



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



# THE CANISTER

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Monthly Newsletter of the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table

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

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**Next Meeting: September 21, 2006**

**Speaker: A. Wilson Greene, Executive Director, Pamplin Historical Park & The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier, Petersburg VA**

**Topic: Petersburg: Confederate City in the Crucible of War**

**More details in September *Canister*.**

**Standing Reservations List:** Eighteen members are currently listed on our Standing Reservations List. They don't worry about calling in each month to make a dinner reservation because they have indicated "I'll be there." They only call when they can't make the meeting. If you are regular in your attendance and only miss one or two meetings a year you too might want the convenience of our Standing Reservations List. If you are interested in having your name put on the list see Jim Stewart, Treasurer, at the check-in table. He'll have you sign the enrollment form and no more last minute worries about forgetting to call in. As with all meals, if the standing dinner reservation is not cancelled prior to the Sunday cut-off date the week of the meeting, and the Round Table has to pay for the meal, the member will be billed for the cost of the meal.



**New Webmaster:** We knew when he stepped down as President he would have some extra Round Table time that needed to be dedicated to a new challenge. We found one! Dan Reigle is our new webmaster, effective immediately. In preparation for this challenge Dan has taken his first online web site basics class, purchased the DreamWeaver software needed to do the job, and explored the web site files that make the [cincinnatiwrt.org](http://cincinnatiwrt.org) site work. If you have compliments or suggestions for improving the site please direct them to Dan.

Our previous webmaster, Jeff Strottman, requested that he be replaced as webmaster as soon as an interested and qualified candidate could be found. Jeff's business hours have increased significantly and that has made it difficult for him to devote the time needed to keep the web site current. We thank Jeff for helping us out as webmaster this last campaign year.

CCWRT is grateful to Bob Limoseth and his son-in-law, Bill McWatters of Delaware, for keeping our website in operation this past year. Multiple updates were required, in addition to a difficult change in webhosting service. We would have been offline without their efforts above and beyond the call of duty. Thanks, Bob and Bill!"



### **It's Time to Renew Your Membership**

Membership dues for the 2006 – 2007 campaign year are now due. Payments can be made at the September meeting to Treasurer Jim Stewart or you can mail your dues payment to: Cincinnati CWRT, P. O. Box 621082, Cincinnati, OH 45262. As you know we have two levels of membership, Regular and Sustaining. The amount due, and an explanation of the Sustaining Member level of membership, are explained in the article below.

### **Making a Contribution to CCWRT Above and Beyond Your Annual Dues**

#### **Sustaining Membership**

At the May, 2005 meeting the CCWRT membership approved an amendment to the Constitution creating a membership category called Sustaining Members. The Sustaining Membership level provides the opportunity for members to make 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 CCWRT.

Our two levels of membership look like this:

<u>Regular</u>		<u>Sustaining</u>	
Single	Couples	Single	Couples
\$25.00	\$35.00	\$50.00	\$85.00

If you are able to do so, we encourage you to become a Sustaining Member.

Note: Because CCWRT is a 501(c)(3) organization all contributions above the Regular membership level may be tax-deductible. Treasurer Jim Stewart will provide a receipt for each contribution.



### **Preservation News:**

We are looking into several projects for the upcoming campaign. Should you have any suggestions please don't hesitate to contact either Jeff Strottman or Pattie Waldbillig (contact information listed at end of newsletter).

We will be presenting our suggestions at the first meeting in September. We are looking forward to working with all of you this campaign year.

Jeff and Pattie

### **Forthcoming Book on Ohio's Civil War Monuments**

Harold George of Lakewood OH has produced a new book on Ohio's Civil War Monuments, including the exact location of 270 monuments and over 100 full color photographs. He expects it to be available from the printer in April. A promotional flyer and order form has been distributed to CCWRT Listserv, and will be available at the next meeting. Harold will be our CCWRT speaker in May of next year, talking about his research and book on the 9th Ohio Independent Battery Light Artillery. If you have seen his book on the 9th OIBLA, you will be confident that his book on Ohio monuments will be very carefully researched and full of information not otherwise readily available.



### **Upcoming Conference Cancelled**

Larry Gebing in Hamilton notified us that they have been forced to cancel their September 23rd conference, due to inadequate advance registrations. The Hamilton Civil War Round Table had planned to present 2006 Civil War Conference Benefiting the Moor and Bartels Scholarship Fund, On September 23, 2006 at The Manchester Inn, Email us at [Hamorndtbl@aol.com](mailto:Hamorndtbl@aol.com) or via snail-mail at: L. Gebing, 2536 Chapel Road, Okeana, Ohio 45053.

### **Quiz—May, 2006**

1. On 18 May 1864, the *New York World* and the *Journal of Commerce* published a hoax about an alleged proclamation issued by President Lincoln. The President believed the story to be traitorous, and ordered the arrest of the newspapers' staff and occupation of their offices. Both editors claimed to be victims of a fraud perpetrated by a stock manipulator. What was the false proclamation?
2. Grant's land forces in front of Vicksburg had no mortars with them for their siege operations when the siege began on May 18. They were able to locally fabricate cohorn mortars for six or twelve pound shells, and used them successfully to shell the Confederate trenches. Of what material were these coehorns fabricated?
3. Name the Confederate officer who began the war in command of a company-sized unit named the "Raccoon Roughs", which joined the 6<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry of which this officer soon was elected commander. He ultimately commanded a corps.

4. Name the five Confederate generals killed or mortally wounded at Gettysburg.

5. Petersburg was important as the junction of several railroads, including the South Side, the Petersburg & Weldon, the Norfolk & Petersburg, the Petersburg & City Point, and the Richmond & Petersburg. Outside the Union lines was another railroad that carried as many as fifteen trains of food and ammunition per day during the siege. It was described as “an up-and-downhill affair...no pretense of grading...soldiers declared it made them seasick to ride on its cars...it looked in the distance like a fly crawling over a corrugated washboard.” What was the name of this railroad?

6. BG Horatio Wright of Connecticut was commander of the Department of the Ohio in Cincinnati during the Confederate invasion of Kentucky in 1862, for which service the modern City of Fort Wright is named for him. As a West Point cadet in the Class of 1841, he finished second in his class and chose the prestigious Corps of Engineers as his branch of service. His classmate who finished 11<sup>th</sup> in the class (of 55) was also from Connecticut, but took the unusual step of choosing the Infantry branch, because he thought it would lead to faster promotions. Who was he?

### **Book Review by Thomas L. Breiner**

*Dissonance: The Turbulent Days between Fort Sumter and Bulls Run* by David Detzer, Harcourt Books Inc. Orlando, FL, 2006, 371 pages, Hard cover \$27.00.

Dissonance: The Turbulent Days between Fort Sumter and Bull Run by David Detzer is a detailed look at the opening weeks of the Civil War. The author, through the use of diaries, letters and newspaper accounts, examines the significant events during what may have been the most crucial period of the war for both sides as they move from a peace time status to a war footing. It was a situation that no one on either side really understood.

During these critical weeks, Washington, D.C. was briefly cut off from the rest of the North. If the Confederacy has captured the Union capital, Great Britain and France might have recognized the Confederacy and possibly formed an alliance. This work devotes much of the time analyzing the several events: Henry Wise’s conspiracy to take Virginia out of the Union and the capture of Harpers Ferry, the mob violence in Baltimore, MD as the Sixth Massachusetts is attacked by the citizens of that city, the Confederate take over of the Gosport Navy Yard, the struggle as the Seventh New York and Eight Massachusetts attempt to reach Washington through Annapolis and finally the importance of a slave named Luke.

The author’s analyzes the question could the Confederacy have attacked and captured Washington, D.C. during the period April 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup> of 1861. His insights and comments were extremely interesting and very thought provoking. David Detzer looks at the numbers of troops available, where they could be found, how would they be transported, and most important, who would command this campaign. The possibilities included, Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, P. G. T. Beauregard and Ben McCulloch.

I found this work to be extremely well research and written. The author has show a true ability to get to the heart of a question and give the read the information necessary to form their own opinion of how the events that shaped the early days of the war may have played out. He investigates what incentive was offered to keep Robert E. Lee in the Union army. Was Lee the obvious choice to lead the Virginia militia or may have Joe Johnston really have been the first choice of Virginia Governor Letcher?

This book is must reading for those that want to rethink the understanding of the early days of the Civil War. The approach is different and refreshing. David Detzer and now contributed three quality works concerning Civil War. His earlier works include Allegiance: Fort Sumter, Charleston, and the Beginning of the Civil War and Donnybrook: The Battle of Bull Run, 1861. Now, he has filled in the gap between the two and has done it extremely well.

## 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:

August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006  
November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007  
February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007

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

## Quiz answers:

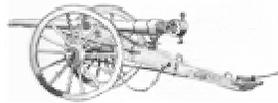
1. A false draft order for 400,000 men. Reaction to the story was so strong that Lincoln was forced to delay his actual plans for raising more troops. (Long, *CW Day by Day*, p. 504; Geary, *We Need Men*, pp. 133-134.)
2. Wood; "taking logs of the toughest wood that could be found, boring them out...and binding them with strong iron bands." (Grant, *Personal Memoirs*, pp. 281-282.)
3. John B. Gordon, of Georgia. (Warner, *Generals in Gray*, p. 111; Eckert, *John Brown Gordon*.)
4. BG Paul J. Semmes (w. 7/2, d. 7/10), MG William D. Pender (w. 7/2, d. 7/18), BG William Barksdale (w. 7/2, d. 7/3), BG Lewis Armistead (w. 7/3, d. 7/5), BG Richard B. Garnett (d. 7/3). Credit will be given for BG James Johnson Pettigrew (w. at Falling Waters 7/14, d. 7/17). (Warner, *Generals in Gray*, pp. 11-12, 16-17, 99, 233-234, 237-238, 272.)
5. The United States Military Rail Road (USMRR), critical for the supply of the Union forces in the siege of Petersburg. (Trudeau, *The Last Citadel*, pp. 298-299; *Blue & Gray*, Summer 2005, pp. 8-9).
6. Nathaniel Lyon. (Phillips, *Damned Yankee*, pp. 24-25; Warner, *Generals in Blue*, p. 575.)



## FUTURE PRESENTATIONS

### 2006-2007 Programs

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., Reflections on the Civil War Centennial
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 McLaurin, 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	Harold George, Lakewood OH, 9 <sup>th</sup> Ohio Independent Battery Light Artillery



## 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: John W. Linnenberg, (h) 513-922-3999 [jw.linnenberg@gte.net](mailto:jw.linnenberg@gte.net)  
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Vice President: Bob Limoseth, (h) 513-777-2160 [rlimo@fuse.net](mailto:rlimo@fuse.net)

Treasurer: Jim Stewart, (h) (513) 271-0738 [jebstewart@fuse.net](mailto:jebstewart@fuse.net)

Secretary: Albert Hallenberg, (h) 859-441-0385 [Alberthallenberg@zoomtown.com](mailto:Alberthallenberg@zoomtown.com)  
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Trustee (2005-2007): Mike Rhein, (h) 513-984-3227

### **Committees:**

Preservation Projects: Co-Chairs: Jeff Strotzman, (h) 513-226-1644 [jstrotts678@yahoo.com](mailto:jstrotts678@yahoo.com);

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