

1-2017

Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (Jan. 2017)

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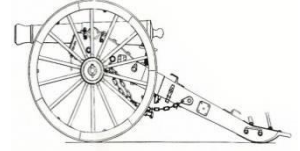
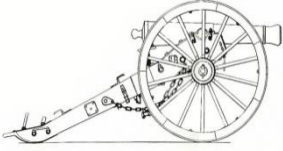


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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

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 Tuesday of each month (except June, July, and December).

Email: BGCWRT@wku.edu

We meet at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17th in Cherry Hall 125 on the Campus of Western Kentucky University.
Our meetings are always open to the public.

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

Our Program for January 2017: A History of Camp McDonald

During the Civil War, “Big Shanty” served as home to the largest military camp in Georgia. Thousands of young men learned the art of war at Camp McDonald before fighting on distant battlefields. Civil War Historian Michael K. Shaffer will provide insights on this unique site.

Bio: Michael K. Shaffer, a Civil War historian, author, newspaper columnist, instructor, and frequent lecturer is a member of the Society of Civil War Historians, Civil War Historians of the Western Theater, and Georgia Association of Historians. He serves as a board member for the River Line Historic Area, and as a Civil War consultant for the Friends of Camp McDonald. He currently teaches various courses at Kennesaw State University’s College of Continuing and Professional Education.

Our Previous Meeting: November 2016

On Tuesday, November 22nd, the Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable heard Patrick Lewis, project director of the *Civil War Governors of Kentucky Digital Documentary Edition* at the Kentucky Historical Society discuss Kentucky’s Civil War Governors. Using documents and images currently available through the *Civil War Governors of KY* website, Patrick discussed the struggles of Governor Beriah Magoffin to protect Southern interests in the Bluegrass State amidst a Unionist majority in the KY Legislature, as well as the establishment of a Confederate government in the state. Meeting at the Clark House in Russellville KY on November 18th 1861, representatives from 68 of Kentucky’s 110 counties established the Confederate Government of Kentucky. George Washington Johnson was named the first Governor of Confederate Kentucky, with the capitol placed in Bowling Green, KY. However, the loss of Forts Henry and Donelson made Bowling Green an untenable position for the Confederates to hold, making Johnson a Governor in exile. While serving as an aide to Gen. John C. Breckinridge, Governor Johnson fatal injuries at the battle of Shiloh, and died soon afterward. His replacement, Richard Hawes, never held an official office, despite Gen. Braxton Bragg’s desire to install Hawes as Governor in Frankfort. Patrick’s presentation demonstrated just how divided Kentucky was during the war, and the Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable would like to extend an invitation for him to return in the future.

This Month in Civil War History

1861

- January 1st- On New Year's Day Georgians go to the polls to elect either a pro-Union or pro-secession slate of delegates to a state convention to be held in Milledgeville. According to Gov. Joseph Brown the results are overwhelmingly pro-secession, however, later research by the *Georgia Historical Society* indicates that the returns were overstated in favor of the secessionists.
- January 5th- At the last minute General Winfield Scott substitutes the *Star of the West*, a New York based merchant marine vessel for the *Brooklyn*, a heavily armed and reinforced sloop ordered to sail to Fort Sumter to resupply the federal outpost. The Brooklyn, however, is to travel to Fort Sumter with the Star of the West.
- January 6th- Fernando Wood, Mayor of New York, proposed that New York City should secede as well, allowing trade with both the North and South.
- January 12th- Attorney-general I. W. Hayne leaves Charleston with a demand from Governor Pickens that the federal government surrender Fort Sumter.
- January 24th- Lucy, a female slave from Wheeling who fled to Cleveland, Ohio, is returned to her owner. She is the last slave to be returned under the Fugitive Slave Law.

1862

- January 1st 1862- Minister to Great Britain John Slidell and Minister to France, James Mason are released from Fort Warren, Boston, Massachusetts and allowed to continue their journey, effectively ending the Trent Affair.
- January 10th- With McClellan ill, Abraham Lincoln calls a White House meeting with Irvin McDowell, William Franklin, Salmon Chase, Edwin Stanton, and Thomas Scott. Lincoln told them "...if McClellan is not going to use the Army anytime soon, I would like to borrow it."
- January 11th- Simon Cameron resigns from his position as Secretary of War. Edwin Stanton replaces him for the duration of the Civil War.
- January 19th- General Felix Zollicoffer is shot and killed when he accidentally crosses the Union line and speaks to Col. S. S. Fry [US] at the battle of Mill Springs. (Logan's Cross Roads)
- January 30th- *USS Monitor*, the first ship featuring a turreted center gun, is launched. The design changes naval warfare forever.

1863

- January 1st- The Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect in the Confederate States that are in rebellion.
- January 4th- President Lincoln and General Henry Halleck order Gen. Grant to rescind Special Order No. 11, which called for the expulsion of all Jews from his district (Tennessee, Mississippi, and Kentucky).
- January 14th- *CSS Alabama* sinks the *USS Hatteras* off Galveston.
- January 25th- President Lincoln removes Ambrose Burnside from command of the Army of the Potomac, replacing him with Gen. Joseph "Fighting Joe" Hooker.
- January 31st- Under cover of fog Confederate ironclads *Chicora* and *Palmetto State* raid the federal blockade in Charleston. While some Union ships were damaged, the attack failed to disrupt the blockade.

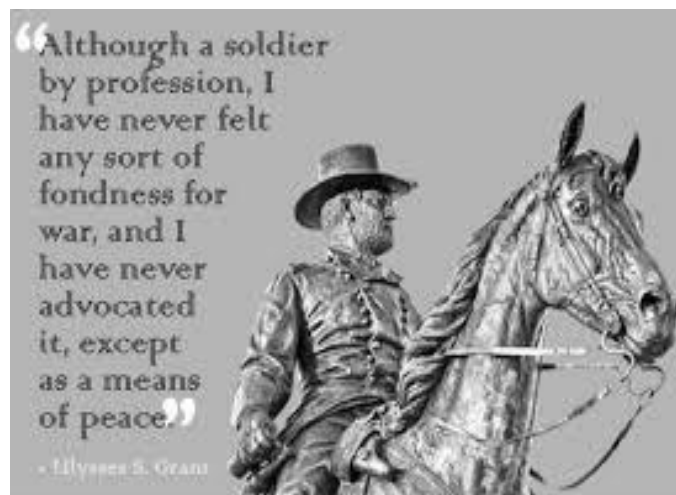
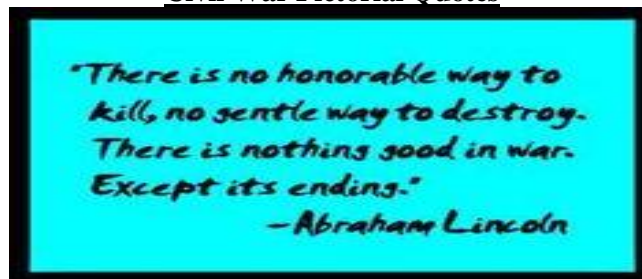
1864

- January 11th- The 13th Amendment (ending slavery) to the Constitution is proposed by Senator John B. Henderson of Missouri.
- January 20th- Abraham Lincoln instructs Arkansas commander General Frederick Steele to permit elections following the proposed anti-slavery constitution of the state.
- January 23rd- Trade restrictions for Missouri and Kentucky are lifted.
- January 26th- Local elections are permitted in Tennessee where the federal government feels it is in control of the state.
- January 30th- The Sir William Wallace, a steamer filled with northern goods, falls under attack as it moved down the Mississippi River towards New Orleans.

1865

- January 12th- Francis P. Blair arrives in Richmond, Virginia with a proposal for a peace conference.
- January 15th- Admiral David Porter attacks the Conderate fort on Cape Fear with the largest fleet ever assembled to that time. General Alfred Terry lands an amphibious force which captures the fort.
- January 19th- After regrouping in Savannah for a month, William Tecumseh Sherman begins moving north into South Carolina.
- January 31st- Robert E. Lee made General-in-Chief of the Confederate Army.
- January 31st- The 13th Amendment is passed by the U.S. House of Representatives.

Civil War Pictorial Quotes



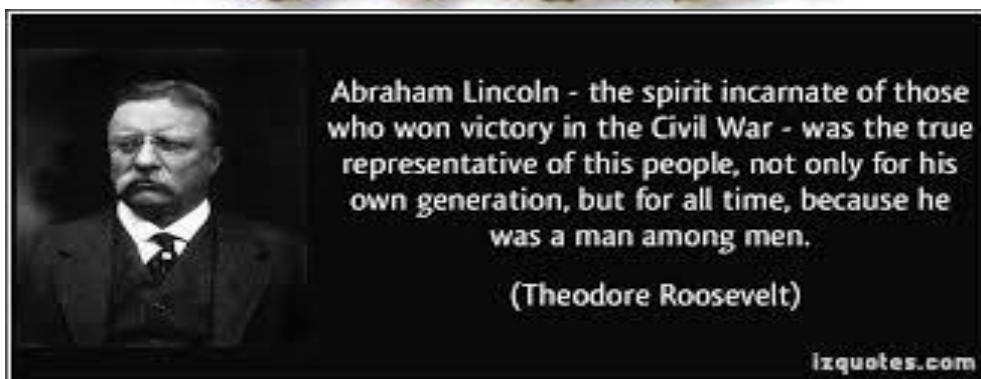
Granted that every war
is madness - civil war,
fratricide, is the worst of
all; it reaches deeper
into ugliness, cruelty
and absurdity.

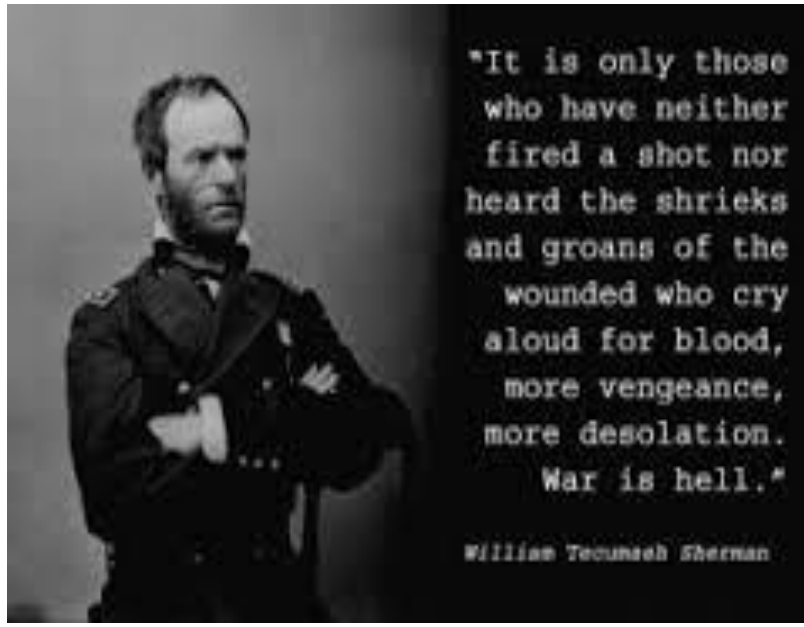
Elie Wiesel

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

I think Lee has
made a gross mistake
. . . I have all of the
plans of the Rebels,
and will catch them
in their own trap.

—Gen. George B. McClellan,
September 13, 1862





A View of Camp McDonald

The below images come courtesy of Michael K. Shaffer and the Civil War Center at Kennesaw State University. The following website was consulted: <http://www.exploregeorgia.org/blog/campmcdonald>

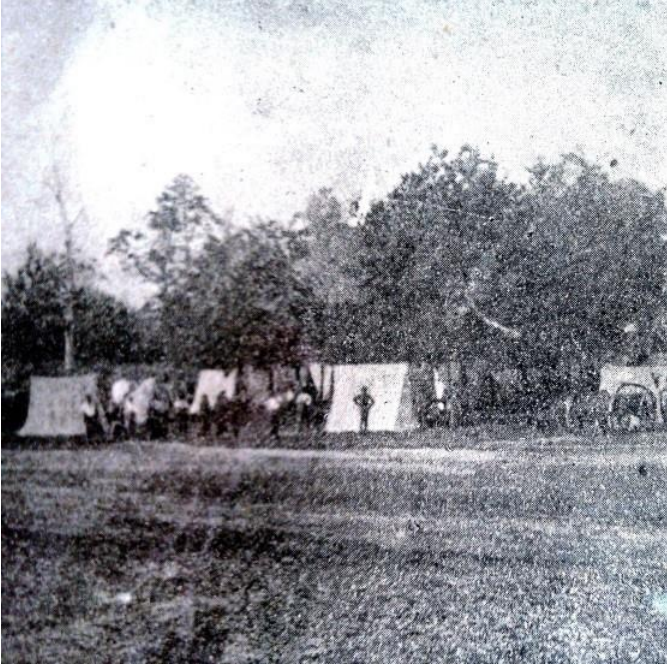
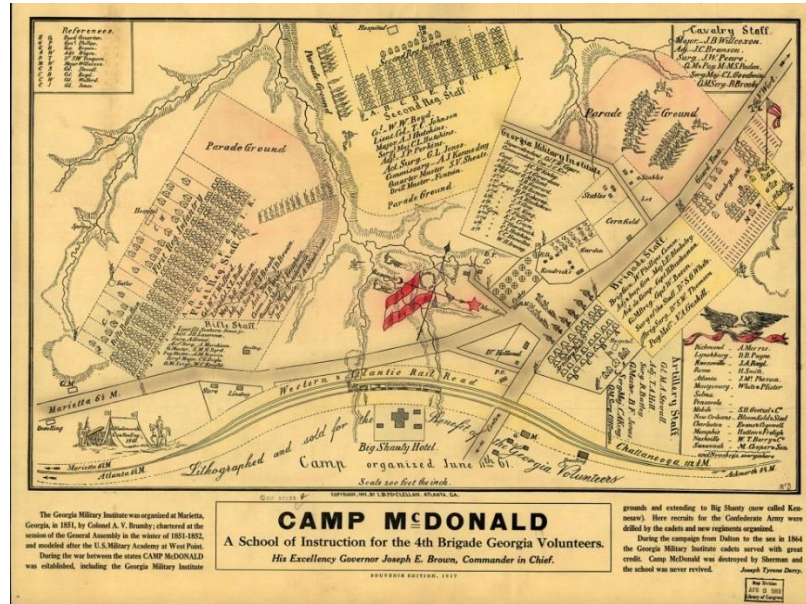


Image of soldiers' quarters at Camp McDonald



Gen. Wm. Phillips, Commander of Camp McDonald



Map of Camp McDonald

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE BGCWRT

February 2017: David Deatrick, Louisville CWRT. Topic - Kentucky Union General Lovell Rousseau

March 2017 - Phillip Whiteman – Historian from Georgia, Civil War Sutlers

April 2017 - Allen Mesch, Historian/Author - Union Gen. Charles Smith

Membership Information

Come join us! If you have friends interested in the Civil War, please bring them along. **January is our fiscal year when dues for the current campaign are due.** If you haven't paid your dues for this season yet please do so. Our dues help us obtain great speakers. With enough members we may also assist with historical preservation in the future.

Annual dues are as follows:

- **Student - \$10**
- **Single - \$20**
- **Family - \$30**
- **Military (active duty and veterans) - \$15 Military family (active duty and veterans)-\$25**