

# GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

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



SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

### JOHN MICHAEL PRIEST

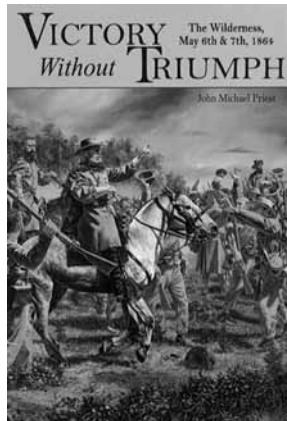
## The Maryland Campaign from Leesburg through South Mountain

*The individual stories of the men and women who endured those times drew me into the Maryland Campaign. No one had written about Antietam or South Mountain from the soldiers' perspective before. Their remembrances, their untold stories drew me into researching a battle and a campaign about which I knew so little. When I stand on the ridge behind the Visitors' Center, and gaze across the verdant, pristine fields around me, I remember what they say, and it shakes me to my core. The inscription on the Georgia monument says it best: "We sleep here in obedience to law. When duty called we came. When country called we died." — John Michael Priest*

Our September speaker, John Michael "Mike" Priest, referred to by Ed Bearrs as the "Ernie Pyle of the Civil War Soldier," will discuss Lee's decision to invade Maryland and the reasoning behind it in his presentation to our Round Table. Priest will look at the line soldiers' reactions to the invasion, the condition of Lee's army and the cavalry skirmishes through Maryland. Priest will also talk about McClellan's army, African-Americans in the Confederate army, and Special Order 191. Maryland's reaction to the invasion and why Lee had to neutralize Harpers Ferry will also be reviewed during the evening's presentation.

Born in 1949, Priest has been studying the Civil War since he was in grade school when his parents took him and his brother to Gettysburg every weekend. Priest received his B.A. from Loyola College in 1972 and his M.A. from Hood College in 1983. Priest is the author of *Antietam: The Soldiers' Battle*; *Before Antietam: The Battle of South Mountain*; *Nowhere to Run: The Wilderness, May 4th & 5th, 1864*; *Victory Without Triumph: The Wilderness, May 6th & 7th, 1864*; and *Into the Fight: Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg*. Priest has a forthcoming book coming out from Savas Beatie: *Stand to It and Give Them Hell* — a battalion level account of July 2, 1863, from Cemetery Ridge to Little Round Top.

Priest retired from 30½ years of teaching high school social studies on January 1, 2011. He has been married to Rhonda C. Priest for 44 years and is the father of three grown children and four grandchildren.



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September 2013

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#### SEPTEMBER MEETING AT A GLANCE

John Michael Priest  
"The Maryland Campaign from Leesburg through South Mountain"  
September 12, 2013

The Wisconsin Club  
9th & Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee  
(Jackets required for dining room)

5:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting  
(Open to all members)

6:15 p.m. – Registration & Social Hour

6:45 p.m. – Dinner

7:30 p.m. – Program

Dinner – **\$25 by reservation.**

Deadline: Monday, September 9, 2013

See page 11.

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

### MEMBERS



*The annual renewal form for membership can be found on page 7. Please complete the*

*form and return it as soon as possible. By renewing right away, you will be able to use the postage-paid envelope. More importantly, you help save the Round Table the cost of mailing reminder notices. The money saved can be utilized for the programming we bring to you.*

[www.civilwarwi.org](http://www.civilwarwi.org)

## CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS

### 2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Office/Position	Term Expires
Donna Agnelly	Editor, General Orders	2016
Thomas Arliskas	Member	2016
Michael K. Benton	First Vice President	2014
Roman Blenski	Quartermaster	2016
Crain Bliwas	Member	2016
Paul A. Eilbes	Treasurer/Membership	2016
A. William Finke	Member	2014
Grant Johnson	President	2015
Patrick Lynch	Second Vice President	2014
Robert Mann	Member	2014
Daniel Nettesheim	Member	2015
Frank Risler	Program Chair	2015
C. Judley Wyant	Past President	2015
David Wege	Member	2015

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please note that your membership renewal form is included in this issue of the *General Orders*. Please take a moment to fill out and return your renewal in the postage-paid envelope provided. Don't forget our Annual Fund, which enables us to add to what we do to support the Civil War community. Thank you, Paul Eilbes, Treasurer/Membership

### WHEN YOU CANCEL YOUR RESERVATION

Please be aware that cancellations within 48 hours of the dinner meeting are subject to payment in full for the reservation amount. The Round Table is charged for these reservations whether the dinners are used or not.

### YOUR ASSISTANCE IS APPRECIATED

In recent months we have experienced a larger than usual number of "walk-in" dinner requests. Please remember that our dinner counts are due at least forty-eight hours before the dinner meeting. We are always happy to see you and welcome you to the meeting and **will make every attempt to accommodate everyone who comes**, but we cannot always guarantee a dinner that evening if you have not called, emailed or sent in your reservation. If you do find yourself suddenly free the evening of our presentation, you are always welcome to come and hear the speaker after dinner, at no charge. Thank you for your understanding.

### CWRT ANNUAL FUND

The following members have shown their generous commitment by making an investment in the CWRT Annual Fund. This list reflects donations received through August 15, 2013.

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

In Memoriam: Eugene and Caroline Jamrozy,  
James Wiensch, Bob Lieding, Crain Bliwas

#### **Benefactor: (\$400 and above)**

#### **Sponsor: (\$300 - \$390)**

Allan Kasprzak and Trudi Schmitt, Eugene and Jane Jamrozy

#### **Patron: (\$200 - \$299)**

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

Michael Benton, Richard Gross, Dr. Bob Karczewski, Paul Eilbes,  
Doug Haag, Grant Johnson, Jerome A. Kowalski, Robert and Linda  
Mann, Laura Rinaldi, Dave and Helga Sartori

## ANNOUNCEMENTS • EVENTS • MEETINGS

### September 7, 2013

Battle of Chickamauga — 150th Anniversary  
Cutler Park and other locations, Waukesha, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
[www.ci.waukesha.us](http://www.ci.waukesha.us)

### September 9, 2013

Manitowoc Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.  
Manitowoc Historical Society Heritage Center

### September 10, 2013

Waukesha Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.  
Citizens Bank of Mukwonago, Waukesha Branch  
Speaker: Donna Agnelly: "Varina Davis: The Other First Lady"

### September 14, 2013

6th Annual Great Lakes Civil War Forum, 9:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
See notice on page 2.

### September 17, 2013

Prairieville Irregulars Civil War Round Table, 7:30 p.m.  
Speaker: John Zimm, editor of *This Wicked Rebellion*  
Event co-sponsored with Carroll University History Department  
Campus Center Building, Carroll University  
Information: Donna Agnelly: [dagnelly@tds.net](mailto:dagnelly@tds.net) / (262) 332-0452

### September 19, 2013

Social Ball at Old World Wisconsin, 5:45 p.m.  
Dancing at 7 p.m. with Frogwater and West Side Victorian Dancers  
Pre-registration recommended: (262) 594-2922

### September 28-29, 2013

23rd Annual Wade House Civil War Weekend  
Greenbush, Wisconsin  
(920) 526-3271 / [wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org)

## 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 logo, along with your name or initials.

ITEM	COST
Hooded Sweatshirt in Northern Blue.....	\$35.00
Baseball Cap .....	\$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, [dbcpmilw@execpc.com](mailto:dbcpmilw@execpc.com) or see him in person at the Monthly Meeting at Book Raffle.

## KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

### Second Friday Lunchbox Series

**September 13, 2013 – Noon**

*The Rock of Chickamauga*, presented by Jerry Kowalski  
Major General George Henry Thomas, as portrayed by Jerry Kowalski, will discuss the events leading up to the Battle of Chickamauga on the 150th anniversary of the engagement. Thomas's leadership and courage at this battle helped him earn the nickname, "The Rock of Chickamauga."

**October 11, 2013 – Noon**

*Lincoln in Wisconsin*, presented by Pete Skelly  
Abraham Lincoln made two documented visits to Wisconsin. The first visit, as a 23-year-old militia member in the Black Hawk War, helped develop his leadership qualities. The second occurred in 1859 when Lincoln was a nationally-known politician. Skelly's program points out the specific locations Lincoln visited during these trips and what impressions he made on the citizens of Wisconsin.

*Friday Lunchbox series is free and sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and the Iron Brigade Association.*

**Saturday, September 21, 2013, 1 p.m.**

*The Second Minnesota at Chickamauga*, presented by Michael Eckers  
On September 19-20, 1863, Union and Confederate armies collided in the woods along Chickamauga Creek in northern Georgia. Men of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry were in the thick of the two-day conflict fighting in three separate locations. Eckers will talk about the experience of Minnesotans at Reed's Bridge, Kelly Farm, and Horseshoe Ridge.

**Saturday, October 5, 2013, 1 p.m.**

*Letters Home to Sarah: The Civil War letters of Guy C. Taylor, 36th Wisconsin Volunteers*, presented by Kevin and Patsy Alderson  
Forgotten for more than a century in an old cardboard box, presented are the letters of Guy Carlton Taylor, a farmer who served in the 36th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment in the Civil War. From March 23, 1864, to July 14, 1865, Taylor wrote 165 letters home to his wife, Sarah, and their son, Charley. The letters, which had been left in the attic of Taylor's former home in Cashton, Wisconsin, were discovered and transcribed by local historian Kevin Alderson.

*Programs are sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and the Iron Brigade Association.*

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## 6TH ANNUAL GREAT LAKES CIVIL WAR FORUM

**The 1863 Campaigns of Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and Port Hudson**

**September 14, 2013**

The Civil War Museum presents the 6th Annual Great Lakes Civil War Forum. Pre-registration is recommended. Registration will be from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. The first lecture begins at 9:45 a.m.

*The Sixth Wisconsin at the Bloody Railroad Cut* – Lance Herdegen; *Port Hudson: The Most Photographed Battlefield of the Civil War* – Dr. Lawrence Hewitt; *The Hospital Ships of Vicksburg* – Dr. Betsy Estilow; *1863: Children, Youth, and the Year of Big Battles* – Dr. James Marten

\$60/\$50 Friends of the Museum. Pre-register by calling (262) 653-4141

## 2012 KLEMENT LECTURE

Joseph Glatthaar, Stephenson Distinguished Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will deliver the annual Klement Lecture at Marquette University at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 7, 2013. The title of his talk will be "Robert E. Lee: Revolutionary Commander in the American Civil War." The lecture will be held in the lower level of the Raynor Memorial Library located at 1355 West Wisconsin Avenue. The event is free and open to the public.

For information, contact James Marten at [james.marten@marquette.edu](mailto:james.marten@marquette.edu)

## TAKE A WALKING TOUR OF THE MILWAUKEE SOLDIERS HOME

The National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Milwaukee Preservation Alliance have launched a free walking tour of the Milwaukee Soldiers Home. The Milwaukee Soldiers Home Walking Tour takes users on a fascinating journey through a hidden jewel in the heart of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Featuring stunning architecture, and a history dating back to the Civil War, the Milwaukee Soldiers Home, a National Historic Landmark, is one of Milwaukee's most cherished historic assets.

The walking tour app, narrated by State Historic Preservation Officer, Jim Draeger, is currently available for free download on iTunes for iPhone users and Google Play for Android users. The tour is also available via MP3 download on Amazon.com. For more information on the tour please visit: [SavetheSoldiersHome.com/tour](http://SavetheSoldiersHome.com/tour).



*From Milwaukee's Soldiers Home by Patricia Lynch and the West Side Soldiers Aid Society, courtesy Zablocki VA Medical Center Archives. See [historicmilwaukeeva.org](http://historicmilwaukeeva.org). Walking tour: [savethesoldiershome.org](http://savethesoldiershome.org)*

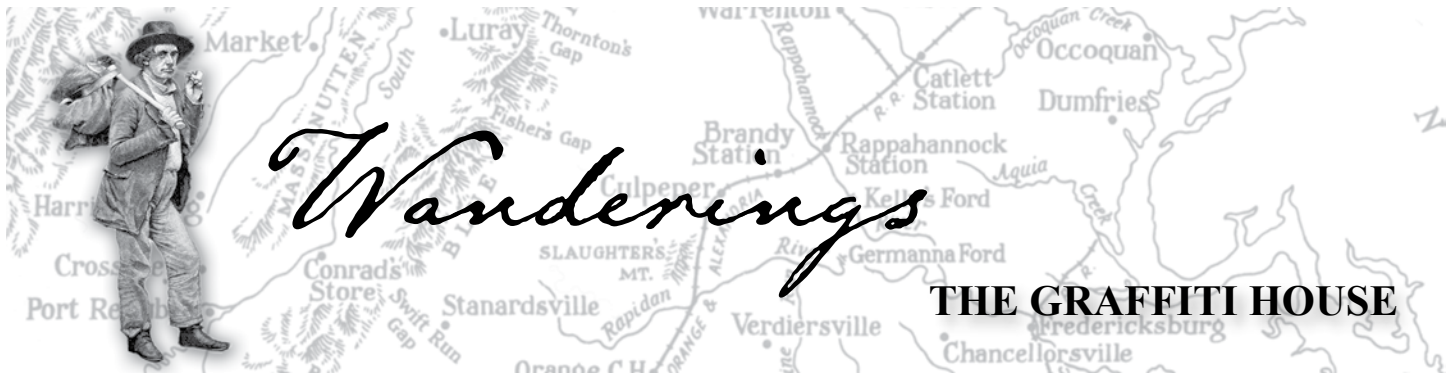
## IN MEMORIAM



JOHN P. KLEIN

It is with sadness that we report the passing of John P. Klein, Ph.D., brother of Round Table member Terry Arliskas and brother-in-law of board member Tom Arliskas on July 20, 2013, at the age of 62. John was formerly the Statistical Director of the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center. In 1993, he joined the Division of Biostatistics at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He was an elected member of the International Statistical Institute and a Fellow of the American Statistical Association. Dr. Klein authored over 160 papers, many on statistical methods. He was the statistical director of the Center for International Blood and Bone Marrow Transplant Research and the statistical advisor to the National Marrow Donor Program. He was a co-investigator on projects with the Department of Emergency Medicine, Orthopedics, the Center of Human Genetics, and the School of Engineering at Marquette University. He was an Eagle Scout and a proud shareholder and owner of the Green Bay Packers.

*And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.*



Armed with the Civil War Trust's 450 essential stops (*Essential To-Do List for the Civil War's 150th*), Dave Wege and several teacher pals from around the nation did some hard traveling this summer. One of the more amazing stops they made was the **Graffiti House**. According to Wikipedia:

*The Graffiti House, located at 19484 Brandy Road in the eastern end of the town of Brandy Station, Virginia, is believed by the Brandy Station Foundation to have been built in 1858. It is one of few dwellings in the village built before the American Civil War to survive intact to this day. The house is notable because of the Civil War era graffiti on many of the walls. The graffiti found includes names, drawings, names of units, and inscriptions left by soldiers.*

On a sweltering hot day with a heat index of 108° the intrepid travelers stumbled across the **Virginia Civil War Trails** marker along the highway. Six window air conditioners couldn't keep up with the heat, and the Graffiti House was going to close at 10:30 a.m. because of it. The 76-year-old docent was all for a quick tour, but the nice lady behind the admission desk didn't want him on the second floor of the building in the terrible heat. With an admirable boldness, Dave asked if the four Civil War teachers could have a quick look. Reluctantly, she agreed. No more than a minute after we trooped up the stairs to a stifling second floor, Jack came up the steps in spite of all protestations from below. What followed was a wonderful educational narrative of the story behind the Graffiti House and many of the names on the walls. It seems a man bought the building and was in the process of gutting it when, to his astonishment and history's benefit, he started pulling wallpaper down. Behind the layer of paper appeared signatures, drawings, and remarks left by soldiers and visitors when the house was used as a hospital during the Civil War. Jeb Stuart signed the wall.

There is also a signature purporting to be that of John Buford, but with the name written as Beauford, we quickly figured out all by ourselves that an imposter had done that scrawling! On display was a musket, its bayonet bent into a hook and used as a farm tool, that had been donated by the family of a returning Harrisonburg, Va. soldier who took literally the Scriptural suggestion to "beat swords into plowshares" (Isaiah 2:4). This little out-of-the-way gem was a stop never to be forgotten, and a must see stop for anyone traveling to the Brandy Station area!

Stay tuned for the continuing adventures of "Dave and Friends."

— Submitted by David Wege

To learn more about the Graffiti House and view some of the signatures, visit the Brandy Station Foundation website: [brandystationfoundation.com](http://brandystationfoundation.com)

## CIVIL WAR NEWS

### Gettysburg

The monument to the 72nd Pennsylvania is back on its battlefield pedestal. The bronze figure, which stands atop the monument to the regiment, was toppled by wind on June 25. The figure, representing a soldier swinging his rifle like a club, was temporarily replaced for the 150th anniversary, but was later removed for repair.

### Civil War Trust

The Civil War Trust has announced the release of the Civil War In4 video series and a page on its website dedicated to the project. The series answers frequently asked questions about the American Civil War in a modern, digestible and digital format.

"The whole project was conceived on three principles to reach as many Civil War enthusiasts as possible: basic, simple and short," Trust president James Lighthizer said.

The series relies on a broad-strokes approach to examine the Civil War in an accessible, entertaining and factual way. Finding a means to explore each facet of the conflict in four-minute segments was a challenge for Garry Adelman, Trust director of history and education.

"We would rather 500,000 people watch a four-minute video, than 50 people watch a 40-minute video," said Adelman. "This new approach will bring the excitement and experience of learning about the Civil War to a whole new audience, who will discover why it's so important to protect and preserve America's hallowed ground."

Currently, the Trust has produced 14 installments of the series, with plans to produce more than 50 before the project is complete. The series is available for free on the Civil War Trust's website at [www.civilwar.org/in4](http://www.civilwar.org/in4).

### New Chief of Interpretation

Toni Dufficy has been chosen as the new Chief of Interpretation at Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site. Dufficy has served as the Chief of Interpretive Planning at the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry Center since April 2005. She will begin her duties on September 9. The park's new Chief of Interpretation position oversees the interpretive, educational and visitor service activities at both Gettysburg and Eisenhower parks, including planning, operations, and evaluation, selection and training of personnel and coordinates with park partner organizations in providing interpretation and Visitor Services to the public.

*continued on page 11*



FROM THE FIELD  
*August &  
September 1863*

**Carrollton, La.  
September 4, 1863**

Friend Willard:

I received the articles sent by Sergt. Ostander for which accept my sincere thanks. I had not seen George since before leaving Vicksburg until the next day after the articles arrived. We divided and arranged the plunder to our mutual satisfaction. I come in however for the Lion's share as there were a number of the articles which he said he could at anytime get in and around the Hospital. He is fat and appears to be enjoying splendid health. I have been a little unwell but am now convalescent.

We are all feeling a little sober tonight (that is, I mean, all of the 13th Army Corp). Our Old Father, U.S. Grant came down to this department last night to see his old troops before they got too far off. And tonight, or rather late in the afternoon met with an accident which we are somewhat afraid may terminate fatally. He had just extended an invitation to the Officers of the 13th Army Corps to meet at his rooms in the City proper (we are lying on the outskirts of the city in a little suburb) and was riding past the railroad depot when his horse got frightened at the cars and run off with him and brought up on the fore wheels of a carriage. The Gen. was thrown off with the force of the concussion, his head striking the pavement and to make it still worse his horse rolled onto him. He is now in a very precarious condition. I am no hero-worshipping man, neither do I consider Grant a military genius, but if he dies, where can we find a man to fill his place. The president has shown the people he possesses the power to issue Generals commissions but giving a man a Generals commission don't really make a General of him. There is some awful material made up into Generals in the U.S. Army. Why Frank I have got better men in my Company whom I have refused making Corporals of and I am not over well supplied with non commissioned timber either. Gen. Sherman is the next senior Officer in Grants department and if he gets the command then God help the cause and the troops for they will most certainly need help from some powerful source. Why, the River Guerillas will run over him.

The great majority of the men in this department, from Gen. N. P. Banks clear through are from the Potomac and they are ripe specimens of the stock they spring from and they have all the fuss and feather, flourish of trumpet and grand fizzle style of the McClellanites in their palmiest days. Our Western Boys treat them with open contempt. While they in turn vote us as uncivilized Boors, although they freely admit that we have a way all our own of spoiling the Butternut clothing and whatever said articles may contain whatever the cause may be, there is one thing patent to me and that is that the eastern troops have not got the grit, the pluck, exhibited by western men they can't endure grief to say nothing of that other wet nurse operation. It is strange but nevertheless a fact, George won't be home for sometime.

We are under marching orders no one seems to know where we are going. Some say to Charleston some to Mobile and others say Texas. I don't suppose it makes much difference where, but I don't like the crowd we are now thrown in with. I have little confidence in either men or officers as a general thing, but then it is three years as during the war I have got back to the Co again and will take up the lines tomorrow.

Tell Mrs. W. that the sight of a female handwriting sets my heart to palpitating at a fearful rate, but upon ascertaining that it was from a married

Lady it got reduced to 120 a minute as shown by the chronometer of a Colorado itinerant dealer in shellfish. Please give her my regards.

Write soon

John (1st Lieutenant John B. Scott, Co. F, 29th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry)

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**From the 29th Regiment  
New Orleans, La., September 7, 1863**

Mr. Editor:

"Random" is yet in the land of the living, although many weeks have passed since he cumbered your columns with scribblings from the 29th. If any excuse be needed for my not "posting" your readers as to our whereabouts, feelings, and bodily state of health, it must be that such an act is slightly impossible with the subscriber while we are on the march. The sun pouring its beams on your head as only a Southern sun can, skirmishing everyday and going into a general engagement every third. And then imagine yourself, if you please, in the rifle pits in the "rear of Vicksburg" editing readable letters to the Home League, while the minnie balls keep up a continual "phir" about your ears, and the Parrott and Whitworth shot a constant flutter over your heads. I know of one "regular correspondent", the chap who wrote the most vivid account of the charge on the works at Vicksburg the 22nd of last May, and he told only what he saw, who was distant some five miles from the scene of action and with any number of killed in between. It is to be presumed that if his statement was exactly reliable, he must have acquired that wonderful trick taught in Comstock's philosophy – the power of looking through a brick. But we soldiers will not blame him generally, as none of us would have been there that day had we not considered it a military necessity. The regiment is now situated in Carrollton, a suburb of New Orleans. How it came here and when is of little matter, when I say we are well situated for health and comfort...The weather is hot but here it is tempered with breezes from the Gulf and Lake Pontchartrain, making the mornings and evenings nice for company and battalion drill, which has been necessarily neglected for a long time...Since our arrival at New Orleans we have been reviewed by Maj. Gen. Banks twice and Maj. Gen. Grant once, from whose department we have been transferred to that of the former...Last Friday when Gen. Grant reviewed for the last time the cheers the boys gave their old commander as he rode along the line, well showed the respect and love they had for America's most successful general; and their looks showed their regret at parting with the man whom they had so often and so well followed to victory. But a deep gloom settled on us an hour later when we heard the exaggerated report that Gen. Grant had been thrown from his horse and killed. A little later the truth came, and it was known that returning to headquarters after review, the general's horse which was a young one and very spirited, become unmanageable and ran against a carriage, throwing and then rolling over him. He was quite seriously injured but will probably be around again in a few days...New Orleans is an old looking city, its streets and buildings being a mixture of every style of architecture practiced in the old United States, Spain or France. Most of the streets are extremely narrow – not more than forty feet in width and I have yet to see the building here that

*continued on page 6*

equals the best in Milwaukee. The famed St. Charles hotel is not quite ahead and up to the Newhall, either in external appearance, and certainly not in management...Heartfelt letters will reach us by directing them to the company and regiment, First Brigade, Third Division, and Thirteenth Army Corps.

— Random (Lloyd V. Nanscawen, Co. I)

Cairo, July 7 – 11:15 a.m. —

A dispatch boat has just arrived having left Vicksburg city at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Her passengers announce that Pemberton surrendered on the morning of the 4th at July, and that our forces were to march in as of 10 a.m. on Sunday. Pemberton went out in the morning with a flag of truce and offered to surrender in case he would be allowed to march his men out.

Grant is reported to have replied that no man should leave the place except as a prisoner of war. Pemberton then went back, and after a consultation with his subordinate officers, unconditionally surrendered.

LaCrosse, *The Democratic Journal*

August 12, 1863

General Meade is a tall, slim, gray-bearded man. He wears glasses, an old slouch hat, a blue blouse with corduroy pants tucked into his long jack boots. He is ungainly in looks and action, plain of speech, familiar and free in conversation when not occupied with business. He has the confidence of the President to a high degree.

LaCrosse *Independent Republican*

### Battery B Fourth United States Artillery At Gettysburg

By James Stewart

United States Army, retired; Brevet Major United States Army

By act of Congress, approved March 16, 1802, the existing regular artillery of the United States was founded, and in the organization of 1821, one company, in each regiment was equipped as light battery. Battery B was one of those so designated, and has remained as a light battery to the present day. In 1837, on account of the Florida War, two of these batteries were horsed and their complement increased to seventy-one enlisted men. They were Battery C of the Third, commanded by Captain Ringold, and Battery B of the Fourth, under Captain J. M. Washington, but B of the Fourth only took part in the operations, so Battery B was really the first regularly equipped light battery in our service. It also took part in the Mexican War under Captain Washington and Lieutenant O'Brien, serving with General Taylor. After the Mexican War the battery was ordered to Texas and there served on the Rio Grande until 1856, when it was ordered to Fort Leavenworth, but on reaching St. Louis we found the river blocked with ice and had to remain at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., that winter. We reached Fort Leavenworth, March, 1857; and after being fully equipped and horsed started for Great Salt Lake City, Utah, under General Albert Sidney Johnston...

In 1861, we were ordered east and joined the Army of the Potomac under General Geo. B. McClellan. We were then assigned to McDowell's corps, remaining with it until the consolidation of the First and Fifth Corps; we remained in the Fifth Corps until the close of the war.

The greatest strain upon our country during the war was just before the battle of Gettysburg. Gold had run up to its highest notch, and all over the North a feeling of anxiety and depression was felt. The Army of the Potomac had been worsted in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, leaving Lee's army considerably elated over its victories, and

the change of commanders brought an anxious desire upon the Army of the Potomac to meet once more the Army of Virginia. That desire was all the more felt by every soldier in our army because Lee had crossed the Potomac and invaded the North, demanding of each city and town that it furnish provisions, clothing, mules, horses and forage, besides all kinds of wagons that could be used by their army, and even demanding money in some instances. Outside of that, private citizens were robbed of everything that the rebel soldiery took a fancy to. Now, that was war.

I simply mention this to show the difference between our generals and the others. When the Union army commenced their campaign in Virginia, an order was written setting forth that no pillaging would be allowed, and any man caught doing so would be punished. It was said that by pillaging the dear people might become irritated. Think of it! And we in the enemy's country. That was not war. War means to inflict all the punishment you can upon your enemy, especially destroying all supplies that he could make use of. That is the true object to be gained. It is really humanity, as it has a tendency to shorten the struggle, thereby saving human lives. But our generals in their great judgment thought otherwise. There was scarcely a farm-house but was the headquarters of some guerrilla company, and from these houses all information of our movements was made known to their generals.

As an instance, I will state that my battery was sent with a division to make a reconnaissance. The weather was very warm. The order was to march quickly to the place, find out what troops were there, their strength and all the information necessary for the commanding general. Some of our men had fallen behind, not being able to keep up with their commands. On marching back, we found these men lying on the road with their throats cut. That was not war; that was murder. Had our generals prosecuted the war as the Southern generals did, it would have been terminated in a much shorter space of time and saved thousands of valuable lives...

*Milwaukee Sentinel*, Saturday, July 4, 1863



In September 1950, Benjamin P. Thomas spoke about "Theodore Weld" to the Round Table.

James I. Robertson visited the Round Table in September 1960. Robertson's talk was on "The Stonewall Brigade."

"The Upper Midwest and the Secession Crisis of 1860-1861" was the subject of John R. Hubbell's presentation in September 1970.

G. Craig Caba was our featured speaker in September 1980. The topic that evening was "U.S. Military Uniforms Used Early in the War."

At the September 2000 meeting our guest speaker was Thomas Lowry. Lowry's presentation was on "Sex in the Civil War."

"Those Damned Black Hats at Gettysburg" was the topic of Lance Herdegen's talk at our September 2009 meeting.

At last year's September 2012 meeting the Round Table welcomed Bjorn Skaptason who spoke to us about "Wisconsin and Shiloh."

# Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.

YOUR DUES FOR 2013-2014 ARE NOW DUE.

**To keep our roster and mailing lists up-to-date,  
payment prior to September 30 would be greatly appreciated.**

The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee is a Section 501(c)(3) organization. If you itemize, you may deduct as a charitable contribution on your federal and state income tax returns your dues and other contributions in cash and kind (but not the cost of dinners).

Your Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF ADDRESS, IF ANY)

Fill in appropriate amounts:

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP – \$40** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP – \$50** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Two adults & children under 18 living at same address)

**NONRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP – \$25** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Individuals living 100 miles or more from Milwaukee)

**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP – \$20** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Attending an educational institution)

**CONTRIBUTION TO ANNUAL FUND** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(To help finance Round Table civic/charitable contributions)

**TOTAL REMITTANCE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.

Mail to: Paul A. Eilbes  
CWRT of Milwaukee, Inc.  
1809 Washington Ave.  
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

**PLEASE RETURN TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT.**

**Retain this section for your Records.**

## CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF MILWAUKEE DUES, 2013-2014

<b>\$40 Individual Membership</b>	_____	<b>Date Paid</b> _____
<b>\$50 Family Membership</b>	_____	<b>Amt. Paid</b> _____
<b>\$25 Nonresident Membership</b>	_____	<b>Check No.</b> _____
<b>\$20 Student Membership</b>	_____	
<b>Contribution for CWRT Annual Fund</b>	_____	

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





# AND SO IT CONTINUES: August and September 1863... Marking the Civil War Sesquicentennial

## August 1863

The month begins with the North feeling more optimistic and confident now that the Mississippi was open to the sea and Lee was out of Pennsylvania. Yet, Charleston Harbor remained untaken and Lee unvanquished. In the South, there was a growing sense of depression with the trans-Mississippi area now isolated and its resources unavailable for the armies in the east. The South was once again asked for renewed effort. The month found both North and South counting their dead and mourning the fallen at Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and elsewhere.

**August 1, 1863** • A cavalry action at Brandy Station, Va., south of the Rappahannock, marks the end of the Gettysburg Campaign. Belle Boyd is again in custody at the Old Capitol Prison in Washington. President Davis declares that all soldiers absent without leave and those who have not reported for service will be granted pardon and amnesty if they report within twenty days.

**August 2, 1863** • Rear Admiral David D. Porter assumes command of the Mississippi River. President Davis writes to Lee regarding the problem of returning stragglers to the Army: "It is painful to contemplate our weakness when you ask for reinforcements."

**August 3, 1863** • In Mississippi, Sherman and his men wait for dispersal orders to installations in western Mississippi and eastern Louisiana to function as occupation troops in direct contrast to Grant's wishes. Governor Seymour of New York asks Lincoln to suspend the draft in his state.

**August 5, 1863** • Federal cavalry, for the rest of the month, will carry out an expedition under William Woods Averell from Winchester, Va., into West Virginia. At Charleston Harbor, a detachment of Marines, sent down by Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles to Admiral Dahlgren, arrives.

President Lincoln writes to General Banks: "For my own part I think I shall not, in any event, retract the emancipation proclamation; nor, as executive, ever return to slavery any person who is free by the terms of that proclamation, or by any of the acts of Congress."

**August 6, 1863** • The North observes a day of thanksgiving for recent victories, with church services and suspension of business.

President Davis writes to Governor M. L. Bonham of South Carolina that he would do all that was possible for the safety of Charleston writing, "which we pray will never be polluted by the footsteps of a lustful, relentless, inhuman foe."

**August 7, 1863** • In Washington, President Lincoln tells Governor Seymour that he will not suspend the draft in New York. At Charleston, Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard requests that the *H.L. Hunley* be sent to him from Mobile.

**August 8, 1863** • Robert E. Lee offers to resign as commander of the Army of Northern Virginia. President Davis rejects Lee's offer.

**August 9, 1863** • President Lincoln writes to General Grant his belief that Negro troops are "a resource which, if vigorously applied now, will soon close the contest."

**August 10, 1863** • Sherman's Fifteenth Corps is ordered to Louisiana where it will perform garrison duty. Federal troops under General Frederick Steele begin their march from Helena, Arkansas, toward Little Rock.

**August 12, 1863** • Heavy-caliber Parrott rifles on Morris Island fire against Fort Sumter and Battery Wagner. The firing, although just a practice to establish range, marks the opening of a new Federal offensive in Charleston Harbor.

**August 13, 1863** • A Confederate Army chaplain writes to President Davis "that every disaster that has befallen us in the West has grown out of the fact that weak and inefficient men have been kept in power. I beseech of you to relieve us of these drones and pigmies."

**August 15, 1863** • The *H.L. Hunley* arrives at Charleston Harbor on two covered railroad flatcars.

**August 17, 1863** • Admiral Dahlgren renews the attack on Charleston's defenses using both ironclads and the guns on Morris Island. Batteries Wagner and Gregg are also fired upon. The Chickamauga campaign opens with its first skirmish at Calfkiller Creek. Rosecrans moves slowly towards Chattanooga.

**August 19, 1863** • The draft resumes in New York City with no difficulties, although troops protect the draft headquarters against any repetition of the July riots.

**August 20, 1863** • A fourth straight day of bombardment continues against Fort Sumter and Battery Wagner in Charleston Harbor. Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland nears the Tennessee River west of Chattanooga.

**August 21, 1863** • William C. Quantrill raids Lawrence, Kansas, burns the town, loots the stores and murders many of the town's men. Quantrill and his raiders murder about 150 men and boys and destroy an estimated \$1,500,000 worth of property. One eyewitness writes: "The town is a complete ruin. The whole of the business part, and all good private residences are burned down...I cannot describe the horrors."

General Q.A. Gillmore demands the surrender of Fort Sumter and Charleston or he will continue the bombardment and would include the city. He is refused and the bombardment continues.

**August 22, 1863** • In Tennessee, Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland draws closer to Chattanooga. President Davis tries to round up reinforcements for Bragg. In Richmond, all the clerks in the city post office resign over a wage dispute leaving all mail undelivered including mail important to the war effort.

**August 25, 1863** • Federal Brigadier General Thomas Ewing, son of the U.S. Senator of Ohio and adopted brother of William T. Sherman, issues General Orders No. 11. All persons in Jackson, Cass, and Bates counties, Missouri were to leave their homes. Those who could prove their loyalty are permitted to stay at military posts. All others must leave the area.

**August 26, 1863** • Federals assault the rifle pits in front of Battery Wagner, capturing them. The Union is now directly outside the fort.

**August 29, 1863** • In Charleston Harbor the *H.L. Hunley* takes several practice dives. While it is tied alongside the steamer *Etiwan* the steamer pulls away turning the *Hunley* on her side. She fills with water and sinks drowning five of the crewmen. Two escape. Five crewmen volunteer to man the submarine when it is raised.

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**August 30, 1863** • The month nears its' end with the Union batteries on Morris Island once again bombarding the Confederates as they dig their guns out of the rubble at Fort Sumter and move them to Charleston. A small transport steamer with troops is fired upon from Fort Moultrie by mistake and sinks. In the last two days of the month, Federals carry out a reconnaissance from Shellmound toward Chattanooga.

## September 1863

The month will find the war in eastern Tennessee warming up. Other than in Charleston, things are fairly quiet. In the North, citizens realized that despite victories at Vicksburg and Gettysburg the war is far from over. In the South, despite the defeats suffered Southerners take comfort that they are still fighting.

**September 1, 1863** • Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland crosses the Tennessee River in preparation of the assault on Bragg's army at Chattanooga. President Davis tells Governor Isham G. Harris of Tennessee that reinforcements and arms are being sent to Chattanooga and Bragg's threatened army.

**September 2, 1863** • Federal troops under Burnside easily take Knoxville, Tennessee, effectively blocking any direct communications between Tennessee and Virginia. In Charleston Harbor the guns are silent but Federals are entrenched only eighty yards from the outer works of Battery Wagner. A joint committee of the Alabama legislature approves the use of slaves in Confederate armies — the Alabama house adopts the resolution after some modification.

**September 4, 1863** • The Army of the Cumberland completes its crossing of the Tennessee River. Bragg is now threatened from the south and west. In Mobile women march on supply stores with signs posting "Bread or Blood" and "Bread and Peace." The women take food, clothing and other goods.

General Grant is severely injured when his horse shies and falls on him. Grant will be incapacitated for weeks and on crutches for several of those weeks.

**September 5, 1863** • Small boat attacks on Battery Gregg and the north end of Cummings Point on Morris Island fail. In Alabama Rosecrans' Federal forces move into the mountains of northwestern Georgia south of Chattanooga. In the East Tennessee Campaign Burnside's troops are on their way to the Cumberland Gap.

**September 6, 1863** • During the night and into the 7th of September, the Confederate garrisons of Battery Wagner and Battery Gregg are evacuated. Fort Sumter, now a mass of rubble, still holds out as does Charleston.

**September 7, 1863** • Dahlgren demands the surrender of Fort Sumter.

**September 8, 1863** • Federal naval vessels bombard the forts in Charleston Harbor. Dahlgren's men prepare for a small-boat operation by night against Fort Sumter. Infantry commander Quincy Adams Gillmore prepares a similar expedition.

President Davis tells Lee of the increasing threats to Bragg and that he is considering sending Lee west but fears the effect of Lee's absence from Virginia. Confederate Attorney General Thomas H. Watts, elected governor of Alabama, resigns his post.

**September 9, 1863** • Bragg's Army of Tennessee leaves Chattanooga. Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland immediately occupies the city. Davis and his generals decide to detach Longstreet's corp of the Army of Northern Virginia to aid Bragg. Due to the occupation of east Tennessee by Federal forces Longstreet is forced to go by way of North Carolina and Atlanta to get to Bragg.

**September 10, 1863** • Southerners evacuate Little Rock. Sterling Price's Confederates withdraw to Rockport and Arkadelphia.

**September 11, 1863** • Reconnaissance and skirmishing continue in northern Georgia. President Lincoln turns down Burnside's resignation, asks Governor Andrew Johnson of Tennessee to inaugurate a state governor at once and confers with Stanton, Halleck, and others about the Charleston situation.

**September 13, 1863** • Meade's Army of the Potomac occupies Culpeper Court House after Lee's withdrawal following the loss of Longstreet's corps. Grant is ordered to send all available men to the area around Chattanooga to assist Rosecrans. Bragg orders Polk to attack Crittenden's corps at Lee and Gordon's Mills, but Polk fails to move.

**September 15, 1863** • Lincoln suspends the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus through the nation in cases where military or civil authorities of the United States hold persons under their command or in custody. Lincoln writes to Halleck that Meade should attack Lee at once.

In Georgia below Chattanooga Bragg and Rosecrans are concentrating their forces.

**September 16, 1863** • Rosecrans concentrates his troops at Lee and Gordon's Mills, on the Chickamauga Creek, about 12 miles south of Chattanooga. The Reserve Corps Rosecrans holds near Chattanooga, Crittenden is at the Mill, Thomas to the south, and Alexander McDowell McCook to the far south near Alpine.

**September 17, 1863** • Rosecrans pulls his corps together from the right flank and they are now in supporting distance of each other. Bragg misses his chance to isolate units and now plans to turn the Union left north of Lee and Gordon's Mill and force Rosecrans back into the mountains. Part of Longstreet's corps is arriving from Virginia. Rosecrans hurries to protect the roads to Chattanooga.

**September 18, 1863** • Longstreet and his corps arrive at Bragg's location in the early morning. Bragg moves all but three of his divisions of his Army of Tennessee from the Ringgold area across West Chickamauga Creek. Heavy skirmishing breaks out with Rosecrans' cavalry at Pea Vine Ridge, Dyer's Ford, Spring Creek, Stephen's Gap and the bridges at Alexander and Reed. Rosecrans moves Thomas's corps northeast so Bragg cannot outflank the Federals towards Chattanooga.

**September 19, 1863** • The First Day of the Battle of Chickamauga. Neither Rosecrans nor Bragg were sure of the exact position of each other as they moved in parallel lines west of West Chickamauga Creek. Thomas, on the Federal left, sent part of his corps forward to the enemy and ran into the dismounted cavalry of Nathan Bedford Forrest. Fighting grew more severe as more units joined in and by afternoon the greater portions of both armies were engaged. Bragg failed to cut the lines to Chattanooga. Casualties were heavy on both sides. Bragg put Polk in command of the right wing and Longstreet the left wing. By dark, both lines were in about the same location.

**September 20, 1863** • The Second Day of the Battle of Chickamauga. Bragg orders an attack at dawn by Polk on the Union right. The attack didn't get underway until about 9:30 a.m. The Union left under Thomas fell back but held at the breastworks. Longstreet came in opposite the Federal center around noon and discovers that Thomas Wood's division has pulled out leaving a gap in the Northern line. Longstreet attacks and drives two divisions away and cuts the Federal line causing a major portion to flee. Thomas manages to form a new line on Snodgrass Hill. The Federals held through the afternoon. Thomas's men along with fragments of other units and Gordon Granger's reserve fought a hard defensive battle which would earn Thomas the nickname "Rock of Chickamauga."

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The fighting continued until night when, obeying orders, Thomas withdrew towards Rossville and the mountain gaps that led to Chattanooga. The battle proved to be a Confederate tactical victory. The casualty rate for both sides would be about 28 percent.

**September 21, 1863** • Thomas, with the remnant of the defeated Army of the Cumberland, stood their ground all day at Rossville. Due to the danger of being flanked, Thomas retired to Chattanooga after dark. The Federal army held good defensive positions in and around Chattanooga. Bragg ordered a pursuit but then cancelled it.

Lincoln wired Burnside in east Tennessee: "Go to Rosecrans with your force without a moments delay."

**September 22, 1863** • The Union force safely entrenched at Chattanooga faced a strong Confederate force on Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. Three divisions of the Fifteenth Corps of Grant's army left Vicksburg for Chattanooga. At Knoxville, Burnside was ordered to Rosecrans' relief but he was having a hard time holding his own position. In Washington, the President and his wife mourned the death of Brig. Gen. Hardin Helm, Mary's brother, who was killed at Chickamauga.

**September 23, 1863** • In Washington, a council of war is held to discuss relieving Rosecrans at Chattanooga. After debate, the council agreed to send the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps of the Army of the Potomac, under Hooker's command, to Rosecrans. By commandeering every railcar and engine on the lines, and moving at great speed, the troops began moving by September 25 and by October 2 the last of the Eleventh Corps arrived in Chattanooga.

**September 25, 1863** • In Washington, Lincoln is concerned by Burnside's lack of movement to relieve Rosecrans.

**September 27, 1863** • President Lincoln wrote to Burnside in east Tennessee: "My order to you meant simply that you should save Rosecrans from being crushed out, believing if he lost his position, you could not hold East Tennessee in any event." Burnside denied any delay.

**September 28, 1863** • Major Generals Alexander McDowell McCook and T.L. Crittenden are relieved of their corps commands and ordered to Indianapolis for a court of inquiry into the conduct of the Battle of Chickamauga.

**September 30, 1863** • The month comes to an end with Joe Hooker and the two corps from the Army of the Potomac two days away from Chattanooga. In the early morning, Confederate General Joseph Wheeler took his cavalry out of their camps east of Chattanooga and begins an 18-day raid against Rosecrans' communications lines. Mild bombardment of Fort Sumter continues in Charleston Harbor.

**CIVIL WAR NEWS...continued from page 4**

"I am very excited to begin work as the Chief of Interpretation at Gettysburg and Eisenhower Farm," Dufficy said. "My family has visited here many times since I was a young child, and I am now delighted to have the opportunity to work with partners and staff to help others discover the powerful stories within these two very special places."

"Toni Dufficy is a great choice for this newly redefined position," said park superintendent Bob Kirby. "She has the depth and breadth of experience necessary to handle the scope and complexity of this very important job. She's an energetic problem-solver with excellent people skills. Through continuing scholarship, Toni will ensure high quality interpretive programs are relevant and accessible to both traditional and new audiences."

**New Music**

Dolly Parton and Loretta Lynn have been confirmed to contribute tracks to *Divided and United: Songs of the American Civil War*, a two-CD set of Civil War era song covers set for release on November 5, 2013. John Cohen, the man behind the production, says that the recording has a noble aim: "This record aspires to erase the legacy of segregation and through music seeks reconciliation instead, in order to celebrate a great musical heritage of America, born in pain, war and prejudice."



*Kevin Hampton, staff member of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, gives fellow members of the 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry a tour of Wiloughby Run prior to their participation in the Gettysburg Anniversary Committee's 150th Anniversary reenactment. Photo by John Thielmann.*

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**Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for September 12, 2013**

Mail your reservations by Monday, September 9, 2013, to: **ALSO, call in reservations to:**  
**Paul Eilbes** (262) 376-0568  
**1809 Washington Ave.** peilbes@gmail.com  
**Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730**

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_ (meal price \$25.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_ reservations for September 12, 2013, meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. (Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_

*General Orders*, the official publication of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., is produced September through June and upon request of the Board of Directors.

Send submissions to **Donna Agnelly, Editor**, 420 Racine St., Unit 110, Waterford, WI 53185 or email to **dagnelly@tds.net** with "Civil War Round Table" in the subject line of your message. All submissions must be received by the Editor no later than the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. The Editor reserves the right to select articles and to edit submissions for style and length.

All address changes or problems receiving your *General Orders* should be directed through Membership Chairman Paul Eilbes.

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## 2013 – 2014 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

October 10, 2013

Doug Dammann "Elmer Ellsworth"

November 7, 2013

Lawrence Hewitt "Civil War Myths"

December 12, 2013

Kevin Weddle "Lincoln's Tragic Admiral"

*December meeting is at the Country Club of the Wisconsin Club*

January 9, 2014

Robert I. Girardi "Civil War Logistics"

February 13, 2014

Harold Knudsen "General Longstreet"

March 13, 2014 – TBD

April 10, 2014

Scott Bowden "Last Chance for Victory"

May 8, 2014

David Bastian "Grant's Canal"

June 12, 2014

Kenneth W. Noe "The War in Appalachia"