

GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

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



January 13, 2022

Garry Adelman

CIVIL WAR MYTHS AND MISTAKES

Myth: A commonly-held but false belief, a common misconception that has become associated with a person, institution or occurrence, especially one considered to illustrate a cultural ideal.

We welcome in the new year with a highly anticipated visit by Garry Adelman. Garry will be focusing his presentation on Civil War Myths and Mistakes.

Myths and mistakes have been part of the story of the Civil War ever since the war itself. Indeed, even as the war unfolded, participants engaged in reputation protection, misunderstandings and intentional mythmaking. Later, historians, authors, filmmakers and others propagated myth and injected error into known events which conspire to make historical truths elusive. Join Garry Adelman, chief historian of the American Battlefield Trust for a lively discussion of the well-known and little-known myths and mistakes that drive many Civil War enthusiasts crazy. From humanity to calamity, bravery to slavery, and secession to putrefaction, Garry will try to sort fact from fiction and have a bit of fun in the process!

A graduate of Michigan State University and Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Garry Adelman is the award-winning author, co-author or editor of 20 books and 50 Civil War articles. He is the vice president of the Center for Civil War Photography and has been a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg for 25 years. He has conceived and drafted the text for wayside exhibits at ten battlefields, has given thousands of battlefield tours at more than 60 sites and has lectured at hundreds of locations across the country including the National Archives, the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian. He has appeared as a speaker on the BBC, C-Span, Pennsylvania Cable Network, American Heroes Channel, and on the series



HISTORY where he was a chief consultant and talking head on the Emmy Award-winning show Gettysburg (2011) and Blood and Glory: The Civil War in Color (2015). He works full time as Chief Historian at the American Battlefield Trust.

Mark your calendar and join us in ringing in the first meeting of 2022 as we give a very warm welcome to Garry Adelman.

General Orders No. 1-22

January 2022

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January Meeting at a Glance The Wisconsin Club 9th 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, January 10, 2022

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

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!

Support the Round Table with Amazon Smile

The Milwaukee Civil War Round Table is now a listed charity on Amazon Smile. One can now order online at Amazon and support the Round Table at the same time.

Search online for <https://www.smile.amazon.com>. If you already have an Amazon account, you may use your own login and password. When you are prompted to say what charity you are supporting, enter: Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.

Amazon Smile will contribute a portion of qualified orders to the Round Table. No additional cost is added to your order.

Thank you in advance for your support!



Ring in the New Year!

The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

[illegible]**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)

Doug Haag, Dawn & Van Harl, Gene & Jane Jamrozny,
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David Jordan, Robert Mann, Kathy McNally, Laura
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Susan Miller, Herb Oechler, David Perez, Tom Pokrandt,
John Rodahl, Cal Schoonover, Sam Solberg, Dan Tanty,
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Speaker Enhancement Fund

George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Tom & Terry Arliskas,
Jim Blake, Roman Blenski, Dale Brasser, Angela Bodven,
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Gapinski, Julian Gonzalez, Rick Gross, Brian Gunn,
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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



“Cavalry at Gettysburg” was the topic of Max H. Herriott’s presentation at the January 1948 meeting.

Frederick Tilberg spoke to the membership in January 1958 on “The First Day at Gettysburg.”

January 1963 had Robert V. Bruce speaking to the members on “Lincoln and the Tolls of War.”

“Berdan Sharpshooters” was the topic of Philip J. Hohlweck’s presentation in January 1973.

Frank L. Klement talked about “The Deep Roots of the Civil War” at the January 1983 meeting.

At the January 1993 meeting James Marten was our speaker talking about “The Children’s Civil War.”

“The Confederate Cavalry in the Chickamauga Campaign” was the topic presented by David A. Powell at the January 2013 meeting.

At last year’s January meeting the Round Table welcomed Christopher L. Kolakowski, Director of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, who spoke on “The Battle of Stones

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.

Friday, January 14

Five Factors Impacting Prison Camps During the Civil War

Noon; Free and Open to the Public

David Keller

Keller's program looks at five factors impacting conditions in Civil War Prisons. These five factors 1) Lack of a strategic plan for prison development and Management before and in the early stages of the Civil War; 2) Inadequate plans for long-term incarceration of prisoners of war; 3) Poor selection, high turnover, and lack of training of camp command; 4) Lack of training of camp guards, and 5) Failure to provide individual soldiers information on how to behave as POW's.

Friday, February 11

The Fatal Rush: The 29th USCI at The Crater, Petersburg

Noon; Free and Open to the Public

Dr. Laurie Schiller

Early in 1863, after the Emancipation Proclamation, and facing a decline in white enlistments and opposition to the newly instituted draft, the Federal government began recruiting African-Americans into the Union army. One way to encourage state governments to participate was to credit newly enlisted black soldiers to the state regardless of where they were recruited. One such regiment was the 29th USCI (U.S. Colored Infantry), which was the only one of 149 black infantry, artillery, and cavalry USCT regiments credited to the state of Illinois. One company, F, was actually credited to Wisconsin.

The 29th was sent to Washington to join the Army of the Potomac, which it did in June 1864. Assigned to the all-black 4th Division of Major General Ambrose Burnside’s IX Corps, its first real battle action occurred in the attack into the Petersburg Crater, July 30th. We shall examine the role of the USCI troops, including how they were denied leading the attack they had been trained for, and then how they were thrown into the breach after the IX Corps’ white troops failed to gain their objectives. The 29th suffered heavy casualties, as did its sister regiments (some 35% of the total loss of the IX Corps) and although they did all they could and fought well, they were thrown into an impossible situation and were blamed by many for the defeat that day. The 29th survived, though, and was on the field at Appomattox, now as part of the all-black 25th Corps, for Lee’s surrender.

Please visit the Museum website:

museums.kenosha.org/civilwar and click on the links to see past Zoom and YouTube presentations.

More great Civil War programming may be found on pages 11-12 of this issue. There is a lot happening!



“We have to remember that in the future we will want to keep before our children what this war was really like. It is so easy to forget; and then, for the younger generation, the heroism and the glamour remain, while the dirt, the hardships, the horror of death and the sorrow fade somewhat from their consciousness.”

The quote above was spoken by Eleanor Roosevelt and pertains to World War II. It is obviously timeless, though, and summarizes what our Round Table is about. Let’s learn and share more great content in 2022.



and a student in the law office of Welch & Lamb—aged about 26 years.

Mr. C. left this State with the Second Wisconsin Regiment, in the capacity of Corporal, and was with that regiment in all its early battles. He will be well remembered in this city for his clear and graphic description of the first battle at Bull Run, in which he was engaged, and also his account of many other engagements of less note, published in the Patriot. In this campaign, his health was much injured, and he was subsequently transferred to the Medical director's office, at Washington, and was employed in that office at the time of his death. A braver or more worthy young man never left this State to do battle for his country.

Letter From Captain Strong News from our Wounded Boys

**George C. Northrop, Esq.:
Mayor of Racine,**

Dear Sir: I sent a dispatch informing you that Willie H. Upham was alive and would recover. That Fred Lacy was wounded but would probably recover. That James Anderson, instead of being killed, was very doubtful and that Antler Henry of Waterford was a prisoner.

I will now write you all the information I have been able to obtain from Doct. Lewis; he talks freely about the wounded but is not at liberty to say much about anything else. Doct. Lewis was taken by a troop of Cavalry between the battle ground and Centerville, or rather gave himself up on purpose to take care of the wounded. Willie Upham and James Anderson were not picked up until Monday morning, the 22d July, and they were then carried to a hospital near the battlefield. For nearly two weeks, Doct. Lewis stayed at this place taking care of our wounded men, after which time they were all sent to Richmond. At Richmond Dr. Lewis had charge of over 100 wounded men, a portion of them belonging to the 2d Wisconsin. He labored night and day dressing wounds and taking care of the wounded and did everything in his power for their comfort.

Dr. Lewis says that Willie Upham's wounds are not so dangerous as at first we all supposed. He says he is in good spirits and will recover, although it will take a long time. Lacy has a bad wound through the right thigh but is doing well and will get well; it is nothing more than a flesh wound, the bone being uninjured. James Anderson is shot through the thigh, has a very bad wound and Dr. Lewis thinks it is doubtful

whether he recovers. The wounded are well treated and well cared for, their wounds are dressed two or three times each day and very good food is furnished them.

Doct. Lewis came by the way of Norfolk and Fortress Monroe. He left Richmond very unexpectedly, did not have even time to inform the boys, and, consequently, they did not send any word home to their friends. The dead of the 2d Wisconsin were buried on Monday or Tuesday in one common grave. Antler Henry of Waterford is a prisoner at Richmond. Dr. Lewis was not allowed to see any of the prisoners and brought us no news concerning him but his name had been reported in the Tribune so I think it must be correct. John Anderson of Waukesha has not been heard from and the probability is that he is dead although he may yet turn up. I received a letter from his father a few days since and have written him fully upon the subject.

This is all that I can learn concerning our boys. Dr. Lewis left so suddenly that he had no chance to converse with them but he says they were all in good spirits and would all recover unless it might be Anderson. It was very uncertain about him but with good care there might be a chance for him.

Everything is quiet in camp and the boys are well.

Respectfully yours,

WM. E. Strong

Aug. 16th 1861 near Fort Corcoran, Va.

We are indebted to Messrs. Welch & Lamb for the following letters, written by Corporal Ed. R. Chipman, of the Randall Guards, giving a detailed and interesting statement of army movements and incidents from July 20th to 24th.

A mile South of Centerille, July 20, '61.

I write you at present from the place indicated above which is five or six miles north of Manassas Junction. The Blue Ridge Mountains are first in sight and everything in nature appears lovely. With a lay of country like this, it is impossible to make me feel homesick, without it, I might feel lonely among a thousand. We left Arlington Heights last Tuesday, the 16th, and marched to Vienna, 13 miles southwest. Our knapsacks were packed up and were to be, and before this time probably, have been sent to Alexandria...We reached Vienna after dark, having loaded our guns a little previous. After taking of a frugal repast of crackers, meat and water, we rolled ourselves up in our blankets and laid down upon the ground with our cartridge box for a pillow.

continued

We were called up at 3 – 4 A.M. the next morning...Where we camped was only a few rods from where the cars, which contained the Ohio regiment, was fired into. I visited the charred remains of six of the cars, for if you remember, a part of the train took fire and burned...A little after six we again took up our line of march. We found the way obstructed every few hundred rods with trees which the rebels had filled across the road to obstruct our march for we came upon them sooner than they expected and they made a very precipitate retreat from Vienna, only two hours before we arrived there. The consequence was that our march was very slow and fatiguing much more so than it would have been to march right off. Sometimes also we had to halt in the broiling sun until the scouts could have time to come back and report. It took us nearly all day to march about ten miles. At noon we reached Germantown; here the rebels had thrown up breastworks and deserted them...Germantown is just three miles west of Fairfax Court House. There we found a hospital with some secession soldiers sick with the measles...

The next morning, we resumed our march and proceeded about three or four miles further and halted for several hours. Between two and three P.M. we heard brisk cannonading about three miles west of us and started for the scene of action, an account of which you have probably seen in the newspapers before this. The engagement was between the N. Y. 12th, the Mass. 1st, the Michigan 4th and quite a force of secession troops who had very strongly entrenched themselves in a hollow, surrounded with thick woods. So securely had the rebels concealed themselves that our forces proceeded within fifteen feet of them before they discovered the enemy.

The first intimation they had of the presence of the army was when they opened a murderous fire into them. As soon as we could learn what was up we started for the scene of action...We were none of us fit to do battle when we reached the scene of action; our officers themselves say it was a great mistake and that it shall not be repeated...The bullets flew around us in all directions – one rifled cannon ball struck a tree about ten feet from me, and scattered the branches in all directions. Bullets flew around our ears like hornets. One cannon ball struck three of company B's men killing one and wounding two others. It was a savage spectacle to see them carrying off the dead and wounded. I felt not fear but in accordance with my previous determination remained indifferent, without calculating chances or anything else. Pretty soon the order came to retreat and we retraced our steps, took a different road and encamped about a mile from where the engagement took place. The Secessionists acted like fiends, and bayoneted our wounded men, who were incapable of offering any resistance. So far as we can learn we made considerable slaughter among the enemy...

We have now a force of 50,000 men concentrated in and about here. We have two 64 pounders besides many smaller pieces. We have been ordered to cook two days rations, and the cooks are engaged in preparing food for us. There is a great deal of activity among the officers and everything looks ominous...I learn by one of the Wisconsin papers that we had a battle at Fairfax Court House – we all had quite a laugh over it. I have since writing the foregoing, ceased writing long enough to go to Lieut. Meredith and get some information about our present affairs...He says moreover that he doesn't know, and that it has not been officially announced, in which division of the army we are and that he can't tell whether Brigadier General Tyler or McDowell will head us. He says we have not surrounded the Rebels, as I have just represented, but that we will attempt it to-night and that in all probability we shall have a fight in our attempt. There are more than five hundred rumors in the camp, whom to believe and whom not I can't tell, but I place a good deal of reliance on what Meredith says. In fact, I presume you are kept as well informed and better than we in regard to the movements of the army.

Yours truly, E.R.C.

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

YOUTUBE LECTURES

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

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 Nevins Freeman Award Winner <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 and Mistakes</i>
February 10, 2022	Steve Acker <i>36th Wisconsin Infantry: All in a Year</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

~ 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

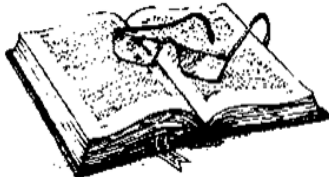
Grant will be creating a database with email reminders set to go out a week before the scheduled event. This is a purely optional choice on each member's part. If you have any questions please talk to Grant at a Round Table meeting or email him at the listed email address.

Milwaukee Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for January 13, 2022

Mail your reservations by Monday, January 10 to:
Paul Eilbes
1809 Washington Avenue
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

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

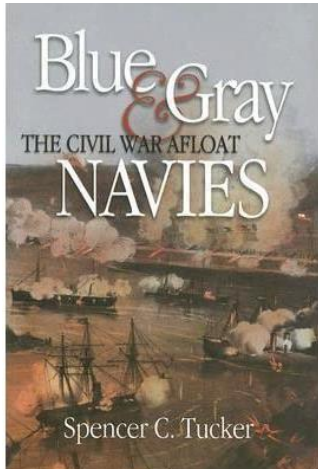
Enclosed is \$_____ (meal is \$30.00 per person) for _____ people for the
January 13, 2022 meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.
(Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)



BETWEEN THE COVERS

Blue and Gray Navies The Civil War Afloat

Spencer C. Tucker



My review this go around is on a book I picked up a couple of years ago when my wife and I made a trip down South to tour the Vicksburg Battlefield, Natchez, Natchez Trace and Corinth, Mississippi. I got this book at the USS Cairo exhibit on the Vicksburg Battlefield. The book is 365 pages long and was published in 2006. The book has numerous maps that provide detail on various actions described in the chapters.

The author provides information on the development of the US Navy prior to the Civil War. He shows how the Navy played a role in each conflict that occurred before the war. He details in US and general naval strategy, the types of ships and how navies in general functioned in combat prior to the Civil War. Mr. Tucker talks about the new developments that occurred, like rifled cannons, armor plating and the gradual movement to iron ships instead of wooden ships of the line. A couple of other developments impacted navies around the world both in mechanical devices like the screw propeller and steam propulsion systems. In the area of weaponry, the exploding shell gave navies a weapon that could now devastate ships and their crews. His introduction provides the reader with a background as to how the navies of the Union and Confederate were formed.

The first chapter in the book takes the reader through the organization, personnel and shipboard life. Tucker begins with the comment that the US Navy during the war went from 42 ships to 671 by the end of the war. Obviously, the strain this expansion put on the US Navy was tremendous. The same can be said for the Confederate Navy as well. The author details the personalities of the men that ran the navies on both sides. He points out that President Davis wasn't too involved in the Confederate Navy so Secretary Mallory had pretty much a free hand to operate as needed. Mallory had many challenges in setting up a Navy from absolutely nothing. The South managed to grab a couple of revenue cutters and converted some civilian ships to gunboats but that was about all he had to work with. His efforts focused on local construction and purchasing ships from Europe. Shipboard life for the sailors of both navies were basically the same.

The next chapter deals with facilities and resources for both sides. Mr. Tucker points out that, from a manufacturing capacity, New York City had more capacity than the entire South, so shipbuilding was a real problem for the South. This chapter goes into detail of the various classes of Union gunboats and the South's struggle to buy combat ships and raiders and their program to build ironclads.

The balance of this book covers the strategies and various combat that occurred between the Union and Confederates. He provides some great commentary on the Union blockade and the Confederate attempts to break it. He describes President Davis' blunder of expecting "Cotton Diplomacy" would bring Britain and France to aid the Confederate cause. Tucker provides excellent detail on Union Riverine operations and the growth of combined operations between Union navy and Army forces. He covers major operations on the lower Mississippi and New Orleans, the Vicksburg Campaign, Charleston and Red River Campaign. He also devotes some time to Confederate Raiders and submarine and torpedo developments.

I thought this book was a thorough look into Civil War naval operations on both sides. It is a good read for any student of the Civil War and I think it provides great insight to an area that doesn't get a lot of attention. There aren't too many books that deal solely with the naval end of the Civil War. One that comes to mind is a book by James M. McPherson, *War on the Waters*. I think that is an excellent book but I think Mr. Tucker's book provides a bit more detail. I would recommend either book as a good addition to a Civil War library but I would give Mr. Tucker's book as having a slight edge.

submitted by Bruce Klem

Evaluating the State of Area Civil War Monuments and Memorials

This past summer of 2021, Peter Keepman, C.K. Pier Badger Camp 1 Memorials Officer, visited 12 monuments, plaques, markers and memorials related directly to Civil War figures and events and described each monument's condition and history (if available).



The Soldiers and Sailors Monument

The Soldiers and Sailors Monument stands on the corner of Walker Road and Juneau Avenue at Wood National Cemetery. Easily seen from the freeway, the monument is 60 feet tall and was erected by the Soldiers and Sailors Association in 1903. It was sculpted by Joseph Shaver Granite and Marble Company of Milwaukee and was originally part of the Northwest Branch Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, whose buildings are now known as the Old Soldiers Home.

The monument was refurbished 10 to 15 years ago by Marion Restoration of Chicago.

Victorious Charge

Dedicated on June 28, 1898, the Victorious Charge Monument is on what is known as the “Court of Honor” along West Wisconsin Avenue in downtown Milwaukee. The monument was designed by American artist John S. Conway and was noted at its dedication for its use of realism. It depicts a group of Union Soldiers in action and is considered by many to be Wisconsin’s greatest Civil War monument to come out of the 19th Century. Its most recent renovation occurred in 2003.

Rufus King Historical Marker

The Rufus King marker, sponsored by the Camp, Auxiliary 4 and the Milwaukee County Historical Society, stands on the northeast corner of East Mason and North Van Buren Streets. It was installed in 2011. Since the last report, the large NML building has been constructed and Van Buren street has been reopened.

Jerome Watrous Rock

The Col. Jerome Watrous memorial has perhaps gone through the most change of all the monuments featured in this report. The memorial, previously located in an oak grove at Whitnall Park, Hales Corners, has been moved (sometime between the 2014 report and now) by the Parks Department to an equally suitable location at Hales Corners Park, on South New Berlin Road.

Col. Watrous was adjutant of the 6th Wisconsin Infantry, a unit part of the Iron Brigade. He originally enlisted on July 11, 1861, in Company E, and by August 1864, was promoted to sergeant major. He mustered out on May 16, 1865.

The rock was installed in the 1930s by the Col. Jerome A. Watrous Fortress No. 9 National Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Memorial at Site of Lincoln Speech

Standing along the southwest corner of 13th Street and West Wells Street is the Lincoln Speech Memorial, commemorating the spot where then future president Abraham Lincoln spoke in 1859. The land around the monument, now the site of Marquette University’s Schroeder Hall, was in 1859 the site of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Fair. The monument was placed in 1928 and remains in excellent condition. The alcove-like shrubbery that surrounds the plaque is also well landscaped.

Lincoln Plaque and Sign at State Fair Park

Just like the plaque on 13th Street and West Wells Street, this plaque and sign commemorates the speech Abraham Lincoln gave at the 1859 Wisconsin State Agricultural Fair. The plaque set in granite depicts Lincoln staring up into the heavens and contains the quote “I cannot conceive how a man could look up into the heavens and say there is no God.”

Milwaukee County War Memorial Lincoln Statue

The Lincoln Statue was dedicated on September 15, 1934, and stands at the foot of East Mason Street, Milwaukee. Originally, it was meant to be dedicated in 1919, on the 60th anniversary of Lincoln’s visit and speech in Milwaukee but because of the outbreak of WWI, and the start of the Great Depression its dedication was delayed. In 1932 a design competition was held and New York sculptor Gaetano Cecere won. Cecere spent over 18 months crafting what would turn out to be a 3,000-pound sculpture.

Underground Railroad Historical Marker

Located at 16th Street and Fond Du Lac Avenue in the Lindsey Heights neighborhood, this historical marker commemorates the Samuel Brown farm, a significant part of the local Underground Railroad network in the Midwest. As early as 1842 the farm notably helped hide sixteen-year-old Caroline Quarles, a runaway slave from St. Louis as she was being pursued by slave catchers. After successfully evading capture in Milwaukee, local abolitionists took her to Waukesha (at that time called Prairieville) and she then fled to Canada from there. The marker was dedicated in 1995 and was sponsored by the Milwaukee County Historical Society.

Evaluating the State of Area Civil War Monuments and Memorials

- continued -

Wood National Cemetery Memorial Day General Orders Plaque

Located along the pathway leading to the Wood Cemetery Soldiers and Sailors Monument, this plaque contains the reproduced text of the General Orders issued on May 5, 1868, by GAR Commander in Chief John A. Logan to establish Memorial Day. Plaques similar to this one can be found at several other national cemeteries including Fort Rosecrans in California, Fort Snelling in Minnesota, and Fort Bayar in New Mexico. This specific plaque was sponsored by the Milwaukee Women's Relief Corps and was placed at an unknown time.

Soldiers Home Gettysburg Address Plaque

This is on a sidewalk near the Wadsworth Library. Presented by the George C. Drake Post No. 223, Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Wisconsin, to the Northwestern Branch of Soldiers Home of Wisconsin, on July 4, 1928.

E. P. Wolcott Memorial in Lake Park

Located along the northwest end of Milwaukee's Lake Park from the end of the Lions Bridge, this memorial commemorates Brigadier General and Surgeon General of Wisconsin Erastus B. Wolcott. At the start of the Civil War, Wolcott was well known for his care and attention to wounded soldiers, and he visited many battlefields throughout the war. In Wisconsin, he was active in recruiting for both the Army and Navy. At the war's end, he was instrumental in the opening of the National Home for Disabled American soldiers in Milwaukee. When GAR Post #1 was founded in Milwaukee in January 1880, Wolcott, who had died only weeks before, was chosen as its namesake. Upon the death of Wolcott's wife, Dr. Laura Wolcott, in 1915, this monument was commissioned with funding from Dr. Laura Wolcott's will. It was dedicated in 1920.

Calvary Cemetery Civil War Veterans Historical Marker

Thanks to the efforts of C.K Pier Badger Camp 1, this marker was placed at Milwaukee's Calvary Cemetery to note the more than 300 Union Civil War veterans interred there. The marker was placed in 2018 and was sponsored by Camp 1, Woman's Relief Corps, C.K Pier Badger Auxiliary 4, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the U.S., Milwaukee Police Post 415 of the American Legion, and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Snowy Morning Picket from Harpers Weekly January 30, 1864

The privations endured by Civil War soldiers help us better appreciate their service and sacrifice along with the bounty we enjoy.

As we enjoy the warmth of food, friendship, and festivities let us all remember those whom we lost in 2021.

Let's never let the light of learning grow dim as we work to keep history alive here at the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.

And so, as 2021 comes to an end, we wish you all . . .



. . . a blessed, safe, healthy, and Happy New Year in 2022!



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!

George Chaloupka



a soldier of the
26th Wisconsin

George Chaloupka was one of the fallen fathers at Gettysburg. Born in a small farming village in Bohemia, George was an ambitious man. He married on September 8, 1845, and on January 21, 1851, his wife Mary gave birth to their daughter, Anna. Soon after that, the family immigrated to the United States and would settle in Caledonia, a small farming town in Wisconsin. George made a good living as a carpenter. On September 15, 1855, Mary died.

George would marry again within a year. On August 14, 1856, George took Mary Howarsch as his wife. The couple would welcome a daughter, also named Mary, on February 5, 1858. A son, George, was born in 1859 and another daughter, Christina, was born in 1861, a month before Fort Sumter.

George did not answer the first call for volunteers but would enlist later with the Salomon Guards which would become Company D of the 26th Wisconsin Infantry. Mary was pregnant with their fourth child, Ludwig, who was born in January 1863.

George survived his regiment's baptism of fire at Chancellorsville but then came Gettysburg. On July 1, 1863, he was deployed in line of battle in a field just south and west of a knoll on the Blocher farm north of Gettysburg. Captain August Bartsch reported that George "was hit by a rifle ball fired by the enemy of the U.S. passing through his head in consequence of which he died instantly on the field."

In Caledonia, George's wife, Mary Hawersch Chaloupka, was now a 27-year-old widow with five children. In October 1863, Mary started the process of applying for a widow's pension. The application progress would prove to be difficult partly because of different spellings of her surname. The approval for the pension could stall or stop if spellings on various regimental and adjutant general's records did not match exactly. It would be late November 1864, when Mary received news that she would receive an \$8 monthly widow's pension; no additional funds were provided to support her five children.

In September 1865, Mary married James Henry Dowler, a German farmer and Caledonia neighbor. Mary surrendered her widow's pension on her wedding day; in 1866 her widow's pension was replaced by a minors' pension. Each child would receive modest financial support which would terminate before the child's 16th birthday.

There is no marked grave for Private George Chaloupka. His remains most likely rest under one of the square numbered headstones that mark Gettysburg's unknown dead.

Source: Carol Reardon, Ph.D.

All Roads Lead to Gettysburg

Preservation and Progress, Volume 32, Issue 3

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of William “Bill” Osborne. Bill was a Life Member of our Civil War Round Table and served for many years as Program Chairman in the 1970s and 80’s. Bill often spoke of how much he enjoyed getting to know some of the great speakers that we had during those years, often hosting their stay with him rather than in a hotel. Bill was the grandson of William Norman Fitzgerald, one of the founding members of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and upon his grandfather’s death, donated his entire library to Carroll University in Waukesha.

Bill was an active member of the North-South Skirmish Association and Civil War Skirmish Association. Bill and a great friend cobbled together a few dollars in the mid-70s to buy a collection of lockplates, thus founding Lodgewood Manufacturing, which specialized in sales and repair of Civil War firearms. For many years thereafter Bill could be found spinning tales and fixing guns at skirmishes and on sutlers row at nearly all local and national Civil War Reenactments. If you needed a screw or didn’t need a new musket, Bill had what you needed with “Let me ask Bill” being a common refrain from his friends and family who helped run the shop.

Bill was a member of the First Brigade Band for many years. Bill proudly served as a US Marine Corp Officer during the Vietnam War era and remained a Marine the rest of his life. Bill and his wife, Rebecca (“Becky”) loved to reenact all eras in history, but especially the Civil War. He will be greatly missed by many, many people. Besides his wife Rebecca, Bill is survived by his son and his wife, his daughter and her wife, his step-daughter and her husband, and step-son and his wife, as well as three grandchildren.

Memories made to the Kenosha Civil War Museum.



We also mourn the passing of Sharon M. Thompson of Campbellsport. In 1968 Sharon married Round Table member Tommy Thompson, who is also on our Board of Directors.

Sharon worked at Regal Ware Inc. in West Bend for 25 years and then for the State of Wisconsin as a correctional officer for 23 years until she retired in 2013.

Sharon enjoyed traveling, shopping, sewing, quilting and home decorating projects, but most of all spending time with family and friends. She was an avid volunteer at Trinity Lutheran Church, Waucousta Lutheran Grade School and Winnebago Lutheran Academy. Sharon was one of the “go-to” people for these institutions, always willing to help out and more than capable in the things she accomplished.

Sharon will be deeply missed by her husband Tommy, their daughters Laurie (Tom) Develice and Linda (Tony) Marchant, and by five grandchildren, her siblings, and the entire community in which she served so faithfully.

And flights of angels guide them to their rest

More Programming from the Kenosha Civil War Museum

Saturday, January 15

1PM

Dr. Holly Pinheiro

The Families' Civil War

Free and Open to the Public

(Dr. Pinheiro will do the program for an in-house audience live via Zoom.)

Counter to the national narrative which championed the patriotic manhood of soldiering from the Civil War through the 1930s, Dr. Pinheiro's research reveals that African American veterans and their families' military experience were much more fraught. Economic and social instability introduced by military service resonated for years and even generations after soldiers left the battlefield. His objective in conducting this research is to humanize the individual soldiers and their families to show how war affected the front lines and the home front simultaneously — thereby revealing how Northern African American families experienced the Civil War.

Dr. Pinheiro is Assistant Professor of African American History in the Department of History at Furman University. His research focuses on the intersectionality of race, gender, and class in the military from 1850 through the 1930s.

Saturday, February 12 "A Proud Competitor But a Humble Sportsman" The Athleticism of Abraham Lincoln

1PM Free and Open to the Public

Dr. Jason Silverman (Dr. Silverman will appear live via Zoom, but give the talk for an in-house audience)

"For such an awkward fellow, I am pretty sure-footed. It used to take a pretty dexterous man to throw me," recalled President Lincoln on the night of his reelection as President in 1864.

For Abraham Lincoln, athletics was not just a way of explaining his political situation. It was a way into politics, a way to engage in enjoyable pursuits, a way to compete and connect with his friends and neighbors. He was naturally competitive. Dennis Hanks, a relative who grew up with Lincoln in Indiana, recalled that Lincoln "was ambitious & determined & when he attempted to Excel by man or boy while whole soul & his Energies were bent on doing it."

Dr. Silverman's presentation will show that Lincoln enjoyed sports and games of all kinds. He enjoyed the camaraderie, the competition, and the escape from the pressure of his domestic, legal, and political everyday life. Relying on the accounts of those with whom he competed, a full picture of Lincoln the athlete emerges as he plays town ball (baseball), fives (handball), wrestling, marbles, quoits (horseshoes), billiards (pool), bowling, horseback riding, running, jumping, and such mental games as chess and checkers.

Jason H. Silverman is the Ellison Capers Palmer Jr Professor of History Emeritus at Winthrop University where he taught for over thirty-three years. Prior to that he taught at Yale University for four years. Author or editor of eleven books, several of which were nominated for national book awards, his recent works are *When America Welcomed Immigrants: The Short and Tortured History of Abraham Lincoln's Act to Encourage Immigration* (2020), and *Lincoln and the Immigrant* (2015, paperback 2020), a volume in the Concise Lincoln Library series published by Southern Illinois University Press. Dr. Silverman received his undergraduate degree at the University of Virginia and his graduate degrees at Colorado State University and the University of Kentucky. Among his teaching awards, he has received *Winthrop's Outstanding Junior Professor Award*, been named the *University's Distinguished Professor*, received the *Pi Kappa Phi Excellence in Teaching Award* three times and, in 1990, became the first person in Winthrop's history to be named *South Carolina Professor of the Year*.

Civil War Museum Workshops

Monday, January 24 Rethinking the Regimental History

6:30 PM \$15/\$10 FOM

Dr. Brian Jordan

In the years and decades after the U.S. Civil War, scores of veterans penned unit histories, seeking to record something of their experiences in camp, on the march, and at the front. Though regimental histories quickly fell out of favor, a recent wave of scholars have sought to reimagine them. In this workshop, historian Brian Matthew Jordan demonstrates how regimental histories can permit scholars to tell a more capacious, textured, and inclusive story of the war: one that accounts for--and makes sense of--the war's many extremes. How can the oblique angles of a unit history re-cast our understanding of the human realities of combat (and their long shadows)? How can regimentals amplify the voices of historically marginalized soldiers? What sources, methods, and tools are available to help modern historians reimagine the genre? What happens when we resist the urge to approach the war as an epic, and instead approach it as a shared human experience?

Dr. Jordan is assistant professor of history and Director of Graduate Studies in History at Sam Houston State University, where he teaches courses on the Civil War and Reconstruction, American military history, and the U.S. history survey. A cultural historian of the nation's fratricidal conflict, he is interested in the human longitude of the Civil War battles and the problem of memory. A native of Akron, Ohio (but now a proud Texan), Dr. Jordan serves as the Book Review Editor for *The Civil War Monitor* and is a member of the Society of Civil War Historians. He is the co-editor of the Engaging the Civil War Book Series (Southern Illinois University Press) and founding co-editor of the Veterans Book Series (University of Massachusetts Press). His more than eighty articles, reviews, and essays have appeared in *The Journal of the Civil War Era*, *Civil War History*, and *The New York Times*.

Thursday, February 10

6:30-7:30pm \$20/\$15 FOM

**Behind the Scenes Tour of the Civil War Museum's Fiery Trial Gallery
with Curator Doug Dammann**

Join Civil War Museum Curator Doug Dammann for a Behind the Scenes Tour of the Civil War Museum's Fiery Trial Gallery. The tour will feature the history, stories and artifacts displayed in the gallery, but also focus on how the exhibit was constructed, reveal some hidden details in the artwork and photography, and showcase the behind the scenes work that went into constructing the exhibit and museum. Even if you've seen the museum before, you are sure to learn something new from this tour.

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.

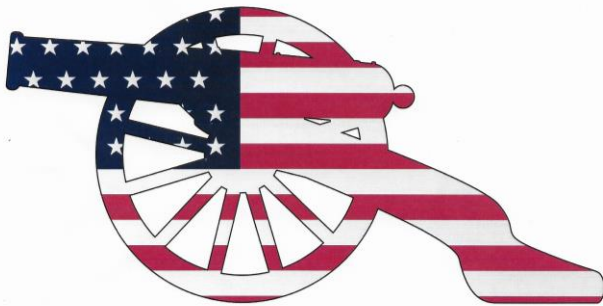
And there's more! On the road back to Wisconsin we will stop in Gettysburg to explore “women of Gettysburg,” “obscure Gettysburg,” and “the farms and hospitals of Gettysburg.” A visit to the Flight 93 Memorial is also planned.

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*.

Civil War Museum of Delafield 528 Wells Street Suite F



“A Happy New Year.”

As these lines are committed to the press the dying knell of a departed year is still lingering in the air, and midnight watchers are hailing each other with the joyous greeting of a “Happy New Year.” Happy may it be to all true hearts, from careless childhood to venerated age; happy to the brave men whose strong right arms are raised in defence of the justest cause that ever appealed to the favor of Heaven; and thrice felicitous may it prove, in bringing to a happy end the myriad troubles which, during the year gone by, threatened at once the unity and the life of our Republic.

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. You may also email her at 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 (\$50), family (\$60), 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.

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.

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Contact Roman Blenski, Quartermaster
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You may also see Roman in person at the
Monthly Meeting at the Book Raffle table.

