

**Civil War  
Round Table of  
Fredericksburg, Inc.**

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*Next Meeting: 6/12/2024  
UMW Jepson Alumni Ctr  
1119 Hanover Street*

*Social: 5:45pm  
Dinner: 6:15pm  
Program: 7:30 pm*

**HARDTACK**

**JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER**



**SPEAKER: MARK MALOY  
PROGRAM: FORT SUMTER AND THE BEGINNING OF THE CIVIL WAR  
JUNE 12, 2024**

## **Fort Sumter and the Beginning of the Civil War**

Join historian Mark Maloy as he describes the standoff in Charleston Harbor and the first battle of the Civil War at Fort Sumter in April of 1861. He will discuss the surprisingly bloodless battle that inaugurated the deadliest war in American history, and how the city of Charleston and Fort Sumter became a target for Union forces for the remainder of the war. He will also discuss the life of the most colorful personalities of the war, the man often credited with firing the first shot of the Civil War, Southern fire-eater Edmund Ruffin.

Mark Maloy is a historian currently working for the National Park Service in Virginia. He holds an undergraduate degree in History from the College of William and Mary and a graduate degree in History from George Mason University. He has worked at numerous public historic sites and archaeological digs for the past fifteen years. Among the sites he has worked at include the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, the Civil War Defenses of Washington, and Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial. He began his career with the Park Service at Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park in Charleston, South Carolina. He has written numerous articles on the Civil War and is the author of two books on the Revolutionary War: *Victory or Death: The Battles of Trenton and Princeton* and *To the Last Extremity: The Battles for Charleston*.



Please check the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg website calendar to see a listing of free online seminars, conferences, meetings, workshops, and other items of interest. Additionally, the “Resource” tab contains a new listing of useful internet reference websites.

### **Upcoming Presentations**

Upcoming presentations through May 2025 are as follows:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Jun 12, 2024</b> | <b>Fort Sumter and the Beginning of the Civil War</b><br><i>Speaker: Mark Maloy</i>                            |
| <b>Sep 25, 2024</b> | <b>Irvin McDowell</b><br><i>Speaker: Gene Schmiel</i>  |
| <b>Oct 23, 2024</b> | <b>Confederate Guerillas and Union Reprisals</b><br><i>Speaker: Clay Mountcastle</i>                           |
| <b>Nov 20, 2024</b> | <b>Ambrose Burnside’s Military Career</b><br><i>Speaker: Frank O’Reilly</i>                                    |
| <b>Jan 22, 2025</b> | <b>Witness to History: The Sentry Box House</b><br><i>Speaker: Charlie McDaniel</i>                            |
| <b>Feb 26, 2025</b> | <b>A Republic in the Ranks: Loyalty and Dissent in the Army of the Republic</b><br><i>Speaker: Zachery Fry</i> |

**Mar 26, 2025**

**Hunter Davidson, CSN**

*Speaker: John Coski*

**Apr 23, 2025**

**The Battle for Bristoe Station**

*Speaker: Kevin Pawlak*

**May 28, 2025**

**The Grand Old Man of the Army: General Winfield Scott's  
Unionism and the Secession Crisis**

*Speaker: Barton Myers*

Many thanks to all who have volunteered to sponsor a program for next Program Year. Per the list below, all presentations for next year have sponsors:

Sep 2024	Jerre Wilson	Gene Schmiel - Irvin McDowell
Oct 2024	Steve & Terry Fox	Clay Mountcastle - Confederate Guerillas
Nov 2024	Jim Davis	Frank O'Reilly - Ambrose Burnside's Military Career
Jan 2025	Jack Farrington	Charlie McDaniel –Witness to History: Sentry Box House
Feb 2025	Beth Daly	Zachery Fry – A Republic in the Ranks
Mar 2025	Kent & Teri Cueman	John Coski – Hunter Davidson (CSN)
Apr 2025	Harry Farley	Kevin Pawlak – Bristoe Station
May 2025	Chip Willis	Barton Myers – General Winfield Scott
Jun 2025	Bob Lookabill	Patrick Schroeder - Forgotten Friday: April 7, 1865



### **The Heritage Award Winner is Elizabeth (Beth) Daly**

The Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg is proud to present the 2024 Heritage Award to Elizabeth (Beth) Daly. Beth is an avid Civil War historian.

Beth is now and has been an active member of many history-related organizations, including Central Rappahannock Heritage Center, Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, Fredericksburg Area Museum, Ladies Memorial Association, Friends of Chatham, Stafford County Historical Society and Widewater State Park, just to name a few. Of course, she currently serves as secretary of our organization, a position she has held for 10 out of the past 12 years.

She is a devoted historian and excellent researcher regarding Civil War documents. She was a researcher and transcriber of Civil War letters from the Knox family. The collection was published in partnership with Historic Fredericksburg in 2013 as “The Circle Unbroken: The Civil War Letters of the Knox Family of Fredericksburg.”

When tracing her family genealogy, she discovered her great-grandfather was in the Ohio Volunteer Infantry and spent the winter of 1863 camped at Brooke, Virginia, a few miles from where she lives.

She has also researched General Fitzhugh Lee, and he has become one of her favorite Civil War characters.

We appreciate and applaud Beth's gifts as a writer, researcher, board member, and friend to not only the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg, but to the many organizations in the area.

Congratulations, Beth, and our heart-felt thanks for all of your contributions to the preservation and significance of history in the Fredericksburg area!

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**  
**JUNE 2024**

Good Day, to all of our members of the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg. I am very pleased to say that May has been a month of recognition and congratulations to a number of members of the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg.

First, we recognized and congratulated Ms. Elizabeth Daly, our CWRT of Fredericksburg Secretary, as she was awarded the prestigious Heritage Award for 2024. This award is presented to "an individual in recognition of their outstanding verbal, archival, or media interpretation work, or for an outstanding paper, publication, or research project contributing to the knowledge of Virginia in the Civil War era." Beth has been our secretary for the past decade and she is most deserving of this award. Congratulations, Beth, and well done!

Secondly, we are indebted to Ms. Carol Walker, who has headed the Heritage Award Committee for the past 4 years. Carol has worked tirelessly to promote the Heritage Award and to oversee the selection process. Our sincere thanks to her for making the Heritage Award a very special event for the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg. Thank you, Carol!

Our Board of Directors welcomes two new members: Ms. Patricia Carle and Ms. Jane Conner. Patricia came to Fredericksburg from Rappahannock County, where she and her late husband had a horse farm. Patricia volunteers at a local art gallery and with the Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, Inc., as a member of the Candlelight Tour Committee and Tour Host. She was recently selected a Director of the Ladies' Memorial Association (Confederate Cemetery).

Ms. Jane Conner is a retired Stafford educator. Jane has authored several books on Stafford history, including *Lincoln in Stafford*, and *Saints and Soldiers in Civil War Stafford*. Jane led the effort to save Government Island from developers and have it designated as a County Park. She was also instrumental in saving Ferry Farm from being taken by Walmart. Jane has been the president and vice president of the Stafford Historical Society and is currently a member of the Stafford Historical Commission. She is a past recipient of the CWRTF Heritage Award and was named as Woman of the Year by the Fredericksburg

Woman's Club. The CWRTF intern stipend is named for Jane's late husband, Albert Z. Conner.

We are both honored and thrilled to have these two fine ladies as new members of the CWRTF Board of Directors.

We also welcomed our newest member of the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg, our Mayor, Ms. Kerry P. Devine. A native of New York, Kerry has resided in Fredericksburg since graduating from the University of Mary Washington. She is a mother of four and a Social Studies Teacher. Kerry is member #112, and we are extremely pleased to welcome her into the Round Table.

Our "Guest Speaker Sponsorship" efforts have been very effective, and I am very pleased to say that all of the sponsorship presentations for the 2024/2025 year have been covered by our members. This cost covers the speaker's dinner, honorarium, and hotel accommodations.

**Please remember to make your dinner reservations early and contact Elizabeth Daly, at 540-729-0260, not later than Monday, 10 June, by 12:00, so that she may give the correct numbers to the UMW catering service.**

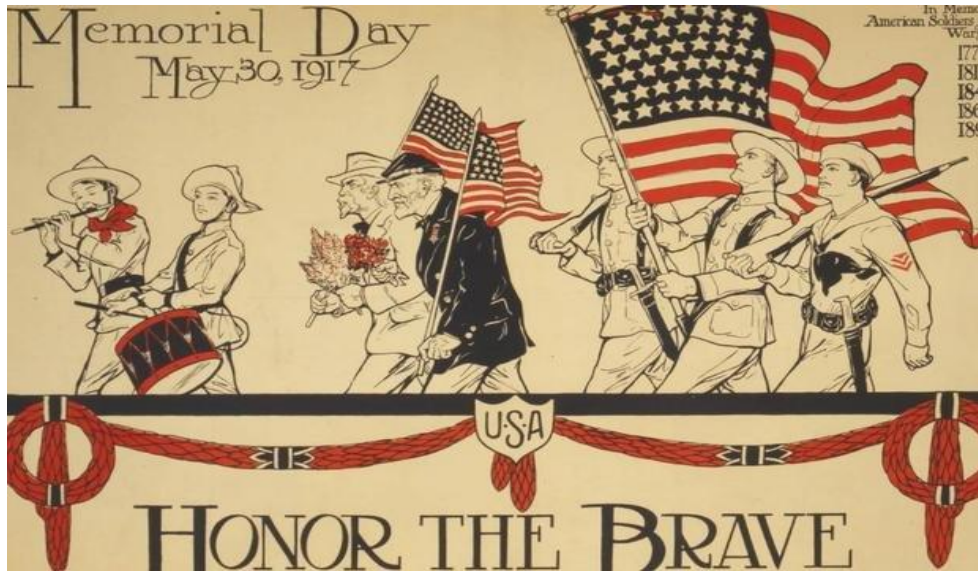
I am grateful to all of our Board Members who have accepted the challenge of continued membership and I look forward to serving all of you as your President for the next two years.

Best regards,  
Bruce H. "Doc" Norton  
President - Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg  
[Recondoc123@gmail.com](mailto:Recondoc123@gmail.com)

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## MEMBERSHIP MINUTE



The official “government” recognition day of war dead known as “Memorial Day 2024” is over. But to those of us dedicated to preserving the military and social history of the Civil War, every day is memorial day. We do not need a designated holiday to remember those who fought and died. We do not need a reason to volunteer at National Parks, cemeteries, or battlefields, or to perform other educational and civic duties to our community. As we all know, the Civil War is the origin of Memorial Day. Known as “Decoration Day,” the tradition sprang from the overwhelming need to provide a proper resting place for the tens of thousands Union dead in hundreds of communities across the nation. It was not until 1971 that this local and state observance became a national holiday.

Reposted here from Military.com is a good synopsis of the day’s origins:

Every year, Americans come together on the last Monday in May to remember our fallen service members. But the timing, traditions and even what we call the holiday are all relatively new.

Memorial Day, as we know, is far from a macabre or morbid tradition. For more than a century, the ritual of visiting cemeteries, memorials and gravesites was the real start of summer. It was an annual act of remembrance, clearing away the dirt and grime from those hallowed markers. It's a time to decorate those personal memorials.

Until 1971, it was known as "Decoration Day."

The years following the end of the Civil War in 1865 saw American communities tending to the remains and graves of an unprecedented number of

war dead. All of the previous wars and conflicts fought by the United States combined would still not add up to the body count produced by the Civil War.

On the first official Decoration Day -- May 30, 1868 -- Ohio Rep. [James A. Garfield](#), a former general and future U.S. president, addressed a crowd of 5,000 gathered at Arlington National Cemetery:

*"Hither our children's children shall come to pay their tribute of grateful homage. For this are we met today. By the happy suggestion of a great society, assemblies like this are gathering at this hour in every State in the Union. Thousands of soldiers are today turning aside in the march of life to visit the silent encampments of dead comrades who once fought by their side. From many thousand homes, whose light was put out when a soldier fell, there go forth today to join these solemn processions loving kindred and friends, from whose heart the shadow of grief will never be lifted till the light of the eternal world dawns upon them."*

After Garfield spoke, the 5,000 visitors made their way into the cemetery to visit the tens of thousands of graves in the newly formed cemetery. But Decoration Day was not an official holiday. May 30 was a day touted by the Grand Army of the Republic, an association of Union Civil War veterans, as an official day of remembrance for people across the country. The idea was to honor the war's dead by decorating the graves of Union soldiers.

Local municipalities and states adopted resolutions over the following years to make Decoration Day an official holiday in their areas. Each of the former Union states had adopted a Decoration Day by 1890.

As time went on, "Memorial Day" began to supplant "Decoration Day" as the name of the holiday, and it soon became a day to honor all fallen American troops, not just those from the Civil War. After the two World Wars, Memorial Day was the term in more common usage, and the act of remembering all of the fallen took on a renewed importance.

In 1968, the U.S. government passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which put major holidays on specific Mondays to give federal employees three-day weekends. Memorial Day was one of these holidays, along with Washington's Birthday, Labor Day and Columbus Day. The act also codified the name "Memorial Day" into law.

It all went into effect in 1971 and, by then, there were no more Civil War veterans -- but there were millions of vets from later wars.

A recurring theme in these columns is how the many ways and many contributions Civil War Roundtables make to preserving and perpetuating Civil War History. We may not



grab the headlines or get credit – credit where credit is due – but in many thousands of ways, our CWRTF members contribute to this cause. Which brings me back to membership --

At some point those of us – *ahem* - advancing in age will not be able to work the battlefield volunteer lines, plant the headstones in the Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery, or participate in education/restoration/preservation exercises. Yea, to secure the future of the spirit of Decoration Day, it falls to a new generation of Americans to step up and seize the banner of remembrance.

That's where membership comes in. As we enter the busy summer holiday season, let's not forget that September (our next meeting) is but a mere three months away. I urge you to not forget your CWRTF. Continue reaching out to colleagues, friends, neighbors, fellow citizens, and the younger generations, to recruit them into our ranks. Let all of us do our part!

If you need copies of our rack cards to distribute this summer, please reach out and I will mail them to you.

See you at our June meeting and again in September!

*May love of country lead you.*

David Hamon  
Membership Chair  
[historyCWRTF@gmail.com](mailto:historyCWRTF@gmail.com)



**CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE**  
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

## **Summer Conference Feature**

June 7-12th, 2024

**A partnership with Gettysburg National  
Military Park...**

- *Interpreting Emancipation at Civil War Sites*, a panel with Chief of Interpretation, Chris Gwinn
- *Benner's Hill and the Fight for the Union Right Flank*, a tour with Ranger Troy Harman
- *Bloodshed on a Border: A Beginner's Guide to the Gettysburg Campaign*, a tour with Ranger Rachael Nicholas



Register now at <https://www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/registration-form>

**Be sure to inquire about our numerous discounts!  
Contact us at [civilwar@gettysburg.edu](mailto:civilwar@gettysburg.edu)  
or 717-337-6590 for questions and discount codes!**



[View this email in your browser](#)

## CWRT LEADERS



### PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S INVITATION

Please click the image above to play Lincoln's invitation to our 2024 Summer Sustainability Workshops. [VIDEO](#)

[WORKSHOPS](#)

**CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF FREDERICKSBURG CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

Individual	\$60
Individual (dual Round Table Member):	\$50
Family (all persons of the same household):	\$110
Family (dual Round Table Member):	\$100
Sponsoring Member:	\$120
Student/NMPS Intern:	No Charge

Consider a Donation to be the Sponsor of a Guest Speaker for \$250

Here is the updated speaker sponsorship listing:

September, 2023	Jim Davis
October, 2023	Beth Daly
November, 2023	Stephen & Theresa Fox
January, 2024	Paul T. Scott
February, 2024	Walter Sheffield
March, 2024	Bruce "Doc" Norton
April, 2024	Harry Farley
May, 2024	Kay McKinney
June, 2024	William Anderson
September, 2024	Jerre Wilson
October, 2024	Stephen & Theresa Fox
November, 2024	James Davis
January, 2025	Jack Farrington
March, 2025	Kent & Teri Cuman
May, 2025	Chip Willis
June, 2025	Bob Lookabill

**New Members**

Kerry Devine, the Mayor of Fredericksburg, has been given an honorary membership through June, 2025.

This brings our present membership for the current season to 112 and 5 for the 2024-2025 season.

Additionally, Jerre Wilson has renewed his membership at the sponsorship level (\$120). This now brings the 2024-2025 membership to 6 in various categories.

### **Raffle and Bulletins**

Please buy raffle tickets for the 50/50 raffle in order to support the projects of our club at the table just inside the Jepson Center Grand Ballroom. That table is also available for such bulletins as members may wish to place as well as for donated books.

### **Reservations**

Please make your reservations for our June meeting by calling (540) 729-0260 or (540) 361-2105, emailing [elizabethdaly@juno.com](mailto:elizabethdaly@juno.com) or responding to this newsletter by email no later than noon on Monday, June 10, 2024. However, by making reservations during the week prior will save the last-minute rush. As our caterer prepares our meals based on our expected attendance, it is important that reservations be made on or before the deadline. If you, subsequently, find that you cannot attend, please be sure to cancel your reservation in a timely manner.

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CivilWarRoundTableofFredericksburg](http://www.facebook.com/CivilWarRoundTableofFredericksburg)

I look forward to seeing you all at the June 12 meeting.

Bruce "Doc" Norton  
President

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### **Our Sister Round Table: Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table**

Meets the second Monday of each month at Brock's Riverside Grill -- Social Time Begins 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:45 pm, Meeting Begins 7:30 pm

June 10, 2024	Hampton Newsome: "Gettysburg's Southern Front: Opportunity and Failure at Richmond"
July 8, 2024	Stephen Evangelista: "Our Story: The Lives and Legacy of Those Who Served in Battery B First Rhode Island Light Artillery"
August 12, 2024	Gary Castellino: "Chickasaw Bayou"

September 9, 2024	T.J. Bradley: “Second Manassas”
October 14, 2024	Chris Mackowski: “Moments of Contingency and the Rise of Grant”
November 11, 2024	Paige Gibbons Backus: “Women in the Civil War”
December 9, 2024	Rob Orrison: “Potomac Blockade”