

3-2017

Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter (March 2017)

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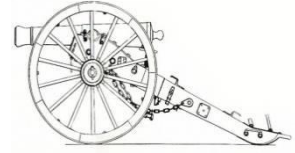
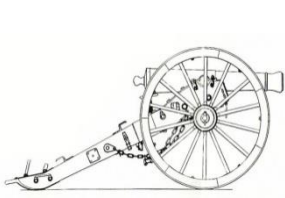


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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

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, March 21st 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 March 2017: Philip Whiteman **Civil War Sutlers: Shysters or Shrewd Businessmen?**

Civil War era sutlers were civilian contractors who sold provisions to the soldiers they couldn't get elsewhere. Some sutlers sold goods at a fair price and of good quality. Many sutlers did not. These businessmen were under restrictions from the governments (Federal and Confederate) as well restrictions from the officers of the regiment they sold to. The risks were high. The sutler had to buy goods, get them shipped to the camp areas. The sutler was subject to taxes, lost and stolen goods, and even death or capture by the enemy. The reward (i.e. profit) was great however. Most sutlers did make a large amount of money by selling goods to the soldiers.

In this presentation we will look at the history of the sutler, what products he sold, how he conducted business, where he conducted business and whether the bad reputation most historians have placed on the sutler is warranted. We will look at soldier's writings and period newspapers to see what they had to say at the time about sutlers. When the presentation is over you can decide if sutlers were really shysters or just good businessmen protecting their interests while providing a needed service and making a profit to support themselves and their families.

Bio: Phillip Whiteman is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. He has a history degree from the University of Alabama and has been involved with reenacting/living history for 22 years. Along with 19th-Century men's clothing, his primary interests are financial and political aspects of the Civil War. Phillip has provided educational presentations at Civil War reenactments, National and Regional conferences, historical society meetings, civic group meetings and local schools.

Whiteman is currently digitalizing and cataloging archival documents for the Kennesaw Mountain NBP library. Phillip is also a member of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park cannon crew.

Whiteman, with his wife Janine, started the PNJW Collections Civilian Exhibit in 1997. This collection of the Civil War era artifacts includes men's, women's and children's clothing, accessories, and other civilian related artifacts. The collection is used to create a traveling exhibit, which is periodically set up at historic sites and National Parks during the year.

Our Previous Meeting: February 2017

On Tuesday, February 21, the Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable heard David R. Deatrick, Louisville attorney and the President of the Louisville Civil War Round Table, discuss the life and career of Union General Lovell H. Rousseau. Deatrick began his talk with the query of “Who is buried in Rousseau’s grave in Cave Hill Cemetery?” Born in Stanford, Lincoln County, Kentucky, Rousseau participated in the Mexican American War and served as a state legislator in both Kentucky and Indiana. Without attending West Point, he led a brigade at Shiloh, a division at Perryville, and cavalry raiders in the Atlanta Campaign. He then defeated CSA forces during the Tennessee Campaign. After the war, he served in Congress, and helped acquire Alaska from Russia, and at the time of his death he commanded U.S. troops in Louisiana. In answer to the beginning question of Rousseau’s burial, the audience learned that the answer is “Nobody.” He certainly could have been buried in Louisville, but Rousseau, at his wife’s behest, was interned at Arlington. The impressive Kentucky grave site is empty!

This Month in Civil War History

1861

- March 1st- Texas accepted as a state by the provisional government of the Confederate States of America.
- March 2nd- The U. S. Congress passes a proposed 13th Amendment stating that the Congress will not abolish or interfere with slavery where it exists. The amendment is never ratified.
- March 4th- Confederate Convention in Montgomery adopts the "Stars and Bars" as the nation's flag. On the same date, Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated President, seven states had already seceded.
- March 9th- The Coinage Bill is passed by the Confederate Congress, authorizing up to 50 million dollars in Confederate currency to be printed.
- March 18th- By a vote of 39-35 the Arkansas convention defeats a secession motion. Instead, they vote to allow a general election in August to determine the question of secession.
- March 21st- Missouri secessionist convention adjourns having voted 98-1 against secession.

1862

- March 3rd- Abraham Lincoln appoints Andrew Johnson to be military governor of Tennessee.
- March 4th- Over what is generally regarded as a communication problem, Halleck relieves Grant from command and replaces him with Charles Ferguson Smith.
- March 6th- Abraham Lincoln proposes that slaves in the Border States be emancipated gradually, with compensation to the owners.
- March 8th- The Merrimac (CSS Virginia) battles the USS Congress and the USS Cumberland, destroying both frigates and killing more than 240 of their crewmen.
- March 11th- President Lincoln relieves George McClellan as General-in-Chief of the U. S. Army. He continues as commander of the Army of the Potomac.
- March 17th- George McClellan begins transporting his men to Fort Monroe for the Peninsula Campaign.

1863

- March 3rd- The Conscription Act (National Enrollment Act of 1863) is signed into law by President Lincoln. Congress requires quotas of draftees by state, but allows wealthy Americans the right to buy their way out of service for \$300.00. Also called the Draft Act or any number of variations.

- March 10th- President Lincoln issues an order of amnesty for men absent without leave from the Union Army. They must report by April 1st or they will be considered deserters.
- March 13th- An explosion in the Confederate Ordinance Laboratory on Brown's Island in the James River near Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond kills 69 people, 62 of them women and young girls. A friction primer exploded.
- March 14th- Admiral David Farragut pushes his command vessel, the *Hartford* and the *Albatross* past Port Hudson, but Confederate fire seriously damage three other vessels.
- March 29th- Stymied in his attempt to reach Vicksburg on the east bank of the Mississippi, Grant orders General John McClernand to march south on the west bank to Miliken's Bend.

1864

- March 1st- Custis Lee, son of Robert E. Lee, turns back a force of 500 cavalry under Ulric Dahlgreen, 2 miles west of Richmond. General Judson Kilpatrick had called off a planned assault earlier in the day.
- March 9th- Ulysses S. Grant promoted to Lieutenant General and given command of all active United States forces. Grant officially became general in chief on March 12th, replacing Henry Halleck.
- March 21st- Abraham Lincoln signs legislation allowing Nevada and Colorado to become states even though they don't meet population requirements.
- March 24th- Nathan Bedford Forrest seizes Union City.
- March 25th- Battle of Paducah KY: 3,000 Confederates under Nathan Bedford Forrest. Initially a supply run, a portion of Forrest's men from KY decide to attack the fort, where Union forces led by Colonel Stephen Hicks were waiting. The skirmish became known as the battle of Paducah, with 90 Union soldiers and 50 Confederates falling in battle. Due to their lower casualty rate, and the supplies they gained, the battle was considered a Confederate victory.
- March 26th- Major General James Birdseye McPherson assumes command of the Army of the Tennessee.

1865

- March 2nd- Robert E. Lee sends a message to Ulysses S. Grant asking for a conference to "iron out differences" between the North and the South.
- March 3rd- Abraham Lincoln issues instructions on surrender discussions. He gives Grant wide-ranging powers on military matters, but reserves political matters for himself.
- March 4th- Lincoln outlines his second term talking directly to the Confederate people "...with malice toward none; with charity for all..." Andrew Johnson, replacing Henry Hamlin as Vice-president gives a rambling, drunk speech. He had been given too much whiskey as medicine by a doctor.
- March 13th- Confederacy allows the induction of "negro soldiers." The measure did not state that blacks who fought for the Confederacy would be free, although that was apparently the understanding.
- March 27th- Lincoln held a council of war with Ulysses S. Grant, William Tecumseh Sherman, and David Porter on the River Queen at City Point.
- March 31st- In a tactical victory for the Confederates, George Pickett [CS] turns back Phil Sheridan's cavalry and elements of the Fifth Corps at Dinwiddie Courthouse.

“I will go to Mexico. Who will join me in Mexico?”



**Gen. JO Shelby spoke these words in June, 1865
near Chatfield, Texas.
Now you can follow in Shelby's footsteps.**

The Hodge-Martin-Chatfield Museum and the William Henry Parsons Camp #415 are offering a 9-day excursion to Mexico with American and Mexican historians with safety in mind.

- Monterrey where Texas Gov. Pendleton Murrah died and was buried
- Mexican War sites where Lee, Davis, and other Confederates learned the Craft of Warfare.
- Mexico City, Querétaro, Puebla
- Córdoba and “Carlota” where Shelby and other “Confederadoes” lived in exile
- The Empire of Maximilian as Shelby saw it
- Deluxe Motorcoach, hotels, and most meals

Save the Dates!

June 16-24, 2017

(903) 654-2066 or

For more information: shadows1865@msn.com

You're Invited

The Tullahoma Campaign

CIVIL WAR SYMPOSIUM

~ Featured Speaker ~

Ed Bearss

Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service
and Civil War Book Author

~ Program Moderated by ~

David Currey

Historian and Documentary Filmmaker

~ Other Speakers ~

Dr. Carole Bucy

Nashville - Davidson Co. Historian & History Professor at
Volunteer State Community College

Dr. Vince Armstrong

Professor • Middle Tennessee State University,
History Department

Thomas Cartwright

Historian • Author and Tour Guide for
The Tullahoma Campaign

Shirley Farris Jones

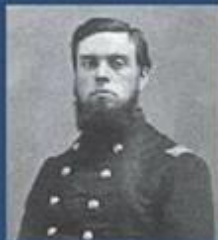
Civil War Historian • Author • Community Activist

Saturday, March 25, 2017

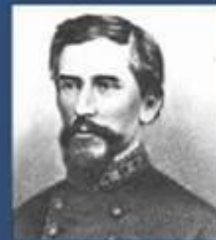
8 a.m. – 4 p.m. CST

Bell Buckle Banquet Hall

Bell Buckle, TN



Col. John T. Wilder



Gen. Patrick Cleburne

\$95 per person

Presentation Includes:

- The Tullahoma Campaign and Its Significance
- Migration of Troops from Stones River to Chickamauga
- MARTHA READY MORGAN: From Wife to Widow in 630 Days
- Liberty Gap
- Hoover's Gap
- Women and Spies in the Civil War
- Legacy Issues – The Lingering Effect
- A Special Exhibit of Civil War Artifacts

If you are a Civil War enthusiast, come join this event and learn more about the Tullahoma Campaign – the Struggle for Middle Tennessee – one of the most significant campaigns of the Civil War!

This event is being held in Bell Buckle, a short distance south of Nashville, Tennessee. Registration includes day-long conference sessions, breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack and registration packet. Lodging discounts are also being offered by area lodging properties.

Sponsored by Tennessee's Backroads Heritage and the
Tennessee Department of Tourist Development.

To receive a registration packet, please call 615-613-5627
or email tnbackroads@bellsouth.net. Deadline is March 17, 2017.

Tennessee's Backroads Heritage
P. O. Box 52, Tullahoma, TN 37388



www.tennesseebackroads.org



www.tnvacation.com

Additional News and Events

CIVIL WAR NEWS AND EVENTS

Civil War Symposium in Kennesaw, Georgia – General James Longstreet – March 18, 2017

The Center for the Study of the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State University will hold its 14th Annual Civil War Symposium on March 18, 2017 from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM at KSU Continuing Education Center in Kennesaw, GA. This year's focus is on Confederate General James Longstreet, who settled in Gainesville, Georgia following the war, with presentations by Center Director Brian S. Wills, Professor of History Dr. Keith Bohannon, and historian and author Jeffry D. Wert.

Advance registration is available at <http://bit.ly/CWSymposium2017> for a donation of \$5.00 to benefit the Center and its programs. Registration at the door is available by check or cash. Current Kennesaw Corps Annual Members and students are welcome to enjoy the presentations at no cost.

Speakers include:

Civil War Center Director Brian S. Wills will present “When More Was Less: Longstreet’s Independent Campaigns,” a look into Gen. Longstreet’s independent campaigns at Suffolk, Virginia, and Knoxville, Tennessee.

Dr. Keith Bohannon’s presentation, “The Bull of the Woods Goes West,” will take a closer look at Gen. Longstreet’s actions in the Chickamauga campaign.

Historian and author Jeffry D. Wert will examine the criticism that Longstreet received following the war, largely associated with the Confederate defeat at Gettysburg, Longstreet’s criticisms of General Lee and his postwar career as a Republican.

This year’s focus on General Longstreet will also be complemented by the bus tour on April 8, 2017, hosted by the Kennesaw State Civil War Center. Admission to this tour includes transportation, a guided tour led by Dr. Wills and Richard Pilcher of the Longstreet Society, admission to the Northeast Georgia History Center, and a private boxed lunch. The bus departs promptly at 8:00 AM from KSU Center and will return by 4:00 PM.

Visit <http://bit.ly/longstreet17> for admission; General admission is \$59 per person. Kennesaw Corps Annual Member admission is \$49 per person. For more information on becoming a Kennesaw Corps Annual Member, please visit: <http://bit.ly/kennesawcorps>.

Reconsidering Gen. Braxton Bragg – Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park, March 18, 2017

Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park invites the public to participate in a 1-hour, ranger-led program at Chickamauga Battlefield on Saturday, March 18, at 2 pm. In conjunction with the 200th anniversary of Confederate General Braxton Bragg’s birth, participants will be asked to reconsider what has been said about the general for many years and recent scholarship that places him in a more favorable light. This program will begin at the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center and will car caravan to Bragg’s Headquarters.

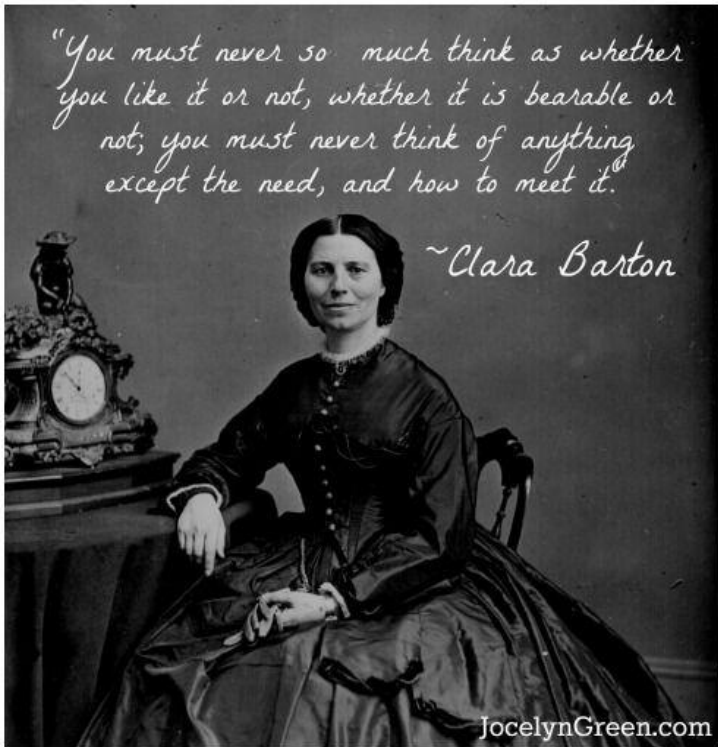
For more than a century after the Civil War, General Bragg has been viewed as a commander who often quarreled with fellow officers and, at one time, even himself. As the myth of the “Lost Cause” developed, Bragg became a “poster boy” for why the South lost the war on the battlefield. However, he was a superior

organizer and the only general to invade northern territory while commanding the Army of the Mississippi (Army of Tennessee) during the Civil War. Visitors are encouraged to come and learn a different perspective on the Confederate general who commanded the Army of Tennessee at Chickamauga.

As a reminder, supportive shoes, appropriate clothing for the weather, water, portable chairs, and bug spray are recommended.

For more information about programs at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, contact the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center at 706-866-9241, the Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center at 423-821-7786, or visit the National Military Park's website at www.nps.gov/chch.

Civil War Pictorial Quotes



**OUR ARMIES WERE IN
AS MUCH CHAOS IN
VICTORY AS THEIRS
IN DEFEAT**

JEFFERSON DAVIS

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

PICTUREQUOTES

**“I have served my country,
under the flag of the Union,
for more than fifty years,
and so long as God permits me
to live, I will defend that flag
with my sword, even if my native
state assails it!”**

*~ Brevet Lieutenant General Winfield Scott,
upon being asked to become commander of
Virginia's military forces in April 1861*



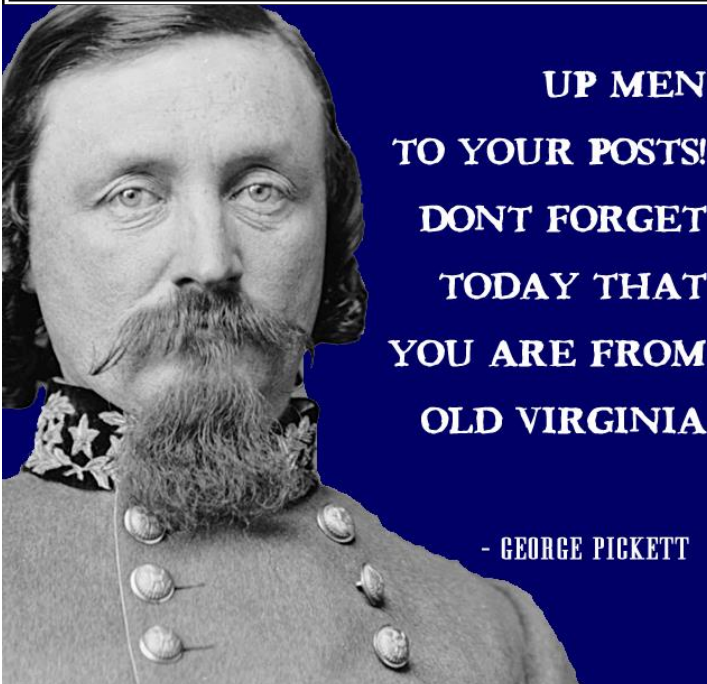
GeniusQuotes.net



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

(Elie Wiesel)

izquotes.com



**UP MEN
TO YOUR POSTS!
DONT FORGET
TODAY THAT
YOU ARE FROM
OLD VIRGINIA**

- GEORGE PICKETT

#QOTD #CW150

civilwarpodcast.com

**“ALWAYS MYSTIFY, MISLEAD AND SURPRISE
THE ENEMY IF POSSIBLE.”**

STONEWALL JACKSON

© Lifehack Quotes



The only lesson to extract from any civil war is that it's pointless and futile and ugly, and that there is nothing glamorous or heroic about it. There are heroes, but the causes are never heroic.

(Anthony Minghella)

izquotes.com



"Heroism is latent in every human soul - However humble or unknown."

Joshua L. Chamberlain



The Civil War was about a lot of things, but the core of it was slavery. That was the original sin.

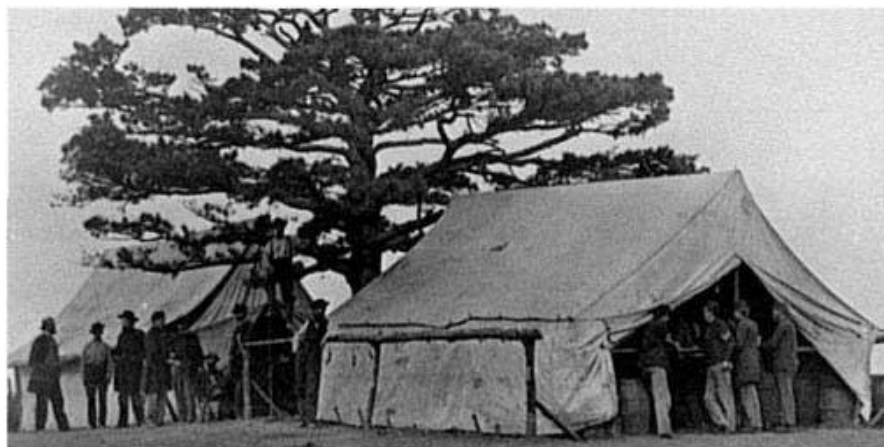
John Fund

QuoteAddicts.com

A View of Civil War Sutlers



Figure 1 Harper's Weekly depiction of Mosby's raid on a sutler train



Civil War Sutlers Tent

Figure 2 Sutler's tent at the battle of Gettysburg

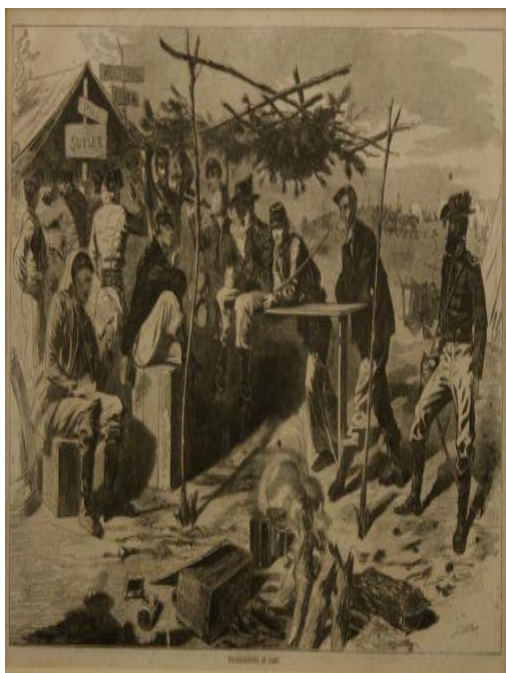


Figure 3 Winslow Homer's Depiction of a Sutler's tent

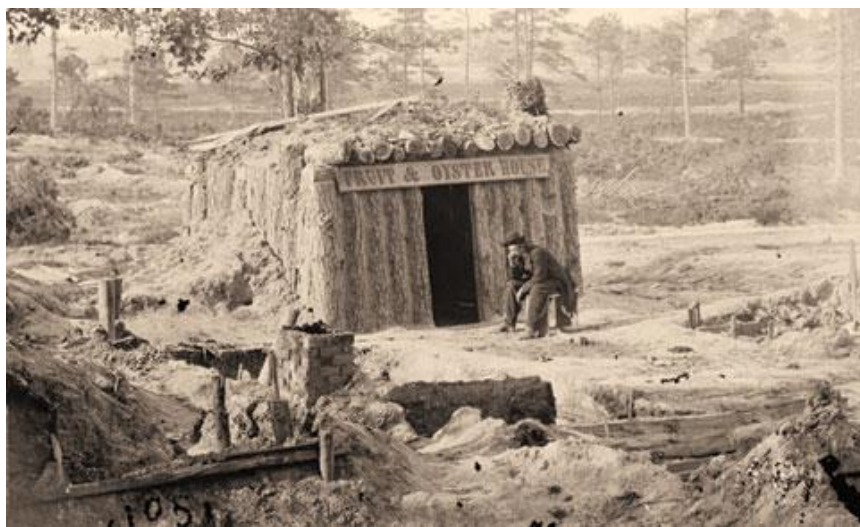


Figure 4A wood and dirt shack selling oysters and fruit near Petersburg

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE BGCWRT

April 2017 - TBA

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**