

# The Peregrine Press

The Newsletter of the Mason - Dixon Chapter of the  
Falcon Club of America

July 2019

## Items of Interest -

**President's Message**

**Mason - Dixon Fall Regional**

**Needs**

**Hop on Hospitality**

**Cruise: Guided Battlefield Tour/Poker run**

**Keystone News**

**The Big Reveal!**

Excitement is building for the Mason/Dixon Gettysburg Regional on Sept. 6 & 7.

On Saturday June 22nd, 14 members toured the Sleep Inn. We split into two groups. The ladies did a walkthrough of the interior of the hotel, while the men mapped out the exterior. Questions about trailer parking, show car parking, vendor spaces and where pop up tents could be placed, etc..... The ladies had questions about where and how to serve food to our guests. Monday morning June 24th the hotel management answered all those questions.

This will be a fun event with a cruise thru Gettysburg Battlefield planned for Friday afternoon September 6th.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Gettysburg Regional.

Pat Varricchio  
410-215-1883



## Mason - Dixon Fall Regional!!!

OK Everyone, It's Showtime! We have exactly one month to learn a lot of information.

- 1) How many people / cars are registered for the Fall Regional?
- 2) How much food is needed to feed this wonderful group of people?
- 3) Who can we count on to help with all of the important duties that have to come together to make this happen?

August 6<sup>th</sup> is our deadline for hotel reservations and Regional T-shirt orders. As noted above, to date we have 44 cars registered, and all but 5 rooms have been reserved at the host hotel. Most of those 44 cars are out-of-state registrations, and now that the Falcon National has drawn to a close, we will begin to see more registrations arriving in the mail. The interest that is being shown is much higher than even we expected. Anticipation is building and things are coming together, but - many of the critical details will be moving at warp speed in these next few weeks.

John Vanatta, Dennis Mehrenberg, and Ken Holquist have joined forces to facilitate the parking areas at the hotel. They have an able team of great people to make it all come together at the hotel site.

Cheryl Holquist and Naomi Henderson are working together to coordinate the Hospitality area. Look for additional information elsewhere in this newsletter of how you can help with this important part of the Regional.

Ed Sickles will be handling the grilling duties on Saturday. Burgers and dogs will be the specialty of the day on Saturday along with all the trimmings.

We will still need additional people to help with hosting duties, providing direction to new arrivals, preparing food dishes, helping with serving and clean up, dishing up ice cream on Saturday evening and possibly some assistance with Registration on Friday and Saturday morning. It is common to have a good number of local FCA Members who show up on Saturday morning but did not pre-register.

If you have volunteered to help with the Regional, please be checking your email over the next several weeks, right up through September 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be updates as information becomes available, and we will be making every effort to inform you as each piece of news unfolds.

We have been given permission to use the Common Room (or as described in the hotel brochure - the Hot Morning Medley) as our lunch and break room spaces. It is expected that our group will clean up the area when we are finished using it each day so that it is ready for the next morning to serve Breakfast.

## Things That We Will Need -

We are in need of six large coolers to store ice and beverages in. If you have a cooler that is larger than 60 Quart in size, we would like to borrow it for that weekend. You can bring it with you to the Regional, and take it home with you when you leave. Please let Ken Holquist know that you have one that we can use, he is keeping track of these.

We are also looking for two sets of Corn Hole boards to have available for use during the day on Friday and Saturday. Yes, the guys (and some of the gals) will be looking at and talking Falcons, but if we have kids there, or adults who enjoy the game, it would be nice to have one

or two sets available for people to use. Again, please contact Ken Holquist if you have a set we can use.

Ken's phone: 717-658-7460 Voice or text email: [64dlvrme@gmail.com](mailto:64dlvrme@gmail.com)

## Hop on Hospitality!

This is an open invitation to anyone (gals or guys) who would like to be a part of the hospitality committee. Naomi Henderson and Cheryl Holquist will be leading this, but they need lots of help and support. A big thank you to the ladies who attended the planning meeting a few weeks ago at the Emmitsburg Sleep Inn. We have a plan in place, but details are still being worked out. Here is what we know (or think we know! 😊):

Meals we will provide:

Friday lunch:

Crockpots of pulled pork, pulled chicken, sloppy joes for sandwiches  
Veggies, fruit, chips, and  
Cookies, brownies, or other delicious dessert items you would like to whip up!

Saturday lunch:

Grilled dogs and burgers, potato salad, chips and veggies  
Diane's Varricchio's famous crab soup!  
Remaining cookies, brownies, dessert items

Saturday dinner:

Pizza and ice cream Sundaes

Water and sodas will be available throughout the day Friday and Saturday.

We will need folks to set up, keep food replenished during meal times, and clean up. Many hands make work light! So please shoot me an email, Facebook IM, or text message if you are willing to help. I will be sending information out to those who were at the meeting in the next week, and will add others as you contact me. (My apologies for not getting it out already, but life is flying by!)

Rather than crowd the shared space for registration and hospitality, we have been given permission to serve our meals in the breakfast café where the tables and chairs for seating are located. This will greatly ease the congestion in the registration area. With the numbers we are expecting, we have our work cut out for us! My hope is to have lots of help so we can share the load and all will have some time to enjoy friends and Falcons!



In your free time between now and the show, bake some cookies, brownies, or other finger-friendly treats for dessert on Friday and Saturday lunches. Freeze them, and bring them along! Please let me know what is coming by Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Cheryl's phone: 717-658-7461 (text me and leave your name please) or email: [caholquist@gmail.com](mailto:caholquist@gmail.com)



## Cruise: Guided Battlefield Tour / Poker Run

We have finalized plans for a Guided Battlefield Tour / Poker Run that will take place on Friday afternoon from 1:15 to about 5:30 pm. We have arranged for a Tour Guide from the Historical Group in Gettysburg to ride in one of our cars and lead us on an abbreviated tour of the sites in the Battlefield Park. We will stop at those areas that have adequate parking for 20 plus cars, gather into a group, and the Guide will explain what was happening at that point in time and which direction we should be looking out over the terrain.

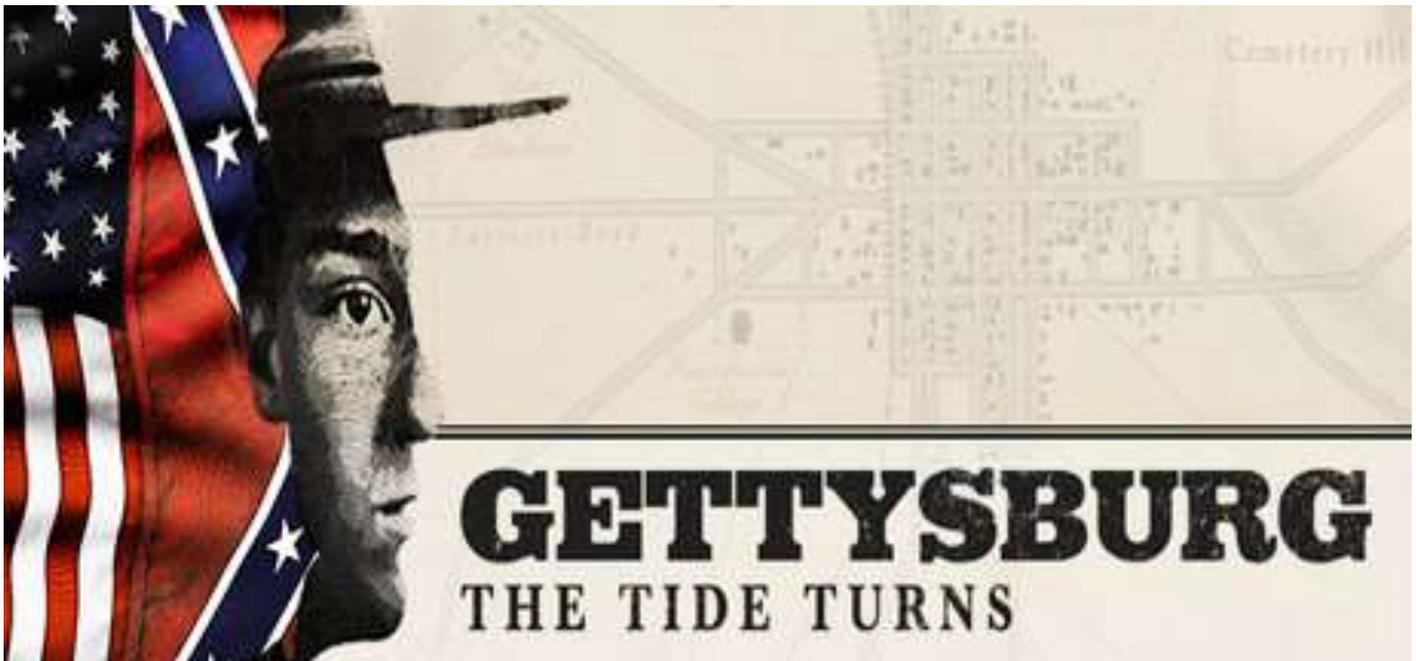
At each stop, one designated person from each car in the group will collect a playing card from the "dealer". At the final stop, the people from each car will present their cards to the "dealer", and the driver holding the best hand will receive complimentary dinner for two at Pickett's Buffet that evening. So, it will be a fun, entertaining, and educational afternoon for all who participate.

## News from the Keystone Chapter -

Many of you are members of both the Mason - Dixon Chapter and the Keystone Chapter of the FCA. We learned recently that James Ogram is the new President of the Keystone Chapter and is hard at work to build more interest in the Chapter itself and looking to increase opportunities for gathering Falcons together in eastern Pennsylvania. Jim, we wish you well in your new capacity as President, and we extend our best wishes to Jeff and Renee Weid as they look to spend some quality time exploring other interests. Jeff tells me that he has been involved with Falcons since he was 12 years old and it was time to step back and take a breather.

**AND NOW....**

THE MASON DIXON GETTYSBURG  
REGIONAL CAN BE SO MUCH MORE THAN  
FRIENDS AND FALCONS!! HOW MUCH  
MORE YOU ASK??  
KEEP READING!!



### **GETTYSBURG SUMMARY**

The Battle of **Gettysburg**, fought in July 1863, was a Union victory that stopped Confederate General Robert E. Lee's second invasion of the North. More than 50,000 men fell as casualties during the 3-day battle, making it the bloodiest battle of the American Civil War.



*While trying to put some ideas together about what Gettysburg has to offer as a vacation destination, I was amazed at all there is to do! I have lived here in Central PA for a while now, and I must admit...I have not taken advantage of what is just a short distance from my own home. Please take some time to do a Google search*

*of the Gettysburg area and all the opportunities for education, recreation, culture, adventure, shopping, dining, and more.*

*And please... keep reading!!*



### Things to Do in Gettysburg

With its rolling hills, historic landmarks, and 19th-century atmosphere, the city of Gettysburg is like no other place in the United States. As the site of the most significant battle in the Civil War, the city draws millions of visitors each year who long to walk in the steps of figures like Abraham Lincoln and George G. Meade. While the region is indelibly tied to the Battle of Gettysburg, there's more to explore in this picturesque town, from the rustic pubs on Steinwehr Avenue to the antique inns on Baltimore Street. You will want to extend your stay beyond the Falcon Regional meet dates to really take advantage of the richness of the history, culture, and entertainment in Gettysburg and the surrounding areas.

### Areas & Neighborhoods

The Gettysburg Battlefield may cover 6,000 acres, but the city itself is less than two square miles. Though incredibly small, the downtown area hosts an array of restaurants, hotels, and retail options, while the battlefield is home to more than 1,300 monuments and memorials.

### Downtown

Downtown Gettysburg is a charming hub of history, boasting brick sidewalks, wrought-iron street lamps, and centuries-old architecture. Here, you'll find plenty of hotels, dozens of specialty shops, and a wide selection of restaurant options including colonial taverns and historic inns.

Downtown also offers a host of cultural, educational, and entertainment attractions like the Majestic Theater, the Gettysburg Museum of History, and the David Wills House, where Abraham Lincoln finished writing his immortal Gettysburg Address. From the heart of the city, visitors can embark on a range of historical walking tours with a costumed guide or journey into the battlefield.



## Gettysburg National Military Park



There are tons of ways to explore the Gettysburg Battlefield, be it by bus, foot, Segway, or horse. For first-time visitors, traveling with a Licensed Battlefield Guide is a great way to bring this significant event to life. However, you can also dive into the history of these fields on your own with a self-guided car tour that covers 24 miles (39 km), tracing the three-day battle in chronological order.

### McPherson Ridge

The Battle of Gettysburg began here on the morning of July 1, 1863 as Union cavalry confronted Confederate soldiers advancing east. Fighting spread north and south along this ridgeline as additional forces arrived from both sides.



### Eternal Light Peace Memorial



In the afternoon, Confederates under Major General Robert E. Rodes attacked from this hill, threatening Union forces on nearby Oak and McPherson ridges. In 1938, more than 1,800 Civil War veterans came together to dedicate this memorial to “Peace Eternal in a Nation United.”

### Warfield Ridge

In the afternoon on Day 2, Lieutenant General James Longstreet assembled his Confederate troops here on the ridge. Assaults began in the late afternoon against Union troops occupying Devil’s Den, the Wheatfield, the Peach Orchard, and the Round Tops.

### Little Round Top

Thanks to quick action, Union Army regiments rushed to Little Round Top, where fighting ensued with Confederate soldiers for an hour and a half. A creative strategy by the Union’s Colonel Chamberlain culminated in a dramatic downhill bayonet charge that has become one of the most well-known actions in the Civil War.



## The Wheatfield and Peach Orchard



Here, fighting raged on for hours until the evening, when Confederate attacks overran the position and Union soldiers retreated to Cemetery Ridge. Charge and countercharge occurred at the site now known as “Bloody Wheatfield” for the 4,000 dead and wounded that were left after the battle concluded.



## East Cemetery Hill

At around 7 PM on Day 2, Confederates waged an assault on Union forces that reached the crest of this hill. Though both flanks of the Union Army had been attacked, General Meade decided his men would stay and fight. The Confederate forces were eventually driven off in the early morning after seven hours of fighting.

## High-Water Mark



The climactic moment of the battle came in the afternoon on Day 3, when Confederate forces during Pickett’s Charge reached the “high-water mark” on Cemetery Ridge, where many believe they had the best chance of winning the war. Though outnumbered by nearly double, Union forces stood their ground, attacking back

with bayonets, rocks, and even their bare hands. With as many as 28,000 casualties over the course of three days, Lee and the Confederate Army began their retreat in the evening of July 4.



## National Cemetery and Gettysburg Address Memorial



The final resting place of more than 3,500 Union soldiers killed during the battle, the National Cemetery is also the site of Abraham Lincoln’s famous Gettysburg Address. At the cemetery’s dedication on November 19, 1863, the president gave this enduring speech to honor the fallen soldiers and redefine the purpose of the war.

## Landmarks, Attractions, and More

After you've explored the battlefield, head just outside the park for a stop at the Eisenhower National Historic Site. Tour the former home of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who used the site as both a weekend retreat from Washington and a meeting place for world leaders to discuss tensions during the Cold War. Enjoy a self-guided walk around the farm, or join a park ranger for a look back at World War II and an exploration of 1950s Secret Service operations.



There's also more to do in Gettysburg outside its national landmarks. Once you've gotten your fill of wartime history, pay a visit to the Adams County Winery, a breathtaking 15-acre vineyard located just 10 miles west from the heart of Gettysburg. Here, inside a Civil War-era barn, savor tastings of your choice of wines from their award-winning selection. September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, the winery is joined by more than 20 other Pennsylvania wineries at the Annual Gettysburg Wine and Music Festival, held at the Gateway Gettysburg complex. Cap off your weekend with Sunday's events. Tickets required. Advance purchase recommended. This can be done on-line.



## Top Fun Things to Do/See In and Near Gettysburg

- Gettysburg Heritage Center and Museum
- Tours of Gettysburg Battlefield: Bus, Walking, Biking, Horseback, Segway (Check internet resources for extensive tour options and pricing.)
- Gettysburg Ghost Tours
- Gettysburg Wine Festival  
(Sat., Sun. Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Get tickets on-line)
- For the shoppers: The Outlet Shoppes at Gettysburg
- Round Barn
- Sachs Covered Bridge

### Unique dining opportunities:

Dobbins House  
Gettysburg Hotel  
Garryowen Irish Pub  
Mason Dixon Distillery  
Hunt's Battlefield Fries  
Blue & Gray Bar & Grill  
General Pickett's Buffet  
Lincoln Diner  
No Nerds Winery and Cider House



**And more things to do just an hour away:**

- PA Renaissance Fair in Manheim, Lancaster County (1 hr. 10 min)
- Hershey Park (1 hour)
- Harrisburg (45 minutes)
  - PA State Capitol Building (45 minutes)  
(If you've never been there, it's worth the trip! A true art and architectural treasure!)
  - National Civil War Museum



If you are a movie fan, here are some videos and documentaries to watch to enhance your understanding of the Battle of Gettysburg:

***Glory***

***Gettysburg***

***Gods and Generals***

Ken Burns' *The Civil War*

History Channel: ***Gettysburg***

We sincerely hope you will take some time to enjoy some of the treats and treasures that a visit to Gettysburg and the surrounding area has to offer. Come to the Falcon Regional... find an adventure!

Editor's note: Some information provided by Expedia and Trip Advisor  
Co-editors: Ken and Cheryl Holquist



## The Big Reveal -

Drum roll please! We have talked about this idea since last fall at the picnic, and the graphic designer has been hard at work, taking our collective ideas and condensing them to one T-Shirt design. What a challenge!

Announcing - the Big Reveal !!!

On the following page you will see the final draft design for our Gettysburg Regional T-Shirt. On the front placket will appear the logo for our Mason-Dixon Chapter on the upper left chest area. No other art work will be on the front of the shirt.

On the back, as shown in the photo, will be the grille design that was discussed with everyone at the April picnic. The shirt will be a Royal Blue color, with gray lettering in honor of the army colors of each side in the great battle.

So, if you were waiting at the fence to decide if you were going to order a shirt, now you know what they will look like. We are also offering a ladies' cut T-Shirt with a V-neck that will only have the Mason-Dixon logo in gray on the front, but no grilles on the back. This was requested by some of the ladies from our chapter. Prices for these t-shirts are \$20 each, 2X and 3X are \$23 each. All shirts will be 100% cotton material.

**IT'S TIME**  
*for the*  
**BIG REVEAL**

MASON DIXON CHAPTER



*Falcon*



CLUB OF AMERICA



GETTYSBURG REGIONAL



SEPTEMBER 2019



Left Chest