

# GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the

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



November 7, 2019

Ethan Rafuse

## **BACK TO THE CHIVALRIC DAYS OF YORE: THE VALLEY CAMPAIGN OF 1862**

*Success depended once again on speed and deception, qualities that residents of the Shenandoah Valley were beginning to associate with Thomas Jackson.*

S.C. Gwynne

In 1862, the armed forces of the Union and the Confederacy waged military operations in Virginia from the mountains of western Virginia to the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Few were as important as those Confederate forces conducted under the leadership of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley. At times during the first half of 1862, Union forces appeared on the verge of achieving the sort of military victory in Virginia that would fulfill hopes in the North that the rebellion could be brought to a close by the end of the year. Jackson's operations were critical in turning the tide and, with the possible exception of the Vicksburg Campaign, no American campaign merits as high a place among students of the operational art.



In his talk, our November speaker, Ethan Rafuse, will revisit those operations, the leaders of both sides who shaped its course and conduct, and its role in shaping the course and outcome of America's bloodiest war.

Ethan S. Rafuse is a professor of military history at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. His published works include over 300 articles, essays, and reviews in a variety of academic and popular history publications, as well as *McClellan's War: The Failure of Moderation in the Struggle for the Union* and *Stonewall Jackson: A Biography*. In 2018-2019 Rafuse was the Charles Boal Ewing Distinguished Visiting Professor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

On the question of liberty, as a principle, we are not what we have been. When we were the political slaves of King George, and wanted to be free, we called the maxim that "all men are created equal" a self-evident truth; but now when we have grown fat, and have lost all dread of being slaves ourselves, we have become so greedy to be *masters* that we call the same maxim "a self-evident lie."

Abraham Lincoln to George Robertson --August 15, 1855

## **General Orders No. 11-19**

**November 2019**

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### **November Meeting at a Glance The Wisconsin Club 9<sup>th</sup> and Wisconsin Avenue**

**[Jackets required for the dining room.]**

6:15 p.m. - Registration/Social Hour

6:45 p.m. - Dinner

**[\$30 by reservation, please]**

Reservations are accepted until  
Monday, November 4, 2019

7:30 p.m. - Program

**Speaker and topic are subject to change. In case of inclement weather, listen to WTMJ or WISN for meeting status.**

### **2019-2020 Speaker Schedule**

**Find the speaker schedule on page 6.**

# Civil War Round Table News

## When Reservations are Cancelled

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

## Your Cooperation is Appreciated

“Walk-in dinner” requests are sometimes difficult to honor. Remember, dinner reservations are to be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date. We are always happy to accommodate where possible, but we cannot always guarantee a dinner that evening if you have not called in or emailed your reservation. Thank you for your understanding.

## Special Dietary Needs

We have quite a number of regular members who have opted for special entrees as options to the regular dinner being served. The Wisconsin Club and the Round Table will make every effort to meet any special dietary needs you may have. As a courtesy, **please give a reminder when making your reservations**, so we don't forget to serve you what you're expecting!

## SAVED!

### 145 Acres at Second Manassas and Kelly's Ford Another Victory for the American Battlefield Trust

The American Battlefield Trust reported on August 30, 2019, that 157 years after Longstreet's fateful surprise attack which crushed the Union flank and drove Pope's army back to Bull Run, the ground hallowed by brave New Yorkers and their Confederate adversaries is forever protected. Together with land at Kelly's Ford, scene of the first major all-cavalry battle of the Civil War, Trust supporters have saved 145 acres of Virginia battlefield.

### HELP SAVE 226 ACRES AT 4 BATTLEFIELDS

226 acres of Civil War Battlefields valued at \$1,350,000.00 can be saved for just \$180,500.00.

In the East two tracts of hallowed ground can be saved. 101 acres would be added to the Reams Station Battlefield, taking that battlefield closer to completion while thwarting the very real thread of residential development. A second tract of 3 acres is significant to Peebles' Farm in 1864 and The Breakthrough in 1865.

In the West a mighty 2-acre tract needs savings at Champion Hill. This 2-acre tract is in the very heart of the battlefield where, after vicious fighting and nearly 6,800 casualties, Grant's troops eventually forced the Confederates back into the defenses of Vicksburg. These 2 acres will help connect separated parts of the 799 acres of battlefield that have already been preserved by preservationists.

Give online at: [www.battlefields.org/help-save-battlefields](http://www.battlefields.org/help-save-battlefields)

Donate by mail at: American Battlefield Trust  
1140 Professional Court  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

## The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

| NUMBER | NAME          | RANK    | COMPANY  | REGIMENT  | STATE     | REMARKS |
|--------|---------------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 1500   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1501   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1502   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1503   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1504   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1505   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1506   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1507   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1508   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1509   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |
| 1510   | Ammon, Samuel | Private | 1st Regt | Wisconsin | Wisconsin |         |

### MCWRT Annual Fund

The following members have made a generous commitment to the MCWRT by investing in that fund. This list reflects those donations made from July 1, 2019 through September 14, 2019.

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

##### Patron (\$200 - \$499)

Eugene & Jane Jamrozy

##### Associate (\$100 - \$199)

Dale Brasser, Bill & Claudette Finke, Gerald Frangesch, Doug Haag, Peter & Jean Jacobsohn, Bernard Jene, Stephen Leopold, Kathy McNally, Bob & Mary Lou Parrish, Randle Pollard, David & Helga Sartori, Dennis Slater, Jr.

##### Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Dale Bspalec, T. James Blake, John & Linda Connelly, Gordon Dammann, Michael Deeken, Lori Duginski, John Durr, Paul Eilbes, Gary & Judy Ertel, George Geanon, Julian Gonzalez, Jr., Leon & Margaret Harris, Christopher & Mary Beth Johnson, Jay Lauck, Rod Malinowski, Robin Martin, Carol Maudie & Gerald Witherspoon, Jim & Monica Millane, Ed Newman, Herb Oechler, Thomas Olsen, Tom Pokrandt, John Rodahl, Sam Solber, Dan Tanty, Bernard VanDinter

##### Speaker Enhancement Fund

George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Jeryl Anthony, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Mike Benton, Dale Bspalec, T James Blake, Angela Bodven, Dale Brasser, Civil War Time Travelers, Tim Crawford, Ellen DeMers, Bob Dude, Lori Duginski, John Durr, Paul Eilbes, Gary & Judy Ertel, Julian Gonzalez, Jr., Rick Gross, Doug Haag, Van & Dawn Harl, Leon & Margaret Harris, Jim Heinz, Gene & Jane Jamrozy, Bernard Jene, Grant Johnson, Allan Kasprzak, Bruce Klem, John Kuhnmuensch, Jr., Stephen Leopold, Robin Martin, Kathy McNally, Jim & Monica Millane, Thomas Olsen, Bob & Mary Lou Parrish, David Perez, Tom Pokrandt, Jack Rodencal, David & Helga Sartori, Diana Smurawa, Dan Tanty



In November 1949 Jim Dan Hill spoke to those assembled on “The Red River Campaign.”

“Recent Civil War Writing” was the topic presented by Clyde Walton Jr. in November 1959.

Lewis H. Croce was the speaker at the November 1969 meeting speaking on “Lincoln as an Administrator.”

At the November 1979 meeting Daniel P. Jordan spoke to the Round Table members on “Richmond, First City of the Confederacy.”

The featured speaker at the November 1989 meeting was Howard M. Madaus who talked about “Militia Grey to Union Blue: The Uniforms of the Wisconsin Regiments in the Iron Brigade.”

John Beatty spoke to the assembled members in November 1999 on “The Crimes of Pickett’s Mill.”

In November 2009 the Round Table welcomed Patrick A. Schroeder who spoke to the members regarding the “Myths about Lee’s Surrender.”

At last year’s November meeting Paul Kahan spoke to the group on “The Presidency of U.S. Grant: Preserving the Civil War’s Legacy.”

### **I’ve Heard of Her**

**Third Thursday of Every Month at Noon**

**Fitzgerald or Seminar Room**

**Free and Open to the Public**

**Facilitators: Jenn Edginton & Samantha Machalik**

Once a month, museum staff will lead a discussion on a remarkable woman to explore their lives and roles in history – the good, bad, and the in-between. Lunch is not provided, but participants are encouraged to bring their own. This program is in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of Women’s Suffrage.

**November 21, 2019**

**Sarah Hale/Pocahontas**

In November the discussion will be on two women who never met: Sarah Hale and Pocahontas. Sarah Hale was a writer, editor, and the mother of Thanksgiving, who petitioned several Presidents for Federal recognition of the holiday. Pocahontas was a Powhatan American Indian in what later became known as Virginia, and is one of the most misrepresented woman in history thanks to her depiction in an animated film.

## **Kenosha Civil War Museum Second Friday Lecture Series**

The series is a free program sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and Iron Brigade Association.

**Friday, November 8, 2019 Noon**

**Free and Open to the Public**

**Thomas Jefferson’s Wisconsin Civil War Connection**

**Presented by: Mr. Richard Kane**

This presentation is a biographical presentation about Eston Hemings Jefferson, the youngest son of Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings. His children (which were Thomas Jefferson’s grandchildren) served as soldiers in Wisconsin regiments during the Civil War. One was a private in the 1st WI Infantry and the other, John Wayles Jefferson, was a colonel with the 8th WI Infantry.

**U.S. Grant and the Battle of Belmont**

**Saturday, November 9, 2019 1 – 3 pm**

**\$24/\$15 Friends of the Museum**

**Presenter: Tom Arliskas**

Tom’s workshop will cover new information on General Grant and his decisions regarding the Battle of Belmont. Mr. Arliskas has been collecting notes and papers on Belmont for 45 years and will be able to give to the class a new perspective on early Grant and the Civil War. He will show how the future overall Union Army Commander, the man who took the surrender of Robert E. Lee, came very close to losing it all over Belmont.

**The Women of the Fiery Trial**

**Tuesday, November 12, 2019 6:30 – 8 pm**

**\$15/\$10 Friends of the Museum**

**Presenters: Doug Dammann and Jenn Edginton**

Throughout the Fiery Trial Exhibit at the Civil War Museum, there are many artifacts, images and stories that explore the lives of courageous women whose lives were forever altered by the events of the Civil War. This special, behind the scenes tour will exclusively feature these women and shed light on the contributions they made during this turbulent time in American history.

**The First Wisconsin Cavalry and Kenosha’s Camp Harvey**

**Saturday, November 16, 2019 1 pm**

**Free and Open to the Public**

**Presenter: Bruce Klem**

The troopers of the First Wisconsin Cavalry mustered into the regiment between September 1, 1861, and March 8, 1862. Part of that time was spent at Kenosha’s Camp Harvey. Relying on first person accounts, Klem’s presentation will consider the impressions of Kenosha that these men left behind while training and living there that winter. The program will also detail the military record of the 1st after they left Kenosha for service in southeast Missouri, Arkansas, and Georgia.



**From the Army of the Potomac  
Scenes on the Return of Union Men – McClellan and  
Burnside – Devastations of the Army**

**Warrenton, Va., Nov. 10, 1862**

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 sorrows 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 of 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.

One cannot help asking, what is gained by removing McClellan and putting in his place his well trusted counselor and friend – his other self. That such have been their personal relations, will not be questioned I think by any person who has seen them together, and observed their manner towards each other. The familiar “Mac” with which the senior in years addressed his first in command, could hardly mean less than this.

But it is to be borne in mind that it is a diversity of traits that cements our friendships. It may be that McClellan and Burnside agree so well precisely because they are not entirely alike; there is much evidence that Burnside is free from McClellan’s fatal fault-in-action. It is said that while the latter would not move of himself, and could hardly be pushed forward by the Federal Executive, except by his favorite Peninsular route, the former says, “we must strike now or never.” And you read the same in that large muscular form so evidently charged with energy throughout. To look at

him, one would think that he would need to slay some Goliath before breakfast for exercise.

We have not been able to transport the immense supplies which the army requires fast enough, and have been for several days almost without bread. The soldiers have supplied themselves somewhat from the stores of the inhabitants which in this vicinity were quite reduced by the rebel army before us. Such a necessity is to be regretted as destroying the discipline of the army, and also bearing hard on persons comparatively innocent and inoffensive.

I am acquainted with the case of a poor man, more than eighty years old who served in the War of 1812, and had received a pension until the rebellion, and had never voted for secession, whose small corn field and garden and hen roost were pillaged, leaving nothing for himself and daughter to subsist on during the winter.

I will give another instance somewhat different from this. A strong Union man in Burkesville, Md., who is a small mechanic, and is quite advanced in years, had cleared a few acres on the mountain near where, as he expressed it he might, “scratch a living,” when his eyes should fail. Gen. Franklin’s men encamped on his land and appropriated his wheat, corn and clover. They used, as is customary, his fence for fuel, and as they were without tents, cut his chestnut trees for more shelter for themselves. This man is obliged to sell one of his hogs to enable him to buy corn to fatten the rest. His fences are gone and he has no timber with which to replace them. He is without seed for another year, or protection for crops. Gen. Franklin’s corps left before he made application for a receipt for damages, and it was not in the power of the officers of any other corps to make compensation.

It is an easy manner to talk flippantly or bitterly about guarding rebel property, but the subject has many aspects, and is embarrassed by many difficulties. We would gladly have the monotony of the soldier’s fare varied by some luxuries from the table of the well-to-do secessionist, but any army would abuse the license to help themselves in a manner which would occasion unnecessary suffering to the poor, and be fatal to military discipline. All such supplies should, as far as possible, be secured through the agency of the quartermaster. Our supplies failing to reach us here, the Quartermasters in our brigade took possession of a mill and of some corn and set the miller at work allowing him one bushel in eight for grinding his own grain. If he proves his loyalty, of which there is a small probability, he will be paid by the Government.

## 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 at Berlin, and took up the line of march toward Warrenton where 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 sometimes shrink from the idea of ever being united to them in the future...

Summer has departed! Williamsburg, Malvern Hill, Bull Run, South Mountain and Antietam are buried in the past, and are matters of history only. Our early victories have been scattered to the winds and are already on the dark verge of oblivion. Our army today is in a shattered state of mind. After fighting a year without signal success, they still find themselves without a commander who has proven himself capable of leading them to the achievement of results. It cannot be expected that Gen. Burnside can grasp suddenly that confidence of the army which a commander ought to possess, but I believe that the army as a general thing, knowing him to be a good general and a brave man, are ready and willing to try him, and pray earnestly that something may be done and that quickly. The idea of remaining in service another winter, is to say the least unpleasant and receives no favor with the soldiers.

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.

Yours truly,  
H.J.H.

**Our *From the Field* features are provided to us by Jim Johnson. Thanks, Jim, for the time and effort you put into providing these glimpses into the past.**

## CIVIL WAR NUGGETS

- Iowa's most notable contribution to the Confederacy was Leonard F. Ross, regionally famous for having killed Comanche chieftain Peta Necona. Drifting into Texas, he joined the Texas Rangers for a time before enlisting in the 6th Texas Cavalry as a private. It took Ross about a year to become a colonel, but 6 months later he was wearing stars. At Corinth he led an attack by dismounted cavalry and later took part in an attempt to relieve Vicksburg. As brigadier, the Iowa native fought through the Atlanta, Franklin, and Nashville campaigns before joining forces led by Nathan Bedford Forrest.
- In Franklin, Tennessee, F. B. Carter kept meticulous records of property losses he suffered during the Federal occupation of the town. Items he listed ranged from 10,018 pounds of seed cotton at 25 cents per pound to three bushels of corn worth \$2. His total claim amounted to \$20,061.10, but his heirs finally received \$335 in 1866.
- Top officials of the Confederacy were determined to have a fully rounded military force, so they organized a marine corps. Its entire personnel, officers and enlisted men, numbered just 539.

Webb Garrison  
*The Amazing Civil War 1998*

**MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
2019-2020 SPEAKER SCHEDULE**

- September 12, 2019 Janet Croon  
*The War Outside My Window:  
The Civil War Diary of LeRoy Wiley Gresham*
- October 10, 2019 Jim Lighthizer  
*Battlefield Preservation*
- November 7, 2019 Ethan Rafuse  
*The Valley Campaign*
- December 12, 2019 Dan Weinburg  
Country Club of the Wisconsin Club  
*Abraham Lincoln Book Shop Artifacts*
- January 9, 2020 Pamela Toler  
*Heroines of Mercy Street: Nurses in the Civil War*
- February 13, 2020 Connie Lanum  
*Wilson Creek Battlefield*
- March 12, 2020 David Sutherland  
*VMI Civil War Legacy*
- April 16, 2020 Michael Schaffer  
*Memory of Self and Comrades: Thomas W. Colley*
- May 7, 2020 A. Wilson Greene  
*Petersburg Campaign*
- June 11, 2020 Brian Steele Wills  
*George Henry Thomas*



**Speakers/topics remain subject to change.**

**Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.  
2019 – 2020 Board of Directors**

| Name              | Office/Position                         | Term Expires |
|-------------------|---|--------------|
| Donna Agnelly     | Editor, General Orders                  | 2022         |
| Thomas Arliskas   | Second Vice-President                   | 2022         |
| Terry Arliskas    | Secretary                               |              |
| Michael K. Benton | Past President                          | 2020         |
| Roman Blenski     | Quartermaster                           | 2022         |
| Crain Bliwas      | Member                                  | 2022         |
| Paul A. Eilbes    | Treasurer                               | 2022         |
| A. William Finke  | Member                                  | 2020         |
| Van Harl          | Past President                          | 2020         |
| James J. Heinz    | Member                                  | 2020         |
| Grant Johnson     | Membership, Past President<br>Webmaster | 2021         |
| Bruce Klem        | President                               | 2021         |
| Daniel Nettesheim | First Vice President                    | 2021         |
| Frank Rislér      | Program Chair                           | 2021         |
| Tom Thompson      | Member                                  | 2020         |
| David Wege        | Layout, General Orders                  | 2021         |

**milwaukeecivilwar.org**

**~ CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS EMAIL  
NOTIFICATIONS ~**

Would you like to receive an email reminder before each meeting? How about an email telling you about a special or upcoming Civil War event in our area? If you are interested in receiving an email reminder/notification please send your email address to Grant Johnson at: [grant.johnson@responsory.com](mailto:grant.johnson@responsory.com)

Grant will be creating a database with email reminders set to go out a week before the scheduled event. This is a purely optional choice on each member's part. If you have any questions please talk to Grant at a Round Table meeting or email him at the listed email address.

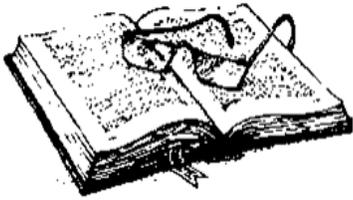
**Milwaukee Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for November 7, 2019**

Mail your reservations by Monday, November 4 to:  
Paul Eilbes  
1809 Washington Avenue  
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

Call or email reservations to:  
(262) 376-0568  
peilbes@gmail.com

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (meal is \$30.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ people for the  
November 7, 2019 meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.  
(Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

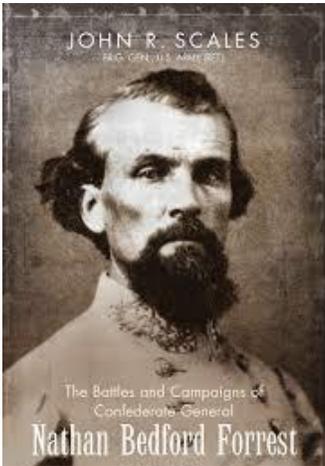
Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_



# **BETWEEN THE COVERS**

## **The Battles and Campaigns of General Nathan Bedford Forrest**

**John R. Scales**



My review is on a book I purchased at the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center during the October 2018 Kenosha Civil War Museum's battlefield trip. The author is a retired brigadier general with over 3 decades of service including combat tours in Vietnam and Afghanistan.

Forrest himself was quite the character in civilian life, basically a self-made man with little formal education but who made a fortune as a cotton planter, slave trader and land sales. He had no military training but his backwoods skills and no-nonsense temperament led him to become one of the feared Confederate cavalymen during the Civil War. He started out as a private and ended the war as a lieutenant general. General Scales, in this book, concentrated his efforts on describing each of Forrest's battles and raids. He gives each fight a complete analysis of the action both of Forrest's command and that of his Union opponent.

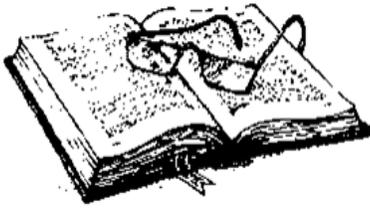
I found the descriptions to be very detailed. General Scales, in his writing, provides an analysis of Forrest's command directions and decisions as they related to sound military principles. He shows why Forrest chose a given course of action and whether or not it was effective. One of the things that I appreciate about this book is that it not only looks at Forrest, but also looks at the battles and campaigns which surround him. Throughout the book, General Scales presents the engagements in each chapter; sometimes they even read as though they are a guide to anyone interested in visiting the battlefield. It almost feels as though he is taking the reader through the field himself in a way that I have not read in the past few years. The cumulative review of the raid or battle at the end of each chapter is also quite insightful as General Scales excels at the narrative in this book. Aided by some fine maps and photographs, this book not only is a great insight into Forrest, but also into the west. For those readers looking for a deeper look into the life of Forrest, you will find some interesting reading here, but the focus is more on the battles and raids which Forrest conducted during his military career.

General Scales does not provide much in the way of biographical information as his focus is on the battles and raids. What he does provide are detailed maps that identify unit movements that really help the reader understand what Forrest based his actions on and how the units under his command moved. Additional detail that Scales provides with his maps are actual GPS coordinates so the reader if interested could use the GPS information to follow Forrest's troop movement in any of the raids and battles detailed in the book. While interesting, I think this is way too much detail for the average reader and I am not sure that it was required. I suspect General Scales put in a tremendous amount of time plotting out this type of information.

One thing that stands out in reading this book is that after a few of Forrest's raids and attacks you can see how his combat reputation developed among the Union forces in his area of operation. As the war went on, in many instances, Forrest managed to bluff Union forces to surrender to him solely on his reputation. Those that surrendered believed that they were actually outnumbered by Forrest when in reality most times it was Forrest who was outnumbered by Union forces.

I enjoyed reading this book; that it focused only on his battles and raids allowed me to dig into his combat operations as judged by an officer who had combat experience in senior leadership positions and was able to point out reasons for General Forrest's success. It was a bit much to have the GPS information and I did not think that added much to the book for my experience. However, if you are interested in more details on Forrest's operations this is the book for you. I would also point out that as far as a true operational cavalryman, his performance, I think, was not on a par with the type of operations Stuart's cavalry provided for Lee. Perhaps Forrest let down the Army of Tennessee as far as successful cavalry operations are concerned. I think this book shows Forrest's real skill was in independent operations and raiding.

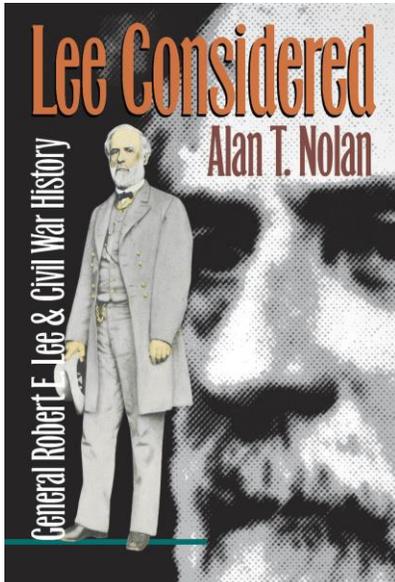
**submitted by Bruce Klem**



## BETWEEN THE COVERS

### Lee Considered: General Robert E. Lee and Civil War History

Alan T. Nolan



This was a book I won in one of the silent auctions sponsored by Dave Wege in 2018. In this work, Mr. Nolan takes a close look at the image that has been developed of General Lee and points out the disparity between the image as portrayed and the facts that Lee displayed during his life. While Mr. Nolan believes that Lee was a great man he clearly acknowledges there are many “unqualified images in the Lee tradition that do not fit.”

I found in reading this book and from other books on Lee that I have read that I tend to agree with Mr. Nolan’s examination. I think the reader will find that Mr. Nolan’s analysis takes issue with Douglas Freeman’s work on Lee. Nolan feels that Freeman’s writings probably had much to do with the hallowed feeling of General Lee and resulted in many of the out of kilter largeness of the Lee legend. In one of Nolan’s first chapters he dives into determining what Lee’s feelings were toward the “peculiar institution.”

He points out that many writers on Lee pointed to Lee’s testimony after the war on his views toward slavery and used Lee’s comments to the Congressional Committee: “I have always been in favor of emancipation – gradual emancipation.” Mr. Nolan goes into depth showing other quotes from Lee that

seem to point in the opposite direction, such as a letter to his wife in 1856: “The blacks are immeasurably better off here...painful discipline they are undergoing, is necessary for their instruction as a race...” Nolan makes a good case that this was actually Lee’s feelings by using other of his earlier writings before and during the war as well as his actions in the administering of his own slaves.

Another area that is covered in this book is the notion that there was a lot of serious consideration on Lee’s part on leaving the Union and deliberate consideration on taking command of the Virginia troops. While on one hand Lee appears to say, while in Texas, he is firmly against secession, Nolan point out that he knew all along that he would leave and that he may have been offered Confederate command prior to his trip to Washington to meet with General Scott. In constructing a time line of the events leading up to Lee’s acceptance Nolan puts together the time line that easily shows that Lee already knew prior to his trip to Washington he would be tabbed to command Virginia’s troops and there was, in reality, no deliberation on Lee’s part to leave the Union.

The next chapter goes on to discuss Lee’s actions in the field as commander and overall strategist. Nolan questions his ability looking at his leadership as commander and how his actions tie into the Confederate overall strategy. He cites the following as a point of comparison to mission success: “If the art of war consists in using the forces of a nation in a way to secure the end for which it is waged, and not in a succession of great battles that tend to defeat it,” a very different assessment of Lee’s qualities is required. Lee, as Freeman pointed out, lost key leaders and sustained a higher casualty rate than the Union forces he faced. While winning tactical victories he cost the South the chance to win strategically.

I would add that one of the large reasons Lee was able to sustain victory on the tactical level was due in a large part to the inferior Union leadership he often faced. He did fail in West Virginia early in the war and he also had the advantage of some sterling subordinates in the beginning of the war. The likes of Pope, McClellan and Burnside were no match in coordinating large forces and that gave Lee a substantial advantage. Mr. Nolan did not address this angle but I think it needs mentioning.

I thought this was an interesting read in that it puts a closer focus on Lee well beyond the Douglas Freeman gospel of Lee the Great and helps put Lee in a more realistic light. I highly recommend this book to any student of the Civil War in order to help gain a better understanding of factors that influenced the Lee Myth and to be presented with a balanced picture of the man and not the myth.

submitted by Bruce Klem

## “Traveling Through the Hinterland”

### *Wanderings*



Who ever visits these battlefields? C’mon, did you ever hear of Rich Mountain or Cloyd’s Mountain? These out-of-the-way fights were always part of a larger strategic objective. And, whether one fought to defend the Stars and Bars or sought to re-united a shattered republic, the blood and tears that were shed on little-known fields was just as poignant as the sacrifices at Shiloh and Gettysburg. Orders given, bugles blown, musket and cannon fire bellowing, smoke in their eyes and lungs; men endured the same terror here as elsewhere.

Rich Mountain is now in the state of West Virginia. The hard scrabble farmers who lived there had no use for slavery, and voted their beliefs as they seceded from the Confederacy in 1861. The victory won by William Starke Rosecrans, but with glory claimed by George B. McClellan, made that breaking away a reality. Cloyd’s Mountain, also fought in western Virginia, cut forever any chance of a hold the Confederacy might have had on the mountainous area. It is notable that Christopher Cleburne, brother of Confederate General Patrick Ronayne Cleburne, was killed in this fight.

On our way to the annual American Battlefield Trust Teacher Institute, traveling parads and I stopped at these sites and a few more on our way to Raleigh. One of our group, an Indiana fella named Clayborn, is descended from the Cleburne family, so stopping at the Christopher Cleburne death site was on the bucket list of things to see. Only to history aficionados is that kind of behavior not morbid.

The fight here took place after the Battle of Philippi, June 1861. General Robert S. Garnett sought to hold two mountain passes against Federal forces commanded by McClellan, who brought 5,000 troops and 8 cannons to protect Unionists and the B & O Railroad. 1300 Rebs and 4 cannons led by John Pegram faced McClellan nearer the base of the mountain, with another 310 men and a single cannon sent to hold the pass atop Rich Mountain itself. This smaller party set up on the Joseph Hart farm and awaited developments. Oh, beware the Unionists! Joseph Hart’s teenaged son David led 2,000 Federal troops under the command of William S. Rosecrans on a flank attack against the forces holding the pass. Though badly outnumbered, the Confederates held on for over two hours, but eventually gave way.

There isn’t much to see at Rich Mountain. To reach the battlefield one travels a rutted gravel road. Signage has been destroyed by local youth out for a good time. Trees encroach upon the farm fields where men once fought. A wrought iron fence surrounds a stone that marks the location of the Hart place. The town of Beverly is a nice visit, with an exquisite museum and a bunch of people who love their history and want nothing better than to share it.

At Cloyd’s Mountain our mission was clear. Find the spot where Chris Cleburne fell. What wasn’t so clear were the directions to where some of the fighting occurred. Going on a foggy memory of over a dozen years ago, with too many mountain roads and rural fence lines to recall, our traveling pard just couldn’t put the pieces together that would lead us to a “really neat place.” All was not lost, however, because outside of Dublin, VA we came upon a wayside park. And in that park was a stone commemorating the death of Captain Christopher Cleburne. Upon being shot down, and knowing he was mortally wounded, Cleburne told the boys to leave him and save themselves. “Bury me where I fell,” he is said to have asked.



The fighting at Cloyd’s Mountain occurred as forces under George Crook collided with Confederate Albert Jenkins. The Union goal was to destroy the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. Jenkins was ordered to protect the rails. It was not a good day for the South. After holding its own briefly, the Southern boys broke in fierce hand-to-hand combat. For a relatively small fight, casualties were unusually high. 688 Union and 538 Confederates were listed on the butcher’s bill for the hour-long engagement. Other significant participants were future Presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley. Albert Jenkins was severely wounded and died a few days later in the hospital due to improper care following an amputation.

After the battle Union forces pressed onward. The railroad depot in Dublin was burned, and the Yankees turned their attentions next to the New River Bridge, destroying it on May 10, 1864. The Virginia and Tennessee was cut.

Besides the Cleburne monument and a small wayside marker, there isn’t much to see at Dublin. However, as one gazes across the landscape it still gives a sense of important events. The passes have been made more navigable for big rigs and tourists, but the backbone of the mountains still tells the reality of steep grades and defensible positions. Though not a destination in and of themselves for many travelers, both Rich and Cloyd’s mountains resonate with the past. With just a little imagination, that thunder in the distance can sound like cannoneers in gray trying to hold back waves of blue infantry. Peaceful now, these spots once raged with battle. So we honor their courage and sacrifice, and marvel as what men wage against one another.

submitted by Dave Wege

## *Meet Our President Bruce Klem*

My career has been a combination of military and civilian for the most part simultaneously. I received my commission via Marquette's AROTC program in May 1970 then entered active duty in August 1970. After Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, OK and Motor Officer Course at Fort Knox, KY I was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> BN 33<sup>rd</sup> FA in Germany serving as BN Ammunition Officer, and BN Liaison Officer. Returning to Milwaukee in 1972 after Active duty I entered Marquette University's MBA program earning that degree and graduating in December 1974. At the same time I was serving in the Wisconsin National Guard in the 257<sup>th</sup> FA Group as Signal Officer, Battery Commander and Air Observer.

In January 1975 I started at Miller Brewing in Milwaukee in a management training program promoted later to Buyer and then Purchasing Agent. In 1979 I was offered the position of Material Control Manager in Albany, GA. On the military side in 1975 as a Captain was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> BN 126<sup>th</sup> FA in Kenosha, first as BN Liaison Officer and then as Battery CDR of A Btry, 1<sup>st</sup> BN 126<sup>th</sup> FA in Oak Creek. My move to Georgia with Miller resulted in my transferring to the Georgia National Guard as a Fire Support Officer 1<sup>st</sup> BN 230<sup>th</sup> FA in Waycross, GA. In 1983 after promotion to Major I was transferred to State Headquarters Operations section in Atlanta.

In November 1984 I changed jobs to Kimberly Clark Corporation in Corinth, MS. This move necessitated a change on the military side as well and I was assigned to a Reserve unit the 87<sup>th</sup> Training Division in Birmingham, AL as a Field Artillery Controller. 1985 brought a promotion from Kimberly Clark and a move to Corporate Headquarters in Neenah, WI. I was Senior Buyer for flexible packaging for Huggies and Depends products. This of course caused a change in my military assignment as well. I moved into the 425<sup>th</sup> Transportation Brigade stationed at Ft. Sheridan, IL first as Intelligence Officer and later as Assistant Chief of Staff, Personnel & Administration upon promotion to Lt Colonel.

1986 led me to change my job to take the position of Purchasing Supervisor with Wisconsin Electric Power in Milwaukee, WI. A couple of years later I transferred from the 425<sup>th</sup> Trans Bde to the 84<sup>th</sup> Training Division in Milwaukee as the G2 for the Division. In 1991 I was assigned as BN Commander of 1<sup>st</sup> BN 334<sup>th</sup> FA in Sheboygan, WI. As a result of downsizing at Wisconsin Electric I changed companies becoming Purchasing Manager at the privately owned Tools and Abrasives Industrial Distributors, Brookfield, WI in 1994. Roughly the same time I was promoted to Colonel and moved into Control Group while at the same time enrolled in the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks. I graduated from that program in 1995. 1994 I was assigned to the 85<sup>th</sup> Division Exercise as Chief Combat Support Branch 2<sup>nd</sup> Sim Group.

I changed civilian jobs once again in 1998 and was working buying steel for In-Sink-Erator in Racine, WI. In 1997 I was assigned as Brigade Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade 85<sup>th</sup> Division at Ft. McCoy, WI. In May of 1998 I was assigned as Deputy Chief of Staff HHC 85<sup>th</sup> Division in Arlington Heights, IL, retiring in June 2000 from the military. Finding I had plenty of time on my hands after retiring from the military I enrolled at UW-Milwaukee for another Master degree graduating in May 2005 with a Master of Science in Library and Information Studies. I never managed to land a position in this field but have found it very useful in my volunteer work at the Kenosha Civil War Museum working in research. I took a chance on a new position in 2006 which didn't work out for me and while I was looking for a new position took a part time job selling tires and automotive supplies at the local Sears in Kenosha. In March of 2007 I became Purchasing Agent for a high-end drapery and shade manufacturer in Gurnee, IL, B & W Manufacturers.

A downturn in the economy forced me to change employment once again, when B & W, lost 50% of sales. I got a position ahead of what became some severe layoffs at B & W, so in October I became a Purchasing Agent for Associated Bag in Milwaukee, WI. I retired from Associated in April 2014 joining the legions of "happy go lucky" retirees, enjoying every minute. I now look forward to the challenges of being President for the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. I can promise as President I will not be sending out Tweets.

My wife (Bonnie) and I live in Kenosha. Our family is both here in Kenosha and Milwaukee. Our daughter and her husband live in Milwaukee with her working as Manager in Milwaukee's library system and her husband for the Post Office. My stepson and his family live here in Kenosha working for U-line. His wife owns her own hair salon and teaches part time at Gateway. Our grandchildren are two boys and a girl. The boys 9 and 6 and the girl 3.



*Through the Looking Glass* features are intended to tell the stories of common folks of the Civil War, whether they are civilians or military personnel. If you have access to the story of an ordinary citizen of this war-torn era and are willing to share it with our Round Table, please consider submitting it to Donna Agnelly, editor of our General Orders. Thank you!

### **“Big Lewis” and the Hangman**

If you will recall from last month’s *Looking Glass* feature, “Big” Lewis Henry and his Uncle Daniel preserved their story for us in a rather unique way, a red metal bucket that at one time might have held gold. This month we continue the tale.

Many soldiers left the ranks for a time to plant or harvest crops. Research done by the Lewis family in Kentucky State Archives reveal a darker reason might have caused “Big” to be absent from the ranks several times during the war. Southern sympathizers and Union supporters disliked one another in Kentucky. The border states bred bad blood. On February 9, 1863 a man named Logan Wilson was shot and killed by men associated with Captain John T. Williams of John Hunt Morgan’s command. Williams, now married into the Henry family, had sent Private John Nickell and “two other” guerillas to apprehend Mr. Wilson and bring him to camp for questioning. The party returned without Wilson, stating to Captain Williams that the Unionist had been “shot while trying to escape.” Nickell was later arrested by Federal authorities and charged with murder. He was tried for “Violations of the Laws of War” and sentenced to death by hanging. During the trial, a witness stated that he had overheard Nickell admitting the killing to Captain Williams, but his accomplices had been unnamed. Research showed one of those men to have been Lewis Henry.

After his brush with the hangman’s noose, Lewis is not heard from again until a letter to Uncle Daniel dated May 27, 1865. In that letter he stated that all was well and that he had received parole after swearing his oath of allegiance to the Union. The parole, however, did not release one from consequences of serious crimes. Lewis also wrote that “the crops look good and we have had a heap of rain.” He asked for a looking glass, a “miniature,” and for his gun to be picked up at a local shop. Lewis then closed his letter home and gave his love to all of the family.

Then in November 1865 the Morgan County Circuit Court issued an indictment for Lewis Henry and one John Calvin for the murder of Logan Wilson in February 1863. A warrant was issued for Lewis on December 4, 1865. Officers were to find Lewis and bring him in to answer the charges laid against him. County Sheriff W. H. Elam reported to the court in May 1866 that, “The defendant Lewis Henry cannot be found in my county.” Why was the indictment delayed so long?

At this point, a man named Thomas Elliot Bramlette enters the story. He had been commissioned a colonel in the Union Army from 1861-1862. In 1863 he was elected governor of Kentucky as a Democrat who strongly supported preservation of the Union and eradicating guerilla activity. Governor Bramlette issued a pardon to most ex-Confederates indicted in the state of Kentucky. He wanted the healing process to begin. In an October 1866 letter to Uncle Daniel, Lewis states that it was safe for him to return home. He would avoid the Pound Gap Road, however, as it was swarming with roving bands of former guerillas. It is the pardon from Bramlette that made this possible. Three days before that October 29 letter, the governor had signed Lewis Henry’s “forgiveness.” “It appears from satisfactory evidence that the case of said Henry presents strong consideration for indulgence of the Executive.” The fact that the order named Lewis specifically means his was not part of a general pardon. The order released Henry Lewis, Jr. from “all future proceedings and forever ordered (others) to respect this pardon and to govern themselves accordingly.” And so “Big Lewis” came home.

Captain John T. Williams, and his wife Rebecca Henry Williams, had many good years together. There is a family legend that the captain “buried a kettle of gold” somewhere across Little Caney Creek from his home place. Could this have been Uncle Daniel Lewis’ gold from Virginia after all? Anyone who knows isn’t saying. And that, after all, would be another story for another time and place.

What hidden historical treasure may lay hidden in attics, trunks, and even an old red metal bucket? Sincere thanks are extended to the Henry family for sharing these exciting stories of their ancestors “Big Henry” Lewis, Uncle Daniel Lewis, and Captain John T. Williams. We are particularly indebted to Rebecca Henry Loehr, who passed them on to us so we could regale you with some factual reminiscences.

submitted by **Rebecca Henry Loehr**  
through Dave Wege, her daughters’ teacher



56th Annual  
**VETERANS DAY OF HONOR**  
 A WWII TRIBUTE  
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The Normandy Invasion consisted of 5,333 Allied ships and landing craft embarking nearly 175,000 men. The British and Canadians put 75,215 troops ashore and the American 57,500 for a total of 132,715. French losses in the Normandy campaign have been estimated at 15,000 civilian dead.

*‘The question is just how long can you keep this operation on the end of a limb and let it hang there.’*

**General Dwight David Eisenhower**

**IN MEMORIAM**

Gerald “Jerry” Stern, a Round Table member since 2003, passed away on August 16, 2019 at the age of 91.

Jerry was born and raised in Milwaukee and was a graduate of West Division High School. He joined the Navy following graduation and served 2 years on a destroyer. He then attended Milwaukee State Teachers College, graduated and followed with his Master’s Degree. He taught and coached track, football and gymnastics at Pulaski High School for 10 years. He then transferred to Brookfield East High School when that school opened and taught biology as well as coaching and then became Vice Principal and ultimately Principal.

Following his teaching career he was very active in numerous organizations including The Bell Tower Memorial Project, Dept. of Defense Starbase STEM Youth Program, U.S. Navy League, American Legion Post 449, FBI Citizens Academy and UWM Alumni Group. Jerry was a participant in a 2013 Stars and Stripes Honor Flight and recently received the 2019 Unsung Hero Integrity Award from the FBI Citizens Academy. He was an active member in the Republican Party of Waukesha County.

Jerry was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Menomonee Falls. He was faithful to God, Family and Country.

*~ And flights of angels guide him to his rest ~*

## TOO USEFUL TO SACRIFICE RECONSIDERING

George B. McClellan's Generalship in the Maryland Campaign  
from South Mountain to Antietam

by Steven R. Stotelmyer

from our good friends at  
**Savas Beatie**  
[www.savasbeatie.com](http://www.savasbeatie.com)

The importance of Robert E. Lee's first movement north of the Potomac River in September 1862 is difficult to overstate. After his string of successes in Virginia, a decisive Confederate victory in Maryland or Pennsylvania may well have spun the war in an entirely different direction. Why he and his Virginia army did not find success across the Potomac was due in large measure to the

generalship of George B. McClellan, as Steven Stotelmyer ably demonstrates in Too Useful to Sacrifice: Reconsidering George B. McClellan's Generalship in the Maryland Campaign from South Mountain to Antietam.

History has typecast McClellan as the slow and overly cautious general who allowed opportunities to slip through his grasp and Lee's battered army to escape. Stotelmyer disagrees and argues persuasively that he deserves significant credit for moving quickly, acting decisively, and defeating and turning back the South's most able general. He accomplishes this with five comprehensive chapters, each dedicated to a specific major issue of the campaign:

- \* Fallacies Regarding the Lost Orders
- \* Antietam: The Sequel to South Mountain
- \* All the Injury Possible: The Day between South Mountain and Antietam
- \* General John Pope at Antietam and the Politics behind the Myth of the Unused Reserves
- \* Supplies and Demands: The Demise of General George B. McClellan

In Too Useful to Sacrifice, Stotelmyer combines extensive primary research, smooth prose, and a keen appreciation for the infrastructure and capabilities of the terrain of nineteenth century Maryland. The result is one of the most eye-opening and ground-breaking essay collections in modern memory. Readers will never look at this campaign the same way again. By the time they close this book, most readers will agree Lincoln had no need to continue his search for a capable army commander because he already had one.

**About the Author:** Steven R. Stotelmyer is a native of Hagerstown, Maryland. He first visited Antietam National Battlefield as a child and has been fascinated with it ever since. After serving in the US Navy, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Frostburg State College and a Master of Arts from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland. Stotelmyer was a founding member of the Central Maryland Heritage League in 1989 which helped preserve some of the South Mountain Battlefield. Steve is a National Park Service (NPS) Certified Antietam and South Mountain Tour Guide.

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

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**Contact Paul Eilbes for information: (262) 376-0568.**

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You may also see Roman in person at the Monthly Meeting at the Book Raffle table.

