



The Regimental Bulletin

Phil Kearny Civil War Round Table of Northern New Jersey

Visit our website to register for all our monthly meeting presentations and updates
www.PhilKearnyCWRT.org

***** NEXT MEETING *****
Wed, Oct 15, 2025 @ 7PM - Online Zoom Presentation

Volume 21 Issue 8
Oct 15, 2025

“General Rowley on Day 1 at Gettysburg” **with Larry Korczyk**

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www.PhilKearnyCWRT.org

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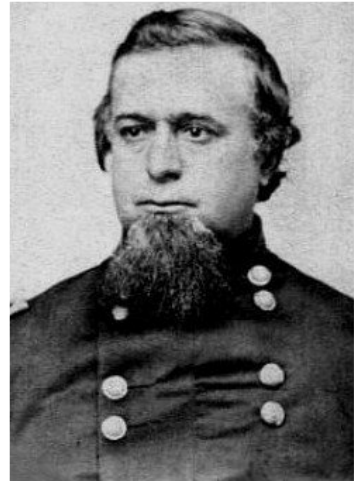
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In Memoriam

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Brigadier General Thomas Algeo Rowley played a turbulent but fascinating role on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg. A veteran officer who had commanded the 102nd Pennsylvania Infantry and fought at Seven Pines and Fredericksburg, Rowley was serving as acting commander of the Third Division, First Corps, on July 1, 1863. With Abner Doubleday in temporary corps command and Colonel Chapman Biddle leading Rowley's brigade, his division was among the first to engage Heth's advancing Confederates west of town.



General Rowley

Rowley's men, exhausted, outnumbered, and suffering heavy losses, were forced into retreat through the town toward Cemetery Hill. Amid the chaos, Rowley was thrown from his horse while crossing Willoughby Run, aggravating a painful infection that had already left him feverish and irritable.

His condition and temper later contributed to a bitter altercation with Brigadier General Lysander Cutler, whose formal charges of drunkenness led to Rowley's court-martial in 1864. Despite questionable proceedings and a subsequent reinstatement ordered by President Lincoln and Secretary of War Stanton, Rowley's active career effectively ended. He resigned in December 1864 after being relegated to a quiet administrative post in western Pennsylvania.

Rowley's story reflects the human dimension of command under stress, and the talk will examine the testimony of the witnesses for the prosecution and the defense and ultimately allow you to decide upon Rowley's innocence or guilt.



Larry Korczyk

About the Speaker: New Jersey native **Larry Korczyk** is a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg National Military Park for over a decade. Larry spent more than 30 years in logistics management before pursuing his lifelong passion for Civil War history. A former reenactor with the 2nd Rhode Island Infantry and longtime round table member, he realized his dream of becoming a Gettysburg guide in 2013. Now residing in Gettysburg, he has led hundreds of tours, authored Top Ten at Gettysburg, and conducts specialized leadership programs for the Gettysburg Foundation.

**Your membership of \$25
and
continued support
is always appreciated
as it assists with our
programs and tours**

Send your dues to:

**Norm Dykstra
77 Walray Ave
North Haledon, NJ 07508**

Visit

PhilKearnycwrt.org/Membership.htm

You must register with this new link before the meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUsc-6tqzgsHtJlkpnvqz-NJLwvk-2wRCC#/registration>

2025 Annual PKCWRT Gettysburg Trip

with Licensed Battlefield Guide Jim Hessler

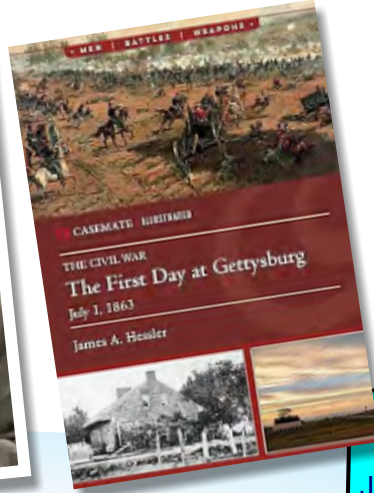
Author of the new "First Day at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863" Book

Friday, Nov 7th - Sunday, Nov 9th

Saturday Morning Tour will be the First Day Field (including the Railroad Cut), meeting up in the Best Western Lobby, departing at 9am and carpooling to the field. Cost per person is \$20.

Join us for dinner on Saturday, November 8th, at 7:00 PM at the Dobbin House. Please RSVP to Norm Dykstra if you plan to attend. (Dutch treat.)

Even if the Government shut down continues into our tour date, the Battlefield is opened and licensed battlefield guides are allowed to take tours onto the field.



PKCWRT 2025 Schedule

Click on blue links to register for meeting.

Wed, Oct 15 - 7pm

Larry Korczyk

Gen Rowley on Day 1, Gettysburg

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/6tqzgsHtJlkpvnvqz-ZJLwvk-2wRCC#/registration>

Sat, - Nov 7 - Nov 9th

Annual PKCWRT Field Trip

Jim Hessler - LBG

1st Days Battle at Gettysburg

Wed, Nov 19 - 7pm

Dr. Heide Weber

Nathan Bedford Forrest

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/6qqzssHNCtPztdbdj_rnK5QOeJEjFV#/registration

Saturday, Dec 6th, 2025

PKCWRT Holiday Party

Bistro 107, Moonachie, NJ

Michael Diaz

Curator of History & Uniforms

West Point Museum USMA

Speakers for 2026

- Jan 21st - Stan Prager - TBD
- Feb 18th - Fr Bob Miller - Catholic Chaplains
- March 18th - Evan Portman - TBD
- Apr 15th - Kevin Levin - Robert Gould Shaw
- May 20th - Roseann Garza - War on the Rio Grande
- June 17th - Sarah Bierle - Gallant Pelham
- Sept 16th - Neil Chatelain - Privateers in San Fran
- Oct 21st - Mark Maloy - Charleston in the War
- Nov 18th - Sean Chick - Don Carlos Buell at Shiloh
- Dec 5th - Holiday Dinner - TBD



Phil Kearny CWRT

Joe Truglio, President

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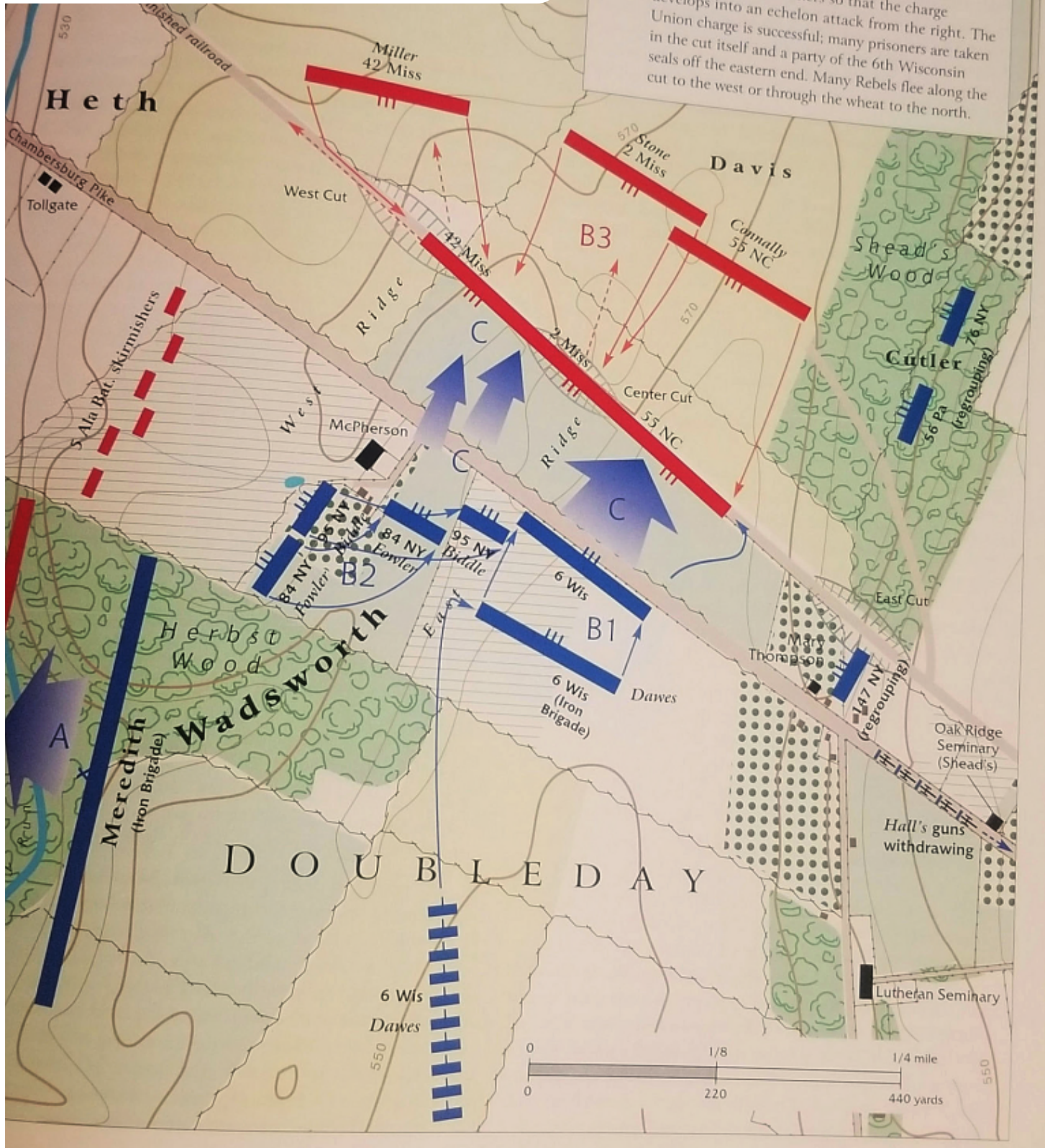
Regimental Bulletin Editor

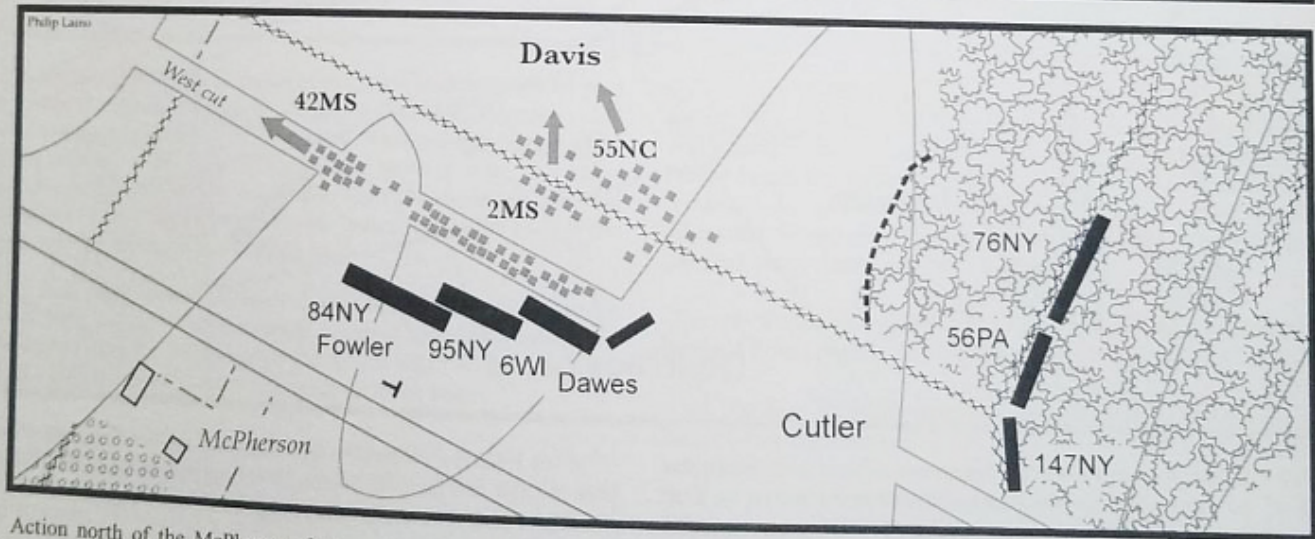
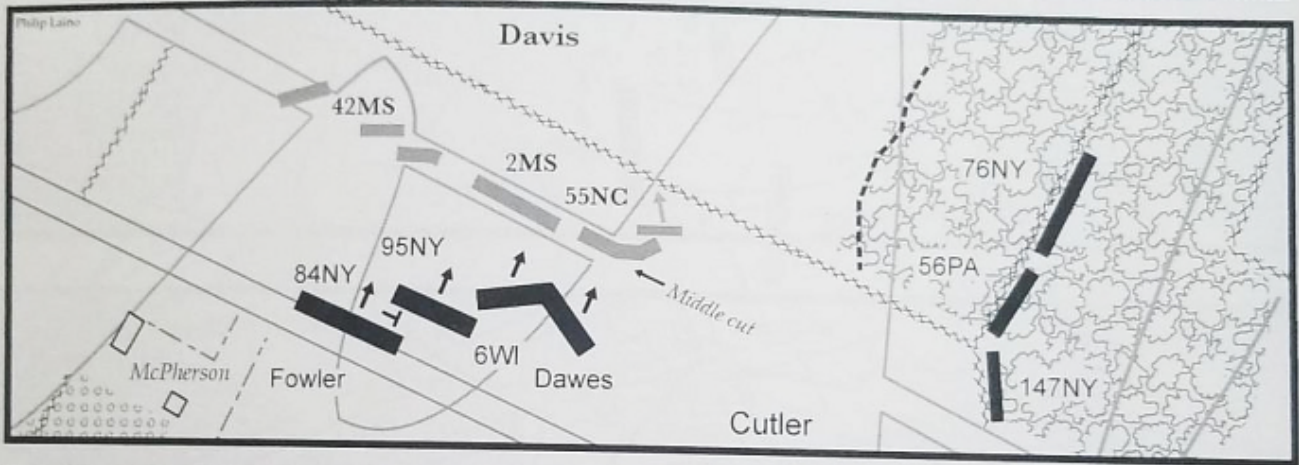
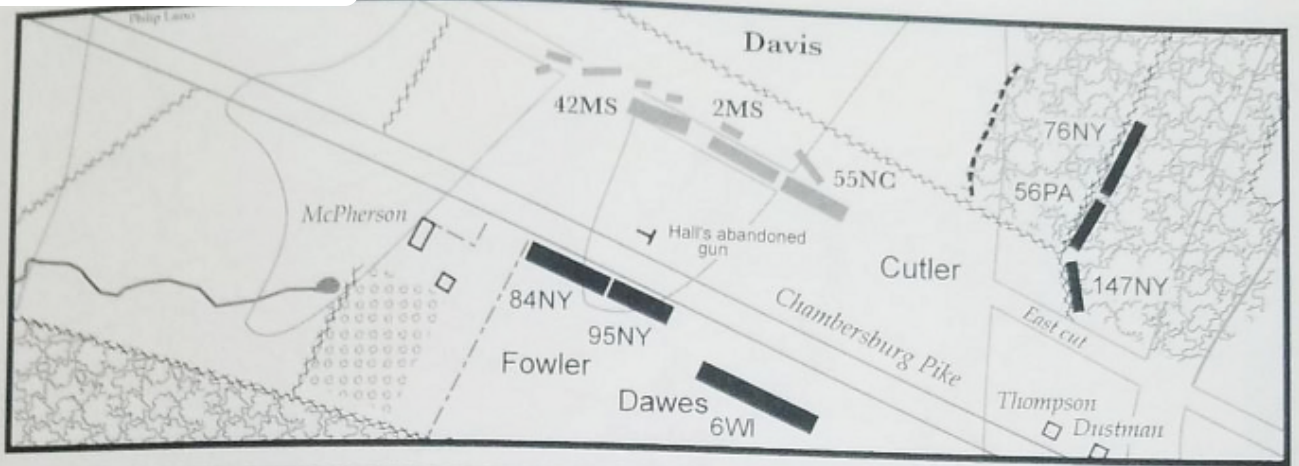
Jim Madden

JMadden@PhilKearnyCWRT.org

- A** The charge of the Iron Brigade into Herbst Wood drives back Archer's attack.
- B1** Doubleday sends the 6th Wisconsin under Lt Col Rufus Dawes to support Cutler's crumbling right. The regiment initially double quick into column of companies, wheels right heading east and then left forms into line and runs to the Chambersburg Pike, where it lies down and engages in a fire fight with the advancing Rebels. The regiment is mostly on the reverse (eastern) slope of East McPherson's Ridge and thus Dawes cannot see what is happening to his left.
- B2** Meanwhile Col Edward Fowler becomes convinced that he is about to be attacked on his right. As the Iron Brigade has taken the pressure off his front, he is able, as senior of the two regimental commanders, to order the 84th NY (14th Brooklyn) and the 95th NY to turn about and then move east and wheel left toward the Pike.
- B3** As these moves take place, the Confederates swing toward the Pike and rush to the unfinished railroad cut, where most take cover and join in the fierce firefight across the 150 yards of grass separating the cut from the Pike.

Notes (continued)
 CCC Dawes launches a charge by the 6th Wisconsin into the cut and as it moves off receives the support of the 95th NY on his left. Unbeknownst to Dawes at the time, the 84th NY also joins the advance slightly behind the others so that the charge develops into an echelon attack from the right. The Union charge is successful; many prisoners are taken in the cut itself and a party of the 6th Wisconsin seals off the eastern end. Many Rebels flee along the cut to the west or through the wheat to the north.





Action north of the McPherson farm resumes. Parts of the 2nd Mississippi and 55th North Carolina take refuge in the railroad cut. Trying to protect the Iron Brigade, Doubleday orders the only troops available to him—the 6th WI and reserve brigade—to the Chambersburg Pike. As this reserve, commanded by Lt. Col. Rufus Dawses, reaches the pike, the 84th and 95th New York have wheeled north and line the roadway to block any Confederate advance.

Dawses finds the 95th New York's Maj. Edward Pye (Lt. Col. Biddle was wounded previously) and tells him we must charge. The New York unit aligns alongside the 6th Wisconsin. The 84th New York also moves out, but somewhat behind the other Federal units. Dawses' unit takes severe casualties, but continues forward.¹⁹

Col. Edward Fowler, commanding the New York demi-brigade, moves against a deeper part of the cut where return fire is less intense. First the 6th Wisconsin, and then the New Yorkers reach the cut and fire down into the trench. Part of Dawses' unit races to the eastern end of the cut to prevent any Rebel escape from that side.

Maj. John Blair of the 2nd Mississippi tenders his sword to Dawses and surrenders the Confederates trapped in the cut. Most of the 42nd Mississippi and the 55th North Carolina scamper away, but the 2nd Mississippi in the deepest part of the cut does not.

Maj. Gen. Henry Heth watches the survivors of both Archer's and Davis's brigades withdraw. Heth is unsure what to do next. He hesitates and this part of the battle ends.



Phil Kearny Civil War Round

Membership Form

Dues are \$25 a year

Annual renewals start in April

The Phil Kearny Round Table

% Norm Dykstra

77 Walray, North Haledon, NJ 07508 email:
Normandy1@verizon.net

RENEW TODAY!

Please send a check or money order payable to:

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REMINDER: New and returning members, Renew your membership in the Phil Kearny CWRT, which is \$25 annually.

Each Phil Kearny CWRT Bulletin Newsletter there is always a reminder, and we do accept renewals at any time. Our "membership year" has always been from April to March. So, if you have not yet paid your dues for 2025 (*thank you to those who have already*), now is the perfect time to write that check! You can find my address on the front page of every PKCWRT newsletter as well as on this membership form.

Thank you,

Norm Dykstra

PKCWRT Treasurer



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