

REMEMBER  
HONOR



EDUCATE  
INSPIRE

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**THIS NEWSLETTER IS AN OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS – THIS NEWSLETTER IS AN OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS** –Please contact Kim Kamaris with inquiries or areas of concern.

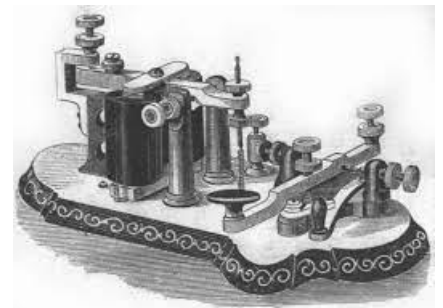
The Jersey Shore Civil War Round Table was founded in 2014. We are a non-profit organization

Webpage  
<http://www.jscwrt.org>

We resume in person meetings  
September 8  
We hope to return to the OCC campus but that will be confirmed at a later time. We do plan to have Zoom available for those who cannot attend in person.



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**September meeting topic  
Professor Charles Cebula  
will present a talk on “The  
Telegraph as a Military  
Innovation”**



Andy Megill was kind enough to take Kim Kamaris out to fire his Civil War rifles. Thanks Andy, for a very enjoyable afternoon!

### MONTHLY TRIVIA QUESTION!

**August Trivia Question: What general gave up poker, as penance, after three of his children died of scarlet fever in a single week during January 1862?** hint: he’s better known by his nickname than his real name

BONUS POINTS: What’s his real name?

Answer to June Trivia Question: What Confederate General survived Pickett’s charge at Gettysburg only to be killed in the retreat at Virginia? J. Johnston Pettigrew who led onf of the Divisions that attacked Cemetery Ridge at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. Pettigrew was wounded during the charge but survived only to be wounded on the retreat near Falling Rivers West Virginia a few days later.

## What We're Reading

Editor's note: I received 3 submissions over the summer. I hope you will enjoy all these reviews:

**Robert E. Lee and Me** By Ty Seidule Professor (Emeritus of History at West Point) - Retired Brig. General Seidule has contributed a thoughtful and well researched book that is both a personal biography and a journey for a truthful understanding of the legacy of the South and his own upbringing as a son of Virginia. His research opens a window into the history of confederate monuments as part of both the lost cause legacy and in conjunction with the politics of the times in which they were erected, including southern racism and reactions to secession and the fight for racial equality. Ty Seidule is a graduate of Washington and Lee University and was raised imbued with a reverence for both Lee and the prevailing southern traditions of his youth. Along the way of his military and teaching career, he loses his reverence for Robert E. Lee and the legacy that his adoration as the chief saint" of the lost cause engendered. This is an important contemporary book for any serious civil war buff, and it is an important insight into our past both as a country and as a society.

**Biography of William Tecumseh Sherman** By James Lee McDonough. This book is a must-read for Sherman fans. The narrative style is a fast-paced, thorough read that admirably traces Sherman's life and career from his West Point days to his strained marriage, to his well-known Civil War campaigns. This is a well-researched book with a good mix of secondary sources as well as Sherman's own letters and speeches. He presents Sherman in a positive light without excluding his faults. Sherman was a complex man, guilty of racist attitudes typical of his day. He did occasionally step outside the moral bounds of the sanctity of marriage, but these are not central to the book. McDonough asserts that his military generalship ranks him among the greatest combat leaders in American military history. McDonough pulls no punches in describing Sherman's disdain for politicians, reporters and the various enemies he acquired along the way. If there is anything to criticize, McDonough's passage on the western Indian Wars could be stronger. There have been many biographies of the General, but this one published in 2016 can stand alone.

**Civil War Monuments and the Militarization of America** By Thomas J. Brown, (Professor of history, University South Carolina) This synthetic study of the well over one hundred such monuments around the country is exhaustive, even overwhelming, and this book is probably the definitive work on the subject. Professor Brown however, falls in the tat trap of opaque academic jargon in which he writes in a manner directed to colleagues and seems designed to impress them. Some of his assumptions enter the incomprehensible realm of "say what"? Brown's research is nevertheless impeccable, and for this he is to be praised. He breaks down styles of monuments, makes comparative analysis, and sets the monuments in time and place as they are often a reflection of the era in which they were erected. His final chapter takes up the dicey subject of monument removal and while he evades taking a firm stand, he does hint at his position when he wrote, in a passage discussing the removal of what he calls "common soldier monuments"... "This iconoclasm indicated that ordinary Americans who sacrificed their lives at the call of the state were nonetheless morally wrong" It begs the question: Did every confederate soldier fight, laying his life on the line for the sole purpose of defending slavery?

## Upcoming Events

- The Brick Historical Society at The Havens Homestead on Herbertsville Road in Brick Township will be having a Living history Civil War Encampment on August 7 and 8th. Our own Andy Megill will be there participating in the activities.
- September 8 We are back to in person meetings with a supplemental Zoom for those who can't make it in person. The location will be confirmed before the meeting. Professor Charles Cebula will present a talk on "The Telegraph as a Military Innovation".
- October 13 Paul Bretzger will join us and discuss his book "Observing Hancock at Gettysburg: The General's Leadership through eyewitness accounts".
- November 10 Mike Jessberger will join us again and His lecture is will be on "Civil War Medicine".

On a Sad Note, JSCWRT Member **Bill Bruno** passed away on June 19th. Bill was a passionate historian and re-enactor. He also was a legendary Coach and Athletic director in New Jersey High School athletics. He will be missed and I (Kim Kamaris) personally will miss his text messages from around the country at various historical sites with a picture asking "Where am I now" ? Please keep his Wife Jeanette and Family in your prayers!

You can find his obituary here:

<https://www.legacy.com/funeral-homes/obituaries/name/william-bruno-obituary?pid=199125194&v=batesville&view=questbook>