



GENERAL ORDERS



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

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General Orders No. 06-03

March, 2006

The **March 9th, 2006**, meeting is to be held at **Wisconsin Club**, Milwaukee

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Gail Stephens on Lew Wallace and the Controversy of Shiloh

In the spring of 1862, Union general Lew Wallace appeared to have an exceptional military career ahead of him. At the age of 35, he was the youngest major general in the Union Army. He had been a prominent Democratic politician and militia leader in antebellum Indiana. He was intelligent, ambitious and hardworking, but he was not a West Pointer.

Wallace began the war as colonel of the 11th Indiana Volunteers. Ulysses Grant gave him command of a division at Ft. Donelson and it was that division he was leading on April 6, 1862, when U.S. Grant ordered him to the battlefield at Shiloh.

What happened to Lew Wallace on April 6? Why didn't he arrive on the field until after dark? Mrs. Stephens will discuss the actions of those involved that day; Grant, Wallace, and their staffs, and explore the reasons Grant condemned Wallace.

After Shiloh, Wallace did not hold permanent field command until appointed commander of the Middle Department of Maryland and Delaware in March 1864. Wallace went on to earn the respect of both Ulysses Grant and Abraham Lincoln.

Mrs. Stephens will examine why he was exiled from the field and then reassigned. Mrs. Stephens will conclude with a brief discussion of Monocacy and Wallace's administration of the Middle Department. The goal of this talk is to shed new light on Lew Wallace and provide a more complete picture of the Civil War

career of this complex, controversial soldier.

Gail Stephens has a Bachelor's Degree in International Politics from George Washington University in Washington DC, and has done graduate work at Johns Hopkins and Harvard Universities. She worked for the Department of Defense for 26 years, retiring in 1994 as a member of the Department's Senior Executive Service. She now volunteers at Monocacy National Battlefield near Frederick, Maryland, lectures on the Civil War, teaches courses at area colleges and gives battlefield tours.

In 2002, she won the National Park Service's E. W. Peterkin award for her contributions to public understanding of Civil War history. She has written articles on Wallace and on the battle of Monocacy. Currently, she is writing a history of Lew Wallace's Civil War career, for the Indiana Historical Society Press.

Schedule of Events

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| • Staff Meeting (when required;
open to all members) | 5:30 PM |
| • Registration and Social Hour | 6:15 PM |
| • Dinner | 6:45 PM |
| • Program Begins | 7:30 PM |

Michael Benton Voted Second Vice President

At the 24 January business meeting, the Board of Directors voted Michael Benton Second Vice President, filling a vacancy dating from the first part of the season.

North and South Offers Discount

North and South Magazine has a special subscription offer exclusively to Civil War groups including Round Tables. New subscribers will get a one-year subscription (7 issues) for half price--\$19.99, down from the regular price of \$39.99.

To learn more about the deal, go to www.northandsouthmagazine.com/cwsocietygroup. To take advantage of the deal, use the code SVE001.

To order, you can either (1) go to the aforementioned web page, print out the form, and mail in payment; (2) call 1-800-546-6707 and mention code SVE001, or (3) order via the secure N&S web site, entering code SVE001 in the appropriate box (which will be easily found).

Not a bad price for a pretty good magazine.

Getting to the Wisconsin Club (through the Construction)

As most members know, the Marquette Interchange is STILL undergoing renovation and that can make getting to the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and 10th Street problematic. However, it is possible.

The Wisconsin Avenue bridge across I-43 has been demolished, but Wells Street one block to the north of Wisconsin is a two-way street for the duration of the construction. For those coming from the west the off-ramp for James Lowell Street off I-94 has been restored (albeit moved and accessible only from the LEFT of the freeway). All other access to the Wisconsin Club should be as usual, though it might be crowded. As for parking, the *General Orders* can offer little guidance. For further information on Wisconsin Club navigation see their web site at www.wisconsinclub.com, or call the club at (414) 271-7510.

Fifth Annual Reclaiming Our Heritage at Historic Soldiers Home

Plans are well under way for the 3-4 June, 2006, staging of Reclaiming Our Heritage, a multi-era encampment at the Milwaukee VA, 5000 W. National Ave. New this year: "The Great Civil War Shoot Out," an extended tactical competition; a tribute to Vietnam veterans and veterans of the Vietnam era; and bivouac with close to 80 participants.

Back by popular demand: Positively Patriotic Parade, concert by the 1st Brigade Band, Saturday evening Cemetery-by-Lantern Tours and much more. Sponsored by the Soldiers Home Foundation and hosted by the staff of the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center, the event includes free admission and parking. For information: www.soldiershome.org or (414) 902-5599.

Officers of the Board of Directors, Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., as of July 2005

Name	Office/Title	Contact	Term Expires
Gene Jamrozy	President	(414) 327-2811	2008
Ellen Kelling-Vukovic	1st Vice President	(262) 334-6265	2006
Michael Benton	2nd Vice President	(414)962-3767	2008
Paul Eilbes	Treasurer/Membership Committee Chair	(262) 376-0568; paul.eilbes@ipaper.com	2007
William Finke	Secretary	(414) 221-2764 bill.finke@we-energies.com	2008
John D. Beatty	Editor/Publisher, <i>General Orders</i>	jdbeatty@amcivwar.com	2007
Jim Johnson	Webmaster	secondwi@earthlink.net	2006

February 2006 Meeting: One Great, Shining Moment

*And Gentlemen of England now abed shall
think themselves accursed they were not here;*

*And hold their manhood cheap, when any
speaks, that fought with us upon Saint Crispian's Day!*

—Henry V

Well, it was nothing like that famous morning in October 1415 at Agincourt, but there was something about it that evoked that sentiment.

It was the largest Thursday meeting of the Round Table ever, second only to our 50th Anniversary Meeting (a Saturday), and to the last time Dr. McPherson was here (also a Saturday, and it was combined with Chicago).

Dr. James McPherson gave an excellent talk on Lincoln as Commander in Chief, persuading many that, if it were not for at least some strategic acumen he may not have known which generals to promote. Dr. McPherson was presented with the Alan T. Nolan Memorial Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee Award for Civil War Scholarship, the fourth such award given in the ten years of its existence. Dave Tianen gave a fine review of the talk in the Saturday Encore section of the *Journal Sentinel*.

Going into the meeting we had a shade over 280 members, and thanks to our speaker's notoriety, Dave Tianen's article and a discounted membership, fifty-two new members joined the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee at the February meeting: More than

have joined in one year since...well, no one's quite sure. The biggest recruiting bump we had was in the early 1990's when the Ken Burns series was running on PBS. Now we are over 300, possibly bigger than Chicago.

To all of you who joined at the meeting, we usually have space to name you all, list your interests and what part of the world you are from, but...there are just too many of you. The *General Orders* apologizes for the slight.

In honor of Dr. McPherson's request for a donation to battlefield preservation, \$1000 will be sent to the Mansfield Battlefield, still recovering from storm damage from last summer.



2006 Schedule

- April 20: Horace Mewborn—*"The Battles of Manassas"*
- May 11: Mark Nell—*"How the Bible Helped Start the Civil War"*

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

Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for: March 9th, 2006

Mail your reservations by March 3rd to:

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

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

Enclosed is \$_____ (meal price \$20.00 per person) for _____ reservations for the next meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. (Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

Name of Member: _____

In the Event of Inclement Weather...

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

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

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A Gentle Reminder

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

General Orders Submissions and Editorial Policy

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

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