



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



THE CANISTER

Monthly Newsletter of the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table

Cincinnati CWRT P. O. Box 621082 Cincinnati, Ohio 45262 <http://www.cincinnatiwrt.org>
October, 2014 Issue

Meeting Date: October 16, 2014

Place: The Drake Center

(6:00) Sign-in and Social

(6:30) Dinner

(7:15) Business Meeting

(7:30) Speaker

**Dinner Menu: *Country Style Meatloaf, Whipped Mashed Potatoes,
Green Beans, Green Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette,
Dinner Rolls, and German Chocolate Cake***
Vegetarian Option: Available upon request

Speaker: Mark Holbrook, Ohio Humanities Council

Topic: *Mr. Lincoln's Camera Man: An Evening with Mathew Brady*

Reservations: If you do not have an Automatic Reservation, please remember to email your meeting reservation to reservations@cincinnatiwrt.org or call it in to Lester Burgin at 513-891-0610. 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 Tues, October 7, 2014.**

October Speaker:

For our October meeting, we are pleased to present Mark Holbrook. Come hear the story from Mathew Brady himself as the world renowned photographer and chronicler of the American Civil War. Brady's photographs of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War have become icons of the early days of photography. Seeing these famous photos while listening to how the photos came about will make for a fascinating evening.



Mark Holbrook

Appearing more than 40 times each year for lectures and character shows, Mr. Holbrook maintains a very busy schedule. Mark is a native Ohioan, graduate of The Ohio State University and an avid student of history. After college, Mark served as the marketing manager at the Ohio Historical Society for nine years. Currently, Mark Holbrook is the owner of History Is Personal, a strategic planning and marketing firm serving the history and tourism areas in Ohio. Mark is the editor of the recently published *The Buckeye Vanguard* about the 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and is currently working on his second book, expanding his Unknown Generals lecture. Mark has been a Civil War re-enactor for more than 19 years, serving as a Union officer throughout the country at such places as Gettysburg, Chattanooga, Richmond and Shiloh. His lectures include “Ohio in the Civil War,” “Ohio’s Unknown Generals” and “Itinerant Photography: Everyday Life in America.” Mark also served as military coordinator for the film *Light of Freedom* released in the fall of 2013 and is currently cast in a new film, *Wings of the Wind*, now in post-production.



President’s Report

... from Tom Williams

October 16th – really not October 31st, but what is a couple of weeks among friends. October 31st is, of course, Halloween and October 16th is our next Cincy Civil War Roundtable meeting.

I am told that Halloween is now the number two holiday and fast closing in on Christmas. I would have placed Halloween much further down on the calendar of important holidays, but then I also expected the Reds to still be in the pennant hunt, so maybe I am not the one to predict calendar winners.

Maybe the kids have something going: candy and dressing up in costume – a combination that is hard to beat. So not to be outdone, our October guest speaker, Mark Holbrook, from the Ohio Humanities Council will come to us in period costume and provide a re-enactment as part of his talk, “Mr. Lincoln’s Cameraman: An Evening with Mathew Brady.”

The title of his talk alone has piqued my interest. Photography came into its own by the 1860s, and the Civil War was, I believe, the first use of this new medium to bring, visually and inexpensively, views of a war to those removed from the battlefield. But I don’t have a clue how Brady got the pictures he did. Plus, with no small smart phone stored in his pocket, Brady’s equipment to process the wet plate pictures alone required a large wagon to get to the front lines.

My wife is also interested in seeing Mark Holbrook’s presentation. Now, to be clear, she has an interest in the Civil War, but just not quite to the level that I have. Maybe some of our members are in the same boat.

So why not invite your spouse, partner, or that photographic maven friend of yours to hear Mr. Holbrook's talk? I am grateful that some of you took me up on this suggestion for our September meeting. We had a wonderful turnout, resulting in a large contingent of first time guests and new members that we heartily welcomed into our group. With an enjoyable and entertaining topic that I believe Mr. Holbrook will present, we should easily beat our September number of guests and new members.

But Tom, you say, will there be candy? Sorry, no, but Derik, our Drake Chief, says he will put his German Chocolate Cake up against any old hard candy that the neighbor down the street is giving out this year. And Derik swears that even though the cake is rich, dark, and decadent, it is "almost" calorie free. If this isn't enough to get you to come and join us for dinner, then I promise I will bring a few Snicker's bars that were left over from our last year's Halloween hand out – guaranteed to be at least as hard as a hardtack biscuit.

I hope to see you October 16th. Get your reservations in early, because I expect there will be a crowd. Coming dressed in costume is, as always, optional.



2014-2015 Preservation Project Announced

We are excited to announce that **Battery Hooper in Ft. Wright, Kentucky**, will be the recipient of our 2014-2015 Preservation Fundraising Campaign! Battery Hooper was built in September 1862, one of 27 works in the eight-mile line of defense constructed to protect Cincinnati from Confederate attack. The Cincinnati CWRT has worked closely with Battery Hooper and the folks at the James A. Ramage Civil War Museum for years and we are hoping to raise a total of \$1200 to purchase two interpretive signs for the site.

Please help make the 2014-2015 Preservation Project a success by making a donation to this worthy cause. You may submit your tax-deductible donation to Jim Stewart, CCWRT Treasurer, at any of the meetings or by mail. The May 2015 meeting date is the deadline for all donations to be received.

Items of Interest

New! CCWRT Activities Committee Being Formed: The Activities Committee is being mustered and needs able-bodied members to assist with the planning and execution of trips and tours for the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table. It is our goal to help increase membership and build camaraderie beyond our eight meetings each year by adding events that members (and guests) may enjoy. Our plans will be to have two to four events each year – tours that will take place within a few hours' drive of Cincinnati (such as Perryville, Camp Wildcat, Corydon, Buffington Island, etc.). These tours will be either a one day or overnight event. We also want to plan at least one multi-night trip each year to visit destinations farther afield.

Those interested in being a part of the committee should contact Darryl Smith at (513) 321-1539 or email at ohioatperryville@yahoo.com. Those on the committee should be willing to meet a few times a year for trip planning sessions; however, committee members are not expected to attend each trip/tour that is scheduled.

It's Time to Pay Your Re-Enlistment Fee: Membership dues for the 2014 – 2015 campaign year are now due. As you know, we have two levels of membership: **Regular** and **Sustaining**. **Regular** memberships are \$25 (single) and \$35 (couple). 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.

Fall Tour of Camp Wildcat: The Battle of Wildcat Mountain was the first effort of Confederate General Felix Zollicoffer to invade the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Our first trip will be a walking tour of the Wildcat battlefield in southern Kentucky. This tour will be held **Saturday, November 1, 2014**. We will meet at the Florence Meijers parking lot (Exit 182 on I-75, 4990 Houston Road – park behind the Chick-Fil-A) between 7:45 and 8:00 a.m., leaving at 8:00 a.m. We will carpool to Camp Wildcat, which is about a two-hour drive. We will start our tour in Hazel Patch and walk the Wilderness Road to Camp Wildcat, where we will proceed to walk the hiking trails on the battlefield. This walk will be eight miles in length and involve two short but steep changes in elevation. Make certain to wear comfortable walking shoes, bring water and a snack, and an appetite to discover a hidden Civil War gem. This will be an all-day trip based on driving time, touring, and stopping for a meal on the way home. Those interested in joining should contact Darryl Smith (ohioatperryville@yahoo.com or 513-321-1539) so that we have an idea of how many folks to plan for. We will need drivers who are willing to drive other members, as well.

Colligan Project Civil War Presentation Series in Hamilton, OH: The Miami University's Hamilton Campus will host a Fall 2014 Civil War presentation series titled "Hard Road to Liberty: Ohio and the Civil War." The series is free and open to the general public. The presentations are as follows:

- **Memorializing John Hunt Morgan and the 1863 Ohio-Indiana Raid** with Jim Blount, Hamilton Historian; Lester Horwitz and David L. Mowery, Independent Scholars; G. Michael Pratt, Professor of Anthropology, Miami University; Matthew Smith, Colligan History Project, Moderator

Tuesday, October 7, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., Harry T. Wilks Conference Center, 1601 University Blvd.

The John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail memorializing the route of Confederate General Morgan and his "Raiders" in July of 1863 features markers at 56 sites in Ohio alone, and connects with trails in Indiana and Kentucky. A panel of Civil War experts explores the making of this trail, its sponsors, and how the only Civil War action on Ohio soil is remembered today. Reception follows.

- **Ohioans on Slavery and Emancipation in the Civil War** by James M. McPherson, the George Henry Davis 1886 Professor of American History, Emeritus, Princeton University, and author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning book *Battle Cry of Freedom*

Wednesday, October 29, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., Parrish Auditorium, 1601 University Blvd.

Ohioans played a more prominent role in the Civil War than residents of perhaps any other Union state. Three of four principal generals who led the North grew up in Ohio and went to

West Point: Ulysses S. Grant, William T. Sherman and Philip H. Sheridan. Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase and Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton were Ohioans, while Senators Benjamin Wade and John Sherman and Representatives James Ashley and John A. Bingham were important Congressional leaders in the drive for abolition of slavery.

Ohio also furnished prominent opponents of these policies, notably Clement L. Vallandigham, George L. Pendleton and Samuel S. Cox. The story of these and other Ohioans in military and political actions of the war brings special attention to issues of slavery and its abolition. Reception follows.

- ***Ashokan Farewell: The Civil War and Beyond*** with Jay Ungar and Molly Mason, Acoustic Duo

Thursday, November 13, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., Parrish Auditorium, 1601 University Blvd.

Known for American folk music, the Emmy-nominated signature sound of Ungar & Mason has been featured on radio, television and film, including Ken Burns' PBS documentary "The Civil War," the PBS radio series "A Prairie Home Companion," and the films *Legends of the Fall* and *Brother's Keeper*. To learn more, visit www.jayandmolly.com. Reception follows.

This is a free ticketed event in cooperation with Miami University's regional campuses' Artist Series. Make reservations at 513-785-3277.



September Presentation:

... submitted by Mark Silbersack

At our September meeting, Don Rightmyer described the interesting life of Kentucky native Major Robert Anderson, widely known as the man who surrendered Fort Sumter. Don's talk filled out the biography of Anderson, who had a rich military career before the Civil War.

Don is himself a native of the Commonwealth. He is a librarian and past editor of the Kentucky Historical Society's genealogical quarterly, and will soon publish his first book, *Torn: The Civil War in Kentucky*.

He began by describing Major Anderson's father, Richard Clough Anderson, a Revolutionary War soldier, member of Lafayette's staff, early settler in Kentucky, father of sixteen children, and builder of Anderson's childhood home, Soldier's Rest, near Louisville, where veterans were always welcome.

Robert Anderson entered West Point at age 16 and graduated in 1825. He served in his country's major military engagements thereafter – the Black Hawk War (1832), the Second Seminole War (1837-38), and the Mexican War (1846-48), where he was seriously wounded. From 1835-37, he was artillery instructor at West Point, whose students included P.T.E. Beauregard, Phil Sheridan, and George Thomas.

Near our speaker's home in Kentucky is the site of the former "Harrodsburg Springs" spa, which in the 1850s became the Western Military Asylum, a home for wounded veterans. For a while, Anderson was its superintendent. After the main building burned in 1859, the veterans were moved to D.C., and Anderson played a key role in creating the "Soldiers' Home" there on property where President Lincoln often stayed in what we now call "Lincoln's Cottage."

As the nation moved towards war after Lincoln's election, Major Anderson was sent to take command of U.S. forts guarding Charleston harbor. They had not been built to defend against a land attack, and the main garrison was at Fort Moultrie, which was in poor repair. In December 1860, on his own initiative, Anderson moved its troops, food and military supplies from Moultrie to the middle of the harbor, where Fort Sumter was unfinished but more defensible.

Anderson's former student Beauregard commanded the South Carolina forces surrounding Sumter. Gradually running out of supplies, Anderson was "on his own," despite repeated requests to Washington for assistance and guidance. Beauregard demanded that Anderson surrender or be bombarded. Anderson refused, and early on the morning of April 12, the firing commenced. It was a horrendous experience, lasting 34 hours before Anderson finally gave up on April 14th.

Beauregard permitted Anderson's men to withdraw, and they were taken by ship to New York City, where his four-month defense had made him a hero. But his post-Sumter career was minimal. Promoted and sent to command Union forces in Kentucky, he was in poor health and soon asked to be relieved. He became inactive and then retired in July 1863.

In a final irony, Anderson returned to Fort Sumter, where on April 14, 1865, at a ceremony celebrating the end of the war, he raised the same "dear flag" which he had been forced to strike four years earlier. And at a banquet in Charleston that evening, Anderson toasted President Lincoln's health, almost to the minute when John Wilkes Booth fired the fatal shot at Ford's Theater. Thus, our speaker says, did Major Anderson become the "bookends of the Civil War."



September Quiz:

1. Name the prisoner of war camp built in September 1864, in Jenkins County, Ga., that was supposed to relieve overcrowding at Camp Sumter and remove the Union POWs from the path of Sherman's Army.
2. Which Union general took a solo (untethered) flight on April 11, 1862, in the balloon *Intrepid*?
3. In early July 1864, Horace Greeley wrote to Lincoln encouraging him to meet with some rebel peace negotiators. Lincoln was dubious that the agents had any accreditation from the Confederate government. He was leery to turn away any peace commissioners though, so he sent John Hay to Greeley. Where was the conference to take place?
4. At a White House ceremony on Monday, September 15, 2014, President Obama awarded a Medal of Honor to a hero of Gettysburg. Name the deserving recipient.
5. In time for the fall elections of 1864, most state legislatures had enacted some form of absentee voting for soldiers in the field. In five states, soldiers were disenfranchised unless they could get home on Election Day. Name 3 of the states. Name all 5 for bonus points!

Quiz Answers:

1. Camp Lawton
2. Fitz John Porter
3. Niagara Falls
4. Alonzo Cushing
5. Illinois, Indiana, New Jersey, Oregon, Delaware



Future Presentations:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Nov. 20, 2014 | Tom Parson, Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center
<i>Work for Giants: The Campaign and Battle of Tupelo/Harrisburg</i> |
| Jan. 15, 2015 | Stephen Brown, Cincinnati Civil War Round Table
<i>God, Lincoln and the Civil War</i> |
| Feb. 19, 2015 | Bernie O'Bryan, re-enactor
<i>A Conversation with General Lew Wallace</i> |
| Mar. 19, 2015 | Martin Johnson, Miami University, Hamilton Campus
<i>Making the New Birth of Freedom: The Gettysburg Address</i> |
| Apr. 16, 2015 | Wayne Motts, CEO of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, PA
<i>Fighting the Civil War: Historical Treasures of the Conflict in the Collection of the National Civil War Museum.</i> |
| May. 21, 2015 | Christopher Phillips, University of Cincinnati
<i>TBD</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 (single) and \$35 (couple) 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 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 \$25. 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 main entrance and go to the left side of the gift shop found opposite the entryway; the meeting room is located at the far end of the cafeteria hallway.

CINCINNATI CWRT OFFICERS:

President: Tom Williams	513-608-4391 (h)	T.Williams@outlook.com
Vice-President: Lester Burgin	513-891-0610 (h)	LesterBurgin@gmail.com
Treasurer: Jim Stewart	513-271-0738 (h)	jebstewart@fuse.net
Secretary: Mark Silbersack	513-977-8243 (h)	mark.silbersack@dinsmore.com
Program Chair: Dan Bauer	513-759-4495 (h)	dbauer002@cinci.rr.com
Newsletter Editor: David Mowery	513-774-9544 (h)	dmowery11@fuse.net
Membership & Publicity: Ed and Sally Umbach	513-522-9053 (c)	eumbach@gmail.com
		duchess792003@yahoo.com
Trustee: Dan Reigle (2013-2015)	513-777-9255 (h)	dreigle@cinci.rr.com
Trustee: Pat Homan (2014-2016)	513-861-2057 (h)	homanfamily@fuse.net

Committees:

Activities: Darryl Smith	513-321-1539 (h)	ohioatperryville@yahoo.com
Preservation Projects:		
Becky Burket & Randy Donohue	513-771-3949 (h)	northstarians@AOL.com
Webmaster: Mike Rogers	859-907-3096 (c)	rogersmb1981@yahoo.com
CCWRT ListServ: Mike Rogers	859-907-3096 (c)	rogersmb1981@yahoo.com
CCWRT ListServ Address		ccwrt@cincinnatiwrt.org