

GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the

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



November 7, 2024

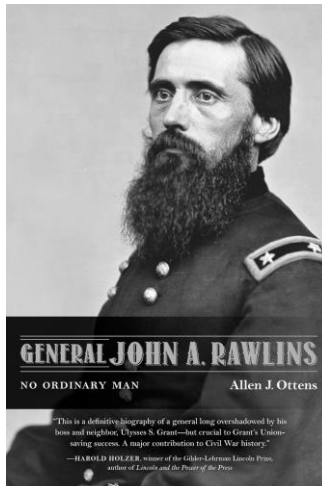
Allen Ottens

The Grant-Rawlins Relationship During the Civil War

Ottens' presentation will focus on the relationship between Ulysses Grant and John Rawlins, who were both residents of Galena, Illinois. How that relationship developed will be part of the focus.

For most who have a passing acquaintance with Rawlins, he is known as the scold who worked to keep Grant sober. Ottens will provide some new insights into how Rawlins protected Grant from the machinations of those who tried to undermine Grant's success as well as the possible sources for Rawlins's interventions regarding Grant's use of alcohol and his motivations for applying them. The presentation concludes with an example of how Rawlins used a sophisticated communication skill, known in the counseling field as advanced empathy, in his role as an advisor to Grant.

Al Ottens was a counseling psychologist who taught for 20 years in the master's and doctoral counseling programs at Northern Illinois University, retiring as a full professor. As a licensed psychologist, he worked at several university counseling and mental health clinics. After retiring, he turned to his other interest: the Civil War. His book, *General John A. Rawlins; No Ordinary Man* is one result from that interest. He also authored several articles for the journal, *Manuscripts*, including one titled, "A Brain That Has Lost Its Power." In that article, he explained how after his caning on the Senate floor, Charles Sumner suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and how an obscure treatment afforded him an almost miraculous placebo cure.



General Orders No. 11-24

November 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

MCWRT News	page 2
From the Archives	page 3
Kenosha Civil War Museum	page 3
Area Events	page 3
From the Field	page 4
Through the Looking Glass	page 5
<i>The Ox Roast Skirmish</i>	page 6
Cedarburg History Museum	page 6
Civil War Museum of Delafield	page 7
MCWRT Book Sale	page 7
Round Table News 2024-2025	page 8
• 2024-2025 Speaker Schedule	
• 2024-2025 Board of Directors	
• Meeting Reservation Form	
Between the Covers	page 9
Travels and Tours	page 10
MCWRT – Reservations Upgrade	page 10
Puget Sound Round Table Update	page 11
Quartermaster's Regalia	page 12

November Meeting at a Glance The Wisconsin Club 9th and Wisconsin Avenue

[Jackets required for the dining room.]

5:30 p.m. - Registration/Social Hour

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

\$35 by reservation, please

Reservations are accepted until

Monday November 4, 2024

7:30 p.m. - Program

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

2024-2025 Speaker Schedule p. 8

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!

Non-Discrimination Statement

The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, creed, ancestry, pregnancy, marital or parental status, gender identity or expression, veteran status, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other legally protected status in its educational programs, activities, or membership.

In Honor of Veterans' Day

The Board of Directors for the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee respectfully requests:

At the November 7 meeting of the Round Table that any member wishing to participate in recognition of this day, attend the meeting

- 1) In the uniform they wore in service to their country, or
- 2) In period Civil War attire,

whichever they might choose. For all others, the regular dress code for the Wisconsin Club applies as we reconvene in the grand ballroom for the evening.

*God bless all who served.
God bless America.*

The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

TABLE II.—CONSOLIDATED LIST of all persons of Class II, subject to the military law in the United States, residing in the District of Columbia, organized during the month of _____ 1867, under _____

NUMBER	NAME	RANK	COMPANY	PLACE OF BIRTH	FORMER MILITARY SERVICE	REMARKS
1	Conroy, Daniel	Private	3rd Regt. Iowa	Ireland		Has filed statement of...
2	Boggs, Robert	Private	3rd Regt. Iowa	Ireland		Has not filed statement...
3	Boggs, Charles	Private	3rd Regt. Iowa	England		Has...
4	Boyd, Benjamin	Private	3rd Regt. Iowa	Ireland		Has filed statement of intent...
5	Case, James P.	Private	3rd Regt. Iowa	Ireland		
6	Case, James	Private	3rd Regt. Iowa	Ireland		

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 July 1, 2024 through September 14, 2024.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

Paul Eilbes, Gerald Frangesch, Dawn and Van Harl, Charles and Rebecca Jarvis, Grant Johnson

Patron (\$200 - \$499)

Mike Deeken, Doug Haag, Gene and Jane Jamrozy, Dan Nettesheim, Laura Rinaldi

Associate (\$100 - \$199)

John Abbott, Tom and Terry Arliskas, Crain Bliwas, Dale Brasser, Gary and Judy Ertel, Bill and Claudette Finke, Doug Haag, Jim Heinz, Peter and Jean Jacobsohn, Bruce Klem, Don Korte, Rod Malinowski, Kathy McNally, Brad and Kathy Schotanus, Dennis Slater, Dan Tanty, Justin and Stacy Tolomeo, Paul Zehren

Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Mike Benton, Dale Bepalec, Jim Blake, Robert Christie, Jim Cornelius, Gordon Dammann, Ellen DeMers, John Durr, George Geanon, Julian Gonzales, Brian Gunn, Leon and Margaret Harris, Paul Heaton, Jerome Kowalski, John Lenchek, Steve Leopold, Paul and Susan Miller, Ed Newman, John Rodahl, Diane Smurawa

Speaker Enhancement Fund

John Abbott, George Affeldt, Mike Benton, Jim Blake, Jim Bolek, Dale Brasser, Gordon Dammann, Ellen DeMers, Lori Duginski, Gary and Judy Ertl, John Durr, Paul Eilbes, Gerald Frangesch, Julian Gonzalez, Doug Haag, Jim Heinz, John Helmenstine, Tom Hesse, Peter and Jean Jacobsohn, Gene and Jane Jamrozy, Jerome Kowalski, John Kuhnmuensch, John Lenchek, Steve Magnusen, Rod Malinowski, Tom and Robin Martin, Kathy McNally, Jim and Monica Millane, John and Susan Petty, Laura Rinaldi, Dennis Slater, Diane Smurawa, Dan Tanty, Paul Zehren



Previous November meetings of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table featured these speakers and topics.

- 2005 Edward Bonekemper II: "Grant: A Victor, Not a Butcher"
- 2008 Richard Hatcher III: "History of Ft. Sumter"
- 2009 Patrick A. Schroeder: "Myths about Lee's Surrender"
- 2010 Robert Girardi: "Civil War Corps Command"
- 2011 Gail Stephens: "Jubal's in the Valley"
- 2012 Thomas G. Clemens: "An Overview of the Maryland Campaign of 1862"
- 2013 Lawrence Lee Hewitt: "Civil War Myths and Mythmakers"
- 2015 Philip Leigh: "Trading with the Enemy"
- 2016 Dave Connon: "The Propaganda Campaign in Iowa"
- 2018 Paul Kahan: "The Presidency of U.S. Grant"
- 2019 Ethan Rafuse: "Back to the Chivalric Days of Yore- The Valley Campaign of 1862"
- 2020 Gen. John Scales: "Did Forrest Make a Difference?"
- 2021 Dr. Thomas G. Clemens: "Joseph K. Mansfield"
- 2022 Dr. Mary Abroe: "Civil War Battlefields and Historic Preservation – An American Story"
- 2023 Ernest Dollar: "Hearts Torn Asunder: Trauma in the Civil War"



The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee was established in 1947 and is the second oldest of the more than 200 Civil War Round Tables still in existence in the United States and abroad. Current membership of the MCWRT is approximately 200.

Kenosha Civil War Museum Second Friday Lecture Series

Sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and the Iron Brigade Association. Free and open to the public.

**From Prison Guards to Prisoners:
The Story of the Nineteenth Wisconsin**
Friday, November 8 | 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Presenter: Larry Desotell

The presentation will track this little-known regiment from Wisconsin. After forming and training in Racine, the regiment was stationed at Camp Randall to guard Confederate prisoners sent there after the April 1862 fight at Island No. 10. Almost the entire regiment was killed, wounded, or taken prisoner at the Second Battle of Fair Oaks. Prisoners, who once served as guards, now tasted prison life from a different angle. This is their story.

**Union General Daniel Butterfield:
A Civil War Biography**
Friday, December 13 | 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Presenter: Dr. James Pula

Dan Butterfield played a pivotal role during the Civil War – led troops in the field at the brigade, division, and corps level; wrote the 1862 Army field manual; composed "Taps;" and served as the chief of staff for Joe Hooker in the Army of the Potomac. Butterfield was also controversial, not well-liked, and tainted by politics. Award-winning author James S. Pula unspools facts from fiction to offer the first detailed and long-overdue treatment of the man and the officer.

Salute to Service
Saturday, November 9 | 11:00am - 3:00 p.m. | Free

Honor and remember our Veterans at the Civil War Museum – past and present. At this free event, visitors will have the opportunity to interact with active and former members of the military through conversation and hands-on components that are sure to engage all ages. Visitors will have the opportunity to tour the museum's newest temporary exhibit, G.I. Joe – America's First Action Figure, and pose for a photograph in a life-size GI Joe toy box. The Resource Center will be bustling with activities and games, and will include a chance to decorate and dedicate a star to a veteran in your life that will be displayed in the Resource Center.





Manitowoc Pilot

May 31, 1861

The News of the Blockade in England

We extract, for the information of our readers, portions of articles from some of the most influential organs of England, and we call special attention to the opinion of the London Herald, the organ of Lord Derby.

Parties in Parliament are so confused and cut up, that it can be truly said that Palmerston and Russell hold office only "by the grace" of Lord Dergy, who being at the head of the conservatives, may at any moment muster a heavy majority against the Ministers, and thus dislodge them. The opinions of the Herald, therefore, as the probable opinions of the British Premier, are exceedingly interesting, and become even important, from the fact that it appears to be the intention of Lord Derby to push in Parliament this very question of American policy to the overthrow of Palmerston.

Blockade of the Cotton Ports.

From the London Herald, (Lord Derby's Organ.)

The opportunity presented for several months of giving it to be understood what the course of England would be under certain circumstances has not been improved, and the result is that at no time since the war of 1812 have the relations between this country and the United States been more critical than they are at present. Most people have been astonished at what is now taking place in the United States; but it is neither creditable nor as it should be that her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should neglect his duty or be taken by surprise. President Buchanan claimed that there should be no more blockades; and Mr. Lincoln, from the White House at Washington, not only declares a blockade of the Southern seaboard, but one of the good old-fashioned kind, which confiscates enemy's goods wherever found, and the ships that carry them. A hint a few weeks ago from the Foreign Office that this would not go down in England, and the ordering of the North American squadron to the Chesapeake, or the Gulf, would have prevented this; but Lord John Russell, as we have already said, has left British interests in the United States to mind themselves until the eleventh hour, and for so doing he and the Cabinet of which he is a member, must be held accountable sho'd war now unhappily and unexpectedly arise between ourselves and our kinsmen.

It is just possible, however, that Mr. Lincoln's proclamation of blockade had the same double meaning as his other State papers; but it is not likely. That point we would fain believe has now been reached, when nothing more is to be gained by

ambiguous wording, and when the federal government may speak that language to other governments, that he who runs many read. Skillful and successful hoodwinking of Lord John Russell up to the present time may still suggest, however, one last American diplomatic stroke of double dealing, that it may remain open to seize neutral vessels and their cargoes, or to let them go. If this should be apparent in the proclamation, it is to be hoped that neither merchants nor ships owners will place themselves in Mr. Lincoln's hands. Were the United States possessed of a navy like our own, the blockade of the Southern seaboard could be maintained easily by a sufficient force; but in the virtual absence of a fleet, the blockade must be maintained by privateers, and be a paper one.

All the public armed vessels at the service of the Federal Government will be required for convoys, for the bombardment of works held by the enemy, and for making demonstrations on the coast. And it is a safe assertion that as soon as the fighting has begun in earnest, and the smart making schooners and well-appointed steamers hailing from the cotton ports begin their depredations on American trade, not on the Atlantic seaboard only, but in Europe, not a single American ship of war will be engaged in mere blockade. That form of blockade resorted to by ourselves during the long war, and the right of which the United States alone have retained, is what circumstances in the end must require; and while under such a blockade the neutral flag covers nothing, neutral goods under an enemy's flag may be captured. In other words, under such a blockade as it is alone the interest of Mr. Lincoln to establish, ships of neutral nations making for southern ports, or with the produce of Southern States in their bottom, may be overhauled and taken to a prize port, and condemned by the private armed vessels upon which this duty must alone devolve. American privateers, following the example of British ships of war in times gone by, will command the ocean and prevent a single bale of cotton from reaching England, unless British ships of war are employed to put them down.

To put down Federal privateers would, we need scarcely say, be an act of war against the Federal Government; but not to do so threatens an alternative more disastrous even than such a war. This is the dilemma into which Lord John Russell's American policy has brought himself and the country. If cotton is not to be got by fair means, we must not scruple to use foul means, or the daily bread of four or five millions of working population will be at once stopped.

To blockade the cotton ports is to destroy the British cotton trade, to involve, not in remote, but in immediate destination, several millions of the British people, and it would be a bitter reflection for the present generation, as well, perhaps, as to the one that follows it, that to the shortsightedness of Lord John Russell and the present government it was entirely owing. Had they done as mere common sense would have been supplied without let or hinderance, and we might have remained on good terms with both belligerents.



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 members, please consider submitting it to the **General Orders**. Thank you!

Benny Havens, Oh!

A possibly unscrupulous character named Benny Havens ran an off-base and off-limits establishment near the campus of West Point. Visits there were often filled with good cheer and great times. This second part of the story picks up where we left off last month, with O'Brien's return to Benny Havens tavern as he visited haunts of his youth.

From the West Point Sketch Book by MAJ Ernie Webb, CPT John D. Hart, and 1LT James E. Foley:

The hours of relaxation spent at Benny's were not soon forgotten, and graduates returning to West Point in later years were almost certain to return to that site of pleasant memories, just as did Lieutenant Lucius O'Brien in the winter of 1839-40. O'Brien, you see, was visiting old friends at West Point on day and, as the evening shadows grew longer, he and his friends decided to repair to Benny's, as in days of old. There, at the height of the evening's conviviality, the muse tapped the young lieutenant on the writing hand. At that moment said hand was occupied, but with a fortitude evoking the enthusiasm of all present, Lieutenant O'Brien freed his hand from the entangling alliance with the mug and called for paper and quill. "Benny Havens, Oh!" was the result. But mere poetry struck the company as pallid fare; therefore, the versatile poet proposed a tune to which the words could be sung. The tune, strangely enough (the author's name being O'Brien), was "The Wearing O' the Green." No data exists as to when the party broke up. "Benny Havens, Oh!" is the oldest and most popular of all West Point songs still being sung.

One hundred years later, the West Point Army Mess commissioned Mr. Paul C. McElroy to reproduce the festive occasion on canvas. His painting consists of three panels done in oil. The middle panel, the largest one, stretches twelve feet long and four feet high. It is flanked by two smaller panels, each half as long as the center one, but of the same height. The sequence of events shows cadets approaching Benny's tavern, unexpectedly finding a party of officers, and subsequently evading the O.C.

In the first panel, four cadets are warily approaching Benny's lighted tavern. Flattened against the rocky hillside, they are carefully checking against the presence of the "enemy," tactical officers.

In the large central panel, two of these cadets check themselves in the doorway of Benny's tavern. Their faces are classics of astonishment: the gathering of officers drinking hot flip at Benny's table is certainly not going to invite them in; it is against the rules. There is Benny himself, in the middle of the party, with his hawk nose and his stern and yet pleasant face. The old flintlock over Benny's fireplace, the crackling fire seeming eager to join the general merriment, show the homey atmosphere that Benny's place offered to the cadets of yore. With little exertion of the imagination, we can see our valiants falling over themselves as they hastily bang the door and make a hurried retreat. In the midst of the melee, Lt. Lucius O'Brien sits at Benny's table with a pen in his hand, composing "Benny Havens, Oh!"

The third panel shows our cadets' running and stumbling back up the rock-strewn hill. They are scarcely able to maintain their short lead on the pursuing officer. The outcome is left in doubt, but a betting man would have to conclude that the wily cadets are never caught.

Nowadays, the cadet has so many opportunities for weekend leaves, overnight trips, etc., that it is difficult to realize how cloistered he once was, and how comforting Benny's flagons must have been. Yet, even so, Mr. Ducrot still has his favorite haunts, be they known as the Peppermint Lounge, the Two-Oh-Two, or Snuffy's.

He still warms to the round of good cheer, and the conviviality of good friends.

As in the days of Benny, however, the cadet must still contend with the T.D., and thought our long lads win more than their share of the contests, no year is complete without several quill sheets reading, "Drinking or otherwise partaking." It has been estimated that over sixty verses were originally written, and many more have been penned through the years, a sampling of which follows; stanzas one, eight, and ten have long been favorites of West Pointers, while number 13 was written by the Class of 1877 to commemorate Benny's death on May 29, 1877.

Back to Benny Havens, Oh!

submitted by James Johnson

The Ox Roast Skirmish

“Grampa, Grampa, tell us about the Ox Roast Skirmish,” said the bright lad with a smile.

“Ah yes, that occurred long ago when the North-South Skirmish Association and its marksmanship competition was young and the shooters even younger.”

“It happened at the Second Badger Skirmish at the West Bend-Barton Sportsman range in Wisconsin. The hosts gathered the week before to make sure everything was ready. Duty assignments had been posted. Targets were in team boxes. The necessary prayers for good weather had been made.”

“What about having a dinner Saturday night for all the competitors and their families?” asked one of the lads in the back row. That brought uncertain murmurs. ‘Why don’t we do an ox roast?’ said one of main organizers. More murmurs and head shaking. ‘Where are we going to get an ox?’ asked another. A long pause and one of the boys in the back lifted his hand. ‘I can get a half steer and a device to turn it over a fire.’

“That brought nods of approval and the plan was struck.

“Monday night on the week before the skirmish the half steer was mounted over a bed of hot charcoal and turned by a small electric motor. The boys on hand nodded approval, and two who lived nearby volunteered to spend the nights making sure all was well. ‘What else do we need?’ Another pause. “Well, we sure will need more beer.” A detail was sent to the Lithia Brewery in West Bend for the necessary supplies.

“The week passed, and I returned to the range early Friday evening to discover a charred and dark beef half. The coals were out. The turning had stopped. Two birds sat on top of the hulk pecking away to their heart’s content.

The hosts gathered to discuss the situation. One of them familiar with a butcher knife proceeded to examine the beef. He pronounced the meat as done and the beef half was taken into the clubhouse to be cut into pieces.

“The Saturday night dinner was a success and there were many words of approval. The skirmish hosts nodded with slow smiles, accepting the compliments.

“Sunday night as the host unit cleaned the range, they all agreed that the roast was a great idea. Only one of the boys had a sour face. ‘I still think it would have been better to have a real ox,’ he said. The brought laughter and smiles.

“That is the true story of the Ox Roast Skirmish.”

submitted by Lance Herdegen

Cedarburg History Museum
N58W6194 Columbia Road
Cedarburg, WI 53012

www.cedarburghm.org

Wisconsin in the Civil War is a celebration of these brave citizens’ efforts to protect the Constitution, to end slavery, and to preserve our nation. A collaboration between local collectors and the museum, the exhibit showcases artifacts from private collections never before on public display.

Visit Wisconsin in the Civil War!

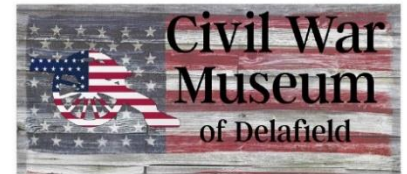
Wisconsin in the Civil War is open during regular museum hours.



Exhibit Sponsor: Military Collectibles Shop
9707 West Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214

To attend a free lecture, please RSVP to 262-377-5856 or joel@cedarburghm.org

**440 Wells Street, Basement Suite
Delafield, WI 53018 262-303-4133**



Please check the website for titles and times of presentations.

Please register at our website: <https://www.civilwarmuseumdelafield.com>

The museum is open Thursdays and Saturdays from 11:00-3:00 or by appointment, or call **262-303-4133**.

Or to register via email or contact us with questions, write to us at: cwmdel@gmail.com

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Civil-War-Museum-of-Delafield-WI-108835694973198/>

Think you know all there is to understand about *President Abraham Lincoln?*



At the January 9, 2025 meeting of the Round Table, our esteemed Quartermaster Roman Blenski will be bringing books for a special sale. At just \$3.00 per book, one can brush up on knowledge of the Rail-splitter, learn more of the complicated man who took on the powerful Stephen A. Douglas in debate, or simply come to a new appreciation of the man who guided the ship of state through the awful storm of the Civil War. All book sale proceeds go directly to support the educational mission and programming of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.

So, help Roman clear a few books out of the stockpile he holds for the Round Table. At the same time, help our group by adding some funds for our work. Imagine - \$3.00 for a book about Abraham Lincoln, and just in time for your Christmas shopping!

"The dogmas of the quiet past, are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise – with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves, and then we shall save our country."

**Abraham Lincoln to Congress
December 1, 1862**

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 submissions to **David Wege** at wegs1862@gmail.com. All submissions must be received by no later than the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. We reserve the right to select articles to be printed and to edit for content, style, and length.

All address changes or problem receiving your *General Orders* should be directed to **Treasurer Paul Eilbes**.

Copyright © 2015 by the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. Permission is granted for use of the contents, in whole or in part, in non-profit Civil War Round Table newsletters only. All other rights are reserved.

Yearly Round Table membership available: Individual (\$50), family (\$65), non-resident (\$30), attending education institution (\$25). **Contact Paul Eilbes for information at (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
2024-2025 SPEAKER SCHEDULE**

September 12, 2024	John Horn <i>Wilson-Kautz Raid</i>
October 10, 2024	Jen Murray <i>General George Gordon Meade</i>
November 7, 2024	Allen Ottens <i>The Grant-Rawlins Relationship During the Civil War</i>
December 12, 2024	Jon Sebastian (At the Bavarian Bierhaus) <i>We Are All in This War – The Northern Homefront</i>
January 9, 2025	Bjorn Skaptason <i>Shiloh</i>
February 13, 2025	Hampton Newsome <i>Gettysburg's Southern Front</i>
March 13, 2025	Gerry Prokopowicz <i>TBA</i>
April 10, 2025	Phil Spaugy <i>The 19th Indiana of the Iron Brigade</i>
May 8, 2025	Steven Phan <i>Asian and Pacific Islanders During the Civil War</i>
June 12, 2025	Dave Powell <i>Nevins-Freeman Award Winner</i> <i>Lost Opportunities in the Atlanta Campaign</i>

**Speakers/topics remain subject to change.
We appreciate your understanding!**



**Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.
2023 – 2024 Board of Directors**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office/Position</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Terry Arliskas	Secretary/Program Chair	2025
Thomas Arliskas	Past President	2025
Michael K. Benton	Past President	2026
Dale Bspalec	Member	2026
Roman Blenski	Quartermaster	2025
Paul A. Eilbes	Treasurer	2025
Van Harl	First Vice President	2026
Tom Hesse	President	2026
Grant Johnson	Membership/Webmaster Past President	2027
Bruce Klem	Past President	2027
Daniel Nettesheim	Member	2027
John Petty	Second Vice president	2025
Frank Rislér	Program Chair	2027
Justin Tolomeo	Member	2026
David Wege	Editor, General Orders	2027

www.milwaukeecwrt.org

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

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

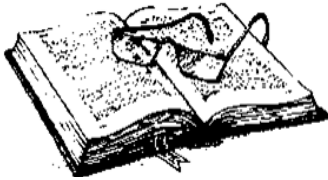
Grant will be creating a database with email reminders set to go out a week before the scheduled event. This is a purely optional choice on each member's part. If you have any questions please talk to Grant at a Round Table meeting or email him at the listed email address.

Milwaukee Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for November 7, 2024

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

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

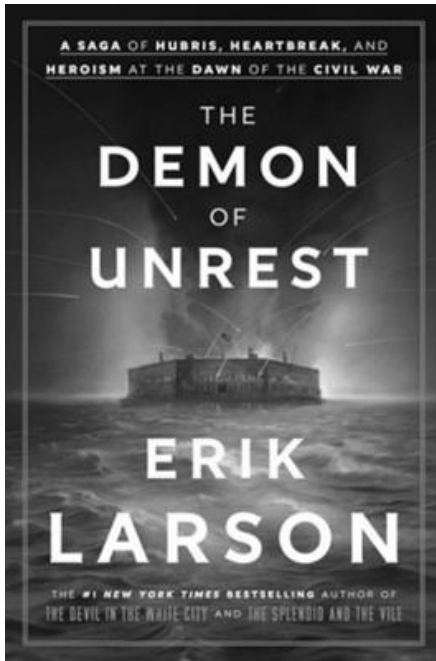
Enclosed is \$_____ (meal is \$35.00 per person) for _____ people for the
November 7, 2024 meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.
(Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)



BETWEEN THE COVERS

The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartache, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War

Eric Larson



I must admit when I first heard that Erik Larson was writing a book about the Civil War, I was dubious. I had read all of his other books and enjoyed them, but I just wasn't sure about this one. Well, I'm man enough to admit I was wrong. The author of Isaac's Storm, Dead Wake, The Splendid and the Vile and so many other fine books has done it again. Author Larson takes his readers into the five months from Abraham's election to the surrender of Ft. Sumner.

I cannot praise this book enough. Writing with his natural storyteller's talent, as well as the insightful vision of a historian, Larsen takes us from the streets of Charleston to the struggle by Lincoln and northern politicians to avoid war. The curse of slavery heightened tensions between the North and South to the point where Southerners hated the North. The election of Abraham Lincoln on November 6, 1860, caused southern supporters of the "peculiar institution" to fear that their way of life would be threatened, and secession fever spread across the South. Very few historians have ever rendered the struggle for Ft. Sumter in such authoritative detail as Larson does here. He does an excellent job untangling the fever passion that seemed to envelop the South. He relates intrigues and counter-intrigues that helped provoke the eventual attack and surrender with a very compelling narrative.

James Buchanan, the sitting president during the rising unrest regarding the North's and the South's opposing views on slavery sat on his hands and allowed the outcry to ferment so that the newly elected Lincoln had to deal with it. Lincoln walked into

a hornet's nest with some Southern states seceding from the U.S. while others held secession conventions and delegates.

Larson tells the story of the chaotic and tense months between Lincoln's election and the event that lit the fuse for civil war in America, the firing on Fort Sumter by Confederate forces. His description of the daily events within the fort and of the heroic and strained effort of the Union soldiers stationed there is gripping and captures the reader's interest as much as the most compelling suspense novel. Larson introduces the reader to a cast of fascinating characters, each on their unfolding journey as they wonder if bloodshed is in their near future. These figures include the principled Major Anderson, loyal to the Union, but also affected by his southern roots; Edmund Ruffin, an unabashed secessionist whose hatred continued to stir the pot for disunion, unconcerned about the consequences of his actions; the southern diarist and Charleston socialite Mary Chestnut, who provides insight into how the southern secessionists saw things; and the war's most central figure, Abraham Lincoln, conflicted with a desire to avert a war, while adhering to the principle of protecting and preserving the Union.

In the end, we are reminded of a quote attributed to James Chestnut, husband of diarist Mary Chestnut, regarding the storm clouds of war. He forecast that the total amount of blood likely to be shed in a war over secession would fill "a lady's thimble." Chestnut also made the vivid pledge to drink whatever blood that did get shed. He, like so many, both North and South, were soon to be proven so wrong.

submitted by Robert Johnson

Round Table member John Helmenstine is doing his utmost to start a Civil War Book Club in Mineral Point. The goal is to ultimately fashion the group into a Civil War Round Table. The group will meet again on the third Saturday of November (November 16th) at 1:00 at the historic Odd Fellows Lodge at 112 Front Street in Mineral Point. If anyone wants to be in on the ground floor of forming this group, or just wants to check out some more interesting history, then please mark November 16 on your calendar. For more information contact John at helmenstine@att.net.

Wanderings



The feature that we call *Wanderings* is taking a break this month. For December and January, however, if anyone who attended the Kenosha Civil War Museum's tour to Vicksburg or the Civil War Time Travelers' trip to Fredericksburg would like to submit an article, contact wegs1862@gmail.com. We would love to post your trip experiences for others to enjoy. A picture or two is always a plus!



Civil War Time
Travelers, LLC

Trouble in the Trans-Mississippi:
Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove
April 27 - May 3, 2025

Join CWTT for a week exploring the Trans-Mississippi as we dive into the lesser-known battles of Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, and Prairie Grove. Union victories came hard early in the war, but Old Glory eventually flew over the region despite early setbacks and defeats. Come visit these pristine battlefields and discover why the Trans-Mississippi was important in the overall Union war effort.

Our formula for sharing the story of the Civil War involves using the talents of members of our own Round Table as speakers. We also enjoy the skills of NPS Rangers and well-known historians/authors to build a historical framework for the sites we visit and the events we explore.

History for the Civil War novice and for the truly serious student of the conflict, it's all here when we go find some *Trouble in the Trans-Mississippi*.

Contact wegs1862@gmail.com

DINNER RESERVATIONS - AN UPGRADE!

The Round Table is excited to announce a new way to make your dinner reservations!

For the past several years, we have been sending email notifications regarding our upcoming meetings. Starting with the January meeting, these notifications will include a link to RSVP, making your reservations process smoother and more efficient. There will be a place to enter any special dietary requirements as well. A confirmation will be included.

We do not have an online payment process associated with this yet, so you would pay at the door for your dinner.

The current RSVP methods (phone/mail/email) will not be going away at this time, so if you are more comfortable with them you may feel free to use them.

We will begin by using the email addresses you have provided us over the past few years. If you aren't sure that we have your current email address, contact Grant Johnson at:

grant.johnson@responsory.com and we will be sure to get you added to the database.

The September issue of General Orders told of the reburial of several Civil War soldiers and wives out in the Seattle area. This list of the names and units, courtesy of the newsletter of the Puget Sound Civil War Round Table, gives more information. Some Wisconsin names are in here. Might they be worthy of study by any of our studious CWRT members?

submitted by James Cornelius

Veterans & Wives Interred

Charles Ames – Co. G, 13th New Hampshire Infantry; Wife Annie (Marden) Ames
 Lt. Jasper Bertram – Co. E, 9th Kentucky Infantry
 Albert Blanchard – Co. E, 24th Wisconsin Infantry
 Andrew Blodgett – Co. C, 12th Wisconsin Infantry
 George Camp – Co. E, 92nd Ohio Infantry; Wife Ernestine (Adams) Camp
 Capt. John Darrach – 1st Oregon Cavalry
 Alvah Dearborn – Co. B, 7th Minnesota Infantry; Wife Marian (Allen) Dearborn
 Henry Fish – U.S. Navy
 Oren Gerrells – Co. K, 1st Wisconsin Infantry
 Lt. George Gillespie – Co. I, 102nd Pennsylvania Infantry; Wife Mary (Barnhardt) Gillespie
 James Haggerty – Co. B, 5th New Jersey Infantry
 Samuel Holcombe – 18th Independent NY Light Artillery
 Abraham Hooper – Co. E, 87th Indiana Infantry
 Harrison Jones – Co. G, 2nd US Dragoons, Mexican War
 Alexander Mackintosh – Co. A, 2nd West Virginia Infantry
 Lt. David McKinney – Co. E, 133rd Indiana Infantry
 John McSwain – Co. I, 118th Pennsylvania Infantry; Wife Angeline (Moody) McSwain
 John Melvin – Co. B, 88th Ohio Infantry; Wife Celia (Randall) Melvin
 William O’Neal – Co. E, 45th Ohio Infantry; Wife Elizabeth (Cunningham) O’Neal
 Peter Panchot – Co. F, 3rd Minnesota Infantry
 William Parker – Co. D, 6th Michigan Cavalry
 Calvin Pollock – Co. C, 86th Ohio Infantry; Wife Sarah (Pierce) Pollock
 Jacob Ripley – Co. F, 4th Wisconsin Cavalry; Wife Mary (Derr) Ripley
 Chauncy Roscoe – Co. F, 145th Ohio Infantry; Wife Bessie (White) Roscoe
 Moses Smith – Co. A, 4th Vermont Infantry
 Charles Taylor – Co. F, 132nd Ohio Infantry; Wife Flora Taylor
 Capt. James Tinkham – Co. F, 127th US Colored Troops

 Byron Johnson – Co. I, 11th Rhode Island Infantry -- Burial in Rhode Island
 Edwin Pike – U.S. Navy, Burial at Sea

Spouses of (other) Veterans

Sarah Bass	Saria Leddy
Sarah Buchanan	Hannah McCabe
Eliza Campbell	Emeline Mattice
Ellen Colton	Jennie Pickerell
Rebecca Faddis	Salinda Rusk
Emma Galusha	Frances Shay
Laura Gove	Rosabelle Snyder
Mary Harris	Laura Thomas
Victoria Hicks	Lillian Thompson
Jennifer Hutchins	Katherine Williams

“The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.” **Abraham Lincoln**

“This will remain the Land of the Free only so long as it is the Home of the Brave.” **Elmer Davis**

“How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!” **Maya Angelou**

**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
(410 327-2847 dbcpmilw@gmail.com)

You may also see Roman in person at the monthly meeting at the Book Raffle table.

