

The TVCWRT is open for business Thursday, 8 October and we will configure seating to maximize your safety and health. (note the Little Round Table has met two months in a row at the Elks with no ill effects reported.)

1. Enter side lobby door (not the bar door) with mask on. Honor system that you do not have temperature or showing symptoms; have not traveled to COVID hotspots or have person now in your residence with symptoms.
2. Mask to remain on, except when sitting to eat or drink in dining room. (no smoking)
3. 5:30--food and drink available in dining room. Sandwiches and a dinner special only, the server will take your order. **Please do not go to the register to order or pay.** ---NO BUFFET

Meeting set up in ballroom guidance:

1. Keep masks on during program, before and after; wear to move around (bathroom)
2. Seating will be in groupings of 4 chairs; six feet apart. Not necessary to fill chairs as arranged. You may move chairs to sit solo or in other groupings such as with family but practice social distancing. **6 feet apart from others.**

For those who notice: There has been no smoking in the room we meet in at the Elk's since March. There will be NO further smoking in that room in the future. You will notice a fresher atmosphere in the ball room and we expect it to get even better over future months. Smoking is permitted in the bar area but the doors will be shut during our visits. You must go outside to smoke a cigar.

The Tullahoma Campaign of 1863 Field Trip is a go. The date has changed to 24 October, 24 October, 24 October. There are seats available at \$80. The price goes up to \$100 on October 9. Bring your Checkbook, pay on line, Mail your check to TVCWRT, PO Box 2872, Huntsville, AL 35804. We will take the appropriate measures for health and safety.

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table October 2020 Newsletter



To Inform and Educate Since 1993 Contents

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Announcements:



General Grant on his farm in St. Louis Missouri.

8 October, U.S. Grant: After Donelson, before Shiloh, Presented by Curt Fields

Curt Fields in person, in character as General US Grant, and Mrs. Fields as Julia Grant. Back by popular demand and **NOT TO BE MISSED!** Bring friends, kids, students, and grandchildren! We were lucky to get him as a special change in calendar. Draft topic "Grant after Ft. Donelson, before Shiloh." Do wear any period dress, uniforms, hats, if you wish to add to the ambience. Abraham Lincoln, General US Grant, Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and Frederic Douglas are the principle characters that are taught in middle school civics classes and high school American history classes. If you know an American History or civics teacher or home school student, invite them. It will be a valuable experience for them and their students.

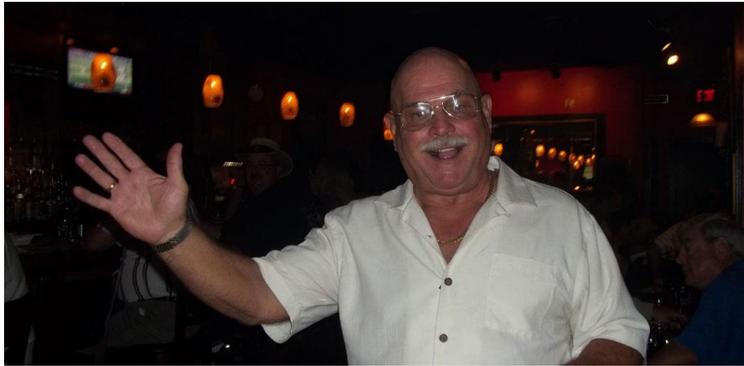
The General's first performance for our Round Table last year froze everyone to their seats for an hour and 45min. A casual discussion in the round at the Elks. The General's scheduled topic was similar to this year but he never addressed that specific topic and no one cared as he captivated everyone on his former life in the Army, family, and eventual growth in the Army. This is not a performance you can miss.

Thoughts on General Grant's Generalship;

He was beloved by his countrymen because he was the full embodiment of American life, American genius, American aspiration. No American statesman has equaled him in comprehending and interpreting the thought and will of the common people. He had realized the republican ideal that every American boy is a possible American president; and he gave the national birthright a new luster when, from the steps of the White House, he said to a regiment of volunteers : "I am a living witness that any one of your children may look to come here as my father's child has"... He lifted the Declaration of Independence from a political theory to a national fact. He enforced the Constitution as the supreme law. It was under him that for the first time the American Government attained full perfection in its twin ideals of union and liberty... Commanding a million armed men, his sole ambition was to vindicate the doctrine that the majority must rule, that there can be no appeal from the ballot to the bullet... Above all, it was his great Act of Emancipation that raised his administration to the plane of a grand historical landmark, and crowned his title of President with that of Liberator.

Cambridge Modern History, vol VII, 547-548 (1903), quoted in The Generalship of Ulysses S. Grant, J. F. C. Fuller, 30 (1929)

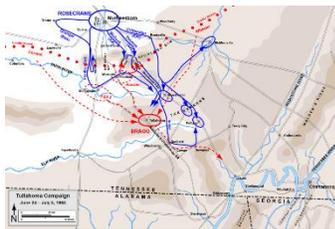
"No terms except an unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to move immediately upon your works." (Ulysses S. Grant: to General S.B. Buckner, Fort Donelson. February 16, 1862)



Say Hello to Nick, of Nick's Ristorante. It remains the #1 steakhouse in Northeast Alabama and has the Best Chef in the Valley as voted in the Planet.

Nick expresses his thanks and that of his staff for the support that friends and customers have shown over the last couple of months. Nick's is open for business with dining room service. Check out the website for details and reservations.

www.nicksristorante.com



TVCWRT Field Trip Scheduled: October 24, 2020, The Tullahoma Campaign of 1863; Seats are available but pay the Early Bird now! \$80 through October 8; \$100 thereafter!!

Tentative plans are to depart Huntsville at 7 a.m. on October 24th, travel by bus to Murfreesboro and pick up Greg Biggs, expert guide and friend of the RT. He will lead us to the various key sites of the Tullahoma Campaign of 1863. The route will primarily be along the back roads actually used but will parallel I-24, ending at Sewanee (university of the South). We'll then return to Murfreesboro, drop Greg off by 4, and return home. Cost is \$80 per person (goes up to \$100 for reservations submitted after October 9). This covers speaker, bus, water bottles on bus, and tip for Greg; lunch is on your own. Coordinator John Scales will provide further details as they develop. Questions or early interest? Call John at 256-337-1444.



Gregg Biggs, our guide and friend of the Round Table.

Greg Biggs is a Civil War flags historian and has consulted with a number of museums and authors and has presented flags programs to the Museum of the Confederacy and the National Civil War Museum among others. He has also assisted the Civil War Trust in securing flags for their web site. Greg has lectured across the country on Civil War topics primarily on flags and the Western Theater as well as the Revolutionary War. Greg leads tours for Civil War groups, individuals, and U.S. Army Staff Rides of the Fort Donelson Campaign, the Tullahoma Campaign, the Atlanta Campaign and where The River Campaigns Began: Cairo, IL to Columbus/Belmont, KY. He is the president of the Clarksville Civil War Roundtable and an officer of the Nashville CWRT.

The Famous Civil War master historian, Ed Bearss, Dies at age 97

Thursday, July 8 2010 was the night Ed Bearss was introduced to the Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table; in person. Over the years many gathered insights by reading his descriptions and explanations of campaigns and battles but few enthusiasts here actually met him. On this special Thursday night, 400 spectators gathered at Chan Auditorium on the University of Alabama Huntsville campus to listen to his presentation. In attendance were Round Table members from Nashville, Murfreesboro, and Chattanooga, Tennessee and Round Tables from Birmingham and Grant, Alabama. Ed Bearss remarked to the TVCWRT's President John Allen, "it was the biggest CWRT audience he had ever addressed". Once again, on Thursday, September 13, 2012 Ed Bearss spoke at our Round Table's Sesquicentennial Dinner. His topic was, The First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas; A New Face, and he provided the insight we anticipated. Our members provided a color guard in Civil War attire, both blue and gray, and period equipment. Former President David Lady and co-founder of the Round Table Mark Hubble were members of the color guard. To my knowledge, it was the last time the renowned Civil War guide and historian visited Alabama to speak. (The Editor)

PROFILE



Semper Fi: US Marine, WWII Veteran, Historian Ed Bearss. Ed Bearss is a US Marine who was severely wounded in combat in 1944, and went on to become a great Civil War historian. He stands for the finest values and traditions of the US Marine Corps.

August 27, 2020



One of the greatest surviving veterans of the US Marine Corps in World War II—a man who was severely wounded in combat—also is one of our finest Civil War historians. And up until very recently, he was still leading walking tours of battlefields in the United States and Europe!

Edwin "Ed" Cole Bearss was born on June 26, 1923, in Billings, Montana, into a family with a proud Marine Corps tradition. His cousin "Hiking Hiram" Bearss (1875-1938) had been awarded the *Medal of Honor* for heroism in combat in the Philippines in 1901, and subsequently received the Distinguished Service Cross for his conduct in World War I. Ed's father Omar also served in the US Marines, in Haiti and in Europe during World War I.

"Hiking Hiram" Bearss courtesy of the US Marine Corps.

Ed Bearss's family was listening to a radio broadcast of a football game between the Chicago Bears and the St. Louis Cardinals on December 7, 1941, when an announcer interrupted with news of the Japanese attack on *Pearl Harbor*. The family didn't believe it at first; but when they did, Ed determined to "join the Marines and get back at the Japs." He enlisted in April 1942 and trained at the Marine Corps base in San Diego. Boot camp, he remembered, had a way "of taking you down to the dregs of your soul then building you up to believe that you, with your fellow Marines, can do anything."

An LST carries US Marines and supplies toward New Britain, Dec. 24, 1943. Courtesy National Archives.

Assigned to the 22nd Marine Regiment, Ed Bearss was shipped to the South Pacific. But he wanted more than anything to join the Marine Raiders. "I had wanted to be a Raider since I heard of them in boot camp," he recalled. "And I wanted out of the chicken-shit Twenty-second." After an interview in which he was asked how far he could walk and swim, and whether he could kill a man with a knife or strangle him, Ed made the cut. He was a Marine Raider. Sadly for the gung-ho 19 year old, however, after a number of deployments he came down with a bad bout of malaria, and was reassigned afterwards to the 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division. But now he was bound for combat.

On Christmas night, 1943, after a meal of steak and eggs, Ed's unit boarded Higgins boats and made the passage from New Guinea to the Japanese-held island of New Britain, where they were to be tasked with seizing Cape Gloucester. The landing was part of General Douglas MacArthur's Operation Cartwheel, aiming at the big Japanese fortress of Rabaul on New Britain. The Marines were engaged in combat almost immediately, seizing ground at the point of the bayonet and then digging in to fight off determined Japanese counter-attacks.

US Marines coming ashore on New Britain, December 1943. Courtesy National Archives.

On January 2, 1944, Ed Bearss took point and led his platoon deep into the jungle. Every man in the platoon was ready for combat except for one who—as Ed told me—was left behind to guard camp because "he was yellow." That "yellow" Marine was to be the only member of the platoon, Ed said, to make it through that day without being killed or wounded.

Ed described what happened next: "After pushing about half a mile through dense jungle, we approached a stream perpendicular to our line of march and began to cross. On the other side, I saw men, not ours, about thirty to 35 yards away. They were not wearing our helmets. So I opened fire with my rifle. Other firing opened to our left and right, then all hell broke loose. A nest of Japanese machine guns dug into pill boxes on the opposite bank opened on us."

US Marines, January 1944. Courtesy National Archives.

"The man next to me was shot through both hands and wrists. Screaming 'I'm ruined for life!' he took off running. Another Marine coming up was hit and others were falling. All of this was happening faster than I can talk. I was on my knees when the first bullet struck. It hit me in my left arm just below the elbow, and the arm went numb. It felt like being hit with a sledge hammer. It jerked me sideways and then I was hit again, another sledgehammer blow to my right shoulder. I fell, both arms shattered, and my helmet slipped down over my eyes. I couldn't see. But there were now dead men lying all around me." The spot where Ed Bearss and his comrades fell was dubbed by the Marines Suicide Creek.

Ed told me that he later mused that he had probably been hit by an older-model Japanese Type 96 machine gun. Had it been the newer Type 99, he was certain that the second bullet would have hit him in the chest. Lying out in the field under enemy fire, however, he only had time to think of survival, especially after subsequent bullets hit him in the heel and buttocks. After several hours bleeding under fire, fortunately, he was able to find cover and receive medical aid.

After a long, grueling journey from New Britain to New Guinea and then back to Mare Island, San Diego, Ed Bearss was to spend months in the hospital, with one surgery after another to save his arms. He was still in the hospital on *VJ Day*. News of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Nagasaki on August 9, 1945, “came in over the radio the day after I had been to surgery,” he remembered, “and I remember how disappointed I was I couldn’t go out on the town and get drunk.” Ed would spend a total of 26 months in the hospital—saving his arms, but with permanent nerve damage—before being honorably discharged as a corporal on March 15, 1946.

Ed Bearss courtesy of the National Park Service.

The G.I. Bill benefited Ed Bearss, as it also did many other servicemen, helping him to receive degrees from Georgetown University and Indiana University. Fascinated by the Civil War, he embarked on a lifelong study of its leading figures and battlefields. In 1981, Ed Bearss became Chief Historian of the National Park Service. He was one of the leading speakers on the 1990 *The Civil War* television documentary by Ken Burns. And in keeping with his family’s tradition of dedication to service, his son and daughter both joined the US Marine Corps.

Ed’s “retirement” from the National Park Service in 1994 did not come close to marking a withdrawal from public life, however, for he went on to inform and entertain thousands of guests fortunate enough to join him on his many hundreds of battlefield tours. I will never forget how Ed, well into his nineties, navigated battlefields with a cane (which he used only to tap the ground for emphasis as he made points in his deep, thunderous, distinctive voice) as he told timeless stories of service, bravery and sacrifice—stories that he understands personally, from his experiences in combat and lifelong dedication to his country.

Board Reports; Join the Board and help sustain our Round Table.

Membership; Membership for this Covid-19 year is extended to the end of December 2020.

2020 Remaining schedule of speakers;

12 November, Phil Wirey, Morgan County Historical Society. "General James Longstreet: Local Boy Meets Gettysburg."

2021 Schedule for Speakers (*subject to change*)

14 January, John Scales, Forrest at Fort Donelson, 1862

11 February, Mike Acosta, Palmito Ranch: Last Battle of the War

11 March, Barbara Snow, Flames Along the Tennessee: Gunterville Burns

8 April, Kellee Blake, The Eastern Shore: Virginia Goes to War

13 May, Whitney Snow, Williamson R. W. Cobb: Unsung War Time Congressman

10 June, Delores Hydock, Soldiers in Hoop Skirts: Nursing, Spying, Serving

8 July, John Thompson, Sgt. Gilbert Henderson Bates: The March that Ended the War

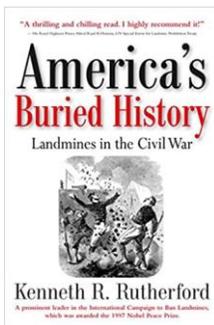
12 August, Scott Mingus, Targeted Tracks: Cumberland Rail Road at War

9 September, John Scales, Hood's Retreat from Nashville (preview field trip)
14 October, Ken Rutherford, Landmines: The Hidden Horrors of War
11 November, Thomas Flagel, War, Memory, and the 1913 Gettysburg Reunion

TVCWRT Features

Book Review;

America's Buried History, Landmines in the Civil War by Kenneth R. Rutherford, El Dorado Hills: Savas Beatie LLC, 2020, *Reviewed by Emil L. Posey, Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table (August 2020)*



It is estimated that around every 22 minutes one person somewhere in the world is killed or injured by a landmine.* Their widespread, often seemingly indiscriminate use as readily available, easily deployed, low-cost weapons has made them the bane of people caught up in regional and localized conflicts around the globe over the past several decades. Too often left in place after the fighting ends or has moved on to other locales, landmines can remain active for years, even decades. Today's casualties usually are civilians, particularly children, that have little knowledge of their location or the degree of danger they

represent.

* "The Explosive Echo of Past Wars – Removing the Scourge of Landmines", Desmond Tutu Peace Foundation, www.tutufoundationusa.org, April 16, 2012

Essentially defensive weapons, they can be employed in a controlled role (i.e., command detonated) or as uncontrolled "dumb" weapons (i.e., contact-activated by pressure or tripwire). Typically, they are employed to canalize and breakup enemy movement (tactical minefields), integrated into defensive positions (protective minefields), and as individual casualty-producing devices (mines and boobytraps, sometimes referred to as nuisance minefields, but too often employed simply as terror devices).

The origin of the anti-personnel variety dates to 14th-century China. Western use began in the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71), but they came into their own in the American Civil War. It is here that Dr. Rutherford picks up the story. The Confederacy was quick to adopt naval mines to offset their significant imbalance of combat power vis-à-vis the North on coastal and river waterways, and their use quickly spread to land. The first engagement that saw significant use of landmines was in early 1862 at the siege of Yorktown in the early days of the Peninsula Campaign. Their use continued, primarily by the Confederacy, throughout the war.

Dr. Rutherford walks us through the development of this innovative technology-driven weapon system, from initial employments to its wider use. He uses individual experiences and stories to describe the devastating impacts landmines could have on soldiers physically and emotionally, along with their commanders' attempts at countermeasures. His writing style is succinct and easy to read, yet comprehensive in its coverage. He includes brief bios,

operational maps, a few charts, and an excellent glossary to aid understanding, along with a bibliography to assist with further study.

This is a good read on a topic that is dealt with only piecemeal in popular Civil War histories. It is an important book for the casual reader as well as the more experienced students of the Civil War.

As for Dr. Rutherford, he is known for his decades of work in the landmine discipline. He is cofounder of the Landmine Survivors Network and a prominent leader in the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, which won the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize. A professor of political science at James Madison University, he directed the university's Center for International Stabilization and Recovery for ten years, which for more than 21 years has been recognized as a global leader in international efforts to combat the effects of landmines and explosive remnants of war. He holds a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University, and B.A. and MBA degrees from the University of Colorado, where he was inducted into its Hall for Distinguished alumni. He is also a victim himself, having lost both legs to a landmine in Somalia.

Your reviewer is Emil L. Posey, former Vice President of the TVCWRT, now continuing to support as Secretary. His work history spans almost 45 years of military and civilian service to our country. He retired from NASA/George C. Marshall Space Flight Center on December 27, 2014. He has a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Hood College, Frederick, Maryland; is a former president of the Huntsville chapter of the National Contract Management Association, a life member of the Special Forces Association and the 175th Infantry Association, and a member in good standing of Elks Lodge 1648 (Huntsville, AL). He is a dedicated bibliophile and a (very) armchair political and military enthusiast.

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table Civil War Tutorial: On the Web

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table introduces a tutorial for those interested in understanding the origin, conduct, and impact of the American Civil War i.e., officially “the War Between the States.” Our intent is to address key elements relevant to understanding the era that redefined America. For everyone wanting a better understanding of the Civil War, this tutorial is a framework for that understanding and further study.

The American Civil War was a momentous event in our history. It changed America. Discover the causes, the political compromises, the economic impact, the military impact, and the impact of war on the American home.

The TVCWRT Tutorial, a work in process, is divided into nine parts. Each part addresses key elements of friction that impacted the result, politics, economy, military, and people that experienced the turmoil. The tutorial is an overview that will prepare any student of the era for participation in a course in any college or university. For additional information we refer you to our website, <https://www.tvcwrt.org> under Education.

“1861”

ARM'D year! Year of the struggle!
No dainty rhymes or sentimental
love verses for you, terrible
year!
Not you some pale poetling,
seated at a desk, lisping
cadenzas piano;
But as a strong man, erect,
clothed in blue clothes,
advancing, carrying a rifle on
your shoulder,
With well-gristled body and
sunburnt face and hands—with
a knife in the belt at your side,
As I heard you shouting loud—
your sonorous voice ringing
across the continent;
Your masculine voice, O year, as
rising amid the great cities,
Amid the men of Manhattan I
saw you, as one of the
workmen,
the dwellers in Manhattan;
Or with large steps crossing the
prairies out of Illinois and
Indiana,
Rapidly crossing the West with
springy gait, and descending
the Alleghenies;
Or down from the great lakes, or
in Pennsylvania, or on deck
along the Ohio river;
Or southward along the
Tennessee
or Cumberland rivers, or at
Chattanooga on the mountain
top.
Saw I your gait and saw I your
sinewy limbs, clothed in blue
bearing weapons, robust year,
Heard your determined voice,
launch' d forth again and
again;
Year that suddenly sang by the
mouths of the round-lipp'd
cannon,
I repeat you, hurrying, crashing,
sad, distracted year.

Walt Whitman

Part III: First Encounters: The Consequences at Home

When the garrison at Fort Sumter surrendered on April 13, 1861 it echoed throughout the country but the echo was punctuated by the silence of leaders North and South regarding; what happens next? The media propagated the alternatives facing the nation; will the North let the South seceded or will there be war? On April 16, Abraham Lincoln broke the silence and called for 75,000-men to serve, presumably to suppress a rebellion.

The crops were almost completely planted for the 1861 growing season and young men everywhere were listening to the prognostication of a short war and visualizing the accolades that accompany the valor and glory they anticipated. Their families, community, and many a fair lady would be proud.

On February 9th, Jefferson Davis was sworn in as the first president of the Confederate States of America. The structure and organization resembled that of the government they recently abandoned. Not only was immense effort underway to establish the elements necessary to govern, they were anticipating and calculating the types and number of military formations, the size of the industrial base, and quantities of materials necessary to defend their new nation.

Communities began to sew flags recognizing their boy's units and their soldier's personal clothing. Even the least technically appointed industrial sites began forging cannons, textile mills produced tents, cloth for uniforms, hats and other items. Wealthy citizens stepped up to fund regiments and procure foreign produced weapons.

In the midst of the preparation for war many set aside thoughts regarding the impact on the community when the men departed because there was no choice but to adjust. Almost everyone in the South lived in the midst of a slave society their entire lives and their new constitution validated that society. They understood that environment, but in the North workers' rights was

a theme that accompanied immigrants arriving to work in the factories. Women's suffrage was debated. Even in the South refined ladies addressed the issue in letters and other forums as early as the 1830s. When the men departed for war and women assumed responsibility previously performed by men, support for women's suffrage grew. The slave society of the South and the industrial society

of the North impacted farmers too. War gave farmers a voice to promote better farming technics and also leverage to reduce their debt burden to the country's banking system. The war would fuel the popularity of these transgressions but solutions were years away.

A minstrel tune, "Dixie", punctuated the dull routine of training in the South and lifted the spirits at home. "Bonnie Blue Flag" was added to the list of Southern patriotic songs and standard American anthems like "The Star-Spangled Banner," "Hail Columbia," and "Yankee Doodle" were revered in the North. The music industry grew with the rise of middle-class families that could afford a piano and the home front needed a form of expression that would reflect triumph on the battlefield or the solemn death of a soldier, consequently a plethora of era music emerged.

Boys and men were off with their volunteer units to train and prepare to defend the South against an invader. The Western portion of Virginia quickly moved to split from the state. The tentative slave state of West Virginia became a battle ground with frequent skirmishes and the dead and wounded accumulating for each side. But it was mid-year when the true nature of the human cost of war was revealed -- First Manassas/Bull Run.

First the news of a Southern victory traveled by word of mouth and was quickly followed by newspapers around the country. Casualties were reported in the papers and posted where residents frequently assembled and the carnage was described in graphic detail leaving little doubt that the struggle was great and the reapers bill was high. As families learned of their loss the South's celebration for sovereignty and the North's zeal for unity challenged their new reality.

The South's success on the battlefield at Bull Run in Virginia and Wilson's Creek in Missouri accented the Southern spirit of defiance and hardened the resolve of the northern politicians and the public.

The Confederate postal service, with unique stamps, began to function and Confederate paper money was added to the alternatives of gold, silver, US dollars, and barter as commercial trading instruments. The identity and resolve of the Confederacy was established but the US Navy blockade began to interfere with international trade and the decision to withhold cotton from the world market to gain European recognition of the Confederacy began.

Northern military excursions in Virginia, the Carolinas, and Florida provided opportunities for slaves to escape and experience freedom working for the Federal Army. Their presence shaped Union war policies and set conditions that would impact Reconstruction.

1861 was a year of transition. The homes in both the North and South began to feel the change in social norms and over time recognize economic barriers and other unintended consequences of a "War Between the States".

TVCWRT Civil War Digest, Commanders Brief: October 1861

General Fremont tries to redeem himself in Missouri but President Lincoln is finished with him while West Virginia and Virginia become small unit battlegrounds and the US Navy supports an expedition to North Carolina. Its tit

for tat between the Confederate blockade runners and the US Navy as the Confederacy initiates cotton diplomacy in Louisiana and their ambassadors slip through the blockade to Cuba enroute to England and France.

The Union begins to arm escaped slaves.

Political:

Professor Thaddeus Lowe demonstrated a balloon ascent to President Abraham Lincoln in Washington, DC, and the Pony Express, after only 18 months, becomes history.

President Abraham Lincoln sends Secretary of War, Simon Cameron to deliver a letter to Brig. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, USA, which asks Curtis if he believed Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont, USA, should be relieved of command.

The Honorable Simon Cameron, US Secretary of War authorizes Brig. Gen. Thomas West Sherman, USA, commanding at Port Royal, SC, to organize and arm, if necessary, squads of fugitive, captured slaves.

The Confederacy signed treaties with the following Indian nation tribes: Cherokee, Seneca, Shawnee, and Osage and Governor Thomas O. Moore of Louisiana bans the shipment of cotton from his state to Europe in order to place pressure on the European nations to officially recognize the Confederacy as a nation.

Confederate Commissioners to France and Great Britain, John Slidell and James Mason, slip through the Union blockade of Charleston, SC, aboard the Theodora, which is bound for Cuba enroute for Europe.

United States Army Major General Appointments:

Lovell Harrison Rousseau

United States Army Brigadier General Appointments:

Richard Johnson

Joseph Bennett Plummer

Thomas John Wood

Confederate Major General Appointments:

William Joseph Hardee

James Longstreet

Theophilus Hunter Holmes

Mansfield Lovell

Benjamin Huger

John Bankhead Magruder

Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall"

Edmund Kirby Smith

Jackson

Confederate Brigadier General Appointments:

William Henry Carroll

Humphrey Marshall

Philip St. George Cocke

James Heyward Trapier

Nathan George Evans

Richard Taylor

Samuel Gibbs French

Louis Trezevant Wigfall

John Porter McCown,

Cadmus Marcellus Wilcox

Hugh Weedon Mercer

Robert Emmett Rhodes

Changes in Districts and Commands:**Union Actions;**

The Dept. of New England is constituted, under the command of Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, (This department is created in connection with the organization of the Gulf Expedition to New Orleans, LA, and was thereafter discontinued on February 1862).

Col. George Wright, 9th US Infantry, assumed command of the District of Southern California and Brig. Gen. Joseph King Fenno Mansfield, is assigned to the command Hatteras Inlet, NC.

Brig. Gen. William T. Sherman replaced Brig. Gen. Robert Anderson, the hero of Fort Sumter, SC, to command the Department of the Cumberland, Kentucky and Tennessee. His headquarters was at Louisville, KY. Anderson's health was failing and he suffered an apparent nervous breakdown. He would never command again, retiring from the US Army in 1863.

Brig. Gen. Ormsby McKnight Mitchel was ordered to organize an expedition into East Tennessee.

Brig. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, assumed command of the Dept. of Western Virginia and Brig. Gen. Thomas Williams, replaced Brig. Gen. Joseph K. F. Mansfield, at Hatteras Inlet, NC.

Col. George Wright, 9th US Infantry, transferred command of the District of Southern California to Col. James H. Carleton, 1st California Infantry and Brig. Gen. Edwin Vose Sumner turned over command of the Dept. of the Pacific to Col. George Wright.

Brig. Gen. Benjamin Franklin Kelley was to command the Federal Dept. of Harper's Ferry, WV, and Cumberland, MD.

After his visit to Washington, DC, William Blount Carter entered East Tennessee to organize parties to destroy the railway bridges there.

Lieut. Col. Albemarle Cady, US Infantry, relieved Col. Benjamin L. Beall, 1st US Cavalry, to command the District of Oregon.

Maj. Gen. David Hunter was ordered to replace Maj. Gen. John Charles Fremont, to command the Western Dept., MO, etal.

Confederate Actions;

A Confederate Council of War attended by among others, President Jefferson Davis, Gen. Joseph Eggleston Johnson, Gen. Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard, and Maj. Gen. Gustavus Woodson Smith, met at Centreville, VA, to discuss the Southern strategy of an offensive war in VA. They decided were not ready due to a lack of proper readiness of men and material.

Brig. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, was assigned to command the Dept. of Middle and East Florida. (subsequently this order was revoked).

Maj. Gen. Braxton Bragg's, command was extended over the coast and state of Alabama and constituted as The Confederate Dept. of Alabama and West Florida.

Maj. Gen. Mansfield Lovell, replaced Maj. Gen. David Twiggs, in the command of Dept. Number 1, consisting of Louisiana and Texas.

Brig. Gen. James Heyward Trapieq was assigned to command the Confederate Dept. of Middle and East Florida as the Confederate Department (Army) of Northern Virginia was constituted with the following command appointments:

- a) Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, overall command.
- b) Gen. Pierre G. T. Beauregard, Potomac District
- c) Maj. Gen. Theophilus Hunter Holmes, Aquia District.
- d) Maj. Gen. Thomas Jonathan Jackson, Valley District.

Brig. Gen. Alexander Robert Lawton was assigned to command the Confederate Dept. of Georgia and Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, assumed command of the Confederate Army Corps of Central Kentucky, at Bowling Green relieving Brig. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner.

California;

A Federal expedition to Oak Grove and the Temecula Ranch was conducted to determine the reported location of Rebel men.

Kentucky;

Skirmishes were reported at Buffalo Hill, Upton's Hill, Rockcastle Hill, Hodgenville and West Liberty with Brig. Gen. William Nelson.

There was action at Hillsborough, Rockcastle Hills, or Camp Wildcat, KY with Brig. Gen. Felix Zollicoffer, CSA, attacking Brig. Gen. A. Schoepf, USA. Camp Joe Underwood was attacked by Col. R. D. Allison, CSA, 14th TN Infantry.

A Federal expedition was executed to Eddyville with a skirmish at Saratoga by Brig. Gen. C. F. Smith, USA, transported aboard the USS Conestoga.

Skirmish at Laurel Bridge in Laurel County and near Woodbury, and Morgantown, with Kentucky Volunteers against Mississippi Cavalry. In Morgantown the Confederate attack was repulsed.

Florida

There was action on Santa Rosa Island, Pensacola when a Confederate assault on the Federal batteries led by Brig. Gen. Richard Anderson, CSA, was repulsed by the Federal troops stationed on the island at Fort Pickens.

Maryland;

There was a skirmish near Edwards Ferry with Brig. Gen. Charles P. Stone, USA and around Budd's Ferry, against Confederate shore batteries located near Shipping Point between the Chopawamsic and Quantico Creeks and a skirmish occurred near Budd's Ferry with new Confederate shore batteries and Brig. Gen. Joseph Hooker, USA.

Missouri;

A Federal expedition from Bird's Point, near Cairo, IL, attacked the rebel camp near Charleston, MO and another Federal reconnaissance from Cairo, IL, to Lucas Bend by Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, supported by the *USS Lexington* and the *USS Tiller*.

The Union's first ironclad, the *St. Louis*, launched at Carondelet.

There were skirmishes near Clintonville and on the Pomme de Terro, or Cameron after Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont, USA, advanced from St. Louis to avoid further criticism for his inactivity while the Confederates operate in the area. Operations near Ironton and Fredericktown resulted with the advance of Meriwether Jeff Thompson's Confederate Partisan

forces from Stoddard County. Thompson was the ex-mayor of St. Louis and commanded his own independent command.

Action at Wet Glaze, or Shanghai, or Dutch or Monday's Hollow, near Henrytown with a skirmish at Beckwith's farm, 12 miles from Bird's Point, and a subsequent fight at Underwood's farm, near Bird's Point. There was another at Linn Creek with the 29th IL Infantry and skirmishes near Blackwell Station and the destruction of the Big River Bridge, near Potosi. M. Jeff Thompson's Confederates captured 33 men of the 38th IL Regiment as operations continued around Ironton and Fredericktown when Federal troops descend upon and occupy Lexington. A skirmish near Linn Creek, with Maj. Clark Wright, Fremont Battalion, MO Cavalry ensued as a skirmish at Warsaw and Fredericktown took place.

Union forces under Col. Joseph Bennett Plummer, 11th Missouri Infantry, advance from Cape Girardeau, toward M. Jeff Thompson's Confederate Partisans resulting in a skirmish at Warrensburg. A Federal gunboat was engaged on the Mississippi River while skirmishing continued at Warrensburg. Action continued at the Big Hurricane Creek and Union forces under Col. William Passmore Carlin, 38th Illinois Infantry, advanced from Pilot Knob with an engagement at Fredericktown with Col. J. B. Plummer, USA.

Skirmishing at Buffalo Springs and action at Springfield, or Wilson's Creek consisted of Maj. Gen. John Fremont's, Cavalry charging into Springfield and routing the small Confederate force there. Gen. Fremont, commanding the Western Dept. and Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, Missouri State Guard, commanding the Confederate forces in Missouri, concluded an agreement for the exchange of POWs.

There was skirmishing at Plattsburg and Spring Hill as Gen. Fremont contends, he will pursue and defend Springfield from the advancing Gen. Price, who is actually retreating. Fremont hopes any orders on their way from Lincoln will now not be delivered.

The month ended with a Federal expedition to Fulton by Brig. Gen. Chester Harding, Jr, USA.

New Mexico Territory;

There was a skirmish at Alamoosa, near Fort Craig.

North Carolina;

An affair at Chicamacontico with the Confederates resulted in them being unable to retake key bases now under control of Maj. Gen. John E. Wool, USA.

Texas;

There were operations against Indians (Lipans) from Fort Inge by Sergeant. W. Barrett, CSA Cavalry.

Virginia;

Skirmishing began at Chapmansville and ended with the Confederates defeated only 12 miles from Washington, DC, at Springfield Station. The city was startled by skirmishing.

Federal troops under Col. Christian, 26th NY sent by Brig. Gen. Henry W. Slocum, USA captured the Pohick Church, 12 miles from Alexandria and there was more skirmishing with cavalry at Springfield Station under Col. Pratt, 31st NY Infantry, sent by Brig. Gen. William Franklin, USA.

Skirmishing erupted on the Little River Turnpike with Lieut. Col. Isaac M. Tucker, 2nd NJ Infantry and a Federal reconnaissance towards the Occoquan River by Brig. Gen. Israel B.

Richardson, USA. The constant Federal reconnaissance to Hunter's Mill and Thorton Station, near Leesburg, by Brig. Gen. Charles P. Stone, USA, kept the Confederates alert.

Operations on the Potomac, near Leesburg, included the engagement (or Battle of) Ball's Bluff, or of Leesburg, and the resulting skirmish on the Leesburg road resulted in Union troops Ferring across the Potomac here and downstream at Edwards Ferry and march up the steep banks. They were pressed back with many killed as they leap down the steep banks while many others drown as they attempt to re-cross the Potomac. The Confederates under Brig. Gen. Nathan George "Shanks" Evans, routed the Federals, under Brig. Gen. Charles Pomeroy Stone, USA. Although taking direct orders from Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan. Gen. Stone's military career was destroyed with the untimely death of Maj. Gen. Edward Dickinson Baker, USA, who was also a Senator from Oregon and a close personal friend of President Lincoln. His death eventually caused the Congress to create the "Committee of the Conduct of the War," which would politically be used to attack various Union officers.

There was follow on action near Edwards Ferry with skirmishing at Young's Mill, near Newport News, with Brig. Gen. John B. Magruder, CSA.

West Virginia;

The engagement at Greenbrier resulted in the total rout of the Confederates. The Federal troops captured valuable livestock when Brig. Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds, USA, defeated Brig. Gen. William W. Loring, CSA.

There was skirmishing at Harper's Ferry, Cotton Hill, and Bolivar Heights, near Harper's Ferry with Lieut. Col. Turner Ashby, CSA, Cavalry.

There were operations and reconnaissance in the Kanawha and the New River Region, between Brig. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, USA, and Brig. Gen. John B. Floyd, CSA and skirmishing at Gauley.

Action at Romney, or Mill Creek Mills with Brig. Gen. Benjamin F. Kelley, USA, resulted in Confederate forces withdrawing but, the skirmish continued at the South Branch Bridge, Springfield, and at Greenbrier.

Navy Operations;

Confederates captured the US transport, *Fanny*, with three vessels, *Curlew*, *Junaluska*, and *Raleigh*, near Chicamacomico, or Loggerhead Inlet, Pamlico Sound, NC.

The *USS South Carolina* captured two blockade runners, the *Ezilda* and *Joseph H. Toone*, off the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River, near New Orleans, LA and captured the Confederate blockade runner, *Alert*, off Charleston, SC.

A Naval encounter near New Orleans, LA, between the *USS Richmond*, *USS Vincennes* and the *CSS Manassas*, resulted with the two Union vessels retreating.

The Union's first ironclad, the *St. Louis*, was launched at Carondelet, MO.

The Federal expedition under the command of Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Sherman, USA, sailed from Annapolis, MD, for the South Carolina coast and the construction continued on the *USS Monitor*, at Greenpoint, NJ with the laying of its keel.

The *CSS Sumter* captured and burned the US schooner, *Trowbridge*, in the Atlantic Ocean and the *USS Lexington* captured and burned three Confederate ships at Chincoteague Inlet, VA.

Brig. Gen. Thomas West Sherman's and Flag Officer Samuel Francis DuPont's expedition to capture Port Royal, SC, sailed from Hampton Roads, VA, with a total of 77 ships. They ran into severe weather at sea but if successful they were successful in their attempt to capture the town it could be used as a refueling depot for the Atlantic blockading fleet.

Reference: The Chronological Tracing of the American Civil War per the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, by Ronald A. Mosocco, 1995, James River Publications, Williamsburg, Virginia.

TVCWRT Little Round Table (LRT) Discussion and Schedule - 2020

The Vicksburg Campaign

The US Army Center of Military History lists the Vicksburg Campaign as 29 March - 4 July 1863. The Center lists operations against Vicksburg in December of 1862 through January 1863 as separate from the Campaign.

Next Up Thursday, October 22 – Vicksburg Campaign 4 – Brig. Gen. Benjamin H. Grierson's Raid and Snyder's Faint; Led by Arley McCormick

- Possibly the most entertaining analysis of all is contrasting John Wayne's movie "The Horse Soldiers" with Brig. Gen. Grierson's Raid. Watch the movie and compare reality with fiction.
- Who was Brig. Gen. Grierson? Engineer or something else?
- Cavalry doctrine was evolving in the Civil War partially based upon Napoleonic experience, West Point education, the US Army experience chasing the plains tribes around the West, and early Confederate Cavalryman. Our look at Cavalry will address tactics in detail.
- The Area of Operations (AOR) in Northern Mississippi was well known by both Union and Confederate cavalry. They chased each other constantly after the battles of Shiloh and Corinth and that sets the conditions for Grierson's initial intrusion into Mississippi.
- Lieutenant General Pemberton is ridiculed by most historians for his defense of Vicksburg but this (pseudo) amateur historian challenge the professional's opinion. How will you judge his performance?
- General Grant maximized the use of his force in a number of ways; how many can you count?
- What were the mitigating circumstances Pemberton faced in the Confederate government support and command structure?
- How do you get ready for a raid of this nature? How much cavalry does it take to complete the mission? Do your own mission analysis and compare.
- All will be revealed for discussion and debate.



September 24 - Vicksburg Campaign 3 - Porter Moves South – Grand Gulf; Led by J.R Ewing seated at right.

LRT 2020-2021 Schedule

December 10, 2020 – Vicksburg Campaign 5 - Port Gibson to Jackson; Led by Jeff Ewing

January 22, 2021 - Vicksburg Campaign 6 - Champion Hill and Big Black; Led by John Allen

February 26, 2021 - Vicksburg Campaign 7 - Siege Operations; Led by Emil Posey

March 26, 2021 – Armistead and Garnet - Parallel Lives; Led by Emil Posey

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Ed Kennedy President of the TVWRT presents Ms. Joslyn an Alabama Bicentennial Coin for a fantastic in person presentation in this Pandemic year.

Thanks! Mauriel Joslyn brought the Immortal 600 to life in her detailed presentation of the treatment of Confederate prisoners of war during the last two years of the war. And, we thought Andersonville was bad.



Thirty-one members and guests ventured out to listen to Ms. Joslyn informative presentation on the treatment of Confederated Prisoners of war the is rarely addressed.

2020 Member Honor Roll

- PATRONS
 - **April Harris**
 - **Emil Posey**
- SUSTAINING MEMBERS
 - **Carol Codori**
 - **Jonathan Creekmore**
- SUPPORTING
 - **Beth Altenkirch**
 - **Terry & Keith Clevenger**
 - **Greg & Stephanie Cousins**
 - **Harry Gatzke**
 - **Alan & Dottie Markell**
 - **Kevin & Judy Rodriguez**
 - **Alan & Diana Ruzicka**
 - **John Scales**

The TVCWRT Management Team

OFFICERS (Elected)

- Ed Kennedy, President
- (vacant), Vice President **(We Need help)**

- Emil Posey, Secretary
- (Vacant) Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS (Appointed)

- (Vacant) Programs Officer **(We need help)**
- Johnathan Creekmore, Technology Officer **(We need help)**
- Robert Hennessee, Preservation Officer
- Ed Kennedy, Communications Officer **(We need help)**
- Emil Posey, Secretary **(We need help)**
- Arley McCormick, Newsletter Editor
- Kevin Rodriguez, Membership Officer
- Michael Acosta, Sergeant at Arms

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- Debra Morgan

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (Appointed)

- Jeffry Ewing, Little Round Table Coordinator
- Art Helms, Lead Greeter
- John Scales, Field Trip Coordinator (Former President)

GRAY BEARDS

- John A. Allen, Former President and Founder of the Little Round Table
- April Harris, Former President
- Mark Hubbs, Former Preservation Officer and Co-founder
- Kent Wright, Former Programs Officer

STAGE CREW

- Michael Acosta, Lead
- Ed Kennedy, Master of the Screen and General Roustabout,
- Mike Sosebee, First Master of the Sound System
- Lin Turner, Second Master of the Sound System
- Brad Tuten, Master Projectionist