GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. and The Iron Brigade Association



JUNE 12, 2014

KENNETH W. NOEThe War in Appalachia

This was a war where men rode to the house of a neighbor they had known for many years, called him to the door and shot him dead; where other men left homes and wives and children and trekked north in cold and rain to serve the army and cause of their choice; where still others served in poorly supplied, poorly equipped, nearly forgotten units to protect border and home...

— Noel Fisher, author

In 1860, voting records indicated that fewer than 20% of residents of the three Smoky Mountain counties in Tennessee supported secession; in the North Carolina Smokies that percentage would grow to about 46%. Several reasons factor into this difference: long-held loyalties to the United States, a distrust of powerful and wealthy pro-secession groups, the view that it was a rich man's war but a poor man's fight and rugged mountain independence. To Appalachian residents, the real war was at home and not on some distant battlefield.

As the war progressed, rifts tore into communities, churches and families. The effect of these rifts can still be felt today in the area's local history, gravestones, music and folklore.

Our June speaker, Kenneth Noe, will be ex-

ploring the many facets of the war in Appalachia and just how these mountain communities and their counterparts in the towns were affected by the war and the split in loyalties between the Union and Confederacy.

A native of Virginia, Noe received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, where he studied under the late Robert W. Johannssen. He then taught at West Georgia College for ten years before going to Auburn in 2000 where he is Alumni Professor and Draughon Professor of Southern History. His major teaching and research areas are the American Civil War and Appalachian history. Ken is the author or editor of seven books including: *Reluctant Rebels: The Confederates Who Joined the Army After 1861* (Chapel Hill, 2010); *Perryville: This Grand Havoc of Battle* (Lexington, 2002); *The Civil War in Appalachia: Collected Essays*, co-edited with Shannon H. Wilson (Knoxville, 1997) and *A Southern Boy in Blue: The Memoir of Marcus Woodcock, 9th Kentucky Infantry (U.S.A.)* (Knoxville, 1996).

Dr. Noe is a frequent speaker on the Civil War Round Table circuit, and a participant in the Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lectureship Program. He was the 2008-2009 president of the Alabama Historical Association. He currently serves on the Board of Editors of *Civil War History*, and was a consultant to the NBC series *Who Do You Think You Are?*



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JUNE MEETING AT A GLANCE

Kenneth W. Noe, "The War in Appalachia" June 12, 2014

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, June 9, 2014
See page 11.

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

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS

FROM YOUR TREASURER

The September *General Orders* will include your dues renewal notice. A postage paid envelope will also be included with the newsletter. Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30, and all memberships come due at this time. Please return your dues promptly; this saves the Round Table the cost of sending out further reminders. Thank you for being a member of our Round Table!

2014-2015 ROUND TABLE SPEAKER SCHEDULE

September 11, 2014: Prof. Frank Varney, "Gen. Grant & the Rewriting of History"

October 9, 2014: Mark Bradley, "When East Meets West: Joe Hooker, Oliver O. Howard & the Atlanta Campaign"

November 13, 2014: Prof. Steven Towne, TBD

December 11, 2014: Jim Ogden, Nevins-Freeman Address, TBD

January 8, 2015: Father Robert Miller, "The Most Christian Nation in the World: Religion in American Culture on the Eve of the Civil War"

February 12, 2015: Leslie Goddard, "Gone with the Wind and Popular Culture"

March 12, 2015: Thomas Huntington, "Searching for George Gordon Meade"

April 9, 2015: Prof. Michael Burlingame, "The Assassination of President Abraham Lincoln"

May 7, 2015: Eric Leonard, "Code and Consequence at Andersonville"

June 11, 2015: Gary Adelman, "4D Civil War Photography Extravaganza"

Speakers and topics are subject to change.

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.

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS APPRECIATED

Please remember that our dinner counts are due at least forty-eight hours before the dinner meeting. We are always happy to see you and welcome you to the meeting and will make every attempt to accommodate everyone who comes, but we cannot always guarantee a dinner that evening if you have not called, emailed or sent in your reservation. If you do find yourself suddenly free the evening of our presentation, you are always welcome to come and hear the speaker after dinner, at no charge. Thank you for your understanding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS • EVENTS • MEETINGS

June 13, 2014

Flag Day Celebration, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

July 7-10, 2014

Marquette University High School Civil War Summer Institute

For information: email Mr. Chris Lese, lese@muhs.edu or visit Justdohistory.wordpress.com

July 19-20, 2014

Old Falls Village Civil War Encampment
Menomonee Falls

http://www.oldfallsvillage.com/eventsofv.htm

August 1-3, 2014

22nd Annual Muskets and Memories

Civil War Era Reenactment and GAR Heritage Encampment General Admission \$8 per day, Ages 7-12 - \$4, under 7 – free For a complete schedule visit:

http://www.musketsand memories.net/sched.html

September 13, 2014

7th Annual Civil War Forum, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

1864: Hard and Total War

\$60/\$50 Friends of the Museum (includes lunch and admission to the Fiery Trial)

September 27-28, 2014

24th Annual Civil War Weekend, 9-5 p.m.

Wade House

Adults - \$14, students/seniors (65 & older) \$12; children (5-17) \$7; under 5 free; family \$38

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 from July 1, 2013, through May 8, 2014.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

James Wiensch

Patron (\$200 - \$299)

Crain Bliwas, Grant Johnson, Stephen Leopold

Associate (\$100 - \$199)

Michael Benton, Tom Corcoran, Paul Eilbes, David Kaminski, Dr. Raymond Pahle, Christine Plichta, Laura Rinaldi, Paul Sotirini, Gil Vraney

Contributor (Up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Robert Christie, Dean Collins, John & Linda Connelly, Dr. G.E. Dammann, Bob Dude, Ted Fehing, A. William Finke, Richard Gross, Lance Herdegen, Dr. Erwin Huston, Gene & Jane Jamrozy, Christopher Johnson, David Jordan, Dr. Bob Karczewski, Ardis Kelling, Frank Kosednar, Fred Madsen, Dr. Rodney Malinowski, Tom Olsen, Bob Parrish, Ann & James Reeve II, Chet Rohn, David & Helga Sartori, Dan Tanty, Bernard VanDinter

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

SECOND FRIDAY LUNCHBOX SERIES

Who the Heck is Abner Doubleday? Baseball and the Civil War June 13, 2014, Noon

Civil War soldiers spent more time playing baseball than they did fighting battles. Prof. Bruce Allardice takes a sometimes serious, sometimes humorous look at our national pastime and how it was played during the war.

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

5TH ANNUAL SALUTE TO FREEDOM June 21, 2014

This year's event will feature an 1864 Encampment with Midwestern troops on leave and a lively impression of a Soldiers Aid Fair. The event is free and open to the public. *Sponsored by the West Side Soldiers Aid Society.*

A SOLDIER'S LIFE

Saturday, August 16, 2014, Noon – 4 p.m.

Taylor's Battery living history group will display and discuss authentic Civil War artifacts outside the museum. Watch demonstrations of loading and firing a cannon. Ask questions about the war and take your photo with the group and cannon. A free, family friendly event.

MR. LINCOLN'S AIR FORCE: CIVIL WAR BALLOONING ON BOTH SIDES OF THE LINE

August 26, 2014, 5:30 pm Social Hour and Dinner; 7 pm Program

Presented by Dr. Tom D. Crouch, senior curator of aeronautics, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Crouch describes the roots of aerial reconnaissance in the Civil War and traces the creation, operation and decline of the U.S. Army Balloon Corps headed by T.S.C. Lowe. Combat operations of the Corps, 1861-1863, will be described as well as Confederate attempts to counter the Union effort with observation balloons of their own.

Dinner and Program: \$40/\$30 (Friends of the Museum) Program Only: \$15/\$10 (Friends of the Museum)

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

AUTHOR! AUTHOR! COMING IN OCTOBER 2014

The Civil War Museum proudly announces that it will host two major Civil War authors for lectures and book signings.

Wednesday, October 8, 2014 Dr. James McPherson

Dr. McPherson will discuss his new book on Jefferson Davis, *Embattled Rebel: Jefferson Davis as Commander in Chief.* A limited number of spaces will be available for a 5:30 pm dinner before Dr. McPherson's lecture. You can choose to attend just the program which will start at 7 pm. Entrance to the lecture is free, but the museum will ask for a donation to help finance future speaking engagements and educational programs put on by its Education Department.

Thursday, October 30, 2014 Harold Holzer

Mr. Holzer will discuss his latest work on Lincoln and the press, *Lincoln and the Power of the Press: The War for Public Opinion*. Again, entrance to the lecture will be free, but the museum will ask for a donation to help support its educational programming.

At both events, the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop of Chicago will have first edition copies of the authors' works available for purchase and signing.

7TH ANNUAL CIVIL WAR FORUM 1864: HARD AND TOTAL WAR

September 13, 2014

\$60/\$50 Friends of the Museum Registration for this popular event is now open. Call the Civil War Museum at (262) 653-4140

For more information on Civil War Museum programs, exhibits, and membership, call (262) 653-414 or visit the website: www.kenosha.org/wp-civilwar/





Band of the 114th Pennsylvania Infantry in front of Petersburg, Virginia, August 1864, Library of Congress: LC-B8184-7346

Listen to Civil War music in our area this summer!

1st Brigade Band: http://www.1stbrigadeband.org/index.php/performance
Regimental Volunteer Band of Wisconsin: http://webpages.charter.net/
hconverse/RVB/

AND SO IT CONTINUES: Summer 1864... Marking the Civil War Sesquicentennial

JUNE 1864

June would find Confederate forces being attacked on two fronts, Virginia and Georgia, with supply problems increasing. Southern railroads were wearing down at a rapid rate with many of the east-west trunk lines in Union hands. In the North, casualty lists from the Wilderness and Spotsylvania were reaching home causing Northern morale to plummet. Peace Democrats, among others, were urging negotiation or other non-combative methods to end the war.

June 1, 1864 • Union forces arrive at Cold Harbor to find the Confederates in possession of the field and digging in. R.H. Anderson's Confederate infantry attacked Sheridan's Federal cavalry near Old Cold Harbor in the morning; two Southern charges were defeated. Action would continue on both flanks of the lines until late in the day without any significant gains. At day's end, both lines continued to entrench with the Federals intent on renewing the offensive in the morning.

In Georgia, Federal cavalry under George Stoneman capture Allatoona Pass providing Sherman with his rail link to Chattanooga and ensuring that his supply line would be open.

In the Shenandoah Valley, Confederate and Union forces continued to engage with the Confederates falling back up the valley. In Tennessee, Brigadier General S.D. Sturgis moved out of Memphis with 8,000 cavalry and infantry intent on finding and destroying Nathan Bedford Forrest.

President Davis ordered Major General Robert Ransom, commanding at Richmond, to summon local forces to the Chickahominy to meet the threat to the capital. Lee urged Beauregard to move part of his command north of the James in order to cover the area from the James north to the Chickahominy in front of Richmond.

June 2, 1864 • On the second day of the Battle of Cold Harbor Grant's planned morning attack is delayed until five in the afternoon. Sharp skirmishes would occur in the morning of a hot day that would end with rain in the evening. The attack was once again postponed to the following morning.

Sherman shifted his three armies northeastward towards the railroad that linked Atlanta and Chattanooga with the rebels digging in further along the New Hope Church line.

In the Lynchburg Campaign 16,000 Federals opposed half that number under W.E. "Grumble" Jones at Covington, Virginia.

June 3, 1864 ● At 4:30 a.m. the attack by Grant, Meade, and the Army of the Potomac began at Cold Harbor. The Confederates, with two days of preparation, were well fortified. The headlong attack against the Confederate forces would prove costly for Grant. Federal lines were enfiladed and the resulting slaughter was devastating. A great victory for Lee, it would be his last major triumph in all out battle. Federals killed and wounded is estimated at about 7,000 in one hour with an additional 5,000 more for June 1 and 2. The South would lose about 1,500 of their 60,000 engaged. At around noon Grant called off the entire attack. Grant would rue his decision to attack at Cold Harbor. Charles Francis Adams, Jr., wrote that the army "has literally marched in blood

and agony from the Rapidan to the James."

At Cold Harbor, in a five minute time period, nearly one-half of the 11th Connecticut Volunteer Regiment was killed or wounded.

June 4, 1864 • In Georgia, in a rainstorm, Joe Johnston began to move his Army of Tennessee from the New Hope Church area outside Atlanta northward to Pine Mountain. Johnston was once again in front of Sherman.

Federal forces under S.D. Sturgis continue to march into northern Mississippi toward Forrest's Confederates.

June 5, 1864 • In the Shenandoah Valley, Hunter's Union forces move towards Staunton, forcing the Confederates under "Grumble" Jones to do battle at Piedmont. The Confederates were defeated; Jones was killed and Hunter's troops looted Staunton.

In Georgia, Sherman was moving northeast toward the Atlanta-Chattanooga rail line and Johnston's position on the mountains near Marietta. At Cold Harbor, Grant proposed an arrangement to Lee for a truce to remove the wounded and the dead from the field. On the seventh a truce was agreed upon.

June 6, 1864 ● Sherman continued shifting his position in Georgia with skirmishing at Big Shanty and Raccoon Creek.

June 7, 1864 ● Delegates to the National Union Convention gathered in Baltimore to nominate a candidate for the presidency with almost unanimous support for Lincoln. Federal troops under Sturgis skirmish with Confederates at Ripley, Mississippi.

June 8, 1864 • Lincoln is nominated for a second term; Andrew Johnson of Tennessee was named as his running mate.

In Georgia, Sherman's troops were traveling through mud in their move to the Western & Atlantic Railroad near Pine Mountain. In the Shenandoah Valley, Hunter is joined by Generals Crook and Averell on the drive to Lynchburg. In Kentucky, John Hunt Morgan and his men capture the town of Mt. Sterling and its Union garrison. Some of Morgan's men rob the local bank of over \$18,000.

June 9, 1864 ● President Lincoln, notified of his nomination, calls for a constitutional amendment prohibiting slavery. In the evening Lincoln is serenaded by a brass band.

Sherman is ready to move against Johnston at Pine Mountain. At Cold Harbor, Grant orders the building of fortifications to cover his movement to the left. President Davis warns Lee that, "The indications are that Grant, despairing of a direct attack, is now seeking to embarrass you by flank movements."

June 10, 1864 ● Near Pine Mountain, Sherman moves his troops through the mud toward the Rebel works. In Mississippi, near Brice's Crossroads, south of Corinth, Sturgis finally finds Forrest. The Confederates attack the Federals, exhausted by their rapid march and hot weather. The Federals would lose their artillery, over 170 wagons and supplies and over 1,500 prisoners to the inferior force of the Confederates.

At Cold Harbor, Grant moved towards the James River crossings. In the Shenandoah Valley, Hunter moved towards Lynchburg.

The Confederate Congress authorizes military service for men



between seventeen and eighteen years of age and between fortyfive and fifty.

June 11, 1864 ● In the Shenandoah Valley, Hunter's Federals enter Lexington, Virginia and would spend the next three days looting the town and destroying much of the Virginia Military Institute.

In Virginia, Sheridan takes on both Wade Hampton and Fitzhugh Lee in cavalry action at Trevilian Station. The Federals would win but Sheridan would decide that he had an insufficient force and gave up trying to join Hunter in the Valley.

June 12, 1864 ● In Georgia, supplies for the Union Army are being brought in from Chattanooga; communication lines are strengthened.

At Cold Harbor, the Army of the Potomac began its move across the James River in one of the great army movements in military history. Warren's Corps was left behind to cover Grant's movement and to hold Lee's forces as long as possible.

At Trevilian Station, Sheridan unsuccessfully attacked Hampton's entrenchments. Sheridan would give up and return to the Richmond area to rejoin Grant.

In Mississippi, Sturgis retreats after being defeated by Forrest at Brice's Crossroads. Forrest's cavalry continues to harass the Federal Cavalry.

June 13, 1864 ● In Georgia, Sherman waits for the weather to clear to begin his advance. Pvt. Jackman of The Orphan Brigade would write from Pine Mountain:

Did not sleep any last night as the rain was pouring down and I had to sit by a fire all night with my blanket thrown over my head. Raining all day long — slacked up at night. Heard locomotive whistling at Big Shanty which is not very far above Kennesaw. Sherman is bringing the cars with him.

Lee, learning that the Federals had left Cold Harbor, begins to rapidly shift his troops to cover Richmond and Petersburg. Sturgis's force was back in Tennessee. In the Shenandoah Valley, Hunter moved on towards Lynchburg.

June 14, 1864 ◆ At Pine Mountain, Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk was killed by a three inch cannon shot. Polk was hit in the chest and died instantly.

The Army of the Potomac crossed the James River on pontoon bridges and boat before Lee understood their intent. In Richmond, the Confederate Congress adjourned after passing new taxes on property and income.

June 15, 1864 ● On the Georgia front, George H. Thomas moved his army forward beyond Pine Mountain toward Kennesaw.

Federals, through a mix-up of orders, lack of rations, poor maps, missed opportunities and delays by commanders along with a brave defense by Beauregard, failed to take Petersburg, lengthening the war.

In Washington, Lincoln would wire Grant, "I begin to see it. You will succeed. God bless you all."

June 16, 1864 ● Beauregard moves all but a few troops from the Bermuda Hundred lines to reinforce the Petersburg line against the Federals. On the Bermuda Hundred front Federals took the weakened Confederate lines. Lee, still unsure that Grant was in force south of the James, sent two divisions to reoccupy the Bermuda Hundred positions.

In the Valley, Hunter was holding Lynchburg under siege with Breckinridge and with Early's troops hurrying to assist.

President Lincoln traveled to Philadelphia for the Great Central Fair. In the main address at the Sanitary Fair Lincoln would address the crowd saying:

War, at the best, is terrible, and this war of ours, in its magnitude and in its duration, is one of the most terrible... We accepted this war for an object, a worthy object, and the war will end when that object is obtained.

June 17, 1864 • Beauregard finally convinces Lee that the bulk of the Army of the Potomac had moved south of the James. Lee finally orders A.P. Hill's and R.H. Anderson's corps to Petersburg's defense.

In the Valley, Early and Breckinridge repulse all Hunter's attempts to take Lynchburg. Hunter's troops, low on ammunition and food, retreat.

At 8:30 a.m. a blast, followed by fire, hits the cartridge-making building of the Washington Arsenal; eighteen were killed or fatally injured with an additional fifteen to twenty injured.

June 18, 1864 • Grant determines that Petersburg could not be carried by assault and would have to be invested and the railroads cut off. The arrival of Lee and his main army stiffened the defenses; morning and afternoon attacks by the Army of the Potomac failed to gain the works. The North is now entrenched and the siege of Petersburg begins.

In the Valley, Hunter made light attacks against Early at Lynchburg. Hunter begins to withdraw northward realizing he cannot take Lynchburg and the reinforced Confederates.

In Georgia, Johnston moved his Army of Tennessee to a line of defense running mainly along Big and Little Kennesaw mountains.

June 19, 1864 ● The *U.S.S. Kearsarge* sinks the *C.S.S. Alabama* off Cherbourg, France.

Lee's troops dig in along the Petersburg line with little fighting taking place on this day. Early and Breckinridge chase Hunter

Continued on page 6

down the Valley and into western Virginia clearing the Shenandoah of any large Federal force.

June 20, 1864 • Sherman continues to press toward Johnston's new lines of defense at Kennesaw. In Petersburg the entrenchments were getting more complex and deeper. President Lincoln leaves Washington to visit Grant's army on the James.

June 21, 1864 ● At Petersburg, Grant and Meade order a cavalry raid against the railroads while extending their lines to the left — this action would continue until the siege lifted. Grant and Lincoln visit aboard a steamer at City Point and tour the lines on horseback.

In Georgia, Johnston feeling pressure from Sherman, sends Hood from the Confederate right to the left flank of Johnston's line.

President Davis accepts the resignation of Christopher G. Memminger as Secretary of the Treasury telling Memminger, "I knew the extreme difficulty of conducting the Treasury Department during the pending struggle."

June 22, 1864 ● Lee, to prevent the spread of the Federal left flank, sends A.P. Hill's corps to attack the Federal Second Corps. The Second Corps is driven back, losing 1,700 prisoners and halting Grant's drive against the Weldon and Petersburg Railroad. For the time being, Grant's plans to extend lines to the west were given up.

In Georgia, Hood's corps arrives on the Confederate left flank and makes an attack at Zion Church; the attack is repulsed by the Federals.

June 23, 1864 • Weather improves in Georgia with the roads drying out. Sherman plans an attack against Johnston's strong position.

June 24, 1864 ● At St. Mary's Church, Virginia, Sheridan's wagon train and troops are attacked by Confederate cavalry; they fall back in confusion but still retain the wagon train.

The Constitutional Convention of Maryland votes to abolish slavery.

June 25, 1864 ● Federal engineers at Petersburg begin digging a tunnel toward the Confederate lines with the intention of blowing apart the Southern earthworks.

June 26, 1864 • Sheridan's cavalry and wagon trains cross the James by ferry and move to join the main army.

June 27, 1864 ● Sherman's armies of the Cumberland and the Tennessee attack the Rebels at Big and Little Kennesaw Mountains in Georgia with the Army of the Ohio attacking the Confederate left flank. Federals rushed up the slopes against Johnston's well entrenched positions, seizing outpost positions but failing to break the main lines. It was a serious defeat for Sherman with the Union losing nearly 2,000 killed, wounded or missing compared to a Confederate loss of about 442 killed, wounded or missing.

President Lincoln formally accepted the nomination for President.

June 28, 1864 • President Lincoln signed a bill repealing the fugitive slave acts. Johnston, in Georgia, prepared new defensive positions along the Chattahoochee, back of the Kennesaw line.

June 30, 1864 ● The month ends with Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon P. Chase resigning. Lincoln accepts the resignation writing to Chase:

You and I have reached a point of mutual embarrassment in our official relation which it seems can not be overcome, or longer sustained, consistently with the public service

In the Valley, Jubal Early and his troops arrive in New Market. In Georgia, Sherman reinforced his supply line back to Chattanooga posting troops all along the line. Grant held at Petersburg.

JULY 1864

The month would open with Lee entrenched around Petersburg and unable to leave. In Georgia, Union armies were forcing their way nearer to Atlanta. Jubal Early was moving north in the Shenandoah Valley. In the North, Congress was starting to press the President for strong reconstruction policies. Richmond, only a few miles away from the besieged Petersburg, was facing dire straits with their food situation worsening daily.

July 1, 1864 ● President Lincoln appoints Senator William Pitt Fessenden of Maine for the position of Secretary of the Treasury. The appointment was immediately confirmed. Major General Irvin McDowell assumes command of the Department of the Pacific.

July 2, 1864 ● Johnston evacuated his entrenchments on Kennesaw Mountain during the night and pulls back the entire front to a line below Marietta escaping being outflanked by Sherman. In Virginia, Early's Confederates, heading north toward the Potomac, reach Winchester.

The Federal Congress granted public land in the Pacific Northwest for railroad and telegraph lines and chartered the Northern Pacific Railroad.

July 3, 1864 ● Confederates move into the Harper's Ferry area. Sherman's armies move forward, past Kennesaw Mountain and through Marietta, toward Johnston's new line along Nickajack Creek.

July 4, 1864 ● The first session of the Thirty-Eighth Congress in Washington adjourned. Lincoln did not sign the controversial Wade-Davis reconstruction bill. At Harper's Ferry, Early's troops prepare to cross the Potomac.

July 5, 1864 • Early crosses the Potomac at Shepherdstown into Maryland. Sherman's Federals press Johnston's line on the Chattahoochee. Federal cavalry under A.J. Smith leave La Grange, Tennessee, heading for northern Mississippi in the hunt for Nathan Bedford Forrest.

July 6, 1864 ● Early's Confederates capture Hagerstown. In Washington, Federal authorities confer on reinforcing the defenses of the capital. Near Atlanta, Sherman and Johnston's forces skirmish at Nickajack Creek.

July 7, 1864 • Federal troops and militia hurry toward Washington and Maryland to protect the North and the capital. The Third Division of the Sixth Army Corps arrives at Baltimore from the Army of the Potomac at Petersburg.

July 8, 1864 • Major General Schofield, on Sherman's left flank, crosses the Chattahoochee River at Soap Creek with little opposition. Johnston evacuates his lines and withdraws to Peachtree Creek, closer to Atlanta. The Third Division of the Sixth Corp, now in Baltimore, prepares to advance against Early's Confederate force now coming towards Washington.

July 9, 1864 ● Major General Lew Wallace with 6,000 Federal troops, many inexperienced, untrained or short term men, faced

Early's superior force at Monocacy River between Frederick, Maryland, and Washington. The Union troops are finally routed but have delayed the advance of the Confederates by a day.

At Petersburg, Meade orders the Army of the Potomac to start regular siege approach lines to increase pressure on Lee's army.

In Georgia, Johnston, once again outflanked, takes his Army of Tennessee across the Chattahoochee; the Confederates destroy all bridges as they retire into previously prepared fortifications.

July 10, 1864 • Near Washington, Early's Confederates fight at Rockville and Gunpowder Bridge. Grant's two divisions from the Sixth Army Corps are en route to the city from City Point, Virginia.

President Lincoln and his family arrive back at the White House from their summer residence at the Soldiers' Home. Lincoln tells a Baltimore group that he can't believe Early is moving on Washington saying: "They can not fly to either place. Let us be vigilant but keep cool. I hope neither Baltimore nor Washington will be sacked."

July 11, 1864 ● At Silver Spring, Maryland, Early's forces burn the home of Postmaster General Blair and threaten several of the forts surrounding the city. Early orders an assault for the following day. In Washington, steamers carrying the veterans of the Sixth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, were unloading troops. Two divisions of the Nineteenth Corps from Grant's army arrive shortly after dark and unloading, head for the western defenses of the city. The President and Mrs. Lincoln visit the threatened Fort Stevens, where they witness an attack. Soldiers order the president away from the danger.

July 12, 1864 ● Early, seeing Federal troops moving into the fortifications of the capital, gives up his plans for assault and pulls his troops away from Washington. At night they head for the Potomac at Leesburg.

President Davis, disturbed over Georgia, writes to Lee:

Genl. Johnston has failed and there are strong indications that he will abandon Atlanta...It seems necessary to relieve him at once. Who should succeed him? What think you of Hood for the position?

July 13, 1864 ● Grant orders Major General Horatio Wright and the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps to pursue the retreating Early. By evening, Wright would have 15,000 troops on the pursuit.

Sherman, in Georgia, sends his cavalry around Atlanta to wreck the railroads and create havoc while he crossed the Chattahoochee River in preparation for his advance on the city. Davis tells Lee that General Bragg had arrived in Atlanta to investigate Johnston's failure to stop Sherman.

July 14, 1864 • Nathan Bedford Forrest saw defeat on this date when he failed to rout Major General Andrew Jackson Smith's Federal force at Harrisburg, near Tupelo, Mississippi. Smith's line repeatedly repulsed the Confederate assaults with heavy Confederate casualties.

At White's Ford near Leesburg, Virginia, Early's Confederate force was back across the Potomac and safe from the pursuing Federals.

July 15, 1864 • At Tupelo, Smith kept his Federals waiting for another Confederate attack until midafternoon when they began a slow retreat towards Memphis; Forrest followed but did not engage in another attack. Smith's withdrawing Federals did manage

to keep Forrest occupied and away from the railroad link carrying Sherman's supplies.

July 16, 1864 ● Early heads back toward the Shenandoah Valley. Smith and Forrest's men skirmish at Ellistown, Mississippi.

Sherman's move across the Chattahoochee and out around the north side of Atlanta toward Decatur on the east gets underway.

President Davis sends a wire to Johnston in Georgia:

...I wish to hear from you as to present situation and your plan of operations so specifically as will enable me to anticipate events.

Johnston would reply:

As the enemy has double our number, we must be on the defensive. My plan of operations must therefore, depend upon that of the enemy. It is mainly to watch for an opportunity to fight to advantage. We are trying to put Atlanta in condition to be held for a day or two by the Georgia militia, that army movements may be freer and wider.

July 17, 1864 ● Johnston receives a message at Nelson's House on the Marietta road three miles from Atlanta:

...as you failed to arrest the advance of the enemy to the vicinity of Atlanta, far in the interior of Georgia, and express no confidence that you can defeat or repel him, you are hereby relieved from the command of the Army and Department of Tennessee, which you will immediately turn over to General Hood.

July 18, 1864 ● President Lincoln issued a call for 500,000 volunteers, emphasizing the need to refill army ranks after the severe fighting in Virginia.

At Richmond, Davis names George A. Trenholm, a wealthy Charleston merchant, as Secretary of the Treasury — Trenholm reluctantly accepted.

July 19, 1864 ● Federals looking for Early's Confederate force found it near Berryville. Sharp fighting took place at Berry's Ford, Virginia. Early threw a major portion of his force against the Federals. At night Early retreated from Berryville toward Winchester in the Shenandoah.

Sherman's Army of the Cumberland under George H. Thomas pushed forward along Peachtree Creek, north of Atlanta. Schofield's Army of the Ohio, farther east, moved toward the city.

July 20, 1864 ● The Army of the Cumberland under Thomas cross Peachtree Creek, heading toward the fortifications of Atlanta from the north. Hood decides to attack but there were delays. After some initial success the Southern assaults failed.

Around Harper's Ferry and the lower end of the Shenandoah Valley, the pressure on Early was getting stronger.

July 21, 1864 ● Hood sends Hardee's reinforced corps out of Atlanta on a fifteen-mile night march to the south and then east, to attack the flank and rear of McPherson's Army of the Tennessee between Atlanta and Decatur. McPherson had turned from Decatur and come west toward Atlanta and the entrenchments. From the north and east all three of Sherman's armies were closing in on the city.

Continued on page 8

July 22, 1864 ● The Battle of Atlanta took place amid high temperatures that took a high toll on both North and South. Hardee's corps, after its long night march, attacked the left flank of McPherson's corps located between Decatur and Atlanta. Hardee did not know that two Federal divisions had moved into that area during the night. The overall attack failed with about 3,700 Federal losses and 7,000 to 10,000 estimated Confederate losses. The Union lost Major General James Birdseye McPherson while the Confederacy lost Major General W.H.T. Walker. Union Major General John A. "BlackJack" Logan assumed command of McPherson's Army of the Tennessee.

In the Shenandoah Valley, Early withdrew towards Strasburg as Federal forces were building up near Winchester.

July 23, 1864 • President Lincoln wires General David Hunter at Harper's Ferry, "Are you able to take care of the enemy when he turns back upon you, as he probably will on finding that Wright has left?" Early had turned and was coming down the Valley from Strasburg towards Kernstown, just south of Winchester. The Federals deployed to meet him and sharp skirmishing ensued.

At Atlanta, both armies rested, caring for the wounded and dying after the previous day's battle.

July 24, 1864 • Early was heading north over the same ground that Jackson had fought over in 1862. General Crook's Federals were in position. Early caused the Federal line to break and once again, the race was on to Harper's Ferry. The Federal loss of men at this Second Battle of Kernstown was about 1,200, mostly captured.

In Georgia, the cleanup of the battlefield after the Battle of Atlanta continued.

July 25, 1864 ● The Federals, retreating from Kernstown, traveled through a heavy rainstorm making the roads hard to travel; Early followed the retreating Federals up the Valley to Bunker Hill.

Grant decides to send the Second Corps and two cavalry divisions to the north bank of the James River to tear up railroads hoping to draw off some of Lee's army and lessen Lee's grip on Petersburg.

July 26, 1864 • Sherman sends General George Stoneman on a similar raid towards Macon to destroy the railroads in that area.

In the Valley, Crook crossed into Maryland, pursued by Early's infantry. With no Federal interference, Early's men set to tearing up the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad near Martinsburg, West Virginia.

July 27, 1864 • Sherman was setting up the siege of Atlanta and put his cavalry to work tearing up railroad track. In addition to Stoneman in Macon, McCook would raid the Atlanta and West Point railroad to the southwest of the city while Garrard was sent towards South River. Major General "BlackJack" Logan was relieved of command of the Army of the Tennessee and was replaced by Major General Otis O. Howard.

At Petersburg, Hancock's Second Corps and Sheridan, with two divisions of cavalry, crossed the James heading towards Richmond in a diversionary tactic meant to put pressure on Lee and wear down his troops.

July 28, 1864 • Sherman sends infantry down the western border of Atlanta to extend his lines. General O.O. Howard moved from the eastern side of the city to the western and was sent south to disrupt the railroads south of this line. Hood sent Generals Stephen D. Lee and A.P. Stewart to counter Howard's move; they would meet at Ezra Church. Howard easily held off the Confederates losing about 600 compared to the Confederate loss estimated at 5,000.

Hancock and Sheridan, in their diversionary tactic, discover that Lee had shifted some forces around with the Confederate line proving stronger than expected. Hancock and Sheridan would return to their lines at Petersburg.

July 29, 1864 • Cavalry of Jubal Early under McCausland cross the Potomac west of Williamsport entering Maryland and Pennsylvania. Other Confederate cavalry demonstrate against Harper's Ferry.

The mining operations at Petersburg near completion with the explosion planned for the next day. Troops of Burnside and other units move into position. In Georgia, Union cavalry met resistance as they attempt to destroy the railroads at Lovejoy's Station and Smith's Crossroads.

July 30, 1864 ● For more than a month the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania had been digging a 586-foot-long tunnel under the siege lines at Petersburg and packed the tunnel with gunpowder. At 4:45 a.m. the powder was exploded, creating a hole 170 feet long, nearly 80 feet wide, and 30 feet deep in the Confederate entrenchments. A Southern soldier witnessing the explosion wrote, "A fort and several hundred yards of earth work with men and cannon was literally hurled a hundred feet in the air...probably the most terrific explosion ever known in this country." Approximate 280 Confederates were killed in the blast. Union Ninth Corps troops advanced. Confederates rallied firing rapidly into the Federals. By 8:30 a.m. about 15,000 troops were in the crater area. The Federal advance was halted and by early afternoon the Federals were ordered back with the second major frontal assault on Petersburg by the Federals failing.

Early's Confederates enter Chambersburg and demand \$500,000 in currency or \$100,000 in gold as ransom for not burning the town. The money was not available and the town was burned.

In Georgia, Sherman's cavalry were engaged at Macon, Clinton, Newnan, and Clear Creek.

July 31, 1864 ● The month would end with the Confederate cavalry, after burning Chambersburg, having to defend themselves against General Averell's cavalry at Hancock, Maryland. In Georgia, the Federal cavalry continued to destroy property. Corporal Barber, Co. C, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia wrote of the loss of McPherson on July 22:

...In that battle the country mourned the loss of one of its most illustrious defenders, the brave and noble McPherson. When his death became known to the army that he commanded, many brave and war-worn heroes wept like children. We loved him with a strong, deep love, a love which was born of his kindness to us and the bravery that he displayed on the field. Ohio might well be proud of him. It is said that Gen. Grant wept when he heard of his death...

And so it continues.

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER NOTE

Frank Varney, the scheduled speaker at our September meeting, has posted two guest spots on the EmergingCivilWar.com website that may be of interest to the membership. Varney, author of the new Savas Beatie publication, *General Grant and the Rewriting of History*, which is the subject of his September presentation, writes about the Grant-Rosecrans issue providing us with a preview of his talk.

Varney's postings can be found on the website's April offerings.



Tim Hirthe & Nicole Mitchell
Carolyn Miller
Kate Raab
Michel Thouati
Richard Heaps
Richard Zimmerman

MILWAUKEE HOMEFRONT

In the summer of 1864, Fanny Burling Buttrick, one of the Lady Managers of the downtown Milwaukee Soldiers' Home, accompanied her husband, Col. Edwin Lorenzo Buttrick, and the 39th Wisconsin Regiment to Memphis. Here is a brief excerpt from her letter to Lydia Ely Hewitt, dated July 9, 1864. Originals are in the UW-M Archives.

I am boarding with a Northern family about a mile and a half from the city. I am not very comfortable but with good Union people and very near the Regiment. We have a good many sick, but as yet have lost but two. One died in a hospital in town, the other I saw die last Wednesday in our Camp hospital. It seemed a hard place for the dying boy but we did all we could to save him and we seemed to have so little to do with! Yet the very most was made of what we had. Kind words and every kind of attention was showered upon him, but we could not keep him with us. It was a very impressive scene as the boys with awe-struck faces gathered round his lowly cot. It was the first death and there was a hush all over camp. His name was Frank Burlingame and he died from the after effects of measles. He lived near Ripon.

I think that we shall remain in this place the entire three months. Yet it is impossible to tell—Three Regiments of hundred days men were sent to the front last week. I fear there will be a sad waste of human life among them, undisciplined as they are and coming to this climate in the very heat of summer...And now goodbye, my dear friend. I could fill up another sheet but I am so hot. The river is very low and we have had no mail for three days.



In June 1950 Otto Eisenschiml talked to the Round Table on "John Fitz Porter"

"Stephen A. Douglas" was the topic of Glen Seymour's presentation in June 1960.

Fred Benkovic was our featured speaker in June 1970. The topic that evening was "Benkovic's Civil War Band."

In June 1981 Les Jensen visited our Round Table and spoke to the group about "Confederate Uniforms: The Quartermaster's Contribution."

"Panorama Painters of Milwaukee" was the subject of Lance Herdegen's presentation in June 1992.

Jeffrey Wert visited us in June 2000 and spoke to us about "The Iron Brigade and The Stonewall Brigade."

"Railroad Defense in the Atlanta Campaign" was the subject of Robert I. Girardi's presentation at the June 2010 meeting.

At last year's June meeting the Round Table welcomed Timothy B. Smith who spoke on "Corinth 1862: Siege, Battle, Occupation."

MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OUARTERMASTER'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	
Blue Light-Weight Sweatshirt	\$30.00
Blue Izod Polo Shirt	
Blue Dress Shirt	
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.



The Northwestern July 1864

BOUNTY ELECTION

The election on last Thursday in this city resulted in a large majority in favor of raising \$80,000 Bounty Tax to secure Volunteers to fill the quota of the city on the last call of the President for 500,000 men.

THE DRAFT!

The city is now paying two hundred dollars local bounty for Volunteers. Come in out of the Draft!

PERSONAL:

We are on our way to obey Father Abraham's last call, and if there is any man that we owe, or, that owes us, he will please call at the Northwestern Office and settle up.

Wisconsin State Journal June 2, 1864

More Casualties in the Iron Brigade

The Iron Brigade was engaged in the sharp affair which occurred at the crossing of the North Anna River on Monday, the 23^d ult. The New York Herald publishes the following list of the wounded:

D. Moriarty, 7th; M. Bennett, G, 7th; S.C. Waterman, I, 7th; Silas Ware, I, 7th; S.J. Longin, K, 6th; J. Heidorf, F, 6th; A. Hughes, B, 7th; Isaac Adams, C, 6th; D.C. Smith, H, 7th; J.R. Wilson, A, 7th; O. Wieman, C, 6th; G.W. Miller, D, 6th; Jacob Miller, F, 6th; Corp. E. Wallace, C, 7th; A. Mahoney, K, 7th; Jas. Grant, H, 7th; W. Calhoun, C, 7th; Corp. J.W. Corpell, K, 7th; C.G. Culpenna, K, 6th; Sergt. A. Dyer, B, 7th.

From the Sixteenth Regiment

The Journey to Huntsville, condition of the country — the Regiment in good condition — Going to join Sherman.

Camp of the 16th Regt. Wis. Vol. Inftry. Huntsville, Ala., May 24, 1864

Editors State Journal:We arrived yesterday afternoon pm after marching from Clifton, Tenn., a distance of over one hundred and fifty miles, in eight days.

We left Clinton on the afternoon on the 15^{th} , and marched seven miles when we bivouacked for the night on Hardin's Creek.

In the morning at 6 o'clock, we started again and marched a distance of twenty miles through a fertile track of country, abounding with splendid springs and brooks, and fine and well cultivated farms, and at night halted at Waynesboro.

In the morning we again took up our line of march passing through a well watered but poor and hilly country, covered with a growth of black oak and stunted pine...After marching some twenty miles we halted in a heavy timbered, low flat, amid a drenching rain storm, but managed to pass the night tolerably

comfortably, and in the morning started on again feeling first rate, and after a hard march in a hot sun for a distance of twenty miles over a poor and broken country, arrived at Pulaski on the Nashville railroad, where we remained one day to rest.

On the morning of the 21st, at 4 o'clock, we left Pulaski, our regiment being detailed to drive about 2,000 head of cattle brought through from Clinton. Reaching Elk River, a rapid running stream about sixteen rods wide, with some difficulty we pushed the cattle through. Some of the boys manifested a dislike to fording the stream, when Col. Fairchild plunged, and with a cheer the boys followed him, all getting over safely excepting a negro cook belonging to Co. K whom the current carried off. Five miles more brought us to Elkmont where we bivouacked.

On the 22^d a march of 20 miles brought us to camp three miles beyond Lawrenceburg, and an equal march on the 23^d landed us at Huntsville, not feeling much fatigued after our long march, the boys seeming to enjoy it.

The country within thirty miles of Huntsville is very fine, and large fields of wheat, corn, rye and cotton are abundant. The people seem to be in comfortable circumstances, claiming that they are not rebels, but Southerners, who sympathize with their losing brethren, all the able-bodied men are in the army — some in our army and some in the rebel army.

The weather is warm here at present, but the boys stand the heat first rate and are healthy and in tip-top condition at present. Some of the recruits are troubled some with that scourge to a new comer in this climate diarrhea but Surgeon Turner seems to be very successful in their treatment.

Our regiment received the praise of Gen. Force for keeping better closed up, having less stragglers, and marching better than any other regiment in the command.

Col. Fairchild is very careful of his men, especially when marching, giving them frequent halts, and seeing that no man is obliged to march who is unable to do so, thereby having no men straggling in the rear.

We are brigaded with the 38th Ohio, whose Colonel, McCook, commands the brigade. He tendered the command to Col. Fairchild, but the latter declined under the circumstances. The Colonel is worthy to command a brigade, and no doubt will soon be in command of one, for his ability is considered second to none in the corps.

Gen. Frank Blair is now with us, having assumed command of the corps. We expect to start for Gen. Sherman's army to-morrow. Our transportation is reduced to two teams to a regiment, officers being allowed nothing but a satchel and having to carry their blankets and rations, no cooking utensils even being allowed to be carried. We are now in light marching order and in working condition, and expect to do something soon.

M.L. Rearin

Morganzia Bend, LA June 1, 1864

Friends at Home:

We are at this place yet, but are to go on to the next boat that comes to New Orleans. I think that we shall do Garrison duty for awhile, at least that is the talk, and we have sent for white gloves and collars, and that looks like it. I got that needle book that you sent by R. Alkon and it comes just at the right time — for I had just lost my knapsack and my book was in it. We moved our camp three times this morning and I begin to think this war is nothing but a speculating game the way our Colonel is doing now, looks a little like how a company is not allowed three officers with it has nearly its full number of men and our company is the only one that has got any where near its full compliment, but the Colonel has a lot of friends that he wants them in that company and gets officers and so on through the Regiment, making a great more officers than there is need of, what are laving around the camp doing nothing and drawing their full pay. That is why the war is not ended and this raising soldiers pay is another thing that I don't like, the government has got all the debts it can pay now. I would rather have what money I have got now and have it good than to have a great deal more and not have it worth a cent — if they want to raise wages let them stop giving bounties to these new recruits that are not worth anything for the first year. I am willing to have just my \$13.00 a month and no bounty if they will go to work as if they meant something. Bring the officers wages down and the war will end in a hurry. They are making more than they ever made at home. Why would they want it to close? Not half of them ever go where there is any danger but Privates can do anything. What did they enlist for but to fight — I am perfectly willing to do anything but I want them all to help as if they meant something, not to enlist just because they can make more money than they can at Home. This paying men that are not good for anything but laying in the hospital and making wives whose husbands are already in the army and parents that have their sons in pay for them just to fill the quota. <u>I don't like.</u> I say if this war has got to be carried on let them get every man his thirteen dollars or even twenty and no more bounties and then the men that don't come, <u>Draft</u> him. But I have said enough for this time. I got started and could not stop and I don't know as I am right about it but I think I would have it a little different.

If we are in New Orleans we will have a very good time this summer but it hardly seems as if it would be our luck for we have never been still for any length of time yet, but I always live in Hope so that it may come around all right yet. I wrote a letter to Mr. Thomson and his wife. What do you think of my diary? Don't you think we have been around some since the first of the year? The whole of our Battalion are all very well except our recruits, it comes rather tough for them. The only thing that will kill any of us is a piece of lead or a bayonet, I guess.

Give my very best and Love to all.

Yours forever,

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

I sent you two dollars in this which you can use if you can.

I send you by this mail Leslies Illustrated which has some very natural pictures of this campaign. Co "I" helped build the breastworks in front of the 1st Missouri battery. We laid just to the right of the battery as in the picture.



Soldier's
housewife
(sewing kit)
with needlebook
S & S Sutler,
Gettysburg
Photo by
Patricia Lynch

Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for June 12, 2014

Mail your reservations by Monday, June 9, 2014, 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 June 12, 2014, 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.

Will You Be Wandering This Summer?



Are your wanderings taking you to a Civil War location this summer? If so, please consider sharing your travel experience with your fellow members by submitting an article to the *General Orders*.

Have you read a Civil War book you think everyone else should read? How about submitting a book review for publication in the *GO*? As we all know, we can't have enough books!

Send "Wandering" submissions, book reviews, and announcements to:

Donna Agnelly, Editor General Orders 420 Racine St., Unit 110 Waterford, WI 53185 or email to dagnelly@tds.net