



Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



Due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the CWRT dinner meetings scheduled for the remainder of 2020 have been cancelled.

We are planning to have an in-person meeting in January, with no meal, seated lecture-style, and appropriate social distancing. Attendees will be required to wear masks. We will also hold our meetings at a new location in 2021. Please read Dan Dooley's letter dated November 11, 2020 on the following page.

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Civil War Round Table of **Kansas City** 436 West 88th Terrace Kansas City MO 64114

An IRC 501(c)(3) **Charitable Organization** Website- http://cwrtkc.org/ Join us on Facebook!



November Program

Mr. Wayne E. Motts, CEO of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg PA was scheduled to be our speaker. Unfortunately, this program has been cancelled.

Wayne has been a licensed battlefield guide at the Gettysburg National Park for twentyseven years and is the co-author (with James Hessler) of Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg: A Guide to the Most Famous Attack in American History.

Letter from our Round Table's President

The following letter dated November 11, 2020 is from our president Dan Dooley:

To: All Members of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City:

We have exciting news to start our new year at the Round Table!

Your Executive Committee has been hard at work, despite the difficulties thrown at us during this pandemic season. The results will provide you with a better experience for our monthly meetings in 2021.

First, we are announcing a new venue! Beginning in January we will be meeting at Milburn Country Club, 7501 W. 69th Street in Overland Park KS. If you are not familiar with the facility, it is between Antioch and Metcalf, bounded on the south by 71st Street. The entrance is on Santa Fe. The meeting room is much nicer than the one at the Holiday Inn, on the first floor, and is an all-round better venue. We are confident that the menus will also be an improvement.

We have a full slate of speakers for 2021 beginning in January. Anticipating what things will be like in January is a challenge. We have made the decision to hold the first two meetings using "pandemic protocols". There will be no food or drink provided, other than individual bottled water. Rather than round tables, we will be seated lecture or theater style, with chairs spaced far apart. The room comfortably holds over 150 in this configuration, and we will set up for a third of that, with a maximum attendance of 50. As a consequence, it is important for all of you to make a reservation, so we can control the actual attendance. There will no charge for these first two meetings to encourage you to attend.

Masks will be required, even if there is no mandate at the time. It is conceivable that you will be able to come in, sit and enjoy the presentation, and leave without touching anything but the chair you sit in. We are assured that the room will have been cleaned thoroughly, and the club has installed a new, more robust air filtration system. On a Tuesday evening, we will be virtually the only people in the facility.

There will be no book sales, either on tables or by auction, to reduce any contact. There will be no "social hour" and members will be reminded to maintain proper distance throughout the meeting.

We hope to begin regular meetings with meal service and a cash bar in March. This decision will be revisited in February to determine if it is appropriate. When we begin regular meetings with meals, the cost will be \$32. We realize this is an increase from the past year, but we feel the improved venue and meals will more than compensate for the increase. And, as promised, your first meal will be on us. To prevent this from becoming an accounting nightmare, we are offering this free meal for any of the first three months in which we offer meals. So, if you cannot attend in March, a free meal is still available to you in April or May.

In the meantime, you are all encouraged to mail your membership dues for 2021 to Susan Keipp, 436 W. 88th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64114. *Dues have not increased.* The dues are \$35 per individual or \$55 per couple. Your dues help to defer the cost of bringing in nationally known speakers to our Round Table and we encourage you to renew your membership. Please note that in order to reserve your free dinner you must have paid your membership dues for 2021.

We are excited about the changes for the upcoming year and look forward to returning to a more "normal" meeting agenda, whenever the situation allows for that to happen. We look forward to seeing you in January for our first meeting. However, our first concern is for the safety of our members, and (I say with trepidation) plans could change between the time you read this and the scheduled meeting time. We will keep you informed.

If you have any questions or comments, I would love to hear them. You can email me at dandooley1861@gmail.com. This is your organization and I encourage you to provide feedback.

See you in January.

Regards,

Dan Dooley

President, Civil War Round Table of Kansas City

On behalf of the Civil War Round Table, we would like to thank **Dan Dooley** and **Don Bates, Sr.** for their efforts in finding a new venue for our Round Table meetings and negotiating a contract with Milburn Country Club for 2021.

This Month's Program Cancelled

The following information regarding our scheduled speaker is from the Amazon website:

Wayne E. Motts was born and raised in central Ohio and graduated from The Ohio State University with a B.A. in military history in 1989. Moving to Gettysburg in 1990, Wayne earned a Masters Degree in American History from the Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania in 1994.

Wayne was one of the youngest persons ever to complete the licensing process to be a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg National Military Park. He has guided parties around the famous field for 27 years. He has spoken to a wide range of historical bodies and groups on topics related to the American Civil War including the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

In addition to his speaking engagements, Wayne has published several pieces related to the American Civil War in a variety of publications. He is considered the leading authority in the nation on Southern General Lewis Addison Armistead of Pickett's Charge fame and has published the only biography of the general entitled, Trust in God and Fear Nothing: Lewis A. Armistead, CSA. For ten years he was the research historian for renowned Civil War Artist Dale Gallon of Gettysburg where he assisted in the historical research of 40 works of fine art.

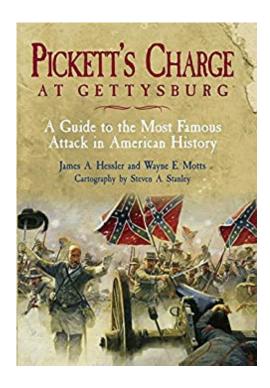
Wayne was the Senior Research Historian for TravelBrains Corporation and in this capacity researched material to be included in a number of audio-visual products related to the American Civil War. The products produced by his research have been endorsed by the History Channel and have won numerous awards.

In 2002, Wayne accepted the position of curator at the Cumberland County Historical Society where he managed a collection of 8,000 artifacts. In 2004, he assumed duties as the collections manager of the Adams County Historical Society in Gettysburg. In 2005, Wayne was named executive director of the Society. He led this organization from January 2005 until April 2012 and assisted the Society and Lutheran Theological Seminary it the rehabilitation of Schmucker Hall, one of the country's most significant Civil War structures.

In April 2012, Wayne accepted the position of chief executive officer of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Opened in 2001, the National Civil War Museum has over 65,000 square feet of total space with more than 21,000 square feet dedicated to exhibit and educational areas. It holds more than 25,000 historical items related to both sides of the conflict.

Wayne's father is Warren E. Motts, founder and director of the Motts Military Museum in Groveport OH.

Book: Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg: A Guide to the Most Famous Attack in American History



The following text regarding the book <u>Pickett's</u> <u>Charge at Gettysburg: A Guide to the Most Famous</u> <u>Attack in American History</u> is from the Amazon website:

150 years after the event, the grand near-suicidal attack against the Union position on Cemetery Ridge still emotionally resonates with Gettysburg enthusiasts like no other aspect of the battle. On the afternoon of July 3, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee ordered more than 12,000 Southern infantry to undertake what would become the most legendary charge in American military history. This attack, popularly but inaccurately known as "Pickett's Charge," is often considered the turning point of the Civil War's seminal battle of Gettysburg. Although much has been written about the battle itself and Pickett's Charge in particular, Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg is the first battlefield guide for this celebrated assault.

After the war, one staff officer perceptively observed that the charge "has been more criticized, and is still less understood, than any other act of the Gettysburg drama." Unfortunately, what was true then remains true to this day. The authors of this book—two of Gettysburg's elite Licensed Battlefield Guides along with one of the Civil War's leading cartographers—have corrected that oversight.

Grounded in the premise that no better resource exists for understanding this unique event than the battlefield itself, Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg encourages its readers to explore this storied event from

a wide variety of perspectives. For the first time, readers can march toward the Copse of Trees with Armistead's Virginians, advance on the Confederate left with Pettigrew's North Carolinians, or defend the Angle with Alonzo Cushing's gunners and thousands of Union soldiers. There is much here to enrich the experience, including dozens of full-color original maps, scores of battlefield and other historic photographs, a unique mix of rare human interest stories, a discussion of leadership controversies, and a rare collection of artifacts directly related to the charge.

Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg is designed for readers to enjoy on or off the battlefield, and will give Civil War enthusiasts an entirely new appreciation for, and understanding of, Gettysburg's third day of battle.

Upcoming Speaker Schedule for 2020-2021

- **December 15, 2020:** Round Table member **Deb Buckner** was scheduled to give a program about Libby Custer, wife of George Armstrong Custer. This program has been cancelled.
- January 26, 2021: Dr. Harry Laver with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth is scheduled to be our speaker. He will give a program about the relationship between General Ulysses S. Grant and General Robert E. Lee.
- February 23, 2021: James S. Martin, Dean of Academics at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth is scheduled to be our speaker. He will give a program titled: "Black Military Heroes of the Civil War."
- March 23, 2021: Dr. Jeff Gentsch, Professor of Military History at the University of West Alabama is scheduled to give a program titled: "The Battle of Shiloh and the Evolution of Artillery, 1861-1870."
- April 27, 2021: Dr. Chris Phillips is scheduled to give a program about Missouri in the Civil War.
- May 25, 2021: Jeffry D. Wert from Centerville PA is scheduled to speak about his new book titled: *Civil War Barons*.
- June 22, 2021: Teresa Roane, archivist for the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Richmond VA, will be out speaker. She will address the role of minorities in the logistical operations of the Confederate Army.
- July 27, 2021: Ron Coddington, publisher of *Military Images*, a full color magazine published quarterly, will be our speaker. He will present photographic images of the Civil War.

- August 24, 2021: Dr. Ginette Aley, Professor of History at Kansas State University, will give a program about the Civil War on the home front. She has co-edited a book titled: <u>Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War.</u>
- September 28, 2021: Dr. Joseph M. Beilein Jr., assistant professor of history at Penn State University, Erie PA will be our speaker. He will be speaking about bushwhackers in Missouri. Dr. Beilein is the author of the book titled: Bushwhackers: Guerrilla Warfare, Manhood, and the Household in Civil War Missouri.
- October 26, 2021: Dr. Paul Kahan will give a program about his book titled: <u>The Presidency</u> of Ulysses S. Grant.
- November 16, 2021: Speaker to be determined.
- **December 14, 2021: Arnold Schofield** will be discussing the book written by Robert E. May titled: <u>Yuletide in Dixie: Slavery, Christmas, and Southern Memory.</u>

Please Renew Your Membership for 2021

Now is the time to renew your membership in the Civil War Round Table for next year. The membership dues are the same as this year: \$35 per individual or \$55 per couple. Membership dues help pay for the travel costs for our speakers who live out of town and pay for our administrative expenses. We have a great list of speakers lined up for 2021. Please mail your membership dues to **Susan Keipp**, 436 West 88th Terrace, Kansas City MO 64114 by December 31, 2020. Thank you for being a member of our Round Table!

American Battlefield Trust Contribution

On behalf of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City, **Susan Keipp** sent a contribution of \$100 to the American Battlefield Trust, in honor of Civil War author and historian Edwin C. Bearss, who died on September 15, 2020. A copy of the American Battlefield Trust's thank you letter is included on Page 7 of this month's *Border Bugle*.

The Monnett Battle of Westport Fund Needs Our Help

Round Table member **Dick Titterington** sent the following e-mails on November 10, 2020:

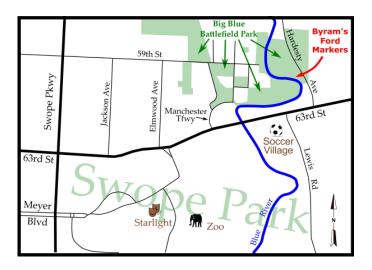
"Dan Smith and I, with a lot of help from our new friend John Twite, just finished installing three historical markers this morning down at Byram's Ford. The marker assembly is screwed together using a T-25 Torx Tamper Proof Screwdriver Bit. The marker

manufacturer provided us with a single bit. I have purchased additional bits. Would the Round Table be able to store one of these bits with someone as a backup? I will have one of the bits and Dan Smith will keep one. But we are both older than dirt. And we are just looking for a bit of insurance, say ten years down the road when the panels might need to be replaced.



"Here's a link to my web page about the markers:

http://www.transmississippimusings.com/pages/historical-markers/byrams-ford-markers.php



"Dan and I also want to put together an action plan to put additional historical markers out across the battlefield and renew the original BOW Driving Tour that's out on the Battle of Westport website.

"Do you have any suggestions about who might be interested in helping us put together this plan?"

If you would be interested in helping Dick Titterington with either of these requests, please e-mail Dick at: myrtlewarbler@gmail.com

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #619

Surrounded by Bushwhackers

During the Civil War, especially in Western Missouri, one of the worst things that could happen to a Union patrol was to be ambushed and surrounded by Confederate Guerrillas or Bushwhackers. The following after action reports describe such an incident and the patrol that followed. Both of these reports are located in Volume 13 of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion on Pages 124-125 and 128-129.

[To]: "Lieut. D. A. Thatcher,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Jefferson City, Missouri.

Post at Warrensburg, Mo., June 18,1864.

Lieutenant: I have the honor to report that Lieut. Sandy Lowe, Company G, Seventh Missouri State Militia, with 18 men, yesterday morning came suddenly upon a small band of BUSHWHACKERS at the house of Mrs. Davenport, 9 miles west of this place. They fired upon the militia, wounding one slightly, and fled to the brush. The militia fired, killing two and securing their horses and arms. A running fight was kept up through the brush for near half a mile, when the Lieutenant found himself entirely "SURROUNDED BY BUSHWHACKERS", the number as near as could be estimated between 80 or 90, report says 150 or 200. The militia fought well for nearly half an hour, cutting their way through the swarming guerrillas. When they reached the prairie they made a desperate stand and sent a runner to me for assistance. I started immediately with 55 men and met the Lieutenant 3 miles west of here, coming to camp. He reported that he left three men wounded in the brush and had killed 8 or 9 of the enemy; that the bushwhackers had followed him a short distance from the brush and then went west. Lieutenant Lowe was shot through the left hand. I went immediately to the ground where the men had been left and found two of them stripped of their clothing and horribly mutilated, one of them with more than a dozen revolver balls in his body and his head frightfully broken and mangled.

I followed the trail of the guerrillas some distance, but night coming on and a heavy storm with it, I returned to town. I came by the house of Mrs. Davenport and found it deserted, a large quantity of provisions cooked and packed in baskets, sacks, etc. and a long table set for dinner for a number of men. I ordered the HOUSE BURNED, which was done. I found Corporal Holstein,

Company G (who had been left on the ground wounded), 3 miles west of here. He had crawled 6 miles through the grass and brush. His wound is not dangerous.

The excitement in the county is intense. As many as 50 citizens from town and county came with arms and offered their services to protect the place. Day before yesterday a young man named White was shot down while plowing in the field. Two of the worst bushwhackers I have in jail will be SHOT today in part for his life. I have positive information that Upton Hayes came into this county three days ago with 100 men and joined Brinker and Snelling, who had 85 or 90 men. The citizens are moving to town in numbers to save what little household goods they have left. Four houses were plundered and one fired [burned] day before yesterday.

Yesterday, while in the brush near where the fight occurred, Miss Mattie Brinker, a sister of the notorious guerrilla Chief John Brinker, came to us. A younger brother was with her. Miss Mattie says she left home some 3 miles southeast of Warrensburg, about 2 o'clock p. m. I had started about 12 mid-day. She was much surprised and confused when she discovered who we were. This young lady has been suspected of conveying intelligence to the bushwhackers for some time. SHE and HER BROTHER are in CONFINEMENT!

I am, Lieutenant, Yours Respectfully, EMORY S. FOSTER, Major Seventh Missouri State Militia, Commanding Post."

[To] "Lieut. Colonel James T. Buel, Seventh Mo. Vo. Cav., Comdg. Post, Independence, Missouri. Headquarters United States forces, Independence, Missouri, June 19,1862.

Sir: In compliance with an order from you I proceeded with 30 men of Company D to the neighborhood of Hambright's Station; called at Mr. Allen's, who pointed out the location of Mr. Renick's house. I arrested Mr. Renick and a Mr. Reife, who was

at the house. A Negro here told me that two of the BUSHWHACKERS were hiding in a stack of hay not very far distant and near one Mr. Faggs. I dismounted my men detailed a sufficient guard for the horses and with the remainder of my command divided into two squads proceeded to the reported lurking place of the Rebels. I sent Sergeant Ross with his squad to surround the hay stack, while the other and I proceeded to Faggs' house.

Finding no one at the house and hearing firing in the direction of the haystack, I proceeded there immediately. Sergeant Ross with his squad had come on to an armed party of marauders lying in the hay; fired upon them killing two and wounding the third. The wounded man was found to be unarmed and therefore was not killed. Took the wounded man to Faggs' house. Park Randolph and O. Gresham are the names of the two men killed.

I delivered your message to Mr. Mathews and from him learned that Kit Chiles had been in the neighborhood a short time before. Followed him immediately up the river to his mother's arriving there about sunrise. Failing to gain any further intelligence of him, I returned to Mr. Mathews' and made arrangements to bury Randolph and Gresham. According to your orders I arrested Barns and destroyed his grocery. From Renick I took six horses, two of them belonging to the men who were killed and the other four left there by soldiers returning from Price's army. I took one Dragoon Pistol [revolver] from one of the dead men, all of which I turned over to the Provost-Marshal.

Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant, JAMES M. VANCE,

First Lieutenant, Comdg. Co. D, Seventh Mo., Vol. Cav."

Now then, to be ambushed and surrounded by Confederate Guerrillas was almost always fatal to the Union troops. However, the best success of the Union troops was when they tracked the guerrillas to their camp or the house or farm where they were harbored. This usually resulted in a Union victory and for both sides, of course, the War Went On!







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Susan Whitaker

November 3, 2020

Civil War Round Table of KC 436 W 88th Ter Kansas City, MO 64114

Dear Civil War Round Table of KC,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your recent, wonderful contribution to save and restore not one, not two, but <u>three</u> pieces of land that are critical to telling the story of the Battle of Gettysburg!

I knew I could count on your support for these three transactions, all of which must close before the end of 2020. I simply couldn't be more grateful. As you and I know well, the threat of commercial development on the Gettysburg Battlefield is always looming, and if we don't secure these acres now, they could be prime candidates for that fate...

But thanks to your generous gift of \$100.00 (received 10/9/2020), in memory of Dr. Bearss, we come closer to ensuring that this land will *never* face the threat of development again, and will instead continue to tell the story of this pivotal moment in our nation's history.

Please let me tell you that I am especially grateful for your support today. I feel beyond fortunate to be taking the reins of an organization that has supporters as dedicated to our vital cause as you are, Civil War Round Table of KC.

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart for all that you do, and all you have done to support battlefield preservation and history education in America. You have my humblest thanks!

Yours gratefully,

David N. Duncan

Varia N. Duncan

President

Pursuant to IRS Code requirements for the substantiation of charitable contributions, your gift is tax deductible as permitted by law. Please retain this letter as your tax receipt. Thank you!

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