

**The TVCWRT is live on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup>.** We will configure seating to maximize your safety and health. (**Note:** the Little Round Table has met 6 times during the pandemic at the Elks with no ill effects reported.)

1. Enter north side lobby door (not the bar door) with mask on. Honor system that you do not have temperature or show symptoms, have not traveled to COVID hotspots or have a 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

And for those that prefer to watch from home; we transitioned to a “new” online presentation system called “DISCORD”. Our Technology Officer, Michael Acosta, will be glad to help register anyone in the Round Table but it must be no later than 10 March to participate in this month’s program. Only members whose annual dues are paid-up will be given access. Please contact him [michaelacosta1836@gmail.com](mailto:michaelacosta1836@gmail.com).

**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 the family but practice social distancing. **6 feet 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.*



<https://gab.com/groups/22961>



<https://mewe.com/join/tennesseevalleycivilwarroundtable>



<https://www.facebook.com/tvcwrt>

**We have expanded our Social Media formats; check them out!**

**Tennessee Valley Civil War  
Round Table  
May 2021 Newsletter/Journal**



**To Inform and Educate  
Since 1993  
Contents**

**Announcements**

**3 Thursday, May 13th,** LTC (R) John Cole speaks on the Field Artillery in the American Civil War

**3** Annual Field Trip: Retreat from Nashville with Nathen Bedford Forest

**4** The Blue & Gray Society offers free YouTube Presentations.

**4** TVCWRT President presents citations to Carol Codori and Emil Posey

**5 Board Reports**

- Technology Officer:
- Vacancy's: **President, Vice President Sergeant at Arms. projectionist or two**
- **Membership has declined; Now Accepting Membership**
- **Need Facebook moderator now!**
- Speakers For 2021

**TVCWRT Features**

**10 Book Report:** Defending the Arteries of the Rebellion, Confederate Navel Operations on the Mississippi River Valley, 1861-1865, by Neil P. Chatelain

Nooks and Crannies on the web.

**6** TVCWRT Civil War Digest, Commanders Brief: May 1862 (*the Editor*)

**12** TVCWRT Civil War Tutorial, Part IV: Reality Sets In; The Military Situation; 1862, by Ed Kennedy

**18** Huntsville Afloat, by Marjorie Reeves

**21** Little Round Table (LRT) Discussion and Schedule

**20** Kellee Blake appreciation

**22** TVCWRT Honor Roll and Management Team

**Announcements: Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>; A live performance and also streamed on Discord:** A presentation by Lieutenant Colonel John Cole, US Army (R). **Field Artillery in the American Civil War.** During the American Civil War, artillery was utilized by both sides to support the advancement of infantry and cavalry to lay siege to cities and towns, and to bombard fortresses. Unlike today's indirect fire artillery systems (that utilize an observer (ground, air, space), or GPS-guided fire-and-forget systems) that enable first round "fire for effect" at targets up to and beyond 20 miles, American Civil War artillery systems were primarily direct fire weapons, utilized against observed targets, chiefly within 5 miles or less. This presentation will cover those systems, the available technology, and the tactics utilized.



Lieutenant Colonel John Cole  
U.S. Army (R)

John Cole, Lieutenant Colonel (US Army Retired) was born in Florence, Alabama and is a member of the Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table. He graduated from Auburn University with a BA in Geography and a minor in History and earned a Master's degree in Leadership and Management from Webster University. He was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Field Artillery and served as a battery commander in the 3rd Infantry Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and returned to Iraq two more times: first as an Advisor to the Iraqi Security Forces and again as a fire support coordinator against ISIS. Retiring from the military in 2015 and capitalizing on his interest in history and his military experience, he accepted the Senior Army JROTC position with Troy City Schools, Troy, Alabama and later Lyman Ward Military Academy, Camp Hill, Alabama. In 2018 he joined the U.S. Army Materiel Command, Redstone Arsenal as a Senior Analyst with Systems Products and Solutions, INC.

John collects World War II vintage militaria and guns and occasionally weapons associated with other U.S. conflicts as well. He enjoys studying the American Civil War and WWII history and resides with his family in Madison, Alabama.



Another lucky member will be eating at Nicks.

**We are returning to 1864 and retreating from Nashville with General's John Bell Hood and Nathen Bedford Forest;**

The Round Table's annual field trip is scheduled for Saturday, October 30, 2021. Mark your calendars for another adventure into the final years of the Civil War with Brigadier General (Ret) John Scales leading and narrating the day tour. Departure is 0700 and return 5:30. Specific details will follow.

Once again, the goal is a minimum of 20 participants to support a comfortable bus and **Alabama is not scheduled!** Let us know if you are considering participating.

**Blue & Gray Education Society (BGES): Subscribe for Access to a Free YouTube Channel**

BGES has established their Video Archives. and its growing weekly; however, did you know that we have a video station on line that is open to everyone? That account is on YouTube and has 19 programs up to an hour in length. All 14 of our new Zoom Interview Series including Greg Mertz, Tim Smith, Paul Severance, Bob Jenkins, Scott Hartwig, Dave Collins, Gordon Rhea, Scott Patchan, Gary Ecelbarger, Jim Ogden, Brian Wills, Norm Dasinger, Len Riedel and Bob Plumb are there and the list is growing weekly!

There are also three-hour long videos teasing our Video Archives series including Ed Bearss on Stuart's Ride in June 1862, Bud Robertson on Stonewall Jackson and myself talking at the Massachusetts School of Law on Civil Military Relationships. I have also added a 25-minute concert from the VMI Glee Club signing at New Market.

I added an interview that I gave to Mike Movius and the Civil War Roundtable Congress addressing the BGES programs and its history in the context of the Pandemic. It is a great way to get to know me personally and to discover that I am also a fairly good historian.

It's all absolutely free and will be so forever. I will tease other videos from the archives but we will keep refreshing. Use the following link to register it should take a minute or two tops.

EMAIL US: LEN RIEDEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – [BLUEANDGRAYEDUCATION@YAHOO.COMw/videos?sub\\_confirmation=1](mailto:BLUEANDGRAYEDUCATION@YAHOO.COMw/videos?sub_confirmation=1)

**Presidential Recognition:**

Emil joined the Round Table and its Board in 2011. He served for 10 years in the role of Vice President, Secretary, and general roust-a-bout. He will always be remembered for his attention to detail and possibly the voice of reason through five presidents. He's taking a break and watching from the back row for a while and we appreciate the superhuman effort he contributed over the years.



Emil Posey is recognized by Ed Kennedy for ten years of support to the Board and Round Table.

Carol Codori served as President and Program Chair, and led the task force revitalizing the 1860's sidewalk on the East Side of the Huntsville square. She is remembered for organizing hoop skirt social events reminiscent of the old south. For her financial contributions and continued support to the Round Table she was awarded a Member for Life in 2021.



Carol Codori is recognized by Ed Kennedy for her contributions to the Round Table as President, Programs Lead, and preserving the 1860's sidewalk.

## **Board Reports; Join the Board and make a difference in our Round Table.**

**Technology Officer, Michael Acosta:** Live streaming of our Round Table sessions to our members via internet is offered through Discord with no charge. All dues paying members interested- please email our Tech/Website rep, Michael Acosta at [michaelacosta1836@gmail.com](mailto:michaelacosta1836@gmail.com) so he can send you instructions on how to set up an account Discord and get rolling.

**Membership Chair, Kevin Rodrigues:** As of 30 April 2021, we have 187 members on the rolls including spouses/significant others. There were 5 renewals in April. We have 14 premium members, one Lifetime member, and 72 of our members are paid up for a total of 52%. Still well behind last year. **Please pay your membership dues now.**

**Preservation Chair, Robert Hennessee:** proposes General Wheelers Home for the TVCWRT 2021 preservation effort.

**Vacancy:** Sergeant at Arms and projectionists

**Programs Chair, Art Helms:** 2021 Schedule for Speakers (*subject to change*)

**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 (field trip preview)

**14 October,** Ken Rutherford, Landmines: The Hidden Horrors of War

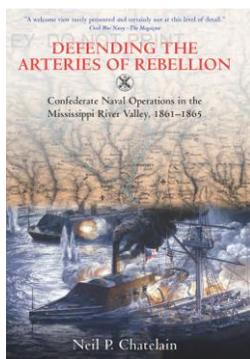
**11 November,** Thomas Flagel, War, Memory, and the 1913 Gettysburg Reunion

The 2022 Speaker list will be published in August!

## **TVCWRT Features**

### **Book Report:**

**Defending the Arteries of Rebellion; Confederate Naval Operations in the Mississippi River Valley, 1861-1865,** by Neil P. Chatelain, Savas Beatie, 339 pages, 2020, Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table review by Arley McCormick



This book may become the “go to reference” documenting the Confederate Naval Operations in the Western Theater. Hundreds of pages are on the shelves of the War Between the States enthusiasts and historians that address the belligerent Army’s effort to secure or defend the influential waterways of the Western Theater, but none concentrate as comprehensively on the Confederate Navy.

Many of the most decisive moments documented by the author are accented by the personal accounts of those who were responsible or close to the action, and he addresses both the strategic aims of President’s Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis. He includes the Confederate innovations that ultimately failed to secure the

tributaries from Union control, but startled the U.S. Navy and opened the door for increased emphasis on remotely detonated torpedoes and armament.

Confederate defensive measures are explained in the context, scope, means, and performance of Confederate Naval and Army forces defending the Mississippi River, its tributaries, and more detail regarding the defense of fortified towns of Vicksburg, Mississippi and Port Hudson, Louisiana.

The author documents both Confederate and Union governments logic behind building a riverine force that contributed to the campaigns on the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers in Tennessee as well as the Yazoo in Mississippi, the Arkansas River in Arkansas, and the Red River campaign of 1864; and of course the Navy view of the capture of New Orleans. With few exceptions, all of these areas are frequently analyzed, debated, and illustrated from the Union forces perspective and casually address the Confederate Navy effort. The authors research certainly provides comprehensive coverage of the courage and initiative invested by Confederate sailors, marines, soldiers and contractors to challenge the more numerous and better armed U.S. Navy.

Many authors have chronicled the effort of the U.S. Navy during the Civil War, but Neil Chatelain clearly achieved his goal of documenting the Confederate effort to organize a Navy both on the high seas and inland waterways and is nothing short of a monumental achievement.

**Nooks and Crannies:** Our members and friends have a perspective on the characters and events regarding the War Between the States, and you can share your views with us. Their perspectives [www.TVCWRT.org](http://www.TVCWRT.org) under the heading of Nooks and Crannies, is collection of perspectives archived by Emil Posey.

### **TVCWRT Civil War Digest, Commanders Update; May 1862:**

It's early in 1862 and Union forces are expanding their footprint with successful intervention around the Confederacy. President Lincoln's notion of a "soft war" is losing promise as some of his Generals exercise initiatives to punish slave holding session sympathizers in Missouri, free slaves on the outer islands of states they are invading on the East Coast and refuse to return run-a-way slaves to their owners according to law. He is placed in the position of having to reprimand and alter his Generals decrees.

President Davis is desperate to acquire war materials, manpower, and international recognition.

### **Political;**

Martial law was proclaimed in Southwest Virginia and President Abraham Lincoln, signed the Homestead Act, opening up the Western Frontier to those willing, for a small fee, to develop 160 acres of land for five years.

Maj. Gen. David Hunter, USA, ordered the emancipation of all slaves in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, and also authorized the arming of all able-bodied negroes in those states, without the approval of President Lincoln but the

president acted quickly to modify his proclamation to support his concept of a “soft war”.

President Lincoln met at Fredericksburg, VA, with Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell, USA to discuss strategy.

**United States Army Major General Appointments;**

Edward Otho Cresap Ord  
Samuel Peter Heintzelman

William Tecumseh Sherman  
John Ellis Wool

**United States Army Brigadier General Appointment;**

Samuel Powhatan Carter  
John Gibbon

Alvin Peterson Hovey  
George William Tiler

**Confederate Major General Appointments;**

NONE

**Confederate Brigadier General Appointments;**

Turner Ashby  
Thomas Lanier Clingman  
Samuel Garland, Jr  
Wade Hampton

Robert Hopkins Hatton  
James Green Martin  
Daniel Weisiger Adams  
Lafayette Mclaws

**Changes in Districts and Commands:**

**Union Actions;**

Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, commands the Army of the Ohio with Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant his Deputy commander and the Federal Dept. of Kansas is re-established, under the command of Brig. Gen. James G. Blunt while Col. James H. Carleton, 1st CA Infantry, relinquishes command of the District of Southern California to Col. George W. Bowie, 5th California Infantry.

Maj. Gen. William Buel Franklin assumes command of the 6th US Army Corps, the Army of the Potomac, and Brig. Gen. Fitz John Porter, assumes command of the 5th US Army Corps (reorganized) for the Peninsula Campaign.

**Confederate Actions;**

Maj. Gen. Braxton Bragg assumes command of the Confederate Army of the Mississippi and Maj. Gen. William W. Loring is assigned to the command the Army of Southwest Virginia.

Brig. Gen. John Selden Roane is assigned to the command in Arkansas.

**Alabama;**

Maj. Gen. Ormsby M. Mitchel, USA initiates Federal operations in the vicinity of Athens, Mooresville, Limestone Bridge, and Elk River and skirmishes at Elkton Station, near Athens and Lamb's Ferry. The General's troops occupy Rogersville.

**Arkansas;**

Skirmishing begins at Litchfield and Batesville with Brig. Gen. Samuel Curtis, USA and at White River, Cotton Plant, Chalk Bluff where the ferry is seized by the Federals. A skirmish on the Little Red River results in Confederate troop capturing a Union foraging party and wagons. Very bloody skirmishing occurs at Searcy Landing, Village Creek, and Litchfield.

**Arizona Territory;**

Tucson, in the New Mexico Territory, is evacuated by the Confederate forces and occupied by Union forces.

**California;**

Skirmishes occur at Croghan's Ranch and with Indians at Angel's Ranch on the Mad River while a Federal expedition heads toward the New Mexico Territories under command of Col. James H. Carleton, 1st California Infantry.

**Florida;**

Pensacola is evacuated by the Confederates and occupied by the Union forces under Brig. Gen. Lewis G. Arnold while an affair on Crooked River results in Confederates ambushing and killing or capturing most of a Union landing party.

**Georgia;**

Bridges are destroyed on Lookout Creek near Lookout Mountain and there is skirmishing at Watkins' Ferry.

**Kentucky;**

There is skirmishing at Lockridge Mills, or Dresden and an affair at Cave City when Col. John Hunt Morgan, CSA, captures a passenger train on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad.

**Louisiana;**

New Orleans is occupied by the Union forces under Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler and the Confederate arsenal at Baton Rouge is captured by a landing party from the *USS Iroquois*.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler solidifies his notoriety in the south by issuing Order No. 28, accusing any woman of pandering her profession who verbally insults any Federal soldier stationed at New Orleans and he continues his insult to the citizens of New Orleans by closing down two newspapers, the Bee, and the Delta.

### **Mississippi;**

A Federal reconnaissance results in a skirmish and engagement at Farmington between Maj. Gen. Henry W Halleck, USA, and Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard, CSA and there is also a Federal reconnaissance of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. Skirmishing continues near Corinth at Glendale.

A bold Federal reconnaissance is executed on the Alabama Road toward Sharp's Mill and there is more skirmishing near Farmington as Federal's raid the Memphis and Charleston Railroad with action at Russell's House and Widow Serratt's. Skirmishing continues at Farmington and a Federal reconnaissance is reported at Burnsville and Iuka.

Naval forces of the *USS Iroquois*, and the *USS Oneida*, under Flag Officer Daniel Farragut, USN demand the surrender of Natchez and the city is subsequently occupied.

After Baton Rouge, LA and Natchez surrender, Vicksburg's surrender is demanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler and Flag Officer Daniel Farragut. Brig. Gen. Martin Luther Smith, CSA refuses.

### **Missouri;**

The month begins with skirmishing at Licking, Horse Creek, and Bloomfield where Confederate supplies are captured.

There is a Naval engagement at Plum Point, near Fort Pillow, TN, and the Confederates sink the Union ironclads, *USS Cincinnati*, and the *USS Mound City*.

There is a skirmish near Butler (Bates County) and Federals scout to Little Blue and skirmish near Independence where they are surprised by a Confederate ambush. There was a Federal operation in Dunklin County and the Rebel steamer, *Daniel E. Miller*, is captured at Hornersville.

A skirmish is reported at Florida.

### **New Mexico Territory;**

There was an affair at Paraje, the New Mexico Territory.

### **North Carolina;**

There is a skirmish near Deep Gully, Trenton Road, with Lieut. Charles H. Pope, 1st RI Lt Art and Corporal Martindale is killed instantly.

There is a Federal expedition from Roanoke Island toward Gatesville by Col. Rush C. Hawkins, USA and a skirmish near Trenton Bridge, at Young's Cross-Roads, and Pollocksville with Col. Thomas J. C. Amory, 17th MA Infantry commanding 1st Brigade, 1st Division.

Skirmishing occurs at Clinton, Trenton and Pollocksville Cross-Roads near New Berne.

### **Oregon Territory;**

Col. Justus Steinberger, 1st Washington Territory Infantry, relieves Col. Albemarle Cady, 1<sup>st</sup> US Infantry, to command the District of Oregon.

### **South Carolina;**

An all black crew of 8 abduct the Confederate steamer, *Planter*, from the Southern Wharf, Charleston Harbor and Federal Gunboats bombard Cole's Island.

There was an affair near Battery Island where a Confederate expedition to John's Island in search of Union landing parties to driven off.

### **Tennessee;**

There was a skirmish near Pulaski with Col. John Hunt Morgan, CSA and a Federal expedition from Trenton to Paris and Dresden with skirmishing near Lockridge's Mill and a Federal raid on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad near Bethel.

Skirmishing was reported at Pulaski, Purdy, the Elk River, near Bethel, Montgomery, and Fayetteville and action at Lebanon with Brig. Gen. Ebenezer Dumont, USA. There were Federal raids on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and a reconnaissance toward the Memphis and Charleston Railroad.

Brig. Gen. Joseph Lewis Hogg, CSA, died from dysentery near Shiloh, TN, shortly after joining Gen. Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard's, CSA, Confederate Army.

There was a Federal expedition down the Mississippi to Fort Pillow by Brig. Gen. Isaac F. Quinby.

Later in the month there was skirmishing reported at Winchester and near Pulaski with Col. John Hunt Morgan, CSA.

### **Texas;**

The Federals' conducted a naval demonstration upon Galveston.

### **Virginia;**

Maj. Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, CSA, moved toward Staunton from Elk Run, near Swift Run Gap, Shenandoah Valley with skirmishing at Rapidan Station, Trevillian's Depot and Louisa Court-House. Skirmishing continued near Harrisonburg with "Stonewall" moving from Conrad's Store forcing Maj, Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, USA, to withdrawing toward Strasburg as Jackson turned his attention to the Union forces at McDowell, WV. There was action at Somerville Heights on the south fork of the Shenandoah River with "Stonewall" and an engagement near McDowell (Bull Pasture Mountain). "Stonewall" repulsed and pursued Brig. Gen. Robert Cumming Schenck, USA, toward Franklin, WV.

"Stonewall" returned from McDowell to the Shenandoah Valley and skirmished at Woodstock with Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Prentiss Banks, USA as the Federals raided the Virginia Central Railroad at Jackson's River Depot, 10 miles from Covington to destroy bridges.

The Union Army advanced across Bottom's Bridge, on the Chickahominy River and there was Confederate reconnaissance from Front Royal to Browntown as Maj. Gen. Richard S. Ewell, CSA, combined his forces under "Stonewall" Jackson, crossing Luray Gap, of the Massanutten Mountain, toward Front Royal, Shenandoah Valley. There was a Federal reconnaissance to New Castle and Hanover town Ferries, by Col. Richard H. Rush, 6th PA Cavalry (Lancers) and skirmishing at Rapidan Station, Trevillian's Depot and Louisa Court-House.

Yorktown was evacuated by the Confederates, under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston and Maj. Gen. John Magruder, before Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, could use his heavy artillery siege guns.

A skirmish was reported at Columbia Bridge and a Federal reconnaissance to Culpeper Court-House as Yorktown was occupied by the Union forces and moved on toward Williamsburg. Brig. Gen. George B. Stoneman, USA, Chief of Cavalry, skirmished with Brig. Gen. JEB Stuart, CSA, and his Confederate Cavalry.

President Abraham Lincoln sailed to Fortress Monroe to observe firsthand the advance of the Army of the Potomac.

An engagement at West Point, Barhamsville, or Eltham's Landing, with Maj. Gen. Gustavus Woodson Smith, CSA, resulted in a retreat from Williamsburg, and Brig. Gen. William Buel Franklin, USA, attacked the Confederate supply train. The Battle of Williamsburg was a rear-guard action that delayed the advancing Federals led by Joseph Hooker and Philip Kearney, under Maj. Gen. McClellan, in Peninsula Campaign. The rear-guard action was orchestrated by Maj. Gens. James Longstreet and Daniel H. Hill, CSA, resulting in Williamsburg being occupied by the Union forces, as the *Chocura*, *Sebago*, and the *USS Wachusett* sailed up the York River, mostly unopposed, toward West Point.

Maj. Robert Morris, USA, 6th PA Cav conducted a reconnaissance to Mulberry Point, James River.

Norfolk was evacuated by the Confederate forces, ceding an important naval base to the Federals. Norfolk and Portsmouth were occupied by the Union forces under Maj. Gen. John E. Wool, USA, while President Abraham Lincoln personally observed the undertaking.

With the loss of Norfolk the Confederates destroyed their ironclad, the *CSS Merrimac*, in the James River as she no longer had a port to call home and was forced to move up the James River into water too shallow.

Skirmishing took place at Slatersville, or New Kent Court-House and on Bowling Green Road, near Fredericksburg and at Baltimore Cross-Roads, near the New Kent Court-House. Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan advanced his army toward Richmond with an affair on the Rappahannock River with Brig. Gen. Bayard, USA, skirmishing at Gaines' Cross-Roads and being engaged at Fort Darling, James River, near Drewry's Bluffs, about 8 miles south of Richmond where Confederate defenders repulsed the following Union ironclads: *Aroostook*, *Galena*, *Maratanza*, *Monitor*, and the *Port Royal*, under Commander William Smith, USN, who is aboard the steamer *USS Wachusett*.

Skirmishing at Gaines' Cross-Roads, (Rappahannock County) resulted in a withdrawal of Confederate forces to within 3 miles of the capital, Richmond. A skirmish at Linden was a Confederate guerrilla attack on Brig. Gen. Jonathan Geary, USA.

The Federals went up the Pamunkey River aboard the tug boat, *Seth Lowe* and Maj. Gen. Irvin McDowell, USA, at Fredericksburg was ordered to form a junction with the Army of the Potomac and move upon Richmond in co-operation with Maj. Gen. McClellan.

Brig. Gen. William High Keim, USA, died at Hanisburg, PA, from camp fever (dysentery) developed during the Peninsula Campaign.

A Federal reconnaissance toward Old Church and Cold Harbor resulted in Capt. William H. Willis, CSA, 4th GA Infantry, attacking a Union landing party.

There was skirmish at Gaines' Mill and operations about Bottom's Bridge, Chickahominy River under Brig. Gen. Erasmus D. Keyes, USA, commanding the 4th US Army Corps, the Army of the Potomac.

### **West Virginia;**

There was a skirmish on Camp Creek, in the Stone River Valley and on the Lewisburg road, with Brig. Gen. Jacob D. Cox, USA and a skirmish at Clark's Holloq.

Skirmishing was reported at Franklin, Princeton, at Camp McDonald and Arnoldsburg and near Wardensville with Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont, USA, searching for guerrillas who murdered a party of officers, zouaves, and convalescent soldiers on their way from Winchester to Moorefield.

A skirmish near McDowell was reported as Maj. Gen. Stonewall Jackson, CSA, pursued the retreating Federals toward Franklin. It resulted in skirmishes near Franklin as Brig. Gen. Robert C. Schenck, USA, sent a party to kill bushwhackers who beat one of his men to death.

There was action at Giles Court-House with Brig. Gen. Henry Heth, CSA and skirmishing at Princeton and Lewisburg with action at and in the vicinity of Princeton, and Ravenswood with Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont. There was action at Wolf Creek resulting in Brig. Gen. Humphrey Marshall, CSA, under Brig. Gen. Henry Heth, CSA, being routed; Heth fell back to Jackson's River Depot.

### **Navy Operations;**

The infamous ironclad, *CSS Alabama*, is launched from its' berth at Liverpool, England.

There was a US Naval demonstration upon Sewell's Point, off Hampton, VA.

*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 Civil War Tutorial; Part IV: Reality Sets In; The Military Situation in 1862 by Ed Kennedy**

1862, unlike 1861, started-off with a 'bang' and a massive military effort on all fronts. 1861 was largely a time of organization and training for both the Confederates and the Federals. By 1862, both sides determined that even though they were formed, organized and somewhat trained, there remained a deficit in all those aspects as the size of the armies continued to grow. Both sides depended heavily on volunteers...almost all of them completely inexperienced and untrained in military affairs. On 16 April 1862, the Confederates instituted the first American draft to try and fill the depleted ranks emptied by the 1-year volunteers. Short enlistment periods for the initial volunteers demonstrated the belief on both sides that the war would be

short. The Union Army continued to enlist only volunteers...at least until 1863 when they also instituted a draft to fill the depleted ranks.

The strategic situation for the Confederacy was relatively straight-forward. They wanted to separate from the United States and form their own country. When Lincoln called for 75,000 soldiers to invade the Southern states and force them back into the Union, four more states immediately separated (Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas), not specifically because of the issue of slavery but because they believed that the Constitution had been violated by the North using military force to force a political solution. In the North, the populace took Lincoln's claim in his letter to the New York Tribune editor, Horace Greeley that "...paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery." Restoration of the "union" was the major factor for recruiting in the north and the hundreds of recruiting posters enticed young men to join for that specific reason. They did not mention slavery. The name of the U.S. Army became the "Union Army" because of this. The Confederates did not wish to be forced back into the "Union" and were forced to conduct a strategic defense to prevent "reunion" by military force.

The Union military forces had a formidable task. The only way they could restore "Union" was to invade the South and force it to submit. Strategically, they would have to go on the offense. Immense resources would be needed, including an army of way-more than the initial 75,000 volunteers. Additionally, the control of the coastline of the South was a significant issue as it extended over 3,000 miles providing numerous inlets and harbors for ships necessary for Southern trade and increasing the Union Navy's problems for interdiction. The incredibly small U.S. Navy had to grow quickly, and, had to develop a parallel force to fight on the nation's hugely valuable interior waterways...the "Brown Water Navy". They were able to do this by quickly obtaining re-purposing commercial civilian water craft and then instituting a tremendous ship-building program. By 1862, the naval blockade began to take a toll on the Southern ability to obtain much needed war materiel and supplies.

With the close of 1861 indicating that the war was going to be a long one, the Union forces would have to conduct offensives on a broad front. The army was divided largely along geographic lines to handle the huge expanse of territories that required armies to operate independently of each other. This decentralization of effort was somewhat controlled from the War Department and the "General-In-Chief". Frequently, the president himself led in a manner that gave centralized control. This imperfect system was used for the first time in American military history and had no precedent. The advent of the new telegraph gave impetus to the system allowing high level direction, interference and micromanagement to the distress of some field commanders. However, the over-arching Union "Anaconda" strategy was understood by field commanders even if they could not work directly in concert with one another to execute it.

The "Anaconda Plan" of dividing the Confederacy meant attacking the South on multiple and widely separated fronts. In the center of the country, Grant was given relatively free hand to attack Tennessee through Forts Henry and Donelson, recognizing the importance of the interior river system. In Virginia, the predilection with the attack to capture the capitol of Richmond (a Napoleonic concept which many senior officers had been exposed to in their schooling) led to MajGen George McClellan's

Peninsula Campaign. Grant's campaign in February subsequently led to the capture of the first Confederate state's capitol at Nashville, Tennessee. McClellan began his Peninsula Campaign at the same general time, thus causing the Confederates to fight on a broad number of fronts, stretching their resources more thinly.

On the water, the Union Navy bottled-up the Confederates who turned to using "raiders" to fight away from the coastline, largely on the high seas. In March 1862, naval warfare took a significant turn as both sides debuted their ironclad ships. Their battle at Hampton Roads between the CSS Virginia (formerly the "Merrimac") and the USS Monitor signaled a widespread building effort of ironclad ships, mostly to be used on the interior waterways. Although the CSS Virginia sank and damaged several wooden ships, its fight with the USS Monitor ended in a 'draw' with both ships damaged but neither sunk. These naval actions were not directly connected to, nor coordinated with, land operations.

With the fall of Forts Henry and Donelson and the capture of Nashville, General Grant was emboldened to strike southward into the heart of the Confederacy in the west. In March, he intended to move into Mississippi. By using the Tennessee River, he would move large numbers of troops supported logistically on the river system. He chose a location where the Tennessee flows north-south and turns east-ward to act as a "base" from which to supply his army. His intended base would be on the north side of the Tennessee River to protect his army from a sudden move by the Confederates. However, his subordinates found that a location near Shiloh at Pittsburgh landing might prove advantageous and encamped there. Recognizing the threat to the city of Corinth in north Mississippi, General Albert S. Johnston moved his army northward to meet the threat. Surprised by Johnston's army on 6 April, Grant barely staved-off defeat and only the arrival of three divisions of the Army of the Ohio under MajGen Don Carlos Buell insured victory on 7 April. This allowed for the march on, and capture of Corinth, thus threatening the Southern lines of communications and posing Grant for a further drive south.

In the Eastern Theater, "On To Richmond" became the battle cry for the Army of the Potomac. MajGen George McClellan intended to shorten the approach to Richmond by driving up the most direct peninsula leading to the capitol from the coast. Using the command of the sea lines of communications (SLOCs), he brought his forces south through the Chesapeake Bay, landed on the Virginia coast developing extensive logistic bases. Using the interior rivers of Virginia as avenues of approach to supplement the land approaches, McClellan endeavored to move towards Richmond. President Lincoln began to doubt McClellan's concepts due to McClellan's glacially slow movements.

From the March through July a number of engagements and battles occurred, eventually halting the Union forces' drive up the peninsula (covered in detail by Emil Posey's excellent LRT presentation on the Peninsula Campaign). Familiar names from the American Revolution became new battle site names again in 1862. Confederate Brig Gen John Magruder skillfully sited the "Warwick Line" which broke the early momentum of McClellan's advance, making McClellan's movements even slower. The result was McClellan's leadership shortcoming of deliberate and slow movement manifested in his extensive preparations while the Confederates conducted a withdrawal. McClellan was cautiously moving at a much slower pace than originally envisioned with the result that the Confederates had a chance to get "inside his

decision cycle” and react. At Williamsburg, a major battle unfolded and success was achieved tactically by Union forces but the Confederates were able to trade space for time and shorten their logistical line while the Union forces lengthened theirs.

The Union Navy had difficulty navigating Virginia’s interior waterways with large ships designed for open seas. Attempting to move up the York River to conduct amphibious landings, Union forces endeavored to block the withdrawal of General Johnston’s forces by double envelopments. Moving up the rivers parallel to the Confederates’ withdrawals, Union forces planned to land between the withdrawing Confederates and Richmond. The battle of the ironclads in March threw the Union Navy into a panic as they understood the threat to their wooden fleet, hence its impact on coastal naval operations. Their fear was briefly assuaged by the Monitor’s performance but they needed more ironclads like the Monitor for river operations.

In March, further to the west, Maj Gen T.J. Jackson began his “Valley Campaign” culminating in tactical and operational victories and saving the Shenandoah Valley for the Confederacy. He was then able to transfer his troops to join General Lee outside of Richmond for the Seven Days battles while forcing Union troops to remain “fixed” in Western Virginia.

In the deep South, Admiral Farragut’s Gulf Blockading Squadron captured New Orleans in April and began working their way up the Mississippi River having much more success than his naval counter-parts in Virginia. Flag Officer Charles H. Davis moved with his squadron from Memphis and linked-up at Vicksburg with Farragut. During May through August, unsuccessful attempts were made to neutralize Vicksburg and force its surrender. The Union Navy returned to Memphis and New Orleans leaving Vicksburg until Grant’s return in late December.

In Virginia the amphibious landing at Eltham’s Landing on the York and at Drewry’s Bluff on the James, the Union Navy attained its operational reach but could not go further. Confederate batteries on the rivers combined with the narrowing river widths terminated naval involvement and ground troops would have to be used to continue the advance. By the first of May, dual parallel attacks up the York and James Rivers posed a significant chance of success of reaching Richmond without fighting up the peninsula. General Joe Johnston’s plan to move his forces more quickly in their withdrawal than the Union forces could react was continued by General R.E. Lee when he replaced Johnston who was wounded 31 May during the Battle of Fair Oaks (Seven Pines). The Confederates began to consolidate on the outer defenses of Richmond under Lee’s command. Despite tough fighting enroute, McClellan’s army actually reached the outskirts of Richmond, a significant accomplishment.

To this time, the Union combined naval and land forces had conducted a skillful operational level of maneuver that posed them to threaten the Confederate capitol. While General Johnston’s forte was the defense, General Robert E. Lee’s modus operandi was the offense. When Lee took command, the Confederates were pushed onto the offense. The result was by late June, during the Seven Days Battles Lee halted and forced McClellan’s forces to a stand-still. McClellan then withdrew his forces back down the peninsula. Richmond was temporarily saved and both armies remained viable.

While it was not the political objective of the South to seize or control Union territory, General Lee recognized that victory was unobtainable by just defending and not losing.

The Confederate government wanted the war to end favorably with Union forces out of the areas they had invaded in the South. With Union forces occupying Kentucky and central Tennessee, much manpower and agricultural assets were denied to the Confederates. The Union forces were able to control the major logistical hubs such as Nashville and Memphis, thus making supply replenishment for the Confederates much more difficult. By late spring, Union forces occupied northern Alabama on the Tennessee River, causing major problems for the Confederates in both manpower and resource losses. Interdiction of Confederate traffic on the Tennessee River and the rail lines from Memphis to Chattanooga occurred. Northern Alabama and southern Tennessee erupted into irregular warfare and in April 1862, the Confederate government instituted the Partisan Ranger Act. This sanctioned irregular units (mostly cavalry) to gain commissions with the purpose of fighting irregular warfare in Union occupied areas.

In August, General Bragg struck-out from Chattanooga to move into Kentucky and drive the Union forces out by threatening their lines of communications and drawing Union forces from west Tennessee to the north. President Jefferson Davis hoped that General Lee's invasion of Maryland would profit from Union forces being fixed in Kentucky rather than redeploying eastward to assist the Army of the Potomac, thus allowing Lee better odds of success. On 17 September, General Lee and McClellan fought one of the bloodiest battles in the war at Sharpsburg (Antietam). The end result was the Union forces displacement from the Peninsula, concentration of the Army of the Potomac into Maryland to thwart the offensive (thus away from the Peninsula), Lee's withdrawal back to Virginia, and the relief of McClellan by President Lincoln for his failure to pursue the Confederates at the end of September.

While the whites were battling each other in their conflict, the Indian tribes, due to a number of reasons, took advantage of the war to rise-up as army units were sent east. In Minnesota, the 1862 uprising was by the Sioux tribes and threatened the Union's ability to prosecute the war elsewhere as it was serious enough to cause concern that other tribes would sympathetically join the uprising. It was quickly quelled but it was a serious enough threat to cause concern in Washington which still had to allocate troops to guard the frontier.

While unable to work well in concert with General Kirby Smith due to a badly formulated command structure, Bragg gained a marginal tactical victory at Perryville on 8 October but an operational-level defeat. Unwilling to follow-up at Perryville, Bragg withdrew out of Kentucky, leaving it to the Union forces. The Confederates got no more than 10% of planned recruits but did obtain a huge amount of supplies. The end result was that the "Heartland Offensive" was an operational-level failure. Lincoln removed MajGen Buell from command for his lack of aggressiveness in pursuing Bragg and replaced him with MajGen Rosecrans.

At the strategic-level, as the winter of 1862 approached, the Confederates were forced back onto the defensive as the Union military continued to build its strength and resources. Forced to defend a perimeter which Union forces could attack at a number of points, the issue of where to conduct an "economy of force" and where to concentrate its limited forces became a huge issue for the Confederate commanders. Confederates (defenders) could not defend everywhere and the initiative lay with the Union (offensive) forces. The use of railroads became significantly more important in moving troops and

supplies. The Union “broke the code” by centralizing rail operations assisted by the standardization in the north of rail lines while the Confederates’ “state’s rights” help preclude centralized control and standardization. One of the issues in secession was the individual states’ belief that they should control, rather than a centralized, Federal government, their own individual states’ commerce and standards which led to the private rail companies laying multiple gauges of rail to the detriment of efficiency.

In November, MajGen Ambrose Burnside, McClellan’s replacement, moved to cross the Rappahannock and advance on Richmond from Fredericksburg, Virginia in an attempt to satisfy President Lincoln’s desire to conduct offensives. In a series of poorly coordinated staff actions, lack of horses necessary to move pontoon bridges, and lack of motivation, Burnside moved so slowly as to telegraph his intentions thereby allowing the Confederates to occupy the key terrain of Marye’s Heights overlooking the crossing sites on the Rappahannock. In a bizarre action, Burnside conducted a series of frontal attacks from a river line and in four days suffered massive losses. Fredericksburg was not the last major action of the year but it was a huge loss for the Union forces who withdrew.

On the Mississippi, MajGen Sherman landed at Chickasaw Bayou on the Yazoo River approaches north of Vicksburg. Attacking in foul weather after Christmas his troops fought the weather and terrain. Sherman’s troops, advancing across swampland, in the open, were engaged by defending Confederates entrenched at the base of the Walnut Hills. Unable to gain the higher ground to bypass the Confederates, Sherman was defeated. His troops re-boarded the transports and steamed down the Yazoo, then back up the Mississippi to their camps. It was a terrible ending to a bad year but it still was not over.

The last week of December found MajGen William Rosecrans defending his base of operations at Murfreesboro in central Tennessee. Attacked by Bragg’s Army of Tennessee, Rosecrans came close to a defeat but the Confederates, despite their élan, did not break the Union lines. Rosecrans consolidated his positions and thwarted repeated attacks that caused Bragg to break-off contact in defeat and withdraw to Tullahoma.

The military actions of 1862 were incredibly wide-spread geographically, reaching from New Mexico to Maryland, and from Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico on land, and from the Gulf of Mexico to the North Atlantic on sea. Military operational tempo increased significantly as the Union forces tried to achieve a major victory. Neither side, without a modern planning staff and doctrine, could efficiently and effectively coordinate and, more importantly, synchronize the efforts of the different theaters yet. Both sides learned much in 1862 through their experiences and one thing was for certain, far from being a short conflict, the war was dragging-on to a massively bloody affair that had no foreseeable end in sight. Both armies were becoming more professional and capable but the complexion of the war was about to change significantly due to the politics.

## **Huntsville Afloat,** *By Marjorie Ann Reeves*

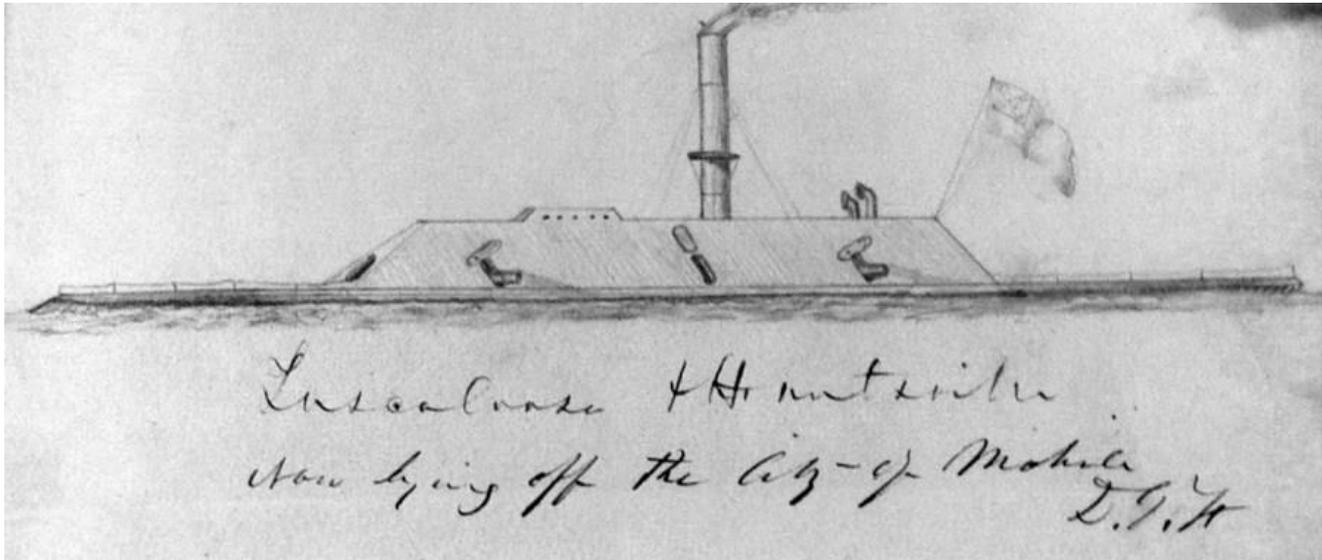
The Confederate States Ship (CSS) *Huntsville*, a partially armored (ironclad) ram, was launched on February 7, 1863, in Selma, Alabama. Its purpose was to serve as a floating battery in Mobile Bay to defend the Port City and provide gunnery support during Union attacks. The flatbottom, ironclad vessel is an example of many inventions the Confederacy contributed to the future. During the ship's presentation ceremony, a Confederate Jack made of crimson silk with the azure saltire and silver stars of the Confederacy was given by Miss Todd, of Selma, Alabama, and hoisted above the ship. The ladies of Huntsville, Alabama, presented an eighteen-foot by twelve-foot flag for the Ram *Huntsville* to Captain Julian Myers in June of 1863.

The large flag from the ladies of Huntsville was made of material with extra strong bunting and trimmed with silk. The needle work lettering was yellow and orange silk spelling out, "*In God we have put our trust.*" It was bordered with silver fringe and the stars on the St. Andrews' cross were sewn in silver. A committee of ladies in Huntsville appointed Miss Watkins and Miss Mastin to supervise the making of the flag. The flag was made by Miss Rachael C. Semon of Richmond, Virginia at a cost of \$1,400. When presenting the flag to Captain Myers, Captain John J. Ward, Alabama Light Artillery stated, "*This flag, Sir, is tendered you by a band of brave, noble, and self-sacrificing women who have long since sent their loved ones to the field to do battle for their country, and to meet and drive back from our soil the ruffian hordes that have been so mercilessly hurled upon us by our cruel foes of the North. It comes from the daring and determined spirits of whom the cowardly tyrant Mitchel (Union Maj. Gen. first occupied Huntsville.) spoke, when he said: 'I may conquer the men, I have almost succeeded in bringing them back to their original loyalty: but I have not been able to subdue the rebel spirit of the women of Huntsville...'*"

Captain Julian Myers joined the US Navy at the age of 13 and became a midshipman the next year. As a young man he traveled all over the world and was promoted twice becoming a Lieutenant before he declared himself for the South. He was dismissed from the United States Naval service, arrested, and held at Fort Warren prison in Boston, Massachusetts, for a year. Upon his release from prison he joined the Confederate States Navy and took part in the completion and outfitting of the CSS *Huntsville*.

The CSS *Huntsville* was built in Selma's Ordnance and Naval Foundry requisitioned by the Confederate Navy in 1862 costing \$100,000. The *Tuscaloosa* and *Huntsville* were twin screw ironclads labeled "Gunboat No. 1". Their schematics are similar to the bottom-based western river steamboat style. The *Huntsville* was a steam-powered, propeller-driven vessel 150 feet long and 32 feet wide sitting seven feet in the water. It was towed down the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers to Mobile Bay during high water without an engine. In Mobile, it was fitted with a salvaged engine from an old riverboat that provided a speed of three knots. It received a Brooke 6.4-inch rifle and four 32-pounders. The CSS *Huntsville* carried 17 officers and 87 crew members under command of Captain Myers. There was so little room on the ship that permission was often given to the crew to sleep ashore. Not being seaworthy, the CSS *Huntsville*, along with the *Nashville*, the *Morgan*, and the *Tuscaloosa* were kept along the shore to guard the waters around Mobile. With these gunboats and land forts, Mobile Bay was one of

the best defended of all the southern ports and a center of blockade running between Cuba and Caribbean ports. Mobile Bay, spanning 413 square miles with two narrow Gulf ship channels had been blocked with torpedoes and the small flotilla to protect the bay.



**Sketch of CSS Tuscaloosa and the CSS Huntsville, 1864, NARA**

The Battle of Mobile Bay started on August 5, 1864, when Fort Morgan fired on Farragut's advancing fleet. Admiral Farragut, a Tennessean, being a midshipman since the age of nine, stormed past Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines into the bay to engage the Confederate Fleet. Farragut, on the *USS Hartford*, had 18 ships including gunboats, sloops, and ironclad Monitors, whereas Confederate Admiral Buchanan had three gunboats along with his large, fully armored ironclad ram, *CSS Tennessee*, guarding Mobile Bay plus two forts. Farragut's fleet advanced through the mines even as the *USS Tecumseh* ran into one and sank. Shelling between the two naval fleets started in the morning with the Federals quickly neutralizing the guarding Confederate ships and took over the bay. The *CSS Tennessee* fought against overwhelming odds until its damage ended its efforts and Admiral Buchanan was wounded.

Captain Bennett, commander of the *Nashville*, stated, "The execution of our Confederate vessels *Nashville*, *Huntsville*, *Tuscaloosa*, and *Morgan* raking *Hawkin's* Division during the assaults upon *Fort Blakely* was excellent and it was not till reinforcements of artillery from *Spanish Fort* reached the scene that our gunboats were compelled to withdraw." When *Spanish Fort* and *Fort Blakely* fell, the *Huntsville* and *Tuscaloosa* were scuttled in the *Spanish River* close to *Blakeley Island* on April 12, 1865. The hulls are known to be sitting on the bottom.

The Confederacy pioneered several naval technologies that were standard in following wars such as armored warships, submarines, torpedo boats, mines, and shallow drafted gunboats.

*"I am satisfied that, with the means at our control, and in view of the overwhelming force of the enemy at the outset of the struggle, our little navy accomplished so much. Our navy alone kept that of the U.S. from reaching Richmond by the James River, and from reaching Savannah and Charleston; and yet not ten men in ten thousand of the country know or appreciate these facts."* Confederate Navy Secretary, Stephen R. Mallory, 1867

## References:

- Mobile Bay Magazine, The Shipwrecks of Mobile Bay, by John Sledge, July 14, 2017 <https://mobilebaymag.com/the-shipwrecks-of-mobile-bay/>
- Huntsville History Collection, Ships Named Huntsville by Dex Nilsson, Summer-Fall 2007 [https://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/hhpics/pd/hhr/Volume\\_32\\_2\\_Summer-Fall-07.pdf](https://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/hhpics/pd/hhr/Volume_32_2_Summer-Fall-07.pdf)
- Smith, Jr, Myron J., *Ironclad Captains*, Myers, Julian Sr, (1825-1899) McFarland & Company, Inc. Publishers, Jefferson, NC © 2018
- The Civil War Flags Message Board, Details of the Ram, CSS Huntsville Flag [http://www.history-sites.com/cgi-bin/bbs62x/cwflags/webbbs\\_config.pl?md=read;id=5981](http://www.history-sites.com/cgi-bin/bbs62x/cwflags/webbbs_config.pl?md=read;id=5981)  
[http://www.history-sites.com/cgi-bin/bbs62x/cwflags/webbbs\\_config.pl?md=read;id=5982](http://www.history-sites.com/cgi-bin/bbs62x/cwflags/webbbs_config.pl?md=read;id=5982)
- Civil War Talk, Lt Julian Myers of CSS Huntsville <https://civilwartalk.com/threads/lt-julian-myers-of-css-huntsville.96050/>
- CSS Huntsville By Robert Kane, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-3709>
- History.com Editors, Battle of Mobile Bay, August 21, 2018 <https://www.history.com/topics/american-civil-war/battle-of-mobile-bay>
- Campbell, Peter B., *The Development of Confederate Ship Construction: An Archaeological and Historical Investigation of Confederate Ironclads Neuse and Jackson*, © 2009  
<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/71973709.pdf>
- Confederate Veteran, Waterman, George S., *Afloat – A Field – Afloat*, Vol. VII, No. 11
- Kent Wright, Naval Historian and presenter of Naval programs at Civil War Round Tables
- Edwin Kennedy, JR Lieutenant Colonel (retired), US Army, Military Historian

## TVCWRT Little Round Table (LRT) Discussion and Schedule;

We threw out a lot of details about the Vicksburg siege last night but will not be putting it into a general context until June. So here is a quick wrap-up while last night's discussion is still fresh in everyone's mind.

It was clear to Grant early on that he could take the city with his superior forces if he was willing to pay a price. His attacks on May 18th and 22nd were testing actions to see if under a little pressure the defense would collapse like a house of cards. On the 18th because Pemberton was not yet fully dug in, on the 22nd to see if roughly simultaneous attacks across a broad front would stretch the defense and open up some not so obvious opportunity.

After that it was just a matter of keeping his forces busy until the garrison was starved out while using the opportunity to bring in and create firing platforms for enough assault guns to ensure success should it become desirable to force the issue.

A final test came June 25th when the mine was detonated at the 3 LA Redan creating a crater 30 feet wide and 12 feet deep in place of the tip of the salient angle of the redan. The Confederates lost most of the redan but their secondary line of rifle pits held. Grant's assault guns then reduced the parapet of the defense lines on either

side of the redan. That confirmed to Grant and Major Lockett (Pemberton's engineer who reported it to Pemberton) that the next Union assault with artillery preparation would be irresistible because there would be no fortifications left in which to take shelter. But by that point the siege was so close to the end that another assault was unnecessary. LRT lead, JR. Ewing

**Next UP: May 27, 2021 – US Cavalry at Brandy Station; Led by Jeff Ewing**

### **LRT 2021 Schedule**

**June 24, 2021-** Vicksburg Campaign 8- Port Hudson

**July 22, 2021-** Trading with the Enemy; Led by Jeff Ewing

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

**Sept 23, 2021-** Western Theater July-Dec 1863; **Led by TBD**

**October 28 2021 –** Vicksburg-Gettysburg – A Comparison; Led by Jeff Ewing

**December 9, 2021 -** How Developments in Missouri Shaped the War; Led by Fred Forst

**The Vicksburg Assessment:** The US Army Center of Military History lists Vicksburg as the 14<sup>th</sup> Campaign (29 March - 4 July 1863) of the War Between the States. The Center also lists operations against Vicksburg in December of 1862 through January 1863 as separate from the Campaign but as we have learned, Vicksburg became the focus of both Presidents Davis and Lincoln nearly as soon as the so-called Anaconda Plan was published in 1861. The Little Round Table over the last year addressed Vicksburg in the context of the entire period.

Our analysis has addressed every aspect of Vicksburg including civil/military relationships, leader personalities, national policy, strategy, operations, tactics, engineering, joint military operations, moral conduct and more.

What is your take-away from our study of Vicksburg? Be prepared to address it on June 24. This has been a significant learning experience. I propose to take our collective perspectives and prepare a special edition assessment, distributed similarly to the Newsletter and posted on the web site. I expect we will have alternative views our members, and other Round Tables would enjoy as well as those in Europe and Australia.

**It was a special night:** Thank You! Kellee Green Blake for presenting a stimulating presentation regarding the Eastern Shore of Virginia. And, we appreciate your support to our Round Table.



Ed Kennedy presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Kellee Blake for her stimulating presentation.



Ed Kennedy presenting a knife to Kellee Blake for her support to the Round Table.



Kellee Blake remarking that she has cups, plaques, and certificates recognizing her for her presentations over the years but this is her first knife.



Ed Kennedy presenting a tote bag from donated by General Wheelers home to Kellee Blake for her presentation.



Art Helms, Program director, presents Kellee Blake a hand painted Civil War soldier from his collection with our gratitude for her presentation.

## 2021 Member Honor Roll

### PATRONS

- **Emil Posey**

### SUSTAINING MEMBERS

- **Curtis Adams**
- **Terry Clevenger**
- **Greg Cousins**
- **Jonathan Creekmore**
- **Henry Gatzke**
- **Art Helms**

### OFFICERS (Elected)

- *Ed Kennedy, President*
- *(vacant), Vice President (We need help)*
- *Secretary (Robert Hennessee pending membership approval)*
- *Sallyanne Cos, Treasurer*

### BOARD MEMBERS (Appointed)

- *Michael Acosta, Technology Officer*
- *Art Helms, Programs Officer/ Sergeant at Arms*

### Life Member

- **Carol Codori**

### SUPPORTING

- **Rick Jaramillo**
- **Polly Padden**
- **Kevin Rodriguez**
- **Alan & Diana Ruzicka**
- **John Scales**

### The TVCWRT Management Team

- *Robert Hennessee, Preservation Officer*
- *Ed Kennedy, Communications Officer (We need help)*
- *Arley McCormick, Newsletter Editor*
- *Kevin Rodriguez, Membership Officer*

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS (Appointed)

- *Jeffry Ewing, Little Round Table Coordinator*
- **(Vacant) Greeter Coordinator, (We need help)**

- *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*
- *John Mason, Former President*

- *Kent Wright, Former Programs Officer*

**STAGE CREW**

- *Michael Acosta, Lead*
- *Ed Kennedy, Master Screen operator*
- *First Master of the Sound System (**We need help**)*
- *Lin Turner, Second Master of the Sound System*
- *Master Projectionist (**We need help**)*