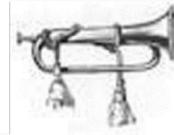




BORDER



BUGLE

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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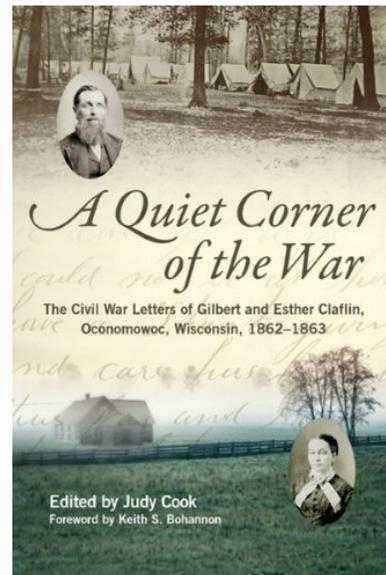
Civil War Round Table of
Kansas City
P.O. Box 6202
Overland Park, KS 66207

An IRC 501(c)(3)
Charitable Organization
Website- <http://cwrtkc.org/>
Join us on Facebook!

Due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the CWRT dinner meetings scheduled for the remainder of 2020 have been cancelled.

We hope to finalize the plans for our next meeting of members in the coming weeks. We are considering an in-person meeting in January, with no meal, seated lecture-style, with appropriate social distancing, or a virtual meeting via Zoom.

October Program



Ms. Judy Cook was scheduled to give a program dressed in period attire titled: "Life on the Home Front." Judy is an author and folk musician, who performs Civil War era songs and shares excerpts from her book: *A Quiet Corner of the War: The Civil War Letters of Gilbert and Esther Claflin, Oconomowoc WI, 1862-1863*, featuring letters written by her great-great-grandparents.

Judy said she and her husband Dennis are happily isolating in their retirement community, where many of their residents are at high risk.

Letter from our Round Table's President

Please read the following letter dated October 10, 2020 from our president Dan Dooley:

To All Members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City:

It is superfluous to say that we are experiencing extraordinary times. We cannot say with any certainty when our next physical meeting may take place. Your Executive Committee met recently to discuss this and other pressing matters. In the absence of a physical meeting, the need to revise the by-laws to accommodate a virtual gathering became apparent, especially as it pertains to the election of officers for 2021.

Given that we have not met since February, and are not meeting for the remainder of this year, the Committee voted to recommend to the membership that the current officers retain their positions for another year. Exceptions to this group are:

- The addition of Gary Nevius as 2nd Vice President, replacing Suzee Oberg, who will remain on the Executive Committee in an advisory capacity with full voting rights.
- Addition of the position of Assistant Treasurer, to be filled by Marlene Natoli.

This new position is detailed in the revised by-laws adopted by the Executive Committee, along with a new committee-appointed position of Book Sales Coordinator. The revised by-laws are also attached to this newsletter and will be voted upon by the membership in November, along with the officers for 2021. For your convenience, the changes to the by-laws have been highlighted in yellow.

So, the slate of officers recommended by the Executive Committee for approval by the membership by electronic vote in November are:

- President: Dan Dooley
- 1st Vice President: Father Dave Holloway
- 2nd Vice President: Gary Nevius
- Treasurer: Susan Keipp
- Assistant Treasurer: Marlene Natoli
- Secretary: Judy Smith
- Director of Preservation: Arnold Schofield

Over the next month, you have an opportunity to offer other candidates to these positions. You can do so by emailing them to the Secretary, Judy Smith, at jerry1939@att.net. Any nominations from the membership will be included in the final ballot procedure. An email will be sent out in November asking you to accept the slate as nominated, or accept as

nominated with exception(s) noted. Exceptions will be from the list, if any, of candidates nominated by the membership over the next month. The by-laws will also be voted on, using an up-or-down vote by the membership.

We hope to finalize the plans for our next meeting of members in the coming weeks. We are considering an in-person meeting in January, with no meal, seated lecture-style with appropriate social distancing, or a virtual meeting via Zoom. Your input regarding options is welcomed. You may submit your thoughts to me, Dan Dooley, at dandooley1861@gmail.com. An announcement will come in due time.

We are as frustrated as you with the current situation. Our goal is to offer a safe, reasonable way to meet and allow you, our members, to again participate in an educational and entertaining discussion of the events and individuals significant to the American Civil War, its causes, activities, and effects. We look forward to meeting again and hope you will continue to support our organization.

Regards,

Dan Dooley

President,
Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

This Month's Program Cancelled



Ms. Judy Cook dressed in period attire.

The following is a summary of Judy's book titled: *A Quiet Corner of the War: The Civil War Letters of Gilbert and Esther Claflin, Oconomowoc WI, 1862-1863*, from the Amazon website:

"In 2002, Judy Cook discovered a packet of letters written by her great-great-grandparents, Gilbert and Esther Claflin, during the American Civil War. An unexpected bounty, these letters from 1862–63 offer visceral witness to the war, recounting the trials of a family separated. Gilbert, an articulate and cheerful forty-year-old farmer, was drafted into the Union Army and served in the Thirty-Fourth Wisconsin Infantry garrisoned in western Kentucky along the Mississippi. Esther had married Gilbert when she was fifteen; now a woman with two teenage sons, she ran the family farm near Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, in Gilbert's absence.

"In his letters, Gilbert writes about food, hygiene, rampant desertions by drafted men, rebel guerrilla raids, and pastimes in the daily life of a soldier. His comments on interactions with Confederate prisoners and ex-slaves before and after the Emancipation Proclamation reveal his personal views on monumental events. Esther shares in her letters the challenges and joys of maintaining the farm, accounts of their boys Elton and Price, concerns about finances and health, and news of their local community and extended family. Esther's experiences provide insight into family, farm, and village life in the wartime North, an often overlooked aspect of Civil War history.

"Judy Cook has made the letters accessible to a wider audience by providing historical context with notes and appendixes. The volume includes a foreword by Civil War historian Keith S. Bohannon."

Upcoming Speaker Schedule for 2020-2021

- **November 17, 2020: Wayne Motts**, CEO of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg PA was scheduled to be our speaker. This program has been cancelled.
- **December 15, 2020:** Round Table member **Deb Buckner** was scheduled to give a program about Libby Custer, wife of George Armstrong Custer. This program has also been cancelled.
- **January 26, 2021: Dr. Harry Laver** with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth is scheduled to be our speaker. He will give a program about the relationship between General Ulysses S. Grant and General Robert E. Lee.
- **February 23, 2021: James S. Martin**, Dean of Academics at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth is scheduled to be our speaker. He will give a

program titled: "Black Military Heroes of the Civil War."

- **March 23, 2021: Dr. Jeff Gentsch**, Professor of Military History at the University of West Alabama is scheduled to give a program titled: "The Battle of Shiloh and the Evolution of Artillery, 1861-1870."
- **April 27, 2021: Dr. Chris Phillips** is scheduled to give a program about Missouri in the Civil War.
- **May 25, 2021: Jeffry D. Wert** from Centerville PA is scheduled to speak about his new book titled: *Civil War Barons*.
- **June 22, 2021: Teresa Roane**, archivist for the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Richmond VA, will be our speaker. She will address the role of minorities in the logistical operations of the Confederate Army.
- **July 27, 2021: Ron Coddington**, publisher of *Military Images*, a full color magazine published quarterly, will be our speaker. He will present photographic images of the Civil War.
- **August 24, 2021: Dr. Ginette Aley**, Professor of History at Kansas State University, will give a program about the Civil War on the home front. She has co-edited a book titled: *Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War*.
- **September 28, 2021: Dr. Joseph M. Beilein Jr.**, assistant professor of history at Penn State University, Erie PA will be our speaker. He will be speaking about bushwhackers in Missouri. Dr. Beilein is the author of the book titled: *Bushwhackers: Guerrilla Warfare, Manhood, and the Household in Civil War Missouri*.
- **October 26, 2021: Dr. Paul Kahan** will give a program about his book titled: *The Presidency of Ulysses S. Grant*.
- **November 16, 2021:** Speaker to be determined.
- **December 21, 2021: Arnold Schofield** will be discussing the book written by Robert E. May titled: *Yuletide in Dixie: Slavery, Christmas, and Southern Memory*.

Member News

Susan Keipp sent a contribution to the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kansas City, in memory of member Bud Price who passed away on June 30th. Susan received the following thank you letter from the Boys and Girls Club:

Dear Susan and members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City:

Thank you for your generous gift in memory of Bud. Your support fuels our ongoing and expanding work in the metro, particularly as we adjust our services to fill gaps during this pandemic.

Bud was a great friend to the Clubs and one of my favorite people to chat with. He always could bring a smile to my face. We are grateful for you!

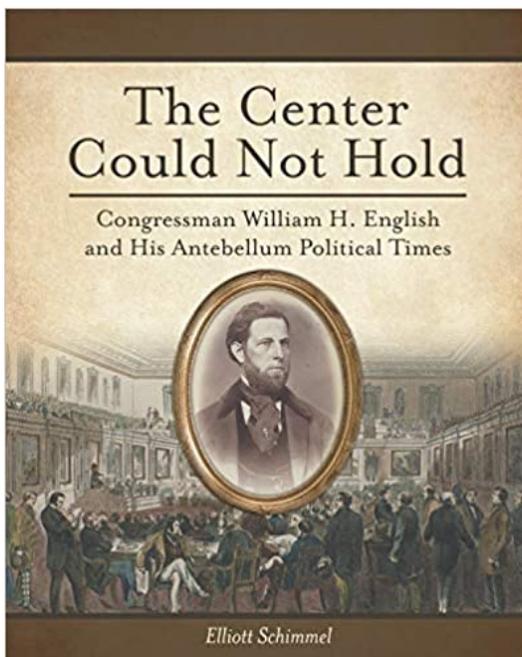
Kindly, Molly Groebe,
Director of Philanthropy

Susan Keipp also sent a contribution in the amount of \$50.00 to the American Battlefield Trust on behalf of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, to help cover the annual payment on the historic Slaughter Pen Farm at Fredericksburg VA.

Dan Smith will be giving a program via Zoom to the Civil War Round Table of Western Missouri on Tuesday October 13th. The title of his presentation is: "Spies and Secret Societies During the Civil War."

New member Dr. Elliott Schimmel has written a new book titled: *The Center Could Not Hold, Congressman William H. English and His Antebellum Political Times.* See below.

Book: *The Center Could Hold, Congressman William H. English and His Antebellum Political Times*



Dr. Elliott Schimmel, one of our new members, has published a book titled: *The Center Could Not Hold: Congressman William H. English and His Antebellum Political Times.*

William Hayden English of Indiana, congressman from 1853-1861, ended his official political career (excepting one failed run for Vice-President in 1880) one and a half months before the attack on Fort Sumter. Though his name may not be as well known as other antebellum historical figures, he actively and influentially participated in all the major political events (most notably the Kansas Lecompton fiasco) of the great drama that culminated in the most devastating war in American History.

While this book is specifically a close analysis of one antebellum politician, it also serves as a comprehensive study by which the reader may examine not only the perspective and struggles of a single congressman, but also the contextual political environment that surrounded America's descent into the great tragedy of the Civil War.

Dr. Schimmel was born on Long Island and received his PhD from Florida State University in 1986. Since then he has been teaching history at Longview Community College, just outside Kansas City – a position he took largely because of the college's proximity to a major league baseball team.

Civil War Trivia Questions

The following trivia questions are based on the book titled: *2,000 Questions and Answers About the Civil War* and the chapter titled: "Roles of Civilians." The answers to the trivia questions are shown on page 7.

1. The parents of Thomas ("Tad") Lincoln became concerned because he had not learned to read at what age?
2. After Shiloh, which Union general did Gov. David Todd of Ohio want court-martialed?
3. What member of Lincoln's cabinet was appointed to the Supreme Court after resigning as secretary of the treasury following his unsuccessful attempt to win the 1864 Republican presidential nomination?
4. What Ohio native and minstrel performer composed "Dixie" while living in New York City?
5. What renowned Boston clergyman held a "slave auction" to buy the freedom of two adolescent girls?
6. What U.S. vice president framed the "nullification" doctrine that encouraged secessionists?

7. Widely accused of corruption in office, which one of Lincoln's cabinet members was called the "czar of Pennsylvania"?
8. Who was vice president of the Confederacy?
9. What Mexican War general and future president made futile objections to his daughter's marriage to Jefferson Davis?
10. Members of what religious groups were exempt from military service in the Confederacy upon payment of a five-hundred-dollar tax?

Passing of Civil War Historian and Author Edwin C. Bearss (1923 – 2020)



Ed Bearss

The following obituary is from the Dignity Memorial website:

"Edwin (Ed) Cole Bearss passed away on September 15, 2020, in Mississippi, where he had recently moved after living over 50 years in Arlington, Virginia. His wife Margie Riddle Bearss and his daughter Sara Beth Bearss predeceased him. He is survived by his brother Robert (Pat) Bearss, his son Edwin Cole Bearss, Jr. (Annika), and his daughter Mary Virginia (Ginny) Bearss, three grandsons, four great grandsons, and two nieces. Ed was born in Billings, Montana, on June 26, 1923, and grew up on his family's ranch on Sarpy Creek. At age 18, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps. On January 2, 1944, he was badly wounded in Cape Gloucester, New Britain. He spent two years convalescing in Navy hospitals. Using the GI Bill, Ed graduated from the foreign service program at

Georgetown University in 1949 and obtained a master's in history from the University of Indiana in 1955. Ed soon found his calling in the National Park Service. He was park historian at Vicksburg from 1955 to 1958 and then historian for the Southeast Region until 1966. In 1958, he married Margie Riddle, a schoolteacher whom Ed courted in an odd manner: on his second visit to Ms. Riddle, Ed brought her a cannonball! While at Vicksburg, Ed was central to the discovery and raising of the USS Cairo, a Civil War ironclad sunk in the Yazoo River in December 1862. To help finance the recovery effort, Ed was a victorious contestant on "The \$64,000 Challenge." The vessel now resides in the Vicksburg National Military Park. In 1966, Ed joined other research historians at the headquarters of the National Park Service, responsible for historical sites of the 19th and 20th centuries, including the homes of Presidents Carter and Johnson. By 1981, Ed was named Chief Historian of the NPS, a position he held until 1994. While with NPS, he testified many times before Congress. He also served on the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, established by Congress to guide it on priorities for battlefield preservation.

"In 1990, Ed achieved national and lasting fame as one of the commentators in Ken Burns' movie The Civil War. By this time, too, Ed had established a new career as teacher, lecturer and tour guide, educating and leading literally thousands of people across battlefields of almost every American war. He continued leading tours until late 2019. Ed leaves two extraordinary legacies. As a public historian, he is the author, editor or contributor of more than 25 books, 100 scholarly papers, countless NPS monographs and oral histories. As a preservationist, he is responsible for the creation, expansion, and restoration of historic battlefields, houses, and other sites integral to American history. For his contributions to the field, Ed was recognized numerous times, including receiving honorary degrees from Lincoln College and Gettysburg College, the Distinguished Service Award from the Department of the Interior, the Wailes Award (the highest historical award from the State of Mississippi), and awards from various Civil War Round Tables.

"In 2005, the Smithsonian Institution named Ed as one of 35 people "who made a difference: to our world. The National Park Service Edwin C. Bearss Fellowship Award and the American Battlefield trust Edwin C. Bearss Lifetime Achievement Award were established in his honor. He is a Fellow of the Company of Military Historians and a lifetime Trustee of the American Battlefield Trust. At the time of his death, a bipartisan coalition of members of the U.S. Congress had been sponsoring a resolution to award Ed the Congressional Gold Medal. Private inurnment services will be held in the Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery, Brandon, Mississippi. Memorial services will be announced at a

later date. In lieu of flowers, his family requests that gifts be made to the American Battlefield Trust for preservation projects in Mississippi. <http://www.battlefields.org/remembering-ed-bearss>

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #620

Disguised as Bushwhackers

During the Civil War, especially in Missouri, both sides would often disguise themselves by wearing the enemy's uniform to gain an advantage in an attack or to patrol in the enemy's territory seeking information. This type of deception was almost always successful, but if a Bushwhacker or Union soldier was captured wearing the enemy's uniform, it was a fatal death warrant and he was usually killed on the spot. The following report contains a description of a successful Union patrol in disguise and the discovery of some "Contraband Whiskey"! It is located in Volume 13 of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on pages 131-132.

[To:] "First Lieutenant J. D. Chandler,
Adjutant, Seventh Cavalry, Mo. Vol.
Camp Powell,
Lexington, Missouri, July 3, 1862.

Sir: having been detached in command of an expedition against BUSHWHACKERS, GUERRILLAS and others as far as Sibley and vicinity in Jackson County and invested with discretionary powers, subject to general orders, I have the honor to report the following. On the morning of the 23rd of June, I marched on the road to Sibley with 48 men of Company K, Captain Loring and 60 men of Company F, Lieutenant McQuary. Arriving at Wellington, I made prisoners of 54 men (all charged with aiding and abetting the Rebellion) and sent them under a guard of 12 men to this Post. At Napoleon, I made prisoners of 25 men, 3 of whom had just returned from the Rebel Army and the others had been implicated in the affair of capturing and plundering the steamer "Little Blue", committing also outrages of 40 sick soldiers on board. I prosecuted a general search of the town for contraband articles, which I found in various quantities SECRETED in CELLARS, HAY-STACKS and outhouses and sent these goods with the prisoners to this Post.

Beyond Napoleon, I divided my command for the purpose of three different routes to Sibley, where the three divisions arrived on the afternoon of the 24 instant. Lieutenant Wightman, in command of one division,

reported with 7 prisoners, taken in the bottom below Sibley, of whom one "Burns", with a safeguard in his pocket, was found in possession of some Government Property, a stolen carriage and a pistol on which was the name of a notorious bushwhacker and guerrilla. His safeguard [an Oath of Allegiance] having been issued at Independence under Lieutenant Colonel Buel, I sent him to that Post for trial. Several others of this lot of prisoners were strongly suspected of connection with the bushwhackers.

On my arrival, in obedience to your orders, Lieut. J. M. Vance reported to me from Independence with 60 men of Company D and 20 men from Company B, all of the Seventh Missouri Volunteer Cavalry. I immediately detached Lieutenant Vance, with his command, ordering him to proceed to a point 8 miles below Sibley, preparatory to moving with a line of skirmishers on the following morning at 4 o'clock to meet a similar line approaching him from Sibley. Thus prepared, on the morning of the 25th instant, with my whole command as skirmishers, I patrolled the timber and brush below Sibley to the distance of 8 miles.

By some misunderstanding, Lieutenant Vance closed his files to the river at Cogswell's Landing, while my line of skirmishers moving from Sibley was still a considerable distance in consequence of which two bushwhackers, driven by my line toward those of Lieutenant Vance should have been, found nothing to intercept them and made good their escape.

After skirmishing an island in the vicinity about 2 miles long, with a chain of vedettes on the mainland, I returned with the command to Sibley without having accomplished any important result. The day had been intensely hot and the men underwent much suffering, which they bore with cheerful subordination. Making Sibley my Headquarters, I sent scouts [patrols] continually in different directions. Two of these above Sibley had each a shot at two bushwhackers running through the brush.

On the morning of the 26th, Captain Loring, under orders returned with his command to Independence. At night I got word that Quantrill, with 800 men was about to attack my position and early on the following morning I received a message from Lieut. Colonel Buel advising me that a body of Quantrill's men had been seen the evening previous at Saint Clair's, about 10 miles south. I immediately marched my command in that direction. At the distance of 4 miles out, I discovered, about 2 miles distant on our left flank [side], what I took to be the enemy's patrol galloping toward Pink Hill. I immediately sent a detachment of 8 men "DISGUISED AS BUSHWHACKERS", under Lieutenant Wightman, with orders to move with all possible celerity into that neighborhood and by secret patrol or communicating with the Secesh [southern sympathizers] without

alarming them, to ascertain the position of the enemy. Lieutenant Wightman hastened to execute this order and rejoined the column at Pink Hill with information that a small body of Quantrill's men had been there, but left the neighborhood about an hour previous to his arrival.

Further developments leading to the belief that they had been there, but gone to the Mapa Settlement, about 12 miles distant, on the following morning, the 27th instant. I sent there a scout of 50 men under Lieutenant Wightman. I also sent scouts in various other directions, who continued to bring arms and prisoners to Pink Hill, my Headquarters. The number of prisoners was increased to 24 and Lieutenant Wightman had returned with intelligence that Quantrill's men had passed through the Mapa Settlement out of reach. On the morning of the 30th instant I ordered Lieutenant Vance to return with his command to Independence and I marched with mine on the direct road to Lexington. At 5 miles from Pink Hill we halted and during the night scoured the country for 9 miles in quest of Ducates and his gang of Bushwhackers, but without result.

"Contraband Whiskey"

We arrived at Napoleon on the 1st of the month halted and made prisoners of 4 men found lurking about town and DESTROYED TWO BARRELS OF "CONTRABAND WHISKEY". We arrived at this Post on the afternoon of the 1st instant, according to instructions, having in custody 28 prisoners, one contraband horse, a quantity of guns and sundry articles of stolen property found in the possession of the prisoners., all of which I turned over to Captain Rockwell, Provost-marshal. I have caused to be delivered to the Provost-Marshal in all 107 prisoners, all of whom, except two or three, could be proven guilty of treason or suspected treason. Had warned so many more to report at this Post and at Independence to have their cases investigated and in performing this office had used all the proper endeavors to conciliate the enemies of the government. I marched with the 60 men from this post, the distance of 96 miles.

I am Sir, Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,
E. BREDETT,
Major, Seventh Cavalry Missouri Volunteers."

Now then, this Union disguised patrol was successful and I'm sure that the "contraband whiskey" was sampled to make sure that it was whiskey before it was "Destroyed"! After all the sampling of this whiskey

could have been part of a 4th of July celebration and of course the War Went On!

Answers to Civil War Trivia Questions

1. Nine.
2. U. S. Grant.
3. Salmon P. Chase (b. New Hampshire).
4. Daniel Decatur Emmett.
5. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher of Plymouth Church.
6. John C. Calhoun (b. South Carolina).
7. Simon Cameron, secretary of war.
8. Alexander Hamilton Stephens (b. Georgia).
9. Zachary Taylor.
10. Dunkards, Mennonites, Nazarenes, and Quakers.

Proposed New Executive Committee Officers



Gary Nevius - Proposed 2nd Vice President



Marlene Natoli - Proposed Assistant Treasurer

Civil War Round Table of Kansas City
P.O. Box 6202
Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66206-0202

