



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



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# THE CANISTER

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Monthly Newsletter of the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table

Cincinnati CWRT P. O. Box 621082 Cincinnati, Ohio 45262 <http://www.cincinnati-cwrt.org>  
May, 2013 Issue

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Meeting Date: May 16, 2013

**Place: The Drake Center**

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

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

**Dinner Menu: Baked lemon pepper tilapia, marinated tomato & red onion salad,  
vegetable rice pilaf, steamed asparagus tips, and andes mint pie**  
**Vegetarian Option: Available upon request**

**Speaker: Gail Stephens, Monocacy National Battlefield**  
**Topic: *General Lew Wallace***

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**Reservations: If you do not have an Automatic Reservation, please remember to email your meeting reservation to [reservations@cincinnati-cwrt.org](mailto:reservations@cincinnati-cwrt.org); call it in to Andy Simmons at 513-705-9444 (c) or email [asimmons2@cinci.rr.com](mailto:asimmons2@cinci.rr.com). 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 8th, 2013.****

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## **About our May Speaker:**

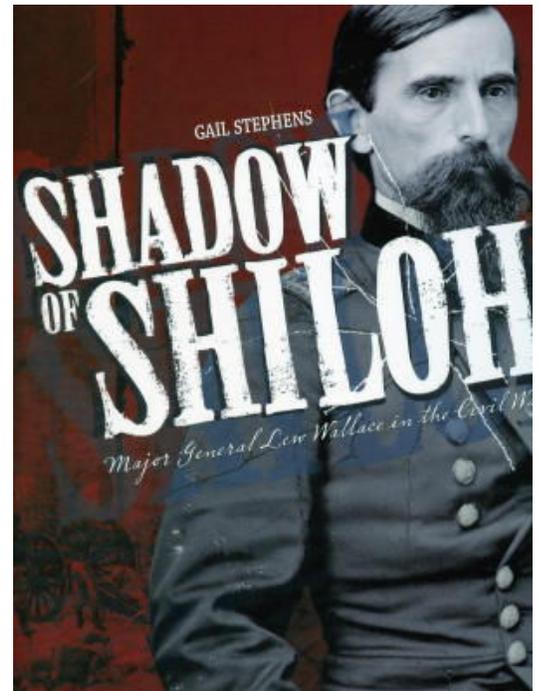
For our May meeting, we welcome for the first time Gail Stephens, currently a devoted volunteer at the Monocacy National Battlefield near Frederick, Maryland. Gail is an expert on several Civil War topics, but the life of Major General Lew Wallace is one of her favorites. Gail speaks about Major General Wallace with excellent credentials. Her book, *Shadow of Shiloh: Major General Lew Wallace in the Civil War* (Indiana Historical Press, 2010) is a well written and handsomely illustrated volume that closely examines this complicated military figure (the book won the Civil War Forum of New York City's William Henry Seward Award for best Civil War biography). Gail will discuss how General Wallace in the spring of 1862 was a

rising star in the Union army. At age 35, he was the youngest Major General in the ranks. But Wallace's military career faced a dangerous setback at the 1862 Battle of Shiloh. During the first day of that battle, Wallace's division mysteriously failed to appear where needed, though his command was only a short distance away. Later, Ulysses Grant attributed Wallace's late arrival as a failure to obey orders, an accusation that normally would ruin many a commanding officer. But Wallace's career continued. Gail will briefly discuss Wallace's role as military commander of Cincinnati, and his contribution to the successful defense of the city in September 1862 against a Confederate threat. Gail will naturally pay particular focus to the Battle of Monocacy (July 1864). Given command in Maryland, Wallace used his chance to redeem himself well, holding off a superior Confederate force led by Jubal Early, evidently intent on threatening the nation's capital. Though, in reality, Early's attack was perhaps more an attempt to divert Union forces from the Shenandoah Campaign, nevertheless Monocacy became known as the battle "that saved Washington," and Wallace regained much of his reputation with his performance.



## Gail Stephens

After working 26 years for the Department of Defense, Gail retired in 1994 from the Department's Senior Executive Service. She then began an earnest study of the Civil War, leading to her volunteer tenure at Monocacy and a lecture circuit on several topics, including the Battle of Monocacy, Major General Lew Wallace and the 1864 Maryland Campaign. In 2002, Gail won the National Park Service's E.W. Peterkin award for her contributions to public understanding of Civil War history. Gail currently serves on the boards of the General Lew Wallace Study Museum and the Western Maryland Interpretive Association. In addition to her wonderful book, Gail has written articles on Lew Wallace and Jubal Early's 1864 invasion for several Civil War publications, including the magazine, *North & South*.



Gail will have copies of her book, *Shadow of Shiloh: General Lew Wallace in the Civil War*, available for sale at the meeting. She will gladly accept a personal check or cash from you and, of course, will be happy to personally sign your copy.

Please join us for Gail's talk on this fascinating military figure (who also, as a side note, was Governor of the New Mexico Territory and author of the famous novel, *Ben Hur*).



# President's Report

... Pat Homan

All of a sudden it is May and we are at the end of another Campaign Year. This has been a very good year for our Round Table. We have enjoyed a solid program of excellent speakers, and next year promises more of the same. We dedicated the Burnet House marker in late October, which marked the end of one of our most ambitious preservation projects. At the April meeting, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Becky and Randy, we went over the top on the Lytle monument project; and we had one hundred and one members. This is great and all done with your effort and support.

Dave Mowrey packed them in for his presentation and it was excellent. I will let you read of it in the elsewhere in he *Canister*.

We have a busy summer coming up with various local events. If you hear of any relating to the Civil War, please inform Ed and Sally, who will take over as our Promotion/Publicity team, so we can try to get a table to publicize our group. Some will be attending the 150<sup>th</sup> commemoration of Gettysburg, while others are planning to be at Chickamauga for the Commemoration and the re-dedication of the Lytle Monument. I hope those who attend take plenty of photos to share with the rest of us. We have the Cincinnati History Museum's Civil War Weekend, June 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be other events including the Ramage Museums Battery days. There are others, that I just don't have the data on but I hope to have a complete list for the next issue.

May is the annual business meeting and the election of a new Board of Officers. The candidates are:

Pat Homan	President
Tom Williams	Vice President
Mark Silbersack	Secretary
Jim Stewart	Treasurer
Dan Reigle	Trustee
Mike Rhein	Trustee
Albert Hallenberg	Program Chair
Membership and Publicity	Ed and Sally Umberg
Randy and Becky Donohue	Preservation
Dan Bauer	Newsletter Editor

I want to remind the membership that nominations can be made from the floor at the meeting by simply making a motion to put a name up for a position and getting a second.

I appreciate the work Mike Rogers has done in publicity and am grateful he will maintain our facebook page. I wish Andy Simmoms the best of luck in his new position in San Diego; and I am extremely grateful for the continuing support of the Board members as the Round Table would not run without them. Finally, thank you for your continuing support in the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table.



## Items of Interest:

**2012-2013 Preservation Project:** Success! The CCWRT met its goal of purchasing seven cannonballs for the Lytle Monument at the Chickamauga Battlefield. However, the restoration project goes on. The project's intent is to have the restoration completed and rededicated on the 150th Anniversary of the battle in 2013. For more information, visit the Sons of Union Veterans website at SUVCW Lytle Camp #10: <http://www.suvcwcincinnati.org>. This site includes photographs of the original monument and its current condition.

**The Patriot Freedom Festival:** You are invited to a great Civil War related event that supports our Veterans!, May 25th and 26th, 2013, will be held at the Dayton VA Medical Center Campus. Hosted by the American Veterans Heritage Center, the Festival features reenactors, living history demonstrations, history tours of the Miami Valley Military History Museum and the VA Campus grounds, home of the original Dayton Soldier's Home and its Cemetery! There will also be free children's activities, a 5K Run/Walk/Roll, Vendors and Food. For more information, please call 937-267-7628 or visit [www.americanveteransheritage.org](http://www.americanveteransheritage.org)

**John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail of Ohio:** On July 13, 2013, the JHMHTOO will be officially dedicated in Harrison, Ohio. The City of Harrison and the Harrison Village historical Society has teamed up to provide a day-long commemoration event with lots of activities. Come see the exact spot where Brigadier General John Hunt Morgan and his 2,000 Confederate cavalymen entered the State of Ohio 150 years ago as they continued on their famous Great Raid (or Indiana-Ohio Raid) of 1863. From 10 am. to 6 pm., a Civil War encampment depicting life in the Civil War will be held at the city park at Hill and Park Streets. The main activities will occur along the 100-200 blocks of Harrison Avenue. Starting at 12:15 pm., Civil War musicians and singers will perform period music and song. At 12:30 pm., the formal dedication ceremony and ribbon-cutting will take place at the start of the 561-mile long John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail, the longest heritage trail in Ohio. A reenactment and skirmish of Morgan's Great Raid will be held at 1 pm. The dedication and reenactment will coincide with the exact time and date that Morgan's Raiders entered Harrison exactly 150 years ago. All of the public are welcome to come and take part in this unique dedication and commemoration event. Food courts and restroom amenities will be available for visitors. Throughout July 13-14, other dedications and events around the John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail will take place around Cincinnati. For example, Colerain Township will conduct a 5K run/walk event on July 13 along the Trail, and commemoration events will occur at Northgate Mall. On July 14, 2013, Evendale, Blue Ash, and Sharon Woods Heritage Village will also conduct Morgan's Raid commemoration events related to the Morgan Trail of Ohio. Please contact those cities or museums directly for more information, or go to the Ohio Civil War 150 event calendar (<http://www.ohiocivilwar150.org/calendar/>).

**America's Longest Calvary Ride:** If you missed the April meeting, David Mowery will be appearing at a number of local events over the summer offering his presentation about the raid and signing copies of his book.

June 1	2:00 PM	Cincinnati Main Library
June 29	1:00 PM	Cincinnati Museum Center
June 30	2:00 PM	Cincinnati Museum Center
July 14	2:00 PM	Sharon Woods Heritage Village Museum

**Tennessee Civil War Tours:** Join Clarksville, TN Civil War Roundtable president and experienced battle field guide Greg Biggs for your choice of two Tennessee Civil War tours.

**Fort Donelson Campaign. Saturday, June 1, 2013.** The tour will encompass where Fort Henry was originally sited, its current outer works and position under the Tennessee River as well as locating Fort Heiman. The tour then takes one of the Union Army approach marches towards Fort Donelson stopping where Lt. Col. Nathan Bedford Forrest clashed with the vanguard of Brig. Gen. John McClernand's Division. All of the sites in the national park will be seen including the water batteries and where Union Brig. Gen. C.F. Smith attacked the fort's outer works. Other sites include Grave's Battery, Buckner's attack point and the Dover Hotel where Brig. Gen. Simon Buckner surrendered to Grant on Feb. 16th, 1862. Most of the fighting took place outside of the park from Dudley's Hill and along the Wynn's Ferry Road and all of that will be covered in detail. The tour will conclude where Forrest escaped and Buckner surrendered to Grant. Most of the sites we will visit are not seen by most of the park's tourists.

The tour will be a vehicle caravan style and it is greatly urged that you carpool to get to Middle Tennessee and for the tour itself. Lunch will be on your own. The tour will base in Clarksville, TN, but you may also wish to stay in Dover, TN. The tour begins at 8:30 AM, Saturday June 1st at the park visitors center and moves out from there. We will return to the center during the tour. The fee for the tour is \$20 per person for payments made before May 16th, 2013. After that the fee will be \$25 per person. I will also need to know how many copies of the Blue & Gray magazine you will need so I can get the right number ordered. **Refunds for cancellations will be given up to May 24th; after that no refunds will be given for pre-bookings.**

**Tullahoma Campaign. June 22, 2013.** Join noted Tennessee historian Dr. Michael Bradley, author of the first book on the Tullahoma Campaign, and Clarksville Civil War Roundtable president and guide Greg Biggs for a tour of the pivotal Tullahoma Campaign. Dr. Bradley and Mr. Biggs teamed up for a recent issue of Blue & Gray magazine on the campaign. The tour will encompass some of the most beautiful parts of Middle Tennessee. Key sites of the campaign will be visited including Hoover's Gap, where John Wilder's Lightning Brigade earned its nickname and proved the worth of the Spencer repeating rifle; Liberty Gap, where Pat Cleburne's division took on Alexander McCook's Corps; Guy's Gap and Shelbyville where Joe Wheeler's Confederate cavalry was defeated by a resurgent Federal cavalry corps as well as Winchester, Tullahoma (Bragg's headquarters during the campaign); the bridges at Estill Springs plus Decherd and Cowan. The tour will conclude on top of beautiful Sewanee Mountain, home of the University of the South, founded before the war by future Confederate general Leonidas Polk. After this the bus will return to Murfreesboro.

This bus tour will base out of Murfreesboro, TN. There are ample hotels available for all budget levels and tour participants can choose the hotel they are most comfortable with. A Friday evening get together will feature lectures to prepare for the tour and allow people to relax. The tour then leaves at 8 AM Saturday morning by bus. The fee for the tour is \$68 per person if paid before June 12, 2013. After that payment will be \$83 per person. The fee includes the tour guides, bus, a wonderful BBQ lunch, and the Blue & Gray magazine issue on Tullahoma (which has the best maps ever for the campaign). **Any cancellations for refund must be in hand by June 16th or there will be no refund once the tour is booked.**

**Payment Information:** Payments can be made out to and sent to Greg Biggs, 2600 W. Henderson Way, Clarksville, TN 37042. Please be sure to indicate which tour you will be attending on the memo line on the check and in the accompanying note how many people will be attending.

*For any questions please call Greg Biggs at (931)217-4265 or email him at: [Biggs@charter.net](mailto:Biggs@charter.net)*

## April Presentation:

... submitted by Mark Silbersack

At our April meeting 82 people attended for David Mowery's presentation, the largest crowd we've had since Ed Bearss spoke in November, 2008. Mowery spoke on the Morgan Raid, a daring incursion of nearly 2,500 Confederates into Indiana and Ohio, a strategic move aimed at diverting the Union from building up large enough forces to seize East Tennessee or overcome Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee.

Bragg told Morgan to go no farther than Louisville. But Morgan believed that only by raiding north of the Ohio River would he attract sufficient attention to accomplish his mission. After entering Kentucky, he headed north, soon trailed by Union cavalry under Edward Hobson, who pursued Morgan for 1000 miles until finally capturing him in West Point, Ohio several weeks later.



**David Mowery**

While David's talk outlined the entire raid, he focused on Morgan's 35-hour overnight ride through northern Hamilton County on July 13-14. This spectacular ride -- beginning near Sunman, IN, early the first day and ending late afternoon the next at Williamsburg, OH -- displayed both Morgan's tactical skills and his men's raiding ability.

For perspective, consider Morgan's situation. From the West, he was trailed by Hobson, only about five hours behind. To the north were 60,000 Indiana militia. To the east, in Cincinnati, thousands of militia were assembled. Morgan might run into Union troops almost anywhere en route. But Morgan thought as a raider, not an attacker. His men moved fast, avoided fights where possible, never stopped for long. He sent them in multiple columns on different routes, so as to confuse the enemy and allow his men to move quickly while also foraging for food and supplies. While David provided many details, several incidents illustrate their tactics.

Morgan entered Ohio by crossing the Whitewater River into Harrison at noon on July 13. He met with his scouts to plan his routes, while his men looted local stores for leather goods, baked goods, etc. He burned the bridge behind him (delaying Hobson's pursuit for 7 hours) and sent troops on feints towards both Cincinnati and Hamilton, fooling the Union commander, Gen. Burnside, into concentrating troops at those cities, thus opening a

gap through northern Hamilton County. Morgan's men then made "the great night ride around Cincinnati." It was a very dark night, and the raiders and their horses were exhausted. Yet they moved quickly and silently.

Morgan's greatest concern was crossing the Cincinnati Hamilton & Dayton RR line, but when he came to the Glendale depot, he found the town square empty. Engaging in early "electronic warfare," he sent phony telex messages further misleading Burnside as to where the raiders were supposedly seen heading.

Of course, not everything went Morgan's way. At the Schenck House in present Deer Park, Morgan ate breakfast on the lawn, unaware that hidden inside the parlor were two fine horses kept quiet by four escaped slaves. And later that morning, a determined defense by untested militia and convalescents from Camp Denison repulsed the raiders and saved the Little Miami RR bridge from burning.

## Future Presentations:

Sept. 19, 2013	Gary D. Joiner, PhD <i>Red River Campaign</i>
Oct. 17, 2013	Stuart Sanders, Kentucky Historical Society <i>Perryville under Fire: The Aftermath of Kentucky's Largest Civil War Battle</i>
Nov. 21, 2013	Gary Knepp, University of Cincinnati <i>Camp Dennison</i>
Jan. 16, 2014	Gary Q. Johnson, CCWRT <i>Webbed Feet on the Western Waters: Cincinnati and the River Navy</i>
Feb. 20, 2014	Dan Bauer, CCWRT <i>Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Politics of Slavery</i>
Mar. 20, 2014	Mike Rhein, CCWRT <i>General Lytle: Home Again</i>



**Quiz:** There was no quiz at the April meeting. This month's quiz comes courtesy of the Louisville Civil War Roundtable.

1. What was so unique about First lieutenant Edmund Kirby of New York?  
*He was mortally wounded during the Battle of Chancellorsville while commanding the Fifth Maine Battery. The soldier who carried him off the field received the Medal of Honor. His leg was amputated at a Washington hospital but infection set in. He died the same day President Lincoln nominated him for brigadier general. He was 23 and the second cousin of Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith.*
2. What major Civil War battle had present in the vicinity of the field at least one governor, six senators, ten representatives, and one president?  
*The first Battle of Manassas/Bull Run had the above present. All were Yankees except for CSA President Jefferson Davis.*
3. How did the Civil War affect Mrs. Ora Palmer of North Carolina?  
*All four of her sons were killed at the Battle of Gettysburg.*
4. According to historian A. Wilson Greene, what was the highlight of CSA Lt. General Richard Ewell's military career?  
*It was the Second Battle of Winchester, June 12-15, 1863, when Ewell's forces totally defeated the Federal troops under Major General Robert Milroy. Although Milroy managed to escape, more than half of his men were not so lucky.*
5. What was the workforce of the Confederate Laboratory on Brown's Island in Richmond, Virginia by late winter 1863?  
*It consisted of more than 300 females mainly between the ages of twelve and twenty. This was the same factory where earlier in March an explosion killed three dozen workers and injured scores more.*

## **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@cincinnatiawrt.org](mailto:reservations@cincinnatiawrt.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 \$28. 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 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!**