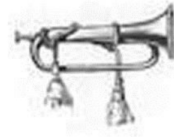




BORDER BUGLE



Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City



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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!

545th Regular Meeting Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Milburn Golf and Country Club

7501 West 69th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204

Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

This meeting will include a plated dinner at a cost of \$32.00 per person.
Reservations are required in order to attend the dinner meeting.

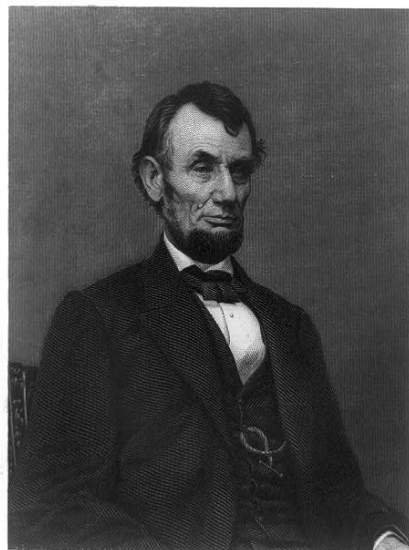
Reservation Deadline: 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 9th.

To make a dinner reservation, please contact Susan Keipp:

skeipp@kc.rr.com

Phone: 816-333-0025

November Program



At our dinner meeting on November 16th, Round Table member **Dr. Daniel B. Cudnik** will give a program titled: "A Forensic Study of the Lincoln Assassination."

Following the fatal shot, Lincoln received what was then considered cutting-edge medical treatment. As we know, the President succumbed to his head wound and was transported to the White House for an autopsy, which was performed by two pathologists. The autopsy findings will be discussed in depth, along with questioning whether or not Lincoln could have survived the gunshot if it had occurred today. (Photo of Abraham Lincoln is courtesy of the Library of Congress.)

Dinner Meeting Reservation Policy

The following is our Civil War Round Table's reservation policy:

- A reservation is required in order to attend the dinner meeting. Anyone who attends without a dinner reservation may not be seated, depending on the number of possible no-shows.
- Reservations are required by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday prior to the dinner meeting, in order to ensure that Milburn Country Club has an accurate count for meal preparation and staffing. **To make a reservation this month, please contact our treasurer Susan Keipp at 816-333-0025 or by e-mail at skeipp@kc.rr.com**
- The cost of a dinner is \$32.00 per person. If you make a reservation, but are not able to attend the dinner meeting for any reason, you *must* contact **Susan Keipp** by either phone or e-mail prior to the reservation deadline to cancel. Meals are prepared based on reservations and the Round Table must pay for meals whether or not they are served. You could be responsible for your meal if you made a reservation, did not attend, and did not cancel before the deadline.

Dinner Menu

Milburn Golf and Country Club will serve the following meal at the November dinner meeting: Turkey breast, mashed potatoes, bread stuffing, giblet gravy, and green beans. Dessert will be pumpkin pie.

All dinners are served with house salad with Milburn house dressing, sliced bread, iced tea, water, and coffee.

Gluten free and vegetarian meals are available with advance notice. Please advise **Susan Keipp** if you require a gluten free or vegetarian meal when making your reservation.

Meet Our Speaker

Dr. Daniel B. Cudnik will be speaking to our Round Table about a forensic study of the Lincoln assassination.

Daniel is a retired plastic surgeon from Cleveland, Ohio, with more than four decades of experience as a medical professional. He received his undergraduate degree from John Carroll University in Cleveland and went on to graduate from the Marquette School of Medicine (now called the Medical College of Wisconsin) in Milwaukee. Daniel finished his medical training at Ohio State and the University of Kansas before serving as a major in the U.S. Air Force at Elmendorf Air Force Base. In 1977, he moved back to Ohio to become a plastic surgeon.

While living in Cleveland, Daniel was a member of the Civil War Round Table of Northeast Ohio for over 15 years and gave numerous presentations on topics such as Civil war medicine, guerrilla warfare during the Civil War, the U.S. Constitution, and Andersonville Prison.

He retired from medicine in 2006 and moved to Overland Park KS, to be closer to family. Although Daniel has accomplished many great things in life, his proudest accomplishment is being the father of six children, the grandfather of 17, and a great-grandfather of four. Daniel has been a member of our Round Table since 2014.



November Speaker - Dr. Daniel B. Cudnik

November Program

"A Forensic Study of the Lincoln Assassination" begins on April 9, 1865, and outlines the events leading to the murder of the President. Following the fatal shot, Lincoln received what was then considered cutting-edge medical treatment. As we know, the President succumbed to his head wound and was transported to the White House for an autopsy, which was performed by two pathologists. The autopsy findings will be discussed in depth, along with questioning whether or not Lincoln could have survived the gunshot if it had occurred today. The aftermath of the assassination will also be covered, including John Wilkes Booth's controversial death, Major Henry Rathbone's tragic life, and Boston Corbet's descent into insanity.

Live Auction Book Sales

We would like to thank Round Table member **Arnold Schofield** for managing the book sales each month. Arnold will auction off the following Civil War books in November:

- *The Lincoln Assassination: What Really Happened*, by Robert J. Hutchinson. Regnery Publishing Company. In mint condition, with no dust jacket.
- *Faded Banners: Memorable writings of the Civil War*. Edited by Eric Solomon. Published by the Promontroy Press. In excellent condition, with dust jacket.
- *Lincoln's Assassins: Their Trial and Execution* by James L. Swanson and Daniel Weinberg. Published by Harper Perennial. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- *Tarnished Eagles: The Courts-martial of Fifty Union Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels*, by Thomas P. Lowry. Published by Stackpole Books. In excellent condition with dust jacket.
- *Don't Shoot That Boy! Abraham Lincoln and Military Justice*, by Thomas P. Lowry. Published by Da Capo Press. In excellent condition with dust jacket.

The letters of Gilbert and Esther (Colby) Claflin, offered insights into Gilbert's camp life behind Union lines, and Esther's efforts back on the Wisconsin family farm with the couple's two teenage boys. Gilbert was drafted into the Union Army at the age of 40 and served for nine months in Kentucky during the Civil War. The program focused primarily on the letters Esther and the boys wrote to Gilbert while keeping the home fires burning.



Ms. Judy Cook Playing the Concertina

Last Month's Program



Ms. Judy Cook and her husband Dennis

At our dinner meeting on October 19th, Ohio folk singer **Ms. Judy Cook and her husband Dennis** gave a very interesting and entertaining program titled: "On the Home Front", highlighting letters written by Judy's great-great grandparents during the Civil War.

Judy narrated Esther Claflin's letters and Dennis provided the voice of Gilbert Claflin. Dressed in period costume, Judy also performed a selection of sentimental songs from the period, accompanied by related images and photographs. Judy played the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and the "Bonnie Blue Flag" on a period instrument called a concertina. She also sang the following songs:

- "Home Sweet Home"
- "Goin' Cross the Mountain"
- "Brave Boys are They"
- "Grafted Into the Army"
- "Sweet Evelina"
- "Wait for the Wagon"
- "I Dreamed My Boy was Home Again"
- "The Spade, Boys the Spade"
- "Brother, Tell Me of the Battle"
- "Housewife's Lament"
- "The Vacant Chair"
- "When Johnny Comes Marching Home"

The audience participated by singing along with Judy during the refrain for each song. It was a very enjoyable program. We also had a very good turnout for the dinner meeting (56 attendees).

Upcoming Civil War Round Table of Kansas City Programs and Speakers

Our monthly dinner meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month. However, the meetings in December of 2022 and 2023 will be held on the second Wednesday of the month. Also, the February 2023 meeting will be held on the third Thursday of the month.

- **Wednesday, December 14, 2022: Brad Zimmerman**, who manages the Chestnut Theatre in Olathe, will treat us to a musical program, featuring singers dressed in Dickens era attire.
- **Wednesday, January 18, 2023: Ms. Angela Riotto** will be giving a program titled: "Prisoners of War in the Civil War."
- **Thursday, February 16, 2023:** In honor of Black History Month, **Arnold Schofield** will be speaking about the 2nd Kansas Colored Infantry.
- **Wednesday, March 15, 2023: Dr. Harry S. Laver** with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College will be our speaker. The tentative title of his presentation is "Learning the Art of Joint Operations: General U. S. Grant and Rear Admiral Andrew H. Foote."
- **Wednesday, April 19, 2023: Dr. Bill Piston** will be speaking about a book that he and Tom Sweeney co-authored containing photographs of Missourians in the Civil War.
- **Wednesday, May 17, 2023: Ms. Alisha Cole** will be speaking about Clara Barton, who was a hospital nurse during the Civil War, and who founded the American Red Cross.
- **Wednesday, June 21, 2023: Dr. Isaias McCaffery**, professor of history at Independence Community College, will give a program titled: "Last Stand at Rebel Creek: The Osage as Union Allies in Civil War Kansas."
- **Wednesday, July 19, 2023:** Speaker to be determined,
- **Wednesday, August 16, 2023: Wayne Motts**, President and CEO of the Gettysburg Foundation, will be giving a program about General George A. Custer at Gettysburg and in Kansas.
- **Wednesday, September 20, 2023: Douglas Waller**, veteran CIA correspondent, will be giving a program about President Lincoln's spies.

- **Wednesday, October 18, 2023: Dr. Ethan S. Rafuse** will be speaking about Robert E. Lee and the fall of the Confederacy. Dr. Rafuse has written a book on this subject.
- **Wednesday, November 15, 2023:** Round Table member **Rick Manfredi** will be giving a program about Missouri and secession during the Civil War.
- **Wednesday, December 13, 2023: Dr. Diane Mutti-Burke**, professor of history at UMKC, will be giving a program about refugees in the Civil War.

Upcoming Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum Programs and Speakers

The Battle of Westport Visitor Center and Museum is continuing to offer a series of Civil War related presentations as part of Civil War Wednesdays at the Harris-Kearney House (4000 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City MO). The Harris-Kearney House will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for Civil War Wednesdays. The following program is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. The cost to attend is \$6.00 per person.

- **November 9, 2022: Jeremiah Thalheimer** will be speaking about Marines in the Civil War (tie in with The United States Marine Corps birthday on November 10th).

Member News

We would like to welcome new members **Dr. David Meyers and Brendan Griffey**. David lives in Leawood KS. Brendan lives in Jefferson City MO and is a friend of **Father Richard Frank**.

We would like to thank **Lane Smith** for scheduling **Ms. Judy Cook's** program in October. It had been delayed for two years due to COVID.

We would like to thank **Susan Keipp** for handling all of the dinner reservations and for checking people in at the meeting in October, in spite of her back injury.

Mary Vorsten recently visited Northwest Arkansas and went to the Benton County History Museum in Rogers AR. They have an interesting Civil War History exhibit of the impact on local families in the Pea Ridge area. Mary said the museum is in an awesome art deco building, that she recalled being in a car dealership when she was a child. She used to love to look in the big windows at the new cars inside the building and wonder how they got inside. Mary also picked up a list of programs and speakers for the Bella Vista Civil War Round Table in 2022.

Thank You Veterans

Friday, November 11 is Veterans Day. This day was originally proclaimed Armistice Day in remembrance of the end of World War I. However, today November 11th is meant to honor all of our men and women who have served in the United States Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard. We would like to thank all of our Round Table members who have served in the military. Thank you for serving our country and for protecting our freedoms!

CWRT-KC Executive Committee Meeting

Eleven members of the Round Table's Executive Committee met on Saturday, October 15th. The meeting was held at the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce Building, located at 9001 West 110th Street, Overland Park KS. The following is a brief summary of the meeting:

- Most of the meeting was spent discussing programs and speakers for 2023 and 2024. We still have an opening for a speaker in July of next year.
- We encourage our members to offer suggestions for speakers and programs that they would like to hear in the future. If you can, please provide contact information for any speaker that you recommend.
- If any of our members has a recommendation for a well-known Civil War author/historian who would be worthy of receiving the Round Table's prestigious Truman Award, please let us know.
- The catering contract with Milburn Golf and Country Club for 2023 has been signed. The cost of the dinners in 2023 will increase to \$34.00 per meal.
- The cost of our membership dues for 2023 will remain the same as they were for this year (\$35.00 per individual or \$55.00 per couple).
- The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2023. The location of the meeting will be announced later.

Please Renew Your Membership for 2023

Now is the time to renew your membership in the Civil War Round Table for 2023. The membership dues for next year are the same as they were for this year: \$35.00 per individual or \$55.00 per couple. The membership dues go to pay for our speakers' travel costs and honorariums, as well as our administrative expenses (Internet fees, corporate fees, printing and postage, name tags, award plaques, etc.).

Sergeant Major's Roar

Battlefield Dispatches #640 270 Words

November 19, 1863 is now considered to be a special day in the Civil War and literary history of the United States. For on that day, 159 years ago, in a small rural Pennsylvania town, there was the dedication of a military cemetery, which would be designated as one of our National Cemeteries. It was on that day, which was cloudy, rainy, and cold, that thousands of folks gathered to dedicate a portion of ground for and that included the reburial of the remains of more than 700 Union soldiers, who were killed in the Battle of Gettysburg, which was one of the most significant battles of the Civil War. The keynote or featured speaker was the Honorable Edward Everett, who was reputed to be the finest Orator in the country. The dedication was originally scheduled for October 23, but since Mr. Everett was not available on that day, the dedication was rescheduled for November 19th. Also, as an afterthought, since it was the dedication of a "Union" military cemetery on November 2nd, President Abraham Lincoln was invited to attend and share a few remarks after Mr. Everett's keynote speech.

Because of his busy schedule, President Lincoln did not decide to go to Gettysburg until Tuesday, November 17th. His first secretary, John G. Nicolay, remembered that the President started but did not finish writing his remarks in the White House on the evening of the 17th, the day before he started on his journey to Gettysburg on November 18th. The President and his party traveled to and from Gettysburg on a "Special Train" which included the luxurious passenger car of Mr. John W. Garrett, who was the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. After the war was over, a story which has become a legend is that President Lincoln finished his remarks on a scrap of paper while riding the train on the way to Gettysburg. However, it is now believed that the President finished his remarks in his hotel room in Gettysburg on the night of November 18th and not while traveling on the train.

The President's remarks now known as the "Gettysburg Address" contained only 270 WORDS and it is considered to be one of the most significant speeches in our history and is as follows:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great Civil War, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a

portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate - we can not consecrate - we can not hallow - this ground. Brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln,
November 19, 1863."

It is interesting to note that on November 19, 1863, the Honorable Everett's speech lasted for more than TWO HOURS and that Mr. Everett indicated after his speech that he had to cut it short because he did not have enough time to finish it. Also, some days before he gave his speech, it was widely published in the major northern newspapers and contained many thousands of words.

In contrast to Mr. Everett's speech, President Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" only contained 270 Words and only required approximately THREE MINUTES to present! In retrospect, one of the most ironic and amazing lines in this address is: "The World will little note, nor long remember what we say hear, but it can never forget what they did here". Before the end of the 19th Century, the "Gettysburg Address" became part of the pantheon of great American speeches and is still studied and remembered here and in many countries around the world, while Mr. Everett's speech has largely been forgotten and relegated to the dusty pages of history.

As a historian, other significant speeches that come to mind are Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death", President F. D. Roosevelt's "We have Nothing to Fear, but Fear Itself", President J. F. Kennedy's "Ask not what the Country can do for You, but rather what You can do for the Country", and the most recent of these, Dr. Martin Luther's "I have A Dream" Speech. Hopefully, all of these speeches and the "Gettysburg Address" will continue to be respected, studied, and

learned from now and by future generations as cornerstones of American History.

Battlefield Dispatches #692 **A National Day of Thanksgiving**

Thursday, November 24, 2022 will be the 159th Anniversary of our first National Day of Thanksgiving, which was established as a result of a proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln on October 3, 1863. The proclamation designated a National Thanksgiving Day to be celebrated on the final Thursday in November. However, before this date "Thanksgiving" had been celebrated on a variety of days in November. President George Washington was the first president to declare a special day of "Thanksgiving" in 1789 and he was followed by President Madison in 1814. A day of Thanksgiving was annually appointed by the Governor of New York in 1817 and by 1858 "Thanksgiving Proclamations" were issued by the governors of 25 states and two territories.

During the Civil War, many Union and Confederate units celebrated Thanksgiving with special dinners, the number of which was increased by the Union troops after President Lincoln's proclamation. The following are some of the highlights of his proclamation:

"The year that is drawing towards its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and beautiful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God.

"Needful diversions of wealth and strength from the peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plough, the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield and the country rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years, with large increase of freedom.

"No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

"It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwells in the Heavens. And I recommend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the City of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three and of the Independence of the United States the eighty- eighth.

Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States"

Now then, "Thanksgiving" is traditionally a wonderful family holiday. However, let us not forget to remember those folks who have lost a loved one or who have a family member serving in our armed forces and cannot be home for the holidays. Today, each branch of our military services will continue the tradition of providing "Thanksgiving Dinner" for our soldiers, sailors, marines, coast guard, and air force personnel. However, it will not be the same as being home with their families. Thank you one and all and here's hoping you have the best Thanksgiving possible.

Ford's Theatre, Washington D.C.



Exterior of the Box at Ford's Theatre, where President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth on April 14, 1865.



Interior of the Box at Ford's Theatre, where President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.

(Photos are courtesy of the Library of Congress.)