



GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the
Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.
Our 64th Year
and The Iron Brigade Association



APRIL 11, 2013

JOHN J. FITZPATRICK, JR., ESQ.

"There is no fail here," Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us – that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Why did President Lincoln, sixteenth President of the United States, a careworn, caring, concerned and conflicted Chief Executive and Commander-in-Chief come to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in November 1863 for only 25 hours? It was but a few months after the pivotal battle of Gettysburg during the third year of the American Civil War. The war was still raging with no end in sight.

President Lincoln was not invited as the Keynote Speaker. The dedication ceremonies for the Soldiers' National Cemetery were organized and orchestrated by the Governors of the eighteen Northern States whose soldiers fought and died there and not by the Federal Government.

Our April speaker, John J. Fitzpatrick, Jr., will share his insights into Lincoln's brief visit to Gettysburg and will help us gain a unique and greater appreciation for the immortal Gettysburg Address in the context of the enormous personal, political and policy pressures impacting the President as he prepared and presented it. How Lincoln handled those pressures and how they are reflected in his speech will be addressed in Fitzpatrick's talk as well as showing Lincoln's three objectives/purposes and how his words masterfully accomplished them.

Fitzpatrick retired from the Chevron Corporation Law Department in 2006 after a 32 year corporate law practice. Captain Fitzpatrick served 5½ years on active duty as a United States Marine Corps pilot — Vietnam veteran. Honorably discharged, he entered Law School, transferred and concurrently served as an Active Reservist with the Pennsylvania Air National Guard and

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From a 1961 leaflet by Amalgamated Lithographers of America. Library of Congress, rbpe1330330f.

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April 2013

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APRIL MEETING AT A GLANCE

John J. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Esq.

"'There is no fail here,' Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg"

The Wisconsin Club

900 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee
(Jackets required for dining room)

5:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting
(Open to all members)

6:15 p.m. – Registration & Social Hour

6:45 p.m. – Dinner

7:30 p.m. – Program

Dinner – **\$25 by reservation.**

Deadline: Monday, April 8, 2013

See page 9.

Speaker and topic are subject to change.
In case of inclement weather, listen to
WTMJ or WISN radio.

www.civilwarwi.org

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS

2012-2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Nominating Committee of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee recommends the following slate of nominees for the upcoming election of members to the Board of Directors:

Donna Agnelly Tom Arliskas
Roman Blenski Crain Bliwas
Paul Eilbes

The slate will be voted on at the election held during the April meeting. Newly elected directors begin their duties upon election and typically serve three-year terms.

CWRT ANNUAL FUND

The following members have shown their generous commitment by making an investment in the CWRT Annual Fund. This list reflects donations received through March 11, 2013.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

In Memoriam: Eugene and Caroline Jamrozy,
James Wiensch, Bob Lieding, Crain Bliwas

Benefactor: (\$400 and above)

Sponsor: (\$300 - \$399)

Allan Kasprzak and Trudi Schmitt, Eugene and Jane Jamrozy

Patron: (\$200 - \$299)

Associate: (\$100 - \$199)

Michael Benton, Richard Gross, Dr. Bob Karczewski, Paul Eilbes, Doug Haag, Grant Johnson, Jerome A. Kowalski, Robert and Linda Mann, Laura Rinaldi, Dave and Helga Sartori

IN MEMORIAM



ROBERT LIEDING

It is with sadness that the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee announces the loss of Round Table member and past Board of Director Robert Lieding on February 23, 2013. Bob spent his childhood in the South and after World War II, in Europe. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin and spent much of his professional career in sales and marketing in the Midwest. In 1980, Bob took over the F. Barkow Company. Bob's entire family was able to celebrate Bob and his wife, Connie's, 50th wedding anniversary this past summer in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Bob's dedication to our Round Table will be missed by all.

And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS • EVENTS • MEETINGS

April 8, 2013

Manitowoc Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.
Manitowoc Historical Society Heritage Center

April 9, 2013

Waukesha Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.
Citizens Bank of Mukwonago Waukesha Branch
Speaker: Allan Block: "Patents of the Civil War"

April 14, 2013

Book Launch, 1-4 p.m.
Milwaukee's Soldiers Home
Burke's Irish Castle, 5328 W. Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee
For information: www.wssas.org or call: 414-427-3776

April 16, 2013

Prairieville Irregulars Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.
Boardroom, Campus Center Building, Carroll University
Speaker: Dan Nettesheim: "Grant's Masterpiece at Vicksburg"

MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE QUARTERMASTER'S REGALIA

What better way to show off your pride in our organization! All items are made of first-rate, quality materials, modestly embroidered with the Round Table/Iron Brigade logo, along with your name or initials.

ITEM	COST
Hooded Sweatshirt in Northern Blue	\$35.00
Baseball Cap	\$10.00
Blue Brief Case	\$25.00
Blue Light-Weight Sweatshirt	\$30.00
Blue Izod Polo Shirt	\$40.00
Blue Dress Shirt	\$40.00
Blue Fleece-Lined Jacket	\$60.00
Iron Brigade Pin	\$5.00
CWRT Pin	\$5.00
Bugle Pin	\$5.00
Iron Brigade Medal	\$25.00
Red River Medal	\$25.00
CWRT 60 Year Medal	\$10.00

Contact Roman Blenski, Quartermaster, 4601 W. Holt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53219, (414) 327-2847, dbcpmilw@execpc.com or see him in person at the Monthly Meeting at Book Raffle.

WHEN YOU CANCEL YOUR RESERVATION

Please be aware that cancellations within 48 hours of the dinner meeting are subject to payment in full for the reservation amount. The Round Table is charged for these reservations whether the dinners are used or not.

2013 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

May 9, 2013: Ethan Rafuse, Lee and Gettysburg

June 13, 2013 (at the Country Club): Timothy B. Smith,
Battle of Corinth

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

Second Friday Lunchbox Series: April 12, 2013, 12 noon

The Future of Civil War History:

Written in Stone or Scanned in a Phone?

Chris Lese, Marquette University High School, and his students will lead a panel discussion based on their project and the conclusions they have drawn based on their research.

Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and the Iron Brigade Association.

Thursdays, April 11 & 25 and May 9 & 23, 2013, 12 noon – 1 p.m.

What Caused This War? presented by Dr. Eric Pullen

Dr. Pullen, professor of history at Carthage College, will lead four group discussions based on a set of readings provided free by Carthage College and the Museum. Readings can be picked up at the Museum's front desk or resource center after April 1. Read and come to the meetings to share your views. No Registration Required.

Session Themes: April 11: The Constitutionality of Slavery;
April 25: A Defense of the Institution of Slavery;
May 9: Northern Attitudes Toward Race and Secession;
May 23: What was the War About? Discussion of the Causes.

Saturday, April 13, 2013, 2:30 p.m.

Civil War Artist Keith Rocco

To mark the closing of his exhibit, Keith Rocco will present a program in Freedom Hall on his large-scale paintings commissioned by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and Pamplin Park in Petersburg, Virginia. A gallery talk and reception will follow. Framed original paintings and giclee prints will be available for purchase.

Saturday, April 20, 2013, 2 p.m.

Lincoln the Circuit Lawyer and the Constitution, presented by Guy Fraker

Attorney, Lincoln scholar and author Guy Fraker will discuss Lincoln's 23 years of service as a lawyer on Central Illinois' Eighth Judicial Circuit and how it built not only his law practice, but also his political base and understanding of the United States Constitution. A reception inside the Antaramian Gallery will follow the program.

Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and the Iron Brigade Association.

Sunday, April 21, 2013, 1 p.m.

Every Man Did His Duty, presented by Wayne Jorgenson

Jorgenson will present the individual stories of over a hundred men who served in the 1st Minnesota, from the regiment's commanders to its courageous, young privates. Copies of his new book, *Every Man Did His Duty*, will be available for purchase.

Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and the Iron Brigade Association.

Saturday, April 27, 2013, 7 – 10 p.m.

Grand Union Ball

Enjoy a festive evening of Civil War-era dance, music, sweets and beverages. Live music by Frogwater. Civil war-era dress welcome but not required. Please do wear your finest attire. Participate in a cake walk for a small additional fee. Bid on your favorite pastry in the pie auction.

\$25/\$20 Friends of the Museum

Sunday, April 28, 2013, 1 p.m.

Lincoln: A Constitutional Standpoint

First person portrayal by George Buss

Buss's first person portrayal will show how Lincoln met the political and constitutional challenges of secession, slavery, and wartime civil liberties during his presidency. Q & A with the "16th President" will follow the presentation.

NEW EXHIBIT

April 17 – May 31, 2013

Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War

With the election of Abraham Lincoln as the nation's 16th President in 1860, America faced its greatest Constitutional Test. *Divided* — Are we a single nation? *Bound* — Can slavery be uprooted? *Dissent* — Must civil liberties give way? Visit this new traveling exhibition at the John M. Antaramian Gallery. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Presented by the National Constitution Center and the American Library Association.



For more information on programs and events taking place at the Civil War Museum and the Kenosha Public Museums please call (262) 653-4140 or visit www.thecivilwarmuseum.org

The Civil War Museum now has an official Facebook Page! Learn about special up-to-the-minute features and activities on www.facebook.com/CWMKenosha.

Be sure to hit the "like" button.



Dawson's Plantation, Madison Co.

April 20, 1863

Friend Willard:

I wrote you a week ago but failed to receive yours before I left Helena and the chances were slim for mail matter here. You need not expect to hear from me regularly for some time. We landed at Milliken's Bend, left our tents, mess chests and cooking utensils, packed our rations and blankets on our backs and took up our line of march.

We arrived here two days ago and are waiting for the construction of flat boats to cross and navigate the Bayous ahead. We are encamped about 2 ½ miles from the 11th Wisconsin. I have seen George 3 times since we arrived, he is healthy, tough, and fat, is not only contented, but thinks that soldiering must be the legitimate business of man, as the most of them take it so good naturedly.

The weather is warm now, strawberries are just getting ripe, the blossoms on the china trees roll out in masses. Fig and lemon trees are growing in the garden here, thrifty and nice. Peaches are about half grown, in fact I perceive at every step that I have made a material change of climate since last April. I don't know how long it will be before we have a chance to visit our "Erring Brethren" in their den, but the masses of the army believe that if we are properly handled we can and will scoop them. I understand all northern papers and telegrams from the north have been stopped. We are a little afraid that there is some bad news which they want to withhold. If this is so the authorities are fooling themselves and only annoying us. The army of the South West are no set of children to be pleased with the promise of a sugar plum or frightened or discouraged by the defeat of any part of the National Army, however much they might regret it. I am lying on my side writing this and not being familiar with my desk I make rather odd looking marks, besides it is mighty uncomfortable so I'll dry up.

John C. Scott

(1st Lieutenant, Co. F., 29th Wisconsin Vol. Inf)

To the Harford Home League, April 26, 1863:

Mr. Editor: Since I last wrote events have moved the 29th from their long time home in and around Helena to a position among those who compose the army before Vicksburg.

On the 11th inst. in accordance with orders to that effect, we embarked on board the steamer "Levina Cogan" that two days after found ourselves with the rest of Gen. Alvin P. Hovey's Division, nearing the landing at Milliken's Bend in the State of Louisiana. Disembarking we turned over to the Quartermaster the whole of our camp equipage, and after a short stop a day and a half we marched to our present stopping place — six miles south of Vicksburg and seven miles west of the river. Our march was what

such a move always is to soldiers who have seen so much camp service as ours. "The brave boys" are great in accumulating odds and ends, and as this section of the universe is rich in mementoes, and as everything a soldier sees is liable to the confiscation act, why everybody had a full knapsack at the start, and more too. For the first mile all went well, the next hard half, hard — now and then a wearisome complaint; and at the end of the first hour the weakest among us had grown generous and given away his overcoat. About this time or a little after things began to scatter; here went to the shades a cherished frying pan, there a coffee pot, fatigue coats, brushes, plates, violins, crockery, bottles, knives and forks, rubber blankets, and sergeants swords flew in every direction. Almost all is sacrificed but our haversacks and their contents — the boys will stand by their "hard tack" to the last, and it will stand by them just as long, if a little harder bake could be invented for their benefit. Hard tack is a brick, almost! But one thing I noticed with satisfaction, the universal cheerfulness which pervaded every man...Every man with the expedition is well and ready for work...

Random

(Lloyd V. Nanscawen, Co. I, 29th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry)

**From the 6th Regiment
Bell Plain, April 1st, 1863**

Editors Republic: — The news contained in the Republic of the 25th ult. is worth more than a passing notice, as it contains so much that is encouraging to the army. In it we see that the friends of the Union at home begin to realize the danger that our proud ship of state has been in during the last two years; that they begin to see that unless there is unity of action amongst the friends of the Union every where, there may be danger yet of that noble ship being driven among the breakers and dashed to pieces. I believe the danger has been very great but that the worst is past for not only are the true friends of the Union stepping forward more boldly, but the northern traitors are beginning to show themselves in their true colors...for if there is a difference between the traitors of the north and those in the South, it is in favor of those in the south who have taken up arms openly and dare risk their health and lives to fight for their supposed rights but appears that Northern traitors lack that spirit of manliness and self esteem that their friends in the South possess...

The army was never in a better condition than it is at the present time, the men are well provided with shoes, clothing etc. transportation is very much reduced...Our regiment is in first rate fighting condition; it is better than at the battle of Antietam. We have 349 men for duty 19 on extra duty and 18 sick, only 4 of whom are in the hospital...

The following is Col. Bragg's address on taking command:

Soldiers: — From your late commandant I receive you I hope that I wed not an unwilling bride. May your laurels

never fade, but cluster thicker around you grow. You have been faithful to me in the past. I know that you will be in the future.

Where thou goest there will I go thy home shall be my home, where thou diest there also will I be buried.

E.S. Bragg

Col. Commanding 6th Wis. Vol.

May he long be spared not only to lead the 6th to victory but to his home and state that can little afford to lose such men in these times that are trying men's souls.

F.K. Jenkins

The Old Flag of the Sixth From the Madison Journal

Major Hanser of the 6th Regiment delivered today at the Executive office the old regimental flag of the gallant Sixth regiment, worn and torn and tattered in the fierce conflicts of Gainesville, Bull Run 2d, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. It will be replaced by the Governor with a new flag, under the law passed the late session. The following admirable letter from Col. Bragg, now commanding the regiment, accompanied the flag:

HEADQUARTERS, 6TH REGT. WIS. VOLS.,
Near Belle Plain, Va.
April 4th

His Excellency the Governor of Wisconsin

SIR: On behalf of the Regiment I have the honor to command, I return to the State of Wisconsin, the Regimental color presented this regiment in the summer of 1861. We part with it reluctantly, but its condition renders it unserviceable for field service. When we received it its folds like our ranks were ample and full; still emblematic of our condition, we return it tattered and torn in the shock of battle. Many that have defended it, "Sleep the sleep that knows no waking;" they have met a soldier's death; may they live in their country's memory.

The Regiment boasting not of deeds done, or to be done sends this voiceless witness to be deposited in the archives of our State.

History will tell how Wisconsin honor has been vindicated by her soldiery and what lessons in Northern courage they have given Southern chivalry.

If the past gives any earnest of the future, the "Iron Brigade" will not be forgotten when Wisconsin makes up her jewels. I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your ob'serv't,
EDWARD S. BRAGG
Col. Com. 6th Regt. Wis. Vols.

Camp near Murfreesboro April 1, 1863

Dear father,

...You ask me whether "I keep up good heart & courage as well as good health." When I was at camp on *Mill Creek* near Nashville I felt very despondent, all I could hear was, that the condi-

tion of affairs was more against the North now, than it was this time last year, that the "so called Democrats" were coming into full power once more, and their first act will be to arrange a treaty of peace with the rebels, of a nature dishonorable to the North also that the free states were almost in a state of rebellion against the "*Lincoln Government*" such were the remarks that I would hear on all sides. All of which tended to discourage me, so that at *that* time I felt that we were but one step from defeat, that the time spent by us already down here, our marches & were so much time wasted, that we were throwing away our time & endangering our lives all to no purpose, that after the South bid fair well to have their own way, and I was almost ready to join in with others & "cry peace." I was evidently "deep in the blues."...

Now I think the prospect grows every day brighter. By the aspect of affairs in England I don't think the South need hope for interference very soon in that quarter. *The Copperheads* seem to be fast "playing out" despised both North & South. Things look altogether more business like. The soldiers feel more cheerful as the war seems more likely to have an end gradually approaching... You ought to see our Brigade. Great pains is taken to have things neat & tidy, the streets between the tents and parade grounds are swept clean. The tents are almost every day raised and aired thoroughly...

You ask me what kind of man our chaplain is? I am sorry I can't say much for him. He is a *Roman Catholic*, plays poker, smokes his cigars, drinks his whiskey, looks out for the mail, and perhaps once a month makes a speech that don't amount to anything after all... If a man has influential friends to manage for him, by placing a "Rev." before his name, he can get a commission as *chaplain*, lives well, does nothing, draws a captains pay & thus is simply aiding to increase the national debt, besides giving the soldiers a wrong opinion of Christianity. I doubt that you can find a Christian man, in our whole regiment. Although this does not tell well for the Reg., it is nevertheless true. We have between 300 & 400 men in our Reg. I was over to see the 3d Wis. Battery & had a pleasant time...

Amandus Silsby
Co. A, 24th Wisconsin Inf

ON THE WISCONSIN HOME FRONT

FUNERAL OF A SOLDIER.—Mrs. A. A. Ross arrived in the city today with the remains of her son, Thaddeus Ross, a young man about 22 years of age, who was killed at the battle of South Mountain, Md. The funeral will take place at the residence of the parents in the town of Lake, on Sunday at 2 P.M. The friends of the family are invited to attend.

Mrs. Ross has exhibited a remarkable degree of energy and endurance in her attempts to recover the body of her son, and was finally rewarded with success. She went alone in search of it, some time since, and found it upon the battle field, where she had it removed to a metallic coffin. He was a young man of fine promise, and had been in over twenty battles and skirmishes. Green grow the grass over his grave.

Semi Weekly Wisconsin, April 7, 1863

AND SO IT CONTINUES: April 1863...

Marking the Civil War Sesquicentennial

Spring begins to creep through the South, greening the trees and awakening soldiers on both sides from their winter's inactivity. The runoff from the winter's snow made the large rivers flood and fill causing navigation hazards. Both sides began to prepare for the coming campaigns.

April 1, 1863 • Longstreet's command is reorganized creating the Department of North Carolina under Major General D. H. Hill, the Department of Richmond under Major General Arnold Elzey, and the Department of South Virginia under Major General S. G. French.

On the Yazoo River north of Vicksburg, Grant and Sherman with Admiral D.D. Porter reconnoiter the area around Haynes Bluff in an effort to determine whether it could be assaulted. The conclusion was negative.

April 2, 1863 • Richmond bread riot. (See page 9.)

Major General O.O. Howard supersedes Major General Carl Schurz in command of the Eleventh Corps of the Army of the Potomac.

President Lincoln revokes exceptions to his August, 1861, proclamation banning commercial intercourse with insurgent states. Trading was restricted to that permitted by the Secretary of the Treasury.

April 3, 1863 • Major General D. H. Hill writes a letter to the Confederate War Department complaining about the enforcement of the conscription law in North Carolina.

President Davis writes to Arkansas Governor Harris Flanagin:

If we lost control of the Eastern side, the Western must also inevitably fall into the power of the enemy. The defense of the fortified places on the Eastern bank is therefore regarded as the defense of Arkansas quite as much as that of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

April 4, 1863 • President Lincoln and his party leave Washington boarding a steamer to visit General Joseph Hooker in Fredericksburg.

Admiral Du Pont issues his order of battle for the attack on Charleston.

The Squadron will pass up the main channel without returning the fire of the batteries on Morris Island, unless signal should be made to commence action. The ships will open fire on Fort Sumter when within easy range...After the reduction of Fort Sumter it is probable that the next point of attack will be the batteries on Morris Island...

April 5, 1863 • Lincoln confers with General Hooker.

Admiral Du Pont leaves North Edisto for Charleston, arriving in the afternoon. Du Pont, as a precaution, brings along enough steamers to tow off any of the accompanying gunboats that would become disabled.

April 6, 1863 • Lincoln, at Hooker's headquarters, expresses his opinion that "our prime object is the enemies' army in front of us,

and is not with, or about, Richmond..."

Admiral Du Pont moves his gunboats inside the Stono bar off Charleston intending to attack that day. However, hazy weather causes the attack to be delayed.

April 7, 1863 • Nine ironclads under Du Pont steam into Charleston Harbor and attack Fort Sumter in the afternoon. Both Fort Sumter and Moultrie return the Federal fire. The *Weehawken* is struck 53 times in 40 minutes, the *Passaic* 35 times, the *Montauk* 47 times, the *Nantucket* 51 times, and the *Patapsco* 47 times. Other vessels would also be hit and damaged. Du Pont abandons his attack at darkness and tells General David Hunter that he believes Charleston cannot be taken by sea assault.

Beginning on April 7 and continuing through April 11, Confederate Joseph Wheeler raids the Louisville and Nashville and the Nashville and Chattanooga railroads in Tennessee.

April 8, 1863 • General McClernand's men continue operations below Milliken's Bend around New Carthage on the Mississippi.

President Lincoln reviews portions of Hooker's army at Falmouth, across the Rappahannock from Fredericksburg.

April 10, 1863 • In Richmond, President Davis calls for his people to plant truck gardens to grow vegetables for the army's use.

Let fields be devoted exclusively to the production of corn, oats, beans, peas, potatoes, and other food for man and beast; let corn be sown broadcast for fodder...and let all your efforts be directed to the prompt supply of these articles in the districts where our armies are operating.

Lincoln reviewed more troops at Falmouth and left Aquia Creek for Washington in the afternoon.

Confederates under Earl Van Dorn attack Federals at Franklin, Tennessee but a Federal counterattack forces the Confederates to withdraw.

April 11, 1863 • Longstreet's corps from the Army of Northern Virginia advance upon Suffolk, south of the James River, and begin a siege that will last nearly a month.

At Charleston, P.G.T. Beauregard commands the defenses of the harbor believing that Du Pont will attack again. Du Pont withdraws his fleet before an attack by two spar-torpedo boats can take place.

Robert E. Lee informs the Secretary of War that he is sending a cavalry brigade into Loudoun County, Virginia, to bring back stored supplies to his army at Fredericksburg.

April 12, 1863 • President Lincoln receives a letter from General Hooker in which Hooker proposes outflanking Lee's army opposing Hooker on the Rappahannock. Hooker's plan would be to move across the river, turn the Confederate left, and use cavalry to sever connections with Richmond.

On the Mississippi above Vicksburg, Admiral D.D. Porter gets ready to move most of his gunboats past the Vicksburg guns to support Grant's attack from New Carthage on the west bank to

Grand Gulf on the east bank. Porter writes to Secretary of the Navy Welles:

Grant proposes to embark his army at Carthage, seize Grand Gulf under fire of the gunboats, and make it the base of his operations...

April 13, 1863 • President Lincoln orders Du Pont to hold his position inside the Charleston Harbor bar.

In the Department of the Ohio, General Burnside orders the death penalty for anyone guilty of aiding the Confederates and also orders deportation of Southern sympathizers to Confederate lines.

April 14, 1863 • Federal troops march into evacuated Fort Bisland, Louisiana.

April 15, 1863 • Grant's forces continue to move from Milliken's Bend on the Mississippi to below Vicksburg in preparation for a crossing.

Lincoln expresses concern to General Hooker over the slowness of General Stoneman's cavalry operations on the Rappahannock.

Corporal Barber, Co. D, 15th Illinois Volunteer Infantry at Memphis, Tennessee writes:

So foul had the morals of the city become that Gen. Veatch issued an order expelling two boat loads of fallen humanity. Indeed, matters had come to such a pass that a decent lady was ashamed to be seen on the street, and stringent measures had to be resorted to to remedy the evil. All the bad passions of the naturally dissipated in our division were brought to light here, and too often were the young and noble drawn into this whirlpool of vice.

April 16, 1863 • A little before midnight, Admiral D.D. Porter's fleet of twelve vessels attempts to run past the city of Vicksburg coming downriver to aid Grant's crossing. All but one of the vessels gets through safely.

President Davis approves acts of the Confederate Congress allowing minors to hold army commissions and preventing absence of soldiers and officers without leave.

April 17, 1863 • From La Grange, Tennessee, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson of Illinois heads south with seventeen hundred cavalry on a raid into Mississippi intending to draw attention away from Grant's offensive against Vicksburg. In his report, Colonel R. V. Richardson of the First Tennessee Partisan Rangers would express the frustration of the Confederate commanders in attempting to catch Grierson:

We may expect a repetition of this raid on a smaller and similar scale. We had forces enough to have captured and destroyed him, but his movements were so rapid and uncertain of aim that we could not concentrate our scattered forces or put them in concert of action. You assigned me men enough to have whipped him, but they were so scattered that I could not find half of them until the enemy had entered his own lines...

April 18, 1863 • Grierson's raiders have their first skirmish meeting minor opposition between Ripley and New Albany, Mississippi.

Federals destroy Confederate salt works near New Iberia, Louisiana.

April 19, 1863 • President Lincoln, General Halleck and Secretary of War Stanton make a quiet one-day trip to Aquia Creek on army matters.

Grierson's men move deeper into Mississippi, skirmishing occurring this time at Pontotoc, Mississippi.

April 20, 1863 • President Lincoln declares that the state of West Virginia, approved by Congress, would officially join the Union on June 20.

At New Carthage, Admiral D.D. Porter informs Grant that the Confederates at Grand Gulf, Mississippi are at work fortifying:

Three guns mounted on a bluff 100 feet high, pointed up-river...My opinion is that they will move heaven and earth to stop us if we don't go ahead. I could go down and settle the batteries, but if disabled would not be in a condition to cover the landing when it takes place, and I think it should be done together. If the troops just leave their tents behind and take only provisions, we can be in Grand Gulf in four days...

April 21, 1863 • Confederates under Brigadier General William E. Jones begin a raid on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in West Virginia which would last until May 21.

General Lee reports to the Confederate War Department that his men are subsisting on a daily ration of one-quarter pound of meat and a pound of flour. They also receive a pound of rice for every ten men, two or three times a week. Scurvy and typhoid fever are breaking out among the men.

April 22, 1863 • In front of Vicksburg a Federal flotilla of six transports and twelve barges attempt to pass the batteries – one transport and six barges are sunk but the remainder are able to bring much needed supplies to Grant's men below the city.

April 23, 1863 • Private John S. Jackson of the Orphan Brigade writes from Bush Grove, Tennessee:

Broke up camp at Manchester and marched to Bush Grove, 12 miles towards Murfreesboro. Camped in a clover field. The hills about here remind me of Kentucky. They are covered with rich pastures and beautiful groves of beech trees which are now leaving out. Springtime is again coming over the hills with "gayety and song..."

April 24, 1863 • The Congress of the Confederate States levies a comprehensive "tax in kind" of one tenth of all produce of the land for the year 1863. Protest meetings over the tithe were organized all over the South with one resolution stating that they considered the tithe:

...unconstitutional, anti-republican and oppressive for the simple fact, that if the Confederacy will furnish the people with a sound currency, the government will at all times be able to purchase such supplies as the army may need, provided the people have them to spare. In view of the above facts, and the probability that nine-tenths of the people in this section of the country will have nothing to spare, we are opposed to the payment of the same.

Grierson's cavalry were deeper into Mississippi with skirmishing breaking out at Garlandville and Birmingham.

Continued on page 8

April 25, 1863 • Grant's forces continue to push south after bypassing Vicksburg skirmishing near Hard Times Landing.

The British Parliament forcefully debated the seizure of British vessels by American cruisers on blockade duty.

April 26, 1863 • Grant continues his preparations to cross the Mississippi to the east bank for his expedition against Vicksburg. Inside the city, Confederate Major General Pemberton watches and waits.

April 27, 1863 • In Virginia, the Army of the Potomac is on the move from its winter quarters at Falmouth. Lincoln writes to Hooker, "How does it look now?"

In the Confederate Department of East Tennessee Major General Dabney H. Maury is relieved by Major General Simon Bolivar Buckner. Maury takes command of the District of the Gulf.

April 28, 1863 • Hooker's Army of the Potomac begins crossing the Rappahannock in the Wilderness area, upstream from Fredericksburg leaving Major General John Sedgwick facing Lee. At Fredericksburg, early in the morning, the bell in the Episcopal church rang out in alarm.

Lincoln commutes the death sentence of Sergeant John A. Chase, convicted of striking and threatening an officer, and orders him to be imprisoned at hard labor "with ball and chain attached to his leg" for the remainder of the war.

April 29, 1863 • In both east and west the Northern push is in

earnest. In Virginia the major part of the Army of the Potomac crosses the Rappahannock at Kelly's and U.S. fords, moving into the Wilderness. In the West Federal gunboats pound enemy gun emplacements at Grand Gulf on the Mississippi and attempt to clear the way for Grant's army to cross. After six hours of firing failed, Grant's leading force marches southward from Grand Gulf to a new landing opposite Bruinsburg.

April 30, 1863 • The month would end with Hooker and his Army of the Potomac setting up camp around the Chancellor family house, known as Chancellorsville. Brief skirmishing would occur near Spotsylvania Court House. Hooker tells his army that:

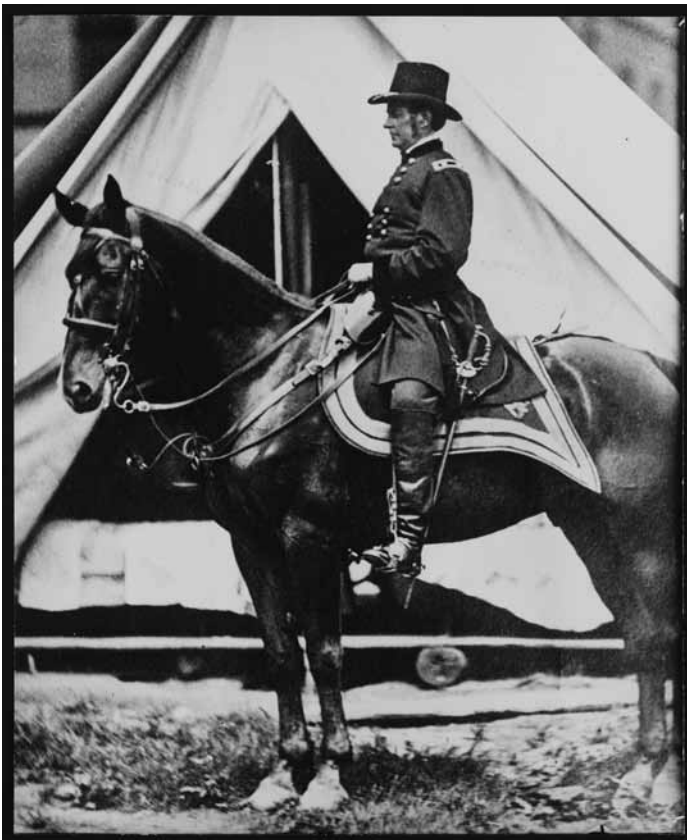
The operations of the last three days have determined that our enemy must ingloriously fly, or come out from behind their defenses and give us battle on our ground, where certain destruction awaits him.

In Fredericksburg Lee plans his next move.

Grant's first forces are across the Mississippi south of Vicksburg and are preparing to move inland. President Davis tells General J. E. Johnston:

General Pemberton telegraphs that unless he has more cavalry, the approaches to North Mississippi are almost unprotected and that he cannot prevent cavalry raids.

And so it continues.



Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker. From the Alfred Whital Stern Collection of Lincolniana, Library of Congress



In April 1953, O. H. Felton spoke about "Harpers Ferry in the Civil War."

Robert W. Waitt Sr. talked about "The Kinsey Report on the Civil War" at the April 1963 meeting.

"The First Shot and Fort Sumter" was the subject of Erik Lunde's presentation in April 1973.

Robert L. Hatchey was our featured speaker in April 1983. The topic that evening was "The Illegal Lincoln: A Nation of Men and Not of Laws."

"Battlefield Commemoration and Preservation: The Reason Why, 1863 – 1890" was presented by Mary Abroe at the April 1993 meeting.

At the April 2003 meeting our guest speaker was Kenneth Noe. Noe's presentation was "The Battle of Perryville."

At last year's April 2012 meeting the Round Table welcomed Marshall D. Krolick who talked to us about "Riding for the Union: Memoirs of the 8th Illinois Cavalry."

THE RICHMOND BREAD • APRIL 2, 1863

By the spring of 1863, the toll of the war was having a devastating effect on the Confederate economy. The combination of the Northern blockade of Southern ports, the diversion of Southern food supplies from those at home to the war front and the escalating inflation of its currency all negatively affected the Confederate home front. In the two years since the war had begun, inflation had driven prices of available goods up sevenfold putting them beyond the means of the ordinary citizen.



The Confederate capital, Richmond, was especially hard hit. The food producing areas of the surrounding countryside were devastated by battles fought, plundering soldiers and Northern and Southern armies stripping farms to feed the troops. Richmond had doubled in population size since becoming the capital adding yet another strain on what supplies were available.

On April 2, 1863, a group of hungry and desperate women and young boys assembled at a church in Richmond and marched to Capitol Square, angrily confronting Governor John Letcher and demanding relief from the high price of food. The governor rebuffed the women and provided them with no solution turning the assembled group into an angry mob shouting “Bread! Bread! Bread!” while smashing store windows and looting the contents within.

One Richmond woman wrote to a friend about what she witnessed on that day:

Something very sad has just happened in Richmond — something that makes me ashamed of all my jeremiads over the loss of the petty comforts and conveniences of life — hats, bonnets, gowns, stationery, books, magazines, dainty food.

Since the weather has been so pleasant, I have been in the habit of walking in the Capitol Square before breakfast every morning...Yesterday, upon arriving, I found within the gates a crowd of women and boys — several hundreds of them, standing quietly together.

I sat on a bench near, and one of the number left the rest and took the seat beside me. She was a pale, emaciated girl, not more than eighteen...As she raised her hand to remove her sunbonnet and use it for a fan, her loose calico sleeve slipped up and revealed the mere skeleton of an arm. She perceived my expression as I looked at it, and hastily pulled down her sleeve with a short laugh. ‘This is all that’s left of me’ she said. ‘It seems real funny, don’t it?...We are starving. As soon as enough of us get together, we are going to take the bakeries and each of us will take

a loaf of bread. That is little enough for the government to give us after it has taken all our men’...

At this point President Davis arrived on the scene. Davis, standing on a wagon, flung money from his pockets into the crowd saying, “You say you are hungry and have no money — here is all I have.” Davis then gave the rioters five minutes to disperse or he would have the militia that was present fire into the crowd. With muskets aimed at them, the rioters left, going back into the side streets and neighborhoods from which they had come.

Reporting on the riot would be quite different in the northern and southern press. In an editorial published in the *Albany Journal* on April 11, 1863, the issue of southern famine was reported:

The question of Food is coming home to the “business and bosoms” of the Rebels. We have fresh evidence every day that the people are on the verge of Famine. A bread riot occurred in Richmond the other day and a similar demonstration is reported at Petersburg...There is no mistaking these signs. They point unmistakably to a period not far distant when the enemy will be reduced to the alternative of Submission or Starvation. They may defy Federal bayonets and bullets, but they must submit to the Coercive power of Hunger...

The *Richmond Sentinel* on April 7 would print an editorial with a very different viewpoint:

*It can now be said, upon authority of the sworn evidence, that the conduct of the few misguided women who on Thursday availed themselves of the tenderness with which their sex is ever treated in the South, was not due to suffering. Themselves and the **thieves in pantaloons** who took shelter in their company, simply plundered milliners’ goods, dry goods, fancy foods &c. It was no cry for bread; it was no riot, so far as they placed their action on any declared basis. It was opposition to the high prices; and upon this point they took shelter under the abstract sympathy of such as believe that speculators and extortioners have made the prices so high, and dispose them accordingly.*

*But it is now proven that there was no distress among those persons; that the very leader was independent, and himself an extortioner; that there has been **abundant** provision made for the poor who may need it; and that the whole thing was simply a **plundering raid under female impunity**. An ebullition such as we have noticed would have excited no attention outside of the quiet South, where good order is so uniform and so universal. **It amounts to nothing here.***

The Young Men’s Christian Association of Richmond rejected an appeal to devote a portion of their funds to the purchase of food for the destitute, and would publish a series of resolutions to that effect.

President Davis, after the riot, would have the ringleaders of this, as the *Richmond Sentinel* described it, “plundering raid under female impunity” arrested; some of them were convicted and imprisoned.

CIVIL WAR NEWS

Monitor Sailors Buried. On March 8, 2013, more than 150 years after the USS Monitor sank, two unknown crewmen found in the ironclad's turret when it was raised in 2002, were buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

The remains of the two men were taken to their gravesites by horse-drawn caissons, one pulled by six black horses, the other by six white horses. At the ceremony, Kathryn D. Sullivan, Ph.D., acting under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere noted, "Just as the crew of the Monitor fought tirelessly to keep their 'old-time knight in armor' afloat, so have many worked tirelessly since her loss to keep their commitment to her, and to the 16 sailors who answered the call-to-arms of a young nation in peril, and paid the ultimate price." Navy Secretary Ray Mabus and James McPherson were also present at the ceremony along with members of Congress and the military. Descendants of the 16 men who died on the Monitor were also in attendance.

Diana Rambo, related through her mother, Jane Nicklis Rowland to Monitor crewman Jacob Nicklis said after the ceremony that she was not as concerned about knowing for certain the identity of the two sailors buried. "It kind of doesn't matter. It was all about honoring the 16," Rambo said.

CIVIL WAR 150

National Portrait Gallery

Bound for Freedom's Light: African Americans and the Civil War
February 1, 2013 through March 2, 2014

Drawing principally from images in the National Portrait Gallery's collection, this exhibition will explore the roles that individual African Americans played during the Civil War and will focus attention on the impact of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. Among the featured stories will be those of Frederick Douglass, Martin Delaney, Sojourner Truth and Gordon, who escaped from enslavement on a Louisiana plantation to join a black regiment and fight for the Union.

The museum is conveniently located at Eighth and F Streets NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. The museum is open daily, except for December 25, 11:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Admission is free. For more information: <http://www.npg.si.edu/inform/visit.html>

April Speaker...continued from page 1

US Air Force Reserve for an additional 23 years of military service. Colonel Fitzpatrick transferred to the Retired Reserve in 1997.

Fitzpatrick's interest in Gettysburg began in the centennial year of 1963 when he arranged a trip to the battlefield for the Villanova University Student History Club. The visit sparked a continuing interest in the American Civil War. In 2013, John begins his 10th year as a Licensed Battlefield Guide Emeritus at the Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania. He divides his time amongst guiding at Gettysburg, Veterans' activities and his domestic and international commercial, construction and securities Arbitration practice, as well as Park Watch at the GNMP.

Cyclorama Down. On March 9, 2013, after a 14-year fight over its fate, the Gettysburg Cyclorama building came down. The structure was designed by noted architect Richard Neutra to house the Cyclorama painting featuring Pickett's Charge.

The National Park Service finalized its demolition plans after completing a court-ordered review of options for the building. Katie Lawhon, spokeswoman for the park, indicated that by the time of the 150th anniversary of the battle this July, grass would be growing on the site marking where Union troops repelled Confederate forces during Pickett's Charge on July 3, 1863.

The park service plans to begin reshaping the ground at the site to follow battle-era topography, including the installation of replica wooden post-and-rail fences, sometime in 2014.



Watch the National Park Service video at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QRX6bu4WA84>

Gettysburg. On March 13, 2013, the final phase of improvements to historic Seminary Ridge began with a groundbreaking ceremony.

The third and final phase of the project at the Lutheran Theological Seminary will complete the 1.03-mile Historic Pathway around the seminary. Native trees will be replanted on the western slope of the seminary to help restore the area to how it appeared in 1863.

The project due date and grand opening is set for July 1, 2013 to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the battle. The trees and re-designed landscape will help hide the addition of 100 new parking spaces in the area needed to accommodate visitors.

Also at the April 11 meeting, member and *General Orders* designer Patricia Lynch will sell and autograph copies of the newly-published *Milwaukee's Soldiers Home*, a volume in Arcadia Publishing's *Images of America* series.

An interview with the author will air on Milwaukee Public Television's "I Remember" program on Monday, April 8, 2013, 6:30 p.m. The official book launch will take place Sunday, April 14, 2013, at Burke's Irish Castle (the former Derry Heggarty's Pub), 53rd & Bluemound, 1-4 p.m. The event will also feature local patriotic groups, Grand Army of the Republic, Soldiers' Home Community Advisory Council, and a children's activity table. The book launch is free and open to the public. The Milwaukee Civil War Round Table supported this project of the West Side Soldiers Aid Society with a donation to help cover fees for photographic reproduction and licensing.

FOR YOUR BOOKSHELF

This Wicked Rebellion:

Wisconsin Civil War Soldiers Write Home

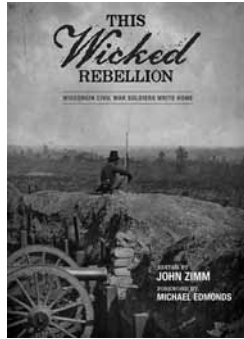
John Zimm, editor

Michael Edmonds, foreword

\$22.95, ISBN: 978-0-87020-504-0

eBook also available

This Wicked Rebellion tells the story of the Civil War from the voice of the ordinary men and boys who fought and died and the families and friends left at home. Drawing from more than 11,000 letters in the Wisconsin Historical Society's Civil War collection, Zimm follows Wisconsin soldiers as they sign up to get drafted, endure drill and picket duty, and their first experiences in battle. The book is divided into six chapters including letters on camp life, slavery, specific battles and personal reflections.



Not One Among Them Whole: A Novel of Gettysburg

Edison McDaniels

Currently available as an eBook.

Trade Paperback due out in April, 2013.

In time for the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, McDaniels, a neurosurgeon with twenty years experience, took ten years to pen his novel, reading scores of Civil War books, walking the battlefields and researching the surgery of the period.

Brid Nowlan, in his *IndieReader* review of the book writes, "Despite the death and decay that permeate the novel, it is a compelling read, largely because of the skill with which McDaniels unfolds his characters' stories, day by day, minute by minute. Equally skillful is the manner in which he brings together all the characters and crafts dramas within dramas against the backdrop of the American Civil War and this one important battle. So compelling are those stories, the war fades into the background as the fate of individuals hang in the balance."

Hundreds of men crowded the yard, and not a one among them was whole. They covered the yard as thick as maggots on a week-old carcass, the dirt itself hardly anywhere visible.

SPRING OFFERINGS FROM SAVAS BEATIE

Robert E. Lee in War and Peace

Don Hopkins

\$34.95, ISBN: 978-1-61121-120-7

eBook: 978-1-61121-121-4

Don Hopkins has done the first serious study of Lee in photographs in almost seven decades. A Mississippi surgeon and life-long student of the Civil War, Hopkins scoured manuscript repositories and private collections to locate every Lee image in existence today. Hopkins' detailed text accompanying the images provides a history of Lee's life as well as biographical sketches of Lee's known photographers. Many images in the book are being published for the first time.

Calamity at Chancellorsville:

The Wounding and Death

of Confederate General Stonewall Jackson

Mathew W. Lively

\$27.50, ISBN: 978-1-61121-138-2

eBook: 978-1-61121-139-9

The first full-length examination of Jackson's final days. Eyewitnesses often disagreed on key facts relating to the events surrounding Jackson's reconnaissance, wounding, journey out of harm's way, medical care and death. Lively begins his book with a visit from Jackson's family prior to the battle and follows Jackson through the battle to his final outcome.

John Bell Hood:

The Rise, Fall, and Resurrection of a Confederate General

Stephen M. "Sam" Hood

\$32.95, ISBN: 978-1-61121-140-5

eBook: 978-1-61121-141-2

John Bell Hood's published version of his career met with scorn and skepticism by most of his critics. Without any personal papers to contradict them, many historians took full advantage of the opportunity to portray Hood in a very unflattering way. Stephen Hood, a distant relative of the general, has used the original sources of the broadly accepted "facts" about his relative along with a large cache of recently discovered Hood papers — many penned by generals and other officers who served with General Hood. In this new book, Stephen Hood hopes to resolve some of the most controversial aspects of Hood's career.

Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for April 11, 2013

Mail your reservations by Monday, April 8, 2013, to:

Paul Eilbes

1809 Washington Ave.

Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

ALSO, call in reservations to:

(262) 376-0568

peilbes@gmail.com

Enclosed is \$ _____ (meal price \$25.00 per person) for _____ reservations for April 11, 2013, meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. (Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

Name of Member _____

General Orders, the official publication of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., is produced September through June and upon request of the Board of Directors.

Send submissions to **Donna Agnelly, Editor**, 420 Racine St., Unit 110, Waterford, WI 53185 or email to **dagnelly@tds.net** with "Civil War Round Table" in the subject line of your message. All submissions must be received by the Editor no later than the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. The Editor reserves the right to select articles and to edit submissions for style and length.

All address changes or problems receiving your *General Orders* should be directed through Membership Chairman Paul Eilbes.

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General Orders design & layout by Patricia A. Lynch, Harvest Graphics. Yearly memberships available: Individual (\$40), Family (\$50), and Non-Resident (\$25). See also the form on page 7 of this issue of *General Orders*. Contact Paul Eilbes for information: (262) 376-0568.

The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., admits members of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges and activities of the Round Table.

IT'S OFFICIAL!

Fisher House Wisconsin announced on March 26, 2013, the approval of its building site on the historic Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center campus in Milwaukee.

"This is a major milestone in our effort to bring a Fisher House to military and veterans' families here in Wisconsin. This facility will make such a difference to those families, knowing they can focus on being there for their loved ones," said Daniel Buttery, President of the board of directors for Fisher House Wisconsin.

A Fisher House is a "home away from home" for military and veterans' families to be close to a loved one during a hospitalization for an illness, disease or injury. Veterans and their families living beyond 50 miles from the Milwaukee VA hospital will be eligible to stay overnight for free at this future facility.

In 2012, the 59 Fisher House facilities in operation in the United States and Germany served over 19,000 families.

The 16-unit Fisher House Wisconsin will take a year to complete and will be located west of Lake Wheeler on the grounds of the Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

For more information visit: www.FisherHouseWI.org