

# GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

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



December 9, 2021

Dennis Doyle

## Illinois Regiments at Gettysburg

*Illinois sent 239 regiments and batteries to the Union Army during the Civil War. Over 1000 men from Illinois fought at Gettysburg. About 140 (14%) became casualties. There are three Illinois monuments on the Gettysburg battlefield, honoring the 1 Illinois infantry regiment and portions of 2 cavalry regiments that fought there.*

Gettysburgstonesentinels.com

At our December meeting we welcome Dennis Doyle as our featured speaker. Dennis will be focusing on the important role that Midwestern troops played during the Gettysburg Campaign, why they volunteered to serve in the Union Army, the leadership, tactics and strategy used by the Illinois Regiments during the three day battle at Gettysburg and the important function that ethnic construction provided to the Union Army (AOP) and the 11th Corp (which of course has many Wisconsin soldiers).

Dennis holds a master's degree in Sociology from DePaul University and a master's degree in Civil War history from American Public University. He earned his BA in history from Colorado State University. He is a history and sociology professor at Joliet Junior College in Joliet, Illinois. Dennis also teaches a course on the History of the Civil War at JJC, one of the few community colleges in the U.S., that offers this course with transfer credit. Dennis is also the Director of New Faculty Training at JJC. He is the current President of the South Suburban Civil War Round Table (Frankfort, Illinois) and is the current Treasurer of the Chicago Civil War Round Table. He has presented at numerous museums, Civil War Round Tables and libraries on the Civil War.

Mark your calendar and join us as we welcome Dennis Doyle to our Round Table and celebrate the start of the holiday season.



## General Orders No. 12-21

December 2021

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### December Meeting at-a-Glance Country Club of the Wisconsin Club 6200 Good Hope Road

[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, December 6, 2021

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.

### 2021-2022 Speaker Schedule

Find the speaker schedule on page 6.

[www.milwaukeeecwrt.org](http://www.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!

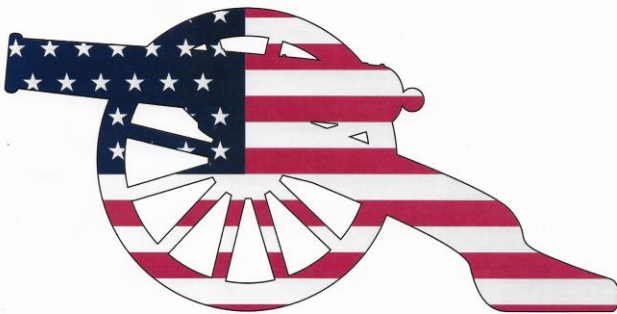
## Your Cooperation is Appreciated

"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!

## Civil War Museum of Delafield



**"Soft Opening"**

**Friday Dec. 3rd**

**4PM - 7PM (wine & cheese)**

**Saturday Dec. 4th 11AM - 3PM**

**528 Wells Street Suite F**

**(behind Wheel & Sprocket)**

## The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

NAME	DATE	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF BIRTH	PREVIOUS MILITARY SERVICE	REMARKS
Bob Brown					
Kevin Lonergan					
Brian O'Keefe					

## 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 through September 11, 2021.

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

Gerald Frangesch

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

Dawn & Van Harl, Gene & Jane Jamrozky, Steve Leopold, Dan Nettesheim

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

Donna Agnelly, Dale Bepalec, Dale Brasser, Mike Deeken, Gary & Judy Ertel, Bill & Claudette Fink, Doug Haag, Peter & Jean Jacobsohn, Bernard Jene, David Jordan, Robert Mann, Kathy McNally, Laura Rinaldi, Brad & Kathy Schotanus, Dennis Slater, Justin Tolomeo

### Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Rusty Armstrong, Angela Bodven, John & Linda Connelly, Gordon Dammann, Paul Eilbes, George Geanon, Julian Gonzalez, Brian Gunn, Leon & Margaret Harris, Christopher Johnson, Rich & Barb Kallan, Jerome Kowalski, John Kuhnmuensch, Jay Lauck, Rod Malinowski, Paul & Susan Miller, Herb Oechler, David Perez, Tom Pokrandt, John Rodahl, Cal Schoonover, Sam Solberg, Dan Tanty, Bernard Van Dinter, Gil Vraney, Paul Zehren

### Speaker Enhancement Fund

George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Jim Blake, Roman Blenski, Dale Brasser, Angela Bodven, Robert Christie, Ellen DeMers, Thomas Doyle, Lori Duginski, Paul Eilbes, Gerald Frangesch, David Gapinski, Julian Gonzalez, Rick Gross, Brian Gunn, Doug Haag, Leon & Margaret Harris, Jim Heinz, Tom Hesse, Don Hilbig, Bernard Jene, Rich & Barb Kallan, Steve Leopold, Rod Malinowski, Kathy McNally, Jim & Monica Millane, Herb Oechler, Andy Oren, John & Susan Petty, Tom Pokrandt, Laura Rinaldi, Jack Rodencal, Bob & Carla Rodzaj, Dan Tanty, Justin Tolomeo, Rich Tonelli, Paul Zehren



“Josiah Gorgas” was the topic of Frank Vandiver’s presentation at the December 1947 meeting.

Robert B. Browne spoke to the membership in December 1957 on “Lesser Figures in John H. Morgan’s Command.”

December 1962 brought James I. Robertson to our Round Table. Robertson spoke on “The Last War Between Gentlemen.”

“After the War: Problems of Reconstruction” was the topic of James B. Renberg’s presentation in December 1972.

Perry D. Jamieson talked about “Artillery Tactics of the Civil War Era” at the December 1982 meeting.

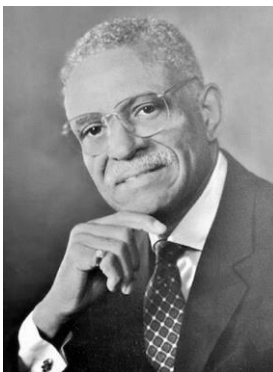
At the December 1992 meeting Peter Cozzens was our speaker talking about “The Real Rock of Chickamauga: The 21st Ohio Infantry on Horseshoe Ridge.”

In December 2002 David Hinze visited our Round Table to speak to those assembled on “For Glory and Southern Retribution: Jo Shelby’s 1863 Raid.”

“The Red River Campaign” was the topic presented by Dale Philips at the December 2012 meeting.

At last year’s December meeting, the Round Table welcomed Steven K. Rogstad who spoke on “Stories from Among the Badgers.”

### *In Memoriam*



Dr. Randle E. Pollard, a pioneering Black urologist who as a physician, entrepreneur, and philanthropist was dedicated to the betterment of his community, died peacefully on October 13, 2021. He was 96.

Dr. Pollard is survived by his wife of 67 years Mildred “Micki” Pollard, three daughters, and a son. He will also be dearly missed by 7 grandchildren, a great-grandson, and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was a member of our Milwaukee Civil War Round Table since 1979 and a member of the Color Guard.

Dr. Pollard was buried with military honors on October 29, 2021, at Wisconsin Memorial Chapel in Brookfield.

*And flights of angels guide him to his rest.*

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

These free in-person programs are sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and Iron Brigade Association.

### **The Lincoln Marriage: Heaven or Hell?**

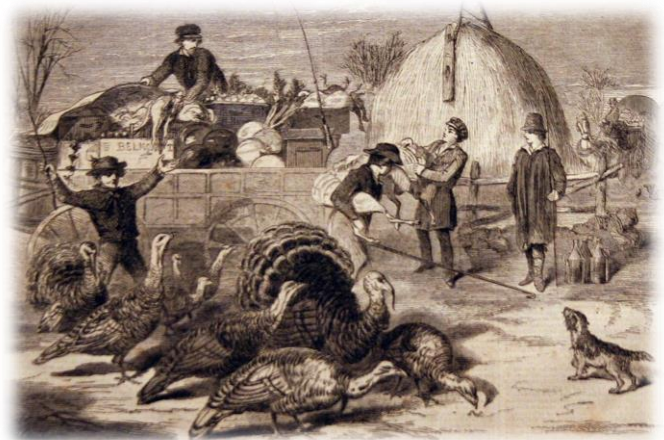
**Friday, December 10 at Noon**

**Presenter: Steven Rogstad**

The Lincoln marriage remains one of the most controversial areas of study among scholars. Viewed in both sympathetic and critical perspectives, the marriage has been described as both a hell on Earth for Abraham Lincoln and a compassionate and loving union. A recent indictment of Mary Lincoln portrays her as a person who was dishonest as her husband was honest. It was a pairing of two complex and opposite natures, which both complemented and opposed each other.

**Please visit the Museum website:**

**[museums.kenosha.org/civilwar](https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar) and click on the links to see past Zoom and YouTube presentations.**



When you fill up on Thanksgiving turkey, also consider some Thanksgiving prints by famed American artist, Winslow Homer. The wood engraving you see is from the pages of *Harper's Weekly*. Before Homer became recognized for his talents with a paintbrush, he was a commercial illustrator for a variety of print publications. Illustrations such as this one served as crucial documents of current events, just as photographs help enhance the news today.





**Chicago Daily Tribune**  
**June 6, 1863**

### **A Brilliant Charge**

Conspicuous among the brilliant charges upon the rebel works on the 22d inst. was that of Gen. Ransom's Brigade supported on the right of the 8th Missouri and 116th Illinois, under command of Col. Smith of the 8th Missouri, the charge assigned to this brigade was made through a network of ravines, full of thick undergrowth and fallen timber.

Gen. Ransom had formed his brigade in line of battle by battalions closed in mass.

The 11th, 95th and 72d Illinois and 14th Wisconsin in advance, with the 17th Wisconsin all under cover of ravine within sixty yards of the rebel works. At the concerted signal for the grand assault, he moved his brigade forward with a unanimous shout, which could be heard above the roar of artillery for miles around. Before advancing twenty steps, he encountered a deadly fire from the enemy, massed behind his earthworks in vastly superior numbers, and a terrific storm of grape and canister from an enfilading battery, which appalled and for a moment checked his advancing column. Col. Humphries, leading the 95th Illinois, fell stunned and apparently killed, from the concussion of a shell. His color-bearer also fell. Col. Nevins of the 11th Illinois was killed, and Lieut. Col. Wright of the 72d seriously wounded. All who were conspicuous on the field fell of this instance. The column wavered, when Gen. Ransom rushed to the head, seized the colors of the 95th, and waving them high above his head, shouted, "Forward, Men! We must and will go into that fort! Who will follow me?" The tide was turned, the column advanced to the impassable ditch before the works, and fought most desperately for a full thirty minutes across the breast works, when Gen. Ransom, satisfied that the position could not be carried at that point, that his promised support would not come up, and that his brigade would be sacrificed by a further continuance of the unequal contest, regardless of all personal danger, took a conspicuous position where he could be heard by his whole command, and thus in clarion tones addressed them: "Men of the Second Brigade! We cannot maintain this position. You must retire to the cover of that ravine, one regiment at a time, and in order. The 17th Wisconsin will remain to cover the movement. The 72d Illinois will move first, and move now. Move slowly. The first man who runs or goes beyond that ravine shall be shot on the spot. I will stand here, and see how you do it." The movement was executed as coolly by every regiment as if upon an ordinary battalion drill and the command was reformed in the ravine, within a hundred yards of that fearful battle ground, without confusion and without a single straggler.

Although this assault, like all others of that day, from lack of proper support and from topographical and physical difficulties impossible to overcome, was unsuccessful, and caused a fearful loss of life, as the lists sent herewith abundantly testify, it has made a noble record for Gen. Ransom and his gallant brigade, a record never surpassed, and hardly equaled, in the history of this or any other war.

The situation remains unchanged. Cannonading by day and by night, with constant skirmishing between pickets and sharpshooters comprise the sum total of the warlike incidents of the past twenty-four hours.

On our left, so great is the havoc made by our shells, as they explode in Vicksburg, that Gen. Pemberton has turned large numbers of mules and horses into our lines. Deserters who come over to us nightly say that many horses and mules are killed, and that their dead bodies, lying unburied in this hot tropical sun create an indescribable stench, which is fast breeding a pestilence in the doomed city. Their stock of provisions is running short and they are forced to leave the corn these animals consume for the citizens and soldiers.

We judge they are getting short of ammunition also. Some of their guns opened upon us this morning with pieces of railroad iron a foot long.

Their only hope for a successful resistance to our army is the expected appearance of a large body in our rear, which they think may compel us to raise the siege. Such an army is reported in the vicinity of Sulphur Springs and this evening a large force was sent in that direction. I should not be surprised to hear of a battle there shortly.

Reinforcements are constantly arriving, and there is no danger that we shall be forced to raise the siege from lack of troops. Bon.

### **Explosion of a Cartridge Factory**

On Tuesday morning, the cartridge factory of Grobe & Heider, near Indianapolis, was blown up.

There were six or eight females at work in the factory, and although the building was entirely destroyed, but two of the females were injured to any extent – these were Misses Susan Enrich and Luey Harrold, the latter, it is feared, fatally. Mrs. Strouse, living in an adjoining house was also seriously injured. When the explosion took place, Mr. Heider was seen to run from the house, by one of the girls, as she was crawling from under the ruins, and to take down the hillside.

### **Wisconsin Pinery**

**Jan. 4, 1862**

The Christmas party that came off at Hazard's Hall was a brilliant affair, the supper that was served, by Mrs. Hazard, was as good as they generally get up in this or any other country. Some 50 couples were in attendance.

## Hartford Home League

Dec. 7, 1861

### Thanksgiving in the Second Regiment

The New York Tribune's Washington Correspondent says: at the camp of the 2d Wisconsin, Gen. King's Brigade, there was a sumptuous feast, after partaking of which Gov. Randall of Wisconsin and Senator Wilson of Massachusetts made earnest patriotic speeches.

**Good Girls** – The ladies of Rhode Island are preparing to send each Volunteer from that state a Christmas gift of a pair of socks and mittens, the name of each soldier, with that of the company to which he belongs, to be attached to the article.

### La Crosse in the War

Another La Crosse Company has gone to the war. The La Crosse Pioneers, on Monday evening, left to join the 14th Wisconsin Regiment in Camp Wood, at Fond du Lac. The Pioneers have volunteered for no boys play. Every man has gone to fight. The officers of the Company are well known in this county. Captain Polleys and First Lieutenant Staley have both filled the office of Sheriff of La Crosse County. The Second Lieutenant, David Law, is the widely known omnibus man, and Chief Engineer of the La Crosse Fire Department. The entire Company is made up for hard work. A large gathering of the citizens of La Crosse took place at Barron's Hall on Monday evening, to bid the Pioneers God speed. Several speeches were made, after which the Company was escorted to the railroad depot by Capt. Bishop's Company, the fire companies, and citizens, by torch light.

La Crosse has already sent to the war:

The La Crosse Light Guard

The La Crosse County Rifles

The La Crosse Sharpshooters

The La Crosse Artillery Company

The La Crosse Pioneers

Capt. Voegle's German Guard

And assisted in filling up half a dozen companies from other parts of the county in addition to these companies, the La Crosse Cavalry Company, Capt. Bishop, now numbers over seventy men.

**Thank you, Jim Johnson, as we continue the  
2021-2022 campaign season with insightful and  
delightful memories *From the Field* !**

## Green Bay Advocate newspaper

Oconto Pioneer

Dec. 26, 1861

### Death of Father Bonduel

Father Bonduel, the venerable pastor of St. James Church and missionary to the Menomonee Indians, died in this city on Friday morning, the 13th inst. at the age of sixty-two years. Mr. Bonduel was well and favorably known throughout the state, being one of the old pioneers, and having led an active and useful life. We believe he had been in the state about thirty-five years, and was the first priest who said mass in Milwaukee. Father B's will has been found, in which he bequeaths all his real estate to the Catholic orphan home of Milwaukee.

## YOUTUBE LECTURES

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvOc\\_ZB2rAyxtp87iXTvPVkT1uAvzJWRj](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvOc_ZB2rAyxtp87iXTvPVkT1uAvzJWRj)

The 29th Wisconsin at Vicksburg

Gettysburg Stories: Monuments and Iconic Locations

Illinois Regiments at Gettysburg: July 1863

Medical Innovations of the Civil War

The Other Civil War in Mexico

The Petersburg Regiment in the Civil War: A History of the 12th Virginia Infantry From John Brown's Hanging to Appomattox, 1859-1865

Recovering the Voices of the Union's Midwest Irish

The Vicksburg Campaign: Grant's Masterpiece

The War That Made Beer Famous

Lincoln and the Presidential Campaign of 1860

Sir Butternut Comes to Madison

Among the Badgers: Rediscovering Sites Associated with Abraham and Mary Lincoln in Wisconsin

Such Anxious Hours: Wisconsin Women's Voices from the Civil War

## FACEBOOK LECTURES

<https://www.facebook.com/CWMKenosha/>

Arming Ohio

Seceding the Secession

The Wounding of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

Lincolnomics: Why Lincoln Still Rocks the Global Conversation on Progress

Scotland and the Civil War

Company K, 1st Michigan Sharpshooters

## MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE 2021-2022 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

September 9, 2021	Eric J. Wittenberg <i>"Seceding from Secession; The Creation of West Virginia"</i>
October 7, 2021	David Dixon <i>The American Civil War: A Radical, International Revolution</i>
November 11, 2021	Tom Clemens <b>Nevins Freeman Award Winner</b> <i>Joseph K. Mansfield</i>
December 9, 2021	Dennis Doyle (At the Country Club) <i>Illinois Regiments at Gettysburg</i>
January 13, 2022	Garry Adelman <i>Civil War Myths</i>
February 10, 2022	TBA <i>To Be Determined</i>
March 10, 2022	Mark Laubacher <i>USS Red Rover: Hospital of Firsts</i>
April 7, 2022	Jeffrey Hunt <i>The Battles of Rappahannock Station and Kelly's Ford</i>
May 12, 2022	Dr. Thomas Carson <i>Lincoln as Moral Exemplar</i>
June 9, 2022	Lauren Szady <i>Topic to be Determined</i>

**Speakers/topics remain subject to change,  
especially due to the fluid Covid situation.  
We appreciate your understanding!**



## Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. 2021 – 2022 Board of Directors

Name	Office/Position	Term Expires
Donna Agnelly	Editor, General Orders	2022
Thomas Arliskas	Past President	2022
Terry Arliskas	Secretary	
Michael K. Benton	Past President	2023
Roman Blenski	Quartermaster	2022
Crain Bliwas	Member	2022
Paul A. Eilbes	Treasurer	2022
Van Harl	Past President	2023
Tom Hesse	First Vice President	2023
Grant Johnson	Membership/Webmaster Past President	2024
Bruce Klem	President	2024
Daniel Nettesheim	Second Vice President	2024
Frank Risler	Program Chair	2024
Tom Thompson	Member	2023
Justin Tolomeo	Member	2023
David Wege	Layout, General Orders	2024

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

### ~ 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)

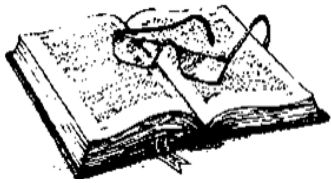
Grant will be creating a database with email reminders set to go out a week before the scheduled event. This is a purely optional choice on each member's part. If you have any questions please talk to Grant at a Round Table meeting or email him at the listed email address.

## Milwaukee Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for December 9, 2021

Mail your reservations by Monday, December 6 to:  
Paul Eilbes  
1809 Washington Avenue  
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

Call or email reservations to:  
(262) 376-0568  
[peilbes@gmail.com](mailto:peilbes@gmail.com)

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (meal is \$30.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ people for the  
December 9, 2021 meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.  
(Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)



## **BETWEEN THE COVERS**

### **Wild Bill: The True Story of the American Frontier's First Gunfighter**

**Tom Clavin**

My review is on a book my daughter got me for my birthday. It was a book that she and her husband read and thought that I would enjoy this story. While not a book strictly about the Civil War, the main character played a role during the war fighting for the Union. The book is a pretty quick read at 294 pages. As a young lad I can remember on Saturdays watching the television program "The Adventures of Wild Bill Hickok" starring Guy Madison as Wild Bill and his sidekick, Jingles, played by Andy Devine. So I just had to see how this book related to the TV series. It appears that the similarity ends at the title. But that doesn't take away from either in my opinion.

Mr. Clavin's book traces the Hickok family from their beginnings to the birth of James Butler Hickok in Illinois and shows how he developed into one of the great legends and historical figures of the West. I think the author does a lot of background work to show the reader the fact and fiction of the exploits of Wild Bill. Mr. Clavin shows the many Wild West figures that crossed paths with Wild Bill and the many big names, Buffalo Bill, Calamity Jane, George Custer, Kit Carson among a few mentioned and many others.

Wild Bill developed friendships with a number of lesser known people like, Colorado Charley Utter, Texas Jack Omohundro and California Joe Miner. He had many female contacts as well in many of the Wild West's open towns where he served as Marshall. In fact, he eventually married one of them near the end of his life – Agnes Lake Thatcher. Wild Bill tried to keep contact with his family members back home in Illinois. He also did some work with his brothers as he moved to the West. It seemed the Hickok family tried to maintain ties with all its family members no matter where they were.

I decided to include this book review for our members because Wild Bill began as a guide both for civilians and the military. He was a scout and perhaps a spy during the war and entered into law enforcement in the cow towns reluctantly. It seems he was after the salary more than anything else when he took jobs as a U.S. Marshall and Abilene sheriff. Hickok seemed to be respected, probably feared, though not well liked. He could never seem to win a sheriff's job by popular vote. He did form an attachment to his deputies, and I think it was a turning point in his life when he accidentally killed jailer Mike Williams in Abilene. Hickok's "code" as he stated to others, was that he only killed people who deserved to be killed. This was how he justified the taking of life, but if he had handled the situation differently then maybe Williams wouldn't have been shot. The author speculates Hickok lost some of his zeal after that event.

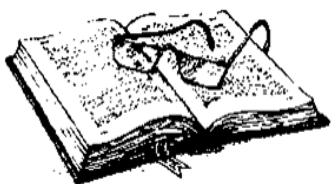
Wild Bill's eyesight was already in trouble at that point. The author points out that nothing was certain as to the cause but perhaps some of his close contact with the many female companions resulted in his contracting a venereal disease which one symptom was that it effects eye sight. He earned a reputation as a gunfighter and couldn't shake the reputation even when he talked (or stared) people down from a gunfight.

It was fortunate that Wild Bill came in contact with Buffalo Bill. Buffalo Bill, at the time, was working on his show and invited Wild Bill to participate. Hickok saved Buffalo Bill's life at one point, and Buffalo Bill returned the favor, so the two became close friends, and Hickok was persuaded to perform in an early incarnation of Buffalo Bill's famous show, though he was a terrible actor and bothered by the bright stage lights. Wild Bill would eventually leave the show.

Wild Bill turned increasingly to gambling, and although he showed a passing interest in prospecting in Deadwood, he spent the bulk of his time playing cards. Mr. Clavin writes that at this time Hickok developed a premonition of his own imminent death. He knew his reputation had made him a target, yet he made no effort to blend in, wearing a "Queen Ann's" coat, bright leggings, and a black sombrero, along with his six-shooters, eventually meeting his fate playing cards in Deadwood.

I found this to be an interesting read and provided a picture of some of the characters who settled the West after the war. Bill Hickok crossed paths with many well-known figures of the West in the mid-1800s and shows that many were moving west after serving in the military on one side or the other. The author has a tendency to focus many of the chapters on the figures that Hickok met and sometimes these digressions can be confusing. Nonetheless, I found it to be a good read. If you're looking for something different from a straight read on the Civil War but deals with the characters' actions in that war and information on the life of Wild Bill you may enjoy this book.

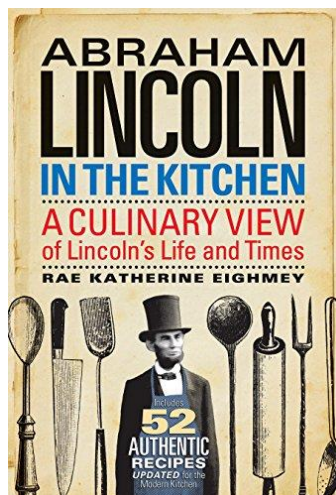
**submitted by Bruce Klem**



## BETWEEN THE COVERS

### Abraham Lincoln in the Kitchen: A Culinary View of Lincoln's Life and Times

Rae Katherine Eighmey



This review is on a Media Club book selection of the Kenosha Civil War Museum. It marks the 40th book the club has read as a group. This book is 242 pages long and includes 55 recipes from the Lincoln era updated for today's kitchen and cooks. This is a somewhat unusual book on the Civil War as the author makes a number of suppositions as to what foods Lincoln ate at various times in his life but I found it an interesting story.

The author has done her research and explains along the way what research she did and how she applied it to each chapter and recipe. The way the story unfolded helped to give me a better understanding of how Lincoln lived his regular life and not the political one. The author has written at least one other similar book on Ben Franklin. This approach is a cookbook of sorts with a detailed history on each man and the times he lived in. You might keep it on your history book shelves or you might put it with your cookbooks, as it would apply to each category.

Who knew Lincoln was such a gingerbread cookie lover? Who knew what interesting things can be found at the bottom of the well on the Lincoln property? Here you get little wisps of Lincoln the husband, the father, the attorney, the neighbor, the candidate, the friend.

The author has taken a lot of time and has spent a lot of effort reworking period recipes to mesh with today's ingredients, electric/gas stoves, tastes etc. At the end of each chapter you'll find one or more recipes that you can make in your own kitchen with ingredients you can find in today's supermarkets.

Many of the chapters are sort of what ifs in that Lincoln didn't leave many notes on his eating habits but the author's research helped her develop the types of food available to the Lincolns in each area they lived in. She helped paint a picture of early settlers moving into some of the pristine areas of the country as the Lincolns did and helped the reader understand how the typical settler lived his life -having to clear land to farm and living off the land with whatever food was available. As an area grew, neighbors shared and traded different foods they each may have raised.

Ms. Eighmey points out many interesting facts about the Lincolns when they moved to Springfield. She covers Mary and Abe's relationship in that community as well. An interesting point she brings up was how Springfield became a crossroads to both the immigrants coming to the United States and the political crossroads as well. Germans, Irish and Portuguese came into the community on the increase in railroads that provided transportation to the West and South. Two railroads caused Springfield to develop into a crossroads – The Great Western connected to Toledo and points east and the Chicago, Alton, St. Louis to the West and the Mississippi to the Gulf. As a result, goods and a new variety of food stuffs demanded by new immigrants came to the general stores for sale to all residents; this she points out “were pivotal, revealing a crossroads of cuisine feeding a complex society rooted in traditions, open to innovation, and influenced by non-Midwestern opportunities.”

The author's story covers the Lincolns in the White house and how Lincoln became close to the soldiers that guarded him and those he visited in the various hospitals and camps in the DC area. I liked this book as it was different from most Civil War books I have read. Although mostly a guy who does a lot of grilling, the recipes of the time looked and sounded interesting and maybe I can have my wife try a few. One of the Media Club members tried a couple and confirmed they were tasty. Probably not a book for every student of the Civil War but one that is a quick read and one most would find as a new and interesting twist on Civil War books. And if you are a cook perhaps you'll like some of the new spin on early recipes.

submitted by Bruce Klem



## *Vicksburg is the Key*



On our annual excursion for 2021, Civil War Time Travelers made an investigation of rivers and the impact that they had on war efforts for both the Union and Confederacy. In the western theater, the Tennessee, Cumberland, and Mississippi were aimed like daggers pointing at the heart of the south. Stops at Paducah, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and Vicksburg led us to a greater understanding of how the Union's "brown water navy" used impressive new gunboat technology to break and defeat seemingly impregnable Confederate bastions. The combination of the use of river forces and armies proved unstoppable, but not because the forces of rebeldom didn't put up a worthy fight.

Walk with us as we relive some of the key moments of the trip.

Thomas Arliskas led the charge at Fort Donelson. His humor and history had the group listening intently to his synopsis of events and opinions about what went right and wrong for both sides. Standing with Tom inside those impressive Confederate earthworks was an experience we won't soon forget.



Terry Arliskas then told the story of Mother Bickerdyke. She was present for duty as a nurse at Donelson, and, apparently, out-ranked every officer but Grant himself. Her presence at Donelson and elsewhere did much to alleviate sufferings and advance the cause of battlefield medicine. Tom then returned to the stage and told the story of the horrific fighting at the Water Battery. In the midst of his talk, a bald eagle flew overhead, crying aloud for freedom and causing red-blooded American hearts to throb with awe. Tom still claims he arranged for that to happen.

Our next stop was Shiloh. There we spent four hours with Larry DeBerry, the "Storyteller of Shiloh." Larry's kin have lived near the battlefield for generations. He lost family there in April 1862. Larry was part of the crew that rebuilt the Shiloh Meeting House on its present location. And he took us into the church to regale us with stories and anecdotes of the battle. Following were stops at the Peach Orchard, the lines of the Wisconsin troops at the Sunken Road, and a visit to Bloody Pond. Our Shiloh stop wrapped up in the cemetery with the story of the color

guard of the 16<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin. Terry shared the sergeants' story at the ring of honor just above the Tennessee River.

At last, it was on to Vicksburg. Terry Winschel regaled us for four power-packed hours of historical insights and observations that helped everyone grasp **why Vicksburg was the Key** to the entire Mississippi River and virtual control of the western theater. He led us to bold overlooks that several members felt that could never climb – but they did! The scenery was breath-taking. The land the dusty boys in blue and gray contended over was laid out before us in present day peaceful splendor. We spent time at the Shirley House and entered the nearby Illinois Monument with its near perfect acoustics. To test them we sang the Common Doxology. Then we sang it again in four-part harmony, and it was a glorious sound to behold.

It was time to begin the trip home. To get back to Wisconsin, Lincoln-land and Springfield, Illinois were obvious stops. On Thursday we toured the impressive Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Several excellent video experiences there were done by folks who had worked with Disney. The 3-D movies made one feel immersed in the story being told.



On Thursday evening we had our closing banquet. It was the final night of the trip. Friendships had been formed, and people were relaxing with good food, new friends, and beverages. Then, very rudely, the group was informed with a clarion call, "Ladies and Gentlemen, all rise. The 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States." In walked Mr. Lincoln himself, as portrayed by actor Fritz Klein. Mr. Klein is Abraham Lincoln. He reviewed the political and military situation for the Union in 1863 and stressed for us again why **Vicksburg was the Key** to the whole western theater and, perhaps, the war.

On the last leg of our trip we spent several hours at the Lincoln Home. This little neighborhood is tucked away right in Springfield. It is truly a step back into the 1860's. Several Time Travelers toured the Lincoln home, while others chose to wander the grounds on a cool, misty day.

And so, our '2021 trip came to an end. Over 2,200 miles of fact-filled history. Many laughs and terrible jokes. A theme song with which we started our mornings. And some solid insights into why the rivers mattered in the outcome of the war. It was good stuff and time well spent.

submitted by Dave Wege



*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 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!

## Six Degrees of Separation

Skeletons in the closet? Family stories that may or may not be true, but certainly dress up Thanksgiving stories told around the dinner table? Legends, lore, and a few lies that make family history perk up your ears?

DNA testing and the tracing of ancestors with online agencies helping is big business. Send in your DNA and then, perhaps after confirming you are really your parent's child, you might discover you are "connected" to the rich, the famous and the infamous of history. Did family members come over on the Mayflower? Could you be related to Pocahontas or George Washington or Abraham Lincoln? What about Daniel Boone or Davy Crockett - could they be relatives?

I cannot be a member of *The Mayflower Society* because to date I have no documented ancestors who came over on the first voyage of the *Mayflower* in 1620. My many times great-grandfather Captain William Pierce "the Mariner", however, skippered later voyages of the *Mayflower* and its replacement the *Mayflower II*. He did business with Gov. William Bradford and Edward Winslow, the founders of the colony.

Captain Pierce also skippered the ship *Lyon* on a number of voyages, which included carrying my oldest Army buddy's many times removed grandparents to the New World in the 1620s.

Pocahontas had one granddaughter named Jane Rolfe. She married my grandfather Col. Robert Bolling. Jane died shortly after giving birth to her only child. He and his descendants became known as the "Red Bollings." That child is not my ancestor. Col Bolling remarried after Jane died and I am descended from one of those children. Since Col Bolling's second wife was "white" and not of native American descent her children and their descendants are known as the "White Bollings."

One of the "White Bolling" women married into my Baker family and my grandfather John "Renta" Baker was born. John "Renta" Baker was one mean, killing machine in the mid-1700s and not someone you wanted to cross. Along with his cousin Col. Richard Callaway, John "Renta" Baker was a founding member of the Boonesborough of Daniel Boone history.

The fictional James Fenimore Cooper book *Last of the Mohicans* was based on the actual kidnapping of Daniel Boone's daughter Jemima Boone and two daughters of Col. Richard Callaway by a Cherokee raiding party. After they were recovered, Jemima Boone married Flanders Callaway (Col Callaway's nephew), Callaways all being close relatives of the Bakers.

John "Renta" Baker it appears did not really like Daniel Boone. He did not hunt with him, but "Renta" did hunt with a couple of Boone's brothers. They were known as the "Long Hunters" in frontier history. "Renta" also hunted with recording artist Ricky Skaggs' ancestral grandfather Skaggs.

John "Renta" Baker fought at the 1780 Battle of Kings Mountain alongside of John Crockett. John Crockett was Davy Crockett's father.

My pre-Revolutionary War grandfather John Harl(e) was a farmer in Fairfax County, Virginia and did business with the Mount Vernon estate of George Washington. His first cousin Sarah Harle was the housekeeper for George and Martha Washington. Sarah raised Martha Washington's two surviving children and later moved to Martha's son, John Parke Custis' plantation with her son Baldwin Washington Harle to be Custis housekeeper.

I am descended from the Scottish Clan of McCollum who married into the Scottish family of Todds. Mary Todd Lincoln and I share the same distant Todd grandfather.

So I am related to some of the rich, the famous and the infamous by blood and some by contact that related to the spilling of blood. Oh yes, I had a grandfather at the Salem Witch trials and the burning of innocent women. John Swayze of Salem was my relative. He was also the ancestor of the movie actor Patrick Swayze and John Cameron Swayze of "It takes a licking and keeps on ticking" Timex watch TV commercials of the 1960-70s.

As for the Civil War there were Pierces, Bollings, Callaways, McCollums, Todds, Harls, Swayzes and of course the violent Bakers in Union and Confederate units.

I guess that, takes a licking and keeps on ticking describes many of my ancestors. Some good, some bad and some you hope never stop by your homestead to talk about the good old days--at least not without a handgun laying on your lap.

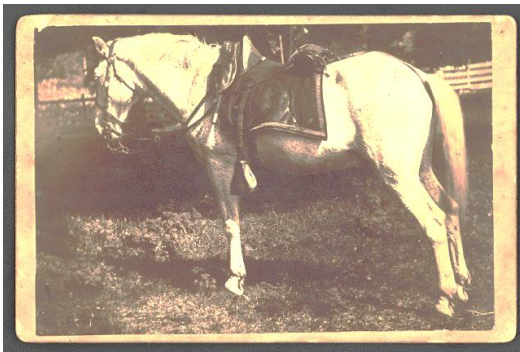
Be careful what you wish for when you go looking for relatives in your past.

submitted by Maj. Van Harl, USAF ret.

## A DIFFERENT CIVIL WAR VETERAN

Not every veteran went through the war on two legs. This particular veteran stood tall on four legs, was in several battles and survived the war. The Library of Congress in their online archive has a picture of this veteran along with his story as reported below.

Colonel, the subject of this sketch, was about six years old at the breaking out of the Rebellion, and was owned by Lieut. N. J. Hall of the 5th U.S. Artillery whose home was at Monroe, Michigan. Lieut. Hall purchased the "Colonel" at Charleston, S.C. and as he (Hall) was one of the officers under Major Anderson in Ft. Sumter, when the first shot was fired at that heroic garrison, "Old Colonel" must have heard the first gun that was fired at our National Flag. Lieut. Hall was soon after assigned to duty on Gen. George B. McClellan's staff and rode "Colonel" whilst with that general from Ball's Bluff to Harrison's Landing. In July 1862, Hall was promoted to Col. Of the 7th Michigan Infantry and was in command of the Regiment, or a Brigade, up to and including the battle of Gettysburg. "Colonel" was wounded in the left shoulder at the battle of Antietam, but recovered in time to participate in the battle of Fredericksburg, and was in active service until the 2d of July, 1863, when he was again wounded at Gettysburg in the left hip. Col. Hall was about this time ordered to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and "Old Colonel" was left in charge of the Quartermaster of the 7th (W.W. Wade of Janesville). Wade brought the horse to Michigan in January 1864, and had charge of him until the close of the war. In the meantime Col. Hall had been ordered to Brooklyn, N.Y. Lieut. Wade kept the horse until 1866 and wrote to Hall asking what he should do with him. Hall instructed Wade to sell him, with the understanding that he (Hall) could buy him back at any time for the purchase price. Col. Hall died in 1878 and as nothing had been heard from his family or friends, the Hillsdale Soldiers and Sailors Reunion Association bought "Colonel" in 1879 and have cared for him since.



*List of Battles which "Colonel" was in:*

*Fort Sumter, Balls Bluff, Siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Mechanicsville, Gaines Mill, Savage Station, White Oak Swamp, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Bull Run Second, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Hay Market, Gettysburg.*

*Note: The Colonel, who had earned the affection of soldiers during the conflict, lived in comfort until his death. Although Oak Grove Cemetery forbade the burial of animals, local legend says that the Colonel's admirers secretly buried him in Soldiers' Circle to honor him for his service.*

Sources: Library of Congress: <https://www.loc.gov/item/2015650837/>

<https://emergingcivilwar.com/2021/09/30/the-four-legged-veteran-of-18-battles/>

### Please consider joining us for "Mayhem at Manassas."

The **Civil War Time Travelers, LLC** will spend several days at Manassas exploring Bull Run I, Brawner Farm (Gainesville), Bull Run II, and Monocacy in late October 2022. With NPS Rangers, recognized historians, and the talents of our own group we will again travel where heroes trod. Deluxe coach, several meals, entrance fees, speaker fees, and all hotels are included in the cost of this trip, estimated to be in the \$875-\$900 range.

**And there's more!** On the road back to Wisconsin we will stop in Gettysburg to explore "women of Gettysburg," "obscure Gettysburg," and "the farms and hospitals of Gettysburg." A visit to the Flight 93 Memorial is also planned.

Douglas Ullman, Jr. will lead us through Second Manassas. Doug is an associate of the American Battlefield Trust and recently came off the professional stage where he appeared in a production called *Bright Star*. He has appeared on many Trust videos and online presentations.

The incomparable Garry Adelman will lead us through "Obscure Gettysburg," a look at places less visited on the battlefield. This will include Benner's Hill, East Cavalry Field, and an on-site overview of the rehabilitation done at Culp's Hill. Seeing that work through the eyes of a historian and licensed battlefield guide will provide insights of the importance of rehabilitation for battlefield interpretation!

**On October 22-28, 2022, we will again be *Traveling Where Heroes Trod*.**





## FOREST HOME HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

2405 West Forest Home Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53215

Phone: 414-645-2632

October 20, 2021

Paul Eilbes  
Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.  
1809 Washington Ave.  
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Dear Paul,

On behalf of the Forest Home Historic Preservation Association, we thank the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. for your generous donation of \$6,000 to the help with our preservation initiatives.

Your generous donation will replace the unreadable monument of General Lysander Cutler. Thank you for helping to honor his accomplishments and preserve the past. We will be in touch with you group about a possible dedication event for this monument's installation.

Since its opening 17 years ago, Forest Home Cemetery has been not for profit and open to all faiths. It was Milwaukee's original public park and the final resting place for the city's most notable citizens, including 26 mayors. Comprising of nearly 200 acres, it is full of history, gardens, ancient trees and architecture. Visit the website [www.foresthomecemetery.com](http://www.foresthomecemetery.com) for all upcoming events and burial inquiries.

Sincerely,

Barbie Brennan Nelson  
President, Forest Home  
Historic Preservation Association

Jan Van Rens  
Executive Director,  
Forest Home Cemetery

Forest Home Historic Preservation Association is a 501(c)(3) per the IRS Code and no goods or services were received for this contribution.

The Forest Home Historic Preservation Association is dedicated to the preservation of Forest Home Cemetery as Wisconsin's premier garden cemetery; its historical significance and beauty, and arboretum quality of trees.



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

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

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