



CINCINNATI  
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
SERVING OHIO, KENTUCKY AND INDIANA SINCE 1956



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# THE CANISTER

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Monthly Newsletter of the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table

Cincinnati CWRT P. O. Box 621082 Cincinnati, Ohio 45262 <http://www.cincinnati-cwrt.org>  
October, 2013 Issue

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Meeting Date: October 17, 2013

**Place: The Drake Center**

**(6:00) Sign-in and Social**  
**(7:15) Business Meeting**

**(6:30) Dinner**  
**(7:30) Speaker**

Dinner Menu: Roasted turkey and dressing,  
candied sweet potatoes, calico corn, tossed salad, pie  
Vegetarian Option: Available upon request

**Speaker: Stuart Sanders, Kentucky Historical Society**

**Topic: *Perryville under Fire: The Aftermath of Kentucky's  
Largest Civil War Battle***

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Reservations: If you do not have an Automatic Reservation, please remember to email your meeting reservation to [reservations@cincinnati-cwrt.org](mailto:reservations@cincinnati-cwrt.org); call it in to Tom Williams at 513-563-2665 or email [ccwrt.dinners@gmail.com](mailto:ccwrt.dinners@gmail.com). If you are making a reservation for more than yourself, please provide the names of the others. Please note that **all reservations must be in no later than 8:00 pm Wednesday, Oct. 9th, 2013.**

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## About our October Speaker:

For our October 2013 meeting, we welcome author and Danville, Kentucky resident, Stuart W. Sanders. Stuart is going to talk to us about the Battle of Perryville (near where he lives), but this time he will take us beyond the usual "battles and leaders" perspective.

As with many Civil War battles, the encounter of Braxton Bragg's Confederate army and Don Carlos Buell's Union forces in the small community of Perryville, KY was completely unexpected and unplanned for. The intensive battle left not only thousands of military casualties, but a devastated town as well. Last year, Stuart



published an excellent book, *Perryville Under Fire: The Aftermath of Kentucky's Largest Civil War Battle* (History Press) that squarely addresses the social effects of war. Not only did the residents endure the emotional strain of caring for thousands of wounded soldiers, but the battle dealt a mortal blow to the economy of the region, mostly the result of 80,000 troops wiping out the area's food supply and other resources. In the nearby community of Danville, for example, a population of barely 4,000 took care of 3,500 wounded Union troops. In his talk, Stuart will bring to light an often neglected topic: the collateral damage of military engagements on civilians, whether it is 1862 Kentucky or 2013 Afghanistan. As Stuart mentioned in a newspaper interview, civilians in the Civil War are often the "forgotten casualties."

## Stuart Sanders

another book, *The Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky* (History Press – part of their Sesquicentennial Series). Stuart currently resides in Danville, KY.

Stuart figuratively and literally has the Civil War in his blood. He grew up in Lexington, VA, the burial site of Robert E. Lee. He is distantly related to Mary Todd Lincoln. His great-great-grandfather was a Union surgeon at the Battle of Perryville, and another distant relative fought for the Confederates at the same battle. As former executive director of the Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association, Stuart is a premier expert on not only the battle itself, but the aftereffects surrounding it. This year, Stuart has published



## President's Report

## ... Pat Homan

I am currently covering the Second World War in my High School class and have spent several days reviewing some of the technological advances of the period such as Radar, high frequency directional finding etc. This led me to think of some of the technological wonders that impacted the Civil War. All wars have the "bonus" of new wonders as wars speed invention and research. The Civil War saw several innovative uses of established technologies.

The first is the use of railroads for moving supplies and troops. Johnson was able to rush Confederate troops to the field at Manassas, enabling the Confederates to achieve a critical mass at a key time. Later, the US military railroads developed procedures for rapid laying and repairing of track and bridges. We also saw standardizing of locomotive designs in an industry that had specialized in individual plans (all were basically hand built).

We saw the use of observation balloons and having telegraphy equipment in the balloon for rapid transmission of the data gathered. Gen. George Thomas had all of his subordinate commands lay a telegraph line to a specially equipped wagon at his field headquarters so he could rapidly receive information and transmit orders. This was the first “command center” predating our current mobile command posts with all the modern communications gear.

Other well-known developments were the metal cartridges, in several interesting shapes. The Burnside used a conical cartridge, while other had the more familiar rimmed cartridge. The magazine-fed weapons such as the Burnside, or the interesting Colt revolving rifle would lead to rapid innovations in the five years after the War. Artillery saw the limited introduction of the Whitworth rifled cannon fired a six-sided round that gave the weapon great accuracy and a range of over four miles, far greater than the fire control capability of the time could use. It would be decades before the concept of indirect fire came into practice. It saw very limited use by the Confederacy. I think it was just too far ahead of its time.

It is interesting to review these conflicts to see these advances, which include new inventions and new uses of previously developed technology. It is just another facet of our studies.

We had an excellent meeting in September, which you can read about elsewhere. I am looking forward to a firsthand report from our delegation to Chickamauga as well as another great presentation. Please publicize the Round Table and bring guests. I will see you on the 17<sup>th</sup>.



## Items of Interest:

### **Perryville Battlefield - Fall Hike/Tour - Saturday, October 19, 2013:**

The hike starts at 11:00 a.m. The museum opens at 10:00 a.m. The museum charges a small fee to visit their exceptional displays and view the media presentation. Participants are encouraged to visit the museum before the hike to familiarize themselves with the high level details of the Perryville campaign. There are restrooms below the museum. Please meet by 10:50 near the Confederate Cemetery. The hike will start promptly at 11:00 a.m. and will go on, rain or shine. We will cover four to five miles of the Perryville Battlefield, discussing salient points of the battle along the way. Please wear sturdy shoes (the paths are mown grass), bring plenty of water, and have something to snack on. If it is a sunny day wear sunscreen and/or a hat as the battlefield does not offer much in the way of shade. The terrain is rolling with a few short steep climbs. The hike will last four hours.

For those interested we will be having a post hike gathering at Lore Brewing Company in Danville. Lore specializes in tasty and smooth drinking beers brewed on location (and they brew their own root beer). The fine folks at Lore might be providing us some great food as well. Those going to Lore will be responsible for their own beer purchases and share in the food costs. *Please let me know if you are planning on the after hike event so I can let our hosts at Lore know how many folks to expect.*

Hike Leader Info – Darryl Smith serves as a board of trustees member for the Buckeye Trail Association, is a regimental color bearer in the Civil War Trust, and is a member of the Friends of Perryville Battlefield. He is an avid hiker and backpacker who also has a passion for American military history. Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site is one of his favorite Civil War locations, due to the near pristine nature of the park, looking much like it did during that hot day of October 8th, 1862. Please contact him at 513.321.1539 or [ohioatperryville@yahoo.com](mailto:ohioatperryville@yahoo.com) for further information

**It's Time to Pay Your Re-Enlistment Fee:** Membership dues for the 2013 – 2014 campaign year are now due. As you know we have two levels of membership: **Regular** and **Sustaining**. **Regular** memberships are \$25 (single). The **Sustaining** level of membership is \$50 (single) and \$85 (couple). The purpose of the sustaining membership category is to encourage and recognize members who make additional contributions of \$25 or more in addition to their annual dues in any fiscal year. If you are able to do so, we encourage you to become a Sustaining Member.

**Cincinnati in the Civil War" Speaker Series:** As part of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County's commemoration of the Civil War's sesquicentennial anniversary, another "Cincinnati in the Civil War" speaker series has been arranged. The remaining two programs are on the 3rd floor of the South Building at the Main Downtown branch and begin at 2:00 p.m.

- **Saturday, October 12, 2013** (Genealogy & Local History Program Space): Dr. Charles Dillard, a direct descendant of a Black Brigade member, will discuss the fascinating process of his genealogical search, as well as providing some little-known facts about the Brigade. (Last year, I gave an overview talk about the Brigade as part of the speaker series, but Dr. Dillard's talk will provide more detail, as well as the personal touch of having an ancestor in the unit.), If the weather is nice, remember to visit the Black Brigade Monument at nearby Smale Riverfront Park afterwards. It is one of the more substantive memorial sites I have walked through. As a note, for those of you interested in genealogy, Patricia Van Skaik, the Manager of our Genealogy & Local History Department, will give a talk on "YouTube Genealogy" at 11:00 a.m. in the same program space. So, come here Pat's presentation, have some lunch, then return for Dr. Dillard's talk.
- **Saturday, October 19, 2013** (Huenefeld Tower Room): Our own local historian, Jack Simon, will be talking about Cincinnati's Civil War hospitals. Evidently, there were quite a few & it will be very interesting to hear about their locations, most within walking distance of the Library. Most of us know Jack from previous presentations, so this one will be very informative (and entertaining, too with Jack's humorous touches).

All presentations are, of course, free, and no registration is necessary. For parking, try the Garfield Parking Garage on the left hand side of 9th Street right after the Vine Street intersection. You can park all day on Saturdays for \$2.00.

**Welcome New Members!** We had one new member join the CCWRT in September. A hearty welcome to Jackie Williams. Jackie is the wife of our Vice-President, Tom Williams. Welcome Aboard

# September Presentation:

... submitted by Dan Bauer

On September 19th, Gary Joiner spoke to us about the Spring of 1864 Red River Campaign. The campaign was an intensive Federal Army/Navy effort to secure the Red River along western Louisiana and Arkansas, so as to cut off the Confederate supply route from Texas. Most of the talk consisted of the "Cast of Characters" in which Mr. Joiner provided background on each of the major participants. Making great use of his southern draw, this was quite humorous.



**Gary Joiner**

Shreveport, the Confederate capital of Louisiana, was the primary target of the campaign. On paper, the campaign strategy appeared solid. 22,000 Federal troops under Nathaniel P. Banks would march from New Orleans to meet the Union naval forces under Rear Admiral David Porter at the lower end of the Red River. Defending against this formidable infantry/naval force was substantially less Confederate opposition. However, several factors, including the quiriness of Mother Nature in the form of low water levels and many tactical errors (mostly attributed to General Banks), doomed the campaign from the start (and almost resulted in the decimation of the entire Federal Mississippi Squadron fleet). According to Gary, it seemed “one

damn blunder from beginning to end” plagued this effort that led to what is considered the last decisive Confederate victory of the War. Mr. Joiner, an expert cartographer, alluded to the many geographic difficulties of the Red River and the challenges it presented to Admiral Porter.



## September Quiz:

The Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> *Cincinnati Enquirer* featured a story about Medal of Honor winner John Cook. Cook was a Hamilton County resident who enlisted in the Union army in June 1861.

1. For heroism at which battle was Cook honored?
2. How old was Cook when he performed his acts of valor?
3. Where is John Cook buried?
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is another name for the Battle of Mansfield.
5. According to Gary Joiner’s article The Red River Campaign on Civilwar.org, why did Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter commit to the campaign?
6. Who was selected to command a force leaving from Little Rock that was supposed to join Nathaniel Banks’ army and Porter’s fleet during the Red River campaign?

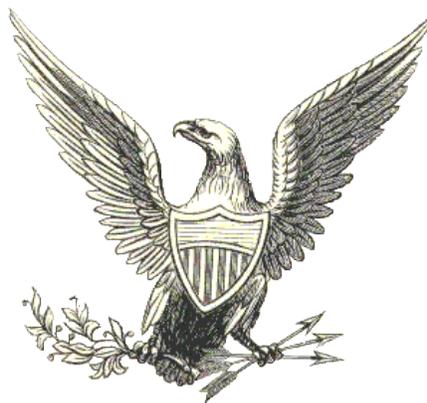
# Book Review

## ... Lee Bailey, Central Ohio Civil War Roundtable

**Tennessee Preacher, Tennessee Soldier: The Civil War Career of Captain John D. Kirkpatrick, CSA, One of Morgan's Raiders.** By Thomas G. Stevens. 196 pp., 2013 \$11.95 softcover

This little book is the work of an amateur genealogist who learned about the preacher/soldier while tracking the background of his own great-grandfather, William H. Kirkpatrick. William's brother John D. Kirkpatrick was pastor of Walnut Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church near Nashville. He enlisted in the Confederate infantry early in the war but within a year joined the 9th Tennessee Cavalry under colonel, later general, John Hunt Morgan. Unlike some Tennesseans, the Kirkpatricks were loyal to the Confederacy through and through. Two other brothers joined John and William in the 9th Tennessee as did two of their first cousins. Most of them avoided serious injuries, but John suffered an arm wound that left him partly disabled. All but one of the family survived the war, a cousin who died of disease in a Union prison camp. John was the family's only officer and author Tom Stevens said he found much more information about John than about the others. That, plus the fact he was a preacher, made him an excellent candidate for a book. Kirkpatrick was elected captain of Co. C, 9th Tennessee, in September 1862. He led his men in several minor engagements over the next few months. Then came the battle of Hartsville, Tenn., in which the Confederates routed a much larger group of Federals, killing, wounding or capturing almost all of them. That battle led to Morgan's promotion to general just weeks later.

This book does a good job describing the various battles in which the Kirkpatrick's participated. Especially informative was the description of the Confederates' looting and stealing as the war dragged on and Morgan was forced to accept replacement troops who were more interested in personal gain than winning the war. An emotional incident occurred at the battle of Cynthiana, Ky., where Union Col. Samuel Berry was seriously wounded. As he lay dying, a message was sent to his nearby son, Confederate Capt. Robert Berry. Robert had volunteered to remain behind the front lines so as not to face his father in combat. Before the colonel died, they had a brief reunion in a train depot serving as a field hospital. *Tennessee Preacher, Tennessee Soldier* is attractive and readable. It would be of interest to anyone looking for details on the 9th Tennessee or the exploits of Morgan's men. But it is marred by factual errors. For example, Camp Butler, a Union prison, is first described as being in Illinois, then Ohio, then back in Illinois. It was always in Illinois. Morgan's men are said to have stolen \$80,000 from a bank in Cynthiana, but later the amount becomes \$72,000. Likewise, Confederate colonels Basil W. Duke and Adam Johnson are identified as generals although neither had yet been promoted to that rank. Finally, a chapter called "Prologue" follows the narrative; it actually is an epilogue. These types of errors diminish this otherwise fine book's credibility and should have been caught by a good editor.



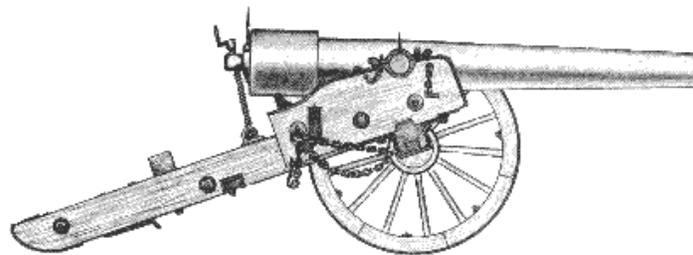
## September QUIZ Answers:

1. Antietam
2. 15
3. Arlington National Cemetery
4. Sabine Cross Roads
5. Porter thought Sherman would lead it.
6. Major General Frederick Steele



## Future Presentations:

- |               |                                                                                                                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nov. 21, 2013 | Gary Knepp, University of Cincinnati<br><i>Camp Dennison</i>                                                                  |
| Jan. 16, 2014 | Gary Q. Johnson, CCWRT<br><i>Webbed Feet on the Western Waters: Cincinnati and the River Navy</i>                             |
| Feb. 20, 2014 | Dan Bauer, CCWRT<br><i>Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Politics of Slavery</i>                                                  |
| Mar. 20, 2014 | Mike Rhein, CCWRT<br><i>General Lytle: Home Again</i>                                                                         |
| Apr. 17, 2014 | John Fazio, Cleveland Civil War Round Table<br><i>The Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln</i> |
| May. 15, 2014 | Greg Biggs, Clarksville, TN Civil War Round Table<br><i>The Fall of Nashville and the Rise of the Sirens</i>                  |



**We Who Study Must Also Strive To Save!**

## **ABOUT THE CINCINNATI CWRT:**

**Membership** in the Cincinnati CWRT is open to anyone with an active interest in the American Civil War. Annual dues (prorated throughout the year to new members) are \$25 for a Regular Membership. This fee helps cover operating costs which include this newsletter, as well as speaker expenses. A Sustaining Member level of membership is also available for \$50 (single) and \$85 (couple). The purpose of this membership category is to encourage and recognize members who make additional contributions of \$25 or more, in addition to their annual dues in any fiscal year, to the objectives and programs of the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table. If you are joining for the first time, there is a one-time, lifetime, initiation fee of \$20.

**Dinner reservations** are required, and can be made prior to the reservations deadline either by an email to [reservations@cincinnatiwrt.org](mailto:reservations@cincinnatiwrt.org) or by a phone call to the officer taking reservations for the meeting (whose name and number is listed on the header of the current *Canister*). **Meals** currently cost \$28. Menu selection will change with each meeting. A vegetarian meal option is available, if requested prior to the reservations cut-off date.

**A Meeting Only Fee** of \$5.00 is assessed to members, visitors and guests who arrive after dinner to hear the speaker. The monies collected are used to help offset the expenses of the evening's activities.

**Late Reservations and Walk-ins without a reservation:** Our ability to be flexible for late reservations or walk-ins is now restricted by the fact that the Drake Center only prepares meals according to the reservation count called in. Therefore, **Late Reservations** (after the Wednesday by 8:00 pm which is eight days before the meeting) will be accepted conditionally, subject to the caterer's ability to honor a change in dinner count if received close to the meeting date. **Late Reservations and Walk-ins without a reservation** will only be able to have dinner if offset by cancellations or no-shows, or if the caterer determines that sufficient food is available.

**Late cancellations** may be made by email or phone. Since a cancellation after the Wednesday 8:00 pm deadline which is eight days before the meeting means that CCWRT has guaranteed payment to The Drake Center for the reserved number of meals, the Treasurer will review the number of late cancellations and late reservations for every meeting. If a late cancellation results in the CCWRT being required to pay for an extra meal, the person making the late cancellation will be expected to pay for the dinner. **No-shows** who have a dinner reservation but do not attend will be billed for the meal. **Meetings** are held the third Thursday of the month, September – November and January – May at The Drake Center, 151 West Galbraith Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45216 (**Phone: 513-418-2500**). If traveling Interstate 75, exit at Galbraith Road (Exit 10) and go west one mile. If coming across the Ronald Reagan Cross County Highway, take the Galbraith Road exit and go west two miles. Or, take the Galbraith/Winton exit and go east one mile.

**Free parking** is available in the WEST PAVILION parking lot. The West Pavilion entrance will take you to the meeting rooms. To get to our meeting room enter the West Pavilion and take the elevators to your right to level A, go to your right and Motivation Meeting Room G is located at the end of the hallway.

## **CINCINNATI CWRT OFFICERS:**

President: Pat Homan	513-861-2057 (h)	<a href="mailto:homanfamily@fuse.net">homanfamily@fuse.net</a>
Vice-President: Tom Williams	513-608-4391 (h)	<a href="mailto:twms@fuse.net">twms@fuse.net</a>
Treasurer: Jim Stewart	513-271-0738 (h)	<a href="mailto:jebstewart@fuse.net">jebstewart@fuse.net</a>
Secretary: Mark Silbersack	513-977-8243 (h)	<a href="mailto:mark.silbersack@dinsmore.com">mark.silbersack@dinsmore.com</a>
Program Chair: Albert Hallenberg	859-663-8811 (h)	<a href="mailto:albert.hallenberg@gmail.com">albert.hallenberg@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor: Dan Bauer	513-759-4495 (h)	<a href="mailto:dbauer002@cinci.rr.com">dbauer002@cinci.rr.com</a>
Membership & Publicity: Ed and Sally Umbach	513-522-9053 (c)	<a href="mailto:rumbach@earthlink.com">rumbach@earthlink.com</a>
Trustee: Dan Reigle (2011-2013)	513-777-9255 (h)	<a href="mailto:dreigle@cinci.rr.com">dreigle@cinci.rr.com</a>
Trustee: Mike Rhein (2012-2014)	513-984-3227 (h)	<a href="mailto:arhein@earthlink.com">arhein@earthlink.com</a>

### **Committees:**

Preservation Projects:		
Becky Burket & Randy Donohue	513-771-3949 (h)	<a href="mailto:northstarians@AOL.com">northstarians@AOL.com</a>
Webmaster: Mike Rogers	859-907-3096 (c)	<a href="mailto:rogersmb1981@yahoo.com">rogersmb1981@yahoo.com</a>
CCWRT ListServ: Mike Rogers	859-907-3096 (c)	<a href="mailto:rogersmb1981@yahoo.com">rogersmb1981@yahoo.com</a>

**Don't Forget to Bring a Friend!**