

SWAMP ANGEL II NEWS

VOL 29, NO. 1

BUCKS COUNTY CIVIL WAR MUSEUM AND ROUND TABLE

JAN/MAR 2020

NEWS AND NOTES

CALENDER

7 Jan. 2020 - Robin Robinson from Recorder of Deeds Office will talk about preservation of deeds

4 Feb. 2020—Dr. Frederick Antil—“One Man’s Search for Abraham Lincoln”

3 Mar. 2020—Book Review at Museum—Hymns of the Republic by S.G. Gwynne

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at Doylestown Borough Hall, 57 W. Court Street unless otherwise noted. For more information on specific dates, visit our site at www.civilwarmuseumdoylestown.org

♦ **Special thank you** to Jo and Woody Kiel for their donation of the valuable Bachelder 1865 battlefield map of Gettysburg and especially to the King’s Path Questers for the conservation of same. Help needed in framing costs.

♦ **More special thanks** to Herb Kaufman, Richard and Grace Kelly, and Orland and Nancy Bergere for money towards fixing the Museum sign (which is standing on one leg), as well as Dick Millham and an anonymous donor for conserving the Bates Civil War flag.

♦ **Congratulations to our Book winners:** James Grimes, Doreen Barton, Marilyn Becker, Sharon Fetterolf, Jaye Drukas, Ray Miller, Susan Damon, Bob Sparks and Julie Mejia

♦ **New Docents:** Mike Campbell and Bill Hamill, Jr.

♦ We are trying to identify and contact direct descendants of the 104th. They can respond to gmunson02@comcast.net or 215-822-1562 or Civil War Library and Museum, 32 N. Broad, Doylestown, PA 18901

♦ We are very grateful for the continued sponsorship of the C & N Bank. They make possible the printing of the Swamp Angel II.

Message from the President

Happy Holidays to all our members and a special thanks this year for your support and participation!!! We had another year of great guest speakers and set a record of 54 people at one of our meetings (thanks Kitt)! Even at 54 we had several seats left... so tell your neighbors, bribe your friends and bring them to our speaker series (first Tuesday of each month). We also added to our events this year, participating in the Warminster Re-Enactment, Doylestown Memorial Day Parade, Doylestown Arts festival re-enactment and of course our year-end luncheon. We also cannot forget our new docents, the folks that helped in the spring and fall museum cleanups, our new *Swamp Angel II* publisher and all the other folks that keep our organization together.

As we continue to grow our events and maintain the museum and library, we need your help. The Museum needs repairs, program costs continue to go up and we would appreciate any donations. No amount is too small (or too large) and please send them to Marilyn Becker.

I probably sound like a broken record (remember those?) but if you have not been to the Museum in a while ... it’s open every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. Please come and see the “brand new” repaired steps at the museum ... but, don’t come alone ...bring 3 friends! Please enjoy your holidays, stay safe, stay warm and let’s all count our blessings!

Jim Damon

2019 Volunteers of the Year Awards

Jim Klokner Mike Campbell Gerry Mayers

New Member at Large Board Member

Ron Dewitt



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The Pinkerton Detective Agency

By Marilyn Becker

The Pinkerton Detective Agency was the oldest and largest private detective agency at the height of its service. Today, the agency still exists, but under the name of Pinkerton Consulting and Investigations, Inc., a division of the Swedish Security Company, Securitas AB.



Allan Pinkerton was born in 1819 in Scotland. His father had been a Glasgow police sergeant. At the age of 10, it was necessary for Allan Pinkerton to learn a trade as his father had died. He was apprenticed for 7 years and he learned to make barrels and casks. In 1842, married, Allan and his wife Joan, sailed from Edinburgh to Canada. From there, he purchased a horse and buggy, and proceeded to camp his way to the United States, in particular Chicago, and then moving to Dundee, Illinois, where he opened a cooperage shop and almost accidentally became involved in police business, helping capture counterfeiters, thus becoming well-known in solving this case. His keen observation skills were a strong point in his success as a detective. Finally in 1858, Allan sold his shop and moved to Chicago. One activity he had to give up was helping slaves escape through the Underground Railroad. His shop had been a station on the road to freedom for the slaves.

In Chicago, he worked for William Church as a staff member of the sheriff of Cook County. He then moved on to special agent for the United States Post Office Department where he handled those cases involving criminal cases of mail fraud. He became Chicago's first detective and in 1850, he opened with E.H. Rucker, an attorney, a private detective agency. At that time, law enforcement officers and criminals associated together and shared the benefits of this association. Allan Pinkerton drew up a code of ethics and set a fee schedule. He chose the slogan, "We Never Sleep" and printed material which carried the logo of the open eye. The criminals nicknamed it "The Eye." Thus the name "private eyes" for private detectives grew. Publicity given to the agency drew attention to stories such as "Old Sleuths" by George Munro. The Pinkerton Agency and their detectives became a source of interest for people and Munro was very successful with these stories.

In addition to setting up an ethics standard for the agency Pinkerton also hired women and minorities. Among the women hired was Kate Warne. At the age of 23, she was the first woman detective. She was a widow and needed a job. Her selling point in the interview with Pinkerton was that she could attain secrets in many places where it was impossible for male detectives to succeed. She was able to live up to that statement and used many alias, at least 10, as she worked successfully for the agency, and then in 2 years rose to the rank as the head of what was the "female department." She died at the age of 38 and is buried in the Pinkerton family plot in Graceland Cemetery in Chicago. This was an indication of Pinkerton's regard for her service to the agency.

Another agent who was highly successful was Timothy Webster, although he came to a disastrous ending. He was a Pinkerton agent and a Civil

(continued on page 5)



1. Who wrote the memoir *Diary of a Southern Refugee During the War* by a Lady of Virginia.?

- A. Judith White Mcguire
- B. Rose O'Neal Greenhow
- C. Margaret Ann Meta Morris Gimbell D.
- D. Mary Boykin Chestnut

2. Nathan Bedford Forrest was known as the "Wizard of the Saddle". What was Earl Van Dorn's nickname?

- A. Tex
- B. Devil in the Saddle
- C. Elkhorn Dorn
- D. Buck 3.

3. What ship served as Admiral David Glasgow Farragut's flagship for most of the Civil War?

- A. Wabash
- B. Malvern
- C. Hartford
- D. Brooklyn

4. Who was the commander of the Confederate forces at the Battle of Resaca?

- A. Leonidas Polk
- B. John Bell Hood
- C. William Hardee
- D. Joseph Johnston

5. What Civil War general acquired the nickname "Spoons"?

- A. J.E.B. Stuart
- B. Benjamin Butler
- C. Nathan Bedford
- D. Joe Hooker

answers on page 6



**Military Records, Returns
Documents & Photos**

Finding military records about your **war hero** can provide valuable details you never knew before. Many records on Fold3 feature multiple pages about the same individual, providing priceless information.

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THE BURNING OF CHAMBERSBURG

by
Bill Hamill, Jr.

The Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, as well as the Cumberland Valley in Pennsylvania, saw more destruction and despair than almost any other area during the Civil War. Both Federal as well as Confederate Armies were up and down and through the valleys constantly during the war. Battles were fought, skirmishes took place, supplies were captured and destroyed, and civilians lived under duress. Also, since the Shenandoah Valley and the Cumberland Valley were large farming and agricultural districts, they provided much needed supplies for the armies as well as citizens of the country.

Chambersburg, PA, was the only city to be burned to the ground by Confederate forces during the Civil War. Why did this happen? Only 20 miles north of the Mason-Dixon Line, Chambersburg had been raided several times since 1861. Chambersburg had been occupied by rebel troops in October 1862 and again in June of 1863. No significant damage had been done to the town at this time, with the exception of the local railroad as well as some warehouses that had contained military supplies. The local women of Chambersburg had attended to wounded soldiers from both sides after the Battles of Antietam and Gettysburg. By July of 1864, Chambersburg's population consisted primarily of older men, women, and children. Previously, Confederate soldiers had restrained themselves, by not destroying non-governmental property. This would not be the case in 1864.

So, what did happen in 1864 that led to the Confederate decision to torch Chambersburg? Well, it was more or less the culmination of events in the late spring and early summer of 1864. Union forces under General David Hunter had been wreaking havoc in the Shenandoah Valley. On June 6th 1864, Union troops occupied Staunton, VA. A key railroad depot, the soldiers destroyed the station as well as the railroad line. Union soldiers occupied Staunton for several days. They managed to set the town of Staunton on fire, and destroyed most of the homes, stores, and warehouses. Private homes were looted and valuables, as well as food, were taken. Later, on June 12th, Hunter's forces entered Lexington, VA and burned VMI.

Confederate General Jubal Early, commander of the "Army of the Valley", decided Confederate General Jubal Early, commander of the "Army of the Valley", decided it was time to retaliate. General Early said it was now "time to open the eyes of the people of the North, to this enormity, by example in the way of retaliation." Early selected the town of Chambersburg to be held for ransom and if directions were not followed, the town was to be torched. Why Chambersburg? Because according to General Early, Chambersburg "was the only one of consequence accessible to my troops and for no other reason."

General Jubal Early's order -- "In default of payment of \$500,000, the town of Chambersburg is directed to be laid to ashes, in retaliation for the burning of said houses and other houses of citizens of Virginia by the Federal authorities."

It was decided that General John McCausland would lead the raid with his brigade as well as soldiers under Bradley Johnson. The force would consist of about 2800 soldiers and four pieces of artillery. Confederate troops were organized in the panhandle section of West Virginia and crossed the Potomac River on July 29th. It just so happened that a company from the 6th Cavalry, was on patrol along the Mason-Dixon Line. A skirmish line was in place to delay the Confederate advance but fell back to Mercersburg. There was also a small contingent of Unions soldiers in the Chambersburg area under the command of Major General Darius Couch, of the "Department of the Susquehanna." Responsible for the defense of Pennsylvania, -- however just a small unit of soldiers, they evacuated the area and went north by rail.

The Confederate soldiers rested overnight, but at 5:30AM, July 30th, several rounds of artillery were fired over the town of Chambersburg. With a detail of soldiers accompanying them, General McCausland and his officers rode into town and had breakfast at the Franklin House. He ordered the arrest of the leading citizens of the town. The attorney, JW Douglas was given a copy of the orders from Jubal Early. According to Douglas, "I went up Market St. and told everyone I met of the rebel demands. They generally laughed at first and when I spoke earnestly about the terrible alternative, the citizens said they were trying to scare us and went into their homes." Some townspeople were willing to pay a ransom, but most laughed at the demand and defied the invaders. Almost six hours passed before a final decision was made.

(continued on page 4)

The Confederates asked for \$100,000 in gold or \$500,000 in cash, and were told that bank funds had already been sent out of town for safekeeping. The courthouse bell was rung to call the people of Chambersburg together. The soldiers were told that they were now ordered to burn the town of Chambersburg. Warehouses were set on fire, then the courthouse as well as the town hall. The main part of Chambersburg was in flames in about ten minutes. About 500 buildings were destroyed and 2000 people left homeless. Damage to Chambersburg was estimated to be about \$1.6 million. Confederate soldiers ransacked homes and harassed the townsfolk. With that going on, there were some rebel soldiers that acted as good Samaritans and helped to protect the citizens.

Colonel William Peters, of the 21st Virginia Cavalry, refused to follow orders and was put under arrest for insubordination. Thirty five years old, a three year veteran, Peters had been wounded twice in previous encounters. A man of "imperturbable courage", Peters said that he "would break his sword and throw it away As there were only defenseless women and children in Chambersburg."

By 1PM that afternoon, Confederate forces pulled out of Chambersburg and moved north. Apparently there were Union soldiers nearby under the command of US General William Woods Averall. They arrived several hours later when the town was in flames. No reason or explanation has been given as to why he did not get there sooner.

Several days later, on August 7th, the Battle at Moorefield Va took place. Confederate troops under the command of Colonel Peters (who was never brought to trial) were severely beaten. Union soldiers that pressed the attack were hollering -- "Remember Chambersburg!"

General Jubal Early never regretted his orders. According to Early, "This was in strict accordance with the laws of war and a just retaliation."

On July 6th, General McCausland held the town of Hagerstown for a ransom of \$20,000 and 1500 suits or sets of clothing. In reality, the ransom payment was for \$200,000 -- a zero had mistakenly been dropped. Hagerstown paid the ransom of \$20,000 and supplied the clothing.

When General McCausland passed away in 1927, several Northern newspapers referred to him as the "Hun of Chambersburg."

As the war entered its way through the final year, there was widespread destruction of Southern property. US General Phil Sheridan destroyed the entire Shenandoah Valley, the "bread basket" of the

Confederacy. US General William T. Sherman destroyed all military supplies and industry in his path on his "March Thru Georgia" And commented, "War is cruelty. There is no use trying to reform it. The crueller it is, the sooner it will be over."

"HOW EASILY AN UNKNOWN LIEUTENANT WAS MADE FAMOUS"

LT. JAMES CARVER AND THE CARVER BARRACKS

by Michael Campbell

By the time he stepped off as part of the funeral cortege of General Frederick Lander - his company in column, arms reversed; the assembled throng of McClellan-era Washington D.C. before him - Lt. James Carver (104th PA) was already a minor celebrity. As superintendent of construction on the acclaimed Carver Barracks - a camp of 57 light-frame, timber boarded dormitories, built to house his brigade - his work had already caught the attention of General McClellan, as well as visiting notables like Nathaniel Hawthorne and the prima donna Kate Dean. He also drew the admiration of his brigade commander W.W.H. Davis, who wrote, upon his brigades completion of the barracks, "Our winter quarters... have been named Carver Barracks... This is an honor well deserved... we are more indebted to him... than anyone else." "I can already see a beautiful effect upon the men." The design of Major John Gries (104th PA), builder of Christ Church Hospital and founding member of The Philadelphia Institute of Architects, the Carver Barracks were Davis' solution to the first winter of the war. "As cold approached," he wrote "I determined, if possible, to have my brigade under cover." Securing permission to build, Davis chose a spot on N 14th St about two miles outside of Washington at a place called Meridian Hill. He tasked Major Gries to design and Lt. Carver to build the camp. As a successful carpenter in Doylestown before the war - he would go on to greater success as a sawyer, land owner and politician after the war - Lt. Carver was the perfect choice. At a cost of \$10,000, compared to \$7,000 for new tents, Carver led the brigade in constructing "A Spanish village... the barracks for each regiment occupying one side of a grand plaza, 700 feet square." "Each regiment has thirteen buildings... Each building is sixteen feet wide, eighty feet long and eight feet high... the rooms are fitted up with bunks." Breaking ground the first week of December, the project would take Davis' brigade just three weeks to complete. By early January the entire brigade was moved in. "Officers and men soon adapted themselves to the changed mode of living, and learned to be more comfortable under tight boards and felt roofs than canvas." This notion of comfort was not lost on the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac still living in tents. Comparative luxuries like glass panelled windows kept a warm, even light, and old newspapers repurposed as wall-

(cont. on page 6)

Continued from page 2

War spy and was hung. He was a policeman in New York City around 1850 and met Pinkerton in 1853 and became an agent in 1856. In 1861, he and Hattie Lawton, she passing as his wife, infiltrated a Southern group to report plans being considered—one was a plan to assassinate Lincoln on his way through Baltimore to his inauguration in 1861. (Lincoln was convinced to leave early for Washington and arrived safely). However, he was criticized by newspapers both North and South who said no plot existed. (Kate Warne, along with Pinkerton rode on the train as part of the protective services for Lincoln's ride to Washington). Webster became sick while undercover and 2 other agents, Lewis and Scully, were sent as spies to cover for Webster and Lawton but were captured by the Confederates. Scully caused Webster and Lawton to be caught. Lewis and Scully were released, Lawton was sent to prison and later released, and Webster was sentenced to death. Confederate officers had been deeply embarrassed by Webster's actions and spying and it took 2 times at the gallows for him to die.

Pinkerton was reporting to General George B. McClellan after the start of the war. He had met with Lincoln's cabinet to suggest a secret service but nothing came of that suggestion. McClellan however, saw the need and Pinkerton proceeded to gather information from town talk and newspapers which helped the Union side as troop movements, etc. were openly printed in the newspapers. Pinkerton exaggerated the troop size to McClellan, but his gathering of information helped McClellan who was successful in West Virginia and Lincoln then made him commander-in-chief.

Some of the cases that the Pinkerton Agency Detective Agency were involved in were the Molly Maguires, the Homestead Strike, Jesse James, the Reno Gang, and the Wild Bunch- Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

The Molly Maguires was a secret society that miners in Pennsylvania had formed. They were breaking the law, beating and murdering those who differed with them. What started out with higher expectations, was then taken over by a lawless group. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad asked Pinkerton for help with the Mollie Maguires. Pinkerton chose James McParland for the investigation. McParland infiltrated the Maguires and collected information. His health suffered and the risks he took were many. Eventually the evidence collected convicted the people for the beatings and killings and McParland was sent to Denver to eventually head the bureau there. He had a body guard there by the name of Charles Siringo.

Though the Agency had been involved in labor spying revealed by the La Follette committee hear-

ings in 1937, the company moved towards protection services. The focus now for the agency is risk management, executive protection, threat intelligence and active shooter response.

Allan Pinkerton died in 1884 and is buried in Graceland Cemetery in Chicago. His sons William and Robert inherited the Agency and continued to lead it successfully.

Often the Agency was mentioned in books, film, music and television series and even video games. The Agency was also instrumental in creating a criminal database and being the forerunner in creation of the F.B.I.

Sources: Allan Pinkerton America's First Private Eye by

Sigmund A. Levine

Kate Warne: The Pinkerton's First Lady by

John Derrig

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

"The Army of Northern Virginia was never defeated. It wore itself out whipping the enemy."

Confederate General Jubal Early. After the Civil War, Jubal Early made his way by horseback to Texas and eventually to Mexico. Moving again, he spent time in Cuba as well as Canada. Upon his return to the United States, he took much pride in himself as an "unrepentant rebel."

Did You Know...?

January 10, 1862 -- Union soldiers under the command of Colonel James Garfield halted the Confederate advance into Kentucky defeating Brigadier General Humphrey Marshall's troops at the Battle of Middle Creek in eastern Kentucky.

February 3, 1863 -- Having failed in a mission to disrupt Union shipping on the Cumberland River, Confederate cavalry shifted gears, and made an unsuccessful & bloody attempt to crush the Union garrison at Dover, Tennessee.

March 14, 1864 -- Advancing into the Rebel Trans-Mississippi Department, Union troops are victorious at Fort DeRussy, an earthen fortification, opening the way north to Alexandria, Louisiana. Fort DeRussy was named after Lewis DeRussy, the oldest West Point graduate to serve in the Confederate Army.

continued from p. 4—Lt. James Carver

the men warm, while in the corners of each room buckets of water sat guard against fire. While the rest of the army waited out the end of winter in the mud, unable to drill, Davis' brigade held class in their barracks, the commissioned officers teaching the non-commissioned officers, the non-coms teaching the enlisted men. Even their sick list was lower than those of neighboring regiments. "The men appeared to fine advantage," Davis wrote "with a lightness of heart that bespeaks contentment and quiet happiness." Davis admired the enterprise and careful consideration of his men, and appreciated the skills and dedication his brigade had shown in constructing their own quarters. The men would soon put that same skill and care on display on March 6, 1862, at General Lander's funeral. A McClellan favorite, General Lander's funeral procession was a solemn celebration attended by patriotic Washington high and low. Tasked with commanding the funeral escort, Davis detailed the 104th PA in line directly behind the honor guard. "The cortege started in the following order - Funeral escort in column - the one-hundred-and fourth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, with a fine band playing solemn airs." Looking back years later Davis wrote, "On that occasion I felt more than the usual pride in the appearance and performance of the 104th... their march up Pennsylvania Avenue... I do not believe was ever excelled... at least by volunteer troops." General Lander's funeral procession would confirm Davis' belief in, "the qualities that make good soldiers - discipline, respect for superiors, perfection in drill, cleanliness... and manly endurance." It would also lower the curtain on the winter his brigade spent at Camp Carver. On March 29, 1862, Davis' brigade would embark for the Peninsula, and shortly thereafter Carver Barracks would be turned into a hospital: Carver Hospital. In the trying days to come, many spent without shelter in drenching rain, Davis' brigade would fondly remember Camp Carver. Years later Davis would write of their final departure, "the 104th led the division... As the troops marched down the broad avenue (14th St) to the sound of martial music... the rays of the declining sun reflected back from the glittering bayonets...the spectacle was unusually fine."

Postscript: Carver Hospital After a rough start including a change of Director, an overhaul of the Ambulance and Quartermaster Departments, and the construction of two new hospitals (Colombia and Mt. Pleasant) within the Meridian Hill camp - all performed while coping with the endless casualties of 1862 - Carver Hospital thrived and expanded. State Sanitary Associations, in cooperation with the Surgeon General, vigorously enforced sanitary and professional standards, creating best practice policies applied nationally. Quartermaster bids for hundreds of new stoves and pipe were unsealed in the fall of '62. A Worthington Steam pump and plumbing was installed, delivering fresh water into the camp. By August of 1865, as part of the War Department's liquidation of the war effort, Carver Hospital was put up for auction. "Sixty-nine frame buildings, built by the government," read one ad, plus numerous outbuildings. In all, 114 buildings were sold for \$6750.

RECOMMENDED READING

Hymns of the Republic

★★★★★ by S. C. Gwynne

Reviewed by George Hoffman

The fourth and final year of the Civil War was, by any measure, one of the greatest turning points in American history.

Hymns of the Republic basically shows the drive to the war's end and climaxed in a series of monumental and emotionally devastating events.

It is popular American history at its best. Hymns of the Republic is a thrilling, luminous read and confirms Pulitzer Prize finalist S. C. Gwynne as one of the most talented historians of our time.

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ANSWERS TO THE READER CHALLENGE!

2.	D
1.	A
	3. C
	5. B

SWAMP ANGEL II NEWS

Newsletter of the

BUCKS COUNTY CIVIL WAR MUSEUM/ROUND TABLE

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