



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>
January, 2010 Issue

Meeting Date: January 21, 2010

Place: The Drake Center

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

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

**Dinner Menu: Homemade Spaghetti & Meatballs, Homemade Lasagna,
Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread & Homemade Tiramisu
Vegetarian Option: Available upon request**

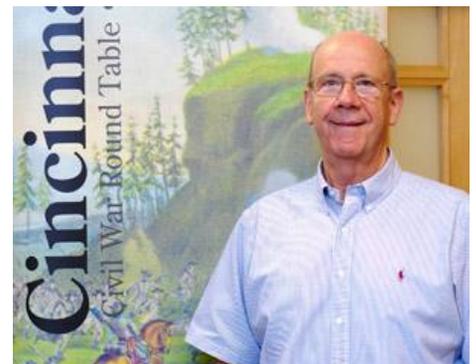
Speaker: Gary Q. Johnson, Cincinnati Civil War Round Table

Topic: The Monitor Class Ironclads: At the Dawn of Industrialized Warfare

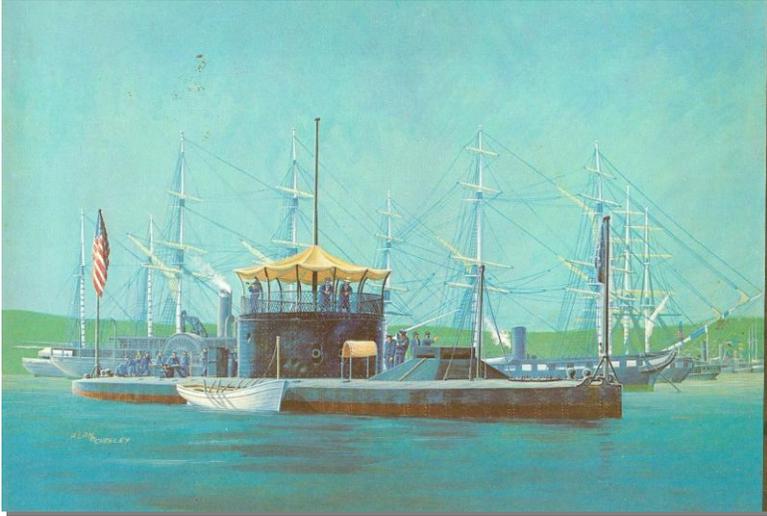
Reservations: If you do not have an Automatic Reservation, please remember to email your meeting reservation to reservations@cincinnatiwrt.org; call it in to Pat Homan at 513-861-2057 (h); or email: homanfamily@fuse.net. If you are making a reservation for more than yourself, please provide the names of the others. Please note that **all reservations must be in no later than 8:00 pm Wednesday, January 13th, 2010.**

About our January Speaker:

Cincinnati Civil War Round Table member Gary Johnson will speak to the organization for the second time at its January meeting. Gary is a chemical engineering graduate of the Ohio State University. He attended college on a Naval ROTC scholarship and served five years after graduation as an officer qualified in submarines and nuclear propulsion. His ships were home-ported in Charleston, South Carolina. After leaving the Navy, he worked for Procter & Gamble for 27 years in a variety of Health, Safety, and Environment roles to support manufacturing sites. About eight years ago, he left P&G to become an Industrial Ventilation Consultant.



As a follow-up to his unforgettable March 2008 presentation on the Confederate submarine CSS *Hunley*, Gary's interest in Civil War naval history continues with a presentation about the Union's Monitor class ironclads. Two interests combined to guide Gary to giving a talk on ironclads. First, he has a keen interest in the history of technology and its impact on the people using it. Second, the Monitors share some operational similarities to submarines. As part of the research for the talk, Gary visited the Monitor Center at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News, Virginia, where the gun turret and some of the parts of the USS *Monitor* are being conserved after their recovery from the ocean floor off the North Carolina coast.



Copyright: Alan B. Chesley, Leeward Publications, 1978

The USS *Monitor* was the first in a series of approximately 50 ironclads of increasing capability ordered by the Union. After describing the situation that brought the USS *Monitor* into the fight with the CSS *Virginia* at the 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads, Virginia, Mr. Johnson will focus on what it was like for the sailors that fought inside the ships, the advantages and disadvantages of this unique type of warship, the challenges to the industrial North of building a new class of highly technical vessels, and Cincinnati's connection with the Monitor class. In addition, Gary will describe the recovery of parts of the USS *Monitor* from the bottom of the ocean, and how these relics are giving a view of past technology to today's world.



Items of Interest:

CWPT'S 2010 Annual Conference: Join CWPT members and staff along with some of the nation's best known historians for four days of camaraderie and Civil War touring at the 2010 *Battle in the Bluegrass – The Fight for Kentucky* conference in Lexington, Kentucky on June 3 – 6, 2010. Tours will include the: Battle of Mill Springs; Battle of Perryville; Battle of Richmond; Historic Homes...and more! Invited speakers and scholars include Edwin C. Bearss, Kent Masterson Brown, Christopher Kolakowski, Richard McMurray and Richard Sommers. Conference Registration Fee is \$540 before January 17, 2010 and \$585 after January 17, 2010 - a small discount is available for on-line registration. Conference fee includes tours, tour guides, coaches, conference welcome packet, name tags, etc. Fee does not include hotel accommodations; you must make your own reservation. A special conference room rate of \$129 is available at the Lexington Downtown Hotel and Conference Center - the conference location - until Tuesday, May 11, 2010. For the full ad and schedule or to register on-line visit their web site at: www.civilwar.org/annualconference.

Inclement Weather Plan: If the weather turns bad, and the streets are difficult to travel, you can check the following sources to determine if the meeting is still on or if it has been cancelled.

1. Check the home page on our web site at www.cincinnatiwrt.org. We will post a simple update informing the membership on the status of the meeting.
2. Check your email for an update. If the weather leaves you wondering whether we'll meet or not, the ListServ will be used to communicate the latest information to members who have provided us their email address.
3. Call the Drake Conference Center at 513.418.2500 and inquire about the status of the meeting. If we decide to cancel, they will be the first to know and their switchboard operators will be informed.
4. Call Bob Limoseth, President, at 513.777.2160.
5. Call Pat Homan, Vice President, at 513.861.2057

Bob and Pat will make the decision on the status of the meeting by noon the day of the meeting. The decision will be based on the condition of the roads, the safety of our members, the status of the speaker and the Drake Meeting Center's ability to serve us. If a cancellation is required, we will have a June meeting to make up for the cancelled date since we are contractually obligated for eight meetings a year.

Field Trip to Central Tennessee: Reservations are now being accepted for a **May 1 - 3** CCWRT sponsored field trip to Central Tennessee. Tentative itinerary is as follows:

May 1 - Morning drive to Nashville, afternoon guided tour of Fort Negley and surrounding area, and a three hour guided tour of the Dec 15-16, 1864 Battle of Nashville.

May 2 - Guided tour of the Dec 31, 1862 - Jan 2 1863 Battle of Stones River in Murfreesboro, TN and a visit to the Sam Davis home.

May 3 - Explore points of interest involving the Nov. 30, 1864 Battle of Franklin including the Carter House and Carnton Plantation and then a mid-afternoon departure for return trip to Cincinnati.

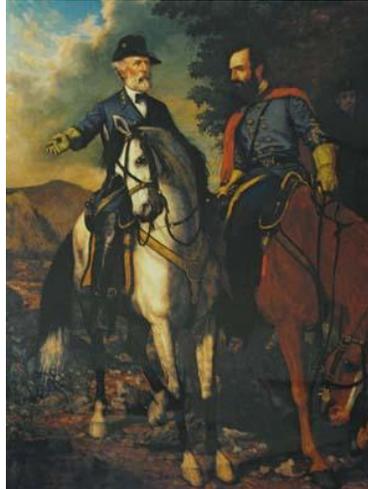
We will be staying both nights at the Murfreesboro Hampton Inn. Cost of trip is \$80 and includes transportation and tours of Fort Negley, and Battles of Nashville and Stones River. Hotel accommodations, entrance fees to Sam Davis Home, Carter House, and Carnton Plantation are the responsibility of attendees. Contact Dan Bauer at 513-870-2262 (W), 513-759-4495 (H) or e-mail at **DBauer002@cinci.rr.com** for reservations.

2009-2010 Sustaining Members: We wish to recognize and thank the following members who have given generously to help the Round Table continue to provide quality programs for the membership. Thank you!

<i>Ralph Arnold</i>	<i>Dan Kemble</i>	<i>Dave Mowery</i>	<i>Walt Stroud</i>
<i>Dr. Paul Busam</i>	<i>Tom Lewis</i>	<i>Dawn Mowery</i>	<i>Harriette Weatherbee</i>
<i>Dr. Greg Fisher</i>	<i>Bob Limoseth</i>	<i>Dan Reigle</i>	<i>Paul Weber</i>
<i>Dan Griffith</i>	<i>John Linnenberg</i>	<i>Jim Stewart</i>	
<i>Dennis Harrell</i>	<i>Bob McLaurin</i>	<i>Geoff Strauss</i>	
<i>Jill Holt</i>	<i>Mike Meese</i>	<i>Jeff Strottman</i>	

Help Us Distribute Brochures: We still need volunteers to help us distribute the new Civil War Round Table Promotional Brochure. This is time sensitive material and is only good for the current campaign year. Our target group for these brochures is local museums and historical societies as well as area libraries. If you can help us out, and reduce a large job for one down to a small job for many, please contact Membership and Publicity Chairman Mike Rogers at 859-360-6015 or email him at rogersmb1981@yahoo.com.

2009-2010 Dedicated Preservation Project: The Cincinnati CWRT's preservation project for the 2009-2010 campaign year is to assist the Museum of the Confederacy in its transformation from a geographically univocal facility to a decentralized encroached upon by its neighbor, The Virginia. The Museum's first future facilities will be located near The Museum needs help and we in responsibility to assist.



With this in mind, we ask that you deductible gift to our Preservation gift will not only be matched (up to Preservation Fund but each donor name on it dropped into a hat for donation earns 1 ticket, a \$100 gift 30 x 41 inch full color print of E. B. Lee/Jackson meeting preceding the Battle of Chancellorsville. The print is numbered, signed by the printer and framed. The original hangs in the Museum of the Confederacy.

strongly consider making a tax Fund for the Museum's benefit. Your \$500) by our Round Table's will have 1 raffle ticket with his/her every \$25 donated; thus a \$25 earns 4. The raffle prize is a beautiful D. Julio's famous painting of the

Your donation can be made at any of our meetings through May, 2010, and given to our treasurer, Jim Stewart, or mailed to the Cincinnati CWRT, c/o Preservation Project, P. O. Box 621082, Cincinnati, OH., 45262. Checks should be made out to CCWRT Preservation Fund. Any amount helps the cause and any gift of \$25 or more may win you a major conversation piece for your home.

Preservation Fund Raffle Winner: Our congratulations to member Ken Hoffman who was the winner of the Mort Kunstler Collectible Christmas Tree Ornament at the November meeting. Thank you to everyone who participated in the raffle for your contributions to help support battlefield preservation.

New Members: A hearty welcome to our newest members, Marilyn and Tom Riegert!

Newsletter Deadlines: To facilitate the printing and timely distribution of the monthly newsletter, items to be considered for inclusion in the February Canister should be submitted to the editor no later than January 23rd. Information may be emailed to: Dan_Bauer@CINFIN.com



November Presentation:

...submitted by Mike Rhein

Slavery: a word evoking a sad chord from a solemn chapter in our American past.

Even though slavery as an institution died in the South as the guns of our American Civil War fell silent in 1865, through the decades since that war with all the attendant issues of reconstruction, civil rights, riots and racial hatred, it has become our national scar tissue. The wound may have "healed," but it still grates our

national psyche.

Dr. Charles Roland, Alumni Professor Emeritus at the University of Kentucky, speaking to our CCWRT Nov. 19, dealt with the slavery decades prior to and during the creatively framed to the audience subject within a structure of a fictitious character, Frank plantation owner and slaveholder, to Jersey (now Princeton University) Freeport, Illinois (site of the second Stephen Douglas in 1858) on Jan. letter format on years of study writings reflecting the debate on the issue of slavery.



debate that had existed for “War Between the States.” He this nationally contentious fictitious letter written by a Lawrence, a Louisiana sugar his former College of New friend, Frederick Darcy in debate between Lincoln and 20, 1861. Dr. Roland, based his involving antebellum era

Frank Lawrence, not a secessionist, refers to the American nation’s “deplorable condition” during January, 1861 in terms of “fear and trembling” (this writer notes it is interesting that Dr. Roland chooses Jan. 20 as the Lawrence letter date; by Jan. 20, South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama and Georgia had voted to secede from the Union. Louisiana would secede on Jan. 26. Lawrence’s growing fear and dread reflected many Southerners’ anxiety towards the secession trend.

In response to Frederick Darcy’s inquiry on his views of slavery, Lawrence wished to “summarize my feelings” on this subject by delving into the history of its formation, citing “a few Africans (indentured servants)” sold by a Dutch slave trader in 1619 in America, emphasizing a “system transformed into slavery” due to the slaves being “suitable” to the country’s “climate” and “environment.” By the 1660’s, Lawrence notes, there were statutes enacting slavery and slave codes adopted. He adds that 13 colonies had legalized slavery by the end of the American Revolution. He states that the cotton gin’s invention in the 1790’s was a “stimulus” to the South, enabling it to be a “cotton kingdom.” Lawrence cites there were four million slaves in 15 states, one of which, South Carolina, possessed slaves as two-thirds of its population.

Lawrence, in a stab at Northern criticism of the South’s slavery status, stresses that “many (slave) ships “were of “Northern registry.” To dispel the North’s notion of widespread slavery control in the South, Lawrence informs Darcy of the following facts: “three-fourths of white families do not have slaves; the great majority of the South are independent farmers; white independent farmers and herdsman and Southerners in the back country do not feel competition with slave labor” (and) “do not feel disadvantaged.” The Louisiana sugar planter defends slavery as a “means of policing and controlling a large slave population (as) incapable of civilization.”

Lawrence, a resident of Napoleonville, Louisiana, feels that “a happy servant is a good servant,” adding, “we house our servants in comfortable quarters,” providing “a plantation infirmary” whereas in the North, “common laborers in factories and mines” in contrast to Southern slaves, have shorter life-spans according to a previous “federal census,” and that Northern workers make only \$1.50 per week.” He supports his servants when they are “ill or too old” and promotes a religious atmosphere in having a “chapel constructed on my plantation.” Lawrence stresses that his slaves “enter into wedlock,” with him being “against sexual license,” adding, “Marriages are done properly according to Episcopal form.”

Lawrence concedes to his longtime friend that “not all owners are conscientious,” inflicting “unreasonable punishments” and are “promiscuous with slaves.” Responding to “abolitionists accusing us of whipping slaves to work,” Lawrence says, “We determine the servant’s true nature of the offense” and that “we do not whip to draw blood.” However, he expresses dismay that the “poor, less- educated whites’ treatment of servants (is) lamentable.”

Lawrence finished his letter with his thoughts on the politics of the day. He states that the introduction of the practice of slavery was “regrettable” and that it has caused a “demographic upheaval of the times. He also laments that the Compromises of 1820 and 1850 were “nullified” by the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854 and the impact of the “Dred Scott Decision of 1857 have led to the present crisis. Emphasizing that he had opposed secession, Lawrence says to Darcy that he “voted for John Bell of the Constitutional Party” (in 1860) and that the “majority of Louisiana and the South have voted for Unionist candidates.” Because Lincoln and other Northerners rejected the Crittenden Compromise, Lawrence fears that war is inevitable as the die is now fatally cast.

Frank Lawrence, in summary, is symbolic of many individuals, North and South, who were increasingly torn in heated debate over the societal and political subject of, as historian Kenneth Stampp termed it, the “peculiar institution.”

In the question and answer portion of the program, Dr. Roland commented that in the absence of the Civil War, there is no indication that slavery would have ended any time soon. He stressed that John Brown’s Harper’s Ferry Raid in 1859 and the successful Haitian slave revolt were on the minds of many Southerners. Dr. Roland noted that, from the Southern point of view, “slavery was flourishing,” and that “there was no substitute for slave labor.” Dr. Roland pointed out that the post-war reconstruction period was a “failure,” because it “ran headlong with the problem of what to do with freed slaves.” He concluded with a telling observation: “There are still serious social problems in our society today that go back to slavery.”

Dr. Roland delivered a unique angle to the slavery issue with the imaginary letter approach by a Southerner to his Northern friend. He, in a way, reminds us that many gut-wrenching issues in our country’s history have ripped our national fabric: the American Revolution, Vietnam and Iraq, to name a few. Slavery, in its various tentacles stretching through myriad forms and effects in our American past, still echoes mournfully. The Civil War ended in 1865 in places like Appomattox Courthouse and Durham Station, but the subject of race still haunts us today.

November Quiz:

Q1: Where will the Civil War Preservation Trust hold its 2010 Annual Conference? Name at least one of the 5 featured speakers.

Answer: Lexington, KY - E. Bearss, K. M. Brown, Chris Kolatokowski, Richard McMurry, Richard Sommers.

Q2: Why would a young man at the time of the Civil War write the number “18” on a piece of paper and place it in his shoe?

Answer: So he could attest to the recruiting officer that he was over 18 & therefore old enough to join the service.

Q3: There are 30 teams in the National Hockey League only one of which has in its name a commonly worn item of clothing used in the Civil War. What is that team’s name?

Answer: Columbus Blue Jackets (i.e. according to the team’s web site, the name “Blue Jackets” was chosen to celebrate “patriotism, pride, and the rich Civil War history in the state of Ohio and city of Columbus.)

Q4: Which southern state contained the greatest percentage of all the slaves in the South from slavery's inception until the beginning of the Civil War?

Answer: Virginia. She was the source of slavery migration south & west; as many as 10,000 slaves were sold/month at Shockoe Slip in Richmond.

Q5: I am George W. D. Kirkland, the illegitimate son of Alexander McKenzie Kirkland, born in Hillsborough, N. C., in August 1838. My mother, a mulatto slave to Kirkland, was sold to the Garland family of St. Louis, Mo. She purchased our freedom from Anna Gardner for \$1200 in 1855. An expert dressmaker, she moved to Washington, D.C. in 1860 building up a very successful business. Her clients included Varina Davis, Mary Lincoln, Adele Douglas, Ella Stanton, and Mary Jane Welles. I attended Wilberforce College in Ohio and enlisted in the Union Army as a white man but was killed in my first combat experience at Wilson's Creek. My mother lived until 1907 having written an expose of her years with the Lincoln family. What was her name?

Answer: Elizabeth Keckly

Q6: In April, 1862, Congress passed & President Lincoln signed a bill emancipating all slaves within the District of Columbia. Not only was money appropriated to compensate loyal slaveholders for their loss of property, a sum was authorized to pay for the colonization of those former slaves who wished to emigrate, a concept strongly supported by Lincoln and many local citizens who feared that the abolitionists would make the District a "Hell on Earth." What was the average dollar compensation offered to slaveholders for each slave emancipated? How many slaves were emancipated?

Answer: \$300 – 3,128 slaves

Future Presentations:

February 18, 2010	Kris Teters, CCWRT <i>A Contested Past: Alabama's Centennial Commemoration of the Civil War</i>
March 18	Lois J. Lambert, CCWRT <i>Heroes of the Western Theater: 33rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry</i>
April 15	John Fazio, Cleveland CWRT <i>Francis and Arabella Barlow; John and Fanny Gordon: Love and War</i>
May 20	Peter Cozzens, Silver Springs, MD Topic TBD
September 10	Robert E. L. Krick, Jr., Richmond Nat'l Battlefield <i>"Bombproof Officers" or Backbone of the Army?: A Look at Staff Officers in the Army of Northern Virginia</i>
October 10	Ron Blair, CCWRT <i>Colonel Frank Wolford, 1st Kentucky (US) Cavalry</i>
November 18	TBD
January, 2011	Ralph Arnold, CCWRT <i>Civil War Military Railroads</i>
February	Pat Homan, CCWRT <i>Prelude to the Civil War</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 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 \$27. 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 accessed 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:

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Don't Forget to Bring a Friend!