



# GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the  
**Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.**

## **Our 60th Year**

and The Iron Brigade Association



FEBRUARY 7, 2008

### DAVID E. LONG

## **Lincoln, Davis and the Dahlgren Raid: Was Political Assassination a Legitimate Tool in the Civil War?**

Twelve years' experience as a trial lawyer and prosecutor give David E. Long a unique perspective on our sixteenth president. He understands the meaning of what it is to "think like a lawyer." He'll bring that experience to bear in his February 7 presentation on President Lincoln's involvement in the controversial 1864 assassination attempt on Jefferson Davis.

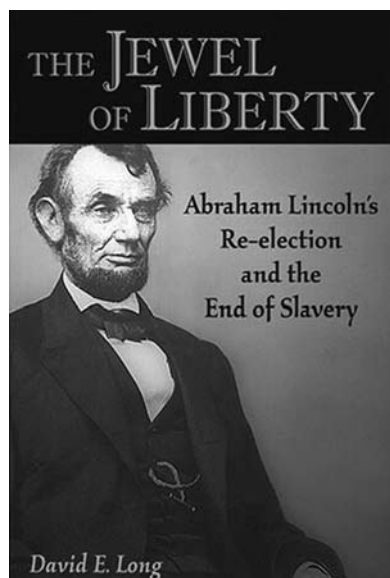
Long graduated from Ohio State University in 1969 and from the Ohio State University College of Law in 1972. His first courtroom appearance as counsel of record was in a first-degree murder case in 1973. Though his client was innocent, the jury found otherwise, sentencing him to life imprisonment. Long refused to accept the judgment and pursued the trail of evidence in the case. Ultimately, he learned the identity of the real killer and, after a difficult appeal process, was able to get the court to grant a new trial. At the second trial he was able to establish his client's innocence by proving the other person's guilt. Nearly three years after his client was first arrested and charged, the imprisoned defendant was found not guilty and regained his freedom.

Long practiced law for twelve years before returning to graduate school in 1987 at Florida State University where he earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in nineteenth-century American history. Long's published dissertation, *The Jewel of Liberty: Abraham Lincoln's Re-election and the End of Slavery*, was nominated for five prizes in the field of U.S. history — the Pulitzer Prize, the Bancroft Prize, the Beveridge Award, the Parkman Award and the Lincoln Prize. Long has also published articles and book reviews in *Civil War Times Illustrated*, *Columbiad*, *Lincoln Herald*, *Journal of Southern History*, and other journals and periodicals.

Long has played a key role in the creation of the Lincoln Forum and was primarily responsible for bringing to light the Soldiers Home residence where Lincoln and his family lived for over a year of his presidency. He is currently close to publication of two books, one about Lincoln's first election and the other on the topic of his presentation to our Round Table.

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*Dr. Long's acclaimed book, published by Stackpole, is scheduled for trade paperback release next month.*



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#### FEBRUARY MEETING AT A GLANCE

February 7, 2008  
 "Lincoln, Davis and the Dahlgren Raid"  
 by David E. Long  
 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 – \$23 by reservation.  
 Deadline: Monday, February 4  
 See page 3.





## CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE OZARKS CIVIL WAR SEMINAR

Would you be surprised to learn that Missouri hosted the third highest number of battles and skirmishes during the Civil War? Only Virginia and Tennessee had more engagements on their soil. Beautiful southwestern Missouri was our destination for a two-day conference focused on the "Civil War West of the Mississippi." Jim Scaminaci, past president of the CWRT of the Ozarks, told us that members from the four state corner area of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas and Oklahoma would heartily welcome Milwaukee visitors, and we felt right at home. Interestingly, we discovered that a huge number of Wisconsinites have retired to this area.

The Round Table of the Ozarks was established in 1960 with a special interest in the Trans-Mississippi. Their newsletter is titled *Buck and Ball*, and the organization has an amazing number of staff and committees, including an historian and a re-enactor liaison. This was their first attempt at holding a conference of this type, and we were very impressed with the results. In between all of the lectures over the two days, there was time for discussion, listening to music by the "Back Porch Players," viewing displays and media presentations and browsing for books. About fifty vendors were in attendance from Eastern National/National Park Service to the University of Arkansas Press to the Missouri Historical Society. We were astounded at the variety and amount of materials available. Great door prizes were awarded each day, culminating with a gorgeous hand-made quilt presented to a California attendee on the last day.

About 250 Civil War enthusiasts from 14 states packed the Clarion Hotel in Springfield to enjoy a variety of well-known speakers. Since the area around Springfield has a wealth of historical sites, including Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Fort Smith, Carthage, Wilson's Creek, Fort Scott and Mine Creek, many of the speakers had connections with these battlefields and state sites.

Christopher Phillips was the main speaker on Friday, discussing Nathaniel Lyon's war in 1861 Missouri and spoke again on Saturday

regarding Claiborn Fox Jackson and the strategy for Missouri's secession. Other programs featured M. Jane Johansson, author of *Peculiar Honor: The 28th Texas Cavalry*; William Shea, author of *Pea Ridge: Civil War Campaign in the West*; and Carl Moneyhon speaking on the impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction in Arkansas.

Saturday was fast paced beginning at 8:30 a.m. with Arnold Schofield speaking on "Guerrillas and Bushwhackers." After several more morning lectures, lunch with music and three more sessions in the afternoon, we concluded the day listening to William Garrett Piston talk about Wilson's Creek. A history professor at Southwest Missouri State University, most of us have read his book, *The Second Battle of the Civil War and the Men Who Fought It*, or used his battlefield guide for Pea Ridge, Wilson's Creek and Prairie Grove.

Before driving home, we spent a few extra days in Springfield. A fifteen-minute drive from the city brought us to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, which was a focus of the CWRT conference. We have been to Wilson's Creek on previous visits but we always discover something new. It's a great battlefield to explore without being overwhelmed! One should stop first at the Visitor Center for a good introduction and overview by electric map. General Sweeny's Museum is now part of the National Park System so that is a must stop on a visit.

One of the speakers at the CWRT conference, the new director and historian at the Nathan Boone State Historical Site, invited us to tour the settlement. On our last day we drove northwest of Springfield for a guided tour of the house, barn, family and slave cemetery of Daniel Boone's son.

We highly recommend a visit to the Springfield area. An abundance of history and beautiful scenery draws a person to the Ozarks. The CWRT of the Ozarks is planning another conference in the future. More information will be forthcoming in the fall of 2008.

*Submitted by: Gene and Jane Jamrozy*

## Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for February 7, 2008

Mail your reservations by Monday, February 4 to:  
**Paul Eilbes**  
**1809 Washington Ave.**  
**Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730**

ALSO, call in reservations to:  
**(262) 376-0568**

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (meal price \$23.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for the January 10 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 May 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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Yearly memberships available: Individual (\$35), Family (\$45), and Non-Resident (\$20).

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

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

## Did You Know? A Little Lincoln Trivia



- Lincoln was the first president born outside the original thirteen colonies.
- Lincoln was the first president to have a beard while in office.
- Lincoln was the first president to be photographed at his inauguration.
- Lincoln was the first national leader to electronically engage, via the telegraph, in monitoring activities in a battle at which he was not present.
- Lincoln is the only president to hold a patent. In 1849 he invented a device to lift boats over such obstructions like sandbars by means of adjustable buoyant chambers. This device, covered by U.S. Patent 6469, was never manufactured.

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### CWRT of Milwaukee, Inc. • 2008 Meetings

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February 7, 2008

David Long — TBA

April 10, 2008

Jennifer Weber — TBA

March 13, 2008

Brian Wills — Civil War in Cinema

May 8, 2008

Vernon Burton — TBA

**Speaker Schedule Subject to change. In case of inclement weather, listen to WTMJ or WISN radio.**