General Orders



The Newsletter of the

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



February 13, 2020

Connie Langum

Battle at Wilson's Creek

You will soon be in a pretty hot place...but I will be near you, and I will take care of you; keep as cool as the inside of a cucumber and give them thunder.

General Sterling Price, Wilson's Creek August 1861

The fight at Wilson's Creek might well be classified as one of those "forgotten" battles of the Civil War. The commanders of both armies are as lost to time as are the actions they took on August 10, 1861.

Union forces were led by Nathanial Lyon and Franz Sigel; Confederates by Ben McCulloch and Sterling Price. Though outnumbered by rebel forces, Lyon decided to attack. He reasoned that his forces would be unable to retreat in the face of superior numbers, but an attack that disrupted his enemy could afford his men time to disengage.

In a series of three attacks Confederates sought to drive Union forces from the field. Lyon was killed, but Federal troops held their ground. Later in the day, however, Franz Sigel was routed, but the Union army retreated safely as General Lyon had originally hoped.



Our speaker earned an Associate in Arts from Crowder College in Neosho, Missouri in 1987; received a Bachelor of Arts from Missouri Southern State College in Joplin, Missouri in1989; and received a Master of Arts from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas in 1991.

She went to work for the National Park Service in 1991 as the Midwest Coordinator for a brand-new program called the American Battlefield Protection Program. In that role, she assisted local preservation groups as they tried to preserve the battlefield located in their backyard, so to speak.

In 1993 she transferred to Wilson's Creek National Battlefield as the park historian where she is involved in a wide variety of projects including research and documentation, Cultural Landscape implementation, Section 106 compliance for park projects including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and various American Indian tribes, providing historical documentation and input to management documents, providing input for new exhibits in the Visitor Center, assisting with special park programs and any other duties as assigned. She spent a year as the Acting Chief Ranger while that position was being advertised and filled. She also serves as the Historic Weapons Supervisor for the park.

Connie lives in Springfield with her husband Rick and their 16-year-old daughter Madeline. She is active in her church, serves as Program Chair for the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks, and doesn't miss a choir concert or High School softball game.

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February Meeting at a Glance Wisconsin Club 9th 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, February 10, 2020 7:30 p.m. - Program

2019-2020 Speaker Schedule

Find the speaker schedule on page 6.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THE MARCH 12 MEETING:

Please use the following contact information for the March 12 meeting:

Mail Reservations to Bruce Klem 4327 Taft Road, Kenosha, WI 53142 Call or email reservations to Bruce at 262-652-6256 or <u>bklem58263@aol.com</u>

This contact is for the March 12 meeting <u>only</u>.

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!

Civil War Medical Museum Changes Logo

As reported in the January 6, 2020 edition of the *Washington Post* by Michael S. Rosenwald, The National Museum of Civil War Medicine located in Frederick, Maryland, is removing both the flags from its logo.

David Price, the museum's executive director, said dropping both flags – Union and Confederate – has nothing to do with politics. Rather, the decision was part of a year-long effort to rebrand the museum after recent expansions.

The museum opened in 1996 and is housed in the Carty Building. In 2005, expansion began when, in partnership with the National Park Service, the museum took over operation of the Pry House Field Hospital Museum, a home that became a hospital during the Battle of Antietam.

Six years ago, the museum took over another property: the Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum in downtown Washington.

To Price, the museum logo – the two flags separated by the Rod of Asclepius, the symbol of the Greek god of medicine and healing – no longer represented the broader story of the museum's three outposts.

Invictus, a Pennsylvania marketing firm, was hired to come up with a new logo. The new logo was revealed on January 15, 2020, and is composed of a shield, the Caduceus medical symbol and three stars to represent the museum's three locations. The colors are blue, gray and red.

Although the Confederate flag no longer appears on the logo, Price emphasized that images of the flag will continue to be displayed on the museum's properties – in exhibits and souvenirs. "This is not about banning the Confederate flag from our museum," Price said. "It has been around this museum since its inception. It's part of our history." The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

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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 January 15, 2020.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

Patron (\$200 - \$499)

Eugene & Jane Jamrozy, Daniel Nettesheim

Associate (\$100 - \$199)

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

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Speaker Enhancement Fund

George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Jeryl Anthony, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Mike Benton, Dale Bespalec, 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, Dan & Carol Hughes, Van & Dawn Harl, Leon & Margaret Harris, Jim Heinz, Gene & Jane Jamrozy, Bernard Jene, Grant Johnson, Allan Kasprzak, Bruce Klem, John Kuhnmuench, Jr., Stephen Leopold, Robin Martin, Kathy McNally, Jim & Monica Millane, Thomas Olsen, Bob & Mary Lou Parrish, David Perez, Tom Pokrandt, Jack Rodencal, Dr. James Rydlewicz, David & Helga Sartori, Diana Smurawa, Dan Tanty



In February 1950 Louis A. Warren spoke to those assembled on "Legendary Lincoln."

"Lincoln, Commander-in-Chief" was the topic presented by Max H. Herriott in February 1960.

Joseph Eisendrath was the speaker at the February 1970 meeting speaking on "Myths About Abraham Lincoln."

At the February 1980 meeting James Lee McDonough spoke to the Round Table members on "The Last Day at Stone's River."

At the February 1990 meeting the Round Table welcomed Dr. Richard A. Sauers who talked to the group about "Ambrose Burnside's 1862 North Carolina Campaign."

Thomas Cartwright was the speaker at the February 2000 meeting speaking on "The Tennessee Campaign of 1864."

At last year's February meeting Robert Girardi spoke to the group on "Gouveneur K. Warren's Last Battle: The General and the Historians."

Buford's Brigade at Gettysburg: A Study in the Maturity of the Federal Cavalry Friday, February 28, 2020 Noon

Presented by: Dr. Laurence D. Schiller

Actions of Buford's First Cavalry Division on July 1st, 1863, at Gettysburg are used to illustrate how the Federal Cavalry had matured over the preceding two years into competent American Dragoons who could fight equally well mounted or dismounted and could use both tactics in a combined arms doctrine. After a short discussion of what Federal Cavalry had evolved into, Dr. Schiller will examine the progress of the First Cavalry Division as it moved from Brandy Station to its encounter with Heth and Pender's divisions on July 1st. Although not given enough credit, Buford not only selected the "good ground" for Meade to fight on, but through his actions on that first day helped keep the Confederates from occupying it both before the Federal Infantry arrived and afterwards.

COMING IN APRIL! BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELD: THE CIVIL WAR SOCIAL HISTORY FORUM

COMING IN SEPTEMBER! THE GREAT LAKES CIVIL WAR FORUM: COMMAND DECISIONS

See page 6 for more information.

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, February 14, 2020 Noon Railroad Defense in the Atlanta Campaign Presented by: Mr. Robert Girardi

In May of 1864, William T. Sherman advanced upon the city of Atlanta. His campaign forced him to rely upon a vulnerable 473-mile supply line along the route of the railroads. This is an in-depth examination of the means Sherman used to protect his communications deep within enemy lines.

Friday, March 13, 2020 Noon Michigan's Anishinaabe Sharpshooters Presented by: Sally Walker

Company K of the 1st Michigan Sharpshooters was the only all Native American company east of the Mississippi River. These Odawa, Ojibwe, and Potawatomi soldiers served as guards at Camp Douglas and fought at the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, and the Crater. Author Sally M. Walker will present information about the history of the company and the lives of its soldiers.

Third Thursdays at Noon I've Heard of Her

Bring a lunch and join Museum staff in a discussion of the remarkable and often unknown parts of the lives and roles of women in history. You might know their names but not all the details. Explore the good, the bad, and the in between.

Friday, February 20, 2020 Frida Kahlo

Using art as a mirror, Frida Kahlo's canvases display pain, conflict and her passion for life. Although you may know some of her famous self-portraits, who was Frida really? There is more to this Mexican artist than meets the eye.

Civil War Media Club

Tuesday, March 10, 2020 7 – 8:30 p.m. The Real Horse Soldiers: Benjamin Grierson's Epic 1863 Civil War Raid Through Mississippi

Moderated by: Doug Dammann

\$10/\$5 Friends of the Museum

Grierson's Union cavalry thrust through Mississippi is one of the most well-known operations of the Civil War. The last serious study was published more than six decades ago. Since then other accounts have appeared, but none are deeply researched full-length studies of the raid and its more than substantial (and yet often overlooked) results. The publication of Timothy B. Smith's book rectifies this oversight.

Participants are encouraged to read the book before the meeting and come prepared to share their thoughts.



Headquarters 6th Reg't Wis. Vol. Camp at Arlington Heights, Va. February 16, 1862

Mr. S.S. Cooke, Gilmanton Wis.

Respected Father – I have none of your valued favor claiming a reply. Having a little leisure time this morning (leaving time at 2 o'clock a.m. it is now something the sentinel on duty informed me.) I will spend a portion then giving the news...

The Regiment yesterday received new guns. They were manufactured at Springfield in Massachusetts and are named the Springfield Rifle. They are the most elegantly finished gun that I have seen in the service and are said to be effective and accurate in shooting. Some of the Secessions had now better make their peace with God, and speedily make such dispersion with their worldly affairs as that they will be safely leave whilst they begin that ever enlightened journey that some of them are sure to take on the other side of Jordan in the Spirit world.

The Union army is now meeting with signal success in almost every engagement – God is on our side now that we have the most best drilled and best equipped men...If the rebels don't get outside assistance, and that soon too, many of our noble gallant sons have best sacrificed on their country's altar endeavoring to suppress this monster rebellion...If we succeed in crushing out this rebellion and forever wiping out the foul course of slavery from our fair country our brave men will not have even vainly sacrificed. If we do not accomplish this I shall weep over our fallen sons and ruin in country. I do not wish to live to see the day that our beloved country shall be offered up a sacrifice to human slavery but I have no fears of that at present; yet there was a time during this struggle when our cause seemed wavering in the balance and we had dark and gloomy foreboding and felt sick at heart when we thought of what the future of our country would probably be. But our Star of hope has risen and we predict glorious and prosperous future for our native land. I can even now almost cry for joy when I contemplate the sublime future of this heaven favored land. I hope and pray that our national sins are pretty nearly atoned for and that very soon we may enjoy the two-fold blessing of peace and liberty, that our sword may be beaten into plow shares and our guns into railroad rails and we transported over the rails to our peaceful home again where I trust we may be permitted to pass the balance of our days with our wives and children. I predict that when the strawberries ripen I shall be with my wife and friends again.

The Army of the Potomac is now fully prepared to move and as soon as the roads will permit it will take the field for active operations.

Coming events are crowding thickly upon us. History will be made very fast during the next three months. Those who cannot or will not take a part in this struggle must stand aside and let those in who will. For in God's name I believe the time has come for this rebellion to be crushed, slavery abrogated and peace, liberty and prosperity restored to our now distracted country.

Very truly yours. Warren C. Garwood

From the 7th Regiment Camp Arlington, 7th W.V. February 11, 1862

EDITORS PATRIOT: - It has been some time since I wrote you but as there has nothing of any moment transpired I though it useless to fill a letter where in there was naught to interest the reader.

The time is coming and that before the elapse of many weeks when we will leave this old camp ground. O how heartily the news will be received by all the men although our present camp seems almost like home. We have collected around us such things as our circumstances would admit and when we do leave we will leave many a little notion behind yet we would be glad to get away from here. In the days past there has been very fine freezing at night and thawing during the day so that the mud in our streets is getting dried up some...

Our colonel has resigned. Of course you knew that before we did but I don't believe you were half so glad as the most of us here. Of the colonel's ability I will not speak. We are Yankees and free, though for a time we are under surveillance, we never forget what was and what may be again.

Our Lieut. Col. we are proud of and well may we be proud of him. He has not accomplished any great feat of daring or bravery, but if he had the chance so great is the confidence in him that none would fear to trust their lives in his keeping. Always cool, kind and considerate, he only needs the opportunity to distinguish himself. With him as our colonel we are satisfied. Of our Major, I for one know little. A better selection I think it here to make. Capt. Hill is a qualified officer. He served through the Mexican War therefore has had some experience. He is very much devoted to the men of this company and will stick by them if they desired him to but as he deserves the promotion no doubt he will take it.

The main topic for conversation which has been war! War! Has turned into another channel. The topic is an all engrossing subject and of vital importance to the volunteer. It is of the taxation of the private. If such a bill did pass it would raise old Nick himself – perhaps there might be mutiny – it would raise a spirit of mutiny in the breast of nearly every man. To be thus ill-used is not what we expected from our government. To decoy us away from our homes with the proviso of \$13 per month and then after they have us, to reduce or tax us a certain percent which is not more or less than reducing our wages, is not the usage we anticipated.

Instead of taxing the private, reduce the pay of the commissioned officers. They are getting double, triple and quadruple the wages of the private. Look at the disproportion. Yes. I say tax the officers. Very few of our commissioned officers earned as much at home as they are receiving now. Tax them, then if they don't like it they can show their patriotism by resigning and going home. There are thousands that are at present in the ranks who are just as capable and just as qualified to command companies at the present time and who Lieutenancy, on half the wages yearly that are being paid to them (the commissioned officers) at present, by doing so we would find out a great many of and who were the true patriots.

Many of the privates who are receiving but \$13 per month depend upon their labor for the support of their families and themselves and \$20 to \$40 and \$50 per month. But because they are soldiers freely offering up their lives for their country, they must have the little they received taxed, thereby causing their family to suffer. It strikes deep to the heart of the soldier to hear that his family is suffering during the cold winter that has closed around his once cheerful fireside.

I do not speak this in a tone of complaint but I wish to show how the news of taxation is received – how we feel and what we think. We will hope for the best – hope on, hope ever.

More anon. M

Army of the Potomac Camp Arlington, Va. Feb. 15, 1862

MESSRS. EDITORS – I have not written you for a long time for the very reason there has been so little with us transpiring that would be of interest to your readers. – Still I am aware that your "Army Correspondence" is gladly received and eagerly read by our friends at home though much of it is of comparatively little importance.

Our regiment has just returned from the line having been but again on a forty-eight hour tour picketing. We left our camp ground Wednesday morning last at 8.5 o'clock and proceeded via Ball's Cross Roads, Upton Hill and the village of Fall Church to the immediate vicinity of the Doulon farm – at which place you will recollect, on the 18th of Nov. last, a detachment of the 14th (Brooklyn) N.Y. Reg't sent out on a foraying expedition were surrounded and captured by a company of rebel cavalry. Companies "G" and "B" were assigned to the most advanced posts of the left wing. One Co. as a reserve and relief to the other after standing on post twenty four hours. Our newly appointed Major, Geo. Bill (formerly Capt. Co. A) accompanied us of the left wing.

This Picket tour was Major Bill's first effort in his new official capacity. We like his style and believe he will prove himself to be what our regiment demands, a kind officer and a strict disciplinarian – by the way I will here mention that Lt. Col. Robinson has been promoted to the colonelship of the regiment...Yesterday the scout from our regiment, Britton of Co. "C" came in to the line bringing with him a secesh soldier captured by himself out near Fairfax. This morning before we were relieved by the 2d about 1200 cavalry came out and crossed the lines, the boys cheering them as they passed. Soon after they had got out of sight of the pickets they were heard to make a charge upon somebody and firing their carbines. We have heard nothing from then as yet - Two large batteries of artillery are reported to have crossed the lines south of us yesterday, by whom commanded or when they design to attack, we have no means of knowing at present. I do not profess to be a prophet or the son of a prophet but if I may judge from the appearance of everything around us, the "Waiting" which I noticed in the Journal which I received this evening is to use a military term stayed-out and the Great Army of the Potomac is soon to move.

But I must dry up for it is getting late and I have just been notified that I am detained as officer of the Brigade guard at Gen. McDowell's Headquarters tomorrow morning. You may guess, too, that we are somewhat weary after our journey of 10 miles home through the mud...

The Washington Star this evening brings the official account of the victory and capture of Roanoke Island, good news! May we continue the march on every side until the rebels are completely cleaned out and our glorious old flag planted again in every state and this unholy rebellion is crushed out, never again to attempt an overthrow of our best of all governments.

From the Fields information is provided by Jim Johnson.

In Memoriam

Horace Hardy Mewborn, Jr. passed away on December 14, 2019.

Horace served two and one-half tours in South Vietnam as part of the Fifth Special Forces Group Mike Force. He was awarded his Combat Infantryman's Badge, Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Senior Parachutist's Badge and other awards. While on his last tour he was assigned as the personal escort for Lt. Col. Martha Raye with whom he forged a life-long friendship. After serving seven years of active duty, he obtained an accounting degree and was selected by the FBI to attend their academy in Quantico. After graduation from the academy, he was assigned to a field office in New York City and later to headquarters in Washington, DC. He was an early member of the Hostage Rescue Team and subsequently was assigned to the FBI Headquarters Office as section chief of the Domestic Terrorism Branch. He retired to New Bern, North Carolina in 1990. He wrote several books on John S. Mosby and other topics about the Civil War. He was often asked to give talks to Civil War Round Tables and was acknowledged as an expert on the campaigns and raids conducted by Mosby during the war. He was instrumental in getting the Civil War Round Table started in New Bern and the preservation of the New Bern Civil War Battlefield.

Dennis E. Showalter passed away on December 30, 2019

As reported by The World War One Historical Society, Dennis E. Schowalter passed away on December 30th in Colorado.

Dennis was a long-time professor at Colorado College and a visiting professor at many military schools including the Air Force Academy, West Point, and the Marine Corps University. Despite never having had PhD students of his own, Dennis was a mentor, a teacher, and an inspiration to an entire generation of historians. He appears in hundreds of acknowledgments and dedications, and was also the subject of a Festschrift and special issue of the journal War in History. He was president of the Society for Military History, a founding member of the International Society for First World War Studies, and the winner of the prestigious Pritzker Medal.

His daughter, Clara Kathleen, wrote, the lesson of Dennis' career and his life is "Be kind. Period. Lift up, don't punch down. Assume the best and if don't get it challenge people to get there. That's how you make the world better."

May flights of angels guide them to their rest.

 COMING IN APRIL! BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELD: THE CIVIL WAR SOCIAL HISTORY FORUM Saturday, April 25, 2020 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Registration: 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Programs Begin at 9:30 a.m. Catered Lunch included Friends of the Museum \$40/Non-Members \$50 Formerly known as the Home Front Seminar – the program highlights topics and talks pertaining to the social history aspects of the Civil War period. Featured Speakers: Ed Pierce – From Band Stand to Battlefield and Back: The Epic Journey of the American Band Jo Ann Daly Carr – Such Anxious Hours: Wisconsin Women's Voices from the Civil War Gerald McWorter & Kate Williams-Mcworter – New Philadelphia Claire Herhold – Growing Up Abolitionist: How the Children of Boston's Most Prominent Abolitionists Grew Up to Change the World 	 COMING IN SEPTEMBER! THE GREAT LAKES CIVIL WAR FORUM: COMMAND DECISIONS Saturday, September 12, 2020 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Registration: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Program Begins at 9:30 a.m. Catered Lunch Included Friends of the Museum \$55/ Non-Members \$65 The theme of the 2020 Great Lakes Civil War Forum is Command Decisions. This year, four renowned Civil War historians will consider the decisions made by Union and Confederate military leaders at several of the most important campaigns of the Civil War – Antietam, Gettysburg, Chickamauga and Petersburg. Featured Speakers: Dennis Frye – Antietam Shadows – Did McClellan out-think Lee? Wayne Motts – "Sir I Have No Division:" Command Decisions and Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg Dave Powell – Negley at Horseshoe Ridge Will Greene – Grant, Lee, Butler and Beauregard at Petersburg: June 12 – 18, 1864

MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE 2019-2020 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

September 12, 2019 <i>The War Outside My</i> <i>The Civil War Diary of LeRe</i>	
October 10, 2019 Battlefield Preserv	Jim Lighthizer
November 7, 2019 The Valley Cam	Ethan Rafuse
December 12, 2019 Country Club of the Wi Abraham Lincoln Book	
January 9, 2020 Heroines of Mercy Street: Nurs	Pamela Toler ses in the Civil War
February 13, 2020 Wilson Creek Ba	Connie Langum
March 12, 2020 VMI Civil War	David Sutherland Legacy
April 16, 2020 Memory of Self and Comrades:	Michael Schaffer Thomas W. Colley
May 7, 2020 Petersburg Camp	A. Wilson Greene
June 11, 2020 George Henry Th	Brian Steele Wills



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					
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A. William Finke	Member	2020					
Van Harl	Past President	2020					
James J. Heinz	Member	2020					
Grant Johnson	Membership, Past Pres Webmaster	ident 2021					
Bruce Klem	President	2021					
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Frank Risler	Program Chair	2021					
Tom Thompson	Member	2020					
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~ 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

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 February 13, 2020

Mail your reservations by Monday, February 10 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 February 13, 2020 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 STONEWALL JACKSON THE MAN, THE SOLDIER, THE LEGEND

Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr.



This was a book I became interested in from an article I saw in *The Civil War Monitor*. I had the opportunity to pick it up on a tour of the Fredericksburg/Chancellorsville Battlefield during the Civil War Institute's June 2017 symposium. It was available at the Park Visitor Center gift shop. Never one to pass up a purchase at a gift shop, I bought a copy and was glad I did. This book comes in at 762 pages but is one that reads easily and is packed with information on the life of Jackson.

Dr. Robertson has presented Stonewall Jackson with all the warts and idiosyncrasies of the man. He shows his history from a young child orphaned, passed on to relatives and almost left on his own to learn. Robertson slowly develops the story to help show how the young Thomas Jackson evolves into a god-fearing determined individualist. He becomes a man who turns to trust in God and makes every effort to follow the path of devotion to God in all his actions. In a biography about a general, a military man, Robertson takes the reader deeply into his life to see not just his accomplishments on the battlefield, but more

importantly, the heart of the man, the Christian character of the man. Robertson showed his subject at his best and worst, at home and on the battlefield. This is one of those biographies where to read it is to meet the subject. Jackson was a multifaceted individual and Robertson portrays him in all of his complexity.

At times, Jackson comes off as a bit of a dolt and almost a dullard as he repeated his lectures word for word at VMI, as if a cassette recorder were being rewound for the benefit of his uncomprehending students. Jackson was clearly a deeply religious man, but he is not made out to be either a saint or a grim religious fanatic. When Jackson finally decided it was time for some religion he went around shopping and decided upon Presbyterianism, for its Calvinism was most in line with how he himself viewed God and the universe: an orderly creation run logically, much akin to how he himself would drill cadets at VMI. Robertson argues Jackson would have made a much better history teacher, for the man was deeply moved by great acts of history, especially military and biblical ones. It is noteworthy how moved Jackson was upon his visit to Quebec City while visiting the Plains of Abraham where General Wolfe had fallen in battle. Robertson points out that "impetuosity marked both the opening and closing battles in the Valley Campaign." Familiarity with terrain, the ability to isolate segments of the enemy, turning a strategic withdrawal into a tactical offensive were Jackson's attributes that would mark the remainder of his career. Armed with self-assurance that God was with his troops, Jackson fought with unbroken confidence and with faith always firm.

In his writing Robertson points out that Jackson, at times, could be his own worst enemy. He shows how Jackson made many mistakes in the Seven Days Battles and wasn't very helpful in the fights for the most part because he ran himself to the point of exhaustion prior to getting to the battle area. As a result, his missteps in judgement and the orders he issued ended in battlefield failures. He made up for that with success at Antietam, Fredericksburg and lastly Chancellorsville.

I highly recommend this book for anyone interested in learning about Stonewall Jackson. It seems to me an honest appraisal of Jackson's life and development. It became obvious that he was at his best in the military at war. I think Robertson did a great job in putting together a biography that fully shows and explains how Jackson became the man and soldier he was. Robertson shows both the person caring, fearless and compassionate, but also, hard, ruthless and cunning, issues Jackson had and how his determination to succeed in life enabled him to overcome obstacles. Robertson's book allows the reader to see the human puzzle that was General Stonewall Jackson in one interesting read.

submitted by Bruce Klem



The late Cokie Roberts was a highly respected pioneering female journalist and political commentator for ABC News and NPR. As a daughter of Thomas and Lindy Boggs who both served in Congress, she acquired an early insight into understanding politics and history. She has also authored several books on the history and impact of influential women in the founding of our nation.

The Civil War not only helped with transforming our nation into the economic and political powerhouse of the world, it also began the transformation of women into roles of leadership. This was most apparent in our nation's capital as detailed in this well written and researched book of 737 pages. The author states: "The sleepy little prewar Capitol city went from being a social center for self-described belles to a place where purposeful women assembled to effect change." Not only was the city transformed in size by doubling, but many of the women of D.C. transformed themselves. During the Civil War, women engaged in all types of activities that were far different from the prewar norm. They became spies, lobbyists, supply workers, makers of uniforms and gunpowder bags, nurses, relief workers, pamphleteers, Treasury workers and journalists.

The author makes good use of the main characters that she writes about to compare their roles before, during and after the war. For example, Varina Davis was one of the "Belles of the Ball" at the top of the Capital social scale before the war. Then she was an outcast being on the wrong side of the war. Afterwards, she was a supplicant for her husband's better treatment and freedom and lived in exile in Europe. After his death she earned a living from her writing while residing in New York City and being friends with Julie Dent Grant.

The book is divided into nine chronological chapters of one to three years, each dealing with the events experienced by these women during the war and its aftermath. There is a substantial "Epilogue" that explains what happened to "The Women of Washington" after the war. A "Cast of Characters" list includes men and women from both sides of the Civil War. There are 118 pages of notes listing sources and a 22-page bibliography that illustrates the depth of the author's research.

Chapter one entitled "Meet the Women of Washington, 1848 – 1868" gives us an overview of some of the subjects of the book. Here we meet the widows of Alexander Hamilton and James Madison at the laying of the cornerstone of the Washington Monument. Further on in the chapter, we meet the wives of John C. Fremont and Jefferson Davis. Other leaders such as Clara Barton, Dorothea Dix and Anna Carroll are introduced to us. This chapter sets the tone for the book as we will meet some of these women again and again in the following chapters.

An example of this appearing in several chapters deals with Jessie Benton Fremont. This daughter of US Senator Thomas Hart Benton first appears in the public eye in 1856 when her husband John Fremont was the Republican Presidential candidate. She became so popular that women copied her hair style, wore her favorite color and named their babies Jessie Ann. Because of her husband's defeat in 1856, she did not return to Washington for five years. After a grand tour of Europe in 1858, she returned to California for a life full of family and societal events. When the war started, they moved to Missouri and John began his disastrous command that got him demoted. When Lincoln removed him from command, Jessie made a trip to Washington to appeal to the President, but to no avail.

At the end of the book, the author makes a list of the "Cast of Characters" with subdivisions of "Political Women", "Literary Women" and "Activist Women." She also lists "Political Men" and "Military Men" whose wives were featured in the previous list.

Cast of Characters:

Political Women – Abigail Brook Adams, Anna Ella Carroll, Virginia Tunstall Clay, Varina Howell Davis, Adele Cutts Douglas, Jessie Benton Fremont, Julia Dent Grant, Rose O'Neal Greenhow, Harriet Lane, Elizabeth Blair Lee, Mary Todd Lincoln, Dolly Madison, Louisa Rodgers Meigs, Kathryn Chase Sprague.

Literary Women – Lois Adams, Mary Clemmer Ames, Emily Briggs, Elizabeth Lomax, Sara Rice Pryor, Jane Swisshelm, Mary Jane Windle.

Activist Women – Clara Barton, Anna E. Dickinson, Dorothea Dix, Josephine Griffing, Elizabeth Keckley, Sojourner Truth.

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Political Men – Charles Francis Adams – husband of Abigail Brooks Adams; Thomas Hart Benton – father of Jessie Benton Fremont; Montgomery Blair – brother of Elizabeth Blair Lee; James Buchanan – uncle of Harriet Lane; Salmon Chase – father of Kate Chase Sprague; Jefferson Davis – husband of Varina Davis; Stephen Douglas – husband of Adele Cutts Douglas; John Charles Fremont – husband of Jessie Fremont; Samuel Phillips Lee – husband of Elizabeth Blair Lee; Abraham Lincoln – husband of Mary Todd Lincoln; William Seward – father-in-law of Janet Seward; William Sprague – husband of Kate Chase Sprague.

Military Men – Ulysses S. Grant – husband of Julia Dent Grant; "Fighting Joe" Hooker – husband of Olivia Groesbeck Hooker; Robert E. Lee – husband of Mary Custis Lee; George McClellan – husband of Ellen March McClellan; Montgomery Meigs – husband of Louisa Rodgers Meigs; William Sherman – husband of Ellen Ewing Sherman.

submitted by John Helmenstine

Wanderings



"Share Your Civil War Experiences"

One of the "fun" things about our newsletter is that our readers get to share their own travels with the rest of the membership. If you take a Civil War trip and have a story to share, contact Donna Agnelly or Dave Wege. We will be sure to help you get your memories ready for the Round Table to enjoy.

So, as the winter doldrums set into your yearly travel, plan to share those trips to which you are looking forward as the weather permits Civil War experiences.

FROM THE FILES OF PETER JACOBSOHN

GENERAL ORDERS,} No. 33 WAR DEPARTMENT, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, April 3, 1862.

I..Captain *Donald C. Stith*, 5th Infantry, is by direction of the President of the United States, dismissed the service, to take effect September 25, 1861.

II..In order to secure, as far as possible, the decent interment of those who have fallen, or may fall, in battle, it is made the duty of Commanding Generals to lay off lots of ground in some suitable spot near every battle field, so soon as it may be in their power, and to cause the remains of those killed to be interred, with head-boards to the graves bearing numbers, and, where practicable, the names of the persons buried in them. A register of each burial ground will be preserved, in which will be noted the marks corresponding with the head-boards.

III..The Recruiting Service for Volunteers will be discontinued in every State from this date. The officers detached on Volunteer Recruiting Service will join their Regiments without delay, taking with them the parties and recruits at their respective stations. The Superintendents of Volunteer Recruiting Service will disband their parties and close their offices, after having taken the necessary steps to carry out these orders. The public property belonging to the Volunteer Recruiting Service will be sold to the best advantage possible, and the proceeds credited to the fund for collecting, drilling, and organizing volunteers.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

L. THOMAS, Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Assistant Adjutant General

From Our Good Friends at Savas Beatie

COMING IN 2020

- *Tullahoma: The Forgotten Campaign That Changed the Civil War, June 23 July 4, 1863* by David A. Powell and Eric W. Wittenberg
- Seceding by Secession: The Civil War, Politics, and the Creation of West Virginia by Eric J. Wittenberg, Edmund A Sargus, Jr., and Penny L. Barrick
- Altars to Amputations: From Gettysburg Churches to Battlefield Hospitals: A History and Walking Tour by Rea Andrew Redd
- Defending the Arteries of Rebellion: Confederate Naval Operations in the Mississippi River Valley, 1861 1865 by Neil P. Chatelain
- Hearts Torn Asunder: Trauma in the Civil War's Final Campaign in North Carolina by Ernest A. Dollar, Jr.
- Patriots Twice: Former Confederates and the Building of America after the Civil War by Stephen M. Hood
- The War Outside My Window (Young Readers Edition): The Civil War Diary of LeRoy Wiley Gresham, 1860 1865 edited by Janet E. Croon and Kimberly A. Conrad

FROM THE EMERGING CIVIL WAR SERIES

- Unlike Anything That Ever Floated: The Monitor and Virginia and the Battle of Hampton Roads, March 8-9, 1862 by Dwight Sturtevant Hughes
- To Hell or Richmond: The 1862 Peninsula Campaign by Doug Crenshaw and Drew A. Gruber
- Dreams of Victory: General P.G.T. Beauregard in the Civil War by Sean Michael Cook

IN PAPERBACK

- The Real Horse Soldiers: Benjamin Grierson's Epic 1863 Civil War Raid Through Mississippi by Timothy B. Smith
- The Petersburg Campaign, Vol. 1: The Eastern Front Battles, June August, 1864 by Edwin C. Bearss with Bryce Suderow
- The Petersburg Campaign, Vol. 2: The Western Front Battles, September 1864 April 1865 by Edwin C. Bearss with Bryce Suderow

Vicksburg is the Key



Civil War Time Travelers - October 24-30, 2020



Ft. Donelson - Shiloh - Corinth - Vicksburg

Approximately \$825.00 cost will include historians, guides, hotels, and coach transportation with pick-ups in Campbellsport and College Avenue, Milwaukee.

Come join as we are "Traveling Where Heroes Trod!"

Please see the Registration Table for more information or Facebook @ Civil War Time Travelers, LLC.



<u>Through the Looking Glass</u> 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 <u>General Orders</u>. Thank you!

"Civilians in the Valley in 1864"

A civilian living in the Shenandoah Valley in 1864 faced an uncertain existence. Two Union generals, first David Hunter and then Philip Sheridan, took the war to a more personal level as they visited "hard war" upon civilians in the Valley. One family that experienced "hard war" was the Shaver family. The family lived near the village of Piedmont, and war visited them when forces under David Hunter collided with Confederates under William "Grumble" Jones in June 1864.

The battle did not go well for the Rebels. "Grumble" Jones was killed and his regiments, many composed of a combination of youths and old men, were shattered. The Shaver family experienced the fighting in a very personal way.

Other Yankee soldiers came to the house. They began to loot and destroy everything in their path. The Shaver women were upset and began to cry. About 11:00 a group of Federal Officers arrived. General Hunter had been at the foot of the road, but after bullets began to fly about him decided to come to the Shaver house. General Hunter and the officers ejected the plunderers and put two under arrest. Cornelius Shaver requested that the cavalry horses not be tied in the trees in the Orchard. They were relatively young trees, only being about 3 years from planting, and the horses were damaging the apples trees. There was a confrontation between an officer and Cornelius, at which time Cornelius was physically and literally kicked into the basement. The rest of the family was told to go into a room in the basement, which was used for cooking in the winter, for the rest of the battle. Katherine Shaver, wife of Cornelius, was heavy with child at this time.

General Hunter and Officers went to the front of the house where he could see the battlefield. This gave him a very different view form (sic) the one he had left. He had a good vantage point to view the battle form (sic) the top of the portico on the front of the house. He saw the possibility of moving troops up the creek, through the woods to the crest of the hill to attack Jones's position. He had a group (of) his troops attack the Confederates to the south of the Shaver house. He gave orders for Thoburne's division to move along the creek through the woods to the top of the hill. Thoburne crawled on his knees through a clover field until he got almost to the top without being seen. Very hasty fighting started, at short range. Guns were dropped, and hand to hand combat took place. General Jones rode out to lead his men, and took a bullet in his head. A soldier ran through the lines shouting, "General Jones is dead." The men broke and retreated to the rear.

In the aftermath of the fighting, two men were brought to the Shaver house that had been wounded. One was Colonel W. H. Browne. He was shot in the leg and bled to death three days later. His leg was elevated from a hook in the ceiling but the blood went through the mattress on to the unfinished pine floor. The hook stayed in the ceiling until the 1960's and the blood stain can be seen on the floor to this day. After his death, the family made a crude pine box to put his body in. They carried it down the steps and when they got to the landing, the bottom of the box gave way. Milton Shaver (age 15) got a hammer and drove the nails into the bottom of the box to keep the body from falling out. He was buried near his home in Washington County.

Colonel William H. Browne was in command of one of "Grumble" Jones's veteran regiments. His untimely wounding might have done much to cause Confederate defenses to unravel.

The other man was a cavalry officer. His name was Major Richard Henry Brewer. He attended West Point. He died 15 days later. The doctors were: Surgeon Thomas A. Reed, 31st Pennsylvania and Surgeon R. W. Knole, 6th Virginia, CSA. Knole had been captured and was put to work treating the wounded men from both sides. Dr. Reed wrote a letter to another telling him of the wounds they treated. Other wounded men were put in the barn and other outbuildings. The family fed and cared for them the best they could.

The Shaver house is mentioned in several accounts of the Battle of Piedmont. It is mentioned as the point where Thoburne formed his troops prior to the assault on Confederate lines. The creek and ravine through which Thoburne led his men also receives prominent mention. Like so many civilians in the war, fighting visited the Shaver family disrupting their lives and visiting upon them memories that would stay with them for generations. These memories were shared with the Civil War Time Travelers when a desk clerk at the Sleep Inn, Harrisonburg, VA heard that out group was in town to visit Civil War sites. She asked whether we would be interested in an account her great grandmother had in her possession. Upon receiving a resounding affirmative, the young lady returned the next day with a typed, ten-page manuscript which included the quoted passages.

Thank you, Sarah Flora, a descendant of the Shaver family, for so enthusiastically sharing your family 1864 history with us!

CIVIL WAR WORKSHOPS:

Visit the museum website at <u>www.thecivilwarmuseum.org</u> or call 262-653-4140 to register for these workshops.

Tuesdays, January 28 and February 4, 2020 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Sherman and Shiloh Presenter: Bjorn Skaptason

Bjorn Skaptason's workshop will focus on William T. Sherman's lifelong controversies involving the battle and how he could not let them go. One of the specific illustrations is Sherman's 1862 battle with Lt. Governor Benjamin Stanton of Ohio involving the alleged cowardice of Ohio troops in the battle. Learn how this giant of the Civil War fought the Battle of Shiloh on the battlefield and in the history books all the way until his death.

\$30/\$20 Friends of the Museum

Thursday, February 13, 2020 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Tea and Tour Presenters: Jenn Edginton and Doug Dammann

Step back to life in the 1860s with a delicious tea and museum tour. Participants will engage in conversation and learn about Victorian manners while sipping tea and sampling small treats. After the tea, join the Civil War Museum Education staff for a highlight tour of the Fiery Trial, stopping at some of our favorite artifacts to learn more about the Civil War and life during the 1860s.

\$25/\$15 Friends of the Museum

The Civil War Museum 2020 Corinth/Shiloh

TOUR DATES: Sunday, October 18 – Wednesday, October 21, 2020 COST OF THE TOUR

Museum Members: \$735 per person double occupancy Museum Members: \$960 per person single occupancy Non-Members: \$785 per person double occupancy Non-Members: \$1,010 per person single occupancy

TOUR COST INCLUDES: Hotel stay for Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights; all breakfasts, lunches and dinners; all motor coach services, tour guides, admissions, evening programs.

For more Information: <u>https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar/events/</u>

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 submission to **Donna Agnelly, Editor**, 420 Racine St. Unit 110, Waterford, WI 53185 or send an email to <u>donnaagnelly@gmail.com</u> 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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General Orders design & layout by Dave Wege.

Yearly memberships available: Individual (\$40), family (\$50), non-resident (\$25), attending an educational institution (\$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.

MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE QUARTERMASTER'S REGALIA

What better way to show off your pride in our organization! All items are made of first-rate, quality materials, modestly embroidered with the Round Table/Iron Brigade log, along with your name or initials.

ITEM	COST
Hooded Sweatshirt in Northern Blue	\$35.00
Baseball Hat	\$10.00
Blue Brief Case	\$25.00
Blue Light-Weight Sweatshirt	\$30.00
Blue Izod Polo Shirt	\$40.00
Blue Dress Shirt	\$40.00
Blue Fleece-Lined Jacket	\$60.00
Iron Brigade Pin	\$5.00
CWRT Pin	\$5.00
Bugle Pin	\$5.00
Iron Brigade Medal	\$25.00
Red River Medal	\$25.00
CWRT 60 Year Medal	\$10.00

Contact Roman Blenski, Quartermaster

4601 W. Holt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53219 (414) 327-2847, <u>dbcpmilw@execpc.com</u>

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

