

GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

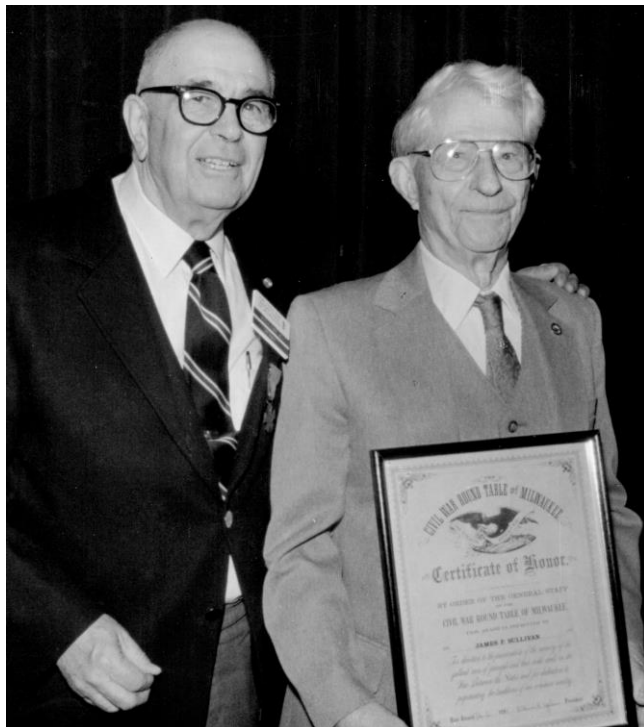
**Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.
and The Iron Brigade Association**



October 14-15, 2022

Kenosha Civil War Museum

75th Anniversary Dinner and Civil War Forum



William Upham II and James F. Sullivan

One of the most unusual and significant meetings of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee occurred in 1990 when two sons of Civil War veterans used a monthly meeting to convene the first reunion of the Iron Brigade Association in 67 years.

James F. Sullivan, 89, of New Port Richey, Fla., and William Upham II, 74, of Milwaukee, then passed a resolution turning the operation over to the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table (MCWRT).

More than 150 people attended.

In 1861, Sullivan's father – James P. "Mickey" Sullivan – joined Co. K of the Sixth Wisconsin Infantry while Upham's dad – William Upham – signed on with Co. F of the Second Wisconsin Infantry. The two regiments became part of the fabled Iron Brigade of the West.

Upham was shot through the neck in the First Battle of Bull Run and was taken prisoner but was paroled in 1862. A Wisconsin senator took him to meet President Abraham Lincoln, who asked to see the wound.

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October 2022

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October Meeting at a Glance

75th Anniversary Dinner and Civil War Forum

October 14-15

Kenosha Civil War Museum

see pages 6-7

2022-2023 Speaker Schedule

Find the speaker schedule on page 10.

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!

Join with us in observing



of superb historical programming at the
**Milwaukee Civil War Round Table
Anniversary Celebration**

October 14-15, 2022
at the Kenosha Civil War Museum
SEE PAGE 6-7 FOR DETAILS!



October 1861 finds a nation and Springfield, Illinois in turmoil.

The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

| MUSTER ROLL - CONSOLIDATED LIST of all persons of Civil War II, subject to the military duty in the ... | | | | | |
|---|------|----------|----------------|---------------------------|---------|
| NAME | RANK | REGIMENT | PLACE OF BIRTH | PREVIOUS MILITARY SERVICE | REMARKS |
| Lavarna Hilbig | | | | | |
| Mark Matranga | | | | | |

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 July 1- September 9, 2022.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

Gerald Frangesch

In Memory of Robert Parrish \$500

Patron (\$200 - \$499)

Van & Dawn Harl, Gene & Jane Jamrozy,
Dan Nettesheim

Associate (\$100 - \$199)

Donna Agnelly, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Michael Benton, Michael Deeken, Ellen DeMers, Gary & Judy Ertel, Bill & Claudette Fink, Doug Haag, Jim Heinz, Peter & Jean Jacobsohn, Jerome Kowalski, Kathy McNally, Dennis Slater

Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Jeryl Anthony, Brian Apfel, Dale Bepalec, Gordon Dammann, Larry Desotell & Deborah Wied, Tom Doyle, Lori Duginski, John Durr, Paul Eilbes, Julian Gonzalez, Brian Gunn, Leon & Margaret Harris, Grant Johnson, John Kuhnmuensch, Jay Lauck, Rod Malinowski, Paul & Susan Miller, Tom Olsen, John Rodahl, Sam Solberg, Justin Tolomeo, Dan Wartinbee, Paul Zehren

Speaker Enhancement Fund

George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Jeryl Anthony, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Robert Christie, Ellen DeMers, Tom Doyle, Lori Duginski, Paul Eilbes, Gerald Frangesch, Julian Gonzalez, Brian Gunn, Doug Haag, Jim Heinz, Tom Hesse, Don & Lavarna Hilbig, Peter & Jean Jacobsohn, Gene and Jane Jamrozy, Grant Johnson, Allan Kasprzak, Don & Mary Korte, Jay Lauck, Rod Malinowski, Robin & Tom Martin, Kathy McNally, Jim & Monica Millane, Tom Olsen, John & Susan Petty, David Perez, John Rodahl, Bob & Carla Rodzaj, Brad & Kathy Schotanus, Paul Zehren

If you believe your name was omitted from this list, please contact our Treasurer Paul Eilbes at peilbes@gmail.com.



In October 1948 Robert L. Kincaid spoke to the membership on “The Cumberland Gap in the Civil War.”

Louis Starr spoke about “The Bohemian Brigade” at the October 1954 meeting.

October 1964 had Grady McWhiney speaking to the members on “Confederate Defeat.”

“Morgan the Raider and Morgan’s Terrible Men” was the topic of Frank G. Rankin’s presentation to the Round Table in October 1974.

At the October 1984 meeting Alice Are and James A. Trulock spoke about “General Joshua L. Chamberlain of Maine.”

“Civil War Anesthesia” was the subject of Peter Jacobsohn’s presentation at the October 1994 meeting.

Dr. Robert Zaworski spoke to those assembled at our October 2004 meeting about “An Underwater Look at Monitor.”

In October 2014 the Round Table welcomed Mark Bradley who spoke on “When East Meets West: Joe Hooker, O.O. Howard and the Atlanta Campaign.”

At last year’s October meeting David Dixon spoke to the group on “The American Civil War: A Radical, International Revolution.”

Kenosha Civil War Museum Exhibits **June 11, 2022 through June 4, 2023**

Explore the people and events that made the Buckeye state unique and so important to the Union cause.

Ohio joined the Union in 1803 as the 17th state, and was a major agricultural, economic, educational, and intellectual force in pre-Civil War America. At the time of the Civil War, Ohio was the oldest and most established state in the Upper Middle West.

It can be argued that no northern state was more important to the Union cause than Ohio. Its size, location, and its southern borders with Virginia and Kentucky made it geographically important. The Ohio River and a well-established network of railroads moved troops, food and supplies. Ohio contributed more soldiers per capita to the Union Army than any other northern state. Ohio’s location made it a major route for African American freedom seekers traveling to Canada. Five Ohioans who served in the Union Army went on to become president of the United States.

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.

Brother Joseph Dutton: Badger Soldier, Sinner, Saint
Friday, October 14, 2022 Noon – 1 p.m.

Presenter: Pete Skully

Brother Joseph Dutton was born Ira Dutton in Storrs, Vermont, and grew up in Janesville, Wisconsin. He served for the duration of the Civil War in the 13th Wisconsin, rising from Quartermaster Sergeant to Lieutenant and District Quartermaster. He spent two decades after the war in his “lost years” then spent forty-four years ministering to the leper colony of Molokai Island, Hawaii.

The Civil War Nursing Service of Sister Anthony O’Connell and the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
Friday, November 11, 2022 Noon – 1 p.m.

Presenter: Judith Metz

Sister Anthony O’Connell (1814 – 1897), a Sister of Charity, ministered in Cincinnati, Ohio, for sixty years. Typical of thousands of nineteenth century Irish Catholic immigrant women, she entered a religious community when she was barely out of her teens and spent her life serving in Catholic sponsored ministries. She distinguished herself by her intelligence, leadership, and uncommon virtue. Her work in the hospitals of Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky as a U.S. Army nurse during the Civil War brought her fame and the undying admiration of the soldiers she treated.

Veterans Day Ceremony

Friday, November 11 - 11 a.m.

Join the Navy Club Ship 40 in a ceremony honoring veterans from all branches of service. Open to the public. Light refreshments sponsored by Piasecki Funeral Home.

Sensory Friendly Days

Kenosha Public Museum: Saturday, Oct. 15 9 – 10 a.m.

Civil War Museum: Saturday, November 12 9 – 10 a.m.

Sensory Friendly Days give visitors of all ages with complex developmental disabilities, sensory sensitivities, or on the autism spectrum a safe, comfortable environment to explore the museum exhibits during special hours before the museum opens to the general public. Where possible, our lights will be dimmed and the sound turned off. Signage will be posted for those areas in which we are unable to turn off the sound or there may be other sensory triggers. Trained staff will be available to help visitors navigate the museum and offer supportive resources (noise-cancelling headphones, fidgets, weighted blankets, quiet spaces), as well as opportunities for sensory engagement during your exploration of the museum.



Cairo Evening Times

October 21, 1865

Steamship M'Gill

Had 175 bales of cotton and a moderate trip assorted freight. She brought to this port 603 men of the 14th Wisconsin Infantry, who left here per rail, yesterday evening, for Madison, Wisconsin. About 100 men of the regiment remained in Mobile intending to make that city their home.

Madison Wisconsin

State Journal November 12, 1864

Example of how the soldiers voted.

The Cairo dispatch to the Chicago Journal, gives the following votes of Wisconsin soldiers at Memphis. A detachment of the 8th Wisconsin Infantry voted Lincoln 66, McClellan 9.

A detachment of the 11th Wisconsin Infantry voted Lincoln 38, McClellan 1.

A detachment of the 33d Wisconsin Infantry voted Lincoln 49, McClellan 4.

Lincoln is elected

The country is safe

Attention! Wide-awakes!

Every member of the young American wide awakes is hereby notified to be at their rooms this Saturday evening punctually at 7 o'clock, to attend the jollification meeting at the senate chamber. Come with uniform and torch.

By order of Jas. E. Brett, Capt.

Lt. C. Lord, sect's

Madison Nov. 12, 1864

Military Items

On Thursday 200 recruits left Camp Randall under charge of Colonel Malloy, for the 17th Regiment, in Sherman's army.

On Friday night Companies I and G of the 1st Heavy Artillery, numbering 294 men, organized November 8th and paid the 10th by Lt. Purcell, U.S. Mustering and Disbursing officer, left for Washington.

Lt. Purcell on Friday paid bounty to 45 recruits for 1st cavalry and Company B, 45th Regiment, organized the 8th, who leave today.

There were 26 recruits mustered in today.

Capt. Whitman of the 20th has arrived with a recruiting party for the 20th Regiment now at Fort Morgan, Mobile Bay, but under a recent order of the War Department, directing all recruiting parties to rejoin their regiments they will be obliged to return to their regiment at an early day.

False Predictions

With the evident fear that GRANT might, by some bold and lucky stroke, force his way into the rebel capital, or Sherman rout and cut to pieces the army of Hood, and that the news of such a victory of the Union army would disastrously influence the chances of their ticket, the Copperhead newspapers for a week before the election were predicting that the Administration would put in circulation just on the eve of that day, false and sensational reports of victories won over the rebel armies.

It is a significant fact that the opposition were so fully impressed with the conviction of a decisive victory of the Union party at the ballot box, that during the last week of the canvas, they devoted a large portion of their editorial columns to inciting their friends to deny and discredit all reports of victories won in the field against the rebels which might be received.

submitted by Jim Johnson

SOLDIERS HOME WALKING TOURS

For 30 years, Old Main sat empty, but today, thanks to the work of many partners, it is an award-winning restoration and provides permanent supportive housing to veterans and their families at risk of homelessness. We worked hard to ensure Old Main and 5 other buildings on this National Historic Landmark campus were restored in service to veterans, and we're thrilled to be able to offer walking tours of the Soldiers Home grounds, including a stop in the newly restored Old Main to see the incredible preservation work and take in the building's history exhibit.

NOTE: Advanced registration is required to attend any Soldiers Home Walking Tour. Registration will end at 11 a.m. the Friday before each tour. Future tours will continue through early Fall and will be added as dates are finalized.

Each tour is 90 minutes long, approximately 1 mile, and will cover a variety of fascinating information including the history, architecture, and preservation stories of these historic buildings. Tours run rain or shine. Tours are offered for FREE, but you are welcome to leave a donation during the registration process to ensure these tours remain accessible to all. All donations directly support MPA's work to ensure the remaining vacant buildings on the Soldiers Home campus are preserved as well as our broader advocacy to preserve Milwaukee's built and cultural heritage.

Established just after the Civil War, this 90-plus acre district rests on the grounds of the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center and represents Milwaukee's role in furthering veteran care in America. One of only 43 National Historic Landmarks in Wisconsin, it is the most intact Soldiers Home in the country and the only one with the majority of its surrounding recuperative village remaining.

For dates and to register: mpa@milwaukeepreservation.org

Horace E. Griffin Tombstone Dedication at Forest Home Cemetery May 21, 2022

The average age of a Union soldier was 25.8. Horace Griffin was barely out of his teens when he enlisted in D Company, 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, on August 22, 1864. He spent nearly a year in service.

He was from the Town of Montrose in southern Dane County.

Battery D had been organized under Battery Commander Capt. Henry Peck on November 7, 1863. It was ordered to the defenses of New Orleans on Feb. 9, 1864, and was garrisoned at Fort Jackson, just below the city, until July of that year.

The battery then was transferred to Fort Berwick, near Brashear City (now named Morgan City), where Griffin joined the unit. Battery D remained at Fort Berwick until June 1865.

Fort Berwick was a Confederate fort established in 1861, but was abandoned in April 1862 after the fall of New Orleans. It then was occupied by Union forces.

The fort was a quadrangular earthworks with 5-foot parapets on three sides and protected from the rear with a 7-foot-high loop holed palisade. The exterior was surrounded with a moat six feet wide in front and three feet wide in the rear.

The fort was armed with two 24-pounder pivot guns to control the outlet of Wax Bayou near the junction with the Atchafalaya River. Pivot guns were muzzleloaders and could fire either shells or grapeshot.

Although his exact duties are not documented, Griffin likely was a cannoneer or an extra man, with active participation in loading and firing the piece to which he was assigned. Most artillery pieces were manned by teams of at least nine soldiers. Multiple men were needed to sponge the barrel to prevent unplanned explosions, to carry projectiles from the rear, to ram the powder and shell to the back of the tube.

At least one, the gunner, for each piece was needed to judge the distance and position of the target and aim the weapon.

Service in an artillery regiment was hazardous duty, with accidents and misfires common, and often fatal.

After the surrender of Robert E. Lee in April 1865, Company D remained at Fort Berwick until the end of June 1865. Griffin was mustered out at that time.

The rest of Company D was sent to Washington, D.C. It served there at Forts Cass, Buffalo, Ellsworth, Worth, Rodgers, and Willard; it was finally mustered out on Aug. 18. Overall during the war, the 1st Heavy Artillery lost four enlisted men and two officers killed, and 77 enlisted died from disease.

Griffin died at age 75 on March 7, 1919. It is noted that he was a member of GAR Post #35 (Zach Chandler) in South Haven, Mich.

We honor his dedication and service to his country in time of peril.

Written by Tom Hesse

C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1

Article is reprinted in the *General Orders* with his and the C.K. Pier Badger Camp's permission



Iron Brigade Color Guard

In recognition of their 40 years of membership the Round Table welcomes Peter and Jean Jacobsohn into the Iron Brigade Color Guard. Please take the time to congratulate and recognize Peter and Jean for their many years of devotion to the Round Table.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

During speaker Q&A, only specific questions related to the topic are allowed. If your question does not meet this criterion, you may be asked to yield the floor and you may also forfeit the opportunity to ask future questions.



The Great Lakes Civil War Forum

Where the Fight was the Thickest: The Campaigns of the Iron Brigade of the West

Saturday, October 15 * Check In Opens at 8:30 am * Program Begins at 9:30 am
\$55 (\$70 for non-members) includes lunch

A Deadly Game of Bo-Peep: The Iron Brigade at South Mountain, September 14, 1862

Presenter: Dr. Brian Matthew Jordan

On Sunday, September 14, 1862, the Army of the Potomac notched three, hard-earned victories in the rugged passes of South Mountain. One of the most inspiring moments of this first major combat of the Antietam Campaign involved a brigade of hearty Midwesterners who, ascending the old National Pike, forced Turner's Gap. How did this daring action contribute to and shape the identity of what came to be called the Iron Brigade? And how did the battle itself shape the course of the Maryland Campaign? Historian Brian Matthew Jordan will address these questions and more.

Whoever Stood in front of the Corn Field at Antietam Needs no Praise: The Black Hat Brigade at Antietam

Presenter: Scott D. Hartwig

The Battle of Antietam was not the costliest battle the western brigade of General John Gibbon fought in the war, but for those who experienced its ferocity it was an unforgettable experience that no one who survived it ever wanted to repeat. Nearly a year later, Rufus Dawes of the 6th Wisconsin, would write that he dreaded the very thought of the Antietam. This program will examine the experience of the brigade that day, what sustained them through some of the fiercest fighting of the war, how some failed, but ultimately how they emerged from the Maryland Campaign with the nickname The Iron Brigade.

Boys, We Must Hold Our Colors on This Line or Lie Here Under Them

Presenter: Phil Spaugy

The 19th Indiana is probably the least known of the Iron Brigade regiments. The veterans of the 19th had no authors such as Mickey Sullivan, Rufus Dawes, Jerome Watrous, or George Otis to write their regimental history. But the other men who wore the Black Hats remembered them well. Jerome Watrous of the 6th Wisconsin Volunteers recalled, "The 19th Indiana regiment became known as "Old Posey County" or "Swamp Hogs No. 19" and "every man of them did not care a goll darn how he was dressed, but was all hell for a fight."

The 19th Indiana brought 339 men to Gettysburg and by the end of July 1 had lost 27 killed, 133 wounded and 50 missing. Phil Spaugy's program will detail their vicious fighting along Willoughby Run and during the retreat to Seminary Ridge, where the 19th Indiana served on the exposed left flank of the brigade.

Camp-Fire Memories of the Iron Brigade

Presenter: Lance Herdegen

The four years of Civil War cast a long shadow over the surviving veterans of the Iron Brigade. At first, they were too busy getting on with their lives and did not to give much thought of their days in uniform. But the years passed and soon they were caught up in an overwhelming need to think of soldier days, seek out the old comrades, and reflect on what had been accomplished. They called their reunions "Camp-Fires" and the written accounts comprised much of what is known today of the Iron Brigade. Writers and researchers delight in finding those accounts, but often use only small segments after making decisions on their historical value. The accounts themselves were often softened to spare readers, yet they hint at the truth of the war experience and provide an important glimpse of how the war and its memory affected the veterans and their families.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, custodians of the Iron Brigade Association, was established in 1947 and is the second oldest of the more than 300 Civil War Round Tables in the United States and abroad. This year we will be celebrating our 75th anniversary at the Civil War Museum in Kenosha the weekend of October 14-15, 2022. Activities include a dinner on October 14th and presentations on key battles in the history of the Iron Brigade of the Civil War on October 15th. Current membership is approximately 300. Membership in the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. has many perks. Membership automatically includes membership in the Iron Brigade Association.

October 14, 2022 Dinner 5:30 – 8:30 PM

Appetizers

Bacon-Wrapped Water Chestnuts finished in a house-made Bourbon BBQ glaze
Personal Charcuterie Cup

Plated Salad

Apple Salad
Spring Mix & Romaine Lettuce, Candied Pecans, Blue Cheese Crumbles with a Champagne Vinaigrette

Buffet Dinner

Black Angus Top Sirloin
Served with a Red Wine Demi-Glace

Grilled Scottish Salmon
Flame-grilled on-site and served with Mango Relish for a tropical citrus flavor

Roasted Wisconsin Red-Skinned Potatoes
Oven-Roasted with Fresh Herbs & Garlic-Infused Olive Oil

Maple Glazed Carrots
Artisan Dinner Rolls & Butter

Chef David's Famous Cheesecake Bars
House-made Cheesecake on an Oreo Cookie Crust Topped with Raspberry Drizzle

Cost of Dinner Event per person: \$50

[Please be aware that this dinner cost is separate from the Forum on Saturday.]

Additional items available for dinner event guests:

Certificate for one Used book
Commemorative Note pads & post-its
Golf style shirt (TBD)
Auction prints and books

continued from page 1

“He had my father take off his blouse and then his undershirt to show the wound on the neck. The hole had filled in and was at least the size of a man’s hand,” Upham said. “Lincoln made some statement that it was a serious wound and said one of his relatives suffered the same wound in the Black Hawk War and had survived.”

Lincoln appointed Upham to the U.S. Military Academy and upon receiving his commission in 1866 the new lieutenant was sent to Fort Monroe, Va., where one of his duties was guarding former Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

“As a companion and a man to talk with, Mr. Davis was very pleasant and social,” the elder Upham later wrote of Davis. “Never to me, did he indulge any bitterness or inflection upon anyone.”

Upham in 1894 was elected governor. William Upham II was born in 1916 when his father was 75. The elder Sullivan died in 1906.

“I did not get a chance to know my father very well because he died when I was a little over five years old,” Sullivan said.

“Mickey” Sullivan was wounded in the battles of Gainesville, South Mountain, Gettysburg, and Weldon Railroad, but survived the war.

The Iron Brigade included the Second, Sixth, Seventh Wisconsin and the Nineteenth Indiana. It was reinforced by the Twenty-Fourth Michigan following the battle of Antietam in 1862.

Brigade veterans formed the association in 1880 at Milwaukee and in 1896, while meeting at Devil’s Lake, Wis., passed a resolution to include as members their children and grandchildren. The association last met in Iowa in 1923.

Upham II, a former insurance agent, won the Bronze Star and Purple Heart in the Army during World War II. Sullivan served in the Army Second Bombardier group that proved Gen. Billy Mitchell’s controversial theories about strategic bombing and served with the Navy Seabees in the South Pacific during World War II. He worked for the Veterans Administration in Omaha, Neb., before retiring to Florida.

“The Civil War was the high point in their lives in many respects,” Upham said. Adding his father and other veterans “talked constantly” of the war.

Sullivan’s father became an attorney at Ontario, Wis., after the war and painted his law office red, white and blue to show his patriotism.

Lance Herdeggen - Author and Past President of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table

The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory and Thereafter

Union Soldiers in the American Civil War

Those Damned Black Hats: The Iron Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign.

Winner Army Historical Foundation Award for Distinguished Writing.

The Men Stood Like Iron

“Atlanta is Ours and Fairly Won!”

October 2023

Civil War Time Travelers, LLC will be traveling to sites on the hard-fought campaign to take Atlanta. Dates for the trip are yet to be finalized, but targeted days are October 20-27. This may become our first 8-day tour.

We’ll visit sites related to Sherman’s 1864 campaign to capture Atlanta, and the Confederacy’s failed defense to hold on:

Resaca - Dalton - Allatoona Pass - Rocky Face Ridge - Pickett’s Mill - Kennesaw Mountain - Kolb’s Farm

We’ll visit the *General*, the *Texas*, and the somber grounds of Andersonville. Side stops may be Richmond, KY and a visit to the Ark Encounter on the way back to Wisconsin.

✎ IN MEMORIAM ✎

DAVID McCULLOUGH



David McCullough, award-winning, best-selling author with a rare gift for recreating the great events and characters of America's past, died on August 7, 2022, at his home in Hingham, Massachusetts. He was 89.

McCullough's readers were always treated to a lot of work in his writings. It took McCullough 7 years to write his John Adams book and 10 years to write "Truman". "The Great Bridge" (1972), his exhaustive account of the technology, personalities and politics involving the building of the Brooklyn Bridge, was hailed as a monument in its own right. The book featured engineer Civil War veteran Washington Roebling.

"I think of writing history as an art form," McCullough said in a 2008 interview featured in a short HBO documentary. "And I am striving to write a book that might - might - qualify as literature. I don't want it just to be readable. I don't want it just to be interesting. I want it to be something that moves the reader. Moves me."

He would go further, inhabiting his characters as if preparing for a role. While writing "The Great Bridge," he grew a beard, like engineer Washington Roebling. When he was working on "Truman," he took daily brisk early morning walks, just as Truman had done.

"People often ask me if I'm working on a book," McCullough said in a 1992 interview with the New York Times. "That's not how I feel. I feel like I work **in a book**. It's like putting myself under a spell. And this spell, if you will, is so real to me that if I have to leave my work for a few days, I have to work myself back into the spell when I come back. It's almost like hypnosis."

McCullough was the host of the public television series "American Experience" from 1988 to 1999 and narrated some of the episodes. He was also the host of the television magazine "Smithsonian World." Additionally, he narrated the 1990 Ken Burns series "The Civil War."

"A great historian is gone today," said biographer Robert Caro in a statement on August 8, 2022 adding, "There is only one solace. His books will endure, helping America understand its past."

And flights of angels guide him to his rest

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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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 2021-2022 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| September 8, 2022 | Steve Cowie <i>"When Hell Came to Sharpsburg"</i> |
| October 14-15, 2022 | Kenosha Civil War Museum <i>75th Anniversary of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table</i> |
| November 10, 2022 | Mary Abroe <i>Historic Preservation and Civil War Battlefields: An American Story</i> |
| December 8, 2022 | Garry Adelman (At the Country Club) <i>Midwest Civil War Photo Extravaganza</i> |
| January 12, 2023 | Rob Girardi <i>The Union Prisoners of War at Camp Douglas</i> |
| February 9, 2023 | Charlie Knight <i>From Arlington to Appomattox</i> |
| March 9, 2023 | Dwight Hughes <i>Unlike Anything That Ever Floated The USS Monitor and the Battle of Hampton Roads</i> |
| April 13, 2023 | Rich Holloway <i>Red River Campaign</i> |
| May 11, 2023 | Sean Michael Chick <i>Dreams of Victory</i> |
| June 8, 2023 | Tom Cartwright TBD |

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



Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. 2022 – 2023 Board of Directors

| Name | Office/Position | Term Expires |
|-------------------|--|--------------|
| Donna Agnelly | Editor, General Orders | 2025 |
| Thomas Arliskas | Past President | 2025 |
| Terry Arliskas | Secretary | |
| Michael K. Benton | Past President | 2023 |
| Roman Blenski | Quartermaster | 2025 |
| Paul A. Eilbes | Treasurer | 2025 |
| Van Harl | First Vice President | 2023 |
| Tom Hesse | President | 2023 |
| Grant Johnson | Membership/Webmaster Past President | 2024 |
| Bruce Klem | Past President | 2024 |
| Daniel Nettesheim | Member | 2024 |
| John Petty | Second Vice president | 2025 |
| 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.

AWARD WINNING C.K. PIER BADGER CAMP #1

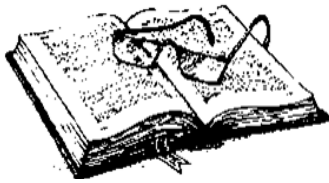
The C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 is No. 1 in the nation.

CinC Michael A. Paquette bestowed this ultra-high honor at the recent National Encampment in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

"It came as a complete surprise," said PDC Tom Brown, Camp commander. "It goes to show you that the work of the Camp does not go unrewarded."

PCinC Steve Michaels added: "Later, CinC President Paquette told Tom and I that our Camp does everything that a Camp is supposed to be doing, and that he follows our activities on social media like Facebook."

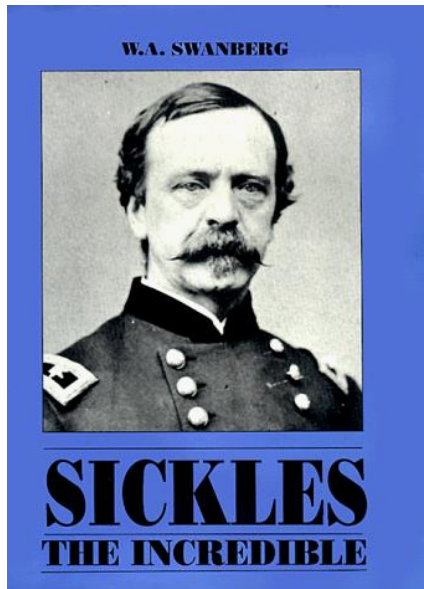
The Round Table extends its heartiest congratulations to the Camp for achieving this well-deserved honor.



BETWEEN THE COVERS

Sickles the Incredible

William A. Swanberg



My review this time is on a book I purchased via the bid process on books Dave Wege brought to the Round Table meetings from the Lefler collection. The Sickles book is by noted biographer, William Andrew Swanberg. Some of Swanberg's other works include *First Blood: The Story of Ft. Sumter*, *Citizen Hearst*, *Luce and His Empire* and others. This 390-page book was published in 1956. Other than various bits and pieces I have read that mention Sickles and his role at Gettysburg, I had not read any books on Sickles. This being my first turned out to be a great choice in my view.

Though somewhat dated, especially in its respectful treatment of someone who doesn't always deserve it, there simply isn't a more entertaining or complete depiction of Sickles incredible life. First and perhaps most of all, Dan Sickles, born in 1819, was a womanizer – from his adolescent visits to lower class bordellos to final adventures with Spanish nobility in his late seventies. Breathtaking for its scope and quantity, one is left wondering about the nature of the emotional instability that lay behind Sickles' explosive libido, offset with his wanton disregard for the usual family care of wife and child.

There are few characters in history, let alone American Civil War Generals, as controversial as Daniel Sickles. That his story remains so obscure defies explanation. Mr. Swanberg's book opens with perhaps the most notorious chapter

in Sickles long life, the killing of his wife's lover, Philip Barton Key, in the shadow of the White House and the first use of the temporary insanity defense in American jurisprudence. The author points out how Sickles while deeply loving his wife, despite carrying on with other women, shut her out of his life for a time.

The author shows how Sickles rejuvenated his standing with the coming of the war. He changed from Democrat to Republican, becoming a strong Lincoln supporter and friend, which enabled him to get a commission in the Volunteer army in spite of New York's governor and thus launched his military career and the road back from the disaster of his private life at the time. Sickles military actions generally were good and his unit came to respect and love him for his leadership.

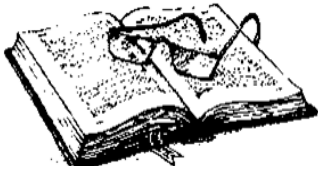
I expected the remainder of this book to be anticlimactic and was gratefully disappointed. Mr. Swanberg is admittedly an exuberant fan of Sickles, affording him more credit than his due perhaps, but the amazing facts of his life seem to deserve more attention than other historians have provided. I tend to believe that Sickles' story does need retelling.

A man of obvious contrasts. Sickles was a Tammany Hall politician who made it his duty to bring down Jay Gould and his cronies because he loathed their corruption. The confidant of many presidents who presented his prostitute/mistress to the court of Queen Victoria and the Civil War General who is given equal credit for winning and losing the battle of Gettysburg. Sickles continued to maintain throughout his life that he truly was the hero of Gettysburg and by moving his Corps to the Peach Orchard saved the day – for a time trying to undermine Meade's record and role in the fight.

Sickles would become for a time the driving force behind the movement to create Gettysburg as a national park. The author shows how Sickles moved on to work his way to become Ambassador to Spain and the intrigue he created there in a long-desired effort to have Cuba become a U.S. possession.

I highly recommend this book to any student of the Civil War, and it deserves I think a spot on your Civil War bookshelf. Probably one of the most interesting characters in the Civil War time period. Truly a man of many contrasts. This story is a highly unbelievable tale in my opinion of one man's life and his impact on history.

submitted by Bruce Klem



BETWEEN THE COVERS

Work for Giants: The Campaign and Battle of Tupelo/Harrisburg, Mississippi June - July 1864

Thomas E. Parson

This review is on a book I purchased during the Civil War Museum's October 2021 trip to visit the Corinth and Shiloh Battlefields. I noticed that this book covered the Battle of Tupelo and a few years ago Bonnie and I stopped at the NPS site in Tupelo. It wasn't much of a site, nestled among some strip malls on the outskirts of the town. I thought it would explain where the rest of the battlefield was and better explain the fight. I remember remarking to one of the tour group that I didn't think I'd get to this book right away, but I made the mistake of starting to read it and really got interested in it, so I forged ahead and finished it in short time.

The book comes in at 301 pages and covers the campaign and fight between Union General Andrew Jackson Smith's army and the Confederate forces under Generals Stephen Lee and Nathan Bedford Forrest. The game plan for Smith's Army/Corps was to keep Forrest and his command busy so that the Confederates could not leave Mississippi and harass Sherman's supply line, thus hampering or forcing Sherman to pull back on his advance against General Johnston and Atlanta. The second part of Smith's mission was, if possible, to destroy Forrest and his command. This would be a tall order as General Sturgis just months earlier had the same mission and his command was nearly completely destroyed and routed by Forrest at the Battle of Brice's Cross Roads.

This book features many positive attributes of recent Civil War battle and campaign histories. The strategic/operational context is explained, the relative positions of the forces involved over time covered, and the battlefield action and tactics described, all in a clear and engaging way. I thought the author did an excellent job in including maps that readily helped the reader follow the troop movements of both sides. The maps greatly aided in explaining the strategic operations of Smith's command. That it is applied to the relatively obscure Harrisburg/Tupelo battle makes it especially valuable.

One aspect that I appreciated was the author's minimal application of hindsight, which otherwise is all too common in Civil War battle histories. Minimizing it allows an appreciation of the contingency and action-reaction sequence of the campaign as it played out; there is really no better way to understand how A.J. Smith maintained the initiative for the Union forces. Another aspect is that most of the narrative is based on contemporary sources, but when post-war reminiscences are used they tend to be clearly identified as such.

The author shows how at every stage of the operation General Smith had bested both Forrest and Lee by using diversion and feints to plant a seed of one Union maneuver while doing something completely unexpected. This enabled General Smith to maintain his hold on the initiative in the operation and enabled him to out fight General Forrest and General Lee with some of the same troops that Forrest beat up badly at Brice's Cross Roads.

I thought this was a terrific book and that the author did an excellent job in presenting the campaign. Detail on both sides and great maps. The success of this operation I think was spot on in that the focus was to keep Forrest off Sherman's supply lines and if possible destroy Forrest's command. While an opportunity to crush Forrest may have been lost by not counterattacking by Smith the mission was a resounding success. Ed Bearss points out "the combat effectiveness of Forrest's corps was destroyed in the period of July 13-15. While Forrest would rally his force and make a number of daring raids, never again would his corps be able to stand and fight Union infantry."

One item I really liked was the last chapter of the book where the author examined issues that were frequently disputed when analyzing the battle. Mr. Parson calls to task the elements used to illustrate the battle through the accepted tenets of the Lost Cause movement and calls them "essentially revisionist."

I highly recommend this book to any student of the Civil War as it shows a small action in great detail and may burst the bubble of those who maintain Forrest could not be defeated no matter what the odds.

submitted by Bruce Klem

A Trip to a Hidden Gem in Galena, Illinois



It is 161.6 miles from the front door of the Wisconsin Club to the site called the Grant House in Galena, Illinois. Google estimates that drive to take 2 hours and 52 minutes. You don't have to drive through Chicago to get there, either. Instead, one drives through bucolic countryside, the incredible Driftless Area of southern Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa. That drive alone makes the trip well worth anyone's while. However, it's a drive with a destination in mind – the Civil War home of General Ulysses S. Grant and other sites associated with his career as a Union general and U.S. President. The river city of Galena is a gem that is in itself a prized final goal of any jaunt.

Ulysses and Julia Dent Grant first arrived in Galena in the spring of 1860. There they rented a small brick house. Grant had retired from the military six years before, but since that time the family had a rather hard-scrabble existence. Everything to which Grant turned his hand seemed to end in failure. That is what brought the Grant family to northwestern Illinois. There he would work in a store owned by two of his brothers. Grant's role in the business was to travel the northwest, servicing customers' needs in small towns throughout southwest Wisconsin, southeast Minnesota, and northeast Iowa. During these years, Mr. and Mrs. Grant rented a modest brick home for the princely sum of about \$100.00 annually.

Grant returned to military service at the outbreak of the Civil War. He was commissioned colonel of the 21st Illinois Volunteer Regiment. Promotions followed. This man who failed so completely in civilian life found his stride in his second career in the U.S. Army. He put together the team that defeated the forces of the Confederacy. Through bold, aggressive, and determined leadership he led Union forces to victory, culminating in the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House in April 1865. Though sparks of unrest continued, and remnants of the Confederacy remained, for all intents and purposes the war had ended. Grant's transition from pitied fool to national hero was complete.

Galena was ready to welcome this hero when he returned to their picturesque town on the banks of the Mississippi. In August 1865 the Grants were escorted in a jubilant procession through the streets of town. A grand archway spanned Main Street as a procession featuring the hero wound its way past cheering citizens. A holiday atmosphere prevailed with speeches and fireworks. Julia Grant remembered, "There was a tremendous and enthusiastic outpouring of people to welcome him. After a triumphal ride around the hills and valleys, so brilliant with smiles and flowers, we were conducted to a lovely villa exquisitely furnished with everything good taste could desire."



The "lovely villa" to which the Grants were conducted was a gift from the city and a group of Republican businessmen. This purchase, made in June 1865 at a cost of \$2,500.00, touched the Grants deeply. After years of struggle, Grant's war-time successes had led them to a beautiful Italianate home atop a hill overlooking the winding streets of a city the family came to love, to regard as their home, and where they would put down some roots.

Of course, Ulysses and Julia Grant went on to even better things than Galena could offer. After Grant's election to the Presidency in 1868, they returned only occasionally to the house that had brought them so much happiness and stability. In 1873 Grant said that "although it is probable I will never live much time among you, but in the future be only a visitor as I am at present, ... I hope to retain my residence here... I expect to cast my vote here always."

In anticipation of the Grants' sporadic returns, caretakers were hired to maintain the house. Local newspapers proudly proclaimed that it was kept in excellent order and ready for occupation at any time.

The historic Grant home is located at 500 Bouthillier Street in Galena. It sits majestically on a hill along with several other period buildings. For a donation of \$5.00, visitors are offered a tour by knowledgeable volunteers with an obvious love for the building and people who once resided there. A visit to the Grant home is worth the drive.



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!

The GAR Took Milwaukee by Storm in 1880



GAR CONVENTION OF 1880 – PART 2

In Part 1 of this article we read that: The crowd of some 100,000 began moving into the city center early that morning by train, steamer, carriage, horseback, and walking. “Everywhere were the bearded (the current fad for mature men) veterans; it is certain that Milwaukee had never had as many beards before or since.” Gamblers and gay ladies (prostitutes) also moved into town. Dozens of horse drawn streetcars were added to take the veterans to the campgrounds. The password of the camp was “The Union of the States; One and Inseparable.” Supposedly, the “Reunion Liberty” flagpole at the tent grounds was to be the tallest in the U.S.

We continue with Day 2.

During the second day of the Convention, the newspapers shouted the single word: “Garfield,” because he received the Republican nomination. Now Grant was free to come to Milwaukee and the city seethed with excitement. “Grant is coming,” was the word passed from lip to lip. The next day a special train of Wisconsin notables including Wisconsin Governor W. E. Smith left Milwaukee to meet the special train of General Grant and General Sheridan. They met about forty-three miles from Milwaukee, and both sped to Milwaukee with throttles wide open and whistles screeching. At the depot, policemen and the Light Horse Squadron kept the crowds in order. President Grant and his wife got into a four-in-hand carriage and went off to stay at the home of General Charles S. Hamilton. General Sheridan got into another carriage and went to stay at the home of Alexander Mitchell.

The day before the parade thousands more arrived and the overflowing city was about ready to burst. At the Newhall House they put cots in every corridor and vacant space. The Plankinton House put up four hundred cots and the Kirby Hotel put up three hundred more cots. Men bunked together with some three to a bed and some men found no place all night. But it was lively downtown and there was plenty of merriment for those with no bed. The City jail and House of Correction were jammed with gamblers, gay ladies, and petty thieves. The authorities said it was no use to make more arrests as there was no place to put them. The crowds in the downtown area ate up all the food that the restaurants had causing some restaurants to lock their doors.

June 10, the day of the parade dawned hot and muggy with a hot moist wind from the west. As early as 4:00 AM, people were lining up on the parade route even though it wasn’t scheduled to start until 10:00 AM. Forty thousand veterans gathered for the parade, but the wind seemed to sap the life from the men. They were sweating in tight fitting, high buttoned blue coats which they had outgrown in the 15 years since the war ended. The parade started with martial music from the many bands and the cheers and hand clapping of the thousands who watched.

General Grant and General Sheridan sat in a carriage in the fifth and last section of the parade. This was the era when baby kissing by statesmen and warriors was the thing to do. Hundreds of mothers held up their infants to the generals and they kissed dutifully.

The crowds gave their loudest cheers to the carriages that contained the disabled Civil War veterans from the soldier’s home and the handful of veterans of the War of 1812. Long before the parade was over the heat took its toll. Some of the marchers fainted, but smelling salts were used to revive them. The Best Brewery passed out beer to the veterans as they marched by. One of the parade’s exhibits was “Old Abe,” Wisconsin’s war eagle which had survived many a battle. “Old Abe” flapped his wings many a time as the crowd cheered him. It was the great eagle’s last parade, for he died the next year to be stuffed and put on display at the State Capitol in Madison. (Unfortunately, he was later destroyed in a fire at the Capitol)

That night there was an exciting program at the campgrounds. The big event of the evening was the appearance of General Grant on the stage. After his introduction, a hush fell over the crowd of thousands as he spoke.

“Comrades, ladies and gentlemen, I should be very happy to address you, but I am not in the habit of making speeches, and moreover, not many of this vast assemblage would be able to hear my voice. It has been a great pleasure in this my third visit to Milwaukee to have had the opportunity of meeting so many of my old comrades in arms. I am very glad to see you all well and find the country in a happy and prosperous condition. But I feel that in 25 years hence, the country will be still greater and more prosperous, and I should know from past experience, should occasion require you to imperil your lives in the preservation of the union, all and every one of you will be on hand.”

Then the President stepped back to receive a round of deafening cheers. A band struck up “Hail Columbia” as the general and his party left the grounds.

The 1880 Milwaukee GAR convention spurred the growth of more GAR posts both in Wisconsin and nationally. There were at least six GAR posts within the city of Milwaukee and several women’s auxiliary chapters. At one time there were some 400 GAR posts in Wisconsin. GAR reunions were held often throughout Wisconsin into the 1920s as there were reunions at Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Madison, Lone Rock, Spring Green, Superior, La Crosse, Racine and others. Wisconsin held national conventions again in 1889, 1923, 1937 and 1943.

As a result of the success of the Milwaukee GAR Reunion, more national GAR conventions were held in other cities continuing all the way to 1949. The GAR reached its peak membership of 400,000 in 1890 and slowly declined in numbers until 1956, when its last member died.

submitted by John Helmenstine

**528 Wells Street, Suite F
Delafield, WI 53018
262-303-4133**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022
6:30 – 8:00 pm**



The Perryville Campaign

The presentation will focus on the Confederate Resurgence in the Western Theater in the late of 1862, culminating Braxton Bragg’s invasion of Kentucky and the Battle of Perryville on October 8.

**Tuesday, December 13, 2022
6:30 – 8:00 pm**

The Fredericksburg and Stones River Campaigns

This presentation will focus on these two important campaigns—one in the East and one in the West—in December of 1862. Both saw vicious fighting and high levels of casualties but were ultimately indecisive.

Seating is limited! Please register at our website: <https://www.civilwarmuseumdelafield.com>

Or to register via email or contact us with questions, write to us at: cwmdel@gmail.com

Visit us at Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Civil-War-Museum-of-Delafield-WI-108835694973198/>

MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE QUARTERMASTER'S REGALIA

What better way to show off your pride in our organization! All items are made of first-rate, quality materials, modestly embroidered with the Round Table/Iron Brigade log, along with your name or initials.

| ITEM | COST |
|---|---------|
| Hooded Sweatshirt in Northern Blue..... | \$35.00 |
| Baseball Hat..... | \$10.00 |
| Blue Brief Case..... | \$25.00 |
| Blue Light-Weight Sweatshirt..... | \$30.00 |
| Blue Izod Polo Shirt..... | \$40.00 |
| Blue Dress Shirt..... | \$40.00 |
| Blue Fleece-Lined Jacket..... | \$60.00 |
| Iron Brigade Pin..... | \$5.00 |
| CWRT Pin..... | \$5.00 |
| Bugle Pin..... | \$5.00 |
| Iron Brigade Medal..... | \$25.00 |
| Red River Medal..... | \$25.00 |
| CWRT 60 Year Medal..... | \$10.00 |

Contact Roman Blenski, Quartermaster

4601 W. Holt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53219

(410 327-2847 dbcpmilw@gmail.com)

You may also see Roam in person at the monthly meeting at the Book Raffle table.

