

2-2017

# Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (Feb. 2017)

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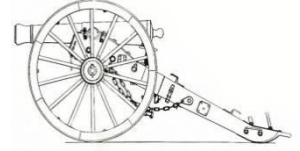
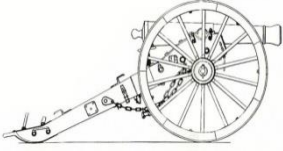
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## Recommended Citation

Folklife Archives, Manuscripts &, "Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (Feb. 2017)" (2017). *Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter*. Paper 8.  
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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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month  
(except June, July, and December).

Email: [BGCWRT@wku.edu](mailto:BGCWRT@wku.edu)

We meet at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 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 February 2017:

Who is buried in Lovell Harrison Rousseau's grave?

At Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky, at the head of the thousands of graves of Union soldiers, is a monument to Lovell H. Rousseau. Cemetery officials today will tell you that the monument is merely a memorial, but the historical record seems not to agree. So who is Lovell H. Rousseau and why might someone be buried in Rousseau's grave? Rousseau was born in Kentucky and was a lawyer in Louisville at the beginning of the Civil War. Prior to the war, he had served as an officer in the Mexican War and as a state legislator in both Kentucky and Indiana. During the Civil War, he led a brigade at Shiloh, and a Division at Perryville and Stones' River. Later, he led a cavalry raid during the Atlanta Campaign, and defeated Forrest's cavalry and infantry during Hood's Tennessee Campaign. After the war, he served in Congress, was involved in acquiring Alaska from Russia, and, at the time of his death, was in command of the U.S. Troops in Louisiana. Rousseau was a colorful and interesting individual, and I look forward to discussing his life (and the circumstances of his burials) with you.

Bio: **David R. Deatrck, Jr.**, born in Louisville, Kentucky. Preparatory education, Georgetown College (B.A., 1980); legal education, Salmon P. Chase College of Law, Northern Kentucky University (J.D., 1983); admitted to the Kentucky Bar in 1983. Member: Louisville and Kentucky Bar Associations. Former Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Jefferson County, Kentucky. Thereafter, I worked for the law firm of Morgan & Pottinger, PSC, as a litigator. Since 1994, I have been a Partner in the law firm of Deatrck & Spies, PSC. Adjunct Faculty at the University of Louisville, 1992- 2014. I have been a member of the Louisville Civil War Roundtable since the mid-1980s. Currently, I am honored to be President of the Louisville Civil War Round Table. This was my third time elected to the office. I was privileged to write a number of articles for the Encyclopedia of Louisville, published a few years ago. I have edited books for Joe Reinhart and Kenny Hafendorfer, as well as provided maps for a book published by LSU Press.

--David R. Deatrck

### **Our Previous Meeting: January 2017**

On Tuesday, January 17, the Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable heard Michael K. Shaffer, Civil War historian, author, and newspaper columnist, give a lecture on Camp McDonald, located at Kennesaw, Georgia. Once called Big Shanty, the Confederate Civil War training center, the largest in the state, was established by Georgia governor Joseph Brown at the behest of Jefferson Davis, and was in operation for three years.

Named for Georgia's 29<sup>th</sup> governor, the camp was located adjacent to the Western & Atlantic Railroad, which assisted in the transportation of soldiers to Virginia. The citizen-turned-soldier faced a 60-day training schedule with military drill the order of each day. The men spent four hours daily learning maneuver tactics as cadets from the nearby Georgia Military Institute in Marietta served as instructors. The men observed the Sabbath with a rest from training, while preachers espoused the gospel and hymns echoed across the parade ground. Visitors often came to Camp McDonald to watch the troops train; some left written accounts of their visit. Photographs of many of the soldiers from Camp McDonald are in private hands. Information about them can be obtained from the speaker.

### **This Month in Civil War History**

#### **1861**

- Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>- Texas secessionist convention votes 166 to 7 to secede, calling for a ratification election by the people.
- Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>- Convention of Seceded States begins in Montgomery, Alabama. Georgian Howell Cobb is elected President of the Convention.
- Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>- Elections in Virginia create a pro-Union secessionist convention. This would eventually lead to the formation of West Virginia and its entry into the Union in 1863.
- Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>- "Fort Sumter will not be surrendered" came from various people in the Buchanan Administration in response to a demand for surrender from South Carolina. Ironically, Buchanan also believed the federal government lacked the constitutional power to force the southern states back into the union.
- Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>- After privately considering William Yancey, Howell Cobb, Robert Toombs, Alexander Stephens, and Robert Barnwell Rhett for President of the Confederate States of America, the Convention settles on Jefferson Davis. They select Alexander Stephens, both pro-Union and a friend of Abraham Lincoln, as vice-president.

#### **1862**

- Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>-Fall of Fort Henry on Tennessee River
- Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>- Ambrose Burnside captures Roanoke Island with an amphibious force, taking some 2,765 Confederates as prisoners.
- Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>- Union Brigadier General Charles Stone arrested and taken to Fort Lafayette, New York and placed in solitary confinement. He was not told the reason for his confinement.
- Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>- Navy Secretary Gideon Welles forms an organization to review inventions and technical developments. The group eventually became today's National Academy of Science.
- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>-Uncondition Surrender of Ft. Donelson by Simon B. Buckner to U.S. Grant
- Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>- The first Congress meets in Richmond, Virginia. Prior to this time, legislative duties had been carried out by secessionist convention.
- Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>- William Wallace "Willie" Lincoln dies. The 12-year-old son of U. S. President Abraham Lincoln probably had typhoid fever.

- Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>- "Bull" Nelson enters Nashville, Tennessee, first Confederate state capital to fall into Union hands. Don Carlos Buell accepts the city's surrender. Nathan Bedford Forrest provides a rear guard for Hardee's Army of Central Kentucky as it withdraws to Alabama.

### 1863

- Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>- The French offer to mediate the Civil War. Three days later, Secretary Seward informs Minister Mecier that the offer has been declined.
- Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>- General Joseph Hooker reorganizes the Army of the Potomac appointing J. F. Reynolds, Darius Couch, Dan Sickles, George Meade, John Sedgwick, W. F. Smith, Franz Sigel and Henry Slocum in command of individual corps. George Stoneman is named his cavalry chief. Smith's Ninth Corps is assigned to Newport News to increase pressure on Richmond
- Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>- West Virginia's constitutional convention reconvenes following Congress's request that certain wording (about slaves) be modified.
- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>- The Senate passes the Conscription Act, prompting outrage among some northerners, the most famous result being the draft riots in New York City on July 11<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> 1863.
- Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>- General Grant rescinds the order halting publication of the *Chicago Times* as a "copperhead" paper.
- Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>- The National Currency Act was signed into law by President Lincoln, creating a national banking system, a Currency Bureau and the office of Comptroller of the Currency. The act's goal was to establish a single currency.


### 1864

- Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>- William Tecumseh Sherman, having moved to Vicksburg by boat, begins the Meridian Campaign.
- Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>- 109 Union officers led by Colonel Thomas Rose escape from Libby Prison on the banks of the James River in Richmond. 59 reach Union lines.
- Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>- Federals take Meridian. They continue their "work," tearing up railroad infrastructure and destroying locomotives, but there is little Leonidas Polk can do to stop Sherman's advance.
- Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>- Crisis in the Lincoln Administration over the Pomeroy Circular backing Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase as Republican candidate for President in the 1864 elections.
- Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>- Federal prisoners begin arriving at Camp Sumter in Andersonville. By the end of the war nearly 13,000 prisoners would die.

### 1865


- Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>- On the River Queen five men, US President Abraham Lincoln, US Secretary of State William Seward, CS Vice-president Alexander Stephens, along with John Campbell and RMT Hunter discuss peace terms at the Hampton Roads Conference near Fort Monroe. The conference was a failure.
- Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>- John C. Breckinridge becomes Confederate Secretary of War.
- Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>- General Robert E. Lee appoints Joe Johnston as commander of the only other effective fighting force in what remains of the Confederate States of America, in North Carolina.
- Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>- Voters approve a new constitution, including the abolition of slavery, in Tennessee.
- Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>- Following a bombardment by gunboats under the command of Rear Admiral David Porter, William T. Sherman captures Wilmington.

Civil War Pictorial Quotes



*If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle.*

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AMERICA WILL NEVER BE DESTROYED FROM THE OUTSIDE. IF WE FALTER AND LOSE OUR FREEDOMS, IT WILL BE BECAUSE WE DESTROYED OURSELVES.

~ ABRAHAM LINCOLN

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**"I am for the 'immediate, unconditional, and universal' enfranchisement of the black man, in every State in the Union."**

**Frederick Douglass 1865**

“ In an instant the whole city was in an uproar... women, children, men on horseback and on foot were running down toward the river from every conceivable direction shouting 'the Merrimac is going down'... I saw the huge monster swing loose from its moorings and make her way down the river... Everything betokened serious business. ”

- PVT. JAMES KEENAN, 2ND GEORGIA INFANTRY



**"You mean the war betwixt the Yankees and the Americans?"**

**Granny, on the Civil War  
The Beverly Hillbillies**



I come from a stupid family. During the civil war my great uncle fought for the west.

— Rodney Dangerfield —

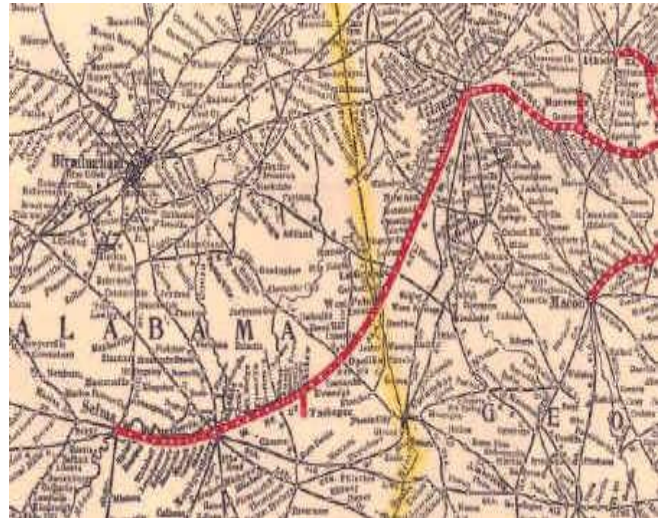
AZ QUOTES



“There was one of two things I had a right to: liberty or death. If I could not have one, I would take the other, for no man should take me alive. I should fight for liberty as long as my strength lasted.”

~Harriet Tubman

## A View of Lovell Rousseau



Top Left: Photo of General Rousseau

Top Right: Gen. Rousseau's gravestone

Bottom Left: "Sherman's Neckties," on the Montgomery and West Point Railroad.

Bottom Right: Map of the Montgomery-West Point Rail Line, which began running in July 1851



## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE BGCWRT

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**