

4-2012

# Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (April 2012)

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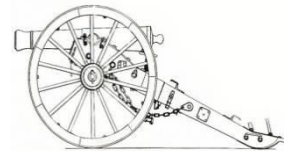
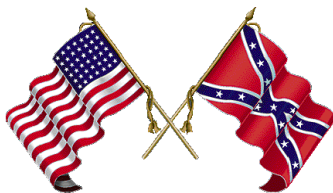
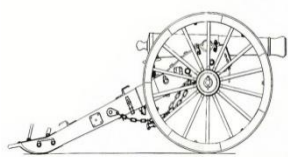
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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

# 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)

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President's Notes: April 2012

It's difficult as a Kentuckian to think about the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil War in April of 2012 and not dwell on Shiloh where so many Kentuckians, North and South, met neighbors on a field of death in unprecedented numbers.

Since this is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, however, I wish to take another tack. Has anyone checked the passenger list of that grand ship for veterans of the War and provided vignettes of their fates? There surely were late 60ish and older men aboard who survived the war only to deal with that cold water 100 years ago this month. History of place has so many individual stories of potential interest.

Please take the time to read our proposed by-laws coming up for discussion and proposed adoption this month. The BGCWRT needs your informed interest and attendance. I hope to see you there.

Ron

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**The BGCWRT will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 19 in Cherry Hall 125.**

**This month's program:** Mark Christ will speak on "Civil War Arkansas, 1863: The Battle for a State."

**Mark Christ** is community outreach director for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage. He joined the AHPP in 1990 after eight years as a professional journalist. A 1982 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, he received his Master's degree in 2000 from the University of Oklahoma, where he wrote a thesis based on the Little Rock Campaign of 1863. He is a member of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, serves as vice chairman of the board of directors of the Arkansas Humanities Council and is a member of the board of trustees of the Arkansas Historical Association. He has written and edited several books, including "*Rugged and Sublime*" *The Civil War in Arkansas*, *Sentinels of History: Reflections on Arkansas Properties Listed on the National Register of Historic Places*, which won an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History, "*Getting Used To Being Shot At*": *The Spence Family Civil War Letters*, "*All Cut to Pieces and Gone to Hell*": *The Civil War, Race Relations and the Battle of Poison Spring*, "*The Earth Shook and Trees Trembled*": *Civil War Arkansas 1863-1864*, and "*The Die is Cast: Arkansas Goes to War, 1861*". The University of Oklahoma Press just published his newest book, *Civil War Arkansas, 1863: The Battle for a State*, which won the 2010 Douglas Southall Freeman Award.

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In addition to Mr. Christ's presentation, there will be a brief business meeting to discuss the proposed bylaws.

**Shiloh: A Requiem (April, 1862)**  
**by Herman Melville**

Skimming lightly, wheeling still,  
The swallows fly low  
Over the field in clouded days,  
The forest-field of Shiloh—  
Over the field where April rain  
Solaced the parched ones stretched in pain  
Through the pause of night  
That followed the Sunday fight  
Around the church of Shiloh—  
The church so lone, the log-built one,  
That echoed to many a parting groan  
And natural prayer  
Of dying foemen mingled there—  
Foemen at morn, but friends at eve—  
Fame or country least their care:  
(What like a bullet can undecieve!)  
But now they lie low,  
While over them the swallows skim,  
And all is hushed at Shiloh.

**150 years ago this month:**

**29 March-26 April 1862: Siege of Fort Macon, North Carolina**

Union capture of Fort Macon closes Beaufort, one of the last ports open to the Confederates on the North Carolina coastline.

**4 April-3 May: McClellan at Yorktown, Virginia**

A small Confederate army behind weak fortifications held off McClellan, before withdrawing as the Union army finally prepared a bombardment.

**6-7 April 1862: Battle of Shiloh (or Pittsburgh Landing), Tennessee**

Confederate attempt to defeat Grant's army of 40,000 before a second force of 25,000 under Buell could join it. The first day of the battle saw Grant nearly defeated, but on the second day Buell arrived and Grant was able to counterattack, forcing the Confederates from the field. General A.S. Johnson, the Confederate commander, was killed during the battle. Shiloh was the first of the really big battles of the Civil War.

**7 April 1862: Union forces capture Island No. 10, Tennessee**

Confederate forces on the important Mississippi fort surrender almost without fighting.

**10-11 April 1862: Siege of Fort Pulaski**

The Union capture of Fort Pulaski virtually closes the port of Savannah to Confederate blockade runners.

**16 April: Battle of Lee's Mill**

The only Union assault on the Confederate lines at Yorktown.

**16-29 April 1862: Battle of New Orleans, Louisiana**

Union naval force under Farragut ran the defense of New Orleans and forced the surrender of the Confederacy's largest city.

**19 April 1862: Battle of South Mills, North Carolina**