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Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (Feb. 2013)

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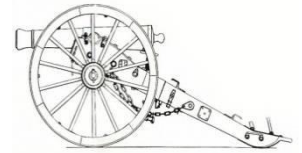
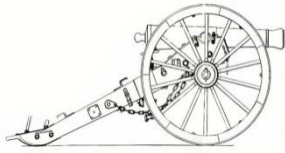


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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

Bowling Green Civil War Round Table

President - Dr Ron Hatcher; Vice President – Jonathan Jeffrey; Secretary – Tom Carr; Treasurer – Robert Dietle; Advisors – Dr Glenn LaFantasie and Greg Biggs(CCWRT)

President's Note: February 2013

I think all who heard Doug Richardson's presentation on the relationship between President Lincoln and Gen. McClellan at our January meeting agree that we had a good kick-off for 2013. Do not miss the opportunity to see the Civil War photos presented by Western's Photo-Journalism Department that Dr. Dietle mentioned at our last meeting and which has been extended because of its popularity! We can all take pride in such a meaningful historical presentation on Western's campus and we need to invite those who see the photographs and wish to participate in this group.

Remember our next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7:00 p.m. in Cherry Hall 125. Bring a friend and let's grow in 2013.

Ron

February's Program: Karel Lea Biggs will speak on "Shortages and Substitutions in the Confederacy"

Neither a Northerner, nor a Southerner, Karel Biggs is a Westerner born in Denver, Colorado and raised in Los Angeles, California. She spent thirty years of her life in the Los Angeles area before moving to Ohio (interestingly enough to an area where her Civil War ancestors came from) and then, in 2003, moving to Clarksville, Tennessee (where her Civil War ancestors served as garrison troops).

She has a business degree from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, plus an education certification from Wright State University in Celina, Ohio, and lastly, a Masters in Education from Cumberland University, in Lebanon, Tennessee.

A former member of the Long Beach, California CWRT, she helped start the Western Ohio CWRT, the Clarksville CWRT, and the Nashville CWRT. She is also past-president of the Dayton, Ohio CWRT, and the current secretary of the Clarksville CWRT. She also currently completed two terms on the Board of the Clarksville Montgomery County Arts and Heritage

Development Council. She worked as a historian on the Fort Defiance Interpretive Center in Clarksville, Tennessee.

She met her husband Greg at the Long Beach CWRT and together they have four cats and too many books.

Topic Synopsis:

How would your day be if you woke up and about 75% of the items you normally used were unavailable? Would you be able to function? Would you be able to find alternatives? How would your life be changed? The men, women and children of the Confederacy were faced with these questions and more as the Union blockade gradually squeezed the life out of their economy. With most of the Confederacy's resources going towards the war effort, the folks back at home were last on the list when it came to goods and services. They were forced to adapt, and adapt they did. Karel Lea Biggs' talk: Shortages and Substitutions in the Confederacy, explores the various shortages, their impacts on everyday life, and the clever, and sometimes disgusting, substitutions that made life tolerable during four long years of war.

Schedule of BGCWRT Speakers:

March 21 - Betty Gorrin Smith, historian/author - "John Morgan Is Coming"

April 18 - David Bastian, historian/author - "Grant's Canal"

May 16 - Thomas Flagel, Columbia State College/Franklin CWRT - "The 1863 Federal Occupation of Franklin"

June and July– No Meetings

Aug 15 - Greg Biggs, Bowling Green/Clarksville CWRTs - "Debate On The Rivers: The Forts Henry and Donelson Campaign"

At Last Month's Meeting:

At the January 17 meeting, members elected the following officers for 2013:

President: Ron Hatcher, Vice-president: Jonathan Jeffrey, Secretary: Tom Carr, Treasurer: Robert Dietle

Our guest speaker at the January meeting was Douglas Richardson, Chief of Resource Education and Visitor Services at Fort Donelson National Battlefield: Mr. Richardson spoke on "The General and His Commander in Chief, Abraham Lincoln and George McClellan."

In other Round Table news: Greg Biggs led our long-planned tour of The Fort Henry and Fort Donelson Campaign on Dec 15, 2012. Participating were BGCWRT members Ron Hatcher, John Payne, Sheldon Baugh, Tom Carr, Troy Costellow, and Ann Costellow. Also attending were Justin Cates, from Nashville, John Culp and wife (of the Clarksville CWRT), Glen Harwood (Scouting friend of Tom's), and Suzanne, Zack, and Rachel Harwood. **Thanks again Greg – great job!** (Greg told me if anyone wants to do this again, to just let him know. I will be happy to schedule another tour if anyone is interested!)

Civil War Photograph Exhibit on WKU's Campus -- Witness: Photographs of a Nation Divided

Civil War enthusiasts, people interested in American History and photographers who want to explore the beginning of photojournalism will want to mark their calendars for later this month when an exhibit opens at Western Kentucky University featuring 3D images in a multimedia environment as well as reproduction photographs from the Civil War era.

The show will feature a collection of over 60 Civil War images looking at the portfolios of several well-known and some more obscure photographers as well as a re-creation of Matthew Brady's 1862 New York City gallery called "The Dead of Antietam" documenting the Battle of Antietam. The Sept. 17, 1862, battle at Sharpsburg, Md., is known as the bloodiest single day in American history. The Sept. 17, 1862, clash, also known as the Battle of Sharpsburg, left 23,000 soldiers from both sides killed, wounded or missing – much higher than the toll of Americans during the World War II D-Day landings in Normandy.

The exhibit runs through March 29, excluding the week of March 11, in the university's Mass Media and Technology Hall atrium and gallery between the hour of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. This event is free and open to the public and the entire WKU community.

Time to Renew Membership for 2013: If you have not yet renewed your membership, now is the time! The treasurer will be collecting dues at the February meeting.