away. The family is contributing the books to the Williamsburg Battlefield Association to provide an incentive for raising cash for the organization's preservation efforts. Approximately 200 books are being offered for sale. The titles and prices can be reviewed by clicking here.

The Williamsburg Battlefield Association has taken the lead in the effort to preserve the only area of the Williamsburg Battlefield that remains undeveloped. The current owners are anxious to place these properties on the market. The Association is collaborating with government agencies and preservation organizations to purchase these hallowed grounds. The revenue generation by the sale of this collection of Civil War books will be beneficial toward the goal of preserving these lands. The Williamsburg Civil War Roundtable endorses this book sale and encourages all members and friends to support this cause.

The contact source for the purchase of the Civil War books is:  
[gruberda@mymail.vcu.edu](mailto:gruberda@mymail.vcu.edu)

**National Parks website for soldiers and sailors.** There you can search a given soldier on either side and learn his outfit, where he fought, his rank and lots of other things. It is [www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/](http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/)

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### **Upcoming Meetings and Speakers**

**Please note that all Fall meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month**

- **September 23, 2014** - Carson Hudson and Amy Miller - "The Civil War In Seven Songs"
- **October 21, 2014** - Drew Gruber - "Preservation of Williamsburg Battlefield Sites"
- **November 18, 2014** - Col. Edward Freyfogle (Ret) - "Civil War Surgery"
- **December 16, 2014** - Peggy Vogtsberger - "The Battle of Nashville"

### **Upcoming Outside Events**

**2014** Walking historic tours of Isle of Wight. Click [here](#) for details.

**May 23 - June 18, 2014** - Richmond's 1864 / 2014 Sesquicentennial Commemoration:

- May 23 - 26 1864: Battle of North Anna May 29 - 31 1864: Battle of Totopotomoy Creek May 31 - June 12, 1864: Battle of Cold Harbor.
- June 15 - 18, 1864: Initial Assaults at Petersburg
- For updates on tours, lectures, commemorative events and additional information, visit [www.nps.gov/rich](http://www.nps.gov/rich).

**June 19 & June 21, 2014** - Lee Hall Mansion; Civil War Van Tours 2014.

- **July 19, 2014** - Dahlgren's Raid (8:00 AM - 4:00 PM) \$50/person. Explore the route of this 1864 Union raid with historian J. Michael Moore. Learn about the controversy surrounding the Dahlgren papers
- **June 21, 2014** - Siege of Petersburg: The Eastern Front (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM) \$50/person. Follow the Union Army across the James River. Visit Wilcox's Landing, City Point, the Dictator, Fort Stedman, the Crater, and Blandford Church with historian J. Michael Moore.
- For reservations or more information, call (757) 888-3371, ext 306. Make payment by check to Lee Hall Mansion, 163 Yorktown Road, Newport News, VA 23603.

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