

E CIVIL WAR ROUND TA



Founded December 3, 1940

Volume LXI, Number 7

Chicago, Illinois

March 2001



599th REGULAR MEETING

MARK L. BRADLEY ON "THE SURRENDER IN NORTH CAROLINA"

**** Friday, March 9

HOLIDAY INN MART PLAZA 350 NORTH ORLEANS STREET

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

\$30 - Members

\$35 - Nonmembers

Entrée: Chicken Breast Vesuvio with Roasted Lotato Spears

or Gatch of the Day



PLEASE NOTE

Make your reservation by MONDAY, March 5, by calling registrar Carole Le Claire at 847-698-1438.

People who attend without having made a reservation will pay a \$5 walk-in charge. If you make a reservation and then find you cannot attend, please call to cancel or you will be billed for a dinner.

PARKING: If you are driving and coming from the south, turn left into the Mart Plaza lot just after crossing the river on Orleans. From the north, turn right from Orleans on Hubbard, left on Kingsbury, right on Kinzie, and left into the Mart Plaza lot. Parking is \$7 with a validated parking sticker.

Over the next few months, due to street renovations, the bridge south of the hotel will be closed. We apologize for this inconvenience.

MARK L. BRADLEY

~ 011 ~ "The Surrender in North Carolina"

WAR CONTINUED

BY BARBARA HUGHETT

Following Confederate General Robert E. Lee's surrender to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, the Civil War continued to be fought, and surrenders negotiated, on different fronts. The most significant occurred at Bennett Place, near Durham, North Carolina, when Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered The Army of Tennessee to Union General William T. Sherman.

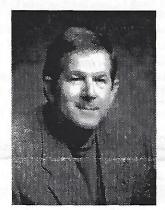
Early in 1865, Sherman and his troops began their march from Savannah to the Carolinas to join forces with Gen-

eral Grant in Virginia. Though few southerners would admit it yet, the end of organized Confederate resistance was in sight.

After cutting a vicious path through South Carolina and burning the capital city of Columbia, Sher-

man moved into North Carolina for a final confrontation with troops led by Johnston. Within weeks of the Battle of Bentonville and in the wake of the events at Appomattox, Johnston at last surrendered. Mark L. Bradley will address The Round Table on March 9; his topic will be "Surrender in North Carolina."

A native of Indianapolis, Mark Bra-



Mark L. Bradley

dley received his bachelor's degree at North Carolina State University and is currently enrolled in graduate school in the field of military history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Professional activities include service as a staff ride leader for the U.S. Marine Corps infantry and engineer units stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and as guest lecturer for the U.S. Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He is

> past president and current program chairman of the North Carolina Civil War Round Table.

Bradley received 1997 D.H. Hill Award from the North Carolina Civil War Round Table and was a finalist in the 2001 Lincoln



Prize competition. He has written numerous articles for history magazines and professional journals and is a popular speaker on the lecture circuit. His books include Last Stand in the Carolinas: The Battle of Bentonville (1996) and This Astounding Close: The Road to Bennett Place (2000). Mark Bradley last addressed a regular meeting of this Round Table in March 1998.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Founded December 3, 1940 601 South La Salle Building, Suite C-817 Chicago, Illinois 60605 Phone: 847-698-1438 www.thecwrt.org

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The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Membership Committee, 601 South LaSalle Building, Suite C-817, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

David Howe, Jerome Kowalski

BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION UPDATE

BY ROGER E. BOHN

The National Museum of Civil War Medicine, a Frederick, Maryland site we will visit on our CWRT 51st Tour in May, is "under attack" for their trademark symbol: the Union flag in its proper position of respect (on the viewer's left), the Confederate "battle" flag on the right, and the medical staff between the two. It wouldn't seem that would create a "perceived embarrassment" on the part of a schoolboy wearing a T-shirt with that symbol, but it did. Apparently, the boy's school took exception to it and suspended him for three days! There is also pressure being put upon Gordie Dammann and the board to delete the "offending" flag.

The Civil War Round Table of Chicago, as well as many other organizations with similar historical interests, has for more than sixty years used both flags, in their proper positions of respect, to indicate an interest in studying both sides of the American Civil War. The symbol used by the Medical Museum is certainly in this category and is an excellent, appropriate, meaningful design. The tail may want to "wag the dog," but it is not the way things work ... usually. Please contact the National Museum of Civil War Medicine and offer your opinion and support. Call 301-695-1864 or www.civilwarmed.org Maybe we should all use the Confederate first national flag ... most of the folks wouldn't even recognize that one!

The new National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, opened in February. As reported by The Civil War News, the \$36 million facility has 11,000 artifacts which include Pickett's kepi, Lee's Bible, Stuart's sword, Grant's sword belt, McClellan's saddle, Cameron's cased Colts, Dahlgren's sea trunk, and numerous other uniforms and accessories. The museum employs fifty people and expects to attract 65,000 visitors a year. It is located forty miles northeast of Gettysburg. At 65,000 square-feet, it is the largest Civil War museum in the world.

Director of Development Bill Urick indicates that this is the only Civil War museum in the U.S. that presents the entire war, covering both the North and South sides of the conflict, both military and civilian issues, and also presents slavery in the context of the period. The desire is to

present the whole story, not just a piece of it, says Urick. Mayor Stephen Reed began the project ten years ago and says the portrayals of battles and leaders are objective and factual. "It is about the lives and humanity of the people involved in the conflict and its long-term and even presentday effects upon our nation."

To quote Jerry Russell, "What a wonderful idea and we wish the museum well, along with the Civil War museums with a similar broad perspective planned for Hagerstown and other locations. This is why the interpretation of the battles should remain the primary focus at the National Park Service Civil War battlefields, leaving "the rest of the story" to these broadlythemed museums." ... not a bad thought.

For more information regarding the Harrisburg Museum, call toll-free 866-258-4729 or visit the website, www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org.

The small Highland Historical Society is working to preserve McDowell Battlefield in Virginia, according to The Civil War News. They have preserved a key twentysix acres and are now planning an additional 300-acre tract. The Society sold T-shirts and sent fundraising letters to neighboring landowners to raise \$37,000 of the \$57,000 in debt and costs. The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) and the state transportation enhancement funds for a permanent conservation easement on the property contributed to the efforts. The National Park Service considers McDowell one of the most pristine battlefields in the country.

On a similar, if considerably smaller scale, our local-area Salt Creek Civil War Round Table (SCCWRT) rated a feature story on the News' "Historic Preservation News" page. The SCCWRT has joined with Save The Franklin (Tennessee) Battlefield, Inc., as "Partners in Preservation" to have a historical marker erected. The marker will indicate the advance position of Wagner's Division and is planned for a fall 2001 dedication. T-shirts are being offered as a premium for a \$15 donation to the fund and are available at the Civil War Collectors' Show, or by writing SCCWRT, P.O. Box 4873, Wheaton, Illinois 60189. Every little bit does help, and as Jerry Russell would say: "Do what you can." \$\frac{1}{2}\$

FEBRUARY MEETING

BY LARRY GIBBS

On February 9, Jack D. Welsh gave an informative and sometimes startling talk and slide presentation on "Union Generals as Patients." He spoke before 74 members and guests at the 598th regular meeting of The Civil War Round Table of Chicago. A resident of Oklahoma City, Walsh is a medical doctor who has written several books dealing with medical issues of the Civil War.

In a massive research effort, Walsh has compiled extensive records on the wounds of the 583 Union generals in the Civil War. Pension and retirement records indicate that almost half of these men had a recorded medical event—ranging from such disparate causes as rocks, knives, lances, pistols, rifles, cannons, or arrows. Three Union generals—Haskins, Kearny, and Sweeny—lost an arm and one—General Tillison—lost a foot. Seventeen Federal generals underwent a procedure wherein part of a bone in the forearm or lower part of the leg was removed, thus avoiding a total amputation of the limb.

One of the most interesting cases involved a general from Illinois, Richard Ogelsby, who suffered serious chest wounds at the Battle of Corinth (Mississippi) on October 3, 1862. His physicians, thinking that Ogelsby's wound was beyond hope, failed to properly diagnose the trajectory of the path of the bullet. As a treatment, Ogelsby was given opium, beef tea, soup, and two bottles of wine every day. Since his condition was not improving at all, Ogelsby asked General Grant for permission to call on his own doctor. The request was granted and Ogelsby miraculously recovered. After resigning from the army in May of 1864, he served three terms as governor of Illinois prior to his death on April 24, 1899!

Of the 583 Union generals, 68 died during the conflict, 48 were killed in action, and 16 died of diseases or unknown causes. One Union general, "Bull" Nelson, was shot and killed by another Union general, Jefferson C. Davis, in Louisville, Kentucky.

In his depiction of Civil War wounds, Welsh, did not convey any glamourous or romantic concept of war; rather he illustrated the horrors and carnage exhibited by heroism, courage, and intense dedication to the Union cause. Welsh concentrated on a brief history of eight Union generals,

wounded at Antietam, who persevered through extremely painful wounds. Only a few deaths were directly war-related. Most of these generals died after 1865 from infection, diseases, strokes, or heart diseases.

At the Battle of Gettysburg (July 1-3, 1863), 31 generals died, while 34 died at Antietam (September 17, 1862) The eight examples of Union generals wounded at Antietam showed fantastic bravery and perseverance when facing terrific pain. Robert Catterson was a case in point. He was wounded in the thumb, foot, head, and right buttocks. The wound in the buttocks was not dressed properly and chips of pelvic bone came loose, resulting in serious problems later in life.

"Almost all soldiers suffered from diarrhea due to poor diet," Welsh declared. "Twice as many soldiers died from malnutrition and disease that died from battlefield wounds during the Civil War." In addition to diarrhea, General George Hartsuf



had suffered two wounds in the chest in the Indian Wars of the 1850s, another wound in the left hip at Antietam, and an accidental laceration of a wound in March 1864. When he died of pneumonia in May of 1874, physicians doing an autopsy were still unable to find two bullets that were supposedly still somewhere in Hartsuf's body.

Tourniquets were used to stop the outward flow of blood for wounds to the arms and legs. Welsh asserted. "If the tourniquet was administered for twelve hours or more, the arm or leg would die, requiring an amputation due to a lack of circulation. In the Civil War, almost every wounded veteran refused to consider themselves as victims. Amputees did not feel selfpity in most cases, and most amputations were necessary due to the shattered bones created by the rifled musket."

Welsh maintained that myths about drug addiction revolve around bad data

based on erroneous information. Actually, more women that men suffered from drug addiction to opium and laudanum in the Civil War era, he claimed. Wives of wounded veterans could receive and use prescriptions meant for their invalid husbands.

In recent studies, Confederate General John Bell Hood has been accused of possible drug abuse as a result of medications given to him when he lost the use of a leg and arm. According to Welsh, there is no hard evidence to indicate that Hood used any laudanum." Hood had an extremely high pain threshold," Welsh said, "and probably made poor command decisions due to his worn-out condition."



We are very sad to announce the recent death of former Round Table President Ward Smidl (1974-75) following a long illness. Ward was for many years a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Chorus, and also directed a group known as the Schimmelfenig Singers who performed at various Round Table and other Civil War events in the 1970s. We send our most heartfelt condolences to his family.

Winners of the coveted Lincoln Prizes, awarded annually by the Lincoln and Soldiers Institute of Gettysburg College, have been announced. First prize (\$35,000 and a bronze bust of Lincoln by Augustus St. Gaudens) went to Russell F. Weigley for A Great Civil War: A Military and Political History, 1861-1865. Second prize (\$15,000) was awarded to Leonard I. Richards for The Slave Power: The Free North and Southern Domination, 1780-1860. The e-Lincoln Prize (\$40,000 and a Lincoln bust) was awarded to Edward L. Ayers, Anne S. Rubin, and William G. Thomas for their CD-ROM book and web site (http:// jefferson.village.virginia.edu/vshadow2/), Valley of the Shadow: The Eve of War. Second place (\$10,000) in the e-Lincoln Prize competition was won by Stephen Railton for his website, Uncle Tom's Cabin and American Culture: A Multi-Media Archive (http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/utc/). Honorable mention was issued to Michael Burlingame for his work on editing the papers of Lincoln's White House secretaries, John G. Nicolay and John Hay.

THE NEW BOOKS

Compiled by C. Robert Douglas

Siegel, Charles G. No Backward Step: A Guide to Grant's Campaign in Virginia. White Mane Publ. Co. 2000. Pbk. \$24.95.

Silverstone, Paul H. Civil War Navies: 1855-1883. Naval Institute Press. 2000. \$49.95.

Sizer, Lyde C. The Political Work of Northern Women Writers and the Civil War 1850-1872. U. of North Carolina Press. 2000. \$45.00.

Smith, David M., ed. Compelled to Appear in Print: The Vicksburg Manuscript of General John C. Pemberton. Ironclad Publishing. 1999. \$27.95.

Smith, Diane M. Fanny and Joshua: The Enigmatic Lives of Frances Caroline Adams and Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain. Thomas Publications. 1999. \$30.00.

Sudlow, Lynda L. A Vast Army of Women — Maine's Uncounted Forces in the American Civil War. Thomas Publications. 2000. \$24.95.

Swisher, James K. Warrior in Gray: General Robert Rodes of Lee's Army. White Mane Publ. Co. 2000. \$29.95.

Thienel, Philip M. Mr. Lincoln's Bridge Builders — The Right Hand of American Genius. White Mane Publ. Co. 2000. \$40.00.

Tucker, Phillip T. Burnside's Bridge: The Climatic Struggle of the 2nd and 20th Georgia at Antietam Creek. Stackpole Books. 2000. \$24.95.

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Frank J. Williams, an out-of-state member of this Round Table and our speaker in September 1994, was sworn in as the fiftieth Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court on February 9. Frank is an internationally renowned Lincoln scholar and collector, a past president of the Abraham Lincoln Association, and current chair of The Lincoln Forum and president of the Ulysses S. Grant Association. Congratulations, Frank!

"Abraham Lincoln: Myth and Image" is the theme of a symposium to be held on March 30-31 at Indiana University South Bend. Among the speakers are Lerone Bennett, Jr., Eric Foner, and Mark E. Neely, Jr. For information, call 219-237-4261.

SCHIMMELFENNIG BOUTIQUE

The history of The Round Table, *The Civil War Round Table: Fifty Years of Scholarship and Fellowship*, by Barbara Hughett, is available for \$30 per copy. You may purchase the book at the monthly meeting or order it from Morningside Bookshop, 260 Oak Street, Dayton, Ohio 45401 (1-800-648-9710). Add \$2.50 for postage and handling.

In addition to The Round Table history and *The Continuing Civil War*, the essays from the Fiftieth Anniversary Proceedings, the following items are available at each monthly meeting: Lapel pins, Mugs, Meeting Tapes, Civil War Buff posters and T-Shirts, CWRT T-shirts, polos, and sweatshirts.

Proceeds from the sale of these items go to support the programs of The Civil War Round Table.

SILENT AUCTION

A silent auction is held at each monthly dinner meeting, for books donated by late Round Table founding member Ralph G. Newman. The minimum bid is \$5 per book, with a minimum rise of \$1 per bid. Five minutes after the conclusion of the speaker's presentation, bidding will close and the last highest bid is the winner of each book. Proceeds go to benefit battlefield preservation.

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Former President J. Robert Ziegler (1984-85) is being treated for lung cancer at Northwest Community Hospital. Cards can be sent to him at the hospital, Room 966, 800 West Central Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, or to his home, 1064 East Pratt Drive, Palatine, Illinois 60067.

Former President Jerry Warshaw (1968-69) is recovering from successful heart bypass surgery. Cards can be sent to him at home, 800 Hinman Avenue, #708, Evanston, Illinois 60202.

The Tenth Annual Civil War Symposium of the Kankakee Civil War Round Table will be held on March 31. Speakers include our own Kurt Carlson (president, 1993-94) and Charles Larimer. For more information, call Wayne Carlson (815-939-1551) or Art Schumacher (708-757-7120).

"Illinois and the Nation in the Age of Douglas" is the theme of the Second Biennial Stephen A. Douglas History Symposium, sponsored by the Macon County Conservation District and the Stephen A. Douglas Association, to be held on April 28 in Decatur, Illinois. Speakers include William G. Shade, Rodney O. Davis, Bruce Tap, and Christopher Schnell. For information, call Brent Wielt (217-423-7708).



FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, 350 North Orleans Street, the second Friday of each month, unless otherwise indicated.

March 9: Mark Bradley, "The Surrender in North Carolina"

April 20: Richard McMurray, "Thoughts on the Atlanta Campaign"

May 2-6: Annual Battlefield Tour, Antietam-Maryland

May 11: Anne J. Bailey, "The Recruitment of African-American Troops"

June 8: Lesley Gordon, "General George Pickett"

NEW MEMBERS

Margaret Delay, 435 W. Roslyn Place, Chicago, IL 60614

T.R. Livesey, 302 Grand Avenue, Aurora, IL 60506, 630-896-8129

David L. McHone, 1128 Loyola Drive, Libertyville, IL 60048, 847-680-9206 (david.mchone@AIG.com)

Mike Wehr, 160 Sugar Creek Lane, #D-3, North Liberty, IA 52317, 319-626-4960 Todd Winking, 5 E. 14th Place, #504, Chicago, IL 60605, 312-913-1848 (winking@renchicago.com)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Patricia Aylward, 222 W. Adams, Chicago, IL 60606

CHANGE OF FAX NUMBER Theodore Birndorf, 312-726-8887



The Twentieth Annual Midwest Civil War Round Table Conference, hosted this year by the Jefferson County Civil War Round Table, will be held in Madison, Indiana, on May 11-12. Speakers include our member Larry Hewitt, Edwin C. Bearss, Terry Winschel, Dale Phillips, Nathaniel C. Hughes, Jr., and Tony Trimble. The theme is "War on the River."

For information, contact Gordon Whitney (former president of this Round Table, 1973-74) at 812-273-6907.