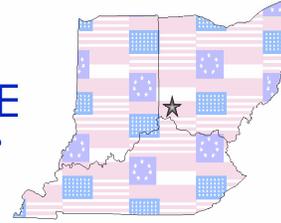




CINCINNATI
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
SERVING OHIO, KENTUCKY AND INDIANA SINCE 1956



THE CANISTER

Monthly Newsletter of the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table

Cincinnati CWRT PO Box 621082 Cincinnati, Ohio 45262

<http://www.cincinnatiwrt.org>

August, 2005 Issue

CCWRT ListServ: if you have email, watch your inbox for CCWRT ListServ startup

In an effort to improve overall communication with CCWRT membership, we will be making a change this summer in how we handle email communications with members. This change will also allow CCWRT members the ability to easily communicate with all other CCWRT members who have given us an email address. Within a few days after this Summer edition of the *Canister* is published, we will be establishing what is called a ListServ, a private mail concept used by many large groups that want to be able to communicate among themselves about a specific subject easily via email. If you have provided CCWRT with your email address, you will be receiving a message starting up the ListServ within a few days.

CCWRT ListServ will automatically include all members who have given us an email address – both those currently receiving the *Canister* via email and those who have provided us their email address on the Member Information Form but elect to receive the *Canister* via U.S. mail. (If you do not want to be part of the ListServ, you must specifically notify Treasurer Bob Limoseth to remove your name from the master list. You can do this at the September meeting, or via email to Bob at rlimo@fuse.net.) *Canister* will be published to the CCWRT ListServ every month. It will automatically arrive in your email as an attachment to the CCWRT ListServ message. For members who would rather receive a paper copy of the *Canister*, we will continue to offer the option of sending one via U.S. mail. Once again, you must notify Treasurer Bob Limoseth of your preference to receive your *Canister* as a paper copy.

Dr. John Steiner, a CCWRT member who manages three ListSers for other groups, will initiate and monitor our ListServ. There will be no cost to the organization. The list will be monitored to ensure that the messages posted are consistent with CCWRT's Constitution, and all messages will be archived. Only CCWRT members will be able to access the list.

Any member will be able to communicate with all other members of the CCWRT ListServ by sending an email to the CCWRT ListServ email address, and it will then be forwarded to all registered members. For those who are on the ListServ, all get the

questions or comments, and all get the responses.

We will continue to use <reservations@cincinnatiwrt.org> to make dinner reservations. The ListServ will not be used for dinner reservations.

Suitable subjects: CCWRT ListServ will make it possible for members to communicate with each other on subjects related to the Civil War. For example, a member preparing a presentation for the CCWRT might want to ask members for input about a certain subject, such as the location of GAR posts in Cincinnati with African-American veterans. We would communicate information this summer about the opening activities planned at the Battery Hooper/Fort Wright museum; after attending, a member might be willing to share his or her observations with other members on the museum and the events. A member might become aware of a significant program scheduled for TV or at a local site such as the Museum Center, and communicate it to the others.

Privacy of e-mail: Only CCWRT officers and the list host (John) will have a list of email addresses of the list members. This list is not distributed or given out, and your email address will not be displayed when a group message is sent out. Of course, if you post your own message to the CCWRT ListServ, your email address will be visible and available to other members.

Computer security (viruses, malware, etc.): John will operate the CCWRT ListServ through the University of Cincinnati, which has an anti-spam program and scans for viruses both ways. It is critical for all members to have their own virus-scanning program on their own computer.

We expect that this communication method will help us improve overall communications with the membership, and will provide a new capability for members to easily communicate with a large number of other members on Civil War-related subjects.

Main Library to Host “Forever Free” Traveling Exhibition

How was it that a nation founded on ideals of freedom and equality was also home to one of the harshest labor systems the modern world has known? A new traveling exhibition opening at the Main Library in the Atrium on **August 17 2005** looks for answers to this question by tracing Abraham Lincoln’s gradual transformation from an antislavery moderate into “The Great Emancipator,” who freed all slaves with a revolutionary wartime proclamation in 1863. *Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation* will be on view through September 30.

The Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County is one of only 40 libraries in the U.S. selected to host the exhibit, which was organized by The Huntington Library, San Marino, California and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York City, in cooperation with the American Library Association Public Programs Office.

The Library was selected as a site based on the historical importance of Cincinnati as a center of abolitionist activity and the Library’s significant Presidential, African American and Civil War collections. Highlights of these materials include: one of the largest sets of

Civil War regimental histories in the U.S.; current and nineteenth century sources on the politics of slavery and emancipation; over 700 books on Lincoln, as well as autographed letters, portraits, speeches and manuscripts; newspaper coverage of Lincoln's visits to Cincinnati, national and local politics, and Civil War reports; and all laws signed by Lincoln and speeches made before Congress.

“We are pleased to have been selected as a site for this exhibition,” said Patricia Van Skaik, Manager of the Library's History & Genealogy Department. “The Civil War and slavery are topics which must constantly be revisited in order to help 21st Century Americans better understand their causes and more clearly see how their effects are still with us today. This exhibit offers our community an opportunity to learn more about how Abraham Lincoln decided upon emancipation of the slaves, even as he tried to hold together a fragile coalition of states to preserve the Union. It is revealing insight into the values, principles, and ideals that guided one of our Presidents.”

Programs & Exhibits at the Main Library

August 17 – September 30

Exhibit: *Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation*

Beginning with “Young Lincoln's America” and ending with “Legacies,” the period right before Lincoln's death, *Forever Free* deepens our understanding of the painful issue of slavery and illuminates the paradox of the U.S. as a slaveholding republic founded on ideals of liberty and equality. This compelling six-section, 75-foot long panel show is chronologically organized into thematic segments containing a narrative on these topics and a display of reproductions of rare contemporary documents including: books, manuscripts, period photographs, broadsides, illustrative materials such as engravings, lithographs, cartoons, and political ephemera, drawn primarily from the collections of the Huntington Library and the Gilder Lehrman Collection. Main Library Atrium, south building, 1st floor

August 17 – October 1

Exhibit: *Lincoln and Civil War Imprints*

The Rare Books & Special Collections Department will have an array of Lincoln images and even Lincoln manuscripts on display from this time period in its hall exhibit cases. In addition, Civil War imprints, as well as later titles about this era, will be on view in the Department's reading room. Main Library, south building, 3rd floor

Saturday, August 20, 2:00 p.m., Opening Reception

Lecture: *Great Emancipator or Reluctant Emancipator: Abraham Lincoln's Complex Journey to Emancipation*

Christopher Phillips, Associate Professor of History at the University of Cincinnati, award winning author, and editor of the journal *Ohio Valley History*, discusses Lincoln's path to becoming the nation's "Great Emancipator" — one of the least understood stories in the American past and is far more complicated than most of us recognize. This talk will offer an introduction to the controversy surrounding Lincoln's legacy through the Great Emancipator's own racial views and background. Main Library Atrium, south building, 1st floor, refreshments

Saturday, August 27, 2:00 p.m.

Lecture: *Voices of Freedom: African American Soldiers in the Civil War*

Tony Burroughs, noted author of *Black Roots: A Beginner's Guide to Tracing the African American Family Tree*, awarding winning speaker, and guest expert for the PBS “Ancestors” series, will discuss this fascinating topic during his slideshow presentation. Over 190,000 African Americans served in the Civil War, many of whom were former slaves. They fought to preserve the Union, but also to end slavery, and free their brethren. But rarely do we hear their words. What did they say about their hopes, fears, thoughts, plans and actions during the Civil War? Finally, we hear from them in *Voices of Freedom*. Main Library Atrium, south building, 1st floor, refreshments

Wednesday, September 7, 7:00 p.m.

Lecture: “Collecting Lincoln”

Bob Willard, President of the Abraham Lincoln Institute in Washington, D.C, board member of the Abraham Lincoln Association, long-time collector of books and other artifacts about Abraham Lincoln, and consultant on numerous digitization projects of Lincoln memorabilia, will discuss how collecting has helped him understand Lincoln. He will also describe some of the interesting people he has met along the way.

Main Library Atrium, south building, 1st floor, refreshments

The Rare Books & Special Collections Department will be open until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7.

Further Information – Keep an eye on “What’s New” at www.CincinnatiLibrary.org for information on *Forever Free* and recommended books, videos, and websites on the topics of Lincoln, slavery, emancipation, and the Civil War.

Also sponsored by the History & Genealogy Department

Saturday, August 27, 10:00 a.m.

Lecture: *Locating Sleepy Hollow: Or Anywhere Else Your Ancestor Lived*

Tony Burroughs illustrates strategies for locating hard to find towns that may no longer exist. He begins with basic sources, progresses to more advanced sources, and concludes with high tech sources. Co-sponsored by the Hamilton County Genealogical Society, Main Library, Huenefeld Tower Room, south building, 3rd floor

CCWRT Preservation News by David Mowery, Preservation Chairman

Johnson’s Island Project Final Results Great news! We have successfully met our Round Table goal to raise \$1000 to give toward the purchase of land containing much of the Johnson’s Island Confederate Prison site near Sandusky, Ohio. Our membership donated \$759.00 to the cause, and with the \$250.00 matching gift from the CCWRT Preservation Fund, we were able to send a check totaling \$1009.00 to Dr. David R. Bush at the Friends and Descendants of Johnson’s Island, a non-profit group who is handling the preservation of the Johnson’s Island Prison archaeological site. The member contributions include the \$150 gift in memory of Dave Helmbock.

In return for our Round Table’s donation, the Friends will ensure that the “Cincinnati Civil War Round Table” will be listed in perpetuity on a plaque containing the names of special donors who helped save Johnson’s Island Civil War Site. This plaque will be displayed for visitors to see once the park is established for public access.

A special thank you goes out to all those who donated to the Round Table’s Johnson’s Island Preservation Project. Your donations toward this effort have made our 2004-2005 Preservation Project a complete success! You can now take pleasure in knowing that the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table has yet again played a major role in saving one of our country’s endangered Civil War sites!

CCWRT officers Bob Limoseth, Jack Simon, and Dan Reigle visited the excavation site at Johnson’s Island on July 13th. Dr. Bush provided an orientation to this year’s excavations, as well as those over the past 17 years, and a walking tour of the site. He expressed his personal and deep appreciation for the CCWRT’s support this year. A teacher’s workshop week was underway, so there were six “students” (teachers from around Ohio) hard at work digging, sifting, marking, and mapping artifacts extracted from the ground where latrines in Prison Block #4 stood in 1864-1865. The current day’s finds included a hard rubber button that appeared to be in perfect condition, and a metal

door hinge. For those of you may be able to visit the Hayes Presidential Library in Fremont OH before October, there is a superb display of many artifacts extracted from the Johnson's Island site. (See photographs included in this newsletter, and additional photographs to be available at the September meeting.) Dr. Bush will be speaking to CCWRT at the March meeting.

Following is the text of our letter that accompanied our contribution:

May 27, 2005

Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island

Attn: Dr. David R. Bush

3646 Confederate Drive

Johnson's Island, Ohio 43440

Dear Dr. Bush

The Cincinnati Civil War Round Table is pleased to present you the enclosed check for \$1,009.00 to support your efforts in preserving and maintaining the Johnson's Island Prisoner of War Depot. Your organization was our Round Table's first attempt at naming a dedication preservation project for the entire campaign year and the interest shown by our members in your good work is reflected in this contribution. We are also pleased that our contribution reached the Benefactor level. In recognition of that accomplishment we ask that our organization name, Cincinnati Civil War Round Table, be listed on any appropriate forms of recognition including the bronze plaque listing of contributors planned for permanent display at the prison site. If copies of the "Our Mess" drawing and a print of the 1864 map of the Johnson's Island complex are still available you can send them to my attention at the address listed on this letterhead. These items will be distributed at our September meeting, via a blind drawing, to members who were a part of the group that helped make this gift possible.

The CCWRT wishes you every success in your attempts to pay off the mortgage on the land containing the prison compound and an earthen fort by October 2005. We also thank you for the dedication and commitment you and your board have given to this important preservation of Ohio's civil war history.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Limoseth

Treasurer

Cincinnati Civil War Round Table

cc: Dan Reigle, CCWRT President

Dave Mowery, CCWRT Preservation Chairman

A Donation in Memoriam of Brian Pohanka and Shelby Foote

As many of you may already be sadly aware, the Civil War community lost two of its great leaders in June 2005 – Brian Pohanka (died June 16) and Shelby Foote (died June 27). Brian was a past speaker at our Round Table, and several persons in our organization knew him personally. He also was a major contributor to the well-known Time-Life series of books on the Civil War. Shelby inspired many of us to learn more about the Civil War, not only through his famous 3-volume series on the war, but also through his unforgettable storytelling in Ken Burns's world-renowned PBS Series on the conflict.

The Cincinnati Civil War Round Table officers voted to make a special donation of \$200.00 from the Preservation Fund in memory of Brian and Shelby. The donation was presented to the non-profit Civil War Preservation Trust to be used to preserve land at Shiloh National Military Park (Shelby's favorite battlefield) and to any other battlefield preservation project that the CWPT would find appropriate to honor Brian, who was an avid preservationist. May we not forget the work these men did to preserve our Civil War history for generations to come.

CWPT Acknowledges Our \$250 Contribution

The Civil War Preservation Trust has acknowledged CCWRT's recent contribution (prior to the Foote/Pohanka memorial) with this note:

“Thanks in large part to your timely response and your extremely generous \$250 donation to our most recent appeal to save 38 acres at Harpers Ferry, we have passed our original goal and raised \$250,000. That, of course, means that our anonymous benefactor will then give an additional \$100,000, and when all of this is added to the funds the National Park Service will commit—thanks again to you, we have saved the land! We did it, Fellow Preservationists!

As you recall, this is the land that most historians believe was the site of Stonewall Jackson's headquarters. So not only are you saving real history by helping to buy this land, you are also building on the successes we have already achieved there, while protecting the views and historical integrity of the rest of the National Historical Park. That is quite a legacy, and you should be justifiably proud of your part in this victory.”

Other Round Table News:

Sustaining Membership: Making a Contribution to CCWRT Above and Beyond Your Annual Dues

At the May meeting, CCWRT membership approved an amendment to the Constitution to create a membership category called Sustaining Members, 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 CCWRT. Because CCWRT is a 501(c)(3) organization, all contributions may be tax-deductible, and Treasurer Bob Limoseth will provide a receipt for each contribution. As we have seen with this year's Johnson's Island project, we can pool our contributions to make a meaningful impact on a project that we choose to support. If you are able to do so, we encourage you to become a Sustaining Member.

Good News on Dinner Costs: No Increase For the 2005-2006 Year

Vice-President John Linnenberg is making arrangements for the coming year with the Quality Hotel & Suites. There has been no general increase in menu prices, so we will be working to create a combination of dinners that will keep the dinner cost at \$20 per meal.

We do not intend to “make money” from the \$20 meal cost, but to maximize the variety and quality of dinners that can be provided over the course of the year within that cost parameter. You can do your part in this by making your dinner reservations by Sunday prior to the meeting, and by paying for the dinner if a late cancellation or no-show is necessary. The “Dinner Reservations” principles are described in full in the “About the Cincinnati CWRT” section at the end of every *Canister*.

City of Fort Wright Battery Hooper Site Museum: Now Open

The City of Fort Wright Battery Hooper Site Museum opened on June 30 in the Storer House on Highland Avenue in Fort Wright. Parking is available just beyond the site at the Community of Faith Presbyterian Church. To reach the site, take Exit 189, Kyles Lane, from I-75, turn south on Kyles Lane, left at the stop light near the City Building, then left again onto Highland. Formal dedication of the site is on Saturday, August 20, at 10 AM by Mayor Gene Weaver and NKU President Dr. James Votruba. The dedication

ceremony will be followed by a two-day celebration sponsored by the City of Fort Wright's Parks and Recreation Board and the Community of Faith Presbyterian Church. It will include the Camp Chase Fife and Drum Corps, the Hills of Kentucky Dulcimer Society, the Caution Quartet, and other entertainment, games and food. The Civil War Museum is the result of nearly two years of collaboration and work between Northern Kentucky University, the City of Fort Wright, the Scripps-Howard Foundation, the Behringer-Crawford Museum, and several other individuals and organizations. The result is an outstanding exhibit and display of information and artifacts about the Civil War and especially the role of Northern Kentucky and Cincinnati. The Museum also features an exhibit on Cincinnati businessman William Hooper for whom the Battery was named; the other 27 batteries and forts in Northern Kentucky; and Fern and Sheldon Storer, the property's former owners and residents.

Student Research Awards Program To Be Discontinued

Despite expectations from several faculty members, we did not receive any submissions for the Student Research Awards Program this year. After consideration by the Officers, we have decided to discontinue the program after its two-year trial. We appreciate the strong support from Dr. Jim Ramage, Dr. Chris Phillips, and Dr. Steve Rockenbach over the past two years.

Jeff Strottman To Become CCWRT Webmaster

CCWRT member Jeff Strottman will assume responsibility from Dave Smith for the CCWRT website. Dave designed, created, and managed the website, and it has become an extremely important part of the CCWRT's contact with the outside world. Many of our new members in recent years have learned of our existence from the website. We appreciate the great deal of work, time, and effort that Dave has put in over many years to create and operate the site.



FUTURE PRESENTATIONS

2005-2006 Programs

Six programs are confirmed for the 2005-2006 year, with the remaining three still being finalized.

- September: Dr. Stephen Engle, Florida Atlantic University, on "General Don Carlos Buell".
- October: Mike Grimes, Berea, KY, on "Music and Its Impact on the Civil War".
- November: Dr. Stephen Rockenbach, University of Cincinnati, on "The Ohio River Border Region in the Civil War".
- January: Kirk Jenkins, Chicago, on "The 15th (US) Kentucky Infantry".
- February: Ed Bearss, on "Whatever He Wants to Talk About!". We are planning to observe the 50th Anniversary of CCWRT at this meeting.
- March: Dr. David Bush, Heidelberg College, and Friends & Descendants of Johnson's Island

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 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 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 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

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

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

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

Program Chair: Dave Smith, (h) 859 486-7537 (w) 859-341-5627 dmsmith@brownmackie.edu

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

Membership & Publicity Chair: Jack Simon, (h) 513-574-0017 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

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

50th Anniversary: Dawn Mowery, (h) 513-774-9544 dmowery11@fuse.net

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