

# GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

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



**January 12, 2023**

**Robert I. Girardi**

## The Union Prisoners of War at Camp Douglas

*In the aftermath of the war, Camp Douglas eventually came to be noted for its poor conditions and death rate of about seventeen percent. Some 4,275 Confederate prisoners were known to be re-interred from the camp cemetery to a mass grave at Oak Woods Cemetery after the war.*

Camp Douglas, on the south side of Chicago, was Illinois' largest training camp. More than 40,000 volunteers mustered here. In February 1862, the camp was converted to accommodate Confederate Prisoners of War. About 24,000 Confederates were held there during the war, of which 6,000 died. The story is well-told. Yet lesser known is the story of the thousands of Union POWs who were held in the camp awaiting exchange. After the surrender of Harpers Ferry in September 1862 the paroled Union soldiers were interred in parole camps. More than 8,000 of them were sent to Camp Douglas. Our January speaker, Rob Girardi, will present an account of their troublesome experiences in Chicago.

Robert I. Girardi has a master's degree in public history from Loyola University. He is a lifelong student of the American Civil War and has studied all aspects of the conflict. He is a past president of the Chicago Civil War Round Table and is the author or editor of nine books, and numerous articles and book reviews.

He was a board member of the Illinois State Historical Society and was guest editor for the 2011-2014 Sesquicentennial of the Civil War issues of the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*. His most recent article, "Reconsidering Major General Gouverneur K. Warren" appeared in the July 2020 issue of North and South Magazine. He is currently working on a military biography of Warren.



Among his books are: *The Civil War Generals: Comrades, Peers, Rivals in Their Own Words* (2013), *The New Annals of the Civil War* (2004), *The Memoirs of Brigadier General William Passmore Carlin, U.S.A.* (1999), *The Military Memoirs of General John Pope* (1996) and *Captain H.W. Chester, Recollections of the War of the Rebellion* (1996).

Please join us in welcoming Rob Girardi to our January Round Table meeting.



## General Orders No. 1-23

**January 2023**

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## January Meeting at a Glance The Wisconsin Club 9<sup>th</sup> and Wisconsin Avenue

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

5:30 p.m. - Registration/Social Hour

6:30 p.m. - Dinner

[\$30 by reservation, please]

Reservations are accepted until

Monday, January 9, 2023

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.

## 2022-2023 Speaker Schedule

Find the speaker schedule on page 8.

**[milwauwkeecwrt.org](http://milwauwkeecwrt.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!

## Non-Discrimination Statement

The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, creed, ancestry, pregnancy, marital or parental status, gender identity or expression, veteran status, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other legally protected status in its educational programs, activities, or membership.

## CHANGE IN MEETING TIME

In looking for ways to improve the experience for members, guests, and presenters at our meetings, the Board of Directors has decided to change our meeting times as follows:

5:30 pm – Social/Registration

6:30 pm – Dinner

7:30 pm – Announcements/Program

## Kenosha Civil War Museum Exhibits

June 11, 2022 through June 4, 2023

## Loyal to the Union: Ohio in the Civil War

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. 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.

## The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

## 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 October 15, 2022.

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

Gerald Frangesch

### In Memory of Robert Parrish \$500

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

Doug Haag, Dawn & Van Harl, Gene & Jane Jamroz, Steve Leopold, Dan Nettesheim, Laura Rinaldi

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

Donna Agnelly, Michael Benton, Dale Bespalec, Dale Brasser, Mike Deeken, Gary & Judy Ertel, Bill & Claudette Finke, Peter & Jean Jacobsohn, Bernard Jene, David Jordan, Robert Mann, Kathy McNally, James & Ann Reeve, Laura Rinaldi, Brad & Kathy Schotanus, Dennis Slater, Justin Tolomeo

### Contributor (up to \$99)

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

### Speaker Enhancement Fund

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



Marshall Wingfield spoke to the membership in January 1949 on "Robert E. Lee."

January 1959 had Hubert W. Hawkins speaking to the members on "John Hunt Morgan's Ohio Raid."

"The Ironclad Gunboat Cairo" was the topic of Edwin C. Bearss presentation to the Round Table in January 1965.

Duke Frederick spoke to the Round Table in January 1975 on "The Ku Klux Klan: The Continuation of Resistance."

At the January 1985 meeting Merlin Sumner spoke on "General Grant's Staff: A Plus or a Minus?"

"Billy Yank and Johnny Reb Were Uncommon Soldiers" was presented by James I. Robertson at the January 1995 meeting.

Terry Winschel was our featured speaker at the January 2005 meeting speaking on "Stephen D. Lee and the Making of the Post-War South."

In January 2015 Father Robert J. Miller talked to those assembled on "The Most Christian Nation in the World: Religion in Society on the Civil War Home Front."

At last year's January meeting Garry Adelman via Zoom talked to the membership on "Civil War Myths and Mistakes."

***"To care for him who shall have borne the battle."***

### **Civil War Medical Weekend with the 17th Corps Field Hospital Group**

Free and Open to the Public

Saturday, February 18, 10-4

Sunday, February 19, 12-4

Join the Civil War Museum and the 17th Corps Field Hospital for a weekend of interactive displays, presentations, and programs that explore the medical care provided to soldiers during the Civil War. Members of the 17th Corps Field Hospital, the largest Civil War Medical unit in the Midwest, will set up displays and materials highlighting Civil War era surgery, nursing care, pharmaceuticals, and embalming in the Civil War Museum's Freedom Hall.

Interactive presentations, materials and displays will be available throughout the weekend. Activities include:

Civil War surgical demonstrations. View hundreds of original surgical instruments up close. Hear about different diseases that affected soldiers during the Civil War. Learn how women nursed the wounded and sick. "Make pills" with the local Doctor Milam using an 1800's pill roller.

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

Sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table  
and the Iron Brigade Association

**Friday, January 13**

**The Last Depot: A Civil War Sketch**

Noon Free and Open to the Public Mark Gormican

*The Last Depot* is a ninety-minute dramatization concerning a Union Civil War veteran, L.J. Nelson, 21st Wisconsin, and his return to Andersonville Prison thirty-one years after the death of his messmate, Sgt. James Torbert of the 6th Wisconsin. The action takes place at Torbert's grave site in the National Cemetery, a few hundred yards from where the infamous prison stood for fifteen months late in the war. The play involves Nelson reminiscing about the war, the bond formed between the two, and how Nelson's life unscrolled after his return home. Though understandably a monologue, the script implies a dialogue between the two mirroring their different personalities and dispositions.

**Friday, February 10**

**A Game of Whist: An Alleged Sheboygan Connection  
to Lincoln's Assassin**

Noon Free and Open to the Public Steven Rogstad

Helen Brainard Cole was one of Sheboygan's leading celebrities in the early 1900s. Through numerous interviews she repeatedly told her reminiscences about being a nurse during the Civil War at a Washington, D.C. hospital, where she frequently interacted with President Lincoln during his hospital visits. Her tales of seeing Lincoln became legendary. Another involved her association with Lincoln's murderer, John Wilkes Booth, who she claimed she played cards with just weeks prior to the assassination. What did she remember of her frequent interactions with Booth? Did he reveal anything? How did Helen Cole become an intimate of America's most beloved president and most hated presidential assassin?

**Saturday, February 18**

**1:00 PM**

**This is part of the Medical Weekend Programming**

**The Long Civil War: Living with Disability  
in Gilded Age America**

Dr. James Marten, Marquette University

Hundreds of thousands of men returned home from the Civil War disabled in body or mind. These disabilities ranged from the quite visible loss of limbs to the more subtle, nearly invisible burdens of long-term illnesses and everything in between. "The Long Civil War: Living with Disability in Gilded Age America" will explore case studies of veterans of the Sixth Wisconsin—one of the regiments in the famous Iron Brigade—to examine a variety of challenges faced by survivors of the war and their families.



**From the Seventeenth Regiment  
Headquarters 17<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry  
Camp Near Corinth, Miss., October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1862**

Messes, Editors: I herewith transmit to you a correct list of our casualties in the late battle and siege of Corinth on the 3d and 4<sup>th</sup> instant.

Our loss, I am happy to say, is light. On the morning of the 3d our regiment was encamped on the Chewalla Road, between the Memphis and Charleston and Mobile and Ohio Railroads, and somewhat in rear of the former rebel works there, which run from the Memphis Road across the Mobile Road and all along north and northeast of Corinth. At about six o'clock a.m. we were on the march to the front towards our outposts who were retreating in from Chewalla, and from which point the entire rebel army was fast approaching. We were here counter marched and ordered back to a position south of the Memphis Road, we found our division under command of General McArthur formed in line of battle in rear of Fort F. This fort is about three miles from Corinth, stands on elevated ground and completely commands the Memphis Road. The position we had held (together with the 21<sup>st</sup> Missouri) between the two railroads, was to be taken by General Davies' command, and still further to the right the gallant Hamilton. Such was the position of those divisions at about 11 o'clock, when the rapid discharge of musketry and artillery between the latter divisions and the enemy sounded so near, it was pretty evident our right was falling back, Davies division did not come on our right so as to reach the Memphis Road, and the rebels took advantage and easily gained the camps of our regiment and the 21<sup>st</sup> Missouri. At this junction the 16<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin, under Major Reynolds, was ordered over. They fought well but did not stop the tide.

The rest of the division was called to aid the 16<sup>th</sup>. General McArthur displayed much coolness, riding through a storm of bullets as unconcerned as if on parade. Our regiment was on the right, the 1<sup>st</sup> Minnesota battery in the center. It was now pretty evident that the enemy was trying to outflank us, when Col. Doran said, "Soldiers of the 17<sup>th</sup>, the general orders you to charge the enemy. Charge bayonets! Forward march!" The regiment advanced rapidly and well, the Colonel leading. Before getting up with them, our State and Irish colors were well riddled, the national colors were untouched. The enemy composed of the 35<sup>th</sup>, 36<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> Mississippi regiments, now faced about, and we drove them through the camp of the 21<sup>st</sup> Missouri, across a ravine and out of our own camp we had only a few hours before left. They were now largely reinforced, and we were ordered to fall back, having driven an entire brigade half a mile. I see it stated in the Chicago journals that Baldwin's brigade assisted or made the

charge. Such is not the case; the 17<sup>th</sup> alone made it. Doran led the men with great gallantry, Lieut. Col. Malloy and Major McMahon ably aiding him. Indeed, there was not an officer or man out of his position. An Irish charge, with its accompaniments, rather astonished the enemy, I think. Our division was now ordered back over the railroad, the entire army gently falling back. Gen. Rosecrans having just got the enemy where he wanted him – between the two railroads. Night was fast approaching. The infantry were placed so as to support the large bastions (interior defenses) mounting the heavy Parrott's and howitzers. Our tired soldiers, after a hasty meal, laid down upon their arms to snatch a few hours rest. It was a watchful night for some.

Perfect silence reigned around; now and then we could hear the enemy bring up his guns, but the night was rapidly passing away, and at about 8½ a.m. the enemy opened with shell hoping to burn us up, together with our immense army stores. Our siege guns replied, soon silencing him. And here I would say that our forts, manned by the First United States Infantry, saved Corinth, and our infantry much hard work. Gen. Rosecrans was ubiquitous – he saw everything himself – daylight revealed us to the enemy, in large force, all along our front, preparing for a desperate onslaught. He understood the position of all our guns and men – very soon a general cannonade took place, from right to left, the enemy closing in upon us. Our infantry now became engaged, and the battle was at its height at about half past ten o'clock. Now and then the enemy would appear to change position. Our Brigade was not taken from the extreme right to the left, it being thought that he would try to turn that position, but such was not the case. He charged in upon the bastions and captured the one on the right. Getting into the streets of Corinth, it was soon retaken; and out of the entire rebel brigade, not fifty returned from the charge. At the other bastions, they did not get over the ramparts, being shot down in the ditch. A moment before, it would have been difficult to see the result. A tremendous shout along our entire line caused many a heart to rejoice. The victory was ours. Gen. Rosecrans announced to each regiment amidst great enthusiasm. "The enemy is whipped upon both flanks. Soldiers, I thank you!" The enemy fought with a desperation and pertinacity worthy of a better cause. I question much if braver men ever lived. But they were met by men who were fighting for country, name, and fame, and all that is dear to American citizens, who can never permit their flag to be trailed in the dust, or one star less to be counted upon its folds. These are the men who repulsed the traitors, and won the most signal victory, as far as results are concerned, in this war. The rebels send in a flag of truce, asking to bury their dead; but it was done only to gain time to retreat, which they did, after Sterling Price's most approved mode. We marched after them toward the Hatchie River, where Hurlbut and Ord put a finisher on them. We marched to Ripley, but what remained bad scattered so that there was no longer a rebel army to follow. We returned to Corinth much worn and fatigued, but are now fast recuperating.



**Madison Wisconsin State Journal**  
**October 28, 1862**

**Murder of Col. Bliss**

Col. Bliss was basely murdered – let me tell you how. He was getting his canteen filled with milk. He had the privilege from the commander of the post of filling it inside of the guard. He went from the warehouse to the cabin on the line of the guard, handed his canteen to the lady who was about filling it, when the guard called out, “You have been there long enough get away!” He said, “Wait till I get my canteen.” He reached his hand for it, the lady passed it to him, he turned around and was going to his quarters when he was murdered, two charges from the shotgun entering his breast. He fell dead. The citizens of Montgomery gathered around and looked at his body as it lay there, and the only remark made was “that old shotgun had a pretty good hole through the d—d Yankee.”

**Ohio Prisoners Murdered**

At Atlanta, confined in a courthouse, we perceived a large procession coming up the street – two or three wagons and a great concourse of men, women and children following. When they were opposite to us, we beheld some men rise in the wagon and raise their caps to us. We counted them. They were on their way to the gallows. They were United States soldiers from the State of Ohio and were taken out and hung within two hundred yards of our prison. The rope broke with two of them. They were compelled to stand and behold the struggles of the other five until they were dead. Then they were strung up, too, and paid the penalty for doing what? For endeavoring to get to our lines. They had strayed off, reached to that place, and got possession of a railroad train –

tore up nothing, destroyed nothing, stole nothing, but simply took possession of the train. But they neglected to cut the telegraph wire in time; this was telegraphed down to Chattanooga; a force was sent up, caught them, tied and condemned them without their knowing it and they took them out of prison and hung them. They died a heroic and glorious death. They died for their Government. They were asked to recant before they were swung off, but they said, “We are ready; we volunteered to shed our blood in defense of our country, whose privileges we have enjoyed. We are at your service to your bidding.”

I hardly need to tell you that I have always been a strong, uncompromising Democrat. I have been an apologist for the Southern people. I pronounced the stories of their cruelties to be gross fabrications. I consider the Abolitionists and Republicans the enemies of the Union. I will not say so now.

I was opposed to Abraham Lincoln. I am now opposed to every man who opposes Abraham Lincoln. You may talk about the unconstitutionality of the President’s Proclamation. I tell you if that proclamation is lived up to, it will prove the hardest blows this rebellion has yet received. But to make this proclamation effective, it must have the support of the people, and no loyal man will refuse it his support.

The Southern people are not going to give up until they are thoroughly whipped, and they never will be whipped while every slave is equal to one soldier. The negroes are the best friends we have. We must sustain our Government and the Administration.

*From the Field* is provided by Jim Johnson.  
Thank you, Jim!

## **The Ninth Annual Emerging Civil War Symposium at Stevenson Ridge**

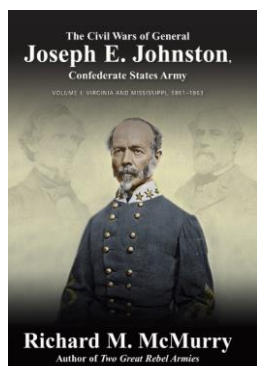
The Ninth Annual Emerging Civil War Symposium will be hosted at Stevenson Ridge (Spotsylvania, Virginia) on August 4-6, 2023. We’ll be focusing on 1863 and some of the most pivotal events of that year of the American Civil War.

Stay tuned this autumn for more details about our speaker line-up and other event announcements. Early Bird Registration is open through December 31, 2022: just \$200/ticket (save \$25). [Check out the 2023 Symposium Page for more details.](#)

### **Request from Round Table Member Andy Oren**

Member Andy Oren is interested in attending the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College in June 2023. He is looking for another member who is interested in attending and would like to carpool together to the event. If you are a member interested in attending and would like to carpool with Andy please contact him at: [aoren@att.net](mailto:aoren@att.net)

### **The Civil Wars of General Joseph E. Johnston Confederate States Army** **Volume 1: Virginia and Mississippi, 1861-1863    \$34.95**



Johnston’s contributions to the war effort remain a lightning rod of controversy. In *The Civil Wars of General Joseph E. Johnston*, Richard M. McMurry argues persuasively that the Confederacy’s most lethal enemy was the toxic dissension within the top echelons of its high command. The discord between General Johnston and President Jefferson Davis (and others), which began early in the conflict and only worsened as the months passed, routinely prevented the cooperation and coordination the South needed on the battlefield if it was going to achieve its independence. The result was one failed campaign after another, all of which cumulatively doomed the Southern Confederacy.

**For more information on this book please visit:**  
**[savasbeatie.com](http://savasbeatie.com)**

## 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Patriotic Luncheon – Saturday, February 4 at 12:30 p.m.

Dr. James Marten – *“Lincoln’s Promise: Widow’s, Orphan’s and Disabled Veterans”*

- Bid on premium silent auction items
- Choose from a multitude of prizes in our \$1 raffle
- Make new friends among more than 30 patriotic, hereditary, fraternal, historical and service organizations in attendance
- Luncheon buffet price still only \$25 per person

**Location:** Alioto’s Restaurant  
3041 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, Wis.

**Hosted by** C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1 and Auxiliary #4  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**RSVP by January 27, 2023.**

### Luncheon Buffet Includes:

Tenderloin Tips with Noodles or Roast Turkey with Sage Dressing.

Served with pasta salad, mixed vegetables, buttered new potatoes, tossed garden salad, Italian bread, coffee, sheet cake for dessert.

For meal and/or ad payments, please make checks payable to “C.K. Pier Badger Camp #1” and mail by the respective deadline to:

PDC Kent Peterson,  
6024 S. Kirkwood Ave.  
Cudahy, WI 53110

## 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chicago Civil War Round Table

### Red River Campaign Battlefield Tour

May 3-7, 2023

**COST OF THE TOUR:** \$998.00 per person, double occupancy ; \$1,250 per person, single occupancy.

Tour cost includes Hotel room for Wednesday evening through Sunday morning, all breakfasts, lunches & dinners; all motor coach services; outstanding Tour Guides; all admission fees; evening programs; and a comprehensive Tour Kit. A cash-bar will be available through all dinners.

**Dinner on Wednesday night is a working supper power point presentation given by Ret. Genl. Parker Hills and is included in tour cost.**

### TOUR BASE HOTEL

Wyndham Garden – Alexandria, LA  
2301 N. MacArthur, Alexandria, LA 71303

Call (318) 619-3300. For detail & directions: [www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotels/alexandria-louisiana](http://www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotels/alexandria-louisiana)

**Send this registration form with your payment in full, or a \$200.00 deposit.  
Payment in full due on or before March 15, 2023.**

Name(s) PLEASE PRINT: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phones: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Plan to share a room? NO YES Roommates' name: \_\_\_\_\_

Drive ☐ or Fly ☐ Airline and Flight Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I need a roommate; please help \_\_\_\_\_ The CWRT does not ensure the suitability of roommate matches.

Senior Discounts \_\_\_\_\_

Send this registration form with your check, payable to “The Chicago Civil War Round Table” or simply “CWRT of Chicago.”

**MAIL TO ► Rae Radovich, Tour Registrar; P.O. Box 434, Palos Park, IL 60464**

**Call 708-218-1861; Email: [rae@anuser.com](mailto:rae@anuser.com)**

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

Next presentation in March of 2023



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](mailto:cwmdel@gmail.com)

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

### Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College June 9-14 - 15% Round Table Member Discount

The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College would like to offer the members of your Civil War Round table or organization a 15% discount to attend the 2023 CWI summer conference, June 9-14. You can explore further details about our conference on our website, as well as check out our schedule for this year's event. At CWI, we believe in the mission of CWRTs and we are making this special offer to recognize the efforts of your organization in promoting the study of Civil War history.

<https://www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute>

### Civil War Round Table of Gettysburg offering Reynold's Witness Tree Pen Set

In 1987 during a summer storm, a famous witness tree, called the General Reynolds Tree, came crashing down. It stood near the Reynolds Wounding Monument on the First Day Field and was determined to be 140-143 years old when it fell. A slab was purchased by the GCWRT for the purpose of creating pen set/mementos to be sold as a fundraiser for the Round Table and to help with the restoration of the GAR Hall.

Recently, during the ACHS's clean out in preparation for the move to their new facilities, a box of these unfinished wood blocks was found. Further research proved that these wood blocks were from the original slab of wood purchased by the RT 35 years ago. An order form for a pen set may be found at:

[https://cwrgettysburg.org/pdfs/PenSetOrderform\\_web.pdf](https://cwrgettysburg.org/pdfs/PenSetOrderform_web.pdf)

*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](mailto:donnaagnelly@gmail.com) with "Civil War Round Table" in the subject line of your message. All submissions must be received by the Editor no later than the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. The Editor reserves the right to select articles and to edit submissions for style and length.

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

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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>75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table</i>
November 10, 2022	Mary Abroe <i>Civil War Battlefields and Historic Preservation: 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](http://www.milwaukeeecwrt.org)**

### ~ CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS ~

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

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

## Milwaukee Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for January 12, 2023

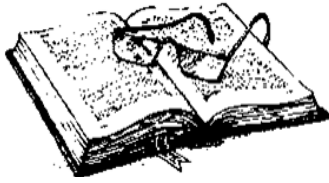
Mail your reservations by Monday, January 9 to:  
Paul Eilbes  
1809 Washington Avenue  
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

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

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (meal is \$30.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ people for the  
January 12, 2023 meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.  
(Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_

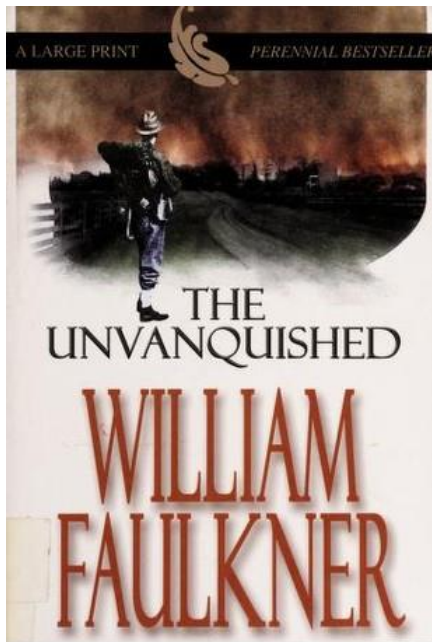




# BETWEEN THE COVERS

## The Unvanquished

William Faulkner



The review today is on a book written by William Faulkner. It is 254 pages in length, plus some editor's notes about the book. This was a choice of the Kenosha Civil War Museum's media club. It turned out to be a relatively short read. The book consisting of seven chapters was originally published as short stories for each chapter in *The Saturday Evening Post* during the 1930s.

The story revolves around the very late stages of the Civil War, beginning just prior to Union General Tecumseh Sherman's scorching march throughout the South. Bayard Sartoris, the fifteen-year-old son of local Confederate regiment leader John Sartoris and John's fifteen-year-old slave Ringo make up the main protagonists here, with the book's point of view being strictly that of Bayard. We discover the two boys as they grow from innocent plantation denizens, wary of the "war" but completely devoid of its circumstances or meaning, into men, suffering tragedy and personal loss at a young age.

*The Unvanquished* begins with Bayard as a 13-year-old boy during the Civil War and ending when he is 24-years-old, a man living in the reconstructed South. This gives it a clear direction and thematic unity; the book is about Bayard growing up and learning to deal with the new order of things. Through his perspective we see an evolution from a state of utter innocence to cynical despair, as he first comes to

grips with the chasm between the fantasy ideal of the South and the morally bankrupt reality, and finally to moral awakening as the novel ends with Bayard standing on principle, namely the intrinsic value of life, and in so doing, wittingly or not, condemns the caste system of the antebellum south which was predicated on slavery and dehumanization of an entire race.

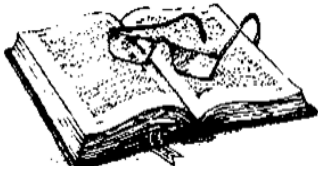
Another important character in this story is Granny. She is John Sartoris's mother-in-law and she is the matriarch that represents the old South. In the story it is her actions that work to hold the life that the Sartoris family has in this area of Mississippi together until nothing she does can do that. The area that Faulkner puts the Sartoris plantation in is near Memphis and while he uses a fictional name, Jefferson, his stories actually revolve around the area he lived, Oxford.

In this story the family endures all the pain that the Southern civilian side of the Civil War experienced as the world of the plantation life came down around their ears. The plantation gets burned, slaves leave to follow the Union army, money and food become scarce. I thought it sort of paralleled *Gone with the Wind* in a way. Although there was no romance between the two main characters I found many of the events Faulkner wrote about were reminiscent of GWTW.

One part of the story in part of a chapter tells of slaves following the Union army and being turned away at a river crossing over a bridge that the Union army built to move through Mississippi. It seemed to me that this sequence was very similar to what happened in Sherman's March to the Sea. Union General Davis had a bridge destroyed to prevent runaway slaves from following Sherman's march through Georgia. It was a chaotic event in real life and Faulkner seems to use that event in this story. Something that never happened in operations by the Union in Mississippi.

Many of the group discussing this book found it an interesting tale and most had never read any of Faulkner's work. I think this is an interesting book that does an excellent job of highlighting the home front challenges the South faced during the war and the lead-in to Reconstruction. Definitely worth the read in my opinion.

submitted by Bruce Klem

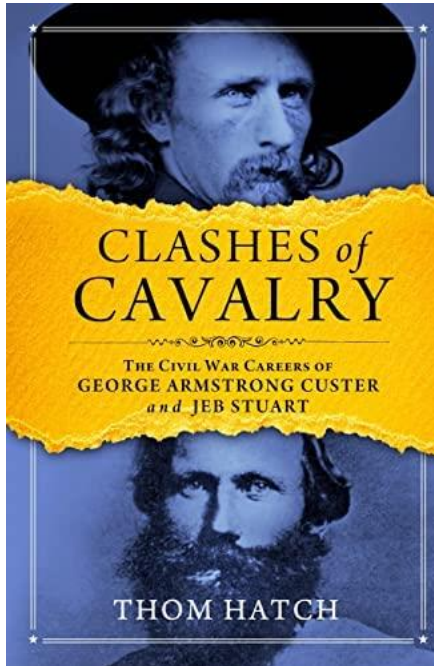


# BETWEEN THE COVERS

## Clashes of Cavalry

### The Civil War Careers of George Armstrong Custer and Jeb Stuart

Thom Hatch



This was a book I won at a Round Table meeting book raffle a while back. The book is 239 pages and was published in 2001. It's sort of a comparison of the actions of the two Cavalry leaders and provided biographical sketches of both and key highlights of their careers and how each rose up the chain.

The story of two remarkable men, both natural-born cavalry leaders of great courage, who shared similar traits. Their Civil War legacies were destined to be connected in a series of battles – beginning with Brandy Station where Custer's star rose rapidly, at Gettysburg where Stuart's star became tarnished, and continuing to Yellow Tavern where Stuart was badly wounded and died shortly after the battle.

Unlike most standard biographies, *Clashes of Cavalry* takes an innovative approach to chronicling the lives of these two Civil War giants by not only depicting their lives and exploits individually, but also by examining the role of each in specific battles in which both participated. Most of the battle descriptions were focused only on each of the leader's roles in the fight.

Mr. Hatch first set the stage with in-depth portrayals of "Beauty" Stuart and "Fanny" Custer, exploring how the early years of the two future cavaliers shaped their eventual military careers. Both born to conservative rural families, educated

at West Point, and with sensitive yet outgoing personalities, Custer and Stuart shared some remarkable similarities. The early chapters also follow the two young cavaliers after graduation. In the case of Stuart some of his early days fighting Indians on the frontier and family life before the war. Custer's early life focuses on his family connections in Ohio and later Michigan and then West Point.

Through the first two years of the war, leading up to the largest cavalry engagement of the century at Brandy Station in 1863 – both Custer and Stuart participated in the action that day. The twenty-three-year-old Custer fared far better than Stuart. Custer's performance earned him the attention and respect of his superiors and started him down the path that would eventually lead to his promotion. Stuart, however, was blamed for the needless slaughter of his men by the Union's surprise attack and faulted for his overconfidence.

Both Custer and Stuart's careers continued through battles at Gettysburg, the Bristoe Campaign, and the Wilderness. While Stuart was destined to fall at Yellow Tavern, Custer went on to even greater success, culminating with an assault on the Confederates at Appomattox Court House that essentially ended the war. Custer was always at the front of his units as was Stuart. That led to Stuart's being mortally wounded and dying shortly thereafter. Custer who led many brazen charges during the war managed to survive the war. Custer's boldness carried forward to his time on the frontier and finally did him in along with the men who were with him at The Little Big Horn.

Mr. Hatch in writing *Clashes of Cavalry* paints a vivid portrait of these brilliant cavalymen. Although Custer never enjoyed the same level of command as Stuart, there is reason to believe that given the same opportunity he would have been equal to the task. History has remembered both as gifted horsemen and inspired leaders, truly among the most celebrated heroes of the Civil War. I enjoyed this read and would highly recommend it to anyone interested in cavalry leaders of the Civil War.

submitted by Bruce Klem



### Civil War Time Travelers: *Mayhem at Manassas*

The Civil War Time Travelers made their way to several eastern battlefields in late October 2022. Among these visits to hallowed ground were stops at First and Second Manassas, Monocacy, and Gettysburg. No visit to Manassas would be complete without paying homage to the Back Hats at Gainesville, also called Brawner Farm.

The talents of our own members were on full display, as Donna Agnelly, Tom and Terry Arliskas, Doug Haag, Paul Eilbes, and Dave Wege contributed to the group's experience. NPS Rangers Matt Borders and Anthony Trusso added their expertise at Monocacy and at Manassas. Two excellent historians also provided insights as well, with Doug Ulmman, Jr. taking us through action at Second Manassas and the indefatigable Garry Adelman leading us to seldom visited sights at Gettysburg. Licensed Battlefield Guides Therese Orr (Civilians at Gettysburg) and Larry Korczyk (Farms and Hospitals of Gettysburg) also did excellent work to lead us all to new knowledge and exciting revelations.

The Battle of First Manassas (Bull Run) is sometimes too easily dismissed as a clash between complete amateurs, resulting in a military fiasco for the Federals and complete victory for the Confederates. When the Civil War Time Travelers visited the field of Manassas in late October 2022, we found this interpretation to be untrue. The rank and file were raw troops, but the leadership in both armies were professional soldiers.

CWTT explored the famous stone bridge over Bull Run. Here Union troops distracted Rebels guarding the crossing while planning a wide sweep around the Confederate left, guarded by less than 1,000 men under the command of Nathan "Shanks" Evans. Only the alert eyes of Edward Porter Alexander warned the men in gray that a flanking movement was underway, enabling Evans to leave a token force to block the stone bridge crossing, while moving the bulk of his forces to meet the threat on his flank. This action led to fighting on Matthews' Hill and, eventually, the clash on Henry Hill. We followed this action closely after first laying the movements out on a 4' x 6' vinyl map, created from work done by cartographer Hal Jespersen. This birds-eye view helped us to visualize the action before we set foot upon the ground itself.

On Matthews Hill the Time Travelers heard of a three-hour delay that gave Southern troops time to come up, including those of a Virginia professor from VMI who would gain fame and a new nickname on this day. We explored the action of some Rhode Islanders who led the attack on Evans' forlorn hope and heard the tragic story of Sullivan Ballou. Our own 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin boys who marched with William T. Sherman also stood on this hill, and eventually made their way to Henry Hill and the resulting clash there that resulted in chaos and hasty retreat.

The second day of our tour started at the Manassas Visitor Center. There we met NPS Ranger Anthony Trusso, who accompanied us to Brawner Farm and the fighting at Gainesville in August 1862. Ranger Trusso did a superb job of laying out the fighting in which the vaunted Stonewall Brigade pounced upon an unsuspecting and very green Union brigade wearing tall black hats and frock coats. And so was told the baptism by musketry of the Western regiments who would become the Iron Brigade. The paths at Brawner Farm are steep, but the hike is well worth the trek. Though time limits prohibited our walking both the Confederate and Union battle lines, we did get a solid feel for the fight. Terry Arliskas shared with us her interpretation of Richard S. Ewell, giving him high marks for his previous work and for his work on August 28, 1862, in spite of the impression left by Southern apologists after the war. Then it was back to the coach for a jaunt to the Manassas picnic area and a lunch delivered by Chick-Fil-A. Here we also met up with historian Doug Ullman, Jr. who would lead us through the rest of the fight at Second Manassas.

Doug took us deep into the woods and the northern end of Jackson's line along the unfinished railroad. We started at the Sudley Church parking area (tour stop 5) and made a short hike into the woods. Piecemeal attacks by Union forces pierced Confederate lines in places, but the men in gray held. We next made our way to tour stop 6 on the park map, viewing remnants of trenches and learning of heroic attacks and superb defensive stands. From there we took our longest hike of the day to the Deep Cut. On this site Union troops came under fire from Confederate cannon on their left flank, as they crossed open ground towards their enemy who were using an unfinished railroad bed for a defensive position. It was here that some of Jackson's boys ran out of ammunition and resorted to throwing rocks at the approaching Federals. It was also here that CSA General James Longstreet's men came screaming out of the western woods to slam into and crush the Union assaults, leading to an all-out Union retreat.

Our final stop was at Chinn Ridge. Very few of the Time Travelers had ever been to this location on the battlefield. Here we heard of the devastating assault of John Bell Hood's Texans as they absolutely destroyed the 5<sup>th</sup> New York Zouaves led by Gouverneur Kemble Warren. The 5<sup>th</sup> New York considered itself a premiere fighting unit and snubbed the Western men who had fought at Brawner Farm just the day before. Upon overhearing this remark, a Wisconsin man remarked, "Wait till you get where we have been. You'll get the slack taken out of your pantaloons and the swell out of your heads." The statement was to prove tragically prophetic as the men of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> New York regiments ceased to exist as fighting units after this battle.

## 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
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Baseball Hat.....	\$10.00
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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](mailto:dbcpmilw@gmail.com))

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

