

The
Advance



Winter 2017

The Second NJ Brigade is a 501c non profit organization. The board meets once a month and is represented by members of all the Impressions. The Executive board are as follows: President Greg Belcastro, Vice President Robert Bowell, Treasurer Lin Kaufer, Secretary Mike Milling.

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR



SECOND NJ BOARD PRESIDENT

1ST SERGEANT GREG BELCASTRO

This edition is dedicated to Infantry 1st Sergeant Greg Belcastro. Since the loss of Captain Lou Kaufer our Board President in 2013, Greg stepped up and took on the huge responsibility. He has guided us through many tough situations, and countless hours of organizing events, handling disputes, and site preparations. Through this four year journey he has been the rock that held us together. Greg feels we are in a great position to look to the future, and pass the torch to someone new. He will be stepping down from the board at the start of the 2018 season. Greg will still be a visible leader on the field as always! So look to see him out there!

Job well done! Huzzah!!



**ABAGAIL ECKERT AND THE AWESOME WEBSITE
FOR THE FASHIONABLY UNFARBY WOMAN WHO CAN
SEW!**

<http://www.thesewingacademy.com/compendium/>

This website has 19th century patterns free to use and print. Just on the opening page is has access to skirt, bonnet, chemise, petticoats, and much, much more! It even has patterns for period children's dolls.



Board Highlights

- Donated \$500.00 to Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT)
- Established 3 new Brigade sponsored events.
- Procreated funds for the Andy Scholarship.
- Infantry through events and donations from other impressions are close to paying for their new flags.
- Cavalry effectively reestablished under Hanz Artz.





A Season through Tracy's Lens

Photos by: Tracy Dignam

Neshaminy



1st Sergeant Greg Belcastro, and Private Klaus Ziegeler



The Company Fly

Sergeant Brian Egbert, Private Ron Bauer, Corporal Brian Zilinski, Private Paul Ladder,



Something's cooking at the Company mess!



Corporal Jeff Rodriguez and Corporal Millings belly bulge. (Remember the camera adds 10lbs.)



1st Sergeant Greg Belcastro



Regiment marching back.



Big BOOM!



Getting a drink while protecting the play fort.

Bethel Church



Infantry Colors



Private Matt Dignam, and Pioneer Ed Bubnick Instructing the public on Civil War Infantry life.





Snazzy looking cannon guy!



Nurse Michelle Catona showing bullet damaged bugle to patrons.



Private Matt Dignam, waving to mom. Other guy waving to photographer also known as Matt's mom aka Tracy Dignam. And Pioneer Ed Bubnick smiling at photographer also known as Matt's mom aka Tracy Dignam .

Randolph 4th of July Parade



Coming into view!



A little closer. But amazingly we made little progress but the lady next to Tracy was able to change her clothes and put her hair back! Amazing!



Flag bearer stops to look at a low hanging cloud.



2nd Looking Sharp!



It's music to my cannoneers!



Ladies pelting the public with candy!

**Report of Brig. General Darrell N. Markijohn, USV, commanding
OCTOBER 14-15, 2017--The BATTLE OF FIRST WINCHESTER AND CEDAR CREEK,**

**HDQRS. USV Brigade,
Middletown, Va. October 17, 2017**

The USV returns from the Cedar Creek Fall Campaign with much to talk about and remember. Cedar Creek is an event that we attend every year. We sometimes complain that CC is the “same ole, same ole.” Well..... it was anything but that this year!

The USV Brigade mustered 188 rifles from all three of its infantry Regiments. Overall Commander, Maj. Gen. Ted Brennan designated the USV as the 1st Brigade. It was the largest Federal Brigade on the field. Col. Childs and Col Young, and all of their Field Grade officers and adjutants were present. We assigned two companies of the 3rd USV to Col. Young’s 2nd USV Regiment giving us a balanced two regiment Brigade.

The USV Artillery Regiment was also in force and a significant part of the US Artillery Reserve under the command of Col. Rick Dennis.

Battle of 1st Winchester

For Saturday’s battle, the USV Brigade was positioned on the far right of the union line. General Brennan placed us along the ditch south of the Heater House. We sent skirmishers forward on top of the hill in our front to keep an eye on the enemy. They weren’t there long.

A large force of CS infantry pushed against our front. The CS mounted and dismounted cavalry harassed our right flank, but were held back by our own Cavalry. As the CS army pressed us, we were ordered to fall back. The Brigade did so in order, and continually positioned itself to pour fire into the enemy. We were able to slow down the enemy’s advance significantly, and at about the time that we fell back to the top of the hillside north of the Heater House, the scenario was stopped.

Historically, the Federal Army was pushed back hard by the CS Valley Army, and the USV Brigade did its historical roll in fine order. Colonels Childs and Young handled their regiments very well, and gave up ground grudgingly. It was a good fight.

Saturday Evening Pipe Bomb Evacuation

Obviously, any after action report for 2017 Cedar Creek has to include the unfortunate incident that forced the entire CS army to evacuate their campsite. It is so significant however, that it deserves its own AAR. Please see the supplemental report on that topic.

Sunday Morning Cedar Creek Battle

The Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation cancelled all of Sunday’s scheduled events “for spectators” for obvious reasons. Much credit is given to US General Brennan and CS General Shelton for making the decision to go forward with the Cedar Creek battle. They secured permission from the Foundation, and since there would be no spectators, moved the battle to 10:30am.

The USV Brigade marched out onto the field to the top of the hill facing the Confederate Camp. Since there were no spectators, it was eerily quiet. I don’t think I will ever forget that feeling. We were placed in the middle of the Federal line. The 2nd Brigade was to our right, and the 3rd Brigade was to our left.

The engagement opened with a cavalry assault on the right flank of the Union line. Our cavalry fought it off. Immediately thereafter, a large line of Confederate Infantry emerged directly in our front. They marched through their artillery line and from about 200 yards, opened fire with a resounding rebel yell. The battle was

was on.

As the CS troops advanced, the Union line began to fall back. After securing three separate lines of defense, we decided to hold our ground. At about that moment, led by companies in the USV Brigade, Federal Troops began to charge the CS line. Once it started, groups of US soldiers up and down the line double quick' d into the Confederate Lines. When about half the army had done the same, we decided to end the scenario.

The battle ended a little earlier than planned. Yet as I looked at the troops, now totally commingled with their Confederate Counterparts, it was easy to see why. After all of the crap that we all had to deal with the night before, including an entire evacuation of the Confederate Army from their camps for over 5 hours, it was a very fitting end. It was clear that our troops charged the enemy not to engage it, but rather to embrace their brothers in arms. It was one of the most emotional moments I have ever experienced. Men were sobbing. Shouts of USA... USA... USA... erupted up and down both lines. We quieted the troops, and I asked the Federal band to strike up the Star Spangled Banner. EVERYONE placed their hand over their heart and SANG. General Shelton asked his bugler to play Dixie. Hugs were a plenty, and well wishes were exchanged everywhere.

As we walked off the field, I was inundated with comments from fellow soldiers saying this was the RIGHT thing to do, and that this was the greatest battle EVER.

Aftermath

153rd Cedar Creek will be discussed for years to come. Our hobby, which already had a number of issues to deal with, now has new and more foreboding challenges to address. It is hard to know how the events from this past weekend will shape the future of this hobby. All I can say is that I have never seen the Hobby more UNITED than I did this past Sunday. And trust me, we are going to need every bit of this unanimity to overcome this new assault.

I commend the USV Regimental Commanders, their field grade officers, their company commander, the non-commissioned officers, and every soldier and civilian. While we are only an army on the weekend, it was because we were an army THIS past weekend that allowed us to resolve a very serious situation. Your thorough search of your camp, and the written reports that you assembled were the sole reasons that the Union Army was not forced to evacuate the site. The men and women leaders of the USV DID THEIR JOBS, and did them well. You all deserve to step back and take pride in this extraordinary effort.

Next up.... Remembrance Day. WE WILL NOT STAND DOWN. We have already had a number of discussions with law enforcement and safety organizations in Gettysburg and the PARADE IS A GO. Security is obviously an issue, and TOP MEN are working on it. In the meantime, get the word out. Let's send a message to the entire Country that this hobby will endure. I cannot think of a better way to do that than to swell the streets at Gettysburg with three regiments of USV infantry, USV Cavalry, USV Artillery, USV Sharpshooters, and USV Civilians.

Very Respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. MARKJOHN

Brig. General, United States Volunteers, 1st Brigade at Cedar Creek, Comdg

Emil Frey

The Future Swiss Politician in the American Civil War.

By Bruce M. Form

The 82nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry was organized at Camp Butler, Springfield, Illinois, and mustered into service on October 23, 1862, at the same location. Called the Second Hecker Regiment after its first Colonel, Frederick Hecker, it was also known as The Dutch Regiment ("Dutch" being an Anglicized pronunciation of *Deutsch*, meaning German). On November 3, 1862, the Dutch Regiment left Camp Butler, Officers and one thousand men strong, under orders to report to General Franz Siegel in the Army of the Potomac at Arlington Heights, Virginia. From there it was on to Fairfax Court-house on November 19, then on to Stafford Courthouse where the regiment was assigned to the First Brigade of General Schimmelfennig, Third Division of General Carl Shurz of the Eleventh Corps. Now well established in the order of the Army of the Potomac, the 82nd remained camped near Aquia Creek, Virginia until January 20, 1862. From that point on, the 82nd participated in action throughout the Civil War, marched in Washington City for the Grand Review on May 24, 1865, was mustered out of service there on June 9, 1865, and the regiment returned home to Chicago with about three hundred men and officers under the command of Brevet General Edward Selig Salomon. Missing from this return was Company H's commander, Acting Major Emil Frey, who had been captured on the first day of fighting at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863, and spent from that point on in Libby Prison.

Emil Frey was not a native Chicagoan, he was not even a native to Illinois. He was Swiss, born in Arlesheim, Canton (state) of Basel-Land, Switzerland on October 24, 1838, one of seven children and the son of Remigius Emil Frey, lawyer and political activist on the Local, Canton and Federal levels in Switzerland. In the years of disruption in Europe when attempted governmental changes were being settled by what became failed revolts, the Frey family in Switzerland gave refuge to several members of these failed revolts. Among these "Fourty-eighters", as they became known, who were seeking refuge was Frederick Hecker who had fled Germany.

Well educated at the time, Emil Frey studied for three years at the University of Jena in Germany with a strong interest in agronomy. In 1860, he left school to further his education in the United States with his cousin Theodor Chatoney. Their goal was to settle, work and learn American agricultural methods in Highlands, Illinois, an area

that the economy was in a deep slump and paid jobs were not to be found. Seeking employment Frey was able to work on the farm for room and board of old family friend, Frederick Hecker. Hecker who had emigrated to America, owned a farm near the village of Summerfield, St. Clair County, Illinois. Emil also tried other jobs working as a farm hand on other farms in the area but these did not work out for him. In mid-July of 1861, seeing no chance of employment and having no funds, Emil Frey signed up with the regiment formed by Frederick Hecker, Now Colonel Hecker of the 24th Illinois, at the outbreak of the Civil War. Pleased with his joining the 24th Illinois, Colonel Hecker appointed Frey the regimental color bearer.

Training, discipline, regulations, clothing and limited pay gave Frey the boldest experiences he could have imagined.

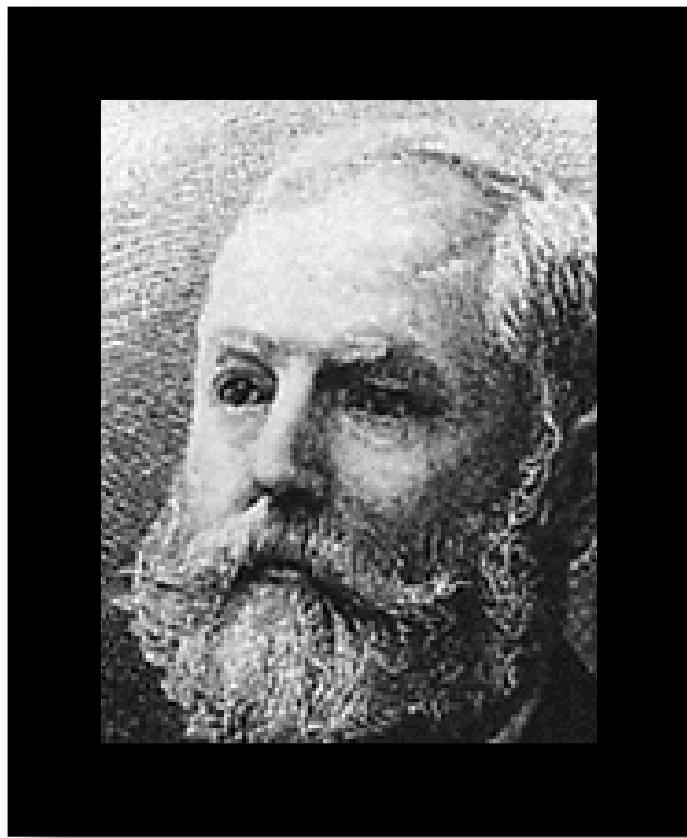


Through the ups and downs of the service during war time, being promoted to Lieutenant in the 24th Illinois Infantry Regiment, then leaving the 24th with Colonel Hecker and other foreign born officers who resigned, then helping to recruit a company and becoming its Captain (Company H), for the newly formed "2nd Hecker Regiment", the 82nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry, led him on July 1, 1863 on the Emmitsburg Road just across the Pennsylvania border toward Gettysburg. The 82nd Illinois along with its brigade hastened up through the town where contact with the Confederates had been made. Due to the position of the 82nd in the later afternoon of July 1st, while the Union Army was relocating to "the high ground" of Cemetery Hill, Acting Major Emil Frey and fellow members of the regiment commanded by Lt. Colonel Salomon, were ordered to cover the retreat. Fighting through the town. Frey along with his cousin, Theodor were captured.

Major Emil Frey was jailed and sent to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia. His cousin, Theodor who shared his fate, was not so fortunate. He ended up in Andersonville Prison whose harsh conditions he did not survive. Even though Frey was determined for a quick release or exchange, this did not happen. As the days dragged on he was eventually moved from his regular confinement to an underground cell. Here he was held as a hostage for a Confederate spy, Captain William Gordon, who had been condemned to death in the North. On January 14, 1865 Frey was exchanged for Gordon. After a brief furlough, Major Frey rejoined the 82nd Illinois even though his health was still sub-par and the effects of imprisonment had taken its toll. In July of 1865, Emil Frey was given his discharge as Captain, however the State of Illinois reinstated him a Major. The war at an end, his health slowly returning to normal and his economic situation unimproved, Emil Frey left America for his home in Switzerland on August 4, 1865.

Emil Frey situated himself at home. Putting his experiences and agricultural learning in America to use, he set out to improve his world. As part of this he, like his

father became active in progressive politics. By 1866 he was elected to public office in his Canton of Basel-Land. From 1872-1882 he was editor-in-chief and co-owner of the *Basler Nachrichten*, a well-respected newspaper of the day. During this time period Emil Frey was also elected member of the *Nationalrat*, part of the legislative body of the Swiss federal government. While there he pushed for progressive labor laws for Switzerland and internationally as well. From 1882-1888 Frey was in Washington as the first Swiss Minister to the United States. After his return to his homeland he was once again elected to the *Nationalrat* and also as one of the seven members of the *Bundesrat* (Federal Council). In 1894, Emil Frey was elected Switzerland's President of the Swiss Confederation.



At his presidential term end in 1897 Emil Frey continued his work. He was head of the International Telegraph Union. He continued his work there until 1921, as well as keeping involved in issues in Switzerland and internationally, Swiss neutrality being one of them. In 1906, he chaired the first international conference on labor protection. Emil Frey died in December 1922 in Arlesheim at the age of 84.

To the author's knowledge, Emil Frey is the only future foreign National Leader (President) to fight in the American Civil War. He joins the ranks of our future Presidents, Grant, Garfield and Hayes.

Special thank you for information gathered from
The Swiss American Historical Society Publication,
An American Apprenticeship: The Letters of Emil Frey, 1860-1865
Steven A. Hawks of civilwarintheast.com
Illinois Adjutant General's Report on the 24th Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War
Illinois Adjutant General's Report on the 82nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War

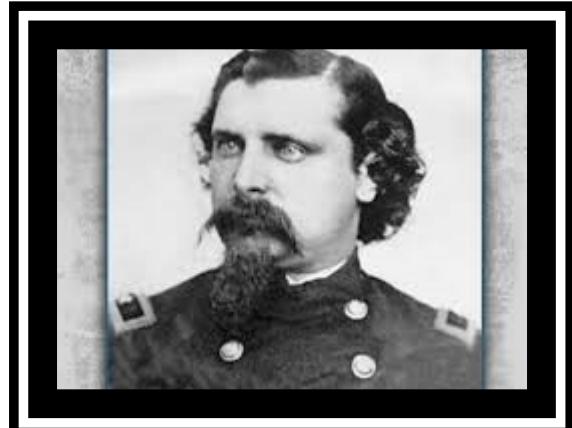


Edward Selig Salomon:

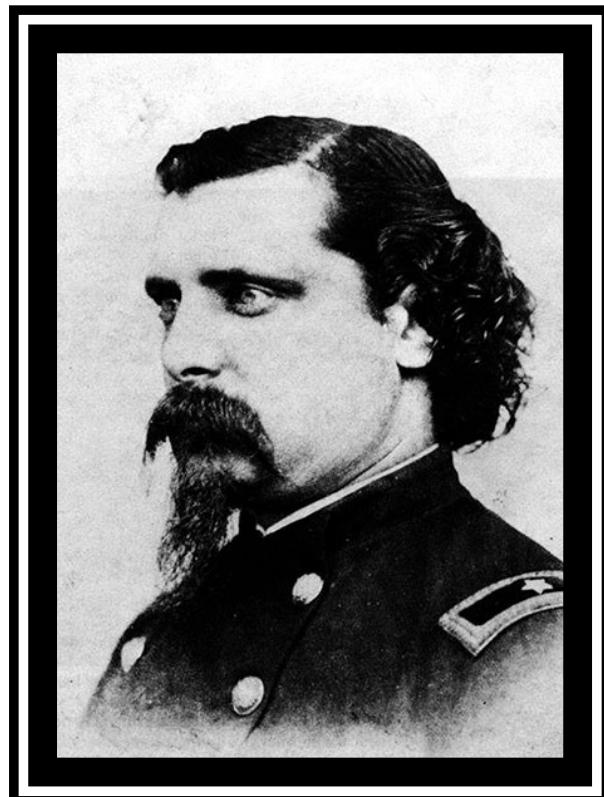
First Person Account

Speaker: Bruce Form

Edward Selig Salomon a German-Jewish immigrant, was born on December 25, 1836 in Schleswig, Germany to Caroline (Samuels) and Salomon M. Salomon. He emigrated to Chicago in 1856 and 5 years later—in 1861 at age 24—was elected the Chicago sixth ward's Alderman, the youngest in Chicago history at that time.



In July 1861, he enlisted in the 24th Illinois Infantry under the command of Colonel Frederick Hecker, a fellow German immigrant. Commissioned a 2nd lieutenant of the regiment, he quickly moved up in rank to 1st lieutenant and captain of his company. Disagreements arose between Hecker and some of his officers who did not want to be under the command of immigrants. This conflict led Hecker and his supporters (including Salomon), to resign. Salomon became a civilian again from December 1861 to September 1862. In August 1862, Hecker formed the 82nd Illinois, a new regiment, or the "Second Hecker Regiment," composed mainly of German, Jewish, Swedish, and other European immigrant volunteers from the Chicago and Springfield area. Salomon joined and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and second in command of the 82nd on September 26, 1862. Salomon, who assumed command of the regiment because Colonel Hecker was absent due to wounds suffered at Chancellorsville months before, became a hero during the Battle of Gettysburg. He had two horses shot out from under him during the first day's battle. Fellow-immigrant, Major General



Carl Shurz, his corps commander, described him during the battle: "He was the only soldier at Gettysburg who did not dodge when Lee's guns thundered; he stood up, smoked his cigar and faced the cannon balls with the sane coolness of Saladin."

After the Battle of Gettysburg, the XI Corps, including the 82nd Illinois, was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland in the Western Theater.

Early in 1864, Hecker resigned, leaving Salomon in permanent command of the regiment, although still as a lieutenant colonel. Salomon led the regiment during the Atlanta Campaign and through the capture of Atlanta. Promoted to full colonel, he was in command of the 82nd Illinois as it participated in General Sherman's famous March to the Sea. He finished out the war with Sherman's Army. On March 13, 1865 Salomon was breveted brigadier general. General Salomon participated in the remaining battles against the Confederate Army of General Johnston in the Carolinas and after Bentonville arrived in Washington City for the Grand Review.

After the war, Edward S. Salomon returned to Chicago where he was elected clerk of Cook County. On March 4, 1870, President Grant appointed him governor of Washington Territory. He was caught up in the political scandals of the Grant administration and resigned in 1872. The *Pacific Tribune* newspaper, commenting on his resignation, lauded his honesty and integrity. A delegation led by General Philip Sheridan presented him with a silver table service in recognition of his fine record of service, high qualities as a citizen, and as a friend.



Edward S. Salomon moved to San Francisco, where he practiced law. In 1898, Salomon became an Assistant District Attorney for the city and county. He was elected to the California Legislature in 1888. Salomon died at the age of 76 in San Francisco on July 18, 1913. He is buried in Salem Memorial Jewish Cemetery, in Colma, California, a suburb of San Francisco.

Our speaker this month is fellow Robert E. Lee CWRT member Bruce Form. Bruce was born in Newark, New Jersey and raised from the age of six in Iselin. He is a graduate of John F. Kennedy Memorial High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History at Athens State University in Alabama and a Master of Arts degree in Behavioral Sciences at Kean University in Union, New Jersey.

For the past 25 years, Bruce and his wife, Mira, have been involved in Civil War research, specializing in Jews in the Civil War and the American Jewish Community's involvement in the Civil War.

In addition, Bruce is a living historian, portraying specific Jewish participants in the war. He portrays not only General Edward S. Salomon but also Captain Myer Asch of the 1st NJ Cavalry and Major Raphael Moses, CSA, General Longstreet's Chief Commissary.

Bruce is retired from the Woodbridge Township School District where he taught history, was a Special Education Counselor, and served as Vice Principal. He and his wife live in Gettysburg, PA. They have three grown children and three grandchildren. Bruce spends his time researching various aspects of the Civil War, his family genealogy, and writing articles on the interesting

people and topics he discovers in his research. He is a frequent contributor to our CWRT's newsletter *The Official Records*.



Robert Gould Shaw's Sword Found



Found in the attic of a family home by Shaw's grand niece and nephew. Descendants of Shaw's sister Sarah Susannah Shaw.



The Sword has had a very interesting life. Not just considering the brave battle that it lead on Fort Wagner. The sword was commissioned special for Robert by his Uncle George R. Russell after he had heard of Robert's new command over the recently formed 54th Massachusetts , and his rise to colonel . It was produced by a company in England and inscribed with his initials. It is well documented that Shaw was killed instantly after raising his sword and ordering his men to charge the parapet at Fort Wagner . As seen in the movie Glory we see he was buried with his men. The next part of the story for the sword arises in 1865 when it is recovered from a rebel officer when General Charles Jackson Paine sent USCT Troops to relieve him of it. It was then returned to Robert's parents. For Robert's Father a fitting ending to the story that this sword was recovered by black troops that this sword fought so hard in the service of their freedom. From there it is thought lost or stolen till this past Summer when it was found. It is currently on display at the Massachusetts Historical Society along with some of Robert's letters.

Better Than
Bad. It's Good!

Road to Gettysburg



So good it should be called Road To Goodysburg!

June 1st to 3rd, 2018

ALLAIRE STATE PARK



DECEMBER 2ND



**THANK YOU TO ALL THE
CONTRIBUTORS, AND READERS!**



SEE YOU ON THE FIELD!