



CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

— OF FREDERICKSBURG, INC. —



HARDTACK

February 2023 Newsletter

Civil War Ordnance

From the President's Desk

My sincere apologies for not being present at the January 25th meeting of the CWRTF. I had a surgical procedure, known in the medical world as a TAVR; a Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement, performed on Tuesday the 24th of January, at Mary Washington Hospital.

Ten years ago, I would have been opened up “from neck to navel,” had three ribs split and opened, so the surgeon could hold my heart in his hands, slice open my heart, remove the damaged valve, sew in a new valve, sew my heart back together, wire my ribs back in place, and then staple me shut. Healing time would be about two to three weeks at best.

The good news is that today medical technology has now advanced to a point where both the surgeon and cardiologist work as a team. The femoral artery is opened and a wire containing the new (collapsed) valve is threaded up from the femoral artery into the heart, putting the new valve in its proper place, and then removing the wire back down and out of the artery. Most patients who experience the TAVR procedure are discharged from hospital within 48 hours of this new procedure. Success rate is nearly 100%. So, that is my excuse for missing the January dinner and the presentation by Mr. Welker, which I did watch via the Face Book feed. (Thank you, Roger Leturno!).

Now, to more important matters....Last night, while attending a fund raising event with the “Friends of Chatham,” I met Mr. Lewis Rogers, the new Superintendent of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. Mr. Lewis spoke eloquently to the assembled guests described his upbringing and his love of Country and history that has brought him to Fredericksburg and to his new position. I extended an invitation to both he and his wife, Anjia, to join us at the next CWRTF dinner/meeting, in February, as our honored guests. I look forward to working with Mr. Lewis as our Round Table membership continues to grow.

Wednesday, the 22nd of February, will be our next Dinner/Presentation at the Jepson Alumni Executive Center. With the new Superintendent being present, we will also enjoy a presentation by Colonel John Biemeck on “black powder smoothbore and rifles artillery projectiles used by Union and Confederate forces during the American Civil War.” This will include the various types of kinetic energy and explosive projectiles used, and an explanation of how they functioned; their relative lethality and how the fuses in explosive projectiles functioned. Colonel Biemeck’s presentation will be illustrated with numerous slides, fuses, and procedures discussed. It should be a very interesting presentation, so please make your reservations early with Beth Daly at: 540-361-2105.

The third part of the 22nd of February dinner/meeting will be our first silent auction. There will be numerous auction items on display at the Jepson Center for you to examine and, hopefully, bid on. Additionally, photographs and short descriptions of these items will be posted on our webpage for everyone to see prior to the event.

Last, and by no means least, is my sincere gratitude to all members of the CWRTF who rallied to support the January 25th Dinner/Presentation. Initially, we had just 18 members’ sign up for the

January event, but with some gentle persuasion by several Board members, we enjoyed the company of 63 members and guests of the Round Table that evening. Thank you very much for supporting the Round Table. I will look forward to seeing you all at the February Dinner/Presentation on the 22nd of February, along with our new members and most welcomed guests. Please consider bringing a friend as possible new member of the Round Table.

Sincerely,

Bruce H. "Doc" Norton
President of the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg

For the Good of the Club

The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College would like to offer our members a 15% discount to attend the 2023 CWI summer conference, June 9-14, 2023. You can explore further details about the conference on their [website](#), as well as check out the schedule for this year's event.

Line-up of over 35 distinguished speakers and tour guides include leading Civil War scholars, Harold Holzer, Catherine Clinton, Craig Symonds, Caroline Janney, and Lorien Foote.

Data Center Update

The data center threat to historic lands and residential communities in Prince William County, VA remains significant. The link below is a recently published *Inside Climate News* article. It provides a great summary of the current data center battles being waged in Prince William and Loudoun Counties.

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/10022023/virginia-data-centers-amazon-prince-william-county/>

Much of this article is focused on the "Prince William Digital Gateway", the proposed 2100-acre data center mega-campus immediately adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park, and gives a good idea of the data center development chaos still threatening the battlefield.

Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg, Inc.
2022-2023 Program Schedule

FEBRUARY 22, 2023 - CIVIL WAR ORDNANCE

Speaker: Col (R) John Biemeck

MARCH 22, 2023 - THE POWER OF IRON OVER WOOD

Speaker: John Quarstein

APRIL 26, 2023 - US SIGNAL CORPS

Speaker: Codie Eash

**MAY 24, 2023 – THE GENERAL’S CIVIL WAR: WHAT THEIR
MEMOIRS CAN TEACH US TODAY**

Speaker: Stephen Cushman

JUNE 21, 2023 - THE LAST SIEGE - 1865 MOBILE CAMPAIGN

Speaker: Paul Brueske

2022-2023 Program Schedule

OCTOBER 25, 2023 - THE BATTLE OF CEDAR CREEK

Speaker: Sarah Kay Bierle

**NOVEMBER 15, 2023 - AMERICA’S BURIED HISTORY: LANDMINES IN
THE CIVIL WAR**

Speaker: Ken Rutherford

MARCH 27, 2024 - SOUTHERN STRATEGIES

Speaker: Christian Keller

Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table

MARCH 13, 2023 - CEDAR MOUNTAIN TO ANTIETAM

Speaker: Chris Bryan

APRIL 10, 2023 - TEXANS AT CHICKAMAUGA

Speaker: Scott Mingus

MAY 8, 2023 - WHO THE H# WAS OLD ALEGHANY?**

Speaker: Gregg Clemmer

**JUNE 12, 2023 - LEE INVADES THE NORTH: A COMPARISON OF THE
ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S TWO INVASIONS**

Speaker: Brad Gottfried

**JULY 10, 2023 - AFTER THE BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE: THE
CONFEDERATE HOSPITAL AT ELLWOOD**

Speaker: John Kanaster

AUGUST 14, 2023 - U.S. ARMY PROVOST IN THE CIVIL WAR

Speaker: Brian Withrow

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 - ENLISTING IN THE CIVIL WAR

Speaker: Bryan Cheeseboro

**OCTOBER 9, 2023 - HEARTS TORN ASUNDER: TRAUMA IN THE CIVIL
WAR'S FINAL CAMPAIGN IN NORTH CAROLINA**

Speaker: Ernest Dollar

**NOVEMBER 13, 2023 - MILITARY JUSTICE DURING THE CIVIL WAR:
THE COURT MARTIAL OF FITZ JOHN PORTER**

Speaker: Peter Rasmussen

DECEMBER 11, 2023 - CALL OUT THE CADETS

Speaker: Sarah Bierle

The Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table meets the second Monday of the month at Brock's Riverside Grill, Sophia Street at Lafayette Blvd. Social time begins at 6:00, dinner begins at 6:45 with the meeting at 7:30.

Book of the Month



The Military Memoirs of a Confederate Line Officer

Captain John C. Reed's Civil War
from Manassas to Appomattox



Edited by William R. Cobb

John C. Reed fought through the entire war as an officer in the 8th Georgia Infantry, most of it with General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. The Princeton graduate was wounded at least twice (Second Manassas and Gettysburg), promoted to captain during the Wilderness fighting on May 6, 1864, and led his company through the balance of the Overland Campaign, throughout the horrific siege of Petersburg, and all the way to the Appomattox surrender on April 9, 1865.

The Military Memoirs of a Confederate Line Officer is a perceptive and articulate account filled with riveting recollections of some of the war's most intense fighting. Reed offers strong opinions on a wide variety of officers and topics. This outstanding memoir, judiciously edited and annotated by William R. Cobb, is published here in full for the first time. The Military Memoirs of a Confederate Line Officer is a valuable resource certain to become a classic in the genre.

About the Editor: William R. "Ron" Cobb, a retired engineer and management consultant, is a descendant of a Confederate private who fought in the 59th Georgia, a sister regiment to the 8th Georgia. Ron has published widely on baseball. This is his first Civil War-related book.

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January 25, 2023 – A Keystone Rebel



CWRTF Vice President Chip Willis leads the January program



Program Chair Jerre Wilson introduces our guest speaker



David Welker presents “A Keystone Rebel: The Civil War Diary of Joseph Garey





CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
— OF FREDERICKSBURG, INC. —

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Profession: _____

Hobbies/Activities: _____

Civil War Interests: _____

Other Civil War Round Table Memberships: _____

Referred by: _____

How you heard about us: _____

Hardtack, the CWRTF newsletter, will be emailed to you each month. Current and past issues can be found on our website (www.cwrtof.org)

Membership Categories

Individual: \$60.00 \$ _____

Family \$110.00 \$ _____

Student/NMPS Intern: No Charge

(\$10 discount for members of other Civil War Round Tables)

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg, Inc. and mail to: P. O. Box 491 Fredericksburg, Virginia 22404

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CivilWarRoundofFredericksburg

Email: cwrtof@cwrtof.org

FOR CWRTF USE ONLY

Date Application Received	Check Number & Date	Amount



INVOICE
PROGRAM YEAR
2022-2023 DUES

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
— OF FREDERICKSBURG, INC. —

Annual Membership Dues

Membership Categories

General: \$60.00
Family: \$110.00
Student/Intern: Free (Meals \$10.00)
(\$10 discount for members other Civil War Round Tables)

Your membership category _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please provide your current contact information

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make your check payable to CWRTF and mail to:

Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg, Inc., P.O. Box 491, Fredericksburg, VA 22401