



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 PO Box 621082 Cincinnati, Ohio 45262 <http://www.cincinnatiwrt.org>  
January, 2006 Issue

## MEETING INFORMATION FOR JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Meeting Place: Quality Hotel and Suites

Time: (6:00) Sign-in and Conversation

(6:45) Dinner: Chicken parmesan

(7:45): Meeting and Program

Speaker: Kirk Jenkins, Chicago,

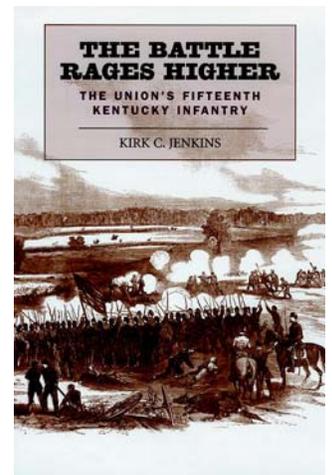
Topic: "The 15<sup>th</sup> (US) Kentucky Infantry."



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you do not have an Automatic Reservation, please remember to email your meeting reservation to [reservations@cincinnatiwrt.org](mailto:reservations@cincinnatiwrt.org) or call it in to John Linnenberg at (h) 513-922-3999 (cell) 607-4002 (has voice mail).

"The Civil War is a living thing in Kentucky", according to Kirk Jenkins in the Preface to his excellent 2003 book, *The Battle Rages Higher: The Union's Fifteenth Kentucky Infantry*. Our January meeting will complement Steve Engle's talk in September on General Don Carlos Buell and Steve Rockenbach's talk in November on the Indiana-Kentucky border region in the war. The unit was diverse in composition, with seven companies recruited from the counties around and south of Louisville, and three companies recruited from the Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky area. Nearly half of the unit had been born outside Kentucky, including 46 born in Ireland and 127 in Germany.

The regiment's four commanders were a unique group who included a West Point graduate/politician from an old Louisville family, a 19-year-old appointed for his bravery at Perryville, a Shelbyville lawyer/politician, and an Irish revolutionary/poet who had been the Cincinnati city engineer and Hamilton County surveyor when the war began. The unit was engaged at Perryville, Stones River, Chickamauga, and the Atlanta Campaign. Kirk has done extensive research on the individuals in the unit, as well as the unit's military history. We look forward to learning more about this group of men, some from old Kentucky families and some new to the U.S., many from the Ohio-Indiana-Kentucky border region, many from slave-holding families.



Kirk is an attorney who specializes in appellate practice in matters of Constitutional and employment law, living

now in Chicago. His undergraduate and law degrees are both from Harvard University. He is an eighth generation Kentuckian whose great-great-great-grandfather, Capt. Smith Bayne, Company F of the 15<sup>th</sup>, died in action at Stones River.



**Colonel James B. Forman took up the regimental colors at the Battle of Stones River and was immediately cut down**

**It is Time for Membership Renewals** If you have not yet paid your annual dues, please send your membership renewal check (\$25 single, \$35 couple) to Cincinnati CWRT, PO. Box 621082, Cincinnati, OH 45262. Thank you.

**Welcome New Members** The Round Table welcomed Jason Lambert, Ray Leen, and Steve Rockenbach into membership at the September meeting, Jerry Karle at the October meeting and Don Phillips at the November meeting.

**Attention ListServ Members: From Bob Limoseth**

In August we added every member who has provided the Round Table an email address to the ListServ distribution list. This list included two different groups of members. The first is members who were receiving, and prefer to receive, their Newsletter via email. The second is members who have email capabilities but prefer regular mail (snail mail) delivery of the *Canister*. Now that the ListServ concept has been in place for nearly five months, and all ListServ members participating in it receive an email copy of the Newsletter, I'm seeking an update from those who are receiving it both ways as to their preference. From an administrative standpoint the email delivery of the Newsletter is easier, faster and cheaper. Printing costs are reduced, labor is minimized and postage is eliminated. So...if you are receiving the *Canister* via both methods of delivery, I'd like to know if anyone wants to discontinue the regular mail method and only receive the Newsletter in the future via the ListServ. For those of you who want to continue receiving the Newsletter both ways you need do nothing. We will continue our present practice. If, however, you want to discontinue the regular mail method because the email format is working out just fine, just notify me at the check-in table at the next meeting you attend or send me an email at [rlimo@fuse.net](mailto:rlimo@fuse.net) and we'll update our records. P. S. For our members who do not have a computer, or prefer not to use one, there will be no change. Your copies of the Newsletter will continue to be delivered by the U. S. Post Office. Thank you.

**November Presentation, Summarized by Albert Hallenberg**

For the November 2005 Round Table talk, Cincinnati CWRT member Dr. Stephen Rockenbach of Northern Kentucky University provided a fascinating and regionally significant presentation on how the Civil War affected two Ohio Valley communities, Frankfort, KY and Corydon, IN (southern part of the state close to the Ohio River). Although Confederate troops temporarily occupied Frankfort in 1862 and John Hunt Morgan's raiders harassed Corydon, neither of these communities suffered the consequences of a severe pitched battle. Both, however, endured and struggled through the conflict in many other ways: politically, economically, socially and simply in the day-to-day activities of everyday life.

Corydon was in a Free Soil state and Frankfort was in a neutral slaveholding state, but Steve pointed out that many Hoosiers, especially in the southern half of the state, possessed Kentucky roots. In the Ante-Bellum era and in the early period of the War, Stephen noted this special bond, originating from a strongly shared frontier heritage. On both sides of the Ohio, residents associated themselves with the original "Westerners."

Steve emphasized how the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation began a process of shattering this otherwise congenial relationship, particularly when subsequent federal legislation allowed African Americans to enlist in the Union military. Although the two communities shared a view of white supremacy over both Native Americans and African Americans, both differed in the degree of racism. Kentucky slaveholders raged against the law allowing African Americans to enlist since it depleted a vital source of cheap labor. A number of white citizens living in Corydon, however, found the law initially useful as it meant that fewer white males in the area needed to join. This line of thought further angered a number of Kentuckians who, at this point, came to view the raids of Morgan and other Confederate guerillas as somewhat justified given what they saw as lack of support from their former allies. Recently acquiring his PhD in History from the University of Cincinnati (under the tutelage of a former speaker to the Round Table, Dr. Christopher Phillips who will return to speak again in May) and now an instructor at Northern Kentucky University, Steve was the 2004 winner of Cincinnati CWRT's James Barnett Graduate Student Award for his paper, "A Border City at War: Louisville and the 1862 Confederate Invasion of Kentucky." Steve brought to the Round Table food for thought on a regional topic that, in some ways, probably affects our area today.



### Preservation News by David Mowery, Preservation Chairman:

- *Battery Hooper Project update: The Round Table's 2005-2006 Preservation Project*

The CCWRT would like to extend a big thank you to all who have contributed to the Battery Hooper project so far! We have received 11 gifts totaling \$805 against our fund raising goal of \$750. With the CCWRT Preservation Fund match of \$250, we are now assured of being able to make our minimum commitment to the James Ramage Museum of \$1000 for interpretive signs. WOW! Those who have already contributed are as follows: Dan Bauer, Paul Busam, Albert Hallenberg, Skip Jackson, Dan Kimble, George and Sally McIlveen, Bob McLaurin, Dave and Dawn Mowery, Roger Parry, Jack Simon, and Dan Reigle. One of our contributors is one of the sixteen original CCWRT charter members, Roger Parry of Lexington KY, who has indicated he hopes to join us in October of 2006 for our 50th anniversary celebration.

Do not let this great news stop you from making a contribution to this project. Additional funds will be used by the museum board to provide additional signage, and to better fund the long-term maintenance of these signs.

The May 2006 meeting is the deadline for all donations. Contributions can be made at the check-in desk during monthly meetings, or by mailing your gift to Treasurer Bob Limoseth at Cincinnati CWRT, P. O. Box 621082, Cincinnati, OH 45262. Checks should be made out to the "Cincinnati CWRT" and the memo line should indicate "Battery Hooper Preservation Project." A receipt will be provided as all contributions are tax deductible under our status as a 501 C3 organization.

- *Proposal to Contribute \$500 to Restore Jefferson Davis's "Beauvoir" Home in Mississippi:*

After Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast this past summer, it became evident to us that many of our country's Civil War structures, battlefields, and museums had been severely damaged or, in some cases, completely destroyed. Even though the media spotlight has been on the plight of the residents of New Orleans, the people of Mississippi also suffered terribly. In fact, Mississippi sustained the worst losses to its Civil War sites of any state over the course of this past hurricane season.

In Mississippi, many Civil War sites have been lost forever, including the General A. P. Stewart House, the Abram Ryan home (Ryan was the Poet Priest of the Confederacy), and the Jeff Davis church, all in Biloxi. It is no small miracle that any part of Jefferson Davis's beloved Biloxi home, which he dubbed "Beauvoir," would have been left standing. But, even though nearly every neighboring house or business only had its foundation remaining, most of "Beauvoir" withstood the onslaught. Nearly 60% of the house structure is still intact, while the rest washed away in the storm surge. However, two adjoining cottages, including the one in which Davis wrote *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*, were completely destroyed. Also, the damage was catastrophic to the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library & Museum that sat next to "Beauvoir." About 70% of the 55,000 priceless artifacts in this library, mostly personal relics of Jefferson Davis and his family, were washed away by the storm waves. Ordinary citizens have found Jeff Davis relics buried under 6 inches of sand and mud nearly a half mile away from the house. Using a metal detector, one person dug up Davis's ambrotype that the Confederate president had given to his wife. Other relics, including Davis's saddle from the Mexican War and two of his carriages, were lost to the waves (or possibly to thieves).

Robert Murphree, a member of the board of the Jefferson Davis Home & Presidential Library, has estimated that the damages to the "Beauvoir" estate and library amount to about \$10 million. Of that amount, "Beauvoir" will receive \$300,000 from Save America's Treasures to go toward the rebuilding process. Although the organization carried all the insurance on the house and library that was allowed, the claim payout only amounts to less than \$1 million. Also, they have been informed that they will receive no money from FEMA. Further, Civil War organizations like the CWPT will not participate, because their money goes toward new purchases rather than rebuilding. Thus, Murphree says that the rebuilding of "Beauvoir" and the Presidential Library will have to come by way of private donations and grants. That's where *we* come in!

Because of the daunting task of raising nearly \$9 million requires special attention from the Civil War community, we propose to donate \$500 from the CCWRT Preservation and Sustaining Member funds to the "**Beauvoir**" **Relief project**. All donations to this project are tax-deductible and are to be used 100% toward rebuilding of the Jefferson Davis estate. The \$300 raised so far in Sustaining Member contributions this year will make it possible for us to make this "extra" gift. *To see some photos of some of the damage please check out <http://www.beauvoir.org/>*

Please be prepared to discuss and vote upon this proposal at the January 2006 CCWRT meeting.



**From Fredericksburg.Com by LAURA MOYER September 28, 2005**

**Historian Brian Pohanka**, who died in June, left a major bequest to the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, the group announced yesterday. The CVBT, which seeks to preserve threatened Civil War battlegrounds, learned by letter about two weeks ago that it would receive \$500,000 from Pohanka's estate. That's the biggest single donation ever to the battlefields trust, said its president, Mike Stevens. Pohanka--an author, editor, re-enactor and consultant to history-related films and television programs--was an Alexandria resident and a charter member of the CVBT. He had made several substantial gifts to the organization during his lifetime, but the bequest came as a surprise, Stevens said. "It was out of the blue, and it was him to a T," he said. "All we can say is, we're awestruck, and we of the CVBT promise to be good stewards of the money." At least one other Civil War preservation organization undoubtedly is feeling awestruck, as well. The Richmond Battlefields Association, whose mission is similar to that of the CVBT, also received \$500,000, according to a joint announcement e-mailed yesterday. Attempts to contact the Richmond Battlefields Association were unsuccessful yesterday. Stevens of the CVBT said his organization would use the \$500,000 to acquire "dirt and grass," protecting privately owned battlefield land from development. Previously, the CVBT's largest single gift was a \$250,000 bequest from Civil War historian Ralph Happel, Stevens said. The group named a preservation award after Happel, who died in 2002. Pohanka was the Happel Award's second recipient. Pohanka, a member of the Pohanka automotive family, was a lifelong student of history, his friend Rob Hodge remembered yesterday. Hodge met Pohanka in the early 1990s and said Pohanka raised his consciousness about the threats to hallowed ground and the need to protect that land from encroaching growth. He wasn't ignorant, and he was not blissful about the loss of historic land, Hodge said. "He saw it as a real, real problem." Besides his preservation efforts, Pohanka made important contributions to Civil War scholarship, Hodge said. Pohanka was the chief researcher for Time-Life's Civil War book series and wrote or contributed to several other books on the war. Just before his death from cancer at age 50, Pohanka completed a regimental history of the 5th New York Infantry, Hodge said. That work, which draws heavily from original documents, sets a new standard for how to write a regimental history, Hodge said. "It's going to really raise the bar, and that's what Brian did. He raised the bar." To reach LAURA MOYER: 540/374-5417lmoyer@freelancestar.com

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**Threads of Military History by Dan Reigle**

As we read and study the Civil War, it soon becomes apparent that there are many aspects to this very complicated and expansive subject. The more we learn, the more we find that we do not know. Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy are taught to organize their inquiries by a device known as "threads of continuity". The threads offer ways to place information and events into perspective, and to suggest new areas for study or different approaches to specific subjects, people, or events. I think these threads would help any of us in our own reading and study of the Civil War. Here are the threads and a brief description of each:

**Military theory and doctrine:** ideas about war; a generally accepted body of ideas and practices that govern an army's organization, training, and fighting.

**Military professionalism:** an attitude or state of mind distinguishing the expert from the amateur. The military professional is an expert in the management of violence and is characterized by a sense of responsibility to his troops and to the state.

**Generalship:** the art of command at high levels. Generalship includes both leadership and management (but neither word is a synonym) and many diverse functions involving preparation for combat, supervision during combat, and administration and maintenance of combat strength.

**Strategy:** the preparation for war and the waging of war; getting to the battlefield as opposed to action on the battlefield. Strategy is a changing concept now generally divided into national (or grand) strategy and military strategy (a component of national strategy).

**Tactics:** the preparation for combat and the actual conduct of combat on the battlefield.

Logistics and Administration: defines the relationship between the state's economic capacity and its ability to support military forces.

Technology: in a military sense, the application of science to war. Technology includes not only new ideas, techniques, and equipment, but also their application.

Political Factors: those characteristic elements or actions of governments affecting warfare.

Social Factors: those elements affecting warfare that result from human relationships.

Economic Factors: those elements affecting warfare that result from the production, distribution, and consumption of the resources of the state.

(From: Votaw, Lt. Col. John F. "An Approach to the Study of Military History", in *A Guide to the Study and Use of Military History*, John E. Jessup, Jr. and Robert W. Coakley, editors. Center of Military History, United States Army. Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1979. Pp. 41-56.)

### **Quiz---November, 2005**

1. During the Gettysburg Campaign, the defenses of Philadelphia were managed by a Union general (in Pennsylvania service) with the initials "A.J.P.". His younger brother, also a Union general with the initials "A.P.", also participated in the campaign....at least, he held a prominent position. Who were these brothers?
2. This innovative Union commander led a brigade derisively named the "Hatchet Brigade" after it was issued long-handled hatchets for use in dismounted hand-to-hand combat. He procured 7-shot Spencer repeating rifles and the brigade earned a new nickname. After the war, he became a Tennessee industrialist, owning an iron foundry in Chattanooga, and with investments in railroads and mining. Who was he?
3. On 17 November 1864, Jefferson Davis wrote to a group of state senators expressing strong objection to any possibility of separate state actions for peace negotiations. Which state was involved?
4. Identify the Louisiana city that was first occupied by the Federals on 12 May 1862, and was later the terminus for Grierson's Raid. It was also the object of an unsuccessful Confederate attack on 5 August 1862 during which the ram *Arkansas* ran aground.
5. Who were the commanders of the Union and Confederate forces at Selma AL on 2 April 1865?
6. Name the Union general who had inflamed Indiana political and military leaders by describing Hoosiers as "uncouth descendants of poor trash from the mountains of Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina."

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

To facilitate the printing and timely distribution of the monthly newsletter, information for it should be submitted to the editor no later than the following dates:

February newsletter, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006

March newsletter, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006

April newsletter, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006

May newsletter, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006

**Information may be emailed to [waldbill@xavier.edu](mailto:waldbill@xavier.edu)**

### **Quiz answers:**

1. Augustus J. and Alfred Pleasonton. (Custer, "The Knight of Romance, *Blue & Gray*, Spring 2005, p. 6, 19, 22.)
2. John Wilder, commander of the Lightning Brigade at Chickamauga. (Franklin, *Reconstruction after the Civil War*; Time-Life, Fight for Chattanooga, 21; Sifakis, *Who Was Who in the Civil War*, p. 713-714.)
3. Georgia, stimulated by Sherman's campaign toward Savannah. (Long *CW Day by Day*, p. 598.)

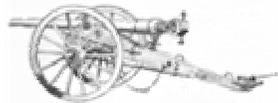
4. Baton Rouge. (Boatner, *CW Dictionary*, p. 50.)
5. Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest (CS) and Maj. Gen. James Harrison Wilson (US). (*North & South*, May 2005, pp. 60-69.)
6. MG William "Bull" Nelson, just before he was shot and killed by Union BG Jefferson C. Davis from Indiana, after a confrontation in the Galt House in Louisville on 29 September 1862. (Warner, *Generals in Blue*, pp. 343-344; Rockenbach, "A Border City At War", *Ohio Valley History*, Winter 2003, pp. 47, 51-52.)



## FUTURE PRESENTATIONS

### 2005-2006 Programs

February 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2006:	Paul LaRue and the Senior Research History Class, Washington Court House Senior High School.
March 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2006:	Dr. David Bush, Heidelberg College, and Friends & Descendants of Johnson's Island.
April 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2006:	Dr. Jim Ramage, Jeannine Kreinbrink, and Larry Klein: "Battery Hooper and the Ramage Civil War Museum."
May 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2006:	Dr. Chris Phillips, University of Cincinnati, "Gen. Nathaniel Lyon."
September 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2006	A. Wilson Greene, Pamplin Park Petersburg: Confederate City in the Crucible of War
October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2006	Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr., How the Civil War Still Lives
November 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2006	Barbara Davis, Chicago, Civil War Home-Front Letters of the Ovid Butler Family
January 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	Dr. John Cimprich, Thomas More College, Fort Pillow
February 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	Bob McLauren, CCWRT, The River Navy
March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	Jack Simon, CCWRT, Fortifications
April 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	Terry Winschel, Vicksburg National Military Park
May 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	To be announced



## Make Your Dinner Reservations Now!

### 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. Sustaining members are members who have made financial contributions of \$25 or more in addition to their annual dues in any fiscal year. The purpose of this membership category is to encourage and recognize members who make additional contributions 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 initiation fee of \$20.

**Meetings** are held the third Thursday of the month at the Quality Hotel and Suites, 4747 Montgomery Road, Norwood, Ohio (**telephone 513-351-6000**). If traveling Interstate 75, exit at Exit #7, Ohio 562 (The Norwood Lateral) and travel east to the Montgomery Road exit. After exiting, "double-back" by turning left across the bridge, turning left again after the bridge, and turning left at the light onto Montgomery. If coming from Interstate 71, also exit at Exit #7, Ohio 562 (The Norwood Lateral) and go west to the Montgomery Road exit. After exiting, continue straight to the light and turn left onto Montgomery. The Quality is on the right, and there is plenty of free parking.

**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*). **Late reservations** (after Sunday prior to the meeting) will be accepted, but will cause an adjustment of arrangements with the Quality, and may require an alternate meal selection, depending on total attendance. **Walk-ins without a reservation** will be able to have dinner if available based on total attendance. **Late cancellations** may be made by email or phone. Since a cancellation after the Sunday deadline means that CCWRT has guaranteed payment to the Quality 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 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 or cancel will be expected to pay for the dinner. **Meals** currently cost \$20. Menu selection will change with each meeting.

**CINCINNATI CWRT OFFICERS:**

President: Dan Reigle, (h) 513-777-9255 [DReigle@cinci.rr.com](mailto:DReigle@cinci.rr.com)

Vice President: John W. Linnenberg, (h) 513-922-3999 [jw.linnenberg@gte.net](mailto:jw.linnenberg@gte.net)  
(cell) 607-4002 (has voice mail)

Treasurer: Bob Limoseth, (h) 513-777-2160 [rlimo@fuse.net](mailto:rlimo@fuse.net)

Secretary: Albert Hallenberg, (h) 859-441-0385 [Alberthallenberg@zoomtown.com](mailto:Alberthallenberg@zoomtown.com)  
(w) 369-6909 [albert.hallenberg@cincinnati.library.org](mailto:albert.hallenberg@cincinnati.library.org)

Program Chair: Vacant

Newsletter Editor: Patricia Waldbillig, (h) 513-271-5766 (w) 513-745-3531 [waldbill@xavier.edu](mailto:waldbill@xavier.edu)

Membership & Publicity Chair: Jack Simon, (h) 513-574-0017 [JackPSimon@aol.com](mailto:JackPSimon@aol.com)

Trustee (2004-2005): Dr. Paul Busam, (h) 513-931-1516

Trustee (2005-2007): Mike Rhein, (h) 513-984-3227

**Committees:**

Preservation Projects: David Mowery, (h) 513-774-9544 [dmowery11@fuse.net](mailto:dmowery11@fuse.net)

Webmaster: Jeff Strotzman, (h) 513-226-1644 [jstrotts678@yahoo.com](mailto:jstrotts678@yahoo.com)

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Dawn Mowery, (h) 513-774-9544 [dmowery11@fuse.net](mailto:dmowery11@fuse.net)

CCWRT ListServ: Dr. John Steiner, (h) 513-528-3350 [jcsneuro@fuse.net](mailto:jcsneuro@fuse.net)

