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

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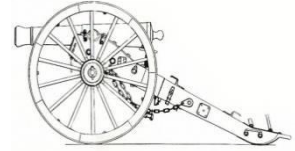
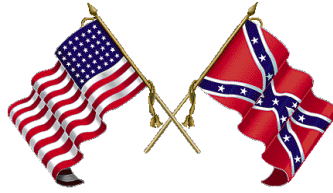
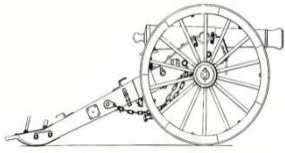
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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

Bowling Green Civil War Round Table

President - Dr Ron Hatcher; Vice President - Jonathan Jeffrey; Secretary/Newsletter - Tom Carr; Treasurer - Robert Dietle; Advisors - Dr Glenn LaFantasie and Greg Biggs-(Clarksville CWRT)

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

October 17th, 2013 – Our 23rd meeting.

The 23rd meeting of the Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable will be on Thursday, October 17th, 2013

Rm. 125, Cherry Hall, on the Campus of Western KY 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.

President's Note

Oct. 2013

I have alluded to my planned trip to the site of the Battle of New Hope Church (May 25, 26 1864, GA) in an earlier note. Now the trip has been made and in spite of some suburban sprawl, there are still areas of visible trench remnants and the topography allows appreciation for the "high ground" enjoyed by the Confederates. The visit was informative and fun and will be the topic for my literary club program in January.

The actual New Hope Church was destroyed in the battle, but was rebuilt on site and the cemetery sits on another side of the modern intersection. Interestingly to me, on the 3rd corner of the intersection sits the 2nd New Hope Church. Seems a conflict in the congregation was severe enough to create a complete schism. Someone made the point long ago that politics and religion were two topics to avoid in polite conversation, but such a split on the site of a battle to the death of more than 3500 men somehow seemed to underscore how good people with similar beliefs and culture can decide that compromise is unsatisfactory and either go or attempt to go their own way. We are 148 years away from the end of the most divisive event in American history and it still has many lessons for us all.

Ron Hatcher

LAST MONTH'S MEETING

September 19th, the Bowling Green CWRT heard a fascinating program on the "Tornado of Death. How Combat Effective Were Civil War Repeaters." Historian Greg Wernke, a member of the Organization of American Historians; Sons of Union Veterans and the Western Sharpshooters (who portray the various regiments attached to the Lightning (Wilder's) Brigade & the 17th, 65th and 72nd, Indiana, 98th and 123rd Illinois), brought with him, an 1853 Enfield, 1860 Henry and 1860 Spencer and the post-war weapon that replaced all of them – the 1873 Trapdoor Springfield, and allowed members to handle each weapon so they could get a tactile feel and understanding for each arm. Thanks Greg for the fine program!



Our Program for October 2013

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Speaker: Kent Wright, Huntsville Alabama and the TN Valley CWRT. Former US Navy and nuclear engineer.

His topic is entitled "Conflicted Friendships: John Bull, Uncle Sam and King Cotton." It primarily tells of the vital role of Great Britain in influencing the outcome of the war and also of the partnering between the Union Army and Navy to isolate the South and discourage foreign recognition.

He will cover the war goals of the Northern and Southern states and the foreign policies of Lincoln, Davis and Queen Victoria as well as every important maritime policy from the blockade to combined operations in American coastal and inland waters. The subject includes England's ad hoc but critical decisions in response to the American crisis in virtually every step of the war from the proclamation of the blockade to the Emancipation Proclamation and the reelection of Abraham Lincoln and also what each meant for Southern independence and national recognition. He will also explain Davis's counter blockade policies: the cotton embargo, Confederate privateers and commerce raiders and blockade running, where in nearly every case we find a British interest. And, in perhaps the most interesting part of all, Mr. Wright will reveal the relatively forgotten near-brush with war between the United States and Great Britain (which could have easily become a world-wide war) over interpretations of the 1856 Treaty of Paris and the Trent Affair.



CIVIL WAR AND ASSOCIATED NEWS AND EVENTS

OCTOBER

The 115th meeting of the Clarksville (TN) Civil War Roundtable will be on **Wednesday, October 16th, 2013** at the Bone & Joint Center, 980 Professional Park Drive, right across the street from Gateway Hospital. This is just off Dunlop Lane and Holiday Drive and only a few minutes east of Governor's Square mall. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm and is always open to the public.

OUR SPEAKER AND TOPIC: *"The Long Road Home: William Quarles Brigade in Hood's Tennessee Campaign, 1864."*

Clarksville's Confederate General William A. Quarles commanded a brigade in the Army of Tennessee. He led his troops through critical battles of the Atlanta Campaign and now, for the first time in years, the men of his Tennessee regiments were coming back to the Volunteer State. Quarles' Brigade consisted of the 1st Alabama Infantry and the 42nd/48th, 46th/55th, 49th and 53rd Tennessee Infantry regiments. The 49th Tennessee contained men from the Clarksville area.

At Franklin, as part of William Loring's Division, Quarles and his brigade assaulted the Union line close to the Carter Cotton Gin. Quarles fell badly wounded and was captured on December 17th. The 49th Tennessee suffered the highest rate of casualties of any Confederate regiment in the war; close to 85 per cent! At Nashville, the remnants of the brigade were attacked on December 15th, 1864 along the Confederate left along Hillsboro Pike north of Richland Creek. Union cavalry enveloped the flank and forced the Confederate line to collapse and fall back. The next day, the brigade held the line just right of Shy's Hill at Granny White Pike. Again, the Confederate left was enveloped by Union cavalry while Federal infantry assaulted the lines on the hill itself. Once again, the Confederates fell back, this time all the way to Alabama. John Bell Hood, commanding the Army of Tennessee, resigned his command. What was left of the army split into two factions; part of them, including Quarles' Brigade, went to North Carolina to finish the war there, while the other portion went to Mobile, Alabama.

Nashville based historian Brian Allison will give an overview discussing in detail the experiences of Quarles' Brigade at the battles of Franklin and Nashville, and what happened to the survivors, the prisoners, the wounded, and the dead.

Born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee, Brian Allison grew up fascinated by the rich historical heritage of the area around him. A graduate of Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, he has worked in the history field for the better part of two decades. Most recently, he was the Curator of Travellers Rest Plantation & Museum in Nashville. An artist and a storyteller, he enjoys breathing life into the forgotten stories of the past.

Tennessee installs permanent Civil War exhibits in state Welcome Centers

Permanent Civil War exhibits were recently installed in Tennessee Welcome Centers. The purpose of the Civil War exhibits is to educate visitors and Tennesseans as to the important role Tennessee played in the Civil War. Each Tennessee Civil War Exhibit features an overview of Tennessee's role in the Civil War, as well as the regional impact of the Civil War and will also promote rural tourism development through the Tennessee Civil War Trail and Discover Tennessee Trails & Byways programs.

"Tennesseans are proud of our commitment to tell the whole story of the Civil War through our statewide auto trail system, our many historic sites and national battlefields," said Dr. Carroll Van West, director of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation and Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area and co-chair of the Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission. "The new Welcome Center exhibits not only introduce our story and approach to any and all visitors; they are also part of the commitment that Tennesseans today make to the future: to tell the whole story of the Civil War and to remind everyone that the Civil War era issues of national unity and citizenship still shape our world."

Permanent exhibits can be found at Tennessee Welcome Centers located at the I-81 Sullivan County Welcome Center, located at the southbound mile marker 75.3 in Bristol; I-40 Shelby County — Memphis; I-65 Robertson County — Mitchellville; I-24 Hamilton County — Tiftonia; I-65 Giles County — Ardmore; I-40 Smith County — Buffalo Valley; I-75 Campbell County — Jellico; I-26 Unicoi County — Erwin; I-40 Cocke County — Hartford; I-75 Hamilton County — Chattanooga; I-24 Montgomery County — Clarksville; and I-155 Dyer County — Dyersburg. This project was made possible through a partnership with Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration, Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, MTSU Center for Historic Preservation, Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, and the Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and was funded by the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration, State Capital Commission.

NOVEMBER

Johnsonville, TN State Historic Park Announces 149th Anniversary Events – Saturday through Monday, November 2-4, 2013

Johnsonville State Historic Park, located in New Johnsonville, Tennessee, is having their 149th Anniversary celebrations for the battle of Johnsonville which took place on November 4, 1864. Confederate cavalry commander Nathan Bedford Forrest struck the massive Union supply base on the Tennessee River on that date after capturing gunboats and transports, and ultimately destroyed millions of dollars in supplies earmarked for Gen. William T. Sherman's army in Georgia. While a huge dent in the Union supply efforts, the raid failed to stop Sherman and his March to the Sea which began not long afterward.

Events include cannon firings, infantry encampments and guided tours of the earthworks and more inside the park by Jerry Wooten. All events are free. The new park visitors center has a wonderful museum and film telling the story of Johnsonville from Union supply base through Forrest's raid. There is also a gift shop within the center.

For more details please visit their web site at - <http://www.tn.gov/environment/parks/Johnsonville/>. Johnsonville State Historic Park is located right off US Highway 70. You can get there from Interstate 40 from Exit 143/Tennessee Hwy 13. Go north until US Hwy 70 and turn left/west. The park is about an hour from Clarksville and can be reached by taking TN Hwy 13 south from Clarksville to Waverly and then take US Hwy 70 west to the park.

Tennessee Valley CWRT Civil War Symposium – The Civil War In The Tennessee Valley Area, November 2, 2013

Join the Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table and the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library at the Huntsville, Madison County Library in Huntsville, Alabama on November 2, 2013, to explore the strategic importance of the Tennessee Valley, along with other related activities. The event begins at 9 AM and ends at 4: 30 PM. Huntsville is about 2 1/2 hours from Clarksville.

Featured Speakers and Topics: A full range of outstanding historians and authors –

- Greg Biggs – "Nashville – Siren's Song of the Confederacy"
- Thomas Flagel – "A Landscape Transformed: Union Fortifications and the Alteration of Middle Tennessee"
- Eric Jacobsen – "The Battle of Franklin"
- J.F. (Pete) Sparks – "The Federal Occupation of North Alabama in 1862"
- Peggy Allen Towns – "Duty Driven: The Plight of North Alabama's African Americans"

There will be other events and displays, including a book dealer, during the day.

There is a single admission fee for the Featured Speaker presentations – \$15 for general audience; \$10 for Active Duty military personnel (ID required); \$5 for students up through and including college (ID required for college students)

For more information please email - tvalleycivilwarrt@gmail.com

Civil War Reenactment In Franklin, Tennessee – November 8-9, 2013

Civil War reenactors - sign up now for a **November 8 and 9 Reenactment**: Franklin's Blue-Gray days will be held at Historic Carnton Plantation on November 8 and 9, 2013.

The annual battle re-enactment to commemorate the 149th Battle Anniversary will be on Saturday, November 9 at 1:00 pm. Register with an email to bhargrove123@aol.com or rghuff123@aol.com . There is no registration fee. Cavalry and Artillery are limited so register now for a reserved spot.

Knoxville, Tennessee Civil War 150th Events Announced

Three key events for the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War in Knoxville are coming starting this month.

1. The weekend of October 10th-13th events for Fort Sanders, site of Confederate General James Longstreet's attack in 1863, took place, including a Civil War reenactment. The fort no longer exists but that will not stop modern history buffs.
2. On **November 8-10th**, events will be held at Fort Dickerson, which is right across the river from Neyland Stadium. The Knoxville CWRT has contributed greatly to its preservation and interpretation.
3. Lastly, in **late November** events will take place at Fort Higley. Head on over to East Tennessee and take part in these terrific events.

For more details please visit – www.knoxcivilwar.org. The web site also offers a downloadable map for a Civil War walking tour of downtown Knoxville and much more. Other events being held in the area are also listed.

Further information can also be obtained by calling (865) 227-6398.



~ 2014 ~

MARCH

Annual Battle of Chickamauga Seminar In The Woods – March 7-8, 2014

Noted Chickamauga historian Dave Powell and Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military park historian Jim Ogden hold another of their annual Seminars in the Woods, a tactical tour and study of different aspects of the three day Battle of Chickamauga. The purpose of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Study Group is to create a forum to bring students of the American Civil War together to study and explore those events in the fall of 1863 that led ultimately to the creation of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park ... "for the purpose of preserving and suitably marking for historical and professional military study the fields of some of the most remarkable maneuvers and most brilliant fighting in the war of the rebellion."

The tours begin on Friday, March 7, and Saturday, March 8, 2014. Friday's tours will involve a tour bus. We will be charging a small fee for use of the bus. The tours are:

Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 – George Thomas and the XIV Corps advance to Chickamauga.

In the morning, we will explore the XIV Corps crossing of the Tennessee, visiting Shellmound, Jasper, and Trenton between roughly August 30th and September 9th; much of this exploration will also include following Rosecrans and army headquarters since Rosecrans and Thomas spent much time together during these movements

Park at the Visitor's Center. The bus will depart and return from there. On Friday afternoon we will cross Lookout Mountain, and follow Thomas's corps into McLemore's Cove and then on to Crawfish Spring, in the town of Chickamauga.

For Saturday morning: 8:30 a.m. to Noon - The tour covers where Union Gens. Baird and Brannan Engage, September 19th . This tour will be part walking and part car caravan. The tour will return to the vicinity of Jay's Mill and Winfrey Field, to explore the developing fight on September 19th. The primary focus will be on Brannan's engagement with Wilson's and Ector's Brigades of Walker's Confederate corps, Baird's entry into the fight, and Liddell's counter-attack. We will meet at the visitor's center, and then car-caravan to Jay's Mill Road.

Saturday Afternoon: 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. -Gordon Granger and the defense of Horseshoe Ridge. The tours finish on Horseshoe Ridge, following the Union Reserve Corps onto the battlefield and describing the ensuing action. It will focus primarily on that part of Horseshoe Ridge beyond Hill 3, out to the end of the Union line. Meet at the visitor's center, and then car-caravan to Snodgrass Hill.

Cost: Beyond the fee for Friday's Bus, there is no cost for tour participation. Meals lodging, transportation, and incidentals, however, are the individual's responsibility.

Tour Departures: All tours will meet at the Chickamauga Visitor's Center at the designated start time, and will depart from there after some brief overview discussion. We will board the bus or car caravan to the designated parking area, and from there, we will be on foot. We will be on foot for up to three hours, so dress and prepare accordingly. Tours will depart rain or shine. Participants are responsible for their own transportation, and should plan accordingly. All tours are designed to be self-contained, so participants who cannot attend the full schedule are still welcome to join us for any portion of the weekend.

Lodging and Meals: Everyone is responsible for their own lodging and meals. There are many hotels in the greater Chattanooga area, to fit most any price range. The closest are in Fort Olgethorpe, Georgia, with the least expensive in Ringgold. Each tour on Saturday is designed to leave at least 90 minutes for lunch, and there are several family and fast food restaurants within minutes of the battlefield. There are designated picnic areas near the Visitor's Center, for those who wish to bring a lunch and eat on the field.

What to bring: Each tour will involve extensive walking. Proper clothing and especially footwear is essential. Dress in layers, wear sturdy, broken-in walking shoes or boots, and be prepared for some rain, as spring can be quite wet in North Georgia. We will be

walking on dirt and gravel trails, uncut fields, and through stretches of woods. The ground will be wet and muddy in places. Bring your own water and snacks. For more details go to - <http://chickamaugablog.wordpress.com/>

~ **UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS TO THE BGCWRT** ~

- **November** - Scott Sallee - "Joe Porter's War - Colonel Joseph C. Porter, C.S.A. - And the Civil War in Northeast Missouri, 1862 - Including the Palmyra Massacre."
- **December** – No meeting
- **January 2014** - Rhea Cole, Middle TN CWRT - William Rosecrans Signal Corps in the Army of the Cumberland
- **February ?**
- **March** - Greg Biggs - Atlanta Campaign, Part 1

BOWLING GREEN CWRT OFFICERS

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