



HFCWRT Monthly Newsletter

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- DATE:** Wednesday, February 13th, 2019
- TIME:** Dinner 6:30 PM; Program 7:30 PM
- PLACE:** Camp Hill Methodist Church, Harpers Ferry, WV
- SPEAKER:** Noah Andre Trudeau
- SUBJECT:** Lincoln at City Point

The Speaker:

The proud son of two WW II veterans, Noah Andre Trudeau is the author of numerous military history articles and eight Civil War history books. His articles cover a wide canvas with contributions covering the Revolutionary War, the Mexican-American War, World Wars I and II, and the Spanish Civil War. His books include: *The Last Citadel*, covering the entire siege of Petersburg (now in a revised edition from Savas Beatie); *Like Men of War*, a combat history of black troops in the Civil War (honored with the Grady McWhiney Research Foundation's Jerry Coffey Memorial Book Prize); *Gettysburg: A Testing of Courage*, a fresh history of the iconic battle; and a history of *Sherman's March Through Georgia: Southern Storm*. He also authored a short biography of the South's leading general, *Robert E. Lee: Lessons in Leadership*, completed as part of a "Great Generals Series" edited by General Wesley K. Clark. *Lincoln's Greatest*

Journey, his latest book, tracks the experiences of Abraham Lincoln while at City Point, Virginia, in March-April 1865. Mr. Trudeau will not be bringing any books for sale but if you have any of his works you wish him to sign, he will do so after his talk.

The Subject

In the last three weeks of his life, Abraham Lincoln spent 18 days of them away from the capital: two in transit, and 16 based at City Point, Virginia (modern Hopewell). In telling this story, Mr. Trudeau found himself engaged in more detective work than historical research, and what he found changes this story forever. The talk will touch on some unexpected things he found and highlight some critical events during Lincoln's visit.

The Meal

A family-style meal will be served at 6:30 PM prior to the program. The cost of the meal is \$15.00 per person. Reservations for the meal **must be made no later than Sunday, February 10th** with Christopher Craig ccraig@laurellodge.com or call at 304-433-1260. The meal will consist of fried chicken, creamy cole slaw, baked beans, applesauce or fruit cup, rolls, butter, iced tea, coffee, and dessert.

Fierce Patriot: The Tangled Lives of William Tecumseh Sherman By Robert L. O'Connell

William Tecumseh Sherman was more than just one of our greatest generals. *Fierce Patriot* is a bold, revisionist portrait of how this iconic and enigmatic figure exerted an outsize impact on the American landscape—and the American character.

America's first "celebrity" general, William Tecumseh Sherman was a man of many faces. Some were exalted in the public eye, others known only to his intimates. In this bold, revisionist portrait, Robert L. O'Connell captures the man in full for the first time. From his early exploits in Florida, through his brilliant but tempestuous generalship during the Civil War, to his postwar career as a key player in the building of the transcontinental railroad, Sherman was, as O'Connell puts it, the "human embodiment of Manifest Destiny." Here is Sherman the military strategist, a master of logistics with an uncanny grasp of terrain and brilliant sense of timing. Then there is "Uncle Billy," Sherman's public persona, a charismatic hero to his troops and quotable catnip to the newspaper writers of his day. Here, too, is the private Sherman, whose appetite for women, parties, and the high life of the New York theater complicated his already turbulent marriage. Warrior, family man, American icon, William Tecumseh Sherman has finally found a biographer worthy of his protean gifts. A masterful character study whose myriad insights are leavened with its author's trademark wit, *Fierce Patriot* will stand as the essential book on Sherman for decades to come.

American Battlefield Trust

The American Battlefield Trust seeks to preserve our nation's hallowed battlegrounds and educate the public about what happened there and why it matters today. We permanently protect these battlefields for future generations as a lasting and tangible memorial to the brave soldiers who fought in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Civil War.

The new nonprofit umbrella organization builds upon a 30-year record of exemplary work done by the Civil War Trust and its predecessor organizations. The Civil War Trust and Revolutionary War Trust (which began in 2014 as Campaign 1776) are the two divisions beneath the American Battlefield Trust banner, focused on preserving the battlefields and perpetuating the memory of those formative conflicts in U.S. history.

The formation of the American Battlefield Trust is the latest step in the evolution of the modern battlefield preservation movement, which began in the mid-1980s in response to the loss of important historic sites to spreading commercial and residential development. The new entity is a direct descendant, through a series of mergers and name changes, of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, founded by a group of professional historians and preservation advocates in 1987.

The organization is best known for its high-profile battlefield preservation efforts, including protection of the historic epicenter of the Antietam battlefield, the site of George Washington's famous charge at Princeton, the Slaughter Pen Farm at Fredericksburg, and Robert E. Lee's battlefield headquarters at Gettysburg. In addition, as the Civil War Trust, it engaged in grassroots campaigns to prevent development at Chancellorsville and the Wilderness in Virginia; Franklin, Tennessee; and Morris Island, South Carolina (site of the famous charge portrayed in the movie *Glory*).

"Over those years and under a variety of names, we have saved more than 50,000 acres of battlefield land throughout the United States, while earning accolades for being one of the most efficient and effective nonprofits in the nation," Trust President James Lighthizer said. "Now, as the American Battlefield Trust, we will continue that tradition of preservation leadership." Join the Action: <https://www.battlefields.org/about/new-umbrella-organization>

Civil War Events March 2019

March 2, VA: Symposium, "A People's Contest: Struggles for Nation and Freedom in Civil War America," at the Library of Virginia, 800 E Broad St, Richmond. 9:30 am-4 pm. \$65. acwm.org

March 2, PA: Lecture, "College Students in the Battle of Gettysburg: A Different Kind of Soldier," at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 1:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/get

March 9, VA: "Battle of Hampton Roads Day" at the Mariners Museum in Newport News. Living history, special talks, tours, music and more. Lecture, "Battle of the Ironclads," 2:30 pm. Free with \$1 museum admission. marinersmuseum.org