

The Grapeshot

Newsletter

November 2021



This month's guest presenter:

This month welcome Dr. Caroline Wood Newhall as she presents "Black Prisoners of War in the Confederacy."

Presented through
Zoom
November 16, 2021,
6 pm

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Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Inc.

501 (C) (3) non profit Corporation , Founded 1978

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About Our Speaker

On Tuesday November 16, 2021 Dr. Caroline Wood Newhall will address the Roundtable via zoom technology on the fascinating, little explored, ground breaking topic of "Black Prisoners of War in the Confederacy." Dr. Newhall's lecture is based on her doctoral dissertation, "Under the Rebel Lash: Black Prisoners of War in the Confederate South."

Dr. Newhall's presentation will focus on her graduate work where she conducted extensive research into the experience of Black Union soldiers who became prisoners of war within Confederate camps. Her research seeks to explore how Black soldiers survived their imprisonment, forms of captivity and how their shared experiences can add to our understanding of the Civil War.

Born in New York State, Dr. Caroline Wood Newhall earned her undergraduate degree at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Subsequently, she earned her graduate degrees at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Her academic work has focused on the prisoner of war experience, especially regarding Black prisoners of war. Currently, she is an assistant professor at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia. She has published articles in CIVIL WAR HISTORY and CIVIL WAR MONITOR.

Zoom Meeting Information

Topic: November 2021 Scottsdale Roundtable Meeting

Time: November 16, 2021, 06:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81620331268?pwd=c3d4SVpZR0ZpSXpUQWtFSCtER1Azdz09>

Meeting ID: 816 2033 1268

Passcode: 181757

SCOTTSDALE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE SPEAKERS 2021-2022

Starting in December meetings will start at 5 pm at Civic Center Library Auditorium (doors open at 4 pm) and will also be available on Zoom.

November 16 - Caroline Newhall, “Black Prisoners of War In The Confederacy”

December 14 - Larry Daniel, “Why The Army of Tennessee Failed”

January 18 - Lorien Foote, “Retaliation: Bushwhackers, Guerrillas, and Prisoners”

February 15 - Caroline Janney, “Ends of War: The Army of Northern Virginia Goes Home”

March 15 - Eric Wittenberg, “Holding The Line On the River of Death: Union Cavalry at Chickamauga”

April 19 - Jim Hessler, “How Dan Sickles Declared Himself The Hero of Gettysburg”

May 17 - Elizabeth Parnicza - “Stonewall Jackson’s Last Map”

President's Message

The Roundtable plans to return to the Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium on Tuesday, December 14th to hear **Larry Daniel** on *Why The Army Of Tennessee Failed*.

Because the Scottsdale Library is now closing earlier in the evenings, we need to start our program at 5 PM instead of 6 PM. The Roundtable will be open at 4 PM for book browsing, conversation, and meeting our speaker. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone in person again.

If the Library resumes its former operating hours, we will push our program starting time back to 6 PM.

We are working closely with the library and hope to restart our History Discussion Group later this season.

As you'll see elsewhere in this edition of The Grapeshot, the Arizona Pioneer Living History Museum is hosting Civil War reenactments the weekend of November 20th. John Bamberl and I will have a table there on the 21st to see if we can recruit some new Roundtable members.

Our next speaker, at 6 PM on November 16th via Zoom, is **Caroline Wood Newhall** on the treatment of US Colored Troops and other Black soldiers captured by the Confederacy. When Black soldiers began appearing on battlefields in 1863, the Confederacy was faced with legal, political, and practical decisions about what to do with those captured which, in turn, created a need for Union response.

Jennifer Murray, our October speaker, gave a terrific presentation on George Meade, a figure often lost to clear sight in the glow of personalities like Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Jackson and Lee. Dr. Murray is currently working on a full biography of Meade which we look forward to reading.

You can connect with the Roundtable on:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Scottsdale-Civil-War-Roundtable-209429072422940>

Website <https://www.scottsdalecwr.org/>

YouTube to watch past speaker presentations

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfxW2cvzCbGoKebHKPZsq5A>

Mark Stoler
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Officers & Organization

Officers/Board Members

President: Mark Stoler (203-645-1387) (relots@gmail.com)

President Emeritus: Dr John Bamberl (480-699-5844)

Vice President:: Richard Cox

Secretary & Parliamentarian: Hal Bliss

Treasurer: Michael Harris

Program Chair: D avid Ward

Board Members (thru 5/2022): Tom Merrill, Jo Roberts, David Ward

Board Members (thru 5/2023): John Bamberl, Shelly Dudley, Don Swanson, Cal Thompson

Committees

Book Table: Cal Thompson

Grapeshot: Jo Roberts, Richard Cox, David Ward

Greeters: John Bamberl, Jo Roberts

History: Richard Cox

Membership: Mark Stoler, John Bamberl, Cal Thompson

Press: Shelly Dudley

Social Media: John Bamberl, Mark Stoler

Student Outreach: Tom Merrill

Webmaster: Marc Echeveste

Dues:

\$35 Individual; \$45 Family

Website: www.scottsdalecwr.org

Mailing Address:

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Scottsdale AZ 85258-3749
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Upcoming Event

CIVIL WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST

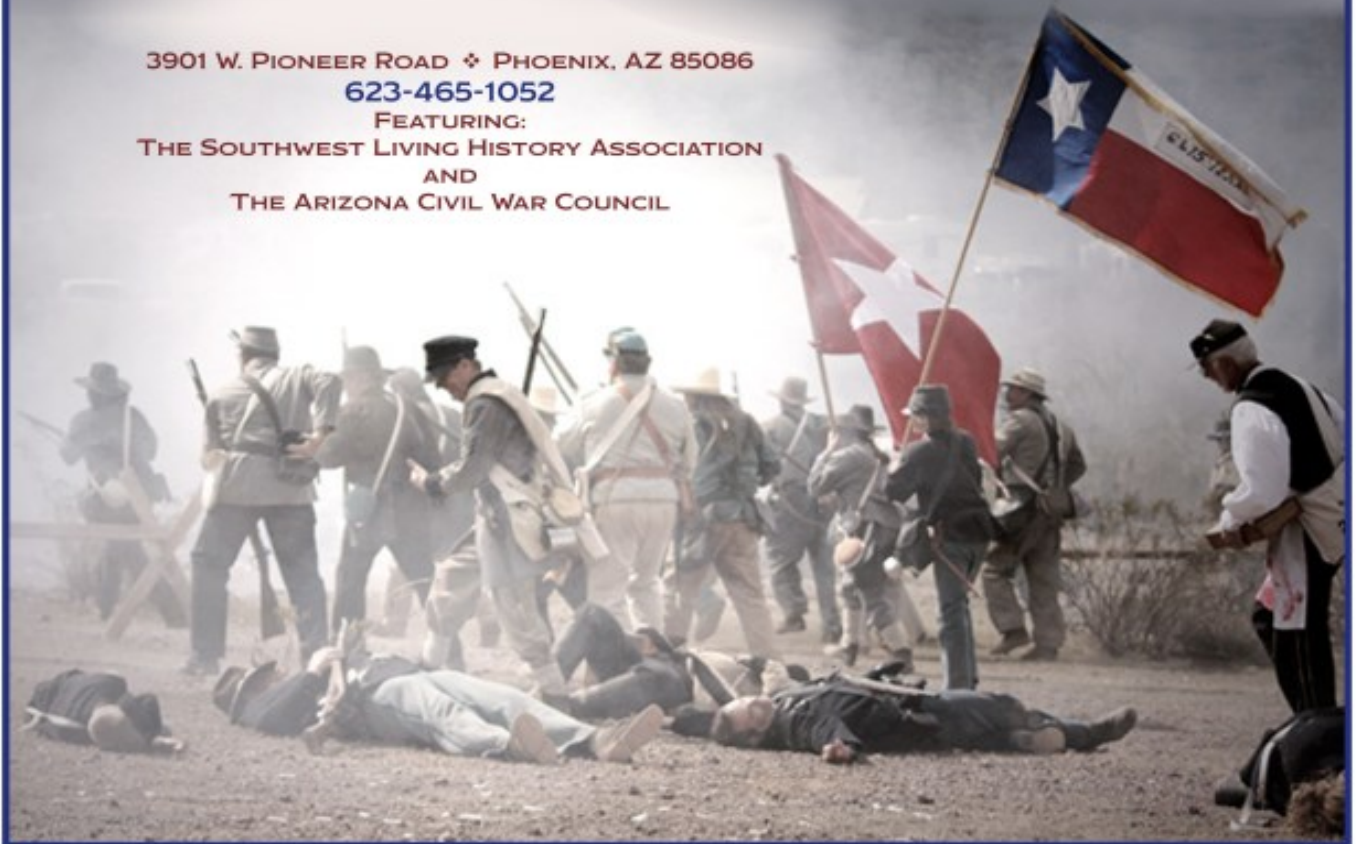
November 20-21, 2021

PIONEER LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM

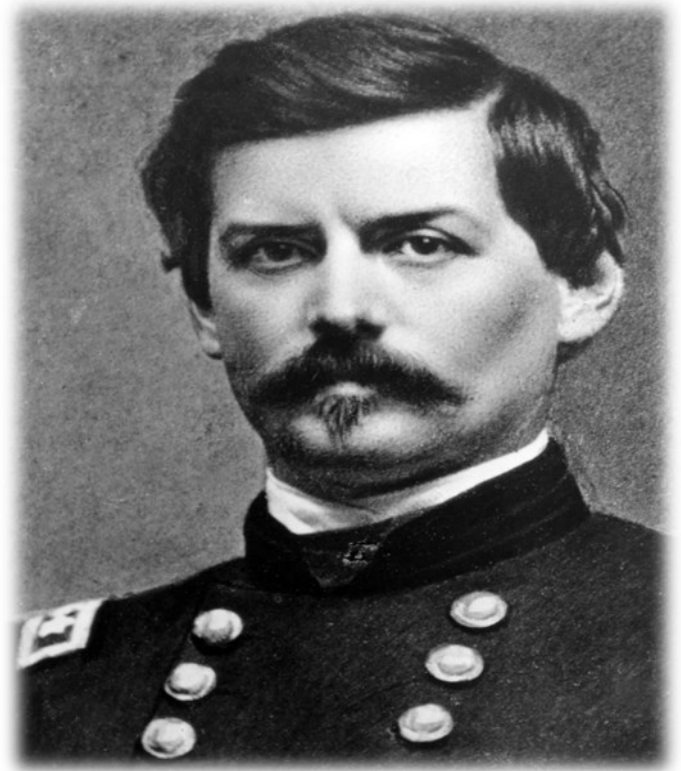
- ❖ LIVING HISTORY DEMONSTRATIONS
- ❖ REENACTMENTS OF THE BATTLES OF VAL VERDE, GLORIETTA, AND PICACHO PASS
- ❖ SPENCER JACKSON THEATRICAL TROUPE
- ❖ ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATIONS
- ❖ SELF-GUIDED TOURS OF VILLAGE AND MILITARY CAMPS
- ❖ SUTTLERS AND VENDORS

3901 W. PIONEER ROAD ❖ PHOENIX, AZ 85086
623-465-1052

FEATURING:
THE SOUTHWEST LIVING HISTORY ASSOCIATION
AND
THE ARIZONA CIVIL WAR COUNCIL



THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY



November 1, 1861. Lincoln names George B. McClellan as U.S. Army commander-in-chief to succeed Winfield Scott, 75, who had retired the day before.

TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. Talking about the aftermath of major battles, Lincoln sometimes used the term “the awful arithmetic”. What did he mean by that term?
2. Most people in the South (and many in the North) hoped for a Democratic party victory in the 1864 Union presidential election. But Jefferson Davis feared it. Why?

3. As part of U.S. Grant's 1864 strategy for attacking the Army of Northern Virginia, he assigned Benjamin Butler's Army of the James to threaten Richmond from the southeast. After a few minor battles, Confederate General P. G. T. Beauregard bottled Butler up and foiled Grant's plans on that front. What was the name given to Butler's campaign?
4. Where did Grant's army cross the Mississippi before closing in on Vicksburg?

Trivia answers on page 17.

Scottsdale Civil War Round Table

Membership

Please Join Us!

Your membership enables SCWRT to help with battlefield preservation and attract the best Civil War experts from around the country as keynote speakers at our meetings, September thru May! Please fill out this form and return it with your check payable to Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Mail to this address:

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

#274 7349 N. Via Paseo Del Sur Ste 515 Scottsdale, AZ 85258-3749

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, & Zip _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Student Membership (no charge)	----
Active Duty Military (complimentary)	----
Individual Membership \$35	\$ _____
Family Membership \$45	\$ _____
Additional contribution of \$ _____	

100% of your contribution (minus expenses) goes to battlefield preservation.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*Our monthly newsletter "The Grapeshot" will be emailed to you.

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable is approved by the IRS as a 501 c (3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible for federal and state income tax returns. Check with your tax consultant.

www.scottsdalecwrt.org

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

480/699-5844

Meet the CWRT Congress

By Mike Movius, Founder and President

With the loss of nearly 70 Civil War Round Tables (CWRTs) in the past decade, it became abundantly clear that the movement that once boasted close to 500 CWRTs worldwide was in jeopardy. In 2016, Mike Movius, the president of the Puget Sound CWRT wanted to understand how that could be prevented. From that humble beginning, the CWRT Congress was born.

Since that time, we have held conferences in Centreville, VA, Harrisburg, PA and St. Louis, MO. Our conferences seek to inform CWRT members about practices that have proven successful in the areas of program development, fundraising, preservation, marketing, recruitment, governance, culture, partnerships and a host of other organization development areas. We also encourage networking with one another to better understand how CWRTs can succeed.

CWRT Congress does not have memberships. We do not charge dues of any kind. We are a registered 501(c)3 and rely on voluntary donations of those who want the CWRT movement to thrive. We are all about CWRT sustainability. Our motto is *Improvement through Education and Networking*. Our website is loaded with proven practices that CWRTs and their leaders should consider. www.cwrtcongress.org/proven.html

When the pandemic hit in the first quarter of 2020, we knew that CWRTs were going to be unable to meet for some time. Our fear was this was an existential threat as members would lose interest and that CWRTs would fail. So, we began to offer free, online Civil War lectures. The response has been overwhelming. Speakers have donated their time and talents because they believe in the movement. Watch them at www.cwrtcongress.org/videos.html

Reservations for upcoming events can be made at www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker.html We also have a living historian series called "Fridays with Grant" by Dr. Curt Fields www.cwrtcongress.org/grant.html

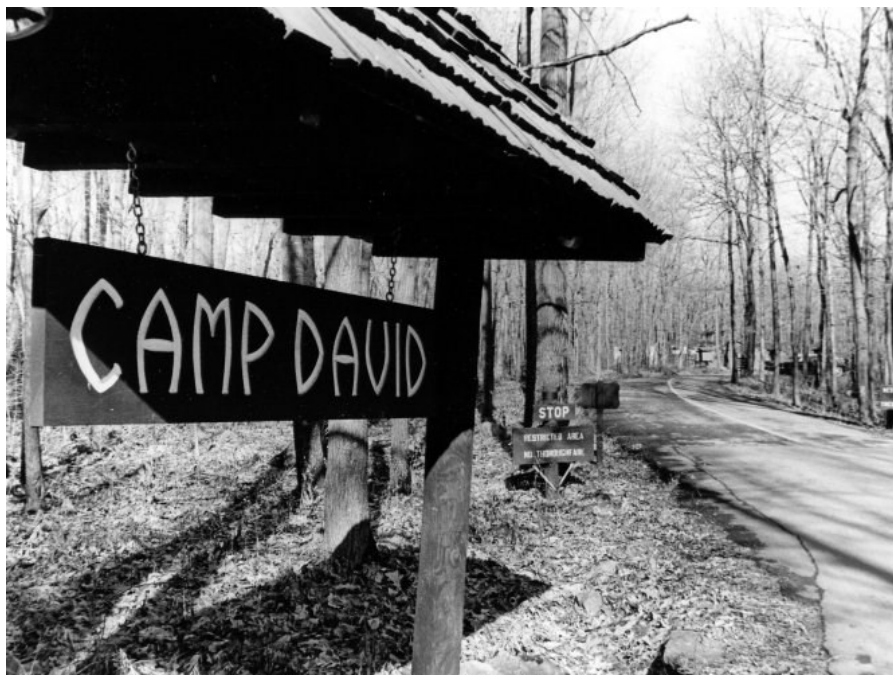
Our 2021 conference will be held in the Philadelphia area September 17-19. We have a great lineup that includes workshops on board organization, member retention, mission statements, the new normal, newsletter improvement, managing organizational change, changing organizational culture, meaningful partnerships, writing press releases, the sister CWRT connection, succession planning and targeted recruitment. Registration opens in July and we hope to meet you there.



CAMP DAVID, GETTYSBURG AND INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY

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Near the town of Thurmont, in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains, lies one of the U.S.'s most iconic political sites. Camp David, the presidential retreat, has been a haven from the bustle and noise of Washington politics for every U.S. president from FDR to Joe Biden. Some have used it more than others, but it remains a resource that every head of state can rely on for total privacy and quiet.



Entrance to Camp David

It's not generally known that Camp David is a naval installation. Its official name is Naval Support Facility Thurmont. A U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps officer with the rank of commander is in overall charge.

How the Navy came to oversee Camp David is an interesting story. FDR, as a former Navy under-secretary, preferred to be on the water. During the 1930s, his retreat was the presidential yacht USS *Potomac*. When the U.S. entered WWII, the *Potomac* was considered too vulnerable to attack and the military urged the president to find a land-based facility to spend his leisure hours.

President Hoover had built a retreat with his own money in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, but that was considered too far away from the White House. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was building some primitive camps in the Catoctin Mountains of Maryland, only 30-some miles from Washington. FDR inspected one of the camps and loved the remoteness and serenity of the site. He called it Shangri-La, after the mythical city in James Hilton's novel, *Lost Horizon*. The name stuck, and the camp was built out and equipped for the president's use. The first presidential aides to arrive at the camp were the *Potomac's* Filipino stewards, and the "USS Shangri-La" was "launched."

After becoming president, Eisenhower wanted to close the camp to save the government money but was talked out of it. Instead, he renamed it Camp David after his grandson, who would later visit his namesake site many times after he married President Richard Nixon's daughter Julie.

Because of its remoteness and high security, Camp David has been extensively used as a site for high-level government conferences and international diplomacy. FDR hosted Winston Churchill at Camp David during the war, and General De Gaulle was Eisenhower's guest there. Nikita Khrushchev was a visitor as part of his visit to the U.S. in 1959. The relaxed atmosphere and good feelings he experienced made him speak thereafter about the "spirit of Camp David." However, that spirit was soon dashed when the Soviet Union shot down Francis Gary Powers' U-2 spy plane, and steps toward peace abruptly stopped.

The first major summit, and the one that would decisively put Camp David on the diplomatic map, occurred nearly twenty years later, in September 1978, when President Jimmy Carter brought together Egyptian president Anwar Sadat and Israeli prime minister Menachem Begin for thirteen days in an effort to resolve the Middle East conflict.

Carter offered Camp David as a potential site, and the two adversaries readily agreed. The secluded location and informal setting was seen as ideal. Also important was the rule that press access to Camp David was strictly off limits. Daily statements were issued to the media, who were restricted to the nearby town of Thurmont.

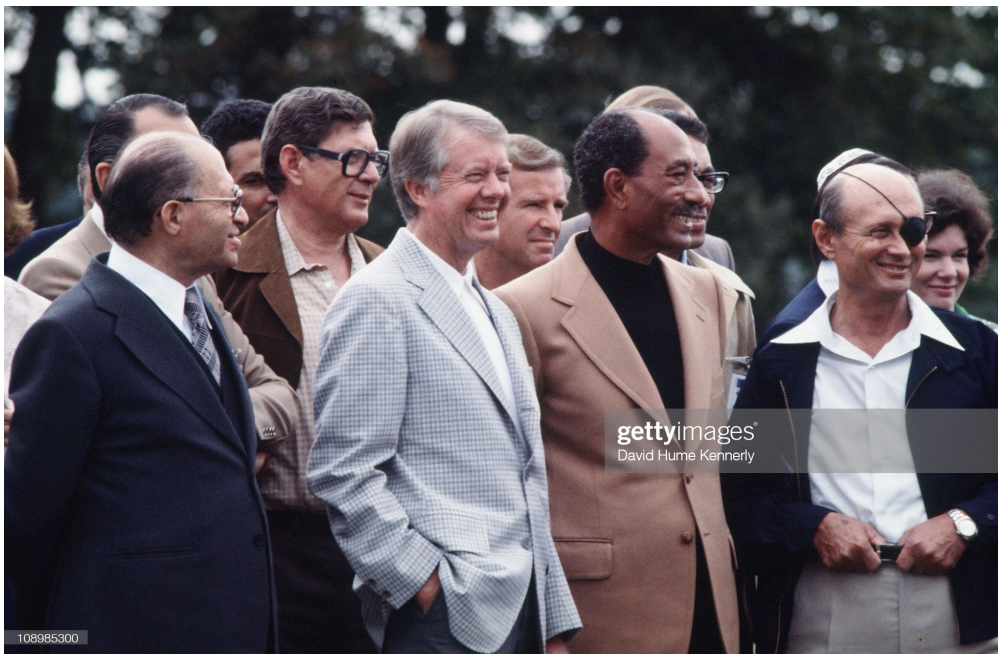
The talks got off to a tense and difficult start. Carter went back and forth between the two parties, trying to find areas of agreement. After two days, both Sadat and Begin began to seek ways of backing out of the talks without losing face.

Sensing that things were unravelling, Carter proposed a break from the talks. He suggested that they all make a trip to nearby Gettysburg.

Twenty-four presidents have visited the Gettysburg battlefield, some to give speeches, others simply to better understand the battle and its consequences for American history. Carter badly wanted to visit the battlefield because some of his ancestors had fought there. Jimmy and Roselynn Carter, along with Civil War author Shelby Foote, visited the battlefield in July of that year. Their tour leader was a 30-year-old Parker Service ranger and guide named Bob Prosperi.

Carter's plan was simple. The two adversaries clearly needed a break from the intense and acrimonious negotiations that were at a stalemate. He also knew that the 50,000 – plus casualties at Gettysburg were nearly the same as the total number of casualties during the 1967 Six Days' War between Israel and her Arab neighbors. Showing the two sides the awful consequences of a similar neighbor-against-neighbor conflict might have a sobering effect and foster an agreement leading to peace.

On July 10, 1978, a 27-vehicle convoy left Camp David and travelled the 27 miles to the Gettysburg National Military Park. Their guide was once again Bob Prosperi, hand-picked by Carter.



Begin, Carter, Sadat and Moshe Dayan at Gettysburg

The party spent the entire day touring the battlefield. Although the atmosphere was casual and relaxed, with both sides mixing freely, security was at the highest level. One of the stops planned for the tour was Little Round Top. The National Park Service sent a memorandum to the Secret Service noting that since Confederate sharpshooters had used the Devil's Den to pick off high-ranking Union officers on Little Round Top, that area should be heavily secured against a repeat occurrence!

Both Sadat's and Begin's delegations spoke reverently and knowledgeably about the Civil War and Gettysburg. Sadat and many from his delegation had been trained in military schools and knew a lot about the strategic and tactical decisions that determined the battle's outcome.

Begin, although a former paramilitary commander fighting the British before Israeli independence, was less interested in the military side of the conflict. He was fascinated with Lincoln. When the tour reached the military cemetery and the spot where it's supposed Lincoln gave his speech, Begin recited the entire Gettysburg Address word-for-word in English.



NPS Tour Guide Bob Prosperi Explaining Tactics at Gettysburg

The trip was a major success and perhaps even an icebreaker for the ongoing negotiations. On September 17, an agreement was reached. Sadat and Begin were joint winners of the Nobel Peace Prize later that year.

In July 2000, President Bill Clinton presided over another summit at Camp David. This time the parties were Israeli prime minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian Authority chairman Yasser Arafat. Hoping for a similar outcome as Carter's, Clinton suggested another trip to Gettysburg. Only Barak accepted. Arafat chose to accept an invitation to go to Secretary of State Madelyn Albright's nearby farm. This time, negotiations between the parties totally broke down and Clinton was sorely disappointed.

Just as Gettysburg did not end the American Civil War, the accords reached at Camp David in 1978 did not end strife in the Middle East. Despite recent encouraging trends, peace in that part of the world seems as illusive as ever.

If we can't speak too positively about the "spirit of Gettysburg" or even the "spirit of Camp David," what is important about these events is how far the historic memory of the Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg has penetrated. Foreign peoples as well as our own citizens have and will continue to note and be influenced by the terrible events that happened in America a century and a half ago.

Dick Cox is vice president of the SCWRT and chairman of the Roundtable's History Committee.

Trivia Answers

1. With both sides often suffering 30 percent or more casualties in major engagements, Lincoln reasoned that the Union would eventually prevail because of its superior number of soldiers and potential recruits. The South would run out of manpower before the Union did. It was Lincoln's way of describing war by attrition.
2. Davis believed that if George McClellan won, he would lack support to pursue the war and would be forced to sue for peace. That peace would probably lead to restoring the seceding states to the Union and leave slavery intact. Davis thought that would destroy the drive for Confederate independence, his main objective.
3. The Bermuda Hundred Campaign.
4. Bruinsburg Landing, Mississippi.

Other Opportunities via Zoom

A series of free lectures on **Wednesdays hosted by the Civil War Round Table Congress (CWRTC)**. Check out their website for topics and to register.

<https://www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker.html>

CWRT Congress Fridays With U.S. Grant for a special series with Dr. Curt Fields.

To register (free)

<https://www.cwrtcongress.org/grant.html>

YouTube Channel for CWRT Congress includes 40+ recorded past talks: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=cwrt+congress

From Chambersburg Civil War Seminars and Tours

Zoom presentations 15th and 30th of every month. Nationally known speakers. \$5 per registration

For schedule and registration

<https://www.civilwarseminars.org/lectures>