
THE CANISTER

Monthly Newsletter of the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table



PO Box 621082 • Cincinnati, OH 45262 • www.cincinnati-cwrt.org
Serving the Tri-State area of Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana since 1956

[CCWRT](#)

September, 2015 Issue

Meeting Date: September 17, 2015

Place: The Drake Center

(6:00) Sign-in and Social

(6:30) Dinner

(7:15) Business Meeting

(7:30) Speaker

Dinner Menu: *Chicken Cordon Bleu with Honey Dijon Sauce, Apple Pecan Salad with Vinaigrette Dressing, Gourmet Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans with Sautéed Mushrooms, Dinner Rolls, and Cheesecake with Strawberry Topping*
Vegetarian Option: Upon request

Speaker: William F.B. Vodrey, Cleveland Civil War Round Table

Topic: *Ohio's Civil War Governors*

Reservations: If you do not have an Automatic Reservation, please remember to email your meeting reservation to reservations@cincinnati-cwrt.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 Tuesday, September 8, 2015.**

September Speaker:

Our 2015-16 season will be kicked off with a first-time appearance by William Vodrey of the Cleveland Civil War Round Table. Mr. Vodrey's topic is Ohio's Civil War Governors. Ohio's Civil War governors were William Dennison, David Tod, and John Brough. The first was a Whig-turned-Republican, while the other two were War Democrats. Each did relatively well in office, strongly supporting the Lincoln Administration's military policies and guiding Ohio through its greatest crisis. In time, however, all three lost political support in the state and were denied reelection, each worn down by the intense demands of civilian wartime leadership. That these Buckeye men did as well as they did is surprising, but also reassuring, for in a democracy such as ours, many - if not all - who rise to high office in a time of crisis will find themselves growing into the job.



William Vodrey

William F.B. Vodrey is a magistrate of the Cleveland Municipal Court and a former president of the Cleveland Civil War Round Table. Born and raised in East Liverpool, Ohio, he graduated with honors from Oberlin College, later receiving his law degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Magistrate Vodrey has been interested in the Civil War for many years, and often speaks on Civil War topics to roundtables and historical societies. In addition to being member of the Cleveland Civil War Round Table, Civil War Trust, Blue & Gray Education Society, Ohio History Connection, Friends of Mount Vernon, National History Day, and the Sons of the American Revolution. He is also a former reenactor with the 51st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Co. B, in which he skyrocketed in just five short years to the rank of corporal. His article "George Washington: Hero of the Confederacy?" appeared in *American History* magazine.



President's Report

...from Tom Williams

It's September, and time for another season of the Cincy Round Table to start. And again, there will be some changes.

First, we have negotiated with The Drake to lower our meal cost to \$20, but with no change in the quality or quantity of the food. The \$5 cost reduction was made possible by eliminating china dishware and going to disposable service. Drake saves on the labor and expense for the effort required to clean and restock their china, from which they are passing the savings to us.

To be blunt about it, the Board hopes the reduced cost will translate into a larger turnout for the social / dinner hour. Those of our members who regularly attend the social / dinner part of the Round Table often state how much they enjoy this fellowship opportunity. Granted, others choose to come for just the business meeting and the speaker presentation, but it is more difficult for these members and guests to talk with others during this period of the Round Table.

Secondly, we have also gotten The Drake to give us access to both meeting spaces, with no increase in our total room cost. Depending on the dinner reservation number, we might have them set up dinner tables in one room space and chairs for the speaker and meeting in the other room area, as we did for the May picnic.

So, we have room to grow, and with the really great speaker lineup coming this year, I believe we will need this added space. Check out elsewhere in this *Canister* for a write up of our speaker for September, William

Vodrey, who will be coming to us from our sister Round Table in Cleveland, Ohio.

Last spring, Bob Limoseth gave out brochures at the Round Table covering the reproduction of the Lincoln Funeral Train. That reproduction of both the original steam engine and the car that carried Lincoln home to Springfield, IL, will be back on exhibit, almost locally, in downtown Troy, Ohio, at 201 W. Main Street (SR41), from noon to 8 p.m., September 10th to the 13th. There is a \$5 charge to view the inside of the train, but no charge to view the exhibit from the outside. Children will be admitted free.

Not to be out-done, one of our members, George McIlveen, has constructed a scale model of the funeral car, and George has graciously offered to bring it to our September meeting for display. So, your choice: see the full-size car, see the scale model, or better yet, plan to see them both. A great speaker, a scale model train, fellowship, and dinner at a reduced price. It seems to me this is more than enough of a reason to invite your friends or your partner to join us this September 17th as we kick off this year's Round Table.

Items of Interest

Welcome New Members!

We have had several new members join the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table since January 2015. They are listed below by the month in which they joined. Welcome aboard to all our new members! We appreciate that you have chosen to be a part of our organization:

<u>January 2015</u>	<u>March 2015</u>	<u>May 2015</u>
Larry Collins*	Gerry Houchell	John Donohue
Bruce Koehn	Lisa Wegner	Susan Donohue
Andy Simmons*		Sarah Ferguson
Ron Spohr		Jim Kraus
Art Weber		Jeff Mikutis

*Returning member

It's Time to Pay Your Re-Enlistment Fee

Membership dues for the 2015 – 2016 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. Please know that you can pay with check, cash, or credit card. **THANK YOU** for your membership. It's you that allows the CCWRT to bring in high-quality speakers from around the region, as well as from across the United States. Your membership also permits the CCWRT to give to charitable groups working to preserve and share with others the Civil War history of our country.

Dinner Price Change

For all members and CCWRT meeting guests who choose to join us for dinner: **The cost of a CCWRT dinner seat is now \$20.00 per person.** This price is a drop from last season. If you are using checks to pay for your dinners, please be sure to write them with the understanding that it is \$20.00 per meal.

CCWRT & CWRT-MOV Tour of Greater Cincinnati Civil War Sites

On **Saturday, September 26**, and **Sunday, September 27**, Cincinnati Civil War Round Table members, guests, and visitors are welcomed to join our friends of the Civil War Round Table of the Mid-Ohio Valley (from Marietta, OH) on a two-day bus tour of Civil War sites of Greater Cincinnati. Some of the sites are little known and rarely visited. The Marietta group is generously offering the CCWRT a heavily reduced cost to join them on the bus. They wish very much to share the weekend with fellow Civil War enthusiasts.

This insightful tour will be led by several historians who have collectively spent many years researching Cincinnati's Civil War past, including CCWRT member and author David L. Mowery, The Castle House historian Scott Britton, and Campus Martius Museum of the Northwest Territory historian Bill Reynolds.

The tour has room for a limited number (20) of our Round Table members, guests, and visitors to join in the weekend fun. ***YOU MUST RSVP with Darryl Smith by September 12th in order to reserve a spot on the tour bus.*** Contact Darryl at ohioatperryville@yahoo.com or call and leave a message at 513-321-1539. We are suggesting an amount of \$10.00 per Round Table member to offset the cost of the tour bus. This fee covers both days. All meals will be the responsibility of the attendees. After September 12, we will be opening up the remaining spots to Facebook followers.

Saturday, September 26 – Please meet at the front lobby of the **Cincinnati Marriott at RiverCenter** prior to **9:45 a.m.** We will start and end the day here. The contact information for the Marriott hotel is 10 West RiverCenter Boulevard, Covington, KY 41011. The phone number is 859-261-2900. The hotel is located at the north end of Madison Avenue next to the Northern Kentucky Convention Center.

Sunday, September 27 – Please meet at the **Camp Dennison Memorial Park parking lot** across from the Christian Waldschmidt House in Camp Dennison, OH, at **6:00 a.m.** for the Battery Bates and Northern Kentucky defenses tour (we will carpool down to KY for this), or by **10:45 a.m.** for the Camp Dennison tour. Camp Dennison Memorial Park is at 7650 Glendale Milford Road, Camp Dennison, OH 45111.

The tour itinerary is as follows:

Saturday, September 26

- 9:45 a.m. Charter bus departs Marriott Cincinnati at RiverCenter, 10 West RiverCenter Blvd, Covington, KY
- 10:00 a.m. Arrive at Spring Grove Cemetery, 4521 Spring Grove Ave, Cincinnati OH
 - Introduction and opening comments by Scott Britton and David Mowery
 - Flag ceremony led by Scott Britton to honor the remains of soldiers from Southeastern Ohio and Northern West Virginia buried in Spring Grove Cemetery.
 - Guided tour and interpretation led by Scott Britton and David Mowery. Nine-hundred and eighty-two Union and 17 Confederate Civil War soldiers are buried here. Also 40 Union Generals and one Confederate General. Prominent figures from the period interred here include Salmon P. Chase, "Fighting" Joe Hooker, William Haynes Lytle, Alexander McCook, Daniel McCook, Edwin Stanton McCook and Robert Latimer McCook.
- 12:30 p.m. Depart Spring Grove Cemetery departs for Clifton - Cincinnati (Clifton and Ludlow Avenues) commercial district for dining at your convenience.
- 2:00 p.m. Depart Clifton district for Harriet Beecher Stowe House, 2950 Gilbert Ave, Cincinnati, OH.
- 3:45 p.m. Charter bus departs for James A Ramage Civil War Museum, 1402 Highland Ave, Fort Wright, KY
 - Introduction to the Squirrel Hunters by Bill Reynolds
 - Tour James A Ramage Civil War Museum and Battery Hooper by David Mowery

- 5:00 p.m. Charter bus departs for Marriott Cincinnati at RiverCenter
- 5:30 p.m. Arrive at Marriott Cincinnati at RiverCenter, 10 West RiverCenter Boulevard, Covington, KY 41011
 - From here, you may go home any time you wish, to get ready for Sunday morning. Guests are free to explore the Covington, Newport, and Cincinnati riverfront and dine at their convenience.

Sunday, September 27

- 6:00 a.m. Carpool departs from Camp Dennison Memorial Park, 7650 Glendale Milford Road, Camp Dennison, OH 45111
- 6:45 a.m. Charter bus opens for loading at Marriott Cincinnati at RiverCenter for optional tour of Battery Bates. Carpool parks at the Marriott Cincinnati at RiverCenter.
- 7:00 a.m. Charter bus departs Marriott Cincinnati at RiverCenter for optional tour of Battery Bates. Battery Bates is the best preserved of the eight remaining Civil War batteries constructed for the defense of Cincinnati in 1862, but access requires a 2-mile round-trip hike on a steep, primitive trail. Please wear appropriate hiking shoes and dress, and bring water with you.
- 8:45 a.m. Charter bus returns from Battery Bates to Cincinnati Marriott at RiverCenter for loading
- 9:00 a.m. Charter bus departs from Cincinnati Marriott at River Center
- 9:15 a.m. Site overviews and interpretation led by David Mowery: Monuments dedicated to soldiers of the Black Brigade and victims of the Sultana tragedy; Smale Park; site of the Burnet House hotel, headquarters of Union General Lew Wallace and where Generals Grant and Sherman planned the Atlanta Campaign; Battery Holt; Battery Shaler; and Fulton Shipyards.
- 10:30 a.m. Charter bus departs for Camp Dennison Cemetery
- 11:00 a.m. Arrive at Camp Dennison Cemetery for non-denominational prayer service led by Scott Britton and interpretation by David Mowery.
- 11:45 a.m. Charter bus departs for The Schoolhouse Restaurant, 8031 Gendale Milford Road, Camp Dennison, OH 45111, for Dutch family-style group dining event. The Schoolhouse Restaurant occupies a two-story schoolhouse constructed in 1865.
- 1:30 p.m. Charter bus departs for Christian Waldschmidt Homestead and Camp Dennison Civil War Museum, 7567 Glendale Milford Road, Camp Dennison, OH 45111. Interpretation led by Scott Britton and David Mowery.
- 3:30 p.m. Tour ends at Camp Dennison Memorial Park. Remaining carpool will drive to Cincinnati Marriott at River Center to pick up the morning carpool's cars.

May Presentation

... submitted by Mark Silbersack

At our May 21, 2015, meeting, we heard a thought-provoking presentation by Christopher Phillips, Professor of History and Department Head at the University of Cincinnati, and author of a half-dozen books relating to Civil War issues.

Professor Phillips asked us to think about the ways “we live and breathe the Civil War in our community even today,” in the continuing aftermath of the war’s politics as played out in Ohio and other “Middle Border” states from here to Missouri. He began by exploring how the Civil War’s political rhetoric colors our collective memory. Often, we see the Ohio River as a clear historical border between North and South, between slavery and freedom. But, this memory is faulty. Ohio and adjacent states were deeply divided before the war over the issues that brought it about, and that division continued during the war itself (e.g., as to objectives, like Union versus Emancipation) and even afterwards (e.g., as to the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments and Reconstruction).



Christopher Phillips

Professor Phillips described how “the border didn’t create the Civil War, the war created the border.” In Ohio, political rhetoric solidified the Republican Party’s position and strengthened the war effort. This carried over into post-war criticism of Democrats as “Copperheads,” supposedly driven by racial bigotry. Republicans ran Union veterans for election and sometimes “waved the bloody flag” to bolster their chances. As James Garfield once said, “every scar you bear ... was given to you by a Democrat.”

In other states, the situation was the opposite, as unrepentant Rebels regained political power and reversed policies benefitting former slaves. As Professor Phillips summarized, “slavery died hard” over many years of debilitating violence. Thus, in Kentucky, ex-Confederate soldiers were allowed to vote as early as 1865, “militant returned Rebels” were elected in 1866, the Commonwealth refused to ratify the Thirteenth Amendment, and gangs of ex-Confederate soldiers killed or terrified African-Americans, many of whom then moved north into Ohio or Indiana.

Professor Phillips believes that memories of such events led Ohioans and other Middle Border citizens to develop new regional identities, as they evolved into “Midwesterners” while remembering the war. North of the Ohio River, in some former Copperhead areas, sympathy continued for the “Lost Cause,” Blacks were often unwelcome, and KKK operations spread – and residents there found amenable a “Middle West” (rather than Northern) identity. Throughout such states, this cultural self-identification later came to distinguish such Americans from more “progressive” and industrial people farther North and East.

Stating that we see the lingering effects even today, Professor Phillips cited, e.g., “border war” clashes between athletic teams in adjoining states astride the Ohio River (e.g., Kentucky v. Indiana), high school mascot names (e.g., “Rebels”), erection of a Jefferson Davis monument in Kentucky in 1974, recent racial unrest in the St. Louis area, etc. Finally, in remarks that led to an email exchange after the meeting, our speaker seemed to find a correlation between current voting patterns in Middle Border states and events going back to the Civil War; as Prof. Phillips concluded in one email, “we are living that war's outcomes and it drives us to discomfort, regularly and imperceptibly.”



May Quiz:

1. “Let ‘em up easy,” said _____.
2. What is a “coaling”?
3. In what Civil War battle did a coaling play a major role?
4. Jeff Davis’s first cabinet officers were:

(1) Leroy Walker, Secretary of War; (2) Judah Benjamin, Attorney General; (3) Robert Toombs, Secretary of State; (4) Christopher Meminger, Secretary of the Treasury; (5) John Reagan, Postmaster General; (6) Stephen Mallory, Secretary of the Navy

Which two individuals stayed in the cabinet at his original post for the duration of the Confederacy's existence?

5. All of Robert E. Lee's family is buried inside the Lee Chapel at Washington & Lee College. Where is Lee's horse Traveler buried?
6. If Andrew Johnson had been judged "guilty" by the senate at his impeachment trial, who would have become president?

Bonus Question: On 8 May 2015, a fleet of U.S. military aircraft overflowed usually restricted airspace, the mall in Washington, D.C., to memorialize the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII in Europe. From what airport did these planes take off from to create this newsworthy event?

Quiz Answers:

1. Abraham Lincoln
Ref.: *Abraham Lincoln*, Sandberg, p.562
2. A flat open expanse used for the production of charcoal
3. Battle of Port Republic, VA
Ref.: *Stonewall Jackson*, Robertson, p.441
4. John Reagan & Stephen Mallory
Ref.: *Jefferson Davis, American*, Cooper, p.332
5. Just outside the Chapel, a few yards from his master's tomb
Ref.: *Virginia Cavalcade*, Summer 1983, p.47
6. Senator from Ohio, Ben Wade, who was president pro tem of the senate
Ref.: *Sherman*, Marsalek, p.375

Bonus Answer: Brandy Station Airport, Va.

Ref.: *Wall Street Journal*, Section A, 8 May 2015



Future Presentations:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Oct. 15, 2015 | Michael Panhorst, Auburn, AL
<i>Lest We Forget: Memorial Art and Architecture on Civil War Battlefields</i> |
| Nov. 19, 2015 | Andrew Homan, 6th Ohio Volunteer Infantry
<i>Reenacting Gettysburg and Other Battles</i> |
| Jan. 21, 2016 | Gary Johnson, Cincinnati Civil War Round Table
<i>Countering Mallory's Infernal Machines</i> |
| Feb. 18, 2016 | Gene Schmiel, Washington, DC
<i>Citizen-General: Jacob D. Cox</i> |
| Mar. 17, 2016 | Dr. Michael Adams, Northern Kentucky University
<i>Living Hell: The Dark Side of the Civil War</i> |
| Apr. 21, 2016 | Stephen M. Hood, Huntington, WV
<i>The Lost Papers of John Bell Hood</i> |
| May 19, 2016 | William Alan Blair, Pennsylvania State University
<i>The Dirty Business of Winning a Civil War: Combating Disloyalty</i> |

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 (single) or \$30 (couple). Students enrolled full time in any recognized secondary or higher institute of learning can use a **Student Membership**, which applies a discount of \$10 to each of the above dues and initiation fee rates.

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 \$20. 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.

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