Meeting Date: January 21, 2016

**Place: The Drake Center**

(6:00) Sign-in and Social    (6:30) Dinner
(7:15) Business Meeting   (7:30) Speaker

- Dinner Menu: **Beef Sirloin Steak**, **Garlic Redskin Mashed Potatoes, Succotash, Mixed Green Salad with Citrus Vinaigrette, Sweet Yeast Rolls, and Assorted Dessert Bars**
- Vegetarian Option: Upon request

**Speaker:** Gary Johnson, Cincinnati CWRT

**Topic:** *Countering Mallory's Infernal Machines*

Reservations: If you do not have an Automatic Reservation, please remember to email your meeting reservation to reservations@cincinnaticwrt.org or call it in to Lester Burgin at 513-891-0610. 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 Tuesday, January 12, 2016.

**January Speaker:**

Stephen Mallory of Key West resigned from the U.S. Senate in January of 1861 when Florida seceded from the Union. While in the U.S. Senate, Mallory had served ten years on the Naval Affairs Committee. This background prompted Jefferson Davis to appoint Mallory as Confederate Secretary of the Navy. Mallory used this position to drive naval innovation to offset Union superiority. He started the technical arms race with armored warships, stealthy warships, and underwater weapons. He also advocated commerce raiding. Gary Johnson's fifth round table presentation will show which of Mallory’s innovations were effective and the countermeasures developed by the Union based on combat experience.
Gary’s background neatly parallels his presentation topics. A chemical engineering graduate of the Ohio State University, he attended college on a Naval ROTC scholarship and served five years after graduation as an officer qualified in submarines and nuclear propulsion. His ships were home-ported in a key Civil War location: Charleston, South Carolina. After leaving the Navy, he worked for Procter & Gamble for 27 years in a variety of health, safety, and environment roles to support manufacturing sites. He is now an Industrial Ventilation Consultant.

Gary Johnson

(Right) The gunboat U.S.S. Tyler. Built at Cincinnati’s Fulton works in 1857 as a private steamboat, it was bought by the U.S. Navy on June 5, 1861, and refitted as a timberclad in Cincinnati. It is famous for its combat at Shiloh, Yazoo River, Vicksburg, and Helena (AR). Courtesy Library of Congress.

President’s Report …from Tom Williams

Let’s see… January 1st, 2016. Time to take out some paper and make a few New Year’s resolutions:

1. Lose some weight. ✓
2. Go to the gym more often. ✓
3. Introduce a few of my friends to the Round Table. ✓

Then the reality check comes. By January 2nd, resolutions start to be broken, especially # 1 and # 2. I realize this has become the very predictable joke each year, and certainly as we over-indulge and eat too much over the holidays, losing weight should be a no-brainer. But what about Resolution # 3?

This, too, is an easy one, as no one, I bet, listed anything about the Round Table in their list of New Year’s resolutions. So, no guilt here, it’s not on the list, therefore I can forget about it.

Well, it might also work out to not forget. Maybe it’s the time of year, and more probably it’s my ever increasing age, but friends old and new seem important to me. Seeing old friends, sharing stories, and, in general, enjoying their company adds to my life, and groups like our Round Table help me here.

Recently, I went on a tour of the Cincy Civil War defenses with a group of Round Tablers. We had a wonderful time. I saw sites I had no idea were just a few miles from my home. I got to ask a ton of questions, I learned a lot, and I also laughed a lot. Yes, laughed, because we were all going back and forth, and I wasn’t
the only one part of the jokes. There were also folks there I had not met before, and, of course, they quickly became part of the congenial group.

Which points back to my Resolution # 3. If you have enjoyed things while at a Round Table meeting or one of our outings, why not think about that friend or co-worker who perhaps also has an interest in history. Invite your friend to an upcoming meeting. Give him or her one of our new brochures with its listing of the speakers for the balance of this year. If this doesn’t interest them, tell them about the speakers lined up for next year, who will be even more outstanding.

I can’t guarantee every experience will be as great as the one I had on the recent field trip, but I can and will guarantee both you and your guest will be warmly received and welcomed into our Round Table. Give it a try. Reach out and bring a guest.

Items of Interest

Welcome New Members!
We have had several new members join the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table since September 2015. They are listed below by the month in which they joined. Welcome aboard to all our new members! We appreciate that you have chosen to be a part of our organization:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 2015</th>
<th>October 2015</th>
<th>November 2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Regenhold</td>
<td>Richard McCormick</td>
<td>Jerry Krumpelbeck</td>
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<td>John Wilson</td>
<td>Jim Willis</td>
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Make a Difference: The 2015-2016 CCWRT Preservation Project
The CCWRT Preservation Project for the 2015-2016 campaign season will benefit the Harriet Beecher Stowe House located in the Walnut Hills suburb of Cincinnati. The funds raised will be used to create one or more free-standing mobile panels that will detail the lives of two of Harriet's half-brothers and a son who were actively involved in the Union war effort. Donations are now being accepted to help us reach our goal of raising $900 for this worthy cause! You can give (via Paypal) from our CCWRT web site at [http://cincinnaticwt.org/preservation.html](http://cincinnaticwt.org/preservation.html) or through the CCWRT treasurer at the meetings.

Recalling the CCWRT Tour of Northern Kentucky's Batteries
A group from the Cincinnati Civil War Round Table joined fellow members David L. Mowery and Darryl Smith on a fun and enlightening day-long caravan tour of the Civil War batteries of Northern Kentucky. David served as our well-informed, energetic guide for the day.

The tour began at Fort Thomas, KY, on the eerie, pea-soup morning of December 5, 2015. Despite the unusually foggy conditions, a good number of members gathered on this chilly Saturday morning in the stillness of Tower Park. The
first battery site of the day, Battery Lee, which once stood in what is now the front yards of the old Officers’ Quarters of Fort Thomas, a military camp of instruction from 1890-1946, was a quiet place to start our adventure. We discussed Union Major General Lew Wallace and the unsung hero of the defenses of Cincinnati, Major James H. Simpson, the U.S. Army engineer who is most famous for mapping the Butterfield Stage Route from Salt Lake City to California in 1849 and for his post-war work on the Transcontinental Railroad, but who accepted the creation and improvement of the earthworks of Northern Kentucky as his mission during the Civil War. Looking out into the dense fog, we could hear the toot of a nearby tugboat’s horn as it plied the waters of the Ohio River below us. One could imagine Captain John A. Duble’s flotilla of private steamboats, fortified with layers of hay and cotton bales, and manned by the best shooters from the “Squirrel Hunters,” patrolling the waters of the river in September 1862 when Confederate Brigadier General Henry Heth’s 8,000 veterans threatened to attack Cincinnati.

We then moved on to the Memorial Tower at Fort Thomas, which remembers the 6th U.S. Infantry’s service in the Spanish-American War. Near this former water tower for the camp stood an historic marker to General George H. Thomas, the “Rock of Chickamauga,” in whose honor General Philip Sheridan named the camp from which the modern city derives its name. Across the avenue was the site of Fort Whittlesey, the Civil War fort named after Col. Charles Whittlesey, 20th Ohio Infantry. As we walked down the side street, we could see remnants of the ramparts of this fort lying in between modern houses. What made this place special was knowing that the famous 700-man Black Brigade, the Civil War’s first recruited African-American military unit, had helped construct Fort Whittlesey.

We continued our journey to Battery Shaler, a well-preserved epaulement-style battery within Evergreen Cemetery in Southgate, KY. There, we were fortunate to meet with Fort Thomas Museum volunteer, Civil War scholar, and metal-detectorist, Scott Froendhoff, who has been conducting archaeological investigations at Battery Shaler for many years. He showed us Civil War relics, such as bullets and artillery primers, which have been found throughout the battery. Most of these items Scott has given to the Evergreen Cemetery office, which maintains a display of Battery Shaler artifacts for its

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visitors. He gave us a short history of the battery, which included a mention of the Black Brigade, since it camped here in September 1862. He also led us to rarely-visited remnants of infantry entrenchments located in an undeveloped portion of the cemetery. We were very grateful to Scott for sharing with us his many years of insight into the remaining Civil War fortifications of Southgate.

We drove next to Battery Holt, a practically untouched earthwork from 1862 that was built to protect the Licking Pike. With maps and engineering sketches in hand, the group posed for a photograph within the interior of this rare, circular-shaped battery. We could clearly see the battery’s magazine passageway and the two barbettes (raised platforms) for the 24-pounder and 32-pounder guns. The walls of the battery are much the same as they were 150 years ago. Unfortunately, the battery is overgrown with honeysuckle, but in December, the earthworks reveal themselves from out of the bushes. It is a fantastic historic place – one that few people are aware exists in Greater Cincinnati.

We moved on to South Covington, where we stood along the banks of the Licking River at the exact spot where Wallace erected a pontoon bridge within close range of the guns of the Larz Anderson battery. As the sun shone brightly, we went to lunch at the busy, but delightful, Greyhound Tavern in Fort Mitchell, KY. We thoroughly enjoyed the food, drink, and our fellow companions on the tour. It was a great stop to make prior to moving on to the site of Fort Mitchel, the city’s namesake, and the largest fortification of the 10-mile long defensive line. The fort, which was leveled decades ago, sat on a hilltop where there are expensive homes today. Metal detectorists, however, still find Civil War relics around the homes. In fact, a wonderfully preserved Union belt buckle was recently found there. Down the street, at the present-day Fort Mitchell Kroger’s, was the site of a Civil War skirmish between Heth’s and Wallace’s troops on September 10, 1862.

We visited the James A. Ramage Museum, where we were kindly greeted by several museum volunteers and, as a special treat to all, we were joined by Professor Jeannine Kreinbrink, the foremost expert on the Northern Kentucky defenses. Jeannine led us on a personal tour of Battery Hooper, and she answered many tough questions from the group. We were also introduced to the nearly one thousand Civil War books that are currently for sale at the museum. It was a treasure-trove for all of us, for which we would have likely stayed the rest of the day to inspect the books, but time prevented us from doing so. Duty called!

The die-hards continued to our last stop for the day – Battery Bates – the best of the six remaining today. From a modern subdivision, we followed a primitive, muddy, and hardly noticeable trail up a steep slope to the top of a ridge, and after about a mile hike, we reached a clearing. From here, we followed a wider trail, which turned out to be the remnants of the original Civil War military road that connected the batteries and entrenchments. The climb to the top forced us to catch our breath, but it was worth it. The walls of Battery Bates are intact and mostly at the same height as they were in 1862, except for where neighborhood kids had used the wall as a ramp for their ATVs. The magazine site was clearly distinguishable, and the gun barbettes were also visible. Even more amazing were the infantry entrenchments fronting the battery that had been preserved. It was an awesome sight for us old-fort-lovers! We watched a beautiful sunset from the battery before we made our way back to our cars. The return hike was much easier! We all agreed the day had been wonderful. It’s amazing what Cincinnati offers in Civil War history. We hope for another group tour soon.
CCWRT Member Honored for Volunteer Work on Civil War

At the November meeting, Hamilton County Recorder, Wayne Coates, presented Cincinnati CWRT member David L. Mowery with the 2015 Griffin Yeatman Award, to recognize David’s many years of volunteer work in establishing and maintaining the John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail of Ohio. The Griffin Yeatman Award is an annual recognition given to citizens and groups of Hamilton County who volunteer their time and services to preserving and promoting the history of Hamilton County.

November Presentation ... submitted by Mark Silbersack

At our November 19th meeting, on the anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, we had a most appropriate “double-header”: two speakers relating to the 150th Anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Gettysburg (fought July 1863). This was one of the largest attended events held during the Civil War Sesquicentennial.

First, we welcomed CCWRT member Bert Sheard, who showed us a number of photos he took at the commemoration, and gave us his spectator’s perspective on the event. As Bert mentioned, the encampments and reenactments took place on private pasture land close to the battlefield but not actually within the National Military Park. There were many Union and Confederate troops, well-dressed and well-equipped, who reenacted much of the significant fighting. Big tents hosted educational programs on key aspects of the engagement.

Second, Mr. Andrew Homan, one of the Gettysburg reenactors, provided his perspective on the event. Drew (who is the grandson of our past president, Pat Homan) holds the rank of 1st Corporal in the 6th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a regiment recruited from the Cincinnati area (growing out of a pre-War militia unit named the Guthrie Grays).

Drew said that the 6th OVI reenactors camped in tents among trees in woods near the battlefield and participated in all three days’ reenactments, portraying different Union troops:

- **Day One**: They played the part of 25th OVI troops on Cemetery Hill.
- **Day Two**: They were New York troops on Little Round Top.
- **Day Three**: Acting as 8th OVI troops on the right end of the Union line, they fired several volleys into Confederate troops during Pickett’s Charge.

After completing the program on Gettysburg, Drew answered a number of audience questions about his experiences as a reenactor. The 6th OVI group has about 50 members, half of whom are very active, and Andrew has participated in over 150 events, including, recently, at Shiloh, Chickamauga, and Cedar Creek. The regiment usually goes to the largest nearby reenactment, at Perryville, KY, and appears at local events such as the Memorial Day program at Spring Grove Cemetery.

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Drew sees Civil War reenactors as living historians whose mission is to “keep history alive” and educate youngsters about the Civil War. Drew explained the steps they follow when they prepare for battle reenactments. They dress and equip themselves with accuracy, own their rifles, and do their battlefield movements as realistically as circumstances allow.

**November Quiz:**

1. South Carolina was the first state to secede. Which one was second?
2. What battlefield debris did the government pay people to collect and turn in?
3. What did General Dan Sickles do as he was carried wounded from the Gettysburg battlefield?
4. The skirmish at Island Mound occurred October 29, 1862. What Civil War “first” happened there?
5. What did Jonathan Letterman, the medical director for the Army of the Potomac, develop to help in the care of wounded soldiers?

**Quiz Answers:**

1. Mississippi
2. Lead
3. Smoked a cigar
4. First known engagement of an African-American regiment, the 1st Kansas Colored Volunteers
5. He organized the ambulance corps, trained them, and instituted a triage system.

**Future Presentations:**

Feb. 18, 2016  Gene Schmiel, Washington, DC  *Citizen-General: Jacob D. Cox*  
Mar. 17, 2016  Dr. Michael Adams, Northern Kentucky University  *Living Hell: The Dark Side of the Civil War*  
Apr. 21, 2016  Stephen M. Hood, Huntington, WV  *The Lost Papers of John Bell Hood*  
May 19, 2016  William Alan Blair, Pennsylvania State University  *The Dirty Business of Winning a Civil War: Combating Disloyalty*  
Sep. 15, 2016  David G. Moore, Washington, DC  *William S. Rosecrans and the Union Victory*  
Oct. 20, 2016  William C. "Jack" Davis, Virginia Tech University  *TBD*  
Nov. 17, 2016  David T. Dixon, Santa Barbara, CA  *The Lost Gettysburg Address: The Civil War Odyssey of Charles Anderson*  
Jan. 16, 2017  Theresa Leininger-Miller, University of Cincinnati  *Illustrated Sheet Music of the Civil War*
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 (single) and $35 (couple) 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 (single) or $30 (couple). Students enrolled full time in any recognized secondary or higher institute of learning can use a Student Membership, which applies a discount of $10 to each of the above dues and initiation fee rates.

Dinner reservations are required, and can be made prior to the reservations deadline either by an email to reservations@cincinnaticwrt.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 $20. 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 accessed 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 main entrance and go to the left side of the gift shop found opposite the entryway; the meeting room is located at the far end of the cafeteria hallway.

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