

9-2014

Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (Sept. 2014)

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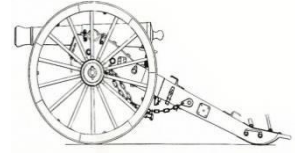
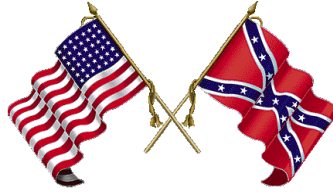
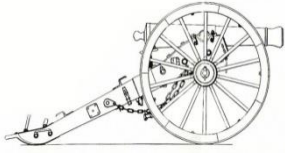


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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

Bowling Green Civil War Round Table

President – Tom Carr; Vice President - Jonathan Jeffrey; Secretary – Carol Crowe-Carraco; Treasurer – Robert Dietle;
Advisors – Glenn LaFantasie and - Greg Biggs (Program Chair and President-Clarksville CWRT)

The Bowling Green, KY Civil War Round Table meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June, July, and December).

Email: BGCWRT@wku.edu

Rm. 125, Cherry Hall, on the Campus of Western Kentucky University.

The meeting begins at 7:00 pm and is always open to the public.

Members please bring a friend or two – new recruits are always welcomed.

Presidents Note

Did you know that there are more than 300 miles of trails to explore in the 24 national parks designated as significant battlegrounds of the Civil War. Those 24 battlefields drew nearly 10,000,000 visitors in 2013.

In 1993, the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission reported to Congress that: "Some 10,500 armed conflicts occurred during the Civil War, ranging from battles to minor skirmishes." Of those, 384 were determined to be "principal battles" that had a significant impact on the course of the war. Those battles occurred in 26 states. In those states and others, more sites continue to be identified, located, interpreted and preserved by folks like you and me, who want to preserve the past for the future.

In Kentucky, 60 sites are currently recognized as locations for study of the Civil War. 11 Kentucky battlefields are in the ongoing process of preservation, and there are 38 in Tennessee. In the past 2 months I read that Tennessee now claims to have surpassed Virginia in identified Civil War sites.

We still have a few months left of the Civil War sesquicentennial. I have attended several of the 150th anniversary events and hope to still attend a few. I hope you can as well.

• Here are some last opportunities for us to attend:

BATTLE OF NASHVILLE AND BATTLE OF FRANKLIN EVENTS:

<http://www.bonps.org/events/>

Hood's Missed Opportunity: The Spring Hill Campaign through Franklin

with Thomas Cartwright and Greg Biggs

<http://www.blueandgrayeducation.org/civil-war-tours/spring-hill-campaign-through-franklin/>

I look forward to seeing you at our September round table. Especially if you have not attended in a while. Please consider bringing a guest.

Tom

Our Previous Meeting: August 21st, 2014

During our previous meeting Greg Biggs, our program chair and the President of the Clarksville CWRT, gave the second half of his presentation on the 1864 Atlanta campaign. From Kennesaw Mountain to the fall of Atlanta on September 2nd 1864, Mr. Biggs provided a compelling and expertly detailed discussion of the pivotal campaign. Topics covered included Jefferson Davis's replacement of Joe Johnston with John Bell Hood on July 17th, as well as the role that Sherman's victory played in the reelection of Abraham Lincoln in November 1864, and the eventual surrender of the Confederacy on April 9th 1864. The BGCWRT would like to thank Greg for his presentation, and extend our welcome for him to present a new topic in the near future.

Our Program for September 18th 2014

Jamie Gillum, **"The Battle of Perryville"**

The Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable is proud to have Mr. Jamie Gillum as our guest speaker this month. Mr. Gillum will be discussing the battle of Perryville which occurred on October 8th 1862, with a special focus on the involvement of the Confederate 16th Tennessee Volunteer Infantry. During this presentation he will reevaluate the Sixteenth Tennessee's experience during the battle, in addition to providing information on new discoveries from the Perryville site. Mr. Gillum also plans to address historian's tendency to use selective battlefield accounts when discussing Perryville, and the inaccuracies that result from such incomplete accounts of the conflict.

Biography

Jamie Gillum served fourteen years in the USMC infantry. He studied history at MTSU and is writing a three volume history on the Sixteenth Tennessee Infantry Regiment. He most recently finished a study of the Battle of Spring Hill, which occurred on November 28th 1864, which led to the Battle of Franklin (November 30th 1864). His work as a battlefield detective led him to complete "*The Battle of Perryville and the 16th Tennessee Infantry Regiment: A Reevaluation.*" Since completing that book in 2011, a wealth of new information has cemented his view of how the battle occurred.

This Month in Civil War History

- September 1st- Confederate forces under General John Bell Hood begin the evacuation of Atlanta. After months of fighting Union forces under General William Tecumseh Sherman would enter the city the following day.
- September 4th 1864- John Hunt Morgan, the famous Confederate cavalry commander who led his troops on a 1,000 mile ride into Union territory from Tennessee to Ohio, is shot and killed by federal troops in Greenville Tennessee.
- September 5th 1864- Louisiana voters ratify a new state Constitution which included the abolition of slavery. The former Confederate state had been taken by the Union after federal troops gained control of New Orleans in April 1862.
- September 7th 1864- The *U.S.S. Wachusett* captures the *C.S.S Florida* at Bahia, Brazil. *Wachusett* had been a part of a seven vessel convoy searching the Caribbean and South America for the elusive *Florida* and her fellow commerce raider, *The Virginia*. In the early morning hours of Sept. 7th the *Wachusett* rammed the *Florida's* starboard quarter and briefly exchanged cannon fire before taking the ship.

- September 17th 1864- John C. Fremont withdraws from the 1864 Presidential race. Fremont had been nominated by the Radical-Republicans, who were disgruntled by what they considered to be Lincoln's too lenient postwar plans for reconstruction.
- September 19th 1864- The third battle of Winchester occurs: 40,000 Union soldiers under General Phillip Sheridan strike a smaller Confederate force under General Jubal A. Early. After a ferocious battle where over 8000 soldiers lost their lives, Sheridan's forces were victorious in what is considered the pivotal battle of the Shenandoah Valley campaign.
- September 22nd 1864- Conflict continues in the Shenandoah Valley with the battle of Fisher's Hill, when soldiers of the U.S. 8th Corps led by George Crooke defeat CSA forces under Jubal A. Early.
- September 25th- Jefferson Davis meets John Bell Hood in Palmetto Georgia to discuss Hood's desire to relieve William Hardee of command of his command of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Davis grants this request three days later on September 28th.
- September 29th- The battle of Peeble's Farm begins, when Union forces under General Gouvenuer K. Warren, attempting to attack Lee's line from the rear, meet the depleted CSA forces led by General A.P Hill. In the end Warren's forces were victorious, despite having lost 2,889 soldiers compared to Hill's 1,239.
- September 30th 1864- The battle of Fort Harrison begins when 3,000 Union soldiers under George Stannard scale the walls of the fort, ending the conflict in only twenty minutes. The following day General Robert E. Lee led a counter-attack which failed to regain fort Harrison, which was located southeast of Richmond.

Civil War Quotes

"My plans are perfect, and when I start to carry them out, may God have mercy on Bobby Lee, for I shall have none." - General Joe Hooker

"Oh, I am heartily tired of hearing about what Lee is going to do. Some of you always seem to think he is suddenly going to turn a double somersault, and land in our rear and on both of our flanks at the same time. Go back to your command, and try to think what are we going to do ourselves, instead of what Lee is going to do." - General Ulysses S. Grant

"The Army of Northern Virginia was never defeated. It merely wore itself out whipping the enemy." - Jubal Early

"Let me tell you what is coming. After the sacrifice of countless millions of treasure and hundreds of thousands of lives you may win Southern independence, but I doubt it. The North is determined to preserve this Union. They are not a fiery, impulsive people as you are, for they live in colder climates. But when they begin to move in a given direction, they move with the steady momentum and perseverance of a mighty avalanche." – Sam Houston before the war began.

"We have shared the incommunicable experience of war. We felt, we still feel, the passion of life to its top. In our youths, our hearts were touched by fire." - Oliver Wendell Holmes

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE BGCWRT

- **October 16th 2014** - David Mowery - author/historian, Cincinnati CWRT - "John Hunt Morgan's Great Raid" (based on his recent book)
- **November 13th 2014** - Linda Barnickel, author/historian - "The Battle of Milliken's Bend - A Civil War battle in History and Memory" (based on her award

winning book - one of the first battles where United States Colored Troops were used)

- **January 15th, 2015** - Brian Allison, author/historian - The United States Colored Troops in the Battle of Nashville
- **February 19th 2015** - Ron Sydnor, Jefferson Davis State Historic Site - "Jefferson Davis - The Man"
- **March 19th 2015** - Mark Hoffman, author/historian - "The 1st Michigan Engineers and Mechanics" (based on his book)
- **April 16th 2015** - TBA
- **May 14th 2015** - Gus and Traci Belt, authors/historians - "Religion and the Army of Tennessee" (based on their book)

Artist Depictions of the Battle of Perryville



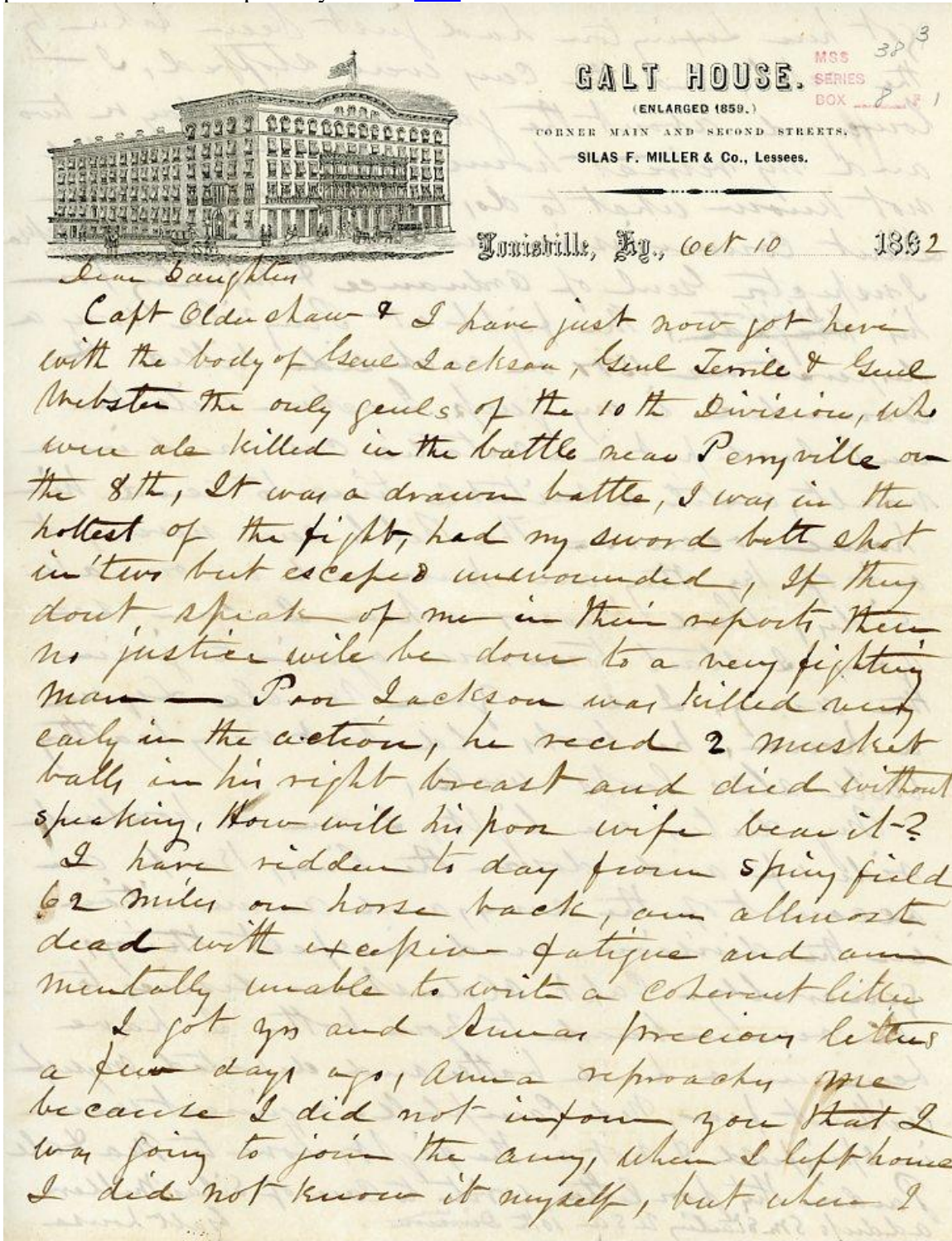
Figure 1: Action at Russell's Farm, On October 8th 1862.



Figure 2: R.G. McRae's "The Battle of Perryville," on display at Perryville Battlefield State Park

Civil War Letters Series

Letter, 10 October 1862, from Samuel M. Starling (in Louisville) to his daughters, Mary & Anna Starling (in Hopkinsville) describing his participation in the battle at Perryville. This letter appears courtesy of WKU's Manuscripts & Folklife Archives. The content may not to be re-printed or used in any format without written permission from the repository. Click [here](#) for contact information.



got here Lexington had just been taken by
 the rebels, and the cars were stopped, I
 lounged about the galt house a day or two
 and my retreat home was cut off I did
 not know what to do, so I joined got a
 Lieut Commission and was made by Lieut
 Inspector Genl of Ordnance & Infantry for
 his ~~services~~ ^{services}, The fight at Perryville was a
 desperate one 1500 on each side killed &
 wounded is my guess, Lieut will be
 embalmed put in a metallic case and in a
 vault, until a suitable time to send him
 home occurs. The Rebels can never get
 out of Ky they are hemmed in on all
 sides, God knows when I can see
 you, I start tomorrow again to join
 the army, I saw your Uncle Lyne
 a hour, he looks old but very healthy
 will also looks well,

My duties are light, I am on horseback
 ride up and down the lines, keep an
 account of the army, and ammunition
 in the division, and inspect things
 generally. Capt Aldershaw desires to
 be remembered to you both, I have
 been in a hard battle and departed myself
 without fear, Ned Campbell's regiment were
 in Springfield & not in the fight, Love to Ma & all
 Pardon thy poor letter, write to Care of Silas Miller
 address S M Stanton U S A 10th Division Galt house