General Orders



The Newsletter of the

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



March 9, 2023

Dwight Hughes

Unlike Anything That Ever Floated The USS Monitor and the Battle of Hampton Roads

"Ironclad against ironclad, we maneuvered about the bay here and went at each other with mutual fierceness," reported a Union Navy officer following that momentous engagement between the USS *Monitor* and the CSS *Virginia* (ex USS *Merrimack*) in Hampton Roads, Sunday, March 9, 1862.

The day before, the Rebel ironclad ram had obliterated two major Union warships and was poised to destroy more. That night, the revolutionary *Monitor* slipped into harbor after a hurried voyage from New York through fierce gales that almost sank her. These metal monstrosities dueled in the morning, pounding away for hours with little damage to either. Who won is still debated.

From flaming, bloody decks of sinking ships, to the dim confines of the first rotating armored turret, to the smoky depths of a Confederate gundeck—with shells screaming, clanging, booming, and splashing all around—to the office of a worried president with his cabinet peering down the Potomac for a Rebel monster, this dramatic story will be presented by our March speaker.

Lieutenant Commander (Ret.) Dwight Hughes graduated from the Naval Academy in 1967 and served twenty years aboard warships, on navy staffs, and with river forces in Vietnam (Bronze Star for Meritorious Service, Purple Heart). He holds an MA in Political Science and an MS in Information Systems Management.

Dwight writes and speaks on Civil War naval history (www.CivilWarNavyHistory.com). He is a contributing author at the Emerging Civil War blog and author of: <u>A Confederate Biography: The Cruise</u> of the CSS Shenandoah (Naval Institute Press, 2015), <u>Unlike Anything That Ever</u> <u>Floated: The Monitor and Virginia and the Battle Hampton Roads</u>, <u>March 8-9, 1862</u> (Savas Beatie, 2021) for the award-winning <u>Emerging Civil War series</u>. His



new book as editor and contributor, The Civil War on the Water: Favorite Stories and Fresh Perspectives from the Historians at Emerging Civil War (Savas Beatie), is due out in April 2023 for the Emerging Civil War Tenth Anniversary Series. Dwight has presented at numerous Civil War Roundtables, historical conferences, and other venues.

Please join us in welcoming Dwight Hughes to our March Round Table meeting.

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March Meeting at a Glance The Wisconsin Club 9th 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, March 6, 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

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 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 February 11, 2023.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

Gerald Frangesch, Gene & Jane Jamrozy (in memory of Roland & Ardis Kelling), the Kelling Family (in memory of Roland & Ardis, (in Memory of Robert Parrish)

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Contributor (up to \$99)

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Speaker Enhancement Fund

John Abbott, George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Jeryl Anthony, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Jim Blake, Angela Bodven, Robert Christie, Ellen DeMers, Thomas Doyle, Lori Duginski, Paul Eilbes, Gerald Frangesch, Julian Gonzalez, Brian Gunn, Doug Haag, Jim Heinz, Tom Hesse, Don Hilbig, Peter & Jean Jaconsohn, Gene & Jane Jamrozy, Grant Johnson, Allan Kasprzak, Don & Mary Korte, Jay Lauck, Steve Leopold, Rod Malinowski, Robin Martin, Kathy McNally, Jim & Monica Millane, Dennis Mueller (in memory of Dr. Frank Klement), Herb Oechler, Tom Olsen, David Perez, John & Susan Petty, Tom Pokrandt, Laura Rinaldi, John Rodahl, Bob & Carla Rodzaj, Brad & Kathy Schotanus, Diane Smurawa, Dan Tanty, Paul Zehren



In March 2003 Ed Bearrs compared Medical Care in the Civil War and World War II"

Bruce Allardice spoke about *The Vote to Win the War: The Election of 1864* in March of 2005.

Lew Wallace and the Controversy of Shiloh was the topic of Gail Stephens talk in March 2006.

In March of 2010 Eric Jacobson shared facts and stories from *The Battle of Franklin*.

March of 2012 brought us A. Wilson Greene and his talk about *The Bermuda Hundred Campaign*.

The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory was the March 2013 presentation given by Lance Herdegen.

In March 2015 Thomas Huntington shared his research and discoveries in his topic *Searching for George Gordon Meade*.

Simon Cameron: Lincoln's First Secretary of War was presented by Paul Kahan, Ph.D. in March of 2017.

Larry Desotell shared the story of *Confederate Soldiers at Camp* Randall in March of 2021.

Last year's March speaker was Mark Laubacher discussing USS Red Rover: Hospital of Firsts.

MCWRT Tidbits

A Board meeting that was scheduled for Thursday, February 23 was rescheduled due to the threat of inclement weather. A few of our members drive upwards of 40-50 miles to attend these meetings. The decision was made to be prudent and err on the side of safety.

Frank Risler has given us a look at topics and speakers for the 2023-2024 Round Table season. That schedule will be posted in the June *General Orders*. It looks like we have another great slate of speakers and topics coming our way. Get excited. Thanks for your work, Frank.

Have you noticed how many of our Book Reviews originate from Bruce Klem? He is a voracious reader and makes our newsletter a "go-to" source of good reading suggestions. Thanks for your those reviews, Bruce.

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Jim Johnson continues to supply *General Orders* with great material relating to newspaper reporting from the war years. There are some great human interest items along with the mundane and humorous. Keep those *From the Field* features coming, Jim, they are wonderful.

Kenosha Civil War Museum Second Friday Lecture Series

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

Friday March 10 Noon Elizabeth Keckley, Mary Todd Lincoln's Dressmaker presented by Kathryn Harris

Elizabeth Keckley was a former enslaved person who became a successful seamstress, civil activist, and author in Washington, DC. She was best known as the personal modiste and friend of Mary Todd Lincoln. Keckley moved to Washington in 1860 after purchasing her freedom and that of her son in St. Louis. She created an independent business in the capital based on clients who were the wives of the government elite. Among them were Varina Davis, wife of Jefferson Davis; and Mary Anna Custis Lee, wife of Robert E. Lee. Hear Mrs. Keckley's fascinating story come to life in a first-person presentation by Kathryn Harris.

Friday, April 14

Noon

Shaking Loose the Facts: or, How I Came to Resent Herman Melville presented by Linda Stevens

Before Google, there was real research — places you had to go, things you had to do, confirmations you had to get, to work out what really happened and describe it accurately. One journalist decides to write a novel about the Shakers (those most mysterious and misunderstood earthly angels), and write it *right*.

Because, by an almost unbelievable coincidence, a Shaker community was sited at the very crossroads of Western Kentucky's little-known theatre of the Civil War: two roads north-to-south, east-to-west, traveled daily and ceaselessly by troops of both sides. Steadfast in their pacifism, the Shakers drew the wrath of both sides in the conflict — even as the combatants depended absolutely on the tireless generosity these gentle people accorded anyone who asked for it. In a novel described as "mesmerizing" and stunning," *Kindly Welcome* weds groundbreaking research and extraordinary characters to prove, once again, that the Civil War had the power to destroy anything it touched.

Linda Stevens is the author of the book *Kindly Welcome*, a historical novel that explores the precarious position of pacifist Shakers during the American Civil War. At this program, she will describe the process of research and writing that she used to write the book, as well as the challenges of writing historical fiction.





Army Correspondence From the Eleventh Regiment

Camp Curtis, Sulphur Springs, Dec. 29, '61.

Editors Wis. State Journal:-

I have not anything of importance to occupy me for an hour, so throw myself upon your patience.

Thursday, Dec. 26th, was a day of alarms. It seemed as if the day were fated to be productive of some sensations, and after several futile attempts finally wound up with a tragedy. Col. Harris was in command, Col. Murphy being absent.

About noon he received a dispatch from Col. Carlin instructing him to hold his command in readiness to march at a moment's notice; trouble was anticipated at "Burnt Bridge," and for some time we hourly expected to be off. The excitement finally subsided into an order to send off two companies to strengthen the guard, accordingly company "I," Capt. Whittier, of ours, together with a company of the Eighth, were ordered away. Just enough of rumors of the enemy having obtained position arrived in camp during the afternoon, to keep us on the tiptoe of expectation.

The special train to transport the troops did not arrive from St. Louis until midnight and left about half past twelve: In the operation of coupling on the baggage cars (which were ready loaded) an employee of the railroad company got so badly crushed as to leave but little hopes of his recovery. I started for our camp and got Dr. Strong to go and see the poor fellow. After disposing of him as well as well as circumstances would permit, we returned back to camp in company with Capt. Chase; on the way we were surprised at hearing our pickets firing and, on our arrival, awoke the Colonel and informed him of it. The Colonel told Capt. Chase- who was officer of the day- to keep a sharp lookout, and communicate anything further that might transpire. I returned to my tent and was felicitating myself on the comforts of a good fire after standing in the cold for about three hours when another shot was fired, and within a few seconds two more. I jumped up and ran to the Colonel's tent where I found him ready dressed and out-a little quicker dressing than even a fireman often accomplishes. The long roll was beat by our incomparable "Johnny" in a style that soon turned the men out and all the anticipations of that long wished for fight were again experienced.

Lieut. Stone was sent with a relief to visit the picket, and ascertain the cause of the alarm. During his absence a tent caught fire, illuminating the camp in a manner more picturesque that desirable, in case an enemy had been near. The relief party returned having discovered nothing more terrible than a dead horse, though the guard swears there was a man on it when he shot. But everything relapsed into a disappointed calm, and the men had all got snugly between their: blankets, when a shot in a direction opposite to that of the previous firing renewed the interest, and put a fatal period to a restless day. The news soon came in that one of our own men had been shot. The story was simply this Robert Tollard, of Cottage Grove, Cane County, Wisconsin, was on picket duty, and hearing the firing, and the alarm in camp, left his post; to ascertain the cause. The Police Guard gave him the information, and then advised him to return the same way he came, for fear of falling in with some of the other pickets. I can only conclude that it was the man's fate that led him to dsregard the injunction; for, taking another route crack to his post, he came directly on the rear of a picket. The sentinel, seeing a man approach, challenged him, in the usual manner, and commanded him to "halt!" the command was disregarded, and he continued to advance. He was again several times told to "halt," but Mr. Tollard, supposing himself to be known, paid no attention to the challenge, and the guard shot him. The ball passed through the fleshy part of his left arm, entered his side, just below the heart, and passed out of his back just missing the spine.

This was about 3 o'clock, A.M., on the 27th: He died about noon of the same day, and was buried with funeral honors the day following, at 2 o'clock P.m., about a quarter of a mile from camp. The sentry who shot him was Charles Daniel, of Company F, for some time a member of old "No. 1," of Madison. It is difficult to understand the feelings of the man who was thus the unconscious instrument of the death of comrade. He feels regret, almost remorse, but still no one can blame him, for he simply did his duty as a soldier, and while our army is composed of such soldiers we need have no fear for the result of this contest. The night was very dark, and the fatal effect of the shots, both at the man and horse, only tell that our sentries are not to be approached with impunity.

Sincerely hoping that when I write again, if our flag is at halfmast it may be for casualties legitimately earned, I am,

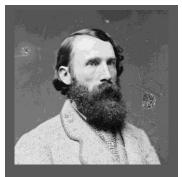
Ret. Roper

P. S.- "All's well," and "A Merry Christmas." - R.R.



Veterans of Co. H, 11th Wisconsin Infantry, August 28, 1889

General A. P. Hill Reinterred in His Hometown adapted from Melissa A. Winn on HistoryNet.com



On Saturday, January 21, 2023, Confederate General A.P. Hill's remains were reinterred at Fairview Cemetery in Culpeper, Va., where the general was born. The reburial follows the removal in December of a monument of Hill in Richmond, Va., which held his bones in the base. The monument was the last of more than a dozen Confederate monuments the city decided to remove in the wake of the murder of George Floyd and amid the Black Lives Matter movement.

Removing the final city-owned Confederate statue would "turn the page and start a new chapter for our city of Richmond," Mayor Levar Stoney said as it came down in December.

More than 600 people, including Confederate reenactors, gathered to pay their respects to the general as he was reinterred at Fairview Cemetery on Saturday.

"He would have known this cemetery," says Keith Price, a former member of the Culpeper Town Council who helped arrange for Hill's burial at Fairview, which, he added, was established in the 1850s. "[Hill] grew up here and he's finally back home after almost 160 years."

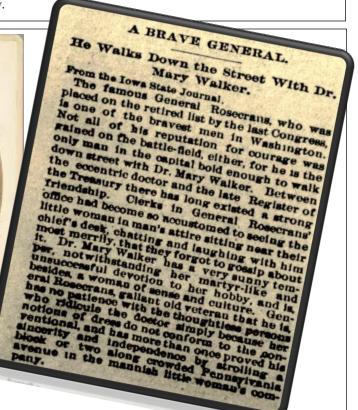
On April 2, 1865, during the Union breakthrough at Petersburg, Hill was shot dead by Corporal John W. Mauk of the 138th Pennsylvania. Hill and one of his staff officers had ridden to the front lines and called upon the Union soldiers to surrender. Instead, the Federals refused the demand and shot Hill through the chest. The rifle bullet traveled through his heart, exited his chest, and sliced off his left thumb, killing him almost instantly.



Dr. Mary Walker



William Starke Rosecrans



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). <u>Check out the 2023 Symposium Page for more details.</u>



Civil War Time Travelers, LLC A Bloody Road to Travel October 21-28, 2023

Resaca – Dalton – Kennesaw Mountain – Cheatham Hill – Pickett's Mill Patrick Cleburne's Proposal to Arm Slaves – Andersonville

Join us for an October 2024 visit as we travel to important locations on the road to Atlanta 1864. An estimated cost of \$950.00 will cover all major expenses on this tour. This includes the coach bus from Lamers, museum fees, hotel rooms, historians, and most lunches. Our speakers will include Robert Jenkins, a citizen of Dalton and excellent historian, along with NPS Rangers and members of our own Round Table.

This is our first 8-day trip and will run from **October 21-28**. We will follow the march of General William T. Sherman as he campaigned to take Atlanta, and Joseph E. Johnston's somewhat anemic response to protect that important city.

Contact Dave Wege for more information: <u>wegs1862@gmail.com</u> - OR - find us on FACEBOOK.

72nd 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

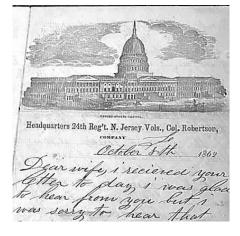
Wyndham Garden – Alexandria, LA 2301 N. MacArthur, Alexandria, LA 71303

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

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' nam	e:		
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 The CWRT does not ensure the suitability of roommate matches.				
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@anusource.com				



<u>Through the Looking Glass</u> 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 <u>General Orders</u>. Thank you!



William B. Pepper – Common Soldier

Enjoy this wonderful, heartfelt letter home from a Civil War soldier. It comes to us from a man named Tom Bigelow, whose wife's 5X great grandfather survived the war. This beautiful piece of prose survived as well. How thankful we can be that letters and diaries exist as primary documents to give us flavor and perspective of the time. For the sake of that same flavor, no corrections were made to spelling or punctuation!

Sincere thanks go to Tom Bigelow for allowing us to print this glimpse into the past. Letters such as this serve as touchstones to the past, providing us with insights into the very real people who lived and loved in the 1860s.

October 8, 1862

Dear wife, i recieved your letter today i was glad to hear from you but i was sorry to hear that you was worse you must try to get somebody to work for you i want you to take good care of your self i expect the baby worries you most to death i have been sick today, so i have not been out with the Company i had a hot fever this forenoon but the doctor gave me some stuff that helped it is very hot here day times and cold nights they talk some keeping us here to washington to do patrol duty in place of the 10 new Jersey regiment They think well of our regiment here we have not had a man drunk nor in the guard house since we have been here it is so dusty here that we can't see ten feet when we are drilling the Battalion there is meeting in the camp every night our chaplain is a methodist i should be perfectly satisfied if you and the baby was well i hated to leave you while you was sick but we have to do many things that we hate to do but you can't tell how much joy it gives me to know that you are true to me i used to plague you when i was at home but it was all through love I never meant no harm i want you to write to me and tell me how you and the baby is write me a long letter tell me all about things things is dear here i have spent most all my mony we have to buy all our grub i hope this letter will find you a great deal better if i could be at home you would be better for you was when i was there but i want you to do the same as if i was there for i am doing well enough i am a going to send home for the baby, but i reckon you would not let her come i reckon she would not like to lay on the ground it would be to hard for her i want you to kiss her for me every day, but write to me and send me some of her hair

from your loving husband William B Pepper

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



Next presentation in March of 2023

Please register at our website: <u>https://www.civilwarmuseumdelafield.com</u>

Or to register via email or contact us with questions, write to us at: 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



Live Shell Uncovered at Gettysburg During Round Top Rehabilitation

A Civil War artillery shell was found Wednesday at Gettysburg National Military Park, according to a news release. The unexploded ordnance was found on the battlefield in the area of Little Round Top, said Jason Martz, a spokesman for the park service. It dates to the Battle of Gettysburg, which was fought on July 1-3, 1863. The 55th Ordnance Disposal Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) team from Fort Belvoir, Virginia safely removed the shell and destroyed it off-site, the release states. Before destroying the shell, the team gently washed off the mud so that it could be photographed.

Crews have been working to rehabilitate that area of the park, and it remains closed to the public. Little Roundtop is enjoying a facelift as crews work on a project that will address erosion, parking, overcrowding, and safety concerns.

The plans involve making Little Round Top more accessible for people with disabilities, reconfiguring the parking for buses and cars, making crossings safer for pedestrians, and using ecologically friendly materials to help prevent water runoff in the large gathering spaces.

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 submissions to **David Wege** at **wegs1862@gmail.com**. All submissions must be received by no later than the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. We reserve the right to select articles to be printed and to edit for content, style, and length.

All address changes or problem receiving your General Orders should be directed to Treasurer Paul Eilbes.

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Yearly Round Table membership available: Individual (\$50), family (\$60), non-resident (\$50), attending education institution (\$20). Contact Paul Eilbes for information at (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 "When Hell Came to Sharpsburg"

October 14-15, 2022 Kenosha Civil War Museum 75th Anniversary of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table

November 10, 2022 *Civil War Battlefields and Historic Preservation: An American Story*

December 8, 2022 Garry Adelman (At the Country Club) Midwest Civil War Photo Extravaganza

January 12, 2023 Rob Girardi The Union Prisoners of War at Camp Douglas

February 9, 2023 Charlie Knight From Arlington to Appomattox

March 9, 2023 Dwight Hughes Unlike Anything That Ever Floated The USS Monitor and the Battle of Hampton Roads

April 13, 2023		Rich Holloway
	Red River Campaign	

May 11, 2023 Sean Michael Chick Dreams of Victory

June 8, 2023 Mark Zimmermann The Brutal Retreat from Nashville

Speakers/topics remain subject to change. We appreciate your understanding!



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

Name	Office/Position Term Exp	<u>oires</u>
Donna Agnelly	Editor Emeritus 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.milwaukeecwrt.org

~ CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS ~

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

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

Milwaukee Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for March 9, 2023

Mail your reservations by Monday, March 6 to: Paul Eilbes 1809 Washington Avenue Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730 Call or email reservations to: (262) 376-0568 peilbes@gmail.com

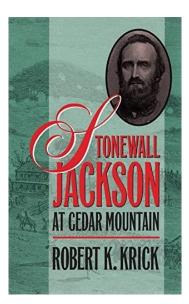
Enclosed is \$_____ (meal is \$30.00 per person) for ____ people for the March 9, 2023 meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. (Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

Name of Member



BETWEEN THE COVERS Stonewall Jackson at Cedar Mountain

Robert K. Krick



This review is on a book I purchased in the used book section at the Kenosha Civil War Museum a couple of years ago. I finally pulled it off the "to read" section of my bookcase and dove into it. On the Museum trip to Bull Run we spent part of one day visiting the battlefield in an effort to explore the lead up to 2nd Bull Run. Unfortunately, it was a foggy morning so it was hard to see Cedar Mountain, but I got a good feel for the action that occurred. The book is <u>Stonewall Jackson at Cedar Mountain</u> by Mr. Robert K. Krick, former Chief Historian for the National Park Service at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Published in 1990, it is 355 pages, plus 7 appendices.

This book is a thorough study of a relatively minor battle, but it tells the story almost exclusively from the Confederate side. At the end of the day, it's not at all clear what this battle accomplished -- either strategically or even tactically. The Confederates successfully provoked a Union attack, held their position, and forced the Union forces from the field, but they abandoned that field less than two days after the battle. The ground work for this fight was laid after Major General John Pope was named commander of the Union Army of Virginia. Pope positioned his forces on Lee's left, thereby threatening Lee's left and rear. Lee, who had just been successful in pushing McClellan's Union Army back down the Peninsula, turned to having Jackson dispatch Pope in early August 1862.

Lee reinforced Jackson with A.P. Hill's division of 10,000 men, giving Jackson around 24,000 troops. Pope had over 45,000, but he had his force spread in an arc. Both armies were moving toward Culpepper Court House on August 9. Just below Cedar Run Jackson ran into the lead Corps of Pope's Army commanded by Major General Nathanial Banks, and the fight was on.

Weather played a huge part in the fight as the hard-marching Rebs were low on water and the temps were in the 90's. Even at night the temps didn't change too much to cool things, so the effect on troops was terrific. Many fell out by sunstroke and some died from it. Early's brigade of Ewell's Division led the Confederate forces northward and ran into General Bank's troops, cavalry, near the Crittenden house and the fighting began.

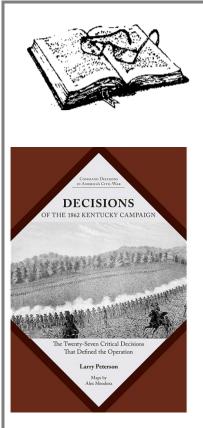
One item of import that comes to light the day before the battle is the incident that set A. P. Hill - Jackson feud. As a result of some confusion of the marching orders, Hill's troops were late in starting to march. Jackson took exception to the delay and put Hill under arrest pending court martial. This issue is one that carried forward into the war and was never truly resolved prior to Jackson's death.

The battle itself pit Jackson's 15,000 men against about 9,000 of those of Banks. Part of the fight was a confused affair on the Confederate left as a result of ill-timed troop movements into a thick woods. A poor Union attack, which initially met with success, ended up being thrown back by a timely arrival of Confederate reinforcements.

Mr. Krick manages to weave accounts of combatants of both sides with vivid battle actions and excellent descriptions of various terrain features that figured prominently during the battle. The book also contains something several other Civil War studies lack - excellent and ample maps. The maps are of excellent quality and help the reader better understand the flow of battle.

For students of military actions and battles of the Civil War, I think this book provides a good picture to help explain the run up to the battle of 2nd Bull Run. It excels in setting the stage for a key piece of that fight. The writing gives a clear description of the Battle of Cedar Mountain. I believe the descriptions of the battle give the reader a clear picture of what can happen when fighting is in woodlands and how troop actions can swing back and forth as morale in combat changes dramatically at times. For those looking to explore small battles, this is a good book to read. The ample amount of maps helps greatly in following troop movements.

submitted by Bruce Klem



BETWEEN THE COVERS Decisions of the 1862 Kentucky Campaign

Larry Peterson

Decisions of the 1862 Kentucky Campaign by Larry Peterson is part of a series of five "Decision" books. This book is focused on the 27 critical decisions that defined the operation on the Kentucky Campaign of 1862, as highlighted by the author. It is a short book, only 99 pages of text with two appendices of the driving tour and orders of battle. This pushes the book to 152 pages. I purchased this book at the Perryville Battlefield visitor's center on the Kenosha Civil War battlefield tour in September 2022. The tours usually are in October, but this year Doug Dammann switched the symposium around to tie into the Civil War Round Table's 75th anniversary dinner. Next year's tour schedule will be back to the 3rd week in October and, at this writing, appears to be on Gettysburg.

Decisions of the 1862 Kentucky Campaign introduces readers to critical decisions made by Confederate and Union commanders throughout the heartland contest. Rather than offering a history of the Kentucky Campaign, Larry Peterson hones in on a sequence of critical decisions confronting commanders on both sides of the clash. It provides a blueprint of the campaign at its tactical core. I think this approach puts the reader into a spot to see what the commanders were considering in their decision-making process. Anyone in a leadership position understands many factors enter into making a choice to achieve an objective. Mr. Peterson tries to show what options the commanders weighed in making their choices during this campaign.

In his preface, Mr. Peterson identifies a decision hierarchy that he uses for his analysis. The hierarchy he uses are routine decisions, important decisions, and then, the critical decision. In this way he attempts to show the reader why a battle or campaign evolved as opposed to just a recount of the actions. He identifies six categories of critical decisions, strategic, tactical, organizational, operational, and logistical and personnel that enter in part or totally that have to be made in any battle or campaign.

Mr. Peterson breaks down his analysis into three main sections; the campaign formation, the campaign itself, and the retreat from Kentucky. The campaign itself is broken down by the Battle of Richmond and the Battle of Perryville. Commanders at all levels are faced with critical decisions at each level so in some cases the analysis may seem redundant but each commander is influenced by his level and what he can control at that level. Another important factor in analysis of the decisions made is they must be looked at in terms of the time that this action occurred in. Mr. Peterson uses the same format in presenting his analysis, first the decision makers' circumstances are described then he presents the advantages and disadvantage of the logical course of action are outlined. Once the decision is reached the results or impact of the decision is presented and evaluated. Along with that presentation are any alternate scenarios discussed

I found this to be an interesting book to have during the tour of the Richmond and Perryville battlefields. It also includes a driving tour of the area and enough maps to help get a good understanding of the "whys and wherefores" of the campaign. I suspect the other books in the series may be worth exploring if you are looking to visit any of the battlefields those books cover. The book is not rocket science, but I found it helpful in providing a format for looking at other military campaigns or battles. As the author points out, "Identifying and exploring the critical decisions in this way allows students of history to go from a rudimentary sense of 'the what' of warfare, to a mature grasp of why." If you are interested in the situation of the Kentucky Campaign, I think this is a good one to have, especially in your understanding the Battle of Perryville.

submitted by Bruce Klem

Donna J. Agnelly age 71, of Waterford, WI, passed away peacefully with family at her side on February 6, 2023. She was born in Hamtramck, Michigan on December 11, 1951, the daughter of the late Stanley and Genevieve (nee. Pesta) Skotnicki. Donna spent her early life in Detroit where she achieved her B.A. in Anthropology at Wayne State University. She worked at Waterstone Bank, Waukesha branch, for the past 22 years.

Donna loved reading, teaching, her customers, her cats, and feeding the birds at the bank. She enjoyed life and touched the lives of many. She will be truly missed by her all who knew her.

Donna is survived by her children, Brett and Audra, and son-in-law Matthew. She is also survived by her sisters Joann and Karen; nieces Jennifer and Tammy, and nephew Marc. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother-in-law Edward.

Donna was a long-time member of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and a guiding force in creating the outstanding organization it is today. She was the editor of *General Orders*, the MCWRT publication other organizations can only strive to emulate. She was a featured presenter on many Civil War history tours. Friend, historian, outspoken champion of history, and mentor, Donna leaves behind a huge role to fill.

May flights of angels guide them to their rest.

Together with Round Table member John Helmenstine, we also mourn the passing of Dorothy Ann Helmenstine. She entered into Eternal Life on Monday, December 26, 2022. Dorothy was born in Milwaukee on April 28, 1939 to the late Stanley A. and Helen (nee Stencil) Badzinski. Dorothy graduated from Pulaski High School and married Donald Protasiewicz. Together they had children Janet Claire (Gregory Sell) Protasiewicz and Stephen John (Jennifer) Proe. Dorothy graduated, cum laude, from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee and taught in the Catholic School System for 17 years. She married John F. Helmenstine and then went into careers in banking and income tax preparation. Later Dorothy built her own photography business, Ann Helm Originals. She acquired an interest in genealogy as well. In retirement Dorothy sat on the Board of Review for the City of Milwaukee.



Donna Agnelly - An Appreciation submitted by Paul Eilbes

It is with an incredibly heavy heart that I share the news of the passing of Donna Agnelly, who was called home on Monday, February 6, 2023, after a brief, courageous battle with cancer.

Donna was a cherished friend, whose collaboration and advice I valued immeasurably. She was a respected member of the Board of Directors, and an outstanding Editor of the General Orders. There will be huge shoes to fill in those regards. Donna joined the Round Table in 2000, and the Board of Directors in 2007. She took over as G.O. Editor in 2007, and became the fixture at the Registration Table in 2012, when I couldn't because of new job commitments.

I had the great fortune to work closely with Donna, both on the Board and on various committees for the Round Table, for over fifteen years. She served on the Awards & Donations, Nominations, and 75th Anniversary Committees for the Round Table. Her cheerful presence at the Registration Table was always appreciated, and a benefit I often needed.

Donna was loyal to and passionate about the Round Table, its mission, and its message. She was proud to represent the Round Table and always ready to take on a challenge in order to better serve the membership.

There is so much I wish I could add, but much like Father Fitzgibbon in Going My Way, "I'm sure the way to say what I'd like to say will occur to me after [a while]." I am saddened by the loss, and the void that will be felt without Donna being present. I shall close with the phrase Donna so often used for others,

"May flights of angels guide thee to thy rest"

MEMORIAL DONATION IN HONOR OF DONNA AGNELLY

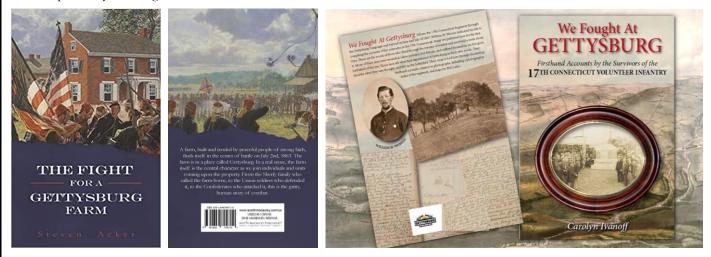
There will be a donation made to the American Battlefield Trust Education Fund in Honor of Donna. Contributions to this donation should be directed to Treasurer Paul Eilbes.

By Mail: Check payable to "CWRT of Milwaukee" with mention on the memo line "Donna."

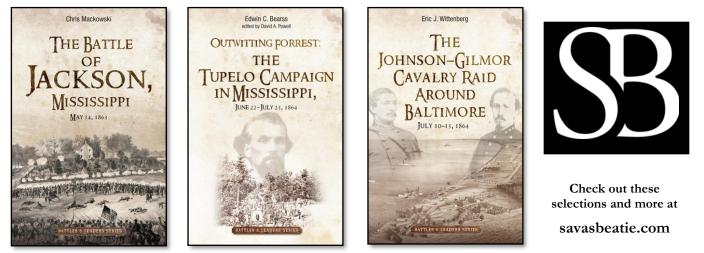
Paul Eilbes - CWRT of Milwaukee 1809 Washington Avenue Cedarburg, WI 53012 Or: Give to Paul in person at the March 9 Round Table meeting.

Please mail no later than March 31.

Some really interesting things are happening in the world of Civil War books. From historical fiction novels to in-depth unit studies, a new crop of writings has occurred from first-time or second-time authors. Steve Acker, who spoke to the Round Table in February 2022 about the 36th Wisconsin Infantry, published his second novel. It focuses on the fighting at the Sherfy Farm in Gettysburg on July 2, 1863. As a veteran reenactor, Steve brings a unique sense of gunpowder and grit to the pages of his book, <u>The Fight for a Gettysburg Farm.</u> The paperback book is available for \$12.95 on Amazon. Steve is presently working on his third book with a focus on the 36th Wisconsin.



Retired Connecticut teacher Carolyn Ivanoff, a past winner of the American Battlefield Trust's prestigious Teacher of the Year Award, has also compiled a book. Her work focuses on the 17th Connecticut, who famously held the ground at Barlow's Knoll until overwhelmed by advancing Confederates under John Gordon and George Doles. <u>We Fought at Gettysburg</u> follows common soldiers of the 17th through Gettysburg and beyond. This hardcover book, coming in at 438 pages, will become available in spring of 2023.



Savas Beatie continues to produce excellent titles. The new <u>Battles and Leaders Series</u> focuses on actions and personalities that are outside of the "big battles" which many authors explore. The books illustrated above are from well-respected authors and should serve to kick off the new series with appropriate fanfare. From the Savas Beatie website: (adapted)

Too often, manuscripts with outstanding potential are shuttled aside and forgotten because they are a little on the shorter side or focus on battles, characters, or events that are not traditionally big sellers. This series was created for these manuscripts.

And then we did something else. We designed a special interior layout that hints at times past, a Victorian-style elegance that is as attractive as it is pleasing. The main typeface is Bookman Old Style, the captions are set in Book Antiqua. The title and header font – Ringbearer – is really unique and one we have never used before.

We cut the trim size a tad to 5.5×8.5 so they stand out, added a luxury matte finish to the jacket, and use 60 # acid free paper. The price is modest, and the books are keepers.

MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE QUARTERMASTER'S REGALIA

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

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Iron Brigade Pin	\$5.00
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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 <u>dbcpmilw@gmail.com</u>

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

