



Founded at Fort Harrison
on February 8, 1951

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RICHMOND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

MARCH 2026

“The Civil War was the biggest thing that ever happened to us. It was our Iliad and our Odyssey – and it remains our least understood war.”

Bruce Catton

MARCH 10, 2026

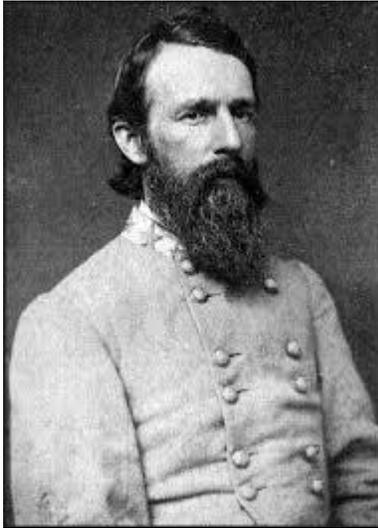
7:30 p.m.

Weinstein JCC
5403 Monument Avenue
Richmond, VA 23226
(Sisisky Room; first room on the right as
you enter the building)

WAYNE MOTTS
**“Lee’s Maryland Brigadier:
The Life and Times of
Confederate General
James J. Archer”**



Join historian and author, Wayne E. Motts, as he explores the interesting life of one of Lee’s brigade commanders in the Army of Northern Virginia during the American Civil War. This presentation will include Archer’s early life, pre-Civil War



Brig.Gen. James J. Archer

military service, and his service with the Confederate Army, including his time as POW and death from disease in Richmond in 1864.

Wayne E. Motts is the Chief Executive

Officer of the National Civil War Museum located in the state capital of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg. He has been a licensed battlefield guide at the Gettysburg National Military Park for 38 years.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

A New Place To Hang Our Hats (or a kepi if you got one!)

After a dedicated search by your executive board and after exploring and considering various recommendations from you, the members, we have found a new place to hold most of our meetings in 2026.

In March, we will begin meeting in the Sisisky Family Community Room at the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Jewish Community Center, 5403 Monument Avenue, Richmond. The center will provide us with a safe, conveniently

located space for our meetings, in a newly renovated room that accommodates up to 100 people. The entrance to the center and room is behind the facility and includes a well-lit parking lot with easy, same-level access to the building.

Since we had to schedule nearly three months into the new year, we were not able to reserve the room for April, May, and December. Hopefully, if we are pleased with the Weinstein and they are pleased with us, we will be able to reserve the room every month in 2027. Because the center routinely handles catered events, we are also exploring it as a possible future location for our annual banquet.

For April, May, and December, we will be meeting at one of our former locations – the Virginia War Memorial. If you have ever attended one of our meetings there, you know that it is a beautiful state-of-the-art facility with an enclosed parking deck and elevator access. During our search for a new meeting place, the War Memorial was the only other location who could accommodate all three of our remaining meetings.

Still, we are aware that some members do not like driving to this location in the evening. Although I can only speak for myself, I would be happy to provide a car pool for members who would rather not drive to the museum at night. If you are someone who does not mind driving into downtown Richmond, please consider offering a ride to a fellow member. It might even be a way to get to know one another better and to talk about the meeting on the way home.

Although we were lucky to pay an unusually small monthly rental fee during our short time at St. Stephen’s, we will be paying more at both the Weinstein Center and the War Memorial. Fortunately, our coffers hold more than enough to pay the added expense. Still, if you haven’t yet paid your dues for 2026, please do so as soon as possible to ensure we continue to maintain a balanced budget.

On behalf of the other board members, I want to thank you for your continued support of our organization and for your understanding as we maneuver through these changes. We look forward to seeing you at the Weinstein Center, 7:30 p.m., March 10, as we welcome Wayne Motts – historian, author, Gettysburg licensed battlefield guide, and CEO of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Dale

EVENTS OF INTEREST

April 2: “An Evening at the Battlefield with A.P. Hill.” Join the A.P. Hill Memorial Association commemorating Lt. Gen. A.P. Hill at the VFW Battlefield Post 9808, 7168 Flag Lane, Mechanicsville, 23111.



5:00 p.m. Social Hour with Cash Bar; 6:00 p.m. Dinner (House Salad, Steak, Shrimp, Baked Potato); 7:00 p.m. Program with Actor/Historian Patrick Falci, whose talk will be, “The Battle of Mechanicsville: The Emergence of A.P. Hill.”

\$50 per person. To register: <https://www.aphill.org/store/>

Saturday, April 4: “Hidden in Plain Sight – Part Deux.” 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.). Tickets are \$30 plus handling fee and are now on sale via Eventbrite: www.petebattlefields.org.

This educational caravan driving tour has been rescheduled from November. The tour highlights unique sites within the Eastern Front of the Petersburg National Battlefield.

David Lowe, Phil Shiman, and Julia Steele, who call themselves “The Petersburg Project,” have been researching, studying, revealing, and verifying unique features and sites of the Petersburg Campaign for over twenty years. The Petersburg Project will be utilizing Civil War era photographs, maps, and other items to give us new insights and perspectives for various sites we will visit. The caravan tour will include stops at the tunnel entrance in Colquitt’s Salient, Gracie’s Dam, bombproofs in rear of Fort Haskell, Hoke’s line on June 17th, soldier wells, an icehouse that was between the lines and later a U.S. artillery position, mortar positions, newly identified photos of Fort Morton, and the covered way that led to the Crater.

June 12-17: Gettysburg College Civil War Institute Summer Conference. Check the website at civilwar@gettysburg.edu for information and how to register.

The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College is offering members of the Round Table a 15% discount to attend this year’s conference.

RICHMOND NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK EVENTS

March 28: Lincoln Visits Richmond Walking Tour

April 11: Shelton House 300th Anniversary Program

April 18: Weapons of Gaines’s Mill

May 30: Gaines’s Mill tour and rifle demonstration

June 6: “Surviving Cold Harbor” Walking Tour and Cannon Demonstrations

June 4, 11, 18: Lectures on the Lawn at the Shelton House

September 5: Malvern Hill Cannon Demonstration

For more information, visit www.nps.gov/rich.

CIVIL WAR QUOTES
WHO SAID IT?

1. "One of the knightliest soldiers of the Federal Army, General Joshua L. Chamberlain of Maine, who afterward served with distinction as governor of his State, called his troops into line, and as my men marched in front of them, the veterans in blue gave a soldierly salute to those vanquished heroes – a token of respect from Americans to Americans, a final and fitting tribute from Northern to Southern chivalry."
2. "We haven't taken Washington, but we've scared Abe Lincoln like hell."
3. "You are green, it is true; but they are green also. You are all green alike."
4. "Well, Mr. President, if you will not let me serve *you*, I will nevertheless serve my *country*. You cannot prevent me from doing that. I will send you my resignation, and go back to Missouri and raise another army there without your assistance, and fight again under the flag of Missouri, and win new victories for the South in spite of the Government."
5. "No terms except unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to move immediately upon your works."

Answers on Page 6

FROM THE ROUND TABLE
ARCHIVES
RCWRT BULLETIN
Volume II Issue 5 – May 1959

Richmond Spring Assembly of Round Tables Establishes Precedent

With sunny skies and crisp Spring weather, the Richmond Civil War Round Table greeted representatives from twenty-one visiting Round Tables who came to tour the nearby Virginia Civil War Battlefields, participate in the dedication of the National

Park Service Reception Center for the Richmond area, and enjoy the wholesome fellowship promoted by both formal and informal discussion.

Visiting Round Tablers came from thirteen states, the District of Columbia, and England.

Registration for the three day assembly totaled 125, a figure which was the more gratifying in view of the attractions planned by other Round Tables who were just concluding or about to set out on their own Spring excursions to notable battlefield sites elsewhere – Chicago to Charleston and Savannah; New York to Harper's Ferry; District of Columbia to Antietam; and Wilmington to Fredericksburg.

Admiral Hayes Interposes an "If" Regarding Lee

Speaker at the Banquet was Rear Admiral John D. Hayes, (USN Ret.), of Annapolis, Maryland. He discussed the Battle of Drewry's Bluff and presented an interpretation of the importance of water transport in the strategic patterns of the Civil War.

"If Lee," said the Admiral, "had been retained at the side of Jefferson Davis in the role of chief military advisor (as indeed he was up until June of 1862) instead of having been placed in command of the Army of Northern Virginia, it is entirely possible that the South might have achieved its independence early in the war, before the Union navy had gained strength sufficient to establish the blockade and gain access to the main waters of internal navigation."

Research Club (England) Member Interposes Another "If"

Our British guest at the Spring Assembly was John Alexander Bailey of London, an ardent member of the Confederate Research Club.

Commenting on the international and foreign diplomatic aspects of the Civil War, Bailey hazarded a guess that if England had

recognized the South as a nation during that war Virginia might be a part of the British Commonwealth of Nations today.

“I think Victoria was willing to recognize the Confederate states right up to Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation,” Bailey said. “Generally, the upper classes were for the South; the working classes for the North. If Victoria had come in on the side of the Confederacy, I think it would have become a part of the British Empire. The Southerners of the time were very proud of their English heritage.”

Important Update:
March Meeting Location and
Membership Dues

Dear Members:

As you have read in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter, we are transitioning to a new location for our March gathering. While we anticipate this new venue will serve our needs well, it does come with a rental cost increase.

Consequently, your support, through your continued membership, is now more crucial than ever. Your prompt contribution to annual dues directly enables us to manage these increased operational costs, allowing the RCWRT to continue hosting engaging meetings, securing knowledgeable speakers, and fostering our vibrant community dedicated to the study of the Civil War.

We deeply appreciate your unwavering commitment and support for the Round Table. To make your membership renewal as convenient as possible, we are pleased to offer several flexible payment methods:

1. ****By Mail:**** You can send a check, made payable to RCWRT, directly to my attention at the following address:
Andy Keller, 9701 Fireside Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23060-6280

2. ****Bank Bill Pay:**** For a convenient and often postage-free option, you may consider using your bank’s online bill pay service. This allows your bank to send a check directly on your behalf.
3. ****Via Venmo:**** For a quick and secure digital payment, you can send your dues through Venmo to: @Leroy-Keller-3
4. ****In Person (Check Only):**** If you prefer to pay your dues at our upcoming March meeting, please hand your check directly to Art Wingo. Kindly note that Art is unable to accept cash payments.

Individual membership dues are \$35, and couples’ memberships are \$45. Your timely renewal is vital for the continued strength and success of the Richmond Civil War Round Table.

Thank you so much for your assistance. Please let me know if you have any questions or require further details.

Andy Keller,
Secretary

**MAN’S BEST COMRADE:
SALLIE AND THE 11TH PA**

In May 1861, while drilling, the newly formed 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry was gifted with a four-week-old American Staffordshire Terrier puppy. The entire regiment was enamored with the puppy and quickly declared her their mascot. They bestowed upon her the name Salle Ann Jarrett after their commanding officer, Colonel Phaon Jarrett, and Sallie Ann, a local beauty.

Sallie attended roll-call each morning and accompanied the soldiers for drills, becoming a prominent member of the infantry. During parades, she walked alongside the soldiers in regimental colors front and center alongside Colonel Richard Coulter’s horse. Sallie had the distinction of

twice parading for Abraham Lincoln, sparking a legend that the President had tipped his hat at the beloved canine.

But Sallie was more than just a parade dog. She was a powerful force for the 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and



often went straight to the front of the line, barking ferociously. Sallie saw battle at some of the

most high-profile battles, including Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg. The proud Sallie is said to have escaped death on two occasions. Once, she was separated from her comrades at Gettysburg and feared dead. After three days, they found her guarding the regiment's wounded and dead. Then in May 1864, Sallie was wounded during the Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse. A bullet was lodged in her neck but eventually worked its way out several months later.

Tragedy struck the regiment on February 6, 1865.



During the Union's advance at Hatcher's Run, she was struck by a

bullet and killed instantly. Although under intense enemy fire, several of the regiment's soldiers immediately dropped their weapons to bury their beloved canine comrade where she fell.

When the 11th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Monument was designed for placement at Gettysburg, the regiment's survivors voted unanimously to include a memorial to their courageous comrade.

From <https://www.nps.gov/gett/>

Answers to "Civil War Quotes"

1. Maj. Gen. John B. Gordon
2. Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early
3. Abraham Lincoln
4. Maj. Gen. Sterling Price
5. General Ulysses S. Grant

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 14: Rick Hatcher, *Fort Sumter: "This Work is the Key to the Entrance of This Harbor"*

May 12: Jim Hessler, *Lee's Other Lieutenants: Richard Ewell and A.P. Hill on July 1 at Gettysburg*

June 9: Cory Pfarr, *Longstreet at Gettysburg: The Allure and Endurance of the "Lee Intended" Arguments*

July 14: Frank O'Reilly, *Retreat from Victory: The Battle of Malvern Hill and the End of the Seven Days, July 1, 1862*

August 11: Dr. Charles Fennell, *The Restoration of Culp's Hill: The Sad State of Historical Preservation at Gettysburg National Military Park*

September 8: Melissa Winn, *Grant's Conscience: The Unique Camaraderie Between Ulysses S. Grant and his Chief of Staff John Rawlins*

October 13: Troy Harman, *How Did Technology Shape North and South in the Lead-up to War as well as Shape Wartime Strategies*

November 10: (Annual Dinner Meeting) Dr. William C. "Jack" Davis, *Jefferson Davis and R.E. Lee, A Model Relationship?*

December 8: Hampton Newsome, *Gettysburg's Southern Front: Opportunity and Failure at Richmond*

Attendance at February Zoom Meeting: 97