



# GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the  
**Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.**  
**Our 63rd Year**  
and The Iron Brigade Association



NOVEMBER 8, 2012

## THOMAS G. CLEMENS

### An Overview of the Maryland Campaign of 1862

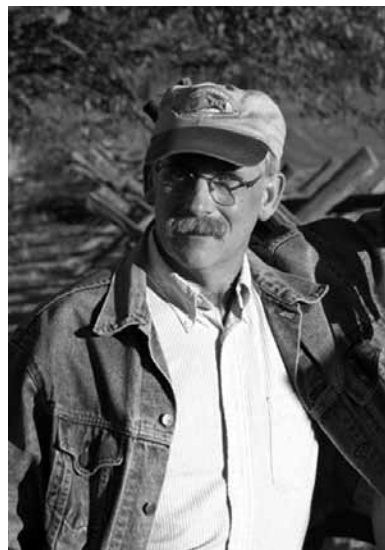
The Maryland Campaign of 1862 was the most pivotal campaign of the most pivotal time of the Civil War. After a spring of reverses and defeats, the Confederacy mounted a huge offensive movement spanning nearly a thousand miles, from the shores of Chesapeake Bay to the Mississippi River. Had this movement been successful the Southern forces might have forced a negotiated settlement of the war and independence for the Confederacy. The story of why this did not happen rests principally with the defeat of R.E. Lee's Maryland invasion, which had severely shaken the Lincoln administration.

In his November presentation to our group, Tom Clemens, editor of the newly released book *The Maryland Campaign of 1862, Volume II: Antietam*, will chart the course of this critical campaign and why it ended in failure for the Confederacy, and how that defeat, coupled with the lack of success elsewhere, ended the South's best chance to win the war.

Tom Clemens has a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in History from Salisbury State College, now Salisbury University. He recently retired from Hagerstown Community College after 34 years, most if it teaching American History. Tom received his doctorate in 2002 from George Mason University where he studied under Dr. Joseph Harsh, a distinguished scholar of the Maryland Campaign of 1862. Over the years Tom has written numerous magazine articles and many book reviews for various publications. His edited and annotated edition of Ezra A. Carman's manuscript, *The Maryland Campaign of September 1862, Volume I: South Mountain* was published in 2010 by Savas Beattie LLC, and *Volume II* was released this past September by Savas Beattie.

Tom has been featured in several documentaries including the documentary film at Antietam National Battlefield Visitor's Center, *Civil War Journal*, *Hidden Civil War*, and several others. Tom's interest in the Maryland Campaign goes back 30 years, and his work on Ezra Carman's manuscript began in the 1990s.

Tom is a founding member of Save Historic Antietam Foundation, Inc., a non-profit preservation organization, and has served as its president since 1986. He is also a board member of Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association, and was active in the recent purchase of the Boteler Cement Mill property. He is a Licensed Battlefield Guide for Antietam National Battlefield as well as being a 30+ year volunteer there.



Thomas G. Clemens  
Photo courtesy of Savas Beattie

See page 8 for a Savas Beattie interview with Thomas G. Clemens.

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### NOVEMBER MEETING AT A GLANCE

Thomas G. Clemens  
"An Overview of the Maryland Campaign of 1862"

### The Wisconsin Club

9th & 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, November 5, 2012  
See page 7.

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

## CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS

### 2012-2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME	OFFICE/POSITION	TERM EXPIRES
Donna Agnelly	Editor, <i>General Orders</i>	2013
Thomas Arliskas	Member	2013
Michael K. Benton	Member	2014
Roman Blenski	Quartermaster	2013
Crain Bliwas	Member	2013
Paul A. Eilbes	Treasurer/Membership	2013
A. William Finke	Member	2014
Grant Johnson	First Vice President	2015
Patrick Lynch	Second Vice President	2014
Robert Mann	Member	2014
Daniel Nettesheim	Member	2015
Frank Risler	Program Chair	2015
C. Judley Wyant	President	2015
David Wege	Member	2015

### 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 October 15, 2012.

#### *Major Contributor (\$500 and above)*

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

#### *Benefactor: (\$400 and above)*

*Sponsor: (\$300 - \$390)*  
Allan Kasprzak and Trudi Schmitt  
Eugene and Jane Jamroz

#### *Patron: (\$200 - \$299)*

*Associate: (\$100 - \$199)*  
Richard Gross  
Dr. Bob Karczewski  
Paul Eilbes  
Doug Haag  
Grant Johnson  
Robert and Linda Mann  
Laura Rinaldi  
Dave and Helga Sartori

### ABRAHAM LINCOLN: A MAN OF HIS TIME, A MAN FOR ALL TIMES

The Milwaukee Public Library will host a display on Abraham Lincoln, November 12 - December 10, 2012. The exhibit, organized by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, features seven panels that display text, photos and graphics about the 16th president, spanning his early life in Kentucky and Springfield through his presidency, assassination and legacy. The exhibit runs November 12 - December 10, 2012, at the Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. A program on Sunday, November 25, 2 p.m., will feature Patricia Lynch and members of the West Side Soldiers Aid Society. The program begins in Mozart's Grove at the Library and then moves to Meeting Room I.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS • EVENTS • MEETINGS

### November 10, 2012

Veterans Day Parade, 11 a.m.  
Milwaukee

### November 12, 2012

Manitowoc Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.  
Manitowoc Historical Society Heritage Center  
Speaker: Donna Agnelly

### November 17 - 19, 2012

Remembrance Day Observance  
Gettysburg

### November 17, 2012

10th Annual Remembrance Illumination, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.  
Gettysburg

### November 20, 2012

Prairieville Irregulars, 7 p.m.  
Board Room, Campus Center Building, Carroll University

### November 25, 2012

Abraham Lincoln Exhibit and Program, 2 p.m.  
Milwaukee Public Library, Central Branch  
814 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee

### December 8, 2012

Victorian Christmas, 11 - 4 p.m.  
Kenosha Civil War Museum

### 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.

Our Quartermaster has two new items for your consideration.

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

Mail: Roman Blenski, Quartermaster  
4601 W. Holt Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53219  
Call: 414-327-2847  
Email: [dbcpmilw@execpc.com](mailto:dbcpmilw@execpc.com)  
In Person: Monthly Meeting at Book Raffle

## KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

**November 10, 2012, 10 – 4 p.m.**

*Veterans Heritage Day*

To honor those who serve and have served.

*Free event sponsored by the Southern Wisconsin Airborne Chapter, 82nd Airborne Division*

**November 13, 2012, 7 – 8:30 p.m.**

*Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation*

If he was ever going to be remembered in history for anything, Abraham Lincoln believed it would be for issuing the Emancipation Proclamation. Steve Rogstad will provide a history of his thoughts on slavery and how the Emancipation Proclamation brought sweeping change to the political, economic, and social systems in the United States. \$20/\$15 Friends of the Museum

**John M. Antaramian Gallery**

*Capturing the Past: The Civil War Art of Keith Rocco*

Images of the Civil War interpreted in original paintings and giclee prints by this accomplished narrative painter.

**Second Friday Lunchbox Series**

**November 9, 2012**

*The Brother's War*

Grayslake Heritage Center Director Dave Oberg presents a program developed in partnership with Grayslake Historical Society volunteers. Stories and images of Lake County residents who served during the Civil War in units such as the 96th Illinois Volunteer Infantry and the 17th Illinois Cavalry are featured. *Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and the Iron Brigade Association.*

**November 17, 2012, 1 p.m.**

*Minnesota's Other Civil War: The Dakota Conflict of 1862*

The Dakota War of 1862 was the single most important event in Minnesota's 154-year history. In six tragic weeks the western half of the state was depopulated. Minnesota's Dakota people were evicted from the state, leaving scars that remain to this day. Steven Osman will discuss the causes, visit the battlefields and consider the legacy of the Dakota War. Osman, recently retired as senior historian with the Minnesota Historical Society, managed Fort Snelling for over three decades. *Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and the Iron Brigade Association.*

**November 17, 2012, 2:30 p.m.**

*The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory*

Lance Herdegen will talk about his latest book which puts flesh and faces on the men of the Iron Brigade who sat around the campfires, marched through mud and snow and dust, fought to put down the rebellion, and recorded much of what they did and witnessed for posterity.

This magnificent new work, sure to be looked upon as Herdegen's magnum opus, is based on decades of archival research and includes scores of previously unpublished letters, photos, journals, and other primary accounts. This well researched and written tour de force, which includes reunion and memorial coverage until the final expiration of the last surviving member, will be the last word on the Iron Brigade for the foreseeable future.

Books will be available for purchase and signing before and after the programs.

For more information on the museum and its programs call (262) 653-4141 or visit their website at [www.thecivilwarmuseum.org](http://www.thecivilwarmuseum.org)

## GENERAL ERFFMEYER REMEMBERED

One of the most important things to remember about General Erffmeyer is that there was not a lot of pretense to him. In 1979, new to Milwaukee and to a civilian job at which I had no talent, General Erffmeyer took me on as his junior (relief) driver out of a pool of a half dozen applicants. Mostly I drove his communications jeep behind the motorcade, and relieved his more senior driver when needed, which in practice was at all hours of the night on annual training. By the third week of five we were to be at Fort Knox in the summer of 1979. I had contracted pneumonia and was restricted to the old, dusty un-air-conditioned barracks where the staff NCOs were billeted, and that my father could have been in back in '42 (and, as it turned out, that the General had been in as a youngster, back in '44).

But the General wasn't interested in where I was supposed to be: he got me one of the air-conditioned, newer accommodations at the Guest House (also called Patton Hall), and made sure I got transportation to chow three times a day, and the hospital every other day until we went home. About every other day he'd come by to see how I was.

I left the 84th Division soon after that, and didn't run into him again until I joined the Round Table. When Lance Herdegen asked if I wanted to edit the newsletter I was quick to observe that Bob Erffmeyer was in line to be president. As much as I hate to admit it, I thought as much of working for the General again as I did the challenge of filling Lance's shoes. He swore me in to my last term of enlistment at the May 1996 Round Table meeting, as many of you witnessed. As he drifted away from us over the years I still remembered his knock-knock-knock on my door at the Guest House at the end of the day, when he'd come in and we'd talk about history. He'd beg off after a while and leave something more for me to read...by accident, of course.

Good night, sir, and Godspeed.

John. D. Beatty

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## IN MEMORIAM



### EUGENE GENOVESE

Eugene Genovese, scholar of American slavery, died at age 82 on September 26, 2012. His best known work, *Roll Jordan Roll: The World the Slaves Made* (Chapel Hill, 1974), was one of the first scholarly works that analyzed the slave's point of view, rather than only the slaveholder's. He reached the then-unique conclusion that their relationship was mutually both dependent and antagonistic; nurturing and smothering at the same time. Criticized as paternalistic in the wake of the civil rights struggles after WWII, the Bancroft Prize winning work is still the foundation of the current historical understanding of slavery in America. Other works, including a trilogy on the antebellum south, have been highly praised. Born in Brooklyn in the Catholic faith, Genovese was one of the best known Communist School scholars of the 70's and 80's – his membership in the Communist party lasting from the age of 15 to the age of 20.

He would return to his roots late in life along with his wife. Yale professor Brion Davis called Genovese "brilliant and imaginative" and "one of the greatest historians of American slavery."

*And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.*



FROM THE FIELD  
*November 1862*

On the 4th whilst on the march I was sent for by Gen. Reynolds and on reporting to him, he informed me that Gen. — had been relieved from duty in the army and offered his division to me.

My first feeling was one of regret at the idea of being separated from my gallant brigade and some of this was allowed to appear, upon which Reynolds said: “Well, if you don’t want it, I will offer it to Gen. —.” But I said at once I could not decline higher command and the necessary orders were issued.

The night of Nov 4th at Bloomfield was a sad one to me for the next morning I was to be separated, not only from my gallant little brigade but from my own battery which usually accompanied the brigade into battle. In the two united, I had the most implicit confidence, always knowing I could depend upon them. Besides this, I was obliged to leave them under the command of a perfectly new colonel who had never been in battle and did not as yet know how to command a regiment; for unfortunately the new colonel held a commission senior to that of Fairchild who had been with the brigade through all its battles. Under these circumstances feeling as averse as if trusting a cherished child in the hands of a strange and inexperienced nurse, I sent for Col. Morrow and tried to prevail on him to waive his rank and allow the command to go to Fairchild, but although a young soldier I found him disposed to cling as tenaciously as an old one to rights of his rank, and he declined to yield.

An application to the division commander had no better effect so that Col. Morrow took command of my Children and the next morning, I sat on my horse by the roadside and saw my gallant little brigade move, for the last time from my command.

John Gibbons  
November, 1862

#### **7th Wisconsin Nov. 1862**

The general impression is that there will be a settlement of some kind or other to this war by January next; one party or the other must fail before long from exhaustion - the North will become exhausted before many years, it cannot hold up under the accumulated debt; and now everything is going against the Rebs so hard that they cannot hold out much longer - those Southern men cannot stand it to soldier here in Virginia while we can stand it very well. A close observer cannot help but see that the end is near at hand...

#### **From the 6th Regiment From the Army of the Potomac Warrenton, Va., Nov. 10**

We have advanced into Virginia as far as this place — too slow, doubtless, as it appears to the country, but faster than supplies could be transported without railroad facilities.

London county, through which we have passed, is much favored in its scenery, and is better cultivated than most of northern Virginia, and what is remarkable for this recreant, wretched State, some of its inhabitants are genuine Union men who generally are either of German descent or Quakers. I witnessed the almost sacred scene of the return of one of these to his family after an absence of some weeks in Maryland, where so many fled from the conscription while the rebels held possession of this district. What glad tears were shed, and what a tender kiss pressed the face of the little sleeper, all unconscious in its cradle of the tramp of successive armies, and the blasting sorrow of horrid war.

To-day, General McClellan has taken leave of the army, receiving their farewell cheers as he rode before them. During the Mexican War, when Gen. Scott was called home to appear before a court inquiry, he would not permit the like. “No demonstrations; it will set you against the government,” but the chief who could conquer the enemy, was not able wholly to repress in his men the manifestation of enthusiastic devotion to their injured leader.

#### **From the 6th Regiment Camp near Fayetteville, Va., Nov. 14, ‘62**

Editors Republic: — Your readers are aware that the Army of the Potomac had been moving down into Virginia again. Gen. Doubleday’s division crossed the Potomac on the 8th of October at Berlin, and took up the line on march toward Warrenton when we arrived on the evening of the 6th inst.

Wherever we go in Virginia we find that the hand of the spoiler has preceded us; a country which was once beautiful and productive, sadly exhibits war’s blighting sting. Fields once luxuriant and fertile, are covered with weeds and grass, stripped of the last vestige of a fence and reduced to a wild and gloomy heath.

The more the army marched over this unfortunate rebel state, the more heartless it becomes and the less sympathy it has for the disloyal and deceitful inhabitants. The soldiers have no genuine respect for the property of people who have repeatedly shown a most inveterate hostility toward the government and its supporters. A rebel pig or sheep is almost certain to feel a Yankee’s knife — all orders to the contrary notwithstanding, and property of every description which can be of benefit to the soldiers is converted to his use without much hesitation. Such is the punishment to a disloyal people and such is the unmistakable evidence of our increasing enmity as the war continues. The intensity of their hatred on the other hand leads the mind to almost doubt and sometimes shrink from the idea of ever being united to them in the future...

A stormy day comes, and he has but a shelter tent for protection. Then it is that you can read in his dejected countenance the melancholy reflection. The farmer longs once more to feed his herds of sheep and cattle — talks of his snug cottage home and cheerful fireside while the student expresses his eagerness to ply his mind again to his favorite studies. These are brave men who fight for their country, and it will be a happy day to them when peace spreads her genial wings over the distracted land.

H.J.H.

#### **Fort Atkinson Standard November 30, 1862**

The following is a private letter from a member of Co. D., 29th Regiment, which has been handed to us for publication. As many who enlisted are from this town and Jefferson and in this regiment, we presume it will be read with interest by our readers. It is dated —

Camp Salomon, Miss., Nov. 8, 1862 —

After describing their journey from Madison to Helena, at which latter place they arrived just after daylight, they landed from the steamer about noon and went to work and cleared a place for a camp. He says we are camped right opposite Helena, Ark. And are the only regiment on this side of the river at this point — there will be more soon.

*continued on page 5*

FROM THE FIELD...continued from page 4.

We are in heavy timber — large cotton wood, hackberry, some swamp oak and honey locust, which has thorns two or three inches long as sharp as needles, and once in a while maple.

Yesterday morning our second Lieutenant came along and asked how many of us would go with him on a foraging expedition. I of course was ready, and there was no lack of volunteers. After we got our breakfast thirty men were taken from each company and we started. When we got away from camp we fired off our guns and loaded them again. We went about four miles and came to a large plantation house. The officer in command went in and talked with the planter and negroes. The planter said he was a Union man, but the negroes said that a band of guerillas ate their breakfast there that morning. The officer turned to the boys and said anything on the farm was theirs, and told them to help themselves, so we pitched in. We took three prisoners, about twenty mules, five horses, all the saddles and harnesses we could find, two large wagons, one carriage — shot about 15 hogs, and turkeys and chickens without number. Some went into the house and took some letters from the planter that his son had written him, who is in the rebel army. We must have taken altogether between two and three thousand dollars worth of property from his plantation. Don't you call that a pretty good commencement for the second day in rebeldom?

We have 250 pickets out every day. Last night some of them fired a signal, and we were in line of battle in less than eight minutes, but it proved to be nothing but a loose mule in the brush. It was going along and when commanded to halt it stopped, probably at hearing a noise so unexpectedly, but when the boys demanded "who goes there," the mule could not give the countersign, and turned to go away, when three of the boys fired, supposing it to be a man and trying to escape — but neither of them killed the mule. About half past 9 o'clock the signal was given again, and we were in line of battle in three minutes. That time I believe they killed a cow. The boys are afraid of guerillas that they don't wait to see what is coming before they fire.

How long we shall stay here I don't know. The nights are about as cold here as they are in Wisconsin. The middle of the day is warm, which makes it very pleasant, but it is cold at night.

R.

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## NEW PERRYVILLE BOOK

***Perryville Under Fire: The Aftermath of Kentucky's Largest Civil War Battle* by Stuart W. Sanders**

On October 8, 2012, the nation commemorated the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Perryville. In this fight, which proved to be Kentucky's largest battle, more than 7,500 Union and Confederate soldiers were killed and wounded. Perryville's 300 residents, and the citizens of surrounding communities, were forced to bury the dead and care for the wounded and sick. Sander's new book details the struggle that soldiers, civilians, and communities endured once the firing stopped.

In his book review in *America's Civil War*, historian Ethan Rafuse wrote that the book describes "a campaign's aftermath...with tremendous effectiveness... Sanders, a former executive director of the Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association, has clearly spent great time and effort researching and thinking about this subject. Drawing on an impressive range of resources, he provides a vivid account of the havoc that followed that October 1862 battle...."

*Perryville Under Fire: The Aftermath of Kentucky's Largest Civil War Battle* (History Press), ISBN: 1609495675, \$19.99 Paperback. Also available in ebook format, \$9.99.

## CIVIL WAR NEWS

### **New Interpretive Trail Opens at Spring Hill Battlefield**

A new half-mile loop interpretive trail has opened at the Spring Hill Battlefield. The trail connects to the grounds of Rippavilla Plantation and augments the Civil War Trust's earlier interpretive efforts at the battlefield.

"The preservation and interpretation of this land at Rippavilla will allow visitors to understand the unique story of this battle more thoroughly than ever before," said Civil War Trust president Jim Lighthizer.

### **Civil War Trust Unveils Suite of Multimedia Offerings on the Battle of Antietam**

Along with a new Antietam Battle App the Trust has launched a new animated interpretive offering – the Antietam Animated Map. More than just a map that shows the movements of Union and Confederate troops, this multimedia show includes gripping battlefield imagery and detailed battlefield maps. Once you're done watching all the action, you can engage the map's "Explore" mode to learn more about key landmarks on the battlefield.

Also new is the Trust's Antietam 360 offering with stirring panoramic images to help viewers unable to visit the battlefield appreciate the significant scenery of the battlefield.

The Trust also offers several articles on Antietam on its website. To view these multimedia offerings visit [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org)

### **Franklin**

As reported in *The Tennessean*, Franklin could have a regular and plentiful source of money for buying its Civil War battlefield land, if aldermen approve a \$250,000-a-year financial agreement with the Civil War Trust.

The Trust, the largest Civil War land preservation group in the country, indicates that they can collect donations and pledges totaling at least \$250,000 or more every year to buy battlefield property, if Franklin's leaders set aside the same amount every year in the city budget. These combined funds totaling \$500,000 could be matched with an equal amount of federal grant money to establish an annual \$1 million fund specifically for buying Franklin's battlefield land.

So far, the Trust has helped raise money to save 174.5 acres of land associated with the Battle of Franklin.

### **Voices of Corinth**

On September 21, 2012, a new audio CD was released by Shiloh National Military Park entitled "Voices of Corinth."

The 71-minute CD begins with the occupation of Corinth by Confederate troops in early 1862, and takes the listener through the aftermath of the Battle of Shiloh, the siege of May 1862, the occupation by Union forces, and ends with the story of the contraband camp as told by a missionary to the area.

According to Superintendent John Bundy, "the project was produced completely 'in house,' with park volunteers and rangers not only lending their voices to the recording, but our rangers also conducted all of the research, wrote the script, and then recorded, edited, and mixed the CD."

For more information on the CD visit [www.nps.gov/shil](http://www.nps.gov/shil) or call (662) 287-9273.

### **Gettysburg Cyclorama Study Recommendation**

An environmental study conducted by the National Park Service recommends getting rid of the Cyclorama building. The study also shows the possible impact of other alternatives, such as mothballing the building or moving it to another place on the battlefield.

The study was part of a federal lawsuit filed, in which critics claimed that the National Park Service had not fully examined alternatives to its plan to demolish the facility designed by famed architect, Richard Neutra.

Comments from the public about the study will be gathered for the next month. A final decision could be made later this year.

# AND SO IT CONTINUES: November 1862...

## Marking the Civil War Sesquicentennial

The month would begin with Lee back in Virginia and McClellan starting to move again, although slowly and with several delays. Braxton Bragg and his battered army were back in Tennessee. Rosecrans had beaten Van Dorn at Corinth and the Confederate Army retreated from the area. Grant was preparing an overland campaign down the north-south railroad, aimed at Vicksburg. The hoped for foreign recognition of the South was dimmed. In the North there was scattered resistance to the draft.

**November 1, 1862** • In Kentucky, the new Federal commander, Rosecrans, was prepared to resume operations against Braxton Bragg's Confederates. On the Mississippi River, Grant, aware of the political intrigue occurring behind his back by Major General John McClelland, prepared an overland campaign against Vicksburg. Benjamin Butler in New Orleans issued orders tightening pass requirements and authorizing discharge from confinement of "all slaves not known to be the slaves of loyal owners."

In Richmond, Jefferson Davis worried about raising troops and the danger of Federal invasion of the coasts.

**November 3, 1862** • Longstreet's Confederates arrive at Culpeper Court House, Virginia, moving in from the Valley in order to get in front of McClellan who was now at Warrenton. Jackson's forces remained in the Shenandoah Valley.

**November 4, 1862** • In the North, Democrats made strong gains in Federal elections in New York, New Jersey, Illinois and Wisconsin. Republicans kept control of the House of Representatives with victories in New England, the border slave states, California and Michigan.

Grant's forces occupied La Grange and Grand Junction, Tennessee, important rail and road keys to northern Mississippi, as plans for a drive on Vicksburg continued to progress.

**November 5, 1862** • *By direction of the President, it is ordered that Major General McClellan be relieved from the command of the Army of the Potomac; and that Major General Burnside take the command of the Army.*

After months of pressure from all sides, President Lincoln had finally reached the end of his patience with McClellan. Two days later the general was informed. Burnside, recognizing his limitations, told the president that he did not want the command and was unfit for it. At the same time, Major General Fitz John Porter was relieved from his corps command for his willful disobedience at Second Manassas and was replaced by Joseph Hooker. Porter would be cashiered from the army on January 21, 1863, and would spend the rest of his life trying to clear his name. In 1878, a board headed by General John Schofield exonerated Porter, and in 1886 President Grover Cleveland signed a bill restoring the rank of Colonel to Porter with no back pay.

**November 6, 1862** • In Richmond, James Longstreet and Stonewall Jackson were promoted from Major General to Lieutenant General and were given command of the First and Second Army Corps.

**November 7, 1862** • At close to midnight an officer from Washington arrived at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac with the order relieving McClellan of command. McClellan would write, "I am sure that not the slightest expression of feeling was visible on my face." He would also write, "Poor Burnside feels dreadfully, almost crazy - I am sorry for him."

Braxton Bragg, resuming command of the Army of the Mississippi assigned the two corps of his army to Leonidas Polk and William Hardee.

In Kentucky, Rosecrans was moving his army to Nashville.

**November 8, 1862** • In Tennessee, Grant continued reconnaissance from La Grange.

In New Orleans, Major General Benjamin Butler ordered all the breweries and distilleries in the city closed. In Washington, President Lincoln appoints Major General Nathaniel Banks to replace Butler as commander of the Union Department of the Gulf. It was made clear to Banks that his job was to open the Mississippi River.

**November 9, 1862** • Major General Ambrose Burnside assumed command of the Army of the Potomac located at Warrenton, Virginia.

Greenville, North Carolina, surrendered to a joint Army-Navy landing party commanded by Second Assistant Engineer J.L. Lay of the *U.S.S. Louisiana*. Federal cavalry under Ulric Dahlgren made a dash into Fredericksburg, Virginia.

**November 10, 1862** • McClellan takes his leave of the Army of the Potomac. One soldier would write:

*The men were wild with excitement. They threw their hats into the air and cheered their old commander as long as his escort was in sight.*

**November 13, 1862** • Federal troops took possession of the rail center at Holly Springs, Mississippi, after a brief skirmish. Braxton Bragg began moving the main body of the Army of Tennessee from Chattanooga toward Murfreesboro to join Breckinridge.

President Lincoln charges Attorney General Edward Bates with enforcement of the Federal Confiscation Act.

**November 14, 1862** • Burnside reorganized his army into grand divisions: the Right Grand Division under Major General Edwin V. Sumner, The Central Grand Division under Major General Joseph Hooker, and the Left Grand Division under Major General William B. Franklin.

Admiral Farragut arrived in New Orleans where he finds a French admiral with two vessels and a British corvette off the city.

**November 15, 1862** • The Army of the Potomac begins its move from Warrenton, Virginia towards Fredericksburg.

In Washington, President Lincoln, accompanied by Secretaries Seward and Chase, drove to the Navy Yard to watch the trial of the Hyde Rocket. In Richmond, President Davis accepted the resignation of Secretary of War, George W. Randolph.

**November 16, 1862** • Burnside moves his headquarters from Warrenton to Catlett's Station as his army moved towards Fredericksburg, closely watched and followed by part of Lee's army.

**November 17, 1862** • Sumner's Right Grand Division arrives at Fal-mouth on the bluffs across the Rappahannock from Fredericksburg.

In Richmond, President Davis names Major General G.W. Smith as temporary Secretary of War of the Confederacy.

**November 19, 1862** • After marching from the main base at Culpeper, Longstreet brought his corps onto Marye's Heights near Fredericksburg. Burnside arrives on the same day making his headquarters near Fal-mouth, across the river.

**November 20, 1862** • Lee arrives at Fredericksburg as the build-up of Union and Confederate forces continues. Jackson's corps are still at Winchester, about to move to Fredericksburg.

*continued on page 7*

AND SO IT CONTINUES...continued from page 6

**November 21, 1862** • President Davis appoints James A. Seddon, a prominent Richmond lawyer and former U.S. and Confederate congressman, as Secretary of War.

General Nathan Bedford Forrest is sent to western Tennessee by Braxton Bragg to cut the communications of both Grant's and Rosecrans's armies.

Burnside asks Fredericksburg to surrender and is refused. He threatens bombardment of the city and gives the city sixteen hours to remove the sick, wounded, women, children, aged and infirm. The mayor requested more time.

**November 22, 1862** • Federal General E.V. Sumner agreed not to bombard Fredericksburg despite the ultimatum given the day before "so long as no hostile demonstration is made from the town."

**November 23, 1862** • Federal Naval Lieutenant William Cushing with the steamer *Ellis* went up New River, North Carolina, and at Jacksonville captured two schooners. While returning, the *Ellis* ran onto a shoal — Cushing would escape in one of the captured schooners.

**November 24, 1862** • Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston was assigned to the major command of the West, which included western North Carolina, Tennessee, northern Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and eastern Louisiana. Johnston's main task would be the supervision of Bragg in Tennessee and Pemberton in Vicksburg. Bragg was moving his three corps to Murfreesboro while Jackson's corps were well on their way from Winchester to Fredericksburg.

President Lincoln would write to politician Carl Schurz: "I certainly know that if the war fails, the administration fails, and that I will be blamed for it, whether I deserve it or not."

**November 25, 1862** • Confederate cavalry cross the Potomac at Poolesville, Maryland, and briefly seize the government telegraph office.

Confederate Major General Samuel Jones is assigned to command the Trans-Allegheny or Western Department of Virginia.

**November 26, 1862** • President Lincoln went down the Potomac to Belle Plain for a conference with Burnside. President Davis writes to the governors of the Confederate states appealing for aid in enrolling conscripts and forwarding them to rendezvous and replace all absent without leave in the army. Davis would also call for the use of slave labor on defense works.

**November 27, 1862** • President Lincoln would spend the morning at Aquia Creek, Virginia, conferring with Burnside.

Rear Admiral Farragut would write from New Orleans:

*I am still doing nothing, but waiting for the ride of events and doing all I can to hold what I have, and blockade Mobile... We shall spoil unless we have a fight occasionally.*

**November 29, 1862** • Major General John B. Magruder, C.S.A. assumed command of the District of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

**November 30, 1862** • The month would end quietly. It had been a month of lesser fighting, command changes, and preparations by both sides. It was the lull before the upcoming storm.

And so it continues.

YOU WEREN'T THERE WHEN HE STORMED NORMANDY ON D-DAY.

YOU WEREN'T THERE WHEN 70% OF HIS PLATOON WAS GUNNED DOWN.

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# A SAVAS BEATIE INTERVIEW WITH THOMAS CLEMENS

**SB:** Why did you decide to write *The Maryland Campaign, Volume II: Antietam*?

**TC:** I had always set my sights on doing the entire Carman manuscript even though it was an ambitious goal and would take many years. Carman's account was just so fascinating and I wanted to continue after *Volume I: South Mountain* was written. I'm a very stubborn person, and once I decided to do the whole thing, there really was no choice.

**SB:** Can you give us some background information on Ezra Carman?

**TC:** Ezra Carman was from New Jersey. He entered into the Union army in late 1861. He was a Colonel of a recently-recruited regiment in the Maryland Campaign and he fought at Antietam. He was fascinated with the Campaign and the battles, so he started documenting it. Carman was often exposed to combat and was in more than 20 battles. He later became a member of the Antietam National Cemetery Board of Trustees. He then landed his dream job in 1894, and was appointed to the recently-created Antietam Battlefield Board, where his job title was "historical expert." Here he was able to study the battle and was instructed to write a "pamphlet" as a guide for Congress about future development of the Battlefield. The pamphlet he wrote continued to grow and eventually became his 1,800 page manuscript.

**SB:** How did Carman gather his information, and from whom?

**TC:** Carman gathered his information from a wide variety of sources. He used the after-action reports of various commanders in the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies in the War of the Rebellion that were printed and published by the government in the 1880s. He also read and used regimental histories as well as newspaper stories. He spoke with hundreds of survivors from the war to gather personal accounts, from Generals to Privates, for his narrative. Many veterans also sent letters and returned map sections marked with the positions their regiment occupied during the battle.

**SB:** What do you think motivated Carman to write this manuscript?

**TC:** I don't know that I could put my finger on it exactly, but he mentioned several times in his diary that he wanted to create the most accurate account of the story as possible, and he seems to have done this very successfully. It remains the most authoritative narrative of what happened at the Sharpsburg battle that has ever been printed.

**SB:** Is there evidence former Confederates trusted Carman to tell their story accurately?

**TC:** Yes, for example, J. Thompson Brown from Richmond, Virginia, wrote several letters about how Carman was the right man in the right place. Brown said the Confederates could send Carman their stories because he was trustworthy and that their stories would be told accurately. In his papers Carman has an after-action report of a Confederate brigade that is not in government records. This speaks about how Carman was trusted to use information fairly and accurately.

**SB:** How do you rate Carman as a historian?

**TC:** Carman is a very good historian, although he was not professionally trained, as few were in those days. He understood the importance of having primary accounts and getting these accounts from people firsthand. For example, in order to get the most accurate story for finding the famous Lost Order, Carman wrote to the officer who verified the signature and he got that officer's memoirs about what happened. This shows how much Carman cared to have the most truthful story possible. Having said all that, Carman was not perfect. He seemed to take the testimony of an awful lot of senior leaders at face value when modern historical investigation suggests that these people were not being entirely honest with him.

**SB:** How does *The Maryland Campaign, Volume II: Antietam* compare with other books on Antietam?

**TC:** Well, obviously what I'm doing is annotating Carman's narrative, not changing it. I tried to summarize new information in the footnotes of the book to make it as accurate as possible. Very early in the process it became clear I could not, and would not, try to write the definitive story of Antietam in the footnotes of Carman's manuscript.

**SB:** How were the maps created?

**TC:** The maps that Carman created traced the action of the battle from daybreak to dusk and are the most accurate maps of any Civil War battle fought. Carman expended an extraordinary amount of time and energy to get these maps as accurate as possible. He cut out small portions of a base map and sent it to hundreds of veterans asking them to mark on it where their regiments were in the battle. He also met and walked the field with hundreds of veterans that came to visit the battlefield so he could place the regiments as precisely as possible.

**SB:** Can you tell us about the maps within this volume?

**TC:** The level of detail he includes in the maps is extraordinary. From his research, he added what types of crops were in the field, the types of fencing, farm layouts, plus roads that are in the area of Sharpsburg. When they were completed in 1904 he sent copies of them to veterans of the war and solicited their response. In 1908, the maps were re-issued with the corrections that veterans had sent Carman.

**SB:** What kinds of research did you do for *Volume II* compared to *Volume I*?

**TC:** The research process in this was in some ways simpler than *Volume I* in that I didn't have to delve into politics, presidential directives and a lot of strategy, but the tradeoff was even though it was more focused on the battle itself, I had to gather, categorize, read, and then use literally thousands of pages of letters written to the Battlefield Board by veterans. Carman used those letters but he would not always cite where he was getting his information from. I also had to consult a large number of regimental histories and memoirs. Many of these are quite scarce, but luckily are available online.

**SB:** How long did it take you to complete *Volume II*?

**TC:** I began it probably a little over two years ago after *Volume I* was published. Of course, I spent many years before that acquiring other materials such as the Battlefield Board letters and the Gould papers. From there, I organized the material into a database categorizing the information for *Volume II* since I needed it for *Volume I*. I was surprised at how much I had to dig into the memoirs and personal accounts of dozens of soldiers in order to complete *Volume II*.

**SB:** In the introduction to *Volume II*, you mention that you negotiated several flights of stairs after a hip replacement while trying to do your research. Can you tell us more about this story?

**TC:** That was going up to the New Jersey Historical Society where a friend of mine had discovered a cache of photographs that were taken while Carman was working on his narrative. I wanted to use these photos because they would help me interpret Carman's notes and letters. I had just had my hip replaced and was in the midst of recovery when my friend offered to take me to the Historical Society to see the pictures. We walked in the front door and were told that the library was on the 5th floor and that the elevator had just broken down. I had driven hundreds of miles to come see the photographs so nothing was going to stop me now. Carman's diary is also at the Historical Society, where he talks in detail about what is going on during the war.



**SB:** What are some features of *Volume II* that you think readers will really enjoy?

**TC:** The book is by far the most detailed and complex narrative of the battle. By having it coordinated to the maps, I think readers can get a great sense of the layout of the battle. The maps really show the terrain of the battlefield as well as great details about the vegetation and crops. If the soldiers were attacking uphill in the woods, you are able to see that because of all the detail Carman recorded and included on the maps. It really takes the reader into the footsteps of these soldiers. You get that sense from the maps and description about what is going on in the battle. Carman is able to do this because he takes from the words of the veterans themselves. Something that is critical about this manuscript is that everyone who has ever written on the Maryland Campaign or on Antietam, has used the Carman manuscript. The same question is posed to every researcher: How does Carman know what he's talking about? This became the driving question that I tried to answer. Even though Carman was a participant in the battle, his participation was limited, so he had to have been getting his information from other sources in addition to his memory. A pleasant surprise was that after many years of research, most often, Carman was very accurate. It was only in a few places that I have questioned his reliability. I found very few factual errors. This is incredible for someone who wrote over 100 years ago.

**SB:** Thank you for your time, we appreciate it.

**TC:** You're welcome.

*The Maryland Campaign of September 1862, Volume II: Antietam*, Ezra A. Carman, edited and annotated by Thomas G. Clemens. Hardcover, 672 pages, \$37.50. ISBN: 978-1-61121-114-6, ebook: 978-1-61121-115-3. On sale now at [www.savasbeatie.com](http://www.savasbeatie.com) or [sales@savasbeatie.com](mailto:sales@savasbeatie.com).



In November 1947, Charles S. Schwartz's topic was "Civil War Ordnance."

W. T. Duganne spoke about "The Confederate Navy" at the November 1953 meeting.

In November 1962, Everett Lewy spoke about "Chickamauga."

Fredrick I. Olson spoke about "Refractions of the Civil War in Wisconsin" at the November 1973 meeting.

In November 1981, Lowell Reidenbaugh was our speaker. The topic at that meeting was "Stonewall Jackson at White Oak Swamp."

Brooks Davis visited our Round Table in November 1995 and spoke about "Commanders-in-Chief: Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis."

In November 2002, "The Stonewall Brigade" was speaker John W. Schildt's topic.

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**LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION  
TO OPEN NOVEMBER 12, 2012  
Rare Documents, Artifacts to Reveal Human Side of the Civil War**

More than 175 unique items—many never before on public view—from the Library's unparalleled Civil War collections, will be featured in the exhibition. "The Civil War in America" will be free and open to the public, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, from Nov. 12, 2012, to June 1, 2013, in the Southwest Exhibition Gallery of the Thomas Jefferson Building at 10 First Street S.E., Washington, D.C. The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the James Madison Council. Additional funding is provided by Union Pacific Corporation, the Liljenquist family and AARP.

"The Civil War in America" will tell the story of the nation's greatest military and political upheaval. Through diaries, letters, maps, song sheets, newspapers and broadsides, photographs, drawings and unusual artifacts, the exhibition will chronicle the sacrifices and accomplishments of

those—from both the North and South—whose lives were lost or affected by the events of 1861–1865.

The exhibition will reveal the complexity of the Civil War through those who experienced it first-hand. It will feature pivotal documents, such as Lincoln's own reading copy of the second Inaugural Address and Confederate Major Jedediah Hotchkiss's strategic map made for Stonewall Jackson's historic Shenandoah campaign, together with little-known gems, including the poignant diary of Georgia teenager LeRoy Gresham and moving war accounts penned by Union veterans who lost limbs in the war. The exhibition will offer a human perspective on the war and shed new light on the many ways that this terrible conflict helped shape the American people and the nation. An exhibit preview is available at <http://myloc.gov/exhibitions/civil-war-in-america/Pages/default.aspx>

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## Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for November 8, 2012

Mail your reservations by Monday, November 5, 2012, to: **ALSO, call in reservations to:**  
**Paul Eilbes** (262) 376-0568  
**1809 Washington Ave.**  
**Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730**

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (meal price \$25.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for November 8, 2012, 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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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.

## 2012 – 2013 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

December 13, 2012 (at the Country Club)  
Dale Philips – Red River

January 10, 2013:  
Dave Powell – Confederate Cavalry at Chickamauga

February 7, 2013  
Dr. Mary Ambroe  
Lt. Col. Charles Grosvenor, 18th Ohio Inf. Rgt.

March 7, 2013  
Lance Herdegen  
The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory

April 11, 2013  
John Fitzpatrick – Lincoln at Gettysburg

May 9, 2013  
Ethan Rafuse – Lee and Gettysburg

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