

# GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

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



June 9, 2016

Dale Phillips

## **"Ben Butler and the Federal Occupation of New Orleans"**

*I was always a friend of southern rights, but an enemy of southern wrongs.*

Benjamin Butler

On May 1, 1862, Union General Benjamin Butler and 5,000 untested Federal soldiers landed at the base of Canal Street and formally took possession of the largest city in the Confederacy, New Orleans. Over the course of the next seven months, under Butler's leadership, control of the city of New Orleans and the lower Mississippi River Valley would become one of the most controversial and complicated episodes of the Civil War. To this day, General Butler's actions are still very much debated.

The New Orleans of 1862 was a city of more than 170,000 people, making it three times larger than the next most populated cities in the Confederacy, Richmond and Charleston. Even though there existed strong pro-Confederate feeling, there was also significant pro-Union support. It was a very diverse population representing all corners of the earth.

Our June speaker's program will center on the specific events of Butler's military governorship. One of Dale's objectives will be to explain the complicated mission given to General Butler, combining both military and civil responsibilities. There was not a more difficult assignment ever given to any other officer on either side during the course of the war.

Dale will examine many of the controversial actions of General Butler including his famous (or infamous) Order 28, the "Woman Order"; his liberal use of Confiscation Acts; his iron-fisted control of the local media; and the execution of William Mumford, a civilian.

The military aspects of Butler's time in New Orleans will also be explored. This will include the creation of one of the first Union African-American regiments, the Louisiana Native Guards, and Butler's actions to move up the Mississippi River in an effort to capture Vicksburg.

Dale will discuss the relationship of General Butler to the Lincoln administration and will conclude his program with an examination of the events that forced Lincoln to remove Butler and replace him with General Nathaniel Banks.

Our Round Table welcomes Dale Phillips back for the second part of his New Orleans presentation. Dale presented "The Capture of New Orleans" at our September 2015 meeting.

A New Jersey native, Dale earned his B.A. in American History from York College of Pennsylvania in 1978. Dale began working for the National Park Service as a seasonal interpreter at Gettysburg in 1976. His permanent career began as a law enforcement ranger for the Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville, Illinois, after which he rejoined the National Park Service as an interpretive ranger. Dale is currently superintendent of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, Illinois.

## **General Orders No. 6-16**

June 2016

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### **June Meeting at a Glance**

#### **Wisconsin Club**

**9<sup>th</sup> and Wisconsin Avenue**

**[Jackets required for the dining room.]**

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

6:45 p.m. - Dinner

**[\$30 by reservation, please]**

Reservations are accepted until

Monday, June 6, 2016

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.**

### **2015-2016 Speaker Schedule**

**June 9, 2016 – Dale Phillips**

**"Ben Butler and the Federal Occupation of New Orleans"**

**Check page 10 for the 2016-2017 Milwaukee Civil War Round Table speaker schedule.**

**[milwaukeeecwrt.org](http://milwaukeeecwrt.org)**

# Civil War Round Table News

## When Reservations are Cancelled

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

## Your Cooperation is Appreciated

“Walk-in dinner” requests are sometimes difficult to honor. Remember, dinner reservations are to be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date. We are always happy to accommodate where possible, but we cannot always guarantee a dinner that evening if you have not called in or emailed your reservation. Thank you for your understanding.

## Special Dietary Needs

We have quite a number of regular members who have opted for special entrees as options to the regular dinner being served. The Wisconsin Club and the Round Table will make every effort to meet any special dietary needs you may have. As a courtesy, **please give a reminder when making your reservations**, so we don't forget to serve you what you're expecting!

## Iron Brigade Flags on Display

If you attend our upcoming meetings, you may notice that something is different. Our usual array of flags (the reproduction Tiffany Iron Brigade flag, the 35-star U.S. flag and Battery B, 4th U.S. artillery guidon) will not be present. The flags have been loaned to the Kenosha Civil War Museum for their new exhibit, “Faces of the Iron Brigade: A Social Network of Soldiers.” The exhibit will be on display at the museum until November 1, 2016.

## FROM YOUR TREASURER

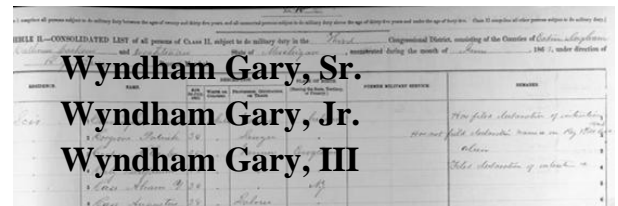
The September *General Orders* will include your dues renewal notice. A postage paid envelope will also be included with the newsletter. Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30, and all memberships come due at this time. Please return your dues promptly; this saves the Round Table the cost of sending out further reminders.

Thank you for being a member of our Round Table!

## THANKS FOR ANOTHER GREAT CAMPAIGN!

Have a relaxing, safe, and enjoyable summer. Remember to invite friends and acquaintances to come and enjoy the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, which remains one of southeast Wisconsin's best-kept secrets and monetary values! If you are unable to make the June meeting, then “Huzzah and Well-Met” until the group reconvenes on September 8, 2016.

## The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS



NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE OF EXIT	DATE OF RE-ENTRY	DATE OF RE-EXIT	DATE OF RE-ENTRY	DATE OF RE-EXIT
Wyndham Gary, Sr.									
Wyndham Gary, Jr.									
Wyndham Gary, III									

## MCWRT Annual Fund

The following members have made a generous commitment to the MCWRT by investing in that fund. This list reflects those donations made from July 1 through November 13, 2015.

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

#### Patron (\$200 - \$499)

Crain Bliwas, Stephen Leopold, Grant Johnson, Robert Parrish

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

Paul Eilbes, Bill Finke, Randall Garczynski, Van & Dawn Harl, David L. Jordan, Jim & Ann Reeve, David & Helga Sartori, Dennis Slater, Paul Sotirin, Wisconsin Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission

#### Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, T. James Blake, John & Linda Connelly, Tom Corcoran, Dr. Gordon Dammann, Michael Deeken, Bob Dude, Lori Duginski, Gary and Judith Ertel, Ted Fetting, Richard Gross, Richard Heaps, Tim and Nicole Hirthe, Dr. Erwin Huston, Eugene and Jane Jamrozy, Christopher E. Johnson, Dr. Robert Karczewski, Allan Kasprzak, Ardis Kelling, Jerome Kowalski, Jay Lauck, Fredric Madsen, Jerry & Donna Martynski, Rodney W. Malinowski, M.D., Kenneth & Mary Ellen Nelson, Herbert Oechler, Tom Olsen, Laura Rinaldi, John Rodahl, Chet Rohn, Jean Schwonek WE Energies Foundation (Gift Match) Dan Tanty, Gil Vraney, Fred Wendorf

## BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

At the May 12, 2016 meeting of the Round Table the following members were elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms ending in May 2019:

Donna Agnelly	Tom Arliskas	Roman Blenski
Crain Bliwas	Paul Eilbes	

## Editor's Note:

As we wrap up another season I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership and board for the privilege of doing the *General Orders*. A very special thanks to Dave Wege, the other half of this collaborative team, who takes the content I send him and makes everything fit in the layout, as well as providing additional material. Thank you to Bruce Klem, our resident book reviewer, to Jim Johnson and Terry Arliskas for providing such wonderful material for the From The Field section, to Peter Jacobsohn for sharing some wonderful Civil War documents and to Jim Heinz for keeping me posted on Civil War related events and interesting nuggets of information. Now, for a brief hiatus and then, in fine Wisconsin tradition, Forward!



In June 1956, Kenneth P. Williams talked to the Round Table about "Buell's Advance on Chattanooga."

C. George Extrom was our Round Table speaker in June 1964 speaking on "Joe Bailey and the Red River Dam."

"White Opposition to Black Migration into Civil War Wisconsin" was the topic of Edward Noyes' presentation to our Round Table in June 1974.

In June 1994, Stacy Dale Allen discussed "Was Bragg Guilty at Shiloh?"

Mark Bradley was our featured speaker in June 2004 speaking on "I Rely Upon Your Good Judgment and Skill: The Command Partnership of Robert E. Lee and Joseph E. Johnston in 1865."

"The War in Appalachia" was the subject of Kenneth W. Noe's talk in June 2014."

At last year's June meeting, Garry Adelman spoke to the Round Table on "4D Civil War Photography Extravaganza."

## **SUMMER ATTRACTIONS**

### **CIVIL WAR SURGEON ARCHIBALD S. MAXWELL**

**Thurs, June 2, 2016, Noon**

**presenter: George C. Maxwell, Esq.**

George C. Maxwell, Esq., great-great-great grandson of Dr. Archibald S. Maxwell discusses the part that Dr. Maxwell played in two volunteer medical missions sent by the citizens of Davenport, Iowa to provide medical aid and assistance to wounded and sick soldiers following the Battles of Fort Donelson and Shiloh. He will discuss how the city's citizens organized to support the medical aid missions, what conditions Dr. Maxwell and others reported finding, and what Dr. Maxwell and others did to treat the wounded and sick soldiers.

### **TEACHING THE CIVIL WAR**

**Thursday, July 21, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

This one-day seminar utilizes the resources and collections of the Civil War Museum as well as successful programs developed by teachers to provide a framework for teaching the Civil War in the classroom. Program topics include: techniques for teaching slavery and the Underground Railroad; using living history presentations in the classroom; the power of primary sources and museum objects; and destinations for Civil War field trips.

\$40/\$30 Friends of the Museum

**[milwaukeeecwrt.org](http://milwaukeeecwrt.org)**

## **Kenosha Civil War Museum Second Friday Lunchbox Series**

The series is a free program sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and Iron Brigade Association.

### **The 19th Indiana Color Guard at Gettysburg**

**Friday, June 10, 2016 Noon**

**presenter: Phil Spaugy**

The 19th Indiana fought alongside the other four regiments of the Iron Brigade at the Battle of Gettysburg on July 1, 1863, losing 72 percent of those engaged. Mr. Spaugy's talk encompasses both the morning and afternoon phases of the action with an emphasis on telling the stories of the men of the 19th who carried the regimental colors on that fateful day.

### **A Visit with Jennie Wade's Mother**

**Friday, June 24, 2016, Noon**

**presenter: Connie Hansen**

Come listen to the story of one woman who lived through the Battle of Gettysburg, from day one to its conclusion. Feel her fears, take her hand, and walk those very streets.

### **The 19th Illinois and its Colorful Commander,**

**Colonel John B. Turchin**

**Friday, July 8, 2016, Noon**

### **Fighting Dick Anderson: Lee's Most Maligned General**

**Friday, August 12, 2016**

**presenter: Lawrence Hewitt**

Heretofore unknown, overlooked, ignored, or deliberately distorted facts will be revealed regarding Anderson's character and career. Examples of where historians have maligned him out of ignorance, prejudice, or in order to enhance the reputation of other officers, including Williamsburg and the Seven Days' Battles will be covered in detail.



### **The Fight at the Barricades**

**Saturday, June 11, 2016, 1 p.m.**

**presenter: Phil Spaugy**

As part of the "Salute to Freedom" weekend, Phil Spaugy will talk about the "Last Stand" of the Iron Brigade at Gettysburg.

### **A SALUTE TO FREEDOM**

**Saturday, June 11, 2016 – 10 am – 4 pm**

**Sunday, June 12, 2016 – 11 am – 3 pm**

Celebrate some of the finest Civil War soldiers of the Midwest – the famous Iron Brigade. March, cook and drill with these men and find out what made them truly "giants in battle."

**Salute to Freedom is a free family event.**



# FROM THE FIELD

## 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" inditing 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 Carrolton, a suburb of New Orleans. How it came here and when is of little matter, when I saw we are well situated for health and comfort. Some few deaths have occurred since we came here, but they were old cases and the disease should be laid to other climates than this. 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. Regimental and company inspection are the order of the day here, and the results is the boys present with their new uniforms and burnished arms and accoutrements quite a "Home Guard" appearance, and any person who had known us two months ago would fail to recognize in the precise soldier the fellow whose then whole earthly possessions were his arms and ammunition and canteen and haversack. 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. And I am happy to be able to say that the city papers gave our brigade of the whole 13th army corps the preference for appearance, and the mention that Gen. McGinnis who had one regiment of regulars in our brigade and as the 29th is the only regiment that dress like regular soldiers and carry the only national flag our regiment is, of course, meant.

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, became 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. The corps has been under "light marching orders" during the last three weeks, and are to carry 100 rounds of ammunition. We have assurances that when we get off the boats, as we move part of the distance that way, we are to march ten days and then go into comfortable quarters, but we have suspicion that where we are to bring up is now occupied by Southern copperheads. Probably we shall go into Texas, and that we will be successful is about as sure as anything can be in the future. New Orleans is an old looking city, its streets and buildings being a mixture of every style of architecture practiced in the United States, Spain and 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 equals the best in Milwaukee. The famed St. Charles hotel is not quite ahead of and up to the Newhall, either in external appearance, and certainly not in management. The inhabitants are about satisfied that the Yankees are an institution to remain with them, and the ladies have lost that venom they once possessed and exercised by spitting upon our men while riding together in the street cars. They may thank our universal nation for this correction of bad feeling. Vessels of all nations are seen at the levee, and most kinds of business thrive prosperously. Goods of all kinds sell at reasonable prices, and fruit, such as lemons and oranges, can be had at so cheap a consideration, that a Northerner cannot appreciate them when he pays his regular dime for either. Hereafter letters will reach us by directing them to the company and regiment, First Brigade, Third Division, and Thirteenth Army Corps.

- Random





### The 29th Regiment:

At last accounts the 29th regiment was at Brashear City, Louisiana. Two magnificent stands of colors have lately been presented by the State to this Regiment. We learn from the Watertown Republican that the flags are both made of silk, of the very best quality, elegantly mounted, and are really beautiful. On one is painted the coat of arms of the State, and the name of the Regiment, and on the other is inscribed the words, "Grand Gulf – Port Gibson – Champion Hill – Siege of Vicksburg – Jackson," indicating the various battles in which the 29th has borne its full and honorable share. The regiment, when it left the State, we believe did not receive its colors, but the magnificence of those with which it is now presented will make ample reparation for the delay. The boys deserve this remembrance at the hands of the State they are representing in the Grand Army of the Union. May the broad ample folds of the proud banners which they are destined to carry in this battle field be kept unsullied, and may the gallant soldiers of the 29th long live to enjoy the honors they have earned in their country's service.



### Home

Lieut. Wm. K. Barney, of Co. "I", 29th Regt. returned home last Tuesday looking hearty and well and feeling just as good as of old. His friends here, which are neither few nor far between, gave him a good old fashioned greeting such as made him feel a heap "better as food". The Lieut. was with his Reg. and led his company in the hard fought battles in the "siege of Vicksburg" and earned on the bloody field a name for cool self-possession and bravery which he may well be proud of. We are glad to see him wear his honor so gracefully and only wish he may live to a patriarchal age to enjoy them. We also see many familiar faces of privates who have come home "on furloughs" from the department of the Mississippi, to rest, recuperate and have a good time generally with their families, friends, and sweethearts. They all feel good over the recent splendid victories which they have helped to achieve to the Union cause. We notice they are all down just alike on copperheads and the whole retinue of whining, dropping dog's tail style of peace politicians, who are afraid of violating their own cowardly constitution if they should go and fight for our country as these men have done. Julius Gould Orderly Sergeant of Co. "I", 29th Reg. is at home suffering pretty severely from a wound in his left arm and shoulder, received in the fight at Champion Hills on the approach of Grant's army to Vicksburg. He is doing well, and will, as soon as he is able, return to his regiment.

## **MORE Area Civil War Events for This Summer!**

**June 4-5, 2016**

**Reedsburg, WI**

**"Civil War Life on the Homefront"**

Reedsburg Area Historical Society's Pioneer Log Village E7882 WI Hwy. 23

**June 25-26, 2016**

**Green Bay, WI**

**Civil War Reenactment**

On the Fox River, Heritage Hill State Historical Park is transformed into a battleground for the battles of 1865.

**July 4, 2016**

**Wade House, Greenbush, WI**

**Fourth of July Celebration**

Celebrate our nation's birth as they did in the 1860's.

**July 9-10, 2016**

**Wauconda, Illinois**

**"Civil War Days"**

Events held at the Lake County Discovery Museum include appearances by Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth and President and Mrs. Lincoln plus a re-creation of the Summer Fair. Large battles held each day.

**July 16-17, 2016 Old Falls Village, Menomonee Falls, WI**

**Civil War Encampment, Battle and Ice Cream Social**

Battle at 2 p.m. each day with skirmishes and training events taking place all weekend. On Saturday, 10:30 a.m. there will be an Old Fashioned Parade. **Admission:** Adults \$6, Children 12 and under \$2, Children under 5 are free. Free Parking.

## **AND a Non-Civil War Super Patriotic Event for This Summer!**

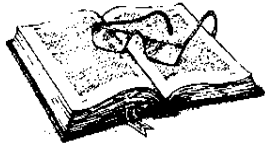
**August 13, 2016 Lakeside Park, Fond du Lac, WI**

**Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team Games**



Games times are yet to be determined, but **two games** will be played. Admission for this event is **FREE!** A 50/50 raffle and silent auction are planned. Extra bleachers are being brought in, but bring a lawn chair. In 2012 over 4,000 fans attended the WWAST games! Two Wisconsin veterans are members of the WWAST. **If you would like more information as the date approaches, contact Dave Wege at (920)979-8652 or [wega1862@gmail.com](mailto:wega1862@gmail.com).**

The WWAST represents some of our nation's bravest and most determined heroes, soldiers and veterans. These men have sustained severe injuries resulting in amputation, and through extensive rehabilitation, they have become competitive athletes again, playing against able-bodied teams in exhibition games across the country.



# BETWEEN THE COVERS

## A Brotherhood of Valor:

The Common Soldiers of the Stonewall Brigade, C.S.A. and the Iron Brigade, U.S.A.

by Jeffry Wert

*A Brotherhood of Valor* was the book the Media Club of the Civil War Museum chose for their March meeting. The book was chosen because of the new exhibit on the Iron Brigade that opened in January and will run until November. In this work, Mr. Wert does a side-by-side comparison between two of the most famous fighting units in each Eastern army – Union and Confederate. Often times during the war the units were fighting against one another during the same battle. The brigades, although fighting on the same field, were generally not in direct attack with each other.

Mr. Wert's focus is on the comments of the individual soldier as opposed to the leaders of each unit. However, he did highlight the unit commanders at both the brigade and regimental level. His focus on the brigades is done in an overview format and did not dwell on the details of each engagement the units fought in. If the focus had been on the details of each engagement the book would have been much longer.

One of the contrasts between these two units is that, in the case of the Stonewall Brigade, the makeup of the regiments was of men whose descendants had been in the country for a long time and had established roots in this country. Surprisingly, most of those regiments were from counties in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley that eventually left the Confederacy to become part of West Virginia. In contrast, many of the members of the Iron Brigade were relatively newly arrived immigrants to this country; they were also from three different states.

Each of the brigade's startup was marked by the leadership of a single commander. In the case of the Stonewall Brigade, the unit received its moniker from its first commander, General "Stonewall" Jackson. The moniker was gained in one of the first major battles of the Civil War – the First Battle of Bull Run. The Iron Brigade, on the other hand, received its name for action at Turner's Gap in the Battle of South Mountain. The stamp of discipline upon the unit and its combat strength came as a result of the rigorous training its second commander put the troops through. That man was General John Gibbon. It was under Gibbon's guidance and tutelage that the unit learned what was required to function in combat and instilled the pride that was vital to the brigade becoming the best combat brigade in the Army of the Potomac.

One of the big contrasts between the two brigades is the factor of desertion rates. In looking at the numbers provided by the author it is evident that the Stonewall Brigade suffered from an unusually high rate of desertion. As a result, the unit lost many men on the way to each battle and as a consequence, had a reduced combat effectiveness when it got to the battlefield. Desertion seemed to be a continuous issue with the Stonewall Brigade. The Iron Brigade, on the other hand, while experiencing some desertions, had a desertion rate that paled by comparison to the Stonewall Brigade. It was never a factor in the unit.

Mr. Wert also provides, in this book, an excellent source of information on each brigade. In the appendix, he breaks down the complete makeup of the brigades, showing brigade commanders, regimental commanders, individual company information and artillery unit information assigned to both brigades.

The book was generally well received by the Media Club members and most believed it was as interesting overview for the two units. Obviously, both Alan Nolan and Lance Herdegen provide much more detailed information on the Iron Brigade. I'm not sure which author does the same for the Stonewall Brigade but there are a number of books available on that subject.

I recommend this book to anyone who wants to pick up a quick read and receive an excellent overview of two extraordinary unit's histories in the Civil War.

submitted by Bruce Klem

## 9TH ANNUAL GREAT LAKES CIVIL WAR FORUM

### **Heroes Tried and True: The Iron Brigade**

Saturday, September 10, 2016, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm \$60/\$50 Friends of the Museum

#### **Featured Speakers:**

**Erik Mink:** Molding a Legend: The Iron Brigade and the Summer 1862 Occupation of Fredericksburg, Va.

**Tom Clemens:** Black Hats Memories of Antietam

**Lance Herdegen:** Four Long Hours

**James Hibbard:** Iron Brigade Chaplain: The Story of Samuel and Catharine Eaton

## The Call of the Carter House Leads to Much, Much More!!!



Little did I know back on February 10, 2000 that it would take me sixteen long years to make my way to the Carter House in Franklin, TN. That night the esteemed Civil War historian Thomas Y. Cartwright awed the members of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee with the tale of one Theodrick (Tod) Carter within the story of the horrific five hour slaughter known as the Battle of Franklin (Nov. 30, 1864). I so remember Cartwright's account of five front-line Confederate generals all falling within the first two hours of the battle, the virtual destruction of an entire Corps (unprecedented in previous Civil War battles), the bullet-riddled Carter House, and, of course, the unbelievable story of Tod Carter.

I purchased a book from Mr. Cartwright that evening, as he had authored one of the essays in it. (*A Meteor Shining Brightly: Essays on Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne* Edited by Mauriel Phillips Joslyn). Cartwright signed the copy with these words:

**Feb. 10, 2000 Milwaukee, Wis To John, I hope that you always feel welcome to the Carter Home in Franklin, Tennessee. You always have a home in Franklin at the Carter House.**

**Respectfully, Thomas Y. Cartwright**

As a book junkie and collector of autographed editions of all types of history books- I had never seen such a detailed and passionate signing and I never got it totally out of my mind. But busy schedules and Civil War travels that always tended to end up in the dominant Eastern Theater (sound familiar?) kept me from going due south. Finally, this past year, a lecture by Timothy Smith in Kenosha highlighting the Battle of Shiloh (*Conquer or Perish*) reminded me of the struggle in Tennessee. I again stumbled upon Cartwright's words. THE CARTER HOUSE WAS CALLING!!!

When I got to Carter House on a balmy early spring day, I discovered that the Battle of Franklin Trust was not only administering the Carter House as a fee attraction, but also the Lotz House, the near-by Carnton Plantation, and the McGavock Confederate Cemetery- all on one ticket. I also learned that Thomas Cartwright was still giving tours, but had relocated to the Lotz House!

**The Carter House:** The numerous bullet holes on the outside of the house and the adjacent buildings greet visitors to the property which would become the epicenter for the horrific Battle of Franklin.. Inside the visitor center is the permanent exhibit "Tod's Story." Confederate Captain **Theodrick "Tod" Carter**, who had fought for three long years, twenty-four years old and middle son of patriarch Fountain Branch Carter, would find himself shot nine times in the vegetable garden of his boyhood home. He would die a couple of days later in his own bed. The newest artifact to the exhibit (Jan. 2016) is the actual pass that Tod was given to go home a few days before the battle (however he decided to rejoin his brigade and fight and die). Wow!

Interpreter Mike Eaton gave a fantastic explanation of the battle on the back porch and then took us into the basement of the house where the members of the Carter and Lotz families huddled together during some of the most intense fighting of the Civil War. Chairs with the survivors' names and ages (mostly children) are set up. One of the children said that for over five hours it was so loud she couldn't hear herself scream. That child was purportedly a budding six-year-old artist named **Matilda Lotz** who lived across the street from the Carters.

**The Lotz House:** Across the street from the Carter House, the Lotz House Museum is now rated the #1 attraction in Franklin. Johann Lotz, a German immigrant built his house as a model for his construction business and much of the interior is original. His family would leave for the Carter basement when "hell broke loose" on November 30, 1864. Dented and blood-soaked floors are still found in the house.

However, the most amazing story was that of little Matilda, the young girl who was paralyzed with fear in the basement and walked home later that day over the bodies of hundreds of soldiers. Her story is told brilliantly by Cartwright and J.T. Thompson. We were taken to her bedroom and shown her early etchings of her beloved animals (all killed in the battle) and told about her subsequent immigration to California (the KKK chased her family from Franklin in the late 1860's), her training at the Paris Art Academy, artistic career as a single woman, trips to Egypt, and being caught up as a refugee in central Europe during World War II! The Lotz House has recently purchased a number of this resilient woman's paintings for their collection. Her resiliency was most likely born on that very violent night.

**Carnton Plantation and McGavock Confederate Cemetery:** A recent addition to the Franklin battlefield, the plantation porch was where the bodies of a number of the deceased Confederate generals and other high-ranking officers were laid after the battle. This included **Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne**, the iconic Irish-born general who was considered to be the most capable division commander in the Confederate army and very likely a possible leader in the post-war South.

Cartwright and other skillful interpreters are also available to give complete Battle of Franklin tours. These include the Cotton Gin House Site and Park (the newest addition thanks to the Civil War Trust) where the Confederate breakthrough was made, during which General Patrick Cleburne was killed and General John Bell Hood's dream of a Confederate victory also died.

Thomas Y. Cartwright gave me an offer on a dark, cold night sixteen years ago! He said that I would feel welcomed if I came down to Franklin Tennessee. It was much, much, more than that! I can't wait to go again and learn more human interest stories that were launched from this very bloody battle in the bloodiest conflict in our history.

submitted by MCWRT member John Rodahl



### Civil War Era Letter – June 1, 1864.

*From Mother to wounded soldier son in hospital in Washington saying they hear lots of rumors about his wounds but they trust in what he tells them. She is happy about the good care he is receiving and tells how the Ladies Aid (she is the Vice-President) is making and sending things for the comfort of the sick and wounded. Recommends, when able, he visit the White House and Mount Vernon where our noble Washington lies, they will be green spots in your memory when old age shall sprinkle your head with grey.*

Our Dear boy

Yours of may 27 was just handed to me by Chas Lott, I'll assure you I was right glad to get it. We have been very anxious about you, various reports are in circulation here as regards your wounds, but believing you did not dicivow us about them we gave them little heed, knowing that at the best they were bad enough, it affords me much satisfaction to know you have the comforts, and delicases a sick person needs. I am vice-president of the Ladies aid, your letter will be a testimony that the efforts made by us are used for the comfort of the sick and wounded, we have sent a box and a barrel since the battle, and have two more ready to send. Paul Stillwell is wounded in the arm, is in the hospital in Washington. I don't remember which. Mrs. Kellog was here to day has not heard from Had since the 8th day of the battle then he was all right. we heard to day that they had a battle Friday and Saturday. Grant drove Lee into Richmond. Grant was within 4 hours march of Richmond . I have only to say All hail. May God guide the arm of our leader aright. We sent you \$5, last Thursday, it is raining hard, have not got our corn planted yet only one piece below the wagon house, expect to plant the other tomorrow. Jo Shannon is very poorly, it is doubtful whether he gets well. Setser is sick he looks bad, a good many think he never can get well. Armine is sick also, she was taken the same day he was. old Mrs. Holleback is dead was buried last Friday. also Angie Mowry and Mrs. Ancel Gay. Your father and Jim have been going \_\_\_\_\_ about farming this spring. it has been so wet there has been but little chance to do any thing. have sowed fifteen or sixteen acres of oats, shall plant about 9 acres of corn and potatoes are milking 12 cows two more to come in, we are all quite well.

now John be careful in a measure your life is in your own hands if you have good nursing, with the blessing of God, you will soon be well, but I hope long ere that the emblem of peace will be hovering over all our land.

I am reading the trials and suffering of a yankee soldier wounded in \_\_\_\_\_, his \_\_\_\_\_ allowance of corn, bread and stinking meat – how he picked the maggots out and \_\_\_\_\_ them till his starved stomach heaved in disgust. it is called "Yankee over the lines" if you are able to get out try to get a pass to go to the white house, if you can get to the cupola, you will see where my father kept a young lady from going through. she was foolish enough to think she could run across. if you could find some one that was acquainted to visit there with you, and Mount Vernon would be another nice place to visit there our noble Washington lies. They will be green spots in your memory when old age shall have sprinkled your head with grey.

I hasten to answer this thinking you might get before you left the children are all looking for you. Gilbert says he is going after "non" with Lizi hoping soon to see you. I will bid good night put your trust in God he is able to do more than man can do. adieu father & mother. Your father wants you to write just how you are wounded, the full particulars. write soon the little girls are getting fans and piecing a quilt for the aid society.

*submitted by Peter Jacobsohn*



*Through the Looking Glass* features are intended to tell the stories of common folks of the Civil War, whether they are civilians or military personnel. If you have access to the story of an ordinary Wisconsin citizen of this war-torn era, and are willing to share it with our Round Table, please consider submitting it to Donna Agnelly, editor of our General Orders. Thank you!



**CIVIL WAR MUSEUM  
NASHVILLE/MIDDLE TENNESSEE TOUR  
OCTOBER 23-26, 2016**

**Registrations**

Museum Member:	Non-Member:
\$670 per person double occupancy	\$715 per person double occupancy
\$850 per person single occupancy	\$895 per person single occupancy

Tour Cost Includes: Hotel room for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights; all lunches and dinners; all motor coach services; Tour Guides; park admission fees; evening programs. All breakfasts are on-your-own (hotel offers a complimentary breakfast)

Tour Base Hotel: Holiday Inn Express, 1111 Airport Center Dr., Nashville, TN 37214

Transportation from home to base hotel is the responsibility of the tour attendee. Flights should be arranged through Nashville International Airport.

Reservations for the trip can be made by mail, in person at the Kenosha Public Museum, or by phone at 262-653-4140 with a credit card.

**For complete details please contact the museum.**



**MORE CIVIL WAR NEWS**

**PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK**

On March 22, 2016, Pamplin Historical Park announced the installation of a compelling exhibit that will remain on permanent display. The new exhibit is housed in the Park's Battlefield Center, and features the very pistol carried on April 2, 1865 by Captain Charles Gould of the 5th Vermont Infantry. Captain Gould is generally credited with being the first Union soldier over the earthworks during the historic attack.

The pistol was acquired this past winter as part of the permanent collection at Pamplin Historical Park. The exhibit opened Saturday, April 2 as part of the activities for the Park's annual Breakthrough Battle Anniversary. All exhibits and special anniversary activities were open to the public and included with Park admission.

Visitors can also see a new monument on the battlefield dedicated to the North Carolina soldiers who opposed the Vermonters on that pivotal day.

Designated as a National Historic Landmark, Pamplin Historical Park & The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier is a 424-acre Civil War campus located in Dinwiddie County, Virginia. The Park has four world-class museums and four antebellum homes. The Park is also the site of The Breakthrough Battlefield of April 2, 1865 and America's premier participatory experience, Civil War Adventure Camp.

For more information call 804-861-2408 or visit [www.pamplinpark.org](http://www.pamplinpark.org).

**2016 CHAMBERSBURG CIVIL WAR SEMINARS & TOURS**

**Gettysburg Day 3 & Beyond**

**July 27-31**

With Ed Bearss, Jeff Wert, Carol Reardon, Eric Wittenberg, Wayne Motts, Steven French, and others. Tours of Gettysburg off the beaten path, East Cavalry Field, the Retreat, and more. Based in Chambersburg, PA.

**Lincoln at Gettysburg**

**September 22-25**

Featuring Joe Mieczkowski, John Schildt, David T. Dixon, Ed Steers, and others. Includes bus tour following Lincoln's path to giving the Gettysburg Address, sessions on the sixteenth president, and tour of Civil War sites in Harrisburg. Based in Chambersburg, PA.

Further information can be found at: [www.civilwarseminars.org](http://www.civilwarseminars.org)

There is a special Civil War Round Table discount of 10% off when three or more members from the same Round Table register for a complete weekend package.

Questions can be directed to: **Lark Plessinger, Program Coordinator**  
**717-264-7101 ext, 206**

## ~ CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS ~

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

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

### **It's Never Too Early to Plan for Next Year!**

#### **MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

##### **2016-2017 SPEAKER SCHEDULE**

**September 8, 2016**

Steve Quick  
The CSS H.L. Hunley

**October 13, 2016**

Lance Herdegen  
Nevens-Freeman Award Winner

**November 10, 2016**

Dave Connon  
Iowa Copperheads

**December 8, 2016**

Bjorn Skaptason  
Ambrose Bierce at Shiloh

**January 12, 2017**

Richard Sommers  
Lessons in Leadership in the Petersburg Campaign

**February 9, 2017**

Bob O'Neil  
Stuart's Christmas Raid of 1862

**March 9, 2017**

Paul Kahan  
Simon Cameron, Lincoln's First Secretary of War

**April 13, 2017**

Diane Smith  
Command Conflict in the Overland Campaign

**May 11, 2017**

Father Robert Miller  
TBA

**June 8, 2017**

Donald Sender  
Custer and the Little Big Horn Campaign

***Speakers remain subject to change.  
More information will follow.***

### **Dear Fellow Civil War Round Table Members and Historians**



The Franklin Civil War Round Table (FCWRT) is excited to announce The Battle of Franklin Symposium scheduled for October 21-23, 2016, presented by the Battle of Franklin Trust (BOFT). The BOFT manages two of the most iconic Franklin battlefield sites, The Carnton Plantation and The Carter House which will be included in this event.

**Symposium proceeds are designated for the preservation and protection of the Carter House Farm outbuildings.** *A portion of your ticket will be tax deductible as a donation to this cause.*

Panel discussions, tours and lectures will be a part of the weekend as well as a review of significant reclaimed areas of the battlefield. As you know, Franklin has some of the bloodiest ground of the Civil War and was the climax of General John Bell Hood's failed 1864 Tennessee Campaign.

We ask all of our Round Table friends and constituents around the United States to consider attending this exciting event. For registration and additional event information go to: [www.boft.org](http://www.boft.org). Scroll down to "special events." Space is limited to 55 people.

The Battle of Franklin ground itself continues to be reclaimed with the fully interpreted Eastern Flank Battlefield and the recently preserved ground on Carter Hill. If you haven't visited Franklin in the last few years, you are in for a very pleasant surprise. What had been lost to houses and industry is now evolving in what Jim Lighthizer of the Civil War Trust referred to as a "preservation miracle."

We hope to meet many of you in October. Feel free to email me at: [gregwade55@yahoo.com](mailto:gregwade55@yahoo.com) if I can be of further assistance.

**Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.  
2016-2017 Officers and Board of Directors**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Office/Position</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Van Harl	President	2017
Grant Johnson	Acting First Vice-President/Past President	2018
Thomas Arliskas	Second Vice-President	2019
Paul A. Eilbes	Treasurer/Membership	2019
Terry Arliskas	Secretary	
Donna Agnelly	Editor, <i>General Orders</i>	2019
Mike Benton	Member	2017
Roman Blenski	Quartermaster	2019
Crain Bliwas	Member	2019
A. William Finke	Member	2017
James J. Heinz	Member	2017
Bruce Klem	Member	2018
Daniel Nettesheim	Member	2018
Frank Risler	Program Chair	2018
Tom Thompson	Member	2018
David Wege	Layout, <i>General Orders</i>	2017

*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 submission to **Donna Agnelly, Editor**, 420 Racine St. Unit 110, Waterford, WI 53185 or email [dagnelly@tds.net](mailto:dagnelly@tds.net) or [donnaagnelly@gmail.com](mailto: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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*General Orders* design & layout by Dave Wege.

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.

## Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for June 9, 2016

Mail your reservations by Monday, June 6, 2016 to:

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

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

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (meal price \$30.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for June 9, 2016,  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

## 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](mailto:dbcpmilw@execpc.com)

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

