



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>
May, 2010 Issue

Meeting Date: May 20, 2010

Place: The Drake Center

(6:00) Sign-in and Social

(6:30) Dinner

(7:15) Business Meeting

(7:30) Speaker

Dinner Menu: Roast pork loin, twice baked potato, buttered broccoli, sugar snap pea & berry salad, assorted dinner rolls, brownie bites topped with whip cream and chocolate sauce

Vegetarian Option: Available upon request

**Speaker: Dale Phillips, George Rogers Clark Nat'l. Hist. Pk.
The Real First Day of Chickamauga: September 18, 1863**

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, May 12th, 2010.**

About our May Speaker:

Making his first appearance at the Cincinnati CWRT by way of Vincennes, Indiana, Dale Phillips is originally from Jersey City, New Jersey. Dale obtained his BA degree in American History from York College of Pennsylvania in 1978. He began his career with the National Park Service as an interpreter at Gettysburg National Military Park in 1976. Since then he has served as a ranger at Fort Sumter National Monument, the supervisory ranger/historian at Chickamauga/Chattanooga National Military Park, unit manager of the Chalmette Unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park (1814 Battle of New Orleans site),

and unit manager of the Acadian Unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park. For the past 12 years he has been the superintendent of the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, Indiana. Dale also leads battlefield tours for the Civil War Educational Association, the Blue and Gray Educational Association, and the Delta Steamboat Company, primarily for sites in Louisiana. He has also been a Civil War re-enactor since 1976.



Dale Phillips

Mr. Phillips's talk will center on what he considers the real first day of the Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia, one of the largest battles of the Civil War. Most historians have centered their attention only on the fighting of September 19 and 20, 1863. Dale's program will present the idea that the important events of September 18 set the stage for everything that followed on the next two days. He will explore the strategies of the two army commanders, Confederate General Braxton Bragg and Union Major-General William S. Rosecrans. Dale will examine the maneuverings and positioning of the two armies as they prepared to fight the bloodiest battle of the Western theater. Not only will he look at the Union defense of the bridges and fords over the Chickamauga Creek at the start of the battle, but also he will review the attempts of the Confederate army to cut off the Union retreat route to Chattanooga. Phillips's presentation will also focus

on one of the most interesting of all the Union brigades in the action – the "Lightning Brigade" of Col. John Wilder of Indiana and his support battery, the 18th Indiana, commanded by Eli Lilly.

Items of Interest:

Election of Officers for the 2010-2011 Campaign Season: A slate of Officers nominated by the Board was presented to the membership at the April 15th meeting. If elected at the May Annual Meeting they will lead the Round Table during the upcoming campaign year. Those nominated and their prospective positions are:

Pat Homan – President
Tom Breiner - Vice President
Jim Stewart – Treasurer
Mike Rhein – Secretary

David Mowery – Program Chair
Dan Bauer – Newsletter Editor
Mike Rogers – Membership and Publicity
Bob Limoseth – Trustee (2 year)

In the appointed positions, Alan Berenson has agreed to continue on as Preservation Chair; Dan Reigle as Webmaster; John Steiner as ListServ Director and Shane Gamble as Club Photographer. Dan Reigle will also continue on as one of our two trustees by fulfilling the second year of his two year term, a position he was elected to at last year's Annual Meeting.

We thank John Linnenberg for his service to the Round Table. John is leaving the board after having served as President, Vice President and Trustee for the past six years – his second tour of duty as an officer of the organization.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the May 20th meeting as required by our Constitution and By-Laws. If you intend to make such a nomination, please seek the approval of the nominee to have their name placed in nomination and advise Bob Limoseth at 513-777-2160 so that a ballot can be prepared for voting at the meeting.

Last Month to Donate to MOC: The May meeting represents your last opportunity to donate to this year's Dedicated Preservation Project – The Museum of the Confederacy! And, as indicated in previous Newsletters, those who contribute to this most worthwhile cause will have one raffle ticket with their name on it dropped into a hat for every \$25 donated; thus a \$25 donation earns one ticket, a \$100 gift earns four. The raffle prize is a beautiful 30 x 41 inch full color print of E. B. D. Julio's famous painting of the Lee/Jackson meeting preceding the Battle of Chancellorsville donated by the MOC to help us raise funds. The print is numbered, signed by the printer and framed. **If you have not yet donated, we ask you to seriously consider doing so.** Your donation can be made at the May meeting by providing a check to Treasurer Jim Stewart at the check-in table. If you won't be in attendance, we encourage you to mail your contribution in to the Cincinnati CWRT, c/o Preservation Project, P. O. Box 621082, Cincinnati, OH, 45262. Checks should be made out to CCWRT Preservation Fund. Be sure your check arrives before our May 20th meeting date so that your name can be entered into the drawing for the Julio print. The drawing will be conducted at the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting.



Cincinnati and the Civil War: At every meeting of the Round Table for the last two years we have used a portion of the business meeting to revisit the civil war news that appeared in the Cincinnati newspapers on the day that matched our current year meeting date. The research that was necessary to provide this snapshot of the past was performed by member and Cincinnati Historical Society Research Librarian Anne Shepherd. As we bring this series of updates to a close, **we extend our thanks to Anne for all the time she spent culling the newspapers every month for tidbits of interest that were uniquely Cincinnati.** A complete set of the updates has been posted on our web site. You can revisit them by going to our home page at cincinnatiawrt.org and click on 'Anne Shepherd's Newspaper Events Reported' listing.

Standing Reservations Reminder: If you currently have a Standing Dinner Reservation with the Round Table, this note is a reminder that **it will carry over to the September meeting.** If you want to remain on the list...do nothing. If you want to be removed, you must contact Treasurer Jim Stewart and ask that your name be taken off the list. This format has worked well for a number of our members. If you are regular in your attendance, you too might want to consider this 'only need to call if I'm not coming' format.

Member Recommendations for Next Year's Dedicated Preservation Project: When the officers meet in July, they will be receiving recommendations from Preservation Chairman Alan Berenson on organizations to be considered for our year long matching gift Dedicated Preservation Project. If you know of an organization you'd like to have considered, please bring it to Alan's attention at the May meeting or contact him at: pberenson@yahoo.com. Of special interest to the officer group is local civil war projects, followed by regional, then national. Suggestions not accepted for the Dedicated Preservation Project will be considered for smaller one time contributions.

Donated Books Now Being Accepted: Our inventory of Civil War books that supplies the Preservation Book Sale table is getting low. Fresh additions for the monthly Book Raffle table would also be appreciated. Member donation of gently used books to supply these two sources has helped the Round Table eliminate all expense for purchasing new books from the General Fund. And, because of your generosity, we have been able to raffle off three books each meeting – a win/win situation for both the membership and the General Fund. Receipts from the sale of book raffle tickets for the first seven meetings of the year have totaled \$620.00. Revenue flowing into the Preservation Fund from your book table purchases has totaled \$152.00 during the same period. If you can help us out, please bring your books to the May meeting and give them to

either Alan Berenson, Preservation Chairman, or Pat Homan, Vice President. If you are unable to attend the meeting and have books to donate, please contact Alan and he'll make arrangements to have them picked up. We thank you in advance for your kind contribution.

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 \$585 - 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.

Gettysburg Civil War 150 Website: The Gettysburg Convention & Visitors Bureau - the marketing agency of the Battle of Gettysburg's 150th anniversary - has launched a website to share travel and event information to the millions of visitors expected during the Civil War's four-year commemoration. On the new website - www.gettysburgcivilwar150.com - visitors can find listings of all events and information associated with the 150th anniversary, from 2011 to 2015.

Central Tennessee Field Trip: Despite a 15 inch deluge of rain, twelve members of our round table made their May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd field trip into Central Tennessee and enjoyed a most memorable adventure. Battle of Nashville tour guide Ross Massey and Battle of Stones River tour guide Jim Schroeder took the group to all the famous sites and many overlooked places where key action took place. Both guides provided excellent insight into explaining why each of these battles played out as they did. Unfortunately, severe flooding caused a cancellation of the Battle of Franklin tour planned for the final day. Not wanting to waste the excellent weather that this day provided, the schedule was rearranged to include a self guided tour of the Munfordville, KY battlefield instead. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Central Tennessee as they try to get things back to normal after the record setting flood.



Jim Schroeder details the fording of the Stones River at Harker's Crossing



CCWRT members read about and photograph the Battle for the Bridge at Munfordville, KY



John Fazio

History is replete with human juxtapositions.

One of the more poignant coincidences in our American Civil War history, in particular, juxtaposed on a little knoll north of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on July 1, 1863 when Confederate General John B. Gordon stopped to tend to a severely wounded Union general, Francis C. Barlow, during a furious rebel assault sweeping the Union forces from the field.

This confluence of two generals, leading parallel lives, was the point of focus from which our April speaker, John Fazio of the Cleveland Civil War Round Table, developed his subject. Mr. Fazio, an attorney for 44 years and now retired, also delved into the parallel lives of the generals' wives, Arabella Griffith Barlow and Rebecca (Fanny) Gordon. He noted that both Generals Barlow and Brown were born in the early 1830's; both practiced law; both started the Civil War at low rank, private and captain, respectively, and rose to generalships due to such qualities as great leadership and courage in battle, and both several times sustained wounds. Both would hold political positions after the war. Another

key point of similarity between the two men was that they had wives who stayed by their side in camp through the war.

The two women nursed their husbands back to health for many months from battle wounds. Arabella, married to Francis Barlow in 1861 and joining the U.S. Sanitary Commission in 1862, cared for Barlow (having suffered two wounds at the Battle of Antietam in Maryland, Sept. 17, 1862) for seven months, according to Mr. Fazio. Rebecca (Fanny) Gordon nursed her husband back to good health after he sustained five wounds also at Antietam.

The speaker said that both men would exhibit superb leadership throughout the war, Barlow and Gordon rising to major generalships. These two leaders would, not knowing at the time, according to Mr. Fazio, confront each other again at the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, May, 1864. General Barlow, in General Winfield Hancock's II Corps, helped lead a successful assault on the "Mule Shoe" salient portion of General R.E. Lee's line. General Gordon led a counterattack to help close the breach in the salient, in addition to dramatically urging Lee in front of his men not to personally lead the attack.

Mr. Fazio related that Barlow would be given a furlough during the Petersburg campaign in 1864. His devoted Arabella had succumbed to typhoid fever on June 27 of that year. He would return for the Appomattox campaign in March, 1865, participating in the Battle of Saylor's Creek. Gordon would be present at the Appomattox Court House surrender proceedings April 12, 1865.

Oh, back to that fateful day at the knoll south of the Blocher farm along the Carlisle Road north of Gettysburg in 1863. Gordon, after giving water to Barlow and removing him to nearby shade from the blazing heat, asked him who he was. Barlow gave his name, then asking Gordon to read one of Arabella's letters to him and then requested him to tear up all of his wife's letters there on the knoll, so that no one else could read them. Gordon acceded to this request and rode away, convinced that Barlow would be dead soon. He sent a courier with a flag of truce to inform Arabella that she could come through the Confederate line to retrieve her husband, according to Mr. Fazio. Barlow, attended to with constant care by Arabella, would

return in time for the 1864 Wilderness campaign in Virginia.

Mr. Fazio described a chance meeting (one of those juxtapositions again!) in 1879 between Barlow and Gordon at a dinner party given by a New York Congressional Representative, Clarkston Potter. They sat across from each other at the table, looking quizzedly at one another until Barlow asked Gordon if he was the one that stopped to look after him at Gettysburg. Replying in the affirmative, Gordon asked if he was the same Barlow. The former Union general said yes. This serendipitous encounter would result in a friendship between the two former combatants, lasting until Barlow's death in 1896. They would meet again at Gettysburg in 1888, Mr. Fazio said. Gordon lived until 1904; his faithful Fanny died in 1931. Gordon, who served as Georgia's governor and U.S. senator after the war, in his speeches in later years would refer frequently to that fateful meeting with Barlow at Gettysburg and the subsequent coincidental dinner meeting in 1879.

Two life-streams converging and diverging time and again: Barlow and Gordon. Two wives displaying incredible devotion to their husbands, without which they might not have lived: Arabella and Fanny. Courage, duty, love and devotion: attributes not only at a military level but also a personal one. The generals and their wives: the aforementioned attributes reflecting not only themselves but the nation's as well in the time of its wounds on and off the battlefield. Mr. Fazio's fine presentation with its unique angle on the human juxtapositions in the War Between the States delineated the above qualities well.



Future Presentations:

September 10	Robert E. L. Krick, 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	Eric J. Wittenberg, The Ohio State University <i>Plenty of Blame to Go Around: Jeb Stuart's Controversial Ride to Gettysburg</i>
January 20, 2011	Ralph Arnold, CCWRT <i>Civil War Military Railroads</i>
February 17	Pat Homan, CCWRT <i>Paved with Good Intentions: The Road to War</i>
March 17	David Mowery, CCWRT and OCWTC <i>America's Longest Cavalry Ride: Morgan's 1863 Raid Around Cincinnati</i>
April 21	Harold Holzer, New York Metropolitan Museum, <i>How Lincoln Became President – In Ohio</i>
May 19	Thomas Cartwright, Lotz House Civil War Museum <i>Humor in the Civil War</i>

We Who Study Must Also Strive to Save!

April Quiz:

- I: Petroleum Nasby was (one answer is correct; pick it)
- 1: A financier of the pioneering oil explorer, Col. Edwin Drake
 - 2: A theologic friend to Pres. Abraham Lincoln & spoke at his funeral
 - 3: A leader of Mrs. Lincoln's circle of spiritualists
 - 4: An Ohio politician & supporter of Abraham Lincoln
 - 5: The pseudonym of an Ohio newspaper columnist

Answer: 5

- II: Another dead body was on the funeral train taking the deceased President Lincoln back to Illinois. Who was that dead body?

Answer: Willie Lincoln

- III: Your spouse says to you, "Hon, I'd like to go see 'With Charity for All' and 'With Malice Toward None'." Where will you take her (him)?

Answer: The Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis, IN

- IV: Who paid for Thomas Lincoln's (Abe's father's) tombstone?

Answer: Robert Lincoln

- V: Question showed photo of dog with the caption: My name is Fido; loved by my master; hated by my mistress; I was a friend of "Old Bob;" I was "assinated" in 1866. Who was my owner?

Answer: Abe Lincoln's dog

- VI: Question showed photo of male child in Civil War uniform with the caption: Born in 1853; died in 1871. Who am I?

Answer: Tad Lincoln



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!