



GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. Since 1947 and The Iron Brigade Association

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General Orders No. 05-03 March, 2005

The **March 10th, 2005**, meeting is to be held at **WISCONSIN CLUB**, Milwaukee
Speaker: Bruce Allardice, former President, Chicago Round Table

Bruce Allardice: The Vote to Win the War: The Election of 1864

What was the best chance the South had to win the Civil War? It is generally agreed the South could not win the war in the classic military sense, with Southern armies seizing Washington D.C. and dictating a peace. Many historians have advanced the notion that all the South had to do was to hold on until the North tired of the war and quit.

But even if the Northern population did weary of the war, to the point where they preferred peace to disunion, how could that public sentiment have found expression in government action? It is a given that Abraham Lincoln had no intention of voluntarily ending the war until the seceding states had been brought back into the Union--brought back by persuasion if possible, by force if necessary.

The 1864 election was a desperate (however slim) chance for the South to realize its independence, even if they could not win it militarily. If antiwar activists ever became a majority in the Northern states, Lincoln, or any president so determined, could and would have ignored that popular sentiment so long as he was in office. Some authorities have expressed their belief that the presidential election of 1864 was the only chance for an antiwar Northern public to replace the

Lincoln administration with one devoted to making peace with the South.

Bruce Allardice will examine the 1864 election, whether there ever existed a realistic chance for an antiwar, "peace" candidate to be elected president, and whether that president could have changed the outcome of the war. The presentation will focus on the parallels between the 1864 elections and other elections, the differences in voting between 1864 and the present day, the nomination of George McClellan by the Democrats, and the political nature of the Northern antiwar movement.

Bruce S. Allardice is the past president of the Civil War Round Table of Chicago. His first book, *More Generals in Gray* (LSU Press, 1995), was a selection of the History Book of the Month Club. He is the coauthor of *Texas Burial Sites of Civil War Notables* (Hill College Press, 2002), and has an essay in *Louisianans in the Civil War* (U. of Missouri Press, 2002). He has numerous articles published in magazines such as *America's Civil War*, *Civil War Times Illustrated*, and *North & South*. His latest book, a biographical encyclopedia of Confederate army colonels titled *Jeff Davis's Colonels*, is scheduled to be published this October by Ironclad Publishing. Mr. Allardice, who teaches history, is a graduate of the University of Illinois and the University of Illinois Law School.

Schedule of Events	
• Staff Meeting (open to all members)	5:30 PM
• Registration and Social Hour	6:15 PM
• Dinner	6:45 PM
• Program Begins	7:30 PM
Times subject to local conditions	

Board Nominations for 2005

The Board of Directors has announced the officers for election and reelection for the 2005 cycle. They are: Gene Jamrosy, Robert Braun, and Bill Upham (reelection); Bill Finke and Mike Benton (election). Long-serving board member Bob Erffmeyer will be stepping down from the Board at the end of the season.

The slate will be voted on at the April meeting and the elected officers will begin their duties in May. Officers normally serve for terms of three years. Contact Nominating Committee chair Lance Herdeggen to volunteer to serve your Round Table.

Jim Johnson to Sit for One-Year Term

Round Table Webmaster Jim Johnson has been appointed to a one-year term on the Board of Directors. The development of the Round Table's Web site should not be impeded by his new duties.

General Orders Committee gets New Proofer/Assistant Editor

David Coverdale has been added to the small General Orders Committee as a proofreader and as an

assistant editor. Dave will write up to three features a year, proof every issue, and act as a backup to Editor/Publisher John Beatty.

Round Table Donates \$5,000 to Restore Lakefront Park Statue

The Board of Directors has voted to set aside \$5000 to the restoration of the equestrian statue of Wisconsin's Surgeon-General during the Civil War in Lakefront Park in Milwaukee. The funds will become available to the Restoration Committee when they receive 50% of their estimated costs in donations or pledges (about \$65,000).

Roman Blenski to be Quartermaster

1st Vice President Gene Jamrosy will be stepping down from his "temporary" duties as Quartermaster for the Round Table at the end of this season, after over twenty years at the job. Roman Blenski has volunteered to take over his duties, including running the book raffle.

Board of Directors, Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., as of January 2005

Name	Office/Title	Contact	Term Expires
Dale Brasser	President	(920) 682-5478	2006
Gene Jamrosy	1st Vice President/Quartermaster	(414) 327-2811	2005
Ellen Kelling-Vukovic	2nd Vice President	(262) 334-6265	2006
Paul Eilbes	Treasurer/Membership Committee Chair	(262) 376-0568; paul.eilbes@ipaper.com	2007
C. Judley Wyant	Secretary	(262) 634-1203; jwyant@wyantlaw.com	2006
John D. Beatty	Editor/Publisher, <i>General Orders</i>	jdbeatty@amcivwar.com	2007
Dr. Robert Karczewski	Member	(902) 563-4824	2007
Robert Braun	Past President	(920) 568-4530	2005
Robert Erffmeyer	Past President	(414) 354-7800	2005
Lance Herdeggen	Past President	(262) 524-7198	2006
Dr. Peter Jacobsohn	Past President	(262) 242-0931	2007
Bob Parrish	Past President	(262) 786-2945	2007
Bill Upham	Past President	(414) 962-6440	2005

Shiloh: The Battlefield II

Of the Federal units around Pittsburg Landing, William T. Sherman of Ohio commanded one of two divisions to the west of the Eastern Corinth Road which divided the encampment area nearly in half north-to-south. Sherman was a West Point-trained professional, even though he had been out of the army when the war began. He had commanded a brigade at Bull Run effectively without distinction, but suffered a breakdown when in command of the forces in the Cumberland Valley late in 1861. He was restored to service only weeks before Shiloh, and commanded the green 5th Division consisting of some 8,500 Ohio and Illinois troops.

The other division west of the road was the 1st Division of nearly 7,000 Iowa and Illinois veterans of the Henry/Donelson campaign, commanded by John A. McClernand. McClernand had been congressman for Abraham Lincoln's district for some twenty years, and

had been appointed to appease Democratic political interests. McClernand was pompous and selfish and distrusted professional soldiers. He claimed credit for the work of others (notably Grant), but was bold and intelligent enough to at least look competent as a commander. A major general just under Grant's seniority, his military experience before Donelson had been in the Black Hawk War thirty years before. He also had ambitions, as did many such officers, of using his war record as a stepping-stone to higher political office.

Concept Plans for new Civil War Museum to be Unveiled April 2

A special presentation will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 2, on concept plans for a new Civil War Museum to be opened at Kenosha in 2007. The presentation will be in Daimler Chrysler Hall at the Kenosha Public Museum at 5500 First Avenue.

The theme of the new museum will be "Hearts Touched By Fire: The American Civil War and the Upper Middle West." The facility will be located on the Kenosha lake front and will highlight the roles played by Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Indiana and Michigan in 1861-1865.

From Interstate 94, take Highway 158 east into Kenosha. Where 158 ends at a T-intersection, turn right (south) to the first stop sign, then left (east) to First Avenue. The museum is located on the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Civil War Mapping Lecture at UWM

The UW-Milwaukee Golda Meier Library is giving a lecture on Civil War map making on Thursday April 27, 2005 at the Library's American Geographical Society on the Third Floor, East Wing of the library. The lecture is entitled "A Hard Road to Travel: Maps and Mapping of the American Civil War" by Earl McElfresh, author and mapmaker. The reception starts at 5 PM and the lecture at 6. For more information see <http://www.uwm.edu/Library/Admin/events.html>.

2005 Schedule

- Apr 7: Kent Gramm: *A More Perfect Tribute: Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address*.
- May 12: Dan Nettesheim: *Winfield Scott Hancock: Leadership & the Subordinate General*.

Meetings are at the Wisconsin Club unless otherwise noted. *Speakers and topics are subject to change without notice.*

Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for: March 10th, 2005

Mail your reservations by March 4th to:

Paul Eilbes, 1809 Washington Ave. Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

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

Enclosed is \$_____ (meal price \$20 per person) for _____ reservations for the next 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: _____

In the Event of Inclement Weather...

Since we live in a part of the Union that has such wonderful weather, the President will decide if there is to be any change in a meeting due to weather. Listen to WTMJ or WISN radio for news of meeting cancellations if the weather turns on us.

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.

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A Gentle Reminder

The Wisconsin Club and the Board of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee would like to remind our members that jackets are required for the Club's dining room. Please contact club management if you have any questions.

General Orders Submissions and Editorial Policy

All submissions to the *GO* are used on a space-available, date-required basis. Electronic submissions are preferred over paper. The Editor/Publisher reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, propriety, content, and house style. Submissions with a direct Civil War interest, or those that are date-sensitive, will be published first.

All submissions must be received by the Editor/Publisher at jdbeatty@amcivwar.com no later than the 10th of the month before the next *GO* (for example, submissions for the January *GO* must be received by 10 December). All address changes, or problems receiving the *GO*, are handled through the Membership Chairman.