

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume LIV, Number 5

Chicago, Illinois

January 1994

Harold Holzer and Mark E. Neely, Jr., on "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art"

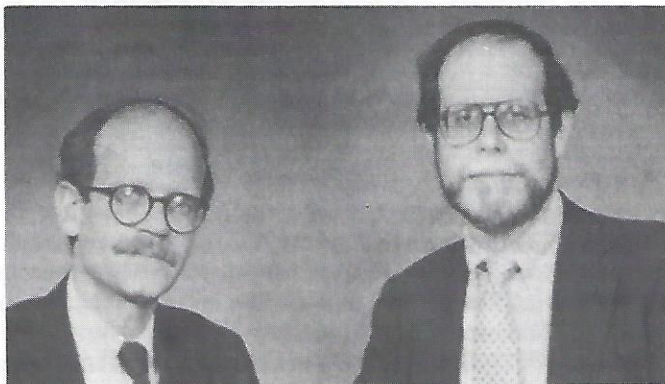
by Barbara Hughett

Against a grim backdrop of carnage on an unprecedented scale, something remarkable happened in Civil War America. Somehow, the war inspired art—not only the hasty wood-block illustrations that newspapers produced before the invention of photo engraving, but also a virtual tidal wave of paintings. The collision between the heroic traditions of battle art and the increasingly unheroic realities of modern warfare in America provides the theme for the first full-scale book on the art and artists of the American Civil War.

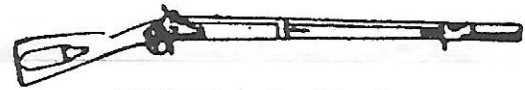
The authors of *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art* (1993), Harold Holzer and Mark E. Neely, Jr., will address The Civil War Round Table on January 14. In their presentation, they will discuss the subject matter of their book and show slides of representative Civil War art.

In the pre-motion picture, pre-television 1860s, paintings—from the smallest studies to immense panoramas—helped Americans visualize the battles and leaders of the Civil War while it raged. This same art served as a commemoration of the era's people and events for years to come. In their address, as in their book, Holzer and Neely will not only examine the familiar works of great artists, but will also include studies of hitherto little-known works which have been undeservedly forgotten for generations.

Harold Holzer, chief communications officer of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, is perhaps the world's leading authority on Lincoln and Civil War iconography. From 1989-1992, he was director of the New York State Lincoln on Democracy Project, which was created to make the words of Lincoln available to the emerging democracies of the



Mark E. Neely, Jr. and Harold Holzer



527th Regular Meeting

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Harold Holzer and Mark E. Neely, Jr., on "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art"

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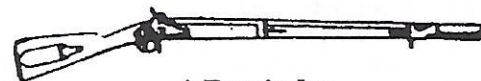
Friday, January 14

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Holiday Inn Mart Plaza
350 North Orleans Street
Buttons—15th floor

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
\$20.00 per person

Entree: Beef Stroganoff, Orange Roughy, or
Fruit Plate



A Reminder

Please make your reservation by Wednesday, January 12. Mail the enclosed postcard or call the book shop at (312) 944-3085.

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 free.

world. He served for eight years as special communications counselor on the staff of New York Governor Mario Cuomo.

Mark E. Neely, Jr., recipient of The Round Table's 1989 Nevins-Freeman Award, is currently John Francis Bannon Professor of History and American Studies at St. Louis University. For nineteen years, he was director of The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Neely won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for history for his *The Fate of Liberty: Abraham Lincoln and Civil Liberties*.

(continued on page 3)

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Founded December 3, 1940
 357 West Chicago Avenue
 Chicago, Illinois 60610
 Phone: (312) 944-3085

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Picnic	Paul Klekner

The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Dan Weinberg, 357 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60610.

A new, Chicago-based history magazine, *The Armchair Historian*, includes articles and book reviews relating to Civil War history, as well as articles on general United States and British history. The second issue (January/February 1994) features an interview with James M. McPherson and a review and comments (by McPherson, Shelby Foote, and others) on the recent movie, *Gettysburg*. The editor/publisher is new Round Table member Elias Crim. Annual subscriptions are \$29. For further information, write or call Elias at *The Armchair Historian*, P.O. Box 25038, Chicago, IL 60625, 312-769-4039.

BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION

☆ UPDATE ☆

by David Richert

The Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS) has purchased for \$29,000 an interest in 152 acres at the core of Cedar Mountain. The purchase makes APCWS one of seven parties owning the parcel in common. All owners must approve before any significant changes, such as development, can be made to the land. APCWS acquired its interest in the Taylor Wiseman estate from one of the seven members of the Wiseman family who own the land. It hopes to buy the six other interests if and when they become available.

The Cedar Mountain battlefield and its environs look much as they did 131 years ago, but development could reach the site. The Battle of Cedar Mountain marked the start of the Second Manassas Campaign in August 1862. The battle cost 3600 lives as Stonewall Jackson forced Union troops to retreat northward. The Wiseman home sits on high ground near the scene of the Stonewall Brigade's rout during the battle's opening action.

Cedar Mountain is the sixth battlefield APCWS has protected this year and the nineteenth since 1988. Others coming under protection this year are Malvern Hill, Virginia; Prairie Grove, Arkansas; Mansfield, Louisiana; Cedar Creek, Virginia; and Port Hudson, Louisiana.

A busy commuter road that runs through Stone's River National Battlefield was permanently closed November 12. The closing came as the result of a long-standing agreement between Rutherford County, Tennessee, which had maintained the road, and the park. The mile-long stretch of Van Cleve Lane was a dirt trace at the time of the battle. The twenty-eight-foot-wide pavement will be torn up and restored to grass. Traffic will use a bypass to the east of the park.

The road that was closed passed through an area of intense fighting on the first day of the Stone's River battle, December 31, 1862. The eventual goal is to restore the lane to its wartime appearance.

Meanwhile, in Georgia, a proposed expansion of Dallas Highway (Georgia State Route 120) through Cobb County may destroy a portion of earthworks in the Cheatham Hill section of Kennesaw National Park as well as two historic districts in downtown Marietta. Although construction is already under way to widen the highway from two to four lanes, concerned local activists have managed to halt construction about one mile west of the park.

Once rural, Cobb County now holds the distinction of being the third-fastest growing county in the nation, due to nearby Atlanta's outward growth. Traffic congestion on Dallas Highway has become a serious problem. Preservationists think traffic can be shunted onto other north-south roads to connect motorists with the interstate.

The General George Armstrong Custer Camp #1, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, recently replaced 228 headstones for Union Civil War soldiers at Rosehill Cemetery on Chicago's north side. Many of the dead died at Camp Douglas or the federal hospital in Chicago from wounds and disease. Work on the project began in 1991. Speaking at the dedication in September were Round Table members Brooks Davis and Ernest Griffin.

☪ DECEMBER MEETING ☪

by Barbara Hughett

A full-fledged Confederate invasion of New Mexico took place in March of 1862. The goal, incredible as it may seem today, was to move up the Rio Grande Valley, capture Santa Fe and nearby Fort Union, move on to the rich gold fields of Colorado near Denver, and continue westward to California, where the southerners hoped to extend the boundaries of the Confederacy to the Pacific Ocean. On December 10, Past President Paul I. Klinger addressed 100 members and guests at the 526th regular meeting of The Civil War Round Table. His topic was "The Confederate Invasion of New Mexico."

"Some say," Klinger observed, "that in the light of struggles which took place in the East, the West, and other parts of the Trans-Mississippi, the actions at Glorieta Pass, Apache Canyon, Valverde, Fort Craig, and Fort Filmore were small and inconsequential.... Small actions? Not important? Perhaps so, but not to the men who fought, suffered, and died there, and not to serious students of the Civil War."

Early in the summer of 1861, Brigadier General Henry Hopkins Sibley persuaded Confederate President Jefferson Davis that, with a small but well-equipped force, he could move up the Rio Grande Valley of New Mexico from Texas and seize the New Mexico Territory. The Confederate Army of New Mexico, also known as the "Texas Brigade," moved northward from Texas, under the command of Sibley, fighting Union forces and winning the Battle of Valverde on February 21, 1862.

On March 26-28, Union and Confederate troops fought the key battle of the Civil War in the Far West—the Battle of Glorieta. On the morning of March 26, Union forces (the First Colorado Volunteers), under the command of Major John M. Chivington, marched towards Pigeon's Ranch, and continued through the pass towards Johnson's Ranch. Approaching Apache Canyon near the western end of Glorieta, Chivington's men moved through a narrow gulch. Near a thicket of bushes and trees, the advance patrol surprised Texas troops under the command of Major Charles L. Pyron. "The surprise was so complete, they surrendered without a shot."

The Union men then proceeded to attack the main body of southern forces. "The Coloradans left their packs on the side of the trail and moved cautiously but quickly toward the narrow defile of Apache Canyon. Coming to a bend on the trail, they were taken aback by Pyron's mounted Texans who were advancing towards them, their Lone Star flag fluttering in the breeze. Pyron's men were more than startled, but, keeping their cool, they unlimbered their two howitzers, formed in battle array, and began to fire, shelling the Coloradans coming toward them." Pyron's men, however, were at a disadvantage. Due to the terrain, the narrow canyon, and its walls, their howitzers could not sweep a wide field with grape shot.

Slowly, the Coloradans forced the Texans back on their artillery. Fighting from tree to tree and bush to bush, they killed the men who served the guns and depleted Pyron's ranks. One Union infantryman observed, "Each one selected his man, as per orders, and with deadly aim tried his best to fire and waste as little powder and lead as possible." This was followed by a charge on the Confederate Infantry by the Union Cavalry. Late in the evening, Pyron dispatched a flag of truce, requesting a cessation of hostili-

ties until 8:00 a.m. the next morning., so that he could bury his dead and care for his wounded.

March 27 saw no action. The Confederates waited all day, expecting the Federals to appear when the time for cessation of hostilities expired. But they never appeared. Like Pyron, Chivington had retreated through the Glorieta Pass to care for his wounded and bury his dead. He also awaited reinforcements from the units of Colonel John P. Slough, which increased his numbers to 1342—cavalry, infantry, and artillery. Hostilities resumed at 11:00 a.m. on the 28th. Colonel William Scurry of the Fourth Texas Mounted Volunteers led 1200 men with three cannon; they advanced upon Colonel Slough's forces, surprising the northerners while they were resting and filling canteens. As battle raged around Pigeon's Ranch, Chivington's men came to a point directly above the Confederate's camp. They drove off the guarding forces and destroyed everything of value: food, ammunition supplies, medicines, animals.

The fighting ended at nightfall with two extremely frustrated commanders on the Glorieta battlefield. Since the fight around the ranch saw neither side defeated, there was no real victor. However, the Battle of Glorieta did put an end to the Confederate invasion of New Mexico, and curtail their advancement to points further west. "Now, looking at all of this 130 years later," Paul Klinger remarked, "it seems obvious that Glorieta, in some measure, did secure the Western frontier for the nation."

Civil War in Art (continued from page 1)

With Gabor S. Boritt, Holzer and Neely coauthored *The Lincoln Image* (1984) and *The Confederate Image* (1987). Holzer and Neely were the authors of *The Lincoln Family Album* (1990). Neely is the coauthor, with R. Gerald McMurtry, of *The Insanity File: The Case of Mary Todd Lincoln* (1986), and the author of *The Abraham Lincoln Encyclopedia* (1982) and *The Last Best Hope of Earth: Abraham Lincoln and the Promise of America* (1993).

Holzer is the editor of *The Lincoln-Douglas Debates: The First Complete, Unexpurgated Text* (1993), and coeditor, with Governor Mario Cuomo, of *Lincoln on Democracy* (1990). He is the author of *Washington and Lincoln: National Icons in Popular Print* (1993) and *Dear Mr. Lincoln: Letters to the President* (1993). Both men lecture extensively throughout the country.

Mark Neely last appeared at a regular meeting of The Round Table in September 1989 when he delivered his Nevins-Freeman Award acceptance address, "Was the Civil War a Total War?" He also addressed the Fiftieth Anniversary Symposium on October 13, 1990, on "Lincoln and the Theory of Self-Emancipation." (That address was published in 1992, in *The Continuing Civil War: Essays in Honor of The Civil War Round Table of Chicago*, edited by John Y. Simon and Barbara Hughett.) Harold Holzer and Mark Neely made a joint appearance in March 1988, when the topic of their address was "The Confederate Image: Prints of the Lost Cause."

The Executive Committee of The Civil War Round Table, at its December 10 meeting, selected Charleston/Columbia/Savannah as the site for its May 1995 battlefield tour. Additional information will be provided soon.

The New Books

Compiled by C. Robert Douglas



Kerby, Robert L. *Kirby Smith's Confederacy: The Trans-Mississippi South, 1863-1865*. U. of Alabama Press. 1991. Pbk. \$18.95. Original of 1972.

Lambert, Dobbie E. *Grumble: The W.E. Jones Brigade of 1863-1864*. Lambert Enterprises, Wahaiwa, HI. 1992. \$19.95.

Magee, Benjamin F. *History of the 72nd Indiana: Wilder's Lightning Brigade*. Blue Acorn Press. 1992. \$40.00. Original of 1882.

John Y. Simon, The Round Table's 1985 Nevins-Freeman honoree; Harold Holzer, our speaker this month; and Roger A. Fischer, author of *Tippacano and Trinkets Too* (1988), will give the annual Lincoln Heritage Lectures at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site on Saturday, February 12, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The program is open to the public, free-of-charge. For information, call 217-492-4150.

"New Directions in Lincoln Studies" will be the theme of the twenty-first annual Abraham Lincoln Symposium on Saturday, February 12, in Springfield, Illinois. Sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Association, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, and the Illinois State Historical Society, the event will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the Hall of Representatives at the Old State Capitol. Speakers will include James Gilreath, manuscript specialist at the Library of Congress, and anthropologist Edward M. Bruner.

Frank E. Vandiver, noted Civil War scholar, author, and winner of The Round Table's 1982 Nevins-Freeman Award, will be the speaker at the annual banquet of the Abraham Lincoln Association the evening of the 12th at the Springfield Renaissance Hotel. Banquet tickets are \$40 apiece. The symposium is free-of-charge. For information on both events, call 217-785-7954.

Round Table member **Henry Pomerantz** will be teaching a class on "The Campaigns of 1864: Total Warfare" at New Trier West Extension on Monday evenings, beginning February 7. If you are interested in attending, contact Henry at 708-945-6975, or call the school at 708-446-6600.

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.

Schimmelfennig Boutique

In addition to The Round Table history, the following items are available at each monthly meeting:

Lapel pins \$3.00 each, two for \$5.00
Mugs \$2.00 each, two for \$3.00
Meeting tapes \$7.00 each
Civil War Buff posters \$10.00 each

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

BULLETIN BOARD



FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, 350 North Orleans Street (Buttons, 15th Floor), the second Friday in each month, except as noted.

January 14: Harold Holzer and Mark E. Neely, Jr., on "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art"

February 11: Robert Remini on "Henry Clay, Slavery, and the Coming of the Civil War"

March 11: General Gordon R. Sullivan on "The Wilderness"

April 8: Major Frank K. McKenzie, USMC, on "Combined Operations Against Charleston"

May 5-8: Annual Battlefield Tour—Shenandoah Valley

May 13: Robert K. Krick on "Lawyers, Politicians, and Clerks: The Regimental Command of Lee's Army"

June 10: Stacey Allen on "New Discoveries at Shiloh"

New Members

Everett J. Barlow, 324 Harris Avenue, Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

John Coulson, 175 East Delaware Place, Chicago, IL 60611
R. David Davidson, 1776 Shades View Lane, Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

James Griffith, 1527 Pebble Creek, Glenview, IL 60025, 708-652-6644

C. David Howell, 912 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60202, 708-328-9199

Philip Kayman, 320 W. Illinois Street, #C-105, Chicago, IL 60610, 312-321-0334

Lawrence Lipkin, 624 62nd Street, Downers Grove, IL 60516

Janet Maurer, 5736 N. Natoma, Chicago, IL 60631

John Murray, 4345 Moody, Chicago, IL 60634, 312-685-5520

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Alex Pollock, 452 East Illinois, Lake Forest, IL 60045, 312-565-5700

William Samuels, 776 White Oaks Lane, Highland Park, IL 60035

Change of Address

Phil Kendall, P.O. Box 1492, Silver City, NM 88062, 505-388-2446

A very limited-edition Don Troiani print will be auctioned at the January 14 meeting, to benefit battlefield preservation. Entitled "Ranger Mosby," the print is pencil-fine and number 5 of 25. Final bids for the silent auction will be taken at the January meeting.

The Slechta-Newman Fund was generously endowed a couple of years ago by Past President Jerry Slechta and Founder and Past President Ralph G. Newman, to provide liquid spirits for special occasions. At the December meeting, a holiday toast was given to donors Slechta and Newman with champagne purchased with a portion of their fund. The Round Table wishes to express its appreciation to the benefactors of the fund.