

**You don't want to miss this exciting excursion  
back in time to the Desperate Engagement known  
as the "Civil War Battle that Saved The Nation's  
Capital" on July 9, 1864!**

## **BOTH SIDES TOUR XXXIV**

### **SATURDAY, April 18, 2026 The Battle of Monocacy Battlefield Tour & a Visit to Fort Stevens**

The Battle of Monocacy is one of the Civil War's most significant, yet little-known battles! The fighting that day in the corn and wheatfields near Frederick, Maryland, was a full-scale engagement between 12,000 battle-hardened Confederate infantrymen led by the controversial and eccentric Lieutenant General Jubal Early, against 5,800 relatively untested Union soldiers under the command of the future author of *Ben Hur*, the celebrated Major General Lew Wallace.

On June 12, 1864, two days before Union Major General David Hunter set out for Lynchburg, Confederate Commander-in-Chief General Robert E. Lee, sitting and pondering General Grant's next move, made a bold decision of his own. It was a move so risky that if it failed, it would have left Lee extremely vulnerable in Richmond and easily could have given Grant an opening to make a successful final aggressive move against Petersburg and the Confederate capital. However, if Lee's audacity succeeded, it could tip the other direction and force the Union to seek a peaceful resolution to the four-year conflict.

The Both Sides Tour will visit various sites at the Monocacy Battlefield and the site of Fort Stevens, where President Abraham Lincoln came under fire on July 11-12, 1864. Fort Stevens no longer exists, but it has been partially reconstructed with a rebuilt parapet. The spot where a Confederate sharpshooter fired at Lincoln is inside the Walter Reed grounds and is marked with a plaque.



**LTG Jubal Early    The Lincoln Plaque at Fort Stevens    MG Lew Wallace**

While in Frederick, Maryland, the Both Sides Tour also will visit the Monocacy visitor center, now operated by the National Park Service.

**The cost of this tour will be \$125.** We will be stopping for lunch at the Golden Corral in Frederick, Maryland.

Tour leaves Franconia at 8:15 a.m. sharp. Park at the Olivet Church lot at the corner of Beulah Street and Franconia Road. The government center may not be open due to its relocation, so the bus will leave from Olivet. Make sure we have your e-mail and phone number for updates.

Bring your own coffee! Doughnuts will be available on the bus. There will be a pick up and short pit stop at the Roy Rogers Restaurant (540 E. Market St., Leesburg, VA 20176) in Leesburg. Park and meet the bus there about 9:00 a.m.

*Let us know where you will join the tour!* Using your money, Don will pay all the bills. All you have to do is enjoy the museums, food, battlefields, and information!

**BUS LEAVES FRANCONIA MUSEUM AT 8:15 A.M.**

**SPECIAL PICK-UP NEAR Leesburg – Ask for details!**

***DON'T BE LATE!***

**Both Sides Tour – April 18, 2026, Registration Form**

Contact Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984 or [dhakenson@verizon.net](mailto:dhakenson@verizon.net)

Eric Buckland, 703-851-9088 or [ebuckland@aol.com](mailto:ebuckland@aol.com)

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Ben Trittippoe at 571-274-2467 or [bttritt1@gmail.com](mailto:bttritt1@gmail.com)

Name.....

Address.....

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Phone.....

E-Mail.....

Cost: \$125.00. Cost includes bus, lunch, as well as a contribution to the Franconia Museum. Bottled water will be provided on the bus.

***No cancellations after April 5, 2026.***

***Tour will be Held Rain or Shine.***

Park and Leave from the Olivet Church at the corner of Beulah Street and Franconia Road.

**Make checks payable to *Don Hakenson*. Mail to: Both Sides Tour, 4708 Lillian Drive, Alesandria, Virginia 22310**