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Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (Feb. 2012)

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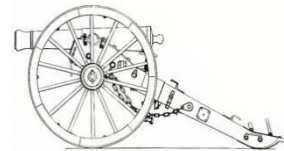
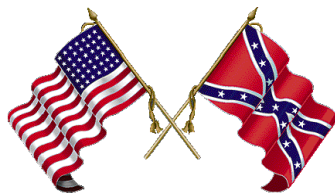
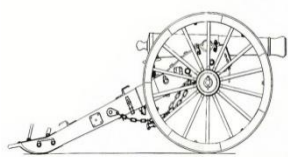


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Folklife Archives, Manuscripts &, "Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (Feb. 2012)" (2012). *Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter*. Paper 39.
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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

Bowling Green Civil War Round Table

President - Dr Ron Hatcher; Vice President – Jonathan Jeffrey; Secretary – Jeff Hayes; Treasurer – Kathy Leath; Advisors – Dr Glenn LaFantasie and Greg Biggs(CCWRT)

The Bowling Green Civil War Round Table meets Thursday, February 16, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Cherry Hall 125

Betty Jane Gorin-Smith will speak on “John Hunt Morgan at the Battle of Tebbs Bend”

This Month’s Speaker: **Betty Jane Gorin-Smith**. Betty Gorin is a native of Taylor County. She is a graduate of University of Kentucky with a Masters in History and Rank I in Teaching from Western Kentucky University. She won a Fulbright to the Netherlands and has done postgraduate work at Vanderbilt and the University of Virginia. After retirement from public schools, she taught part-time at Campbellsville University.

She won the DAR State History Teaching Award in 1985, Ashland Oil Teacher Achievement Award in 1989, Ida Lee Willis Service to Preservation Award, and Sullivan Medallion for Public Service. She has served on the Kentucky Bicentennial Commission, John Hunt Morgan Trail Commission, Kentucky Highway Markers Commission, Kentucky Historical Society Executive Committee, and Friends of the Archives.

Her Publications on the Civil War include:

Morgan Is Coming! Confederate Raiders in the Heartland of Kentucky

Civil War Quartermaster Claims from Taylor and Surrounding Counties.

Civil War African American Soldiers from Taylor and Green Counties in the 5th US Colored Cavalry and 107th and 108th Colored Infantry.

Ms. Gorin-Smith is currently working on *Kentucky Civil War Burials from Diary of Edmund Whitman.*

President’s Message for February, 2012

Perhaps it’s my age. Maybe I’m just a worrier, but I’m genuinely anxious about world affairs. An answer for Iran’s nuclear proliferation must be found and I don’t believe the timetable for solution is under US control. Experts say today that gas may exceed \$4 per gallon by spring and that’s not counting the possibility of a super tanker sunk in the Strait of Hormuz. The worldwide ramifications of this powder keg are real and difficult to exaggerate.

Here’s my point. If one can have genuine concern for affairs around the world today, how did America’s citizens feel in Feb. 1862 when the problem was just down the road for so many (like residents of Bowling Green, KY)? Their sons and neighbors were already under fire in our most deadly conflict and the outcome for all was still in doubt and there were many sleepless nights to

come. And we should continue to learn from that experience—others have dealt with uncertainty, untried leadership and adversity and persevered. Knowing more about them should help us endeavor to do the same, hopefully faring better for their experiences. Come to our meeting Thursday, February 16 and wonder with me why Morgan didn't just by-pass those wonderfully placed Yankees at Tebbs Bend! I bet we'll find out.

Ron Hatcher

This is another exciting month in Civil War history! It was exactly one hundred and fifty years ago this month that Union troops led by General Ulysses S. Grant captured Forts Henry and Donelson. To the Confederate request for terms, Grant issued his famous reply: "No terms except unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to move immediately upon your works." His success earned him both a nickname "Unconditional Surrender" Grant, and a promotion to Major General. The capture of these forts cut off supply lines to thousands of Confederate forces, including those stationed Bowling Green, Kentucky. The victory also helped assure Kentucky would not join the Confederacy, and it led to the fall of the first Confederate state capital, Nashville, TN on February 25, 1862.

For information about upcoming events at Fort Donelson: <http://www.nps.gov/fodo/index.htm>

Links to Official Records for Fort Donelson: <http://www.civilwarhome.com/donelson.htm>

Below is a link to an online collection of Harper's Weekly. Harper's Weekly was an influential political magazine with a wide circulation during the Civil War. It is a valuable source for images and commentary from those who actually lived through the war. After clicking on the link below, just scroll down the webpage until you find the date you want to view; then click on the date to view the publication from that time.

<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/the-civil-war.htm>