



GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the

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



May 7, 2015

Eric Leonard

CARTEL, CODE, AND CONSEQUENCES AT ANDERSONVILLE

I have read in my earlier years about prisoners in the revolutionary war, and other wars. It sounded noble and heroic to be a prisoner of war, and accounts of their adventures were quite romantic; but the romance has been knocked out of the prisoner of war business, higher than a kite. It's a fraud.

*John L. Ransom - Brigade Quartermaster
9th Michigan Cavalry and prisoner at Andersonville*

At Andersonville prison alone, nearly 13,000 men died over 14 months – an average of more than 30 a day. Overall, 30,000 Union and 26,000 Confederate soldiers died in captivity. Deaths at Andersonville represented 29% of the prison population. The death rate at the North's prison in Elmira had a 24% death rate with 3,000 dead, many due to illness.

Historians continue to debate whether the conditions in Civil War prisons were the result of insufficient resources and mismanagement or something more insidious – retaliation and deliberate cruelty. Our May speaker is clear on this issue: "We did this to ourselves."

In his presentation to our Round Table, Eric Leonard will speak to us about how the challenge of managing military prisoners took both sides by surprise at the beginning of the war. Legal systems for handling prisoners shifted during the course of the conflict, leading to confined soldiers suffering terribly from overcrowding, poor sanitation, and inadequate food. Mismanagement by war-weary governments worsened matters. By the end of the war, a new legal framework existed which still protects military prisoners 150 years later. The treatment of prisoners of war during the Civil War remains one of the controversial and poorly understood aspects of the conflict.



Eric Leonard is a public historian focused on sites of violence, tragedy and controversy. He has extensively studied 19th century executions and Civil War military prisons. Eric has been employed by the National Park Service since 1995, working at a wide variety of 19th century military sites including Fort Larned (KS), Fort Smith (AR), Arkansas Post, and Andersonville.

Eric is currently the superintendent of Minuteman Missile National Historic site.

2014-2015 Speaker Schedule

June 11, 2015 – Garry Adelman

"4-D Civil War Photography Extravaganza"

- Director of History and Education at the Civil War Trust
- Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg since 1995.
- Author or editor of more than 30 Civil War books and articles.



General Orders No. 5-15

May 2015

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May Meeting at a Glance

Wisconsin Club

9th and Wisconsin Avenue

[Jackets required for the dining room.]

5:30 p.m. - staff meeting- as needed
[Open to all members]

6:15 p.m. - Registration/Social Hour

6:45 p.m. - Dinner

[\$25 by reservation, please]

Reservations are accepted until
Monday, May 4, 2015

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.**



Today, the Andersonville site includes the remains of the historic prison along with a prisoner of war museum and a national cemetery where Union soldiers who died at the camp are buried.

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.

Postal Service Changes

Please be aware that due to changes in the sorting and routing procedures of the U.S. Postal Service, mail is taking as much as **three business days** for local deliveries. If you are mailing in your reservations for dinner, you may want to send them a day or two earlier than you have in the past. As an option, call or e-mail me that you have put your reservation in the mail, so I can look for it.

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!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the nominating committee of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee recommends the following slate of nominees for the upcoming election of members to the Board of Directors:

Grant Johnson	Bruce Klem	Daniel Nettesheim
Frank Risler	David Wege	

The slate will be voted on at the election during the May meeting. Newly elected directors begin their duties upon election and typically serve three-year terms.

COURT OF HONOR PROJECT

The Westown Association has begun a campaign to restore the statues in the Court of Honor in downtown Milwaukee. These are the statues on the center island of Wisconsin Avenue, right outside the Wisconsin Club. The Court of Honor comprises statues of George Washington, the Spanish-American War Hero and the *Victorious Charge*, commemorating Wisconsin's Civil War service.

Veteran members may recall that the Round Table contributed to restoration of the *Victorious Charge* some years ago, but the full Court needs cleaning and further restoration work. The Board of Directors has pledged \$100.00 as a starting point, and is asking members who wish to add to that amount to do so. Several members have already contributed, and we hope to see even more representation from the Round Table. Contribution checks should be made payable to “CWRT of Milwaukee” – please note Court of Honor on the memo line. Mail your contributions to:

CWRT of Milwaukee
c/o Paul Eilbes
1809 Washington Ave
Cedarburg, WI 53012

The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

MCWRT Annual Fund

The following members have made a generous commitment to the MCWRT by investing in that fund. The following list reflects those made from July-January 8, 2015.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

Grant Johnson

Patron (\$200-\$499)

Crain Bliwas, Robert Parrish, Guy Crane

Associate (\$100-\$199)

Paul Eilbes, David Jordan, Stephen Leopold,
Laura Rinaldi, Paul Sotirin, Bernard VanDinter

Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Dale Bespalec, John Busch, Cynthia Cooper,
Tom Corcoran, James DeValkenaere, Dr. Gordon Dammann,
Bob Dude, Lori Duginski, Gary and Judith Ertel, Ted Fetting,
A. William Finke, Richard Gross, Douglas Haag, Erwin Huston,
Eugene and Jane Jamrozy, Christopher Johnson,
Dr. Bob and Judy Karczewski, Ardis Kelling, Jerome Kowalski,
Rod Malinowski, Herbert Oechler, James and Ann Reeve,
David and Helga Sartori, Jean Schwonek, Dennis Slater,
Dan Tanty

2015 Great Lakes Civil War Forum “Melt, Melt Away Ye Armies”



**Go to page 8 of
the General Orders
for more information!**

milwaukeeecwrt.org



In May 1952 Holman Hamilton talked to the Round Table on “Old Rough & Ready in the Civil War.”

Richard Current was our Round Table speaker in May 1962 speaking on “What the Shooting Was All About.”

“The Saga of the Sultana” was the topic of John A Diehl’s presentation to the Round Table in May 1972.

The First Brigade Band entertained the Round Table in May 1982 with “Music and More Music.”

In May 1992 our featured speaker was Lawrence Hewitt speaking on “Port Hudson: The Best Photographed Battlefield.”

Ted Savas visited the Round Table in May 2002 and talked to us about the “Confederate Powder Works at Augusta.”

“The Strategy of the Civil War” was presented by our May 2012 speaker Brian Holden Reid.

At last year’s May meeting we welcomed David Bastian who spoke on “Grant’s Canal: The Union’s Attempt to Bypass Vicksburg.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS • EVENTS • MEETINGS

Manitowoc Civil War Round Table

May 11, 2015, 7 p.m.

Manitowoc Historical Society Heritage Center

Waukesha Civil War Round Table

May 12, 2015, 7 p.m.

Citizens Bank of Mukwonago, Waukesha Branch

Speakers: Elaine & John Miscale: Music of the Civil War and their book of published music from that time.

Prairieville Irregulars Round Table

May 19, 2015, 7 p.m.

Citizens Bank of Mukwonago, Waukesha Branch

Speaker: Rob Girardi, “Union High Command at Chancellorsville”

COMING UP at the Kenosha Civil War Museum

JUNE 11, 2015 at Noon

The Fateful Lightning

Jeff Shaara

Open to the public/\$5 Suggested Donation at the Door

TRIMBORN HERITAGE WEEKEND

June 6-7, 2015, 10a.m. – 4 p.m.

Looking for a family fun event for all ages? Come to Trimbarn Farm on June 6th and 7th to learn about American history in a whole new way! There will be reenactors from the Revolutionary War to the Cold War. There will be a wide range of demonstrations and interactive activities. You are invited to come and learn what it was like to be a merchant at the time of the Revolutionary War or join a 1940’s baseball team. This event will take you back through America’s great history.

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

Second Friday Lunchbox Series

CSS *Shenandoah*

Friday, May 8, 2015, Noon

Presented by: Tony Majewski

The CSS *Shenandoah* sailed and steamed 58,000 miles over 13 months, took the war to the frigid waters of Alaska, and circumnavigated the globe. In the process, she claimed more than 35 prizes and took close to 1,000 prisoners. Mr. Majewski details the storied history of this Confederate vessel.

The Rise of George Armstrong Custer, 1861-1865

Presented by: Gregory Urwin, Temple University

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Dinner – 5:30 p.m./Presentation 7 p.m.

Dinner and Program \$45/\$35 Friends of the Museum

Program \$15/\$10 Friends of the Museum

George Armstrong Custer is forever remembered for his catastrophic defeat at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. But he first rocketed to national fame more than a dozen years earlier during the Civil War. Ranked last in the U.S. Military Academy’s Class of June 1861, Custer reported to the front in time to participate in the First Battle of Bull Run. In less than two years, he received a promotion to brigadier general of U.S. Volunteers, becoming the youngest general in the Union army. Dr. Urwin’s program tells the story of the Boy General’s Civil War career identifying the elements of his spectacular success before he turned 25.

Gregory J. W. Urwin is a prize-winning author and a professor at Temple University, where he specializes in American and British military history from the War of Independence to World War II.

The United States Military Railroad

Presented by: David E. Myers

Saturday, May 30, 2015, 1 p.m.

Free and Open to the Public

Learn about the creation and development of the U.S. Military Railroads and the Railway Construction Corps. The Civil War was the first time warfare made extensive use of the transportation capabilities railroads offered. The visual program will show 60 photographs of the U.S.M.R.R. taken by Captain Andrew Russell, whose original photos documenting the railroad now exist in the collection of the National Archives.

Cushing Memorial Rededication Event

May 22-25, 2015

City of Delafield

Sunday, May 24, 2015, 2 p.m. – Welcome and recognition of Cushing Family and special guests

Cushing Memorial Park

Sunday, May 24, 2015, 2:30 p.m. – Dedication Ceremony Reenactment and Recognition of Alonzo Cushing, Medal of Honor – Cushing Memorial Park

Schedule of events can be found at:

www.visitdelafield.org/event-calendar/cushing-memorial-celebration/

And More Memorial Day Events!

Calvary Cemetery – 5503 W. Bluemound Rd.

Memorial Day Service, May 25, 2015 at 10 a.m.

Outdoor Mass with Archbishop Jerome ListECKi followed by a Patriotic Program

Keynote Speaker: Mr. Tom Ludka, Waukesha County

Featuring: cannon firing by Cushing's Battery A, 4th U.S. Artillery and a Civil War musket salute

If inclement weather, ceremonies will be held in St. Vincent Pallotti Church at 5502 W. Bluemound Rd.

For more information, call: 262-787-3567 or 262-782-0535 or: dcollins@wi.rr.com

Wood National Cemetery

Memorial Day Service will begin at 9 a.m. with a concert by the American Legion Band and an appearance by Hannah Mrozak, American Idol. Service includes wreath presentations. A special salute to Vietnam Veterans is part of this year's service.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

2015 CHAMBERSBURG CIVIL WAR SEMINARS & TOURS

“On the Trail of Those Damn Black Hats: Weekend with Lance Herdegen and the Iron Brigade”

May 15-17, 2015

Weekend will include a bus and walking tour of South Mountain, Antietam, and Gettysburg along with sessions by Lance Herdegen, Tom Clemens, Gordon Dammann, Joe Mieczkowski, Dan Welch and others. Based in Chambersburg, PA.

“The End of the War: Richmond, Petersburg, and Appomattox”

July 22-26, 2015

Join Dr. Richard Sommers, Dr. James “Bud” Robertson, Ed Bearss, Robert E. L. Krick, Lt. Col. Ralph Peters, Chris Calkins, Ted Alexander, and many others as we explore 1864 and 1865 battle sites. Based in Richmond, VA.

“Lincoln”

September 24-27, 2015

Join Ed Bearss, Bob Allen, Dr. Edward Steers, and others with bus tours of Gettysburg, The John Wilkes Booth Escape tour, and sessions by leading Lincoln historians. Based in Chambersburg, PA.

A special Civil War Roundtable discount of 10% off is offered when three or more Civil War Roundtable members register for the complete weekend package at one of the 2015 tours.

For questions call: 717-264-7101 ext. 206.

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is produced September through June and upon request of the Board of Directors.

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

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

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

Contact Paul Eilbes for information: (262) 376-0568.

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

AND SO IT CONTINUES: MAY 1865

MARKING THE CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL

May 1865 It was now three weeks since Grant and Lee met at Appomattox setting in motion the surrender and disbanding of the Army of Northern Virginia. Lincoln had been assassinated and Davis was on the run. People began to start picking up the pieces although they were uncertain how to put things back together. Two Confederate armies still remained. Yet most Southern soldiers were going home, bitter, confused and relieved. Many of the returning soldiers had no home to go back to and looked at resettlement in the west and abroad. In Washington, Radical Republicans were pressing the new president to enforce a vindictive policy for Reconstruction.

May 1, 1865 • President Lincoln's body lay in state in Chicago, en route to burial in Springfield. President Johnson ordered the naming of nine army officers to compose the military commission charged with trying the eight accused assassination conspirators. Federal authorities had ruled that the trial would be held before a military commission rather than a civil court. Davis and his party arrived at Cokesbury, South Carolina, in their continuing flight to avoid capture.

May 2, 1865 • In Alabama, Major General E.R.S. Canby notified Grant that the forces under General Richard Taylor were ready to surrender based on the Appomattox settlement.

President Johnson issued a proclamation accusing Davis and others of inciting the murder of Lincoln and the procurement of the perpetrators. A \$100,000 reward was offered for the arrest of Davis.

Davis was now in Abbeville, South Carolina; guards carrying the Confederate Treasury turned it over to Davis and his Cabinet. Confederate Secretary of the Navy S. R. Mallory officially resigned.

May 3, 1865 • Davis and his party cross the Savannah River, moving to Washington, Georgia. Confederate Secretary of State Judah Benjamin leaves the Davis party and eventually escapes to England.

The Lincoln funeral train reached Springfield, Illinois.

May 4, 1865 • The remains of the sixteenth President, Abraham Lincoln, were interred at Springfield amid pomp and ceremony. Davis continues south through Georgia looking for a way to escape west.

At Citronelle, Alabama, forty miles north of Mobile, General Richard Taylor surrendered the Confederate forces in the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana. Officers and men retained the horses they owned, and the men signed paroles. Taylor was allowed control of railways and steamers to enable the transport of his troops home.

May 5, 1865 • Sherman's troops continued northward heading towards the final Grand Review in Washington. Only the Confederate forces of E. Kirby Smith in the Trans-Mississippi remain of the Southern army.

May 6, 1865 • The Federal War Department, in accordance with an Executive Order, sets up the military commission to try the Lincoln conspirators. Major General David Hunter would head the commission with Brigadier General Joseph Holt acting as judge advocate.

Davis reaches Sandersville, Georgia. Federal cavalry units, in active pursuit of Davis, scour the countryside.

May 8, 1865 • Federal commissioners accept the parole of Richard Taylor's troops in Mississippi, Alabama, and east Louisiana. There was talk of negotiations in the Trans-Mississippi. Throughout the Confederacy small groups or individual soldiers surrendered or just headed home. Paroled Confederates were finding it difficult to get home since the railroads were in poor condition.

May 9, 1865 • President Johnson recognizes Francis H. Pierpont as governor of Virginia. Pierpont headed a Union "restored" state of Virginia in territory held by the Federals during the war. In Arkansas, Brigadier General M. Jeff Thompson considered surrendering his Rebel forces.

In Washington, D.C., at the Old Capitol Prison, the trial of the assassination conspirators begins.

In Georgia, President Davis meets his wife on the Oconee River near Dublin. This was the first meeting between the two since Varina and the children were sent from Richmond before its fall.

May 10, 1865 • In a proclamation President Davis declared that "armed resistance to the authority of this Government in the said insurrectionary States may be regarded as virtually at an end..."

In Spencer County, Kentucky, William Clark Quantrill was fatally wounded near Taylorsville. He would be taken to Louisville for treatment, where he later died.

Near Irwinville, Georgia, the Fourth Michigan Cavalry surprise the Davis encampment early in the morning and capture Davis and his escort. Other officials of the Confederacy were taken into custody elsewhere. The capture of Davis would bring to an end the Confederate government. Davis would be taken to Macon, Georgia, and then to Fort Monroe, Virginia, where he would be imprisoned.

May 11, 1865 • Brigadier General M. Jeff Thompson surrendered the rest of his famous brigade at Chalk Bluff, Arkansas, under the same terms Grant offered Lee. Small groups continue to surrender east of the Mississippi.

May 12, 1865 • The last significant land engagement of the war occurs at Palmito Ranch, Texas. The skirmish would have little bearing on the war, but it was the last fighting between sizeable bodies of men and was a Confederate victory. In Washington, the eight conspirators plead not guilty. The taking of testimony begins. President Johnson appoints Major General O. O. Howard to head the Freedmen's Bureau.

May 13, 1865 • At Marshall, Texas, the Confederate governors of Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and a representative from Texas meet with General E. Kirby Smith to discuss the situation. General Jo Shelby and others, determined to continue the war, threaten Smith with arrest if he suggests surrender.

May 16, 1865 • Davis and other officials were taken down the Savannah River to Port Royal where they board the *William P. Clyde* for Hampton Roads, Virginia.

May 17, 1865 • Major General Philip H. Sheridan was assigned to command west of the Mississippi River and south of the Arkansas River. The appointment would anger many Southerners.

May 20, 1865 • Former Confederate Secretary of the Navy Mallory was arrested at the home of Benjamin H. Hill in LaGrange, Georgia. Mallory was charged with "treason and with organizing and setting on foot piratical expeditions." He was sent to Fort Lafayette in New York and would remain there until his parole in March 1866.

May 22, 1865 • President Johnson removed the blockade from most major Southern ports. Davis is imprisoned at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

May 23, 1865 • The Army of the Potomac, after four long years, marched in its last parade down Pennsylvania Avenue. For the first time since the fall of Fort Sumter, the flag at the White House was at full staff. The first day of the Grand Review would see endless lines of infantry, artillery and cavalry celebrate their last hurrah. It was a day of joy and sadness as the ghosts of thousands of fallen men were remembered.

May 24, 1865 • For a second day troops paraded in review in Washington; these men had marched 6,000 miles and had gained fame as Sherman's "Bummers." The men marching on this day were different than the ones from the previous day. These men had a longer stride, their formations were less formal, and their uniforms more ragged. Sherman's men took pride in being a hard-marching, hard-fighting, independent lot.

Sgt. Barber, Co. C, 15th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Washington, D.C. would write:

The eventful 24th of May dawned bright and beautiful. The heart of every veteran in Sherman's Army beat high in anticipation of the events of the day. We could not doubt our success. The eye of our matchless leader was upon us...Early in the morning the army commenced crossing Long Bridge and moved towards the Capitol grounds, the 14th and 20th Corps in advance. By ten a.m. we were all massed on the grounds south of the Capitol, and prepared to march in review. At the command to move, seventy-five-thousand men in column, with bands playing, drums beating, and colors flying, in exact order and time to the music, marched down Pennsylvania Avenue, saluting our President and commanders as we passed the reviewing stand. For six long hours the steady tramp, tramp, tramp of Sherman's heroes echoed along Pennsylvania Avenue...Though our attire was not as gay as the Potomac Army, yet, we excelled them in appearance. We wore the hard, bronzed visage of war incident upon a march of a thousand miles, fighting day after day, bridging rivers, corduroying swamps that before were deemed impassable...

May 25, 1865 • In Mobile, an explosion in a warehouse containing surrendered Confederate ammunition caused a major fire, threw shrapnel three quarters of a mile, and caused damage estimated at five million dollars. Union Navy Quartermaster John Cooper entered the fire and carried a wounded man to safety on his back earning him a second Medal of Honor.

May 26, 1865 • In New Orleans, Confederate Lt. General Simon Bolivar Buckner, who had surrendered Fort Donelson to Grant in 1862, met with representatives of Major General Canby to surrender the last significant army of the Confederacy. General Jo Shelby and his men, refusing to surrender, would scatter to Mexico, to the Far West, or to their homes.

May 27, 1865 • President Johnson ordered that most political prisoners held by military authorities be released.

May 29, 1865 • General amnesty and pardon was granted – with a few exceptions – by President Johnson to all persons who directly, or indirectly, participated in "the existing rebellion."

Pvt. Jackman, "The Orphan Brigade" was home at last:

This was May 29th. We were all marched – not under guard – to the Provost Marshal's office and there informed that the Kentuckians could not go home unless first taking the amnesty oath and we were "galvanized." I did not care to wait for government transportation by water, so that evening, at 3 o'clock I took the train for Louisville having to pay my passage and at 7 o'clock at night got off at Bardstown Junction. Rather than wait until the following evening for the train, I immediately started on foot up the railroad and got home about 10 a.m. the 30th of May, having been absent 3 years, 8 months, and 4 days.

AND SO IT ENDS AND THE AFTERMATH BEGINS...



Milwaukee Sentinel ***April 8, 1865***
Speech by Vice President Johnson from April 4, 1865 Washington Chronicle

We are now, my friends, winding up a rebellion – a great effort that has been made by bad men to overthrow the government of the United States – a government founded upon free principles and operated by the best stock of the revolution. You must indulge me in making one single remark in connection with myself. At the time that the traitors in the Senate of the United States plotted against the government and wintered into a conspiracy more foul, more execrable, and more odious, than that of Celine against the Romans, I happened to be a member of that body, and as to loyalty, stood solitary and alone among the Senators from the Southern States.

I was then and there called upon to know what I could do with such traitors, and I want to repeat my reply here. I said, if we had an Andrew Jackson, he would hang them as high as Haman, but as he is no more and sleeps in his grave in his own beloved State, where traitors and treason have never insulted his tomb and the very earth that covers his remains, humble as I am and have been, I have pursued but one undeviating course.

All that I have – life, limb and property – have been put at the disposal of the country in this great struggle. I have been in the field; I have been everywhere where this great rebellion was. I have pursued it until I believe I can now see its termination. Since the world began there never has been a rebellion of such gigantic proportions, so infamous in character, so diabolical in motive, so entirely disregardful of the laws of civilized war. It has introduced the most savage model of warfare ever practiced upon the earth...

We now congratulate ourselves that we possess the strongest, the freest and the best government the world ever saw – Thank God that we have lived through this trial and that looking into your intelligent faces here to-day I can announce to you the great fact that Petersburg, the outpost to the strong citadel, has been occupied by our brave and gallant officers and our untiring invincible soldiers!...

In the midst of our rejoicing we must not forget to drop a tear for those gallant fellows who have shed their blood that their government might triumph. We cannot forget them when we view the man-bloody battlefields of the war, the new-made graves our maimed friends and relatives who have left their limbs, as it were, on the enemy's soil and others who have been consigned to their long narrow houses with no winding sheet save their blankets saturated with their blood.

One word more and I have done. It is this, I am in favor of leniency; but in my opinion evil doers should be punished. Treason is the highest crime known in the catalog of crimes and for him that is guilty of it – for him that is willing to lift

his impious hand against the authority of the nation – I would say death is too easy a punishment. My notion is that treason must be made odious; that traitors must be impoverished, their social power broken though; they must be made to feel the penalty of their crime... I hold to that wealthy traitors should be made to remunerate those men who have suffered as a consequence of their crime – Union men who have lost their property, who have been driven from their homes, beggars and wanderers among strangers. It is well to talk about these things here to-day in addressing the well informed persons who compose this audience. You can to a very great extent aid in molding public opinion and in giving it a proper direction.

Let us commence the work. We have put down these traitors in arms.

Let us put them down in law, in public judgment and in the morals of the world.

The Milwaukee Sentinel

April 12, 1865

Grant

In nothing, in our judgment, have the great qualities of Gen. Grant so fully revealed themselves, as in his late correspondence with Gen. Lee, resulting the surrender of the army of the latter.

With an opportunity to still further protract the war which has brought him so much of position and fame and with a chance to minister to his personal vanity, such as was never before offered to a general, by imposing humiliating truce on a fallen foe, binding that foe in fact to his carriage wheels, he yet kept prominent in his whole correspondence the desire for peace and in his terms of surrender remembered only the fraternal Union for which alone legitimately the war had been prosecuted.

No great admirer heretofore of Gen. Grant, the late developments of his military plans and this correspondence following the success of those plans leaves us entirely unable to find fitting terms to express our admiration of him. We dare not and would not seek to displace Washington, by proclaiming Grant "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen" but shall we not be justified in saying, having in view the *pater patrie*, equal in war, equal in peace, and equal in the hearts of his countrymen? For what greater qualities in war or in peace have been manifested then by Grant?

He has handled armies in numbers such as never before were in the control and under the guidance of one mind – his plans have required more co-operations, combinations and separate movements, all concentration to one point and contemplating one end, than were ever before sought or required to be made.

Xerxes led an army of one or two million into Greece, who came back fugitives – and Bonaparte led nearly half a million into Russia – very few of whom ever made it back; which are the only instances in history now in our mind of greater forces led under one head. Grant, however, did not come back unsuccessfully from the enemy's country, his men are not fugitives, everything worked as he willed *and all successfully*.

Is it out of place to call him ever a greater captain than Napoleon? And then comes the crowning act.

Peace is possible without dishonor; union is possible, requiring only the subordination of all personal feelings and personal ambitions; and his voice is for peace and union.

All fame, and honor and gratitude to General Grant.

And there is still another source of great satisfaction. It will be safe to assume that the action of General Grant, if not suggested by President Lincoln is at least not in opposition to his views. They work in harmony. The humor, glory, integrity of the country are all satisfied by the war, and now our rulers and generals give us unmistakable tokens that we are to have a Christian peace and through it, a fraternal Union. *What more as a nation and people, can we desire?*

Madison Wisconsin State Journal

April 13, 1865

From the Nineteenth Regiment
Headquarters 19th Wis. Vol.
Richmond, VA, April 3, 1865

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that we entered the city of Richmond at 8 o'clock this morning. Last night preparations were made to charge the enemy's lines in our front. Daylight found us under arms and prepared for the work assigned us, and our whole Division in motion, our Brigade leading the column. On approaching the enemy's lines, we found that they, considering discretion the better part of valor, had wisely fallen back toward the city abandoning camp, equipage, all their artillery. Our boys were put upon the double quick and went ahead with a will; were soon in sight of the city were met soon after by the Mayor and the city was surrendered to our victorious arms.

I assure you sir that it was a proud day to us. The 19th entered the city singing "John Brown's soul goes marching on." The last of the rebel gunboats was blown up as we entered the city and with it went up the Southern Confederacy. The last of the rebel column passed through the city about one hour in advance of us.

The Confederate armories, arsenals, foundries, and all tobacco ware houses had been fired. The fire has raged furiously up to the present time 4 p.m.- nearly the whole of the city is in ashes.

We are received by all classes more like deliverers than victory, and the curses against Davis and Breckenridge are both loud and deep, the burning of the city having been ordered by them. The houses of the best classes are thrown open to our officers and every courtesy extended to them. A great contrast when compared with our entry into the city of Norfolk nearly three years ago. I am happy to say that the colors of the 19th were the first regimental colors thrown to the breeze in the city, the honor being assigned us, we being the first to enter the city.

Very respectfully
S.K. Vaughn

P.S. Please excuse this hastily written and disjointed communication, as it is written amid heat confusion and the roar of bursting shells, caused by the burning of the rebel works. It surpasses pandemonium itself.

2015 Great Lakes Civil War Forum

"Melt, Melt Away Ye Armies"

September 12, 2015

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. First Speaker at 9:30 a.m.

\$60 Non-members/\$50 Members – includes catered lunch

Register by calling: 262-653-4140

Casualties of War - D. Scott Hartwig

Hartwig's program will examine the impact of a single battle – Gettysburg – on the lives of soldiers who became casualties and their families.

No Such Army Since the Days of Julius Caesar: Sherman's Carolinas Campaign - Eric J. Wittenberg

The program is an overview of General William T. Sherman's 1865 Carolinas Campaign, from the capture of Savannah, Georgia, to the Confederate surrender at Bennett Place in North Carolina.

The Lincoln Funeral Train - Mr. Daniel Carroll Toomey

Toomey will cover the planning and vast amount of logistical resources committed to this event in American history. He will take you on board the Lincoln funeral train as it passes through the major cities in the North to witness firsthand the epic demonstrations of grief that awaited its arrival.

"All Was Not the Same As Before": Civil War Homecomings in Wisconsin - Dr. James Marten

Dr. Marten will explore the ways in which individuals and organizations dealt with the incredible range of effects of the war on veterans and their families.

Wanderings



There are many, many lonely places dotting the Civil War landscape. Some are lonely because travelers and tourists pass them by, blithely unaware that hidden historical gems lie just over the next hill or around the next bend. Other sites are so far off the beaten path that the casual passer-by figures they are not worth the extra time and travel to see them.

As busy as the Shenandoah Valley is, with its I-81 corridor funneling traffic down the Valley towards Washington, D.C. and other points east, it still has many hidden-away jewels for any student of the Civil War. The “Breadbasket of the Confederacy” saw numerous skirmishes and full-scale battles over the course of the war. Both 1862 and 1864 saw significant campaigns until, under Phil Sheridan, the Valley was rendered useless as a source of foodstuffs through a period of time known as “the Burning.”

Several out-of-the-way stops are along the old Valley Turnpike. Turner Ashby, the “Black Knight of the Confederacy,” was Thomas Jackson’s cavalry commander in the 1862 campaign. At times a thorn in Jackson’s puritanical soul, Ashby often provided good intelligence and a formidable fighting presence for Stonewall. When his favorite horse, a white Arabian, was mortally wounded at Mt. Jackson, that horse lived long enough to carry Ashby to safety. When the horse finally collapsed and died, Ashby had him buried at a farm a mile south of the town. Men of Ashby’s command clipped pieces of the horse’s mane and hooves to keep as souvenirs. Henry Kyd Douglas said, “Thus the most splendid horseman I ever knew lost the most splendid war horse I ever saw.” A marker commemorates the location of the burial.



On Chestnut Ridge near Harrisonburg is the Ashby death site. In attempting to set an ambush on the 13th Pennsylvania Reserve, the famous “Bucktails,” he and his men were instead ambushed themselves. With his horse again shot out from beneath him, Ashby shouted, “Forward, my brave men!” A single bullet pierced his heart and laid him low. Surrounded by the sprawl of James Madison University, a simple monument fenced with wrought iron stands alone. It doesn’t receive many visitors, unless the Daughters of the Confederacy stop by to change the flowers that rest on the stone paying homage to Ashby.

A few miles south of Harrisonburg, near the intersection of Cross Keys Road (Highway 276) and State Highway 679, sits the Cross Keys Cemetery at the old Union Church. A simple Virginia Civil War Trails sign alerts the traveler that this spot, a ways off the beaten path, was the scene of some Civil War event. A casual stroll through the ornate cemetery gates leads to several unique headstones. Several are markers for Civil War soldiers who wore grey. A most interesting stone is quite a bit older, and also is quite deformed. The top portion of that headstone was shattered by a cannonball in June of 1862. For it was in this cemetery, among those sleeping their last sleep, that skirmishers of the 15th Alabama awaited the advance of Federals ineptly led by John C. Fremont. Under the command of William C. Oates, whose Little Round Top fame still lay a year ahead of him, the Alabamians were part of Richard Ewell’s command, which had been posted athwart the Port Republic road to prevent Fremont from reinforcing Union troops under James Shields. The Pathfinder had orders to unite his men with the other Union arm, but a somewhat eccentric man named Thomas J. Jackson had a completely different agenda for the Federals near Port Republic. Quiet Union Cemetery, huddled beneath the looming bulk of Massanutten Mountain, was witness to some extraordinary action in June of 1862.



Visit the fence line on the Widow Pence Farm where 548 “Dutchmen” of the 8th New York walked unaware into over 1500 rebel muskets. As the Unionists crested a rise in perfect parade order, Isaac Trimble’s men announced their presence with the clicking back of hammers and a destructive volley that decimated the Federal lines. Visit the South River where Stonewall Jackson’s notoriously “salty” quartermaster John A. Harman built a very temporary bridge on flimsy wagons to transfer needed supplies to the rebel fighting men at Port Republic. Spend some time on the “Shunpike Tour,” an audio driving tour of Valley back-roads that tells the story of citizens who made the Valley their home during the war.

Lonely spots needn’t be missed. Before traveling, do some homework prior to leaving your driveway. Search for Civil War Trails in states that promote them. Check out the website of the Civil War Trust for tips about what to see and do in an area you’ll be visiting. Don’t bypass the many hidden gems and the stories they have to share!

submitted by Dave Wege

Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for May 7, 2015

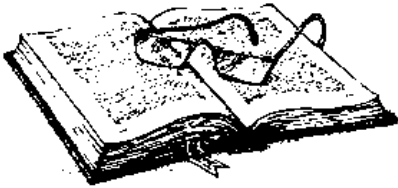
Mail your reservations by Monday, May 4, 2015 to:

Paul Eilbes
1809 Washington Ave
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

ALSO, call in reservations to: Paul Eilbes (262) 376-0568
peilbes@gmail.com

Enclosed is \$ ____ (meal price \$25.00 per person) for ____ reservations for May 7, 2015, meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. (Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

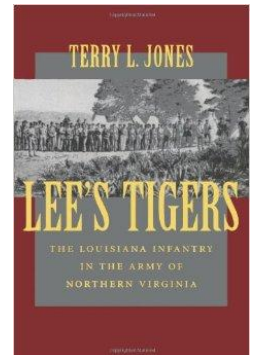
Name of Member _____



BETWEEN THE COVERS

Lee's Tigers: The Louisiana Infantry in the Army of Northern Virginia

by Terry L. Jones



For anyone interested in a quick overview of one of the Civil War's more unique units, this book might be just your cup of coffee. An older copyright, it follows the Louisiana Tigers from their formation at the beginning of the war, through their transition from state troops into units of the regular Confederate army, and into some of war's bloodiest slugfests.

Often maligned as wharf rats and troublemakers, the Tigers were known as fierce fighters both by the enemies in blue and their counterparts in grey. Few rebel units even wanted to be encamped near them! Yet no one less than Stonewall Jackson himself praised their mettle in battle. The following is a quote from Jones' book referring to the Tigers taking a Federal artillery position known as "the Coaling" during the Battle of Port Republic in June of 1862.

"Jackson knew who to thank for his success. Riding up to the (captured Federal) battery 'with an intense light in his eyes,' Jackson looked over the bloody ground surrounding the guns and told the Louisiana Brigade that the five captured pieces would be presented to them as a tribute."

A few paragraphs later, Richard Ewell is quoted in his official report of the battle that to the Tigers belonged *"the honor of deciding two battles – that of Winchester and Port Republic."* As Jones summarizes the Tigers contributions of 1862, *"A more accurate statement would be that the Louisiana Brigade played a key role in almost every major engagement of Jackson's famous Valley Campaign. (They) saved the crucial bridge at Front Royal, cut the Federal column at Middletown, pushed the enemy out of Winchester, and broke the Union flank at Port Republic."*

If Lee's Tigers book has a flaw it is a lack of detail in regards to significant battles. It is, after all, a unit history rather than a battle study. More quick battle overviews are provided, rather than the fuller narrations that many readers enjoy. At Brawner's Farm, the author gives little detail of the Tigers' struggle against the untested 7th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and prematurely labels them as members of Gibbon's Iron Brigade. In the description of the slaughter in the Cornfield and along the Hagerstown Pike at Antietam, little attention is paid to the cause of the Louisianan's destruction on that portion of the battlefield. Perchance that is just bias from a staunch supporter of the Black Hats, however, for those Midwesterners were the lads who poured a destructive fire into the natives of the Pelican State on that September day.

Overall, Lee's Tigers is an enjoyable and easy read. While short on some combat details, it stands as a good account of one of the most respected and feared military units in the annals of the Confederate Army. Though called "the lowest scrapings of the Mississippi," the approximately twelve thousand men who filled the Tigers' ranks served well from their baptism at First Manassas to the closing act at Appomattox.

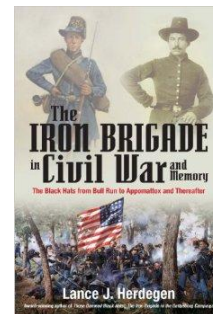
submitted by Dave Wege

The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory

by Lance Herdegen



One of the speakers at the 6th Annual Great Lakes Civil War Forum, held at the Kenosha Civil War Museum on September 11, 2013, was Lance Herdegen. Lance gave a talk on his latest book The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory, which I had to add to my library. I finally got around to reading the book this past December, finishing it in January. I am really sorry I waited so long. The book covers the history of the Iron Brigade from the beginning of the war until the end of the war and follows some of the members back into civilian life as well.



The first book I read on the Iron Brigade was Nolan's fine work on this unit back in the late 60's. Nolan's work is often cited as **the** book on the Iron Brigade but I think after reading this excellent book by Lance, his book should now take over that position. Lance, the recognized expert on this famous unit, builds upon an impressive foundation of fresh primary source material. This work brings the fighting men of the Iron Brigade to life as never before. He follows the brigade from its earliest inception to the surrender at Appomattox. Written in a flowing, narrative style that does not sacrifice detail, this important work is both a definitive history and a pleasure to read. Lance covers the unit history in complete detail. He adds personal stories gleaned from diaries of the unit members. He includes scores of information from previously unpublished letters, a variety of photos, journals and other primary accounts. All this information was unearthed from Mr. Herdegen's research into the Iron Brigade and its members.

Lance carefully and thoughtfully weaves the story showing how the unit was originally put together with the combination of the 2nd, 6th and 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana, Battery B of the 4th US Artillery and finally the 24th Michigan. He develops the story of the units first coming together and their continued growth and binding together in the maelstrom of combat. The reader can follow the storied history of this unit from battle to battle. We are also treated with various camp scenes that show how the typical Civil War unit was occupied between engagements.

Mr. Herdegen shows a skillful insertion of quotes from unit members' diaries and letters to provide the reader with the feel of what it must have been like to fight in the various battles that helped forge the Iron Brigade. The tale flows nicely and holds the reader's interest throughout. He succeeds in bringing the men of the brigade to life. He provides the reader with a clear picture of how the men of the brigade participated in most of the major battles in the Eastern theater and how it impacted their lives and their families.

I highly recommend this book to anyone with an interest in the Iron Brigade, or someone who may be looking to read about unit histories during the Civil War to understand how units were formed and developed. If you can read only one book on the Iron Brigade, this is the book to add to your bookshelf and read from cover to cover.

submitted by Bruce Klem

IN MEMORIAM

We sadly announce the passing of Judith Wildasin, age 66, wife of Ron, a Round Table member since 1986. Judith passed away on March 25th, at home, after a two-year battle with cancer.



Elizabeth Brown Pryor, historian and author of *Reading the Man: A Portrait of Robert E. Lee Through His Private Letters*, was killed on April 14, 2015 when her silver Audi was struck from behind in a high-speed collision in Richmond, Virginia.

Pryor was a highly regarded Civil War historian who recently shared the Lincoln Prize for her book. She served with the U.S. State Department for 20 years and was a top international negotiator there. After graduating from Northwestern University, she joined the U.S. Park Service. Pryor led tours of the Washington Monument as well as serving a tour of duty at Arlington House where she developed her interest in Lee.

Stan Deaton, senior historian at the Georgia Historical Society called Pryor a first-rate scholar and called her death "a tragedy for all who value history and the pursuit of knowledge and the love of the written word."

And flights of angels guide thee to thy rest.



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
(414) 327-2847, dbcpmilw@execpc.com

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

