



**CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF
FREDERICKSBURG, INC.
HARDTACK**



JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

June 18, 2025 Meeting

**PROGRAM: FORGOTTEN FRIDAY: THE APRIL 7, 1865 ACTIONS IN
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA**

Historians often overlook the multiple engagements that occurred in Cumberland County near Sailor's Creek (April 6) and at Appomattox (April 9). These battles resulted in the death, wounding, or capture of three generals, the near capture of General Robert E. Lee, and a "Lee to the rear" incident. The battles near Cumberland Church were both fascinating and horrific, resulting in hundreds of casualties. Join Patrick Schroeder, Historian of Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, to discover more about these often-forgotten events.



SPEAKER: PATRICK SCHROEDER

Civil War Author/Historian Patrick A. Schroeder was born in 1968, at Fort Belvoir, VA. Patrick attended Stuarts Draft High School in Augusta County, VA. In the spring of 1990, he graduated Cum Laude with a B.S. in Historical Park Administration from Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, WV. He has an M.A. in Civil War History from Virginia Tech. From the summer of 1986-1993, Patrick worked as a seasonal living history interpreter at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. In 1993, he wrote "Thirty Myths About Lee's Surrender," which is currently in its twelfth printing. From 1994 - 1999, the author worked at Red Hill, the Patrick Henry National Memorial. From 1999 - 2002, Patrick was an independent researcher. Patrick is now the full-time Historian of Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. He also serves as historian for the



Appomattox Petersburg Preservation Society, which is dedicated to preserving battlefield land from the Appomattox Campaign.

SPEAKER SPONSORSHIP

Special thanks to Bob Lookabill for his sponsorship of this month's program. Please consider sponsoring a program. It's a great way to support our Round Table.

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

The Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg, Inc.

September 24, 2025 Common Misperceptions of the Civil War 2025
Speaker: Gallagher (Zoom Meeting)

October 22, 2025 From Ironclads to Admiral: Admiral John Worden
Speaker: John Quarstein

For a complete list of presentations see: <http://www.cwrtf.org/Program-Year-2025-2026>

The Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table

July 14, 2025 Dranesville
Speaker: Ryan Quint

August 11, 2025 2nd Bull Run
Speaker: Tyler McGraw

For other lectures, meetings, and other civil war events please see our website calendar, <http://www.cwrtf.org/view-calendar>.

SUMMER INTERN

The Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park has announced their selection of Zach Wise as the 2025 Summer Intern. Zach is a student at Western Carolina University in a dual Bachelor/Masters program getting a BA in History and MA in Public History (and minoring in Hospitality and Tourism Management). He has previous experience in a local history museum and comes with excellent references. Our Round Table is proud to provide \$2,500 to support Zach during his internship.

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
Sustaining Member:	\$120
Student/NMPS Intern:	No Charge

We're happy to announce that CWRT of Fredericksburg is now having our 3rd Annual Baseball Tickets Raffle. We have 4 tickets (great seats in the lower Dugout section- between home plate and first base) to see the Fredericksburg Nationals baseball game on Friday, July 4, 2025, 5:05 p.m. Location is Virginia Credit Union Stadium, Fredericksburg, Virginia. If you stick around after the game, you'll be treated to see patriotic fireworks light up the sky.

1 ticket for \$5.00 or 3 tickets for \$10.00. Donations are also welcome. We'll be selling tickets the night of the May meeting and at the June 18 meeting. Please participate and buy tickets to financially support our fine organization.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

June 2025

Good morning, Members of the CWRT of Fredericksburg,

The meeting on Wednesday evening, the 28th of May, is an important one because we will have the general membership present, and at this meeting our directors are elected by the members for a 2 year term.

The Board of Directors consists of twelve members. Five current directors' terms expire and each of these people have agreed to serve for another two-year term and each has been nominated by the CWRT Board of Directors.

They are:

Ms. Beth Daly
Col. George Fenton, USMC (Ret)
Ms. Jane Conner
Mr. Jack Farrington
Dr. Jerre Wilson

This slate of nominees will be presented to the CWRT membership for election to the Board of Directors. Immediately following the meeting of the general membership, all of the current and new members of the Board of Directors will meet to elect certain officers whose term expires with this meeting.

They are:

Beth Daly – Secretary, and George Fenton --Treasurer.

Mr. Russell “Chip” Willis, our Vice President, and I were elected last year, as Vice President and President, respectively, for two-year terms, which will expire in May 2026.

Please utilize our CWRT of Fredericksburg website to make your dinner reservations, **OR** please let our Secretary, Ms. Beth Daly, know of your intentions to be present at the Jepson Center for the June 18 dinner, so that the catering staff may prepare the appropriate number of dinners.

As always, it is an honor and a great pleasure for all of the Board of Directors members to serve in the CWRT of Fredericksburg. Collectively, we thank you for your support and your generosity.

My very best regards,

Bruce H. “Doc” Norton – President CWRT of Fredericksburg

MEETINGS & RESERVATIONS

Meetings are held at the Jepson Alumni Executive Center, University of Mary Washington, 1119 Hanover St., Fredericksburg, VA. Cocktails start at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm, and presentations at 7:30 pm. Please make your reservations for the June 18 meeting on or before June 13 by calling (540) 729-0260, emailing elizabethdaly2003@gmail.com, or visiting our website at www.cwrt.org. If you must cancel, please do so by noon of the Monday prior to the meeting. Otherwise, you will be responsible for payment.

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

You may know that next year is the 250th anniversary of our country. Across the fruited plain, there are many state and local commemorations planned, and I hope you will take advantage of the occasion to celebrate!

Watch this space for more information on what your board is planning for the commemoration and how you can contribute!

In the meantime, go to: america250.org; va250.org, and more (there is also a page on the White House website). Albeit much of the historical thrust is the Revolutionary War, the plain fact is without the Civil War and the Union efforts to preserve the Union, we would not be marking a commemoration event.

The fact that the Union military forces fought to keep the United States whole and viable will unlikely be celebrated in 2026. We Americans like our history pure and unadulterated! Men such as Lincoln, Grant, among other Union leaders, and the magnificence of the Union Army rank and file and their fighting spirit, should be remembered with any celebration of our nation's history. We have a rare and unique opportunity to use the America250 effort to recall and celebrate the occasion of how the Union saved the country to serve as an enticement to recruit new members whilst retaining current members!

What are your ideas on how CWRTF might see staging an activity in Fredericksburg **as part of other civic groups** to stage a celebration event? Let me know: Hit me up at historyCWRTf@gmail.com.

Here is a sampling of events and commemorations staged/observed by the military services: <https://va250.org/armed-forces-250/>

The Army as the senior service was founded on 14 June 1775.
<https://va250.org/armed-forces-250/#army>

The Navy was launched on 13 October 1775. <https://va250.org/armed-forces-250/#navy>

The Marine Corps as many of our members know, was raised on 10 November 1775.
<https://va250.org/armed-forces-250/#marine>

By the way, here are a few events/details you may wish to research further:
<https://va250.org/event-detail/?id=1526>
<https://www.marine250.com/>
<https://www.navy.mil/Navy-250/Events/>
<https://va250.org/armed-forces-250/#army>
<https://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching-learning-assessment/k-12-standards-instruction/va250>

Virginia events! <https://va250.org/localevents/>

Although the focus will differ from state-to-state, and the America250 Foundation focuses on a variety of commemoration activities, history will remain a crucial focal point for many states and local communities.

Typically, the states have posted some sort of a “statement of principles” on organizing for and promoting the Sesquicentennial observance. Chief among these points (paraphrased here) are:

- To expand enduring educational assets including access to resources, interactive exhibits, and opportunities to learn more about the founding of the country (and beyond—to include local history events of note).
- To offer enhanced learning opportunities to students and teachers including curriculum development resources, teaching resources, and professional development opportunities, and in the case of our Roundtables, learning more about how we saved the Union during the American Civil War. Any reflection on our nation's history over the last 250 years should include a spotlight on how our nation fought a war to save the union.

- To expand a state's economic impact and provide more employment opportunities. This is a common theme across the states, especially in the State of Virginia where commemoration activities, beginning with Jamestown, the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, the WWI Centennial, brought in millions of dollars of revenue to Virginia in the guise of tourism, museum revenues, reenacting events, etc.

- To ensure that all communities achieve their objectives in highlighting their unique roles in the nation's 250th anniversary.

Virginia hired a consulting firm, Wilkening Consulting, to explore ways of getting more Americans to engage with history: <https://wilkeningconsulting.com/americans-our-history-and-the-250th/>

Quote from the report:

"In this research there was a strong clustering of values, attitudes, and beliefs that affected how people viewed the past and our country ...and it reflected the current polarization in our society."

Data story: <https://va250.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/DataStory-AmericansHistoryandthe250th-WilkeningConsultingResearch.pdf>

I urge my fellow members to read the report (downloadable and found at the link above) to explore ways of getting more citizens in our local community interested in history. This report explored Virginians and tourists to the state on the question: "What will engage more people with history?" Although the work was designed for the Virginia250 Commission, the data is relevant to sustaining our Roundtable with critical thinking on how we appeal to new members and more importantly, thinking on the sustainability of our beloved CWRTF and the important role we play in maintaining the rich and vibrant legacy of Civil War History here in the Fredericksburg area.

What are your ideas on how the CWRTF can use an understanding of history to invigorate our organization with fresh initiatives?

As usual, I would be interested in your views. **What are your suggestions to aid in the preservation of Civil War history?** How do we ensure the CWRTF survives? I would welcome your ideas and thoughts. Hit me up with your thinking at historyCWRTF@gmail.com.

Rack cards will continue to be available at the entranceway to the dining room. Please feel free to pick some up and pass along to friends, neighbors, colleagues, and others who may be interested in Civil War history. *The best recruitment tool we have is you--our members--reaching out to acquaintances/neighbors/friends. A rack card slipped into the hand of a guest along with an invitation to join from a member is better than paid advertisements.*

Write to David Hamon:
historyCWRTF@gmail.com

OFFICERS

President	Bruce "Doc" Norton	recondoc123@gmail.com
Vice President	Russell Willis	chipwillis3rd@gmail.com
Secretary	Elizabeth "Beth" Daly	elizabethdaly2003@gmail.com
Treasurer	George Fenton	gpfenton1974@gmail.com

COMMITTEES

Program	Jerre Wilson	maxdog222@gmail.com
Membership	David Hamon	blungrey@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bruce "Doc" Norton	Russell Willis	Elizabeth "Beth" Daly
George Fenton	Jerre Wilson	David Hamon
Paul T. Scott	Carolyn Elstner	John "Jack" Farrington
Stephen Fox	Jane Conner	Patricia Carle

Website: www.cwrtf.org

Email: info@cwrtf.org

-- CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF FREDERICKSBURG, INC.--

Membership Application

Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Home/Cell Phone Number: _____
Email: _____
Occupation: _____
Areas of Civil War Interests: _____
Other Civil War Round Table Memberships: _____

Membership Categories:

Individual	\$ 60.00	\$ _____
Individual (dual Round Table Member):	\$ 50.00	\$ _____
Family (all persons of the same household):	\$110.00	\$ _____
Family (dual Round Table Member):	\$100.00	\$ _____
Sponsoring Member:	\$120.00	
Student/NMPS Intern:	No Charge	\$ _____
Total Enclosed:		\$ _____

Consider a Donation to be the Sponsor of a Guest Speaker for \$250.00