

**Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table**  
*P.O. Box 2872 Huntsville, Alabama 35804*  
**November 2024 Newsletter/Journal**  
**To Inform and Educate**



The Round Table meets at the Elks Lodge;  
725 Franklin St @ 6:30pm the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
of each month except December. The Lodge  
is smoke free as of 11 June 2024.

**Announcements;**

**2. Thursday November 14: Kent Wright presents “Instant Navies and Foreign Diplomacy”.**

**Civil War on the Table**

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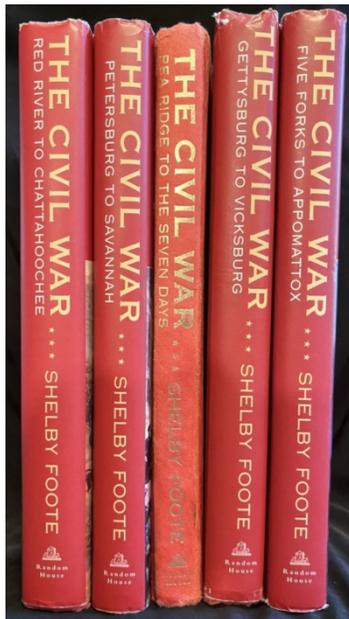
**Kent Wright our  
Navy guy**

**Announcement: Thursday, November 14:** Kent Wright is currently enjoying his 31<sup>st</sup> year as a member of the Round Table and served as Programs Director for many of those years. His focus tonight is the Civil War Navies. His presentation is titled, **Instant Navies and Foreign Diplomacy**. He will describe the razor-thin line between war and peace with Europeans as Lincoln struggled to keep the war strictly an American war. In this program, Kent will talk of the “instant navies” that sprang up virtually overnight. He will also reveal which naval programs were most instrumental in raising the war from merely an internal conflict to an international crisis that impacted every Western maritime nation, as well as the permanent influence upon wars which is still with us today.

Kent Wright is a veteran of the nuclear navy (1966-1972) and a mechanical engineering graduate of Iowa State University (1978). He has been a member of the TVCWRT since 1993, having joined when the Round Table was founded. He took on the position of Programs Officer and Field Trip Coordinator from 2007-2017. A Nebraskan with a life-long non-partisan interest in America’s war, he combines his love of history with naval technology to focus on broader naval topics. He has, through years of research, uncovered many significant facts which have been largely ignored by Civil War historians. Along the way, Kent has authored several narratives and spoken to the Round Table and other interest groups on Civil War naval topics. He has compiled a book-length manuscript covering Civil War naval history which includes the influence of Great Britain.

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## **The Civil War on the Table**



### **The Civil War**

**\*\*\* A Narrative\*\*\***

By Shelby Foote 1963

This narrative is a most passionate illustration of the soldiers and others in the field lost to the statistics and logic that dominated the War of The Rebellion.

Critics Corner in the magazine Civil War news Vol.50, No, 8 /Nov-Dec. 2024; The Steven Davis editorial describes Shelby Foote’s series as literary classics. These volumes are available now on the book table.

- ✓ Red River to Chattahoochee
- ✓ Petersburg to Savanna
- ✓ Pea Ridge to the Seven Days
- ✓ Gettysburg to Vicksburg
- ✓ Five Forks to Appomattox

**Check them out on the Book Table!**

Thanks to Kellee Blake for her introduction to the history of Hazard Stevens upon her return engagement.



Bill Goss is presenting Kelly a miniature of Captain Hazard Stevens; another Art Helms product.

In addition to Tortora's, we welcome our new joining sponsors:  
City Café Diner and Texas Roadhouse

**Blue & Gray Education Society (BGES):** Check out what is going on in the BGES; [Blue and Gray Education Society – America's Premier Civil War Education Organization](#)



**The Civil War Round Table Congress (CWRT):** offers a speaker online each month. Check out their website for the authors, speakers, topics you would like to learn about. [Check out the free lectures and education opportunities scheduled for this month.](#)



We have expanded our Social Media formats; check these out! <https://gab.com/groups/22961>



<https://www.facebook.com/tvcwrt> Share the TVCWRT Facebook notifications with your friends.

### Board Reports;

**Technology Officer, Michael Acosta:** Live streaming of our Round Table sessions to members via internet is offered through Discord at no charge. Be aware streaming can be limited because of the facility WIFI limitation. All dues-paying members that are interested should email our Tech/Website rep, Michael Acosta at [michaelacosta1836@gmail.com](mailto:michaelacosta1836@gmail.com). He will send instructions on how to set up an account on Discord and get rolling. **The RT needs a backup Discord manager.**

**Membership Chair, Kevin Rodriguez:** There were no renewals or new members in September. We did add 10 complimentary memberships given to those who signed up for the field trip. We currently have 94 paid memberships, 2 lifetime members, 11 complimentary members (including Elk's Lodge President) and 38 spouses/significant others for a total of 145 members.

**Programs Chair,** Art Helms: The 2025 calendar is almost full. It's another stellar year for the Round Table.

- ✓ November 14: Kent Wright, "Instant Navies and Foreign Diplomacy"
- ✓ **No meeting in December.**

### **2025 Presentation Schedule**

- ✓ January 9, Jonathan Harbuck: "Civil War Battlefields and Artist Preservation Group"
- ✓ February 13, Curt Fields: General Grant, "From the Wilderness to Petersburg"
- ✓ March 13, Trivia Night!
- ✓ April 10, Steve Demory: "Who was Charles Dana?"
- ✓ May 8, Aaron Aster: "The 1860 Election"
- ✓ June 12, Rich Walker: "Stones River – from the battlefield to a computer game"
- ✓ July 10, TBD
- ✓ August 14, Paul Brueske: "Digging All Day and Fighting All Day"
- ✓ September 11, Thomas Jesse: "R.E. Lee and his Family before the War"
- ✓ October 9, Cathy Knowles: "Huntsville During the Civil War"
- ✓ November 13, Marjorie Reeves: "The Federal Invasion of Alabama"

### **Little Round Table**

- Next UP: December 12, 2024, "Chambersburg, PA, What It's Like To Be On An Invasion Route," Led by Jeff Ewing

### **LRT Programs for 2024-2025, begin 6:30pm at the Elks Lodge: (Subject to change)**

- January 23, 2025, Civil War Heavy Artillery Barrels, Led by Clive Hollick
- February 27, 2025, Jefferson Davis Goes West – Again? Led by Jeff Ewing
- March 27, 2025, Battle of Chattanooga – Part I
- April 24, 2025, Battle of Chattanooga – Part II, Led by t/b/d
- May 22, 2025, The Legacy of the American Civil War, led by Emil Posey
- June 26, 2025, Yeah – That's Like Your Opinion Man, Led by Quora Digest
- July 24, 2025, The Civil War Stories of Ambrose Bierce, Led by TBD
- August 28, 2025, Andrew Johnson – Vice President, led by TBD
- September 25, 2025, The Impeachers, led by TBD
- October 23, 2025, Emily Dickinson's Unlikely Civil War Preceptor, Led by Jeff Ewing
- November no scheduled meeting
- December 11, 2025, The Election of 1864 – The First Stirrings of Equality, Led by TBD

*Recommendations for topics to Jeffery Ewing, Jr., [fusionewing@gmail.com](mailto:fusionewing@gmail.com)*

## Member Honor Roll

### Life Members

**Carol Codori**  
**Ed Kennedy**

### Patron

**Emil Posey**  
**William Goss**

### Sustaining Member

**Kent & Elizabeth Wright**

### Supporting Members

**Daryl Carpenter**  
**Terry Clevenger**

### **The TVCWRT Management Team**

#### **OFFICERS (Elected)**

- *William Goss, President*
- *Interim Vice President, Cheryl McAuley*
- *Robert Hennessee, Secretary*
- *Sallyanne Cos, Treasurer*

#### **BOARD MEMBERS (Appointed)**

- *Michael Acosta, Technology Officer*
- *Art Helms, Programs Officer*
- *Preservation Officer, Alan Ruzicka*
- *Communications Officer, Robert Hennessee*
- *Arley McCormick, Newsletter Editor*
- *Kevin Rodriguez, Membership Officer*

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS (Appointed)**

- *Jeffry Ewing, Little Round Table Coordinator*
- *Jason Bruening, Facebook Coordinator*
- *Marjorie Reeves, Reception Coordinator*
- *John Scales, Field Trip Coordinator (Former President)*
- *Emil Posey, Elks Liaison*

#### **GRAY BEARDS**

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

#### **STAGE CREW**

- *The team of Acosta and Bruening, Masters of the Sound System*

**Greg and Steph Cousins**  
**Rick Dreisbach**  
**Harry Gatzke**  
**Art & Robin Helms**  
**Robert Hennessee**  
**Rick Jaramillo**  
**John & Cheryl McAuley**  
**Larry & Connie Parke**  
**Kevin & Judy Rodriguez**  
**Alan & Diana Ruzicka**  
**John Scales**