

# GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

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



June 11, 2020

Bruce Klem

## 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Cavalry

*Organization, Development, and Cavalry Operations*

Colonel Edwards Daniels, in the summer of 1861, was authorized by the War Department to recruit and organize one battalion of cavalry in Wisconsin. He was subsequently authorized to raise two more companies. The governor, in October was authorized to complete the regiment, by the organization of six additional companies. The location of the rendezvous was changed from Ripon to Kenosha, and the regiment took up its quarters at Camp Harvey. The unit's organization was perfected, and the muster into the United States service completed on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1862. The regiment left the State on the 17<sup>th</sup> for Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri.

In the summer of 1861, Colonel Edward Daniels was authorized to raise a battalion of cavalry in Wisconsin which eventually grew to a regiment. He set upon this task through newspaper advertisements and word of mouth. Many young men actively sought out the recruiters to do their patriotic duty. One of the recruiters, Thomas J. Conatty, was principal of the Kenosha High School and used his personal energy to raise a company of teachers and students for the regiment. It became Company M.

Due to delays the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Cavalry did not arrive in Kenosha until November 24, 1861. Despite the fact the novice cavalymen arrived in Kenosha about 6 A.M. many citizens were waiting to receive and welcome the 800 tired, hungry and cold enlistees. A breakfast was prepared at the Durkee House. The companies were put up at various places throughout the town on a temporary basis. 4 companies were

Camp Harvey was located south of Kenosha on a sand ridge near Lake Michigan on the grounds of present day Greenridge Cemetery (located between Sheridan Road, 7<sup>th</sup> Ave bounded on 66<sup>th</sup> St on the north). To house the enlisted soldiers, the camp used large tents accommodating up to 16. On March 17, 1862, 1150 men boarded trains bound for St. Louis.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Cavalry performed scout and patrol duty in SE Missouri and Arkansas for much of 1862. Over the next four years the regiment was attached to a series of Union Cavalry brigades that fought in Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama. The regiment fought in the Chickamauga Campaign from September 19-20, 1863 and in the Atlanta Campaign the following summer. After the fall of Richmond, Virginia, in the spring of 1865, the 1<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Cavalry pursued and helped capture Confederate president Jefferson Davis on May 10, 1865.

Since our regular scheduled speaker cannot make the June meeting in the virtual format, Bruce Klem, president of the Round Table will fill in. Mr. Klem is a 1970 graduate of Marquette University with a BS in Business Administration as well as earning a commission as 2Lt in the Army ROTC program. Serving on Active duty with the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division in Field Artillery, he returned in 1972 to Marquette to earn a MBA in 1974. He also earned a MS in Information Studies from UWM in 2005. He worked for a variety of companies, Miller Brewing, Kimberly Clark, Wisconsin Electric Power, IN-Sink-Erater and Associated Bag Company in 2014 working in the field of Supply Chain Management, retiring in 2014. Also while working he continued his military service completing 30 years of service, in National Guard in Wisconsin and Georgia and the Reserves in Alabama, Wisconsin and Illinois, commanding units from platoon through brigade as well as graduating from the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks in 1995. Retiring from the military in 2000.

## General Orders No. 6-20

June 2020

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**The in-person June 11 meeting has been cancelled. Please see information about attending our virtual meeting on page 5 of this issue of *General Orders*.**

# 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!



The unusual circumstances of these past few months due to COVID-19 have resulted in the cancellation of our April and May meetings, and the transformation of our June 11th meeting to a virtual setting. Since an in-person meeting has not been held, the membership has been unable to approve the slate of candidates nominated for the Board of Directors.

In order to proceed with the election, a prepaid postcard is enclosed in the *General Orders*.

Please return the postcard by June 15th.

The slate of candidates includes:

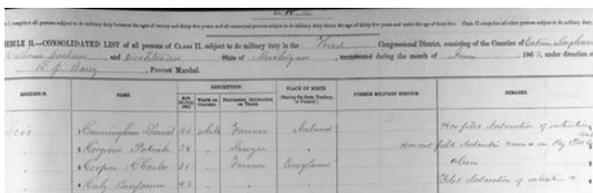
Michael K. Benton  
Van Harl  
Tom Hesse  
Tom Thompson  
Justin Tolomeo

### ~ 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@responsoy.com](mailto:grant.johnson@responsoy.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.

## The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS



NUMBER	NAME	RANK	COMPANY	REGIMENT	STATE	REMARKS
1500	Amos, Samuel	Private	1st Regt	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	
1501	Amos, Samuel	Private	1st Regt	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	
1502	Amos, Samuel	Private	1st Regt	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	
1503	Amos, 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 March 2020.

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

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

Eugene & Jane Jamrozy, Daniel Nettesheim

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

Dale Brassler, 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.

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

George Affeldt, Dale Bepalec, T. James Blake, Robert Christie, John & Linda Connelly, Cynthia Cooper, 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, Jerome Kowalski, Jay Lauck, Fredric Madsen, Rod Malinowski, Robin Martin, Carol Maudie & Gerald Witherspoon, Jim & Monica Millane, Ed Newman, Herb Oechler, Thomas Olsen, Tom Pokrandt, John Rodahl, Dr. James Rydlewicz, Sam Solber, Dan Tanty, Richard Tonelli, Michael Uihlein, Bernard VanDinter

#### Speaker Enhancement Fund

George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Jeryl Anthony, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Mike Benton, Dale Bepalec, T James Blake, Angela Bodven, Dale Brassler, 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 Kuhnmuensch, 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



## From the Archives

Otto Eisenschiml spoke to the Round Table membership in June 1950 on “Fitz John Porter.”

“Benkovic’s Civil War Band” was the topic presented by Fred Benkovic at the June 1970 meeting.

Jeffrey Wert visited our Round Table in June 2000 speaking on “The Iron Brigade and the Stonewall Brigade.”

At our June 2010 meeting Robert I. Girardi spoke to those assembled on “Railroad Defense in the Atlanta Campaign.”

At last year’s June meeting our speaker, Greg Biggs spoke about “The Question was one of Supplies: The Logistics for William Tecumseh Sherman’s Atlanta Campaign.”

### “Zooming” In on Damian Shiels

Historian, archaeologist and author, Damian Shiels, will be making a presentation at the Kenosha Civil War Museum in mid-August. However, instead of appearing at the museum in person, Mr. Shiels will be doing his presentation via Zoom.

Shiels is the author of *The Irish in the American Civil War* (2013) and the host of the popular website and blog Irish in the American Civil War.

<https://irishamericancivilwar.com>

On his website, Shiels explains:

*The American Civil War is one of only two conflicts in Irish history which have seen c. 200,000 Irishmen in uniform. However, unlike the First World War, its impact on Irish people has been largely forgotten and ignored in Ireland itself. This is despite the fact that many of those affected were Famine emigrants, who between 1861 and 1865 experienced the second great trauma of their lives. By failing to recognize the scale of the war’s impact on Irish people, we have also failed to recognize how valuable study of this conflict can be in understanding the lives of Irish emigrants. One of the American Civil War’s legacies was an ocean of documentation pertaining to its participants, documentation that today provides us with the greatest amount of detail on the social and personal lives of 19<sup>th</sup> century Irish people available anywhere in the world – including Ireland.*

Damian Shiels was also scheduled to appear and teach a three-session class at this year’s Irish Fest Summer School. Unfortunately, this year’s Irish Fest has been cancelled.

Please check the Civil War Museum’s website for further information regarding Damian Shiels Zoom presentation.

## Kenosha Civil War Museum Second Friday Lecture Series

Although the museum buildings are closed, they continue to bring the museum experience to your home. Please visit their website for a list of virtual presentations available to you:

<https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar/>

### 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

**Also, don’t forget to like the museum on Facebook to get the most up-to-date information on what is happening at there.**



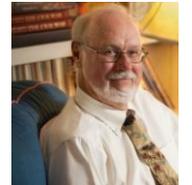
**Dennis Frye**



**Wayne Motts**



**Dave Powell**



**Will Greene**



## FROM THE FIELD

June 1861

REV. C. E. Weirich made an excellent speech to the assembly, and was followed by M. W. Wheeler, District Attorney, whose remarks were also received with great applause...Here many of the parting scenes were reenacted, as most of their friends were obliged to return home instead of passing over to Sauk.

We know that every village and county is partial to its own volunteers, but we are confident that for the qualities in which a true soldier glories, Sauk county may proudly assure herself that her delegates to the battlefield are unsurpassed. To physical strength and endurance, they unite that sense of duty which, in obedience to orders, will march them to the cannon's mouth, or in the absence of restraint, will prevent them from disgracing themselves, their homes, or their country. In leaving us, they take with them thousands of hearts. Our eyes will follow them, looking the papers over for tidings of their success and safety. Worth fighting for must be that cause which can persuade a community to offer up the flower of its youth, their services and lives even, if necessary, to ensure its success. And all honor to the brave fellows who have answered so manfully to their country's call. God bless them, and bring them back in triumph, every one!

### Trip of the Volunteers to Madison

Friend Kellogg:- Perhaps some of the readers of the Republic, and more especially those who are friends and relatives of the Sauk Co. rifleman, would be pleased to learn some of the particulars respecting the journey of our boys, as we call them, to Camp Randall, the manner in which they were received along the line of the road, and by the officers of the Sixth Regiment, of which they form a part...After having spent about two hours with the good people of Kingston and eaten till we were quite corpulent, of the nice things – such as baked chickens, pies, cakes, strawberries and cream, and various other things, too numerous to mention, we took passage in a wagon with some of the volunteers for Sauk, Saukee or Saukeedoodle we hardly know which for we visited them all and had a good time at each. The boys left Kingston in good spirits and with dry eyes; but we think some of them got their visionary cognomens slightly damped, if not their spirits, by the hard shower which overtook us before we reached Sauk.

We found the people of Prairie-du-Sac and Sauk City, ready to receive us – a committee having been previously appointed to wait and direct us to the several places at which we were to spend the night. We conclude that they were glad to see us, for they treated us in a manner quite laudable; in other words, they had on the big kettle and were all prepared to do the thing up brown...

Our ride to Mazomanie was pleasant and we enjoyed it hugely; the monotony generally attending such excursions being occasionally broken by a lively glee or piece of stirring music by the band. We arrived at Mazomanie about 3 o'clock. When within about half a mile of the village we came to a halt, formed in company and marched into town in a manner they said that put all the companies which had passed through there in an eclipse...At half past five the company was formed, and to the astonishment of most of them, were invited to march into the dining hall at the depot, and administer justice to a bountiful repast which had been kindly prepared by the patriotic ladies of Mazomanie...

Much credit is due the people of Sauk and Mazomanie for the kindness so profusely lavished upon the boys, and we assure them it will never be forgotten; and when on the battlefield the thoughts of the warm friends in Sauk county will strengthen their sinews and nerve them to fight more valiantly...

We arrived in Madison about 9.5 o'clock where we found Colonel Atwood waiting to receive us. The company was then formed and marshalled through the city to the old fair ground, no Camp Randall. Our self being somewhat desirous of seeing the elephant took a foot express and went along with them. Arriving at the entrance of the camp, we found a company stationed at charge bayonet, who gave three cheers as we passed through. We were then directed to the barracks where we found plenty of clean straw and a blanket for each. It being late and most of the company quite fatigued with the tramp and ride of the day, we rather unceremoniously pulled off our boots and crawled into the straw where we had a fine snooze. At half past five in the morning the companies were all called out to drill, when of course our boys were all on hand like a picked-up dinner and each one tried to do his best, and to our great astonishment the Sauk Co. riflemen were the objects of admiration of all officers and men and we think justly for they are the best company in Camp R. in appearance and intellect, and we have since learned that the company is assigned the post of honor in the Sixth Regiment...

The Beloit Cornet Band, belonging to the fifth regiment are there to discourse the finest music at each parade drill, and occasionally give a concert in the evening. We left the boys in good spirits and anxious for an opportunity to present their compliments to traitors in the shape of cold lead. Sauk County may well be proud of the company she has sent to aid in the suppression and punishment of rebels.

We have no doubt they will perform every duty in a manner creditable to themselves and worthy the approbation of all interested in themselves. They have brave hearts and in battle will stand firm and fight valiantly. They will stand shoulder-to-shoulder in the conflict, and we believe those who stand last will avenge the death of those who may fall. We hope they may return home from the war with never fading laurels; then will we sit together around the social hearth and recount in story or celebrate in song the achievements of the past and if need be, drop a tear over the graves of those who shall fall in the righteous cause in which they are engaged.

#### **Matters at Camp Randall**

The interest in the parades and drills at the Camp is rapidly increasing among our citizens, as is evinced by the large number that are attracted to that place at the hour of each parade. Last evening a very large number were in attendance of the grounds and with the soldierly bearing of the troops. The soldiers were feeling remarkably well and made a fine display.

The Stoughton Brass Band were present last evening and supplied the music for the parade of the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment. This is a most excellent band, and many of the members are very anxious to volunteer their services as the regimental band for the 6<sup>th</sup>, but we understand there are one or two who cannot go at this time. The regiment would be lucky if it could secure the services of this fine band.

***Thank you Jim Johnson for Another Season  
of From the Field Contributions!***

#### **Matters at Camp Randall**

The dress parade of the two regiments last evening was witnessed by large numbers of our citizens and all were well paid for the trouble of going out of the camp. The two regiments were drawn up on the same line, presenting an array of soldiers that cannot be excelled in their general appearance by those of any other state. Better drilled soldiers may found; but no more intelligent, healthy and determined looking men can be found anywhere. A large majority of these men are above medium size, young and active; they have left their homes at their country's call with the full determination to do full duty in preserving the government entire. A cause that can bring such men into the fields must be just and will surely prevail. The parade ground is in excellent condition now, and the troops enjoy their drills in a high degree.

We understand that the regimental drills during the day yesterday were exceedingly interesting showing great improvement over previous one.

The best of order prevails in every department and we hear of no dissatisfaction from any source. The Milwaukee Zouaves treated a large crowd of people to one of the regular Zouave drills after the parade last evening, which was enjoyed very much by all present; and none seemed to enjoy it better than the Zouaves themselves.

It is great satisfaction to be able to record, from day to day so favorable an account of the proceedings at camp. It is alike creditable to both officers and men and gives great promise for their future usefulness.

## **HOW TO ATTEND OUR JUNE 11, 2020 VIRTUAL MEETING GOOGLE MEET WILL BE THE HOST FOR OUR MEETING.**

In order to attend the virtual meeting you will need to download the Google Meet app on your computer or smartphone prior to its start. If you don't have a Google account, you will need to sign up for one as well, although you can use whatever email address you like.

You will receive a Google Meet invitation with a link via email from Round Table member Justin Tolomeo (rjtolomeo@gmail.com) by June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you do not receive an invitation, please contact Justin by email before June 8<sup>th</sup> so that he can forward the invite to you.



**REMEMBER:** Prior to the meeting you will need to download the Google Meet app. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. but you can begin logging in at 6:45 p.m.

**Please feel free to forward the link to prospective members. There is a limit of 100 participants.**

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BUYING DIRECTLY FROM SMALL PUBLISHERS

A May 7, 2020 article in *The Guardian* noted that more than half (60%) of the United Kingdom's small publishers fear they could be out of business by autumn as a result of the coronavirus pandemic; this is according to research by the Bookseller which warns of a "whole tranche of writers that either will not write, or will be unable to see their work published."

With author events cancelled, titles delayed and bookshop sales severely hit by the lockdown, the survey of 72 small publishers reveals almost 60% fear closure by the autumn. The Bookseller said that 57% reported they had no cashflow to support their business, and 85% had seen sales drop by more than half.

So, how does this affect U.S. small publishers? Ted Savas of Savas Beatie LLC responded to *The Guardian* article: FOR PUBLISHERS, EMPLOYEES, AUTHORS, AND READERS, THIS IS MORE THAN SERIOUS.

This survey is from the U.K. but it is true in the USA also. Most of the best books are put out by the smaller publishers of the world who are much more willing to assume risk with unknown authors and cutting-edge topics than the Big Guys who favor vanilla pablum for the masses.

Folks, this is simple. If you love original Civil War books (or other niche topics) support SMALL publishers DIRECTLY. I am not talking about just Savas Beatie. Whatever your passion, be it bicycling, home beer brewing, growing roses or military history find the publisher's website and ORDER DIRECT.

Supporting Amazon at this time furthers the likelihood that those of us producing the cutting-edge books you love won't be doing that come Fall 2020. Why? Because Amazon buys from distributors/wholesalers at 53% off retail, and publishers still have to pay their distributors their cut, leaving us..?

Savas Beatie, thank God, won't be out of business this fall even if we lose most of the summer season. But in a best-case scenario we will have to significantly reduce our title production, pink slip a couple dozen manuscript contracts, and fully implement a significant reduction on employee hours.

We book lovers are in this together.

**BUY DIRECT.**

## New in Digital and Audible from Savas Beatie

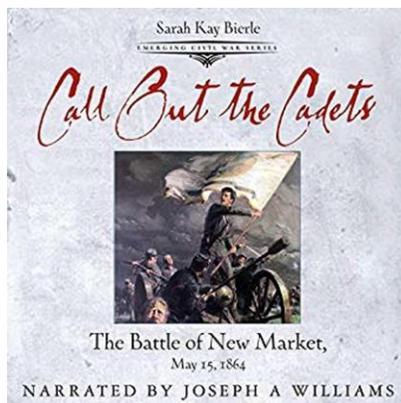
### Digital:

*America's Buried History: Landmines in the Civil War*

By: Kenneth R. Rutherford

*The Maps of the Cavalry at Gettysburg*

By: Bradley M. Gottfried



### Audible:

*Call Out the Cadets*

*Battle of New Market*

*May 15, 1864*

By: Sarah Kay Bierle

Narrated by: Joseph A. Williams

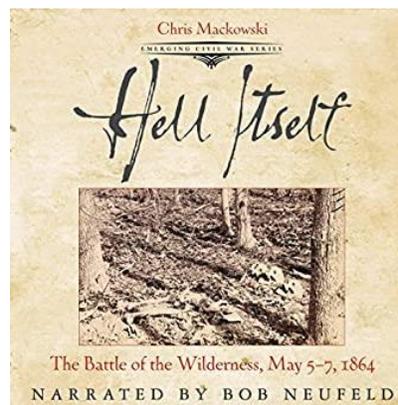
*Hell Itself*

*The Battle of the Wilderness*

*May 5-7, 1864*

By: Chris Mackowski

Narrated by: Bob Neufeld



**MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
2020-2021 SPEAKER SCHEDULE**

September 10, 2020	Ted Savas
October 8, 2020	Stuart Sanders
November 12, 2020	John R. Scales <i>The Battle and Campaign of General Nathan Bedford Forrest</i>
December 10, 2020	Dave Powell <i>Union Command Failure in the Shenandoah: Maj. Gen. Franz Sigel and War in the Valley of Virginia, May 1864</i>
January 7, 2021	TBA
February 11, 2021	TBA
March 11, 2021	John Banks
April 8, 2021	Ron Kirkwood <i>Too Much for Human Endurance</i>
May 13, 2021	Michael Hardy <i>General Lee's Immortals</i>
June 10, 2021	Chris Loperfido <i>Death, Disease, and Life at War</i>

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



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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office/Position</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Donna Agnelly	Editor, General Orders	2022
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Bruce Klem	President	2021
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Tom Thompson	Member	2020
David Wege	Layout, General Orders	2021

**[milwaukeecwrt.org](http://milwaukeecwrt.org)**

*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 [donnaagnelly@gmail.com](mailto:donnaagnelly@gmail.com) 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.

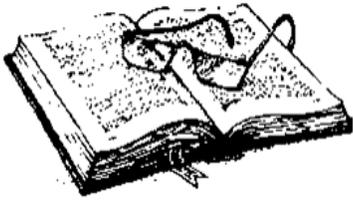
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Yearly memberships available: Individual (\$40), family (\$50), non-resident (\$25), attending an educational institution (\$20).

**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.



# **BETWEEN THE COVERS**

## **GETTYSBURG: A TESTING OF COURAGE**

**Noah Andre Trudeau**

I purchased this book when Mr. Trudeau was at the Kenosha Civil War Museum presenting on another of his books – one on Abraham Lincoln – in December 2016. The book he presented on was *Lincoln's Greatest Journey* which was about Lincoln's visit and meeting with Grant and Sherman at City Point, Virginia in 1864. I figured that with the Civil War Museum's Symposium coming up in September (2019) with a focus on Gettysburg, it was time to read any and all books I hadn't read yet on the battle.

This Gettysburg book by Mr. Trudeau is a book anyone should read particularly if you have never read any previous book on this battle. I found that the author's style and organization of the topic was very straightforward and its presentation is a fast read that presents the action in a way that holds the reader's interest. It is easy to follow all the action that occurs on the battlefield in a time sequenced manner; this method gives the reader the opportunity to sense the feel of how the various units reacted to each changing situation as the battle flowed each day. I have read the "best" and they range from dry recitations of the after-action reports to adequate retellings. What sets Trudeau's book apart is the weaving of events using vignettes of soldiers, officers, top generals and the 2,500 civilians who were caught in the middle. All the facts are there but the story telling is always attention grabbing.

One major point that I found to be particularly intriguing is that Mr. Trudeau argues that Richard S. Ewell, not Henry Heth, was responsible for initiating the Battle of Gettysburg. By mid-afternoon on July 2, Heth had withdrawn his division out of enemy contact in conformity with General Lee's order. This is in keeping with the general guideline of avoiding a major engagement, but merely conducting a reconnaissance-in-force. It was Ewell who decided to "come to Heth's rescue" and bring on a general engagement. I see the merits of this unconventional argument.

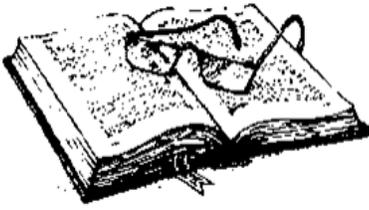
Another area that Trudeau covers is the whole piece that involves "taking the hill if practicable" case. He provides a lot of information that shows how disorganized Early's and Rodes' troops were at that point in the battle and getting them ready for a major assault was out of the question given the time available. Johnson's troops made a follow-up recon to verify Culp's Hill was still unoccupied based on a previous recon by staff. Fortunately for the Union, troops did occupy part of the hill and managed to set up an ambush of Johnson's recon element and when sprung on the recon force, forced them back giving the impression Culp's was now defended. Trudeau continues to focus on Ewell's actions, and the bizarre sideshow around Culp's Hill, an often-neglected aspect of this battle.

As the battle unfolds Trudeau details the action showing how reports came back to both sides' top leadership. It appears that the Confederate side suffered most from poor command implementation from the very top to at least regimental leadership. In my reading of this book and others on the topic, Lee's instructions to his Corps commanders were too vague and open to misunderstandings. The end result was that Lee did not achieve what he thought he had instructed his commanders to do. Corps and Division commanders did a poor job of supervising their commands in achieving the desired goals.

Trudeau shows the information given to Lee persuaded him that he had cracked into the Federal position on his left and secured a commanding artillery platform on his right making feasible a renewed effort against Cemetery Ridge. There were indications, for those who wanted to see it that way that the Union army was tottering but there were signs also, for those who wished to think so, that it remained resilient and strong. Lee chose to join the former group.

Gettysburg books are everywhere. This one-volume recounting is the way to go. If you want a single book in your library to explain the events of those three days, this is the book. Another great feature of this book is that there are plenty of maps – each with a time frame on the map that follows the narrative, which make reading and understanding the action very easy. I recommend this book for any student of the Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg. I'd call this one a must for your Civil War library.

**submitted by Bruce Klem**

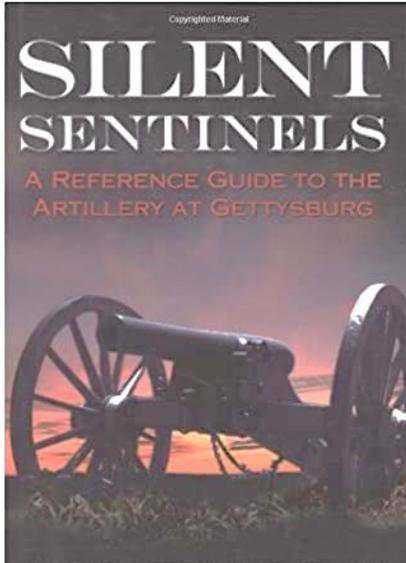


# **BETWEEN THE COVERS**

## **SILENT SENTINELS: A REFERENCE GUIDE TO THE ARTILLERY AT GETTYSBURG**

***FROM OUR FRIENDS AT SAVAS BEATIE***

by George W. Newton



This review is on a Savas Beatie book we received as a courtesy copy. I was given the book to read at the February 2020 meeting. The book is 288 pages long with a tour guide that directs the reader to some key artillery sites on the battlefield, plus a number of appendices focused on orders of battle, artillery batteries Union and Confederate arranged by state, and artillery officer reports – Union and Confederate – of key artillery officers at the battle.

I've only read a couple of books that deal with the long arm of both armies at Gettysburg. Alexander's book on the Civil War in which he deals with his role in directing artillery at Gettysburg, a 1958 book by Fairfax Downey, which covers artillery similar to Newton's work and the *Maps of Gettysburg* (another Savas Beatie publication) which somewhat covers artillery units on the battlefield. In this book, Mr. Newton goes into a bit more detail on artillery operations and for those who may be touring the battlefield his book has a chapter on touring key artillery sections on the battlefield.

The mission of field artillery is to “destroy, defeat, or disrupt the enemy with integrated fires to enable maneuver commanders to dominate in unified land operations” – in other words, to rain shot and shell on the enemy. Gettysburg

was a prime example of how this mission was managed and accomplished during the Civil War and Mr. Newton does a fine job in this work presenting to the reader how this was accomplished in the Battle of Gettysburg.

One of the highlights of this book is that while it is subtitled as a reference guide, Mr. Newton also gives a nice summarization of the overall campaign at the opening of the book, not only on the battle itself, but the nature of artillery. He gives details into the loading and firing of the guns, a breakdown of the different types of ammunition that were used in the guns and gives the reader details into how the artillery worked. He provides a great chapter on touring the key artillery sites on the battlefield with pictures of the monuments at each stop and a description of the action that occurred at each stop. One stop he does not include in his tour is the Little Round Top site where Hazlett's Battery was employed. Otherwise, I think the tour route he presents does a good job of guiding a visitor through the artillery role played in this major battle.

For anyone looking to get into the detail of how the artillery was organized by each side the appendices that Mr. Newton has included will give any researcher all the information they might be looking for. In the appendices the reader will find the organization of artillery given by each state, the makeup of the guns used, and the order of battle for both sides. The book is aided by many photographs and maps of the battle which are always good. Another excellent feature of the book is that a number of After-Action reports are provided in Appendix 3 and biographical sketches of some of the key Union artillery officers. Appendix 4 provides copies of Confederate artillery officer After-Action reports as well, along with bios for the officers.

While this might not be a book for everyone, as a trained field artillery officer, and student of the Civil War, I think it is an excellent reference book on the artillery role in the Battle of Gettysburg. If you are the type of reader who needs to know the “nuts and bolts” of the battle then this is a book you would want to add to your bookcase. As a reference book it is a top-notch book to have in your library, if interested in how artillery was used in the Civil War by both sides.

submitted by Bruce Klem



Write for *Wanderings*

Traveling to a historical destination this summer or fall? Is it Civil War related? Consider writing up the story of your adventures for the enjoyment of readers of the 2020-2021 issues of ***General Orders!***

Looking for a historical destination for summer or fall travel? Consider the items below as possible options! Then you will have something about which to write!

**2020 CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE CONFERENCE  
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE - JUNE 12 – 17, 2020**

Leading Civil War scholars, Harold Holzer, Catherine Clinton, Brian Wills, Jeffrey Wert, Carol Reardon and Scott Hartwig are among the line-up of 35 distinguished speakers and tour guides.

A wide range of topics will be featured including: Civil War prison escapes, Black Confederates, Mary Todd Lincoln and the war in the West. A new conference element will feature debates between leading scholars about topics including McClellan at Antietam and the generalship of Nathan Bedford Forrest. Tours of nearby battlefields will also be offered.

Discounts are available for members of Civil War Round Tables. If you qualify for a discount contact the CWI office at 717-337-6590 or visit: [civilwar@gettysburg.edu](mailto:civilwar@gettysburg.edu) for the appropriate code.

To see the complete conference schedule and registration form go to:

[www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/registration-form](http://www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/registration-form)

**THE CIVIL WAR MUSEUM 2020 Trip to 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:** <https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar/events/>

***“Vicksburg is the Key!”***

**Civil War Time Travelers - October 24-30, 2020**



**Ft. Donelson – Shiloh – Corinth – Vicksburg**

\$825.00 includes historians, guides, several meals, hotels, and coach transportation with pick-ups in Campbellsport and the College Avenue Park-n-Ride in Milwaukee.

Speakers include **Parker Hill** at Vicksburg, **NPS Rangers** at Shiloh, our own Tom Arliskas talking at Ft. Donelson, and a talented collection of more speakers from the MCWRT!

Find us on **Facebook** or contact: [wegs1862@gmail.com](mailto:wegs1862@gmail.com)

***Come join as we once more are “Traveling Where Heroes Trod!”***



*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!

## “Orlando B. Willcox”



As a native Detroit girl, born and raised on the east side of Detroit just outside of the Polish community of Hamtramck, I am ways looking to recognize and honor someone from my home state. Let me introduce you to Orlando B. Wilcox.

Orlando Bolivar Wilcox was born in what was then the frontier military town of Detroit on April 16, 1823. Known as Bolivar by his friends, he would describe his early self as “a youth all gentleness and joy...a yearning, bright, religious boy. Although he would have preferred a life behind the pulpit or behind a writer’s desk, he would instead opt for a military career.

Willcox would take his oath as a plebe on the plain at West Point in the summer of 1843. His military career would ultimately span five decades. He would follow General Winfield Scott on the road to Mexico City, serve honorably in the Civil War, chase Indians and buffalo on the plains, fight the Seminoles in the malaria infested swamps of Florida and escort an escaped slave through the mob-filled streets of Boston.

In 1857 he would retire from service and turn to the practice of law in Detroit. When the Civil War started, he once again buckled on his sword to serve. He helped organize the 1st Michigan Volunteer Infantry and was appointed colonel of that regiment. He would take his regiment to Washington soon after Lincoln’s initial call for troops.

On May 24, 1861, Bolivar would become one of the first Federal officers to cross the Potomac leading his own regiment and the 11th New York Fire Zouaves, under Col. Elmer Ellsworth over the Long Bridge into Virginia and capturing the historic town of Alexandria.

At the First Battle of Bull Run he commanded a brigade in Brig. Gen Samuel P. Heintzelman’s division and led an attack against the Rebel position on Henry Hill, where he was wounded in the arm and captured (although to his family’s distress he was first reported as dead). He would be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1895 for “most distinguished gallantry” during the battle. He was released and exchanged over a year later on August 19, 1862. Lincoln would appoint him a brigadier general of volunteers, to rank from July 1, 1861.

Willcox would go on to command the 1st Division of Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside’s IX Corps in 1862. He led the division at the Battle of Antietam and the corps at the Battle of Fredericksburg. During the 1863 Draft Riots, he commanded the District of Indiana and Michigan. He led a division at Knoxville and during Grant’s Overland Campaign; The U.S. Senate approved his appointment as major general on April 14, 1865 to rank from August 1, 1864. After the Siege of Petersburg, he led the first troops to enter Petersburg before ending the war serving in North Carolina. He mustered out of the volunteers on January 15, 1866.

Willcox would return to Detroit to briefly resume his career as a lawyer but on July 1866 he accepted the appointment as colonel of the 29th U.S. Infantry Regiment. He would transfer to the 12th U.S. Infantry in 1869 and would serve in San Francisco. In 1878 he became Commander of the Department of Arizona and in this role would put down the raids of Apache Indians.

He was appointed a brigadier general on October 13, 1886. From 1886 to 1887 he was head of the Department of Missouri. He would retire as a brigadier general on April 16, 1887. After his retirement, Willcox was governor of the Soldiers’ Home in Washington, D.C. dating from February 27, 1889 to July 8 1892.

Willcox moved to Cobourg, Canada in 1905. In early May 1907, he contracted an acute case of bronchitis. On Friday, May 10, 1907 he passed away after a long and adventurous life. The following Monday, Canadian officers in the community turned out to honor him. His coffin was draped with both the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack and was conveyed under military escort to the railway station where it was received by Brig. Gen. B. J. D. Irwin.

Orlando Bolivar Willcox is buried at Arlington Cemetery and rests in Grave 18, section I, just a short distance behind Arlington House.

*Tis not for fame – I’ve had my little day; I write to clear my head and warm my heart.  
What though my forehead touch among the clouds, My feet take hold on Earth, my star is set;  
Enthusiasms tempered to sobriety.*

O. B. Willcox

*submitted by Donna Agnelly*

**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.

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CWRT Pin.....	\$5.00
Bugle Pin.....	\$5.00
Iron Brigade Medal.....	\$25.00
Red River Medal.....	\$25.00
CWRT 60 Year Medal.....	\$10.00

**Contact Roman Blenski, Quartermaster**  
4601 W. Holt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53219  
(414) 327-2847, [dbcpmilw@execpc.com](mailto:dbcpmilw@execpc.com)

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

