



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. 05-10

October, 2005

The **October 13th, 2005**, meeting is to be held at **WISCONSIN CLUB**, Milwaukee

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Ed Bearss: The Most Forgotten, Misunderstood, and Least Appreciated Civil War Soldiers and Battles

Ed Bearss is widely acclaimed as the Dean of Civil War history, and is the speaker for our October meeting. Ed has appeared on television series, lectured and written widely, and has an encyclopedic knowledge about the Civil War.

Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service, his awards and citations are too numerous to list, but suffice it to say that we are extremely privileged to have Ed back in Milwaukee. His subject will enlighten, inform and challenge you as he shares his knowledge of little-known aspects of the War and its participants. If you have heard Ed before, you will most assuredly want to be there; if you have not had the privilege of hearing one of Ed's numerous presentations, you certainly want to be there.

Mansfield Battlefield Organization Wants Members

The Friends of the Mansfield (LA) Battlefield is looking for new members, and the Board is considering an institutional membership.

Mansfield was a battle in the ill-fated Red River Campaign that took place on 8 April 1864. The battle was also known as Pleasant Grove or

<i>Schedule of Events</i>	
• 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
<i>Times subject to local conditions</i>	

Sabine Cross Roads. The battle routed the Federal troops and ended the Federal advance up the Red River.

To raise funds for the battlefield they are selling commemorative bronze medallions for \$20.00 plus shipping. The Round Table will be taking pre-orders for these medals when logistics are worked out. Any interested parties should contact the Quartermaster, Roman Blenski. Mansfield, though in northwestern Louisiana, suffered only minor damage from Hurricane Katrina (see Page 2).

Individual memberships start at \$25. For more information contact The Friends of Mansfield Battlefield, PO Box 44144, Shreveport, LA., 71134-4414, or Roman Blenski.

Klement Lecture 2005

The 2005 Frank L. Klement Lecture will take place on Monday, 24 October, at 7:30 PM in Marquette University's Alumni Memorial Union, Room 224. The speaker this year is Prof. Lesley Gordon of Akron University. Her talk is "I Never was a Coward": Questions of Bravery in a Civil War Regiment."

Prof. Gordon is author of *General George E. Pickett in Life and Legend*, co-author (with Michael Fellman and Daniel E. Sutherland) of *This Terrible War: The Civil War and its Aftermath*, and co-editor (with Carol Bleser) of *Intimate Strategies of the Civil War: Military Commanders and Their Wives*.

At the lecture the Round Table will present its annual Klement Donation to the History Department. The Klement Donations, named in honor of the late founding CWRT member Frank L. Klement, are used by the Graduate program at Marquette to defray expenses of budding American History scholars to present papers at symposia and otherwise jump-start their careers.

Historical Sites Affected by Hurricane Katrina

Several places of interest not only to Civil War aficionados but also of other historical periods have been hard hit by recent storms in on the Gulf Coast. This is a partial listing, gleaned from Internet sources. Anyone with first hand information is invited to contact this correspondent with updates

For more up-to-date and complete information, see <http://thepresentpast.blogspot.com/> or <http://hnn.us/>

articles/15043.html#ru or <http://www.aam-us.org/aamlatest/news/HurricaneFirstReports.cfm>.

O Jefferson Davis' last home home, Beauvoir, in Biloxi Mississippi, was reported to be "virtually demolished." The Jackson, MS, *Clarion Ledger* said that the historic building has been "reduced to rubble and a frame of a house." According to some reports his Presidential papers were saved, and according to others they were not.

O The Beauvoir Confederate Cemetery is the home of the Grave of the Unknown Confederate Soldier in an above-ground granite shrine. No reports on its condition are available.

O Another nearby burial ground, Southern Memorial Park, had its mausoleum torn open by the force of the onrushing water, and witnesses told the *Clarion-Ledger* that numerous caskets were strewn about the grounds.

O *USS Alabama*, a WWII-era museum ship in Biloxi had an 8 degree list and was closed indefinitely.

O The D-Day Museum and the Museum of the Confederacy are on higher ground in New Orleans. At last report they still had power and water, with staff and families staying in the buildings.

O The New Orleans Museum of Art and the Hogan Jazz Archive have been largely spared.

The Milwaukee Round Table Board is considering donations for the recovery efforts. Anyone with first-hand information of organizations that are collecting for recovery and conservation causes are encouraged to contact a Board member.

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
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
Dr. Robert Karczewski	Member	(920) 563-4824	2007
Michael Benton	Member	(414) 962-3767	2008
C. Judley Wyant	Member	(262) 634-1203; jwyant@wyantlaw.com	2006

Shiloh — The Hornet's Nest II

By 0730 on the morning of 6 April Sherman, on Prentiss's right flank, was hard-pressed enough that he realized he needed support from Steven Hurlbut, commanding the Fourth Division of Grant's army encamped close to the Landing. Hurlbut sent a brigade to connect Sherman's left flank to Prentiss' right while moving the rest of his command forward to support Prentiss on the left. By 0800, a brigade of John McClernand's First Division joined the Shiloh Church position to support Sherman, linking tenuously with Hurlbut. By this time about 6,000 Federals were facing nearly 10,000 Confederates on the Federal right flank.

Hurlbut joined Prentiss at the southern edge of Sara Bell's Cotton Field. Prentiss's camps and his patrols that had just been driven in were the farthest south of any Federals. Some of Prentiss's men had been fighting for about three and a half hours. This was the beginning of a salient that would come to be called the Hornet's Nest.

The Confederates gave the position its name based on the uncharacteristically dense fire that emanated from the position. The Hornet's Nest position followed an old east-west wagon trail that in later years would be called the Sunken Road. From a small stream just east of the Hamburg-Savannah Road the Federal

position ran through a peach orchard in a corner of Sara Bell's Cotton Field, south of a small pond (called the Bloody Pond in most accounts), across the Eastern Corinth Road to the northern edge of the Duncan Field just west of the Corinth Road. The position was no more than three quarters of a mile wide from east to west, and there was nothing but dried-up swamp and two small Federal brigades between Prentiss easternmost units and the Tennessee River.

By 0900, regiments from Prentiss's division formed briefly along the Hamburg-Purdy Road southwest of the Hornet's Nest, but they soon had to pull out towards the Landing and imagined safety. Meanwhile, the brigades from WHL Wallace's Second Division formed a line in the thick timber along the Sunken Road on the northeast edge of the Duncan Field.

Soon after, brigades from Hurlbut's division took up positions to the left (east) of Wallace's, stretching across the north end of the Cotton Field and through the Peach Orchard, eventually extending to the creek east of the Hamburg-Savannah Road. As the officers re-formed the surviving regiments in the line, the Federal left flank began to solidify around Prentiss' position just as Grant arrived at Pittsburgh Landing.

2005-06 Schedule

- November 10: Edward Bonekemper III—*"A Victor, Not a Butcher – U.S. Grant's Overlooked Military Genius"*
 - December 7 [ITALIAN COMMUNITY CENTER]: Stephen Fratt—*"Civil War Tactics and Technology"*
 - January 12, 2006: Stephen Servais—*"As if We Were Foreigners Suddenly Coming into a Strange Country; New Englanders in Tidewater Virginia, 1861-1865"*
 - February 9: James McPherson—*"Abraham Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief"*
 - March 9: Gail Stephens—*"Lew Wallace"*
 - April 20: Horace Mewborn—*"The Battles of Manassas"*
 - May 11: George Rable—*"Fredericksburg in the Larger Civil War Universe"*
- 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: October 13th, 2005

Mail your reservations by October 7th 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.