



Buck and Ball

2023

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks

March 2023

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Connie Langum

Membership Chair

Walt Hamer

Fundraising

TBA

Book Raffle

Janet Perry

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

The Library Center

6:30 pm

Tanner Christy

“Witness to Sacrifice:
The History of the Purple Heart”

Tanner is a historian with an interest in military history and material culture. He has two degrees in history and has worked as a seasonal NPS Ranger at Civil War parks, including Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. He worked at a World War II archive in college and that sparked his interest in the history of the Purple Heart--America's oldest medal. He is now a full time NPS employee at Homestead National Historical Park in Beatrice, Nebraska.



Upcoming Speakers

April:--Dr. Michael Verney (Drury)--"Naval Exploration and the Coming of the US Civil War 1825--1861"

May:--Terry Winschel--"Shut Up As in a Trap: Citizens Under Siege"

June:--Dr. Bill Mulligan--"Chauncey H. Cooke and I: Finding a 16-year-old Union Soldier and Why His Letters are an Important Window into the Civil War in West Kentucky."

July:--Show and Tell

September:--Rick Hatcher and Bill Piston

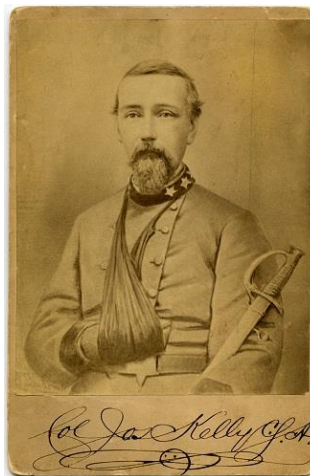
October:--David Schieffler--"Terrain, Torrents, and the Trans-Mississippi Mud March: The Environments Pivotal Role in the Helena Campaign"

November:--Dr. Isaias McCaffery – topic TBA

President's Message for March 2023

St. Patrick's Day is special day for me. I do have Irish ancestors, but March 17 is particularly important to me because it is the birthday of Civil War historian Carol Reardon, my friend for over forty years. Carol and I met in graduate school at the University of South Carolina, where we studied under Professor Thomas L. Connelly, one of the nation's foremost Civil War historians. I chose James Longstreet as the subject of my dissertation; Carol chose George Pickett. If you have not read her book *Pickett's Charge in History and Memory* you have missed something special. Carol spoke in Springfield many years ago at a history conference sponsored by Missouri State University. Now that she is retired from Penn State University, I hope to persuade her to make it out this way once again.

But when we turn to Missouri and St. Patrick's Day, I immediately think of Joseph Kelly and the men he led into battle at Wilson's Creek on August 10, 1861. You can find an image and a brief biography of him at that indispensable website "Community and Conflict": <https://ozarkscivilwar.org/photographs/kelly-joseph/> :



Before coming to the United States, the Irish-born Kelly was a soldier in the British army, an experience that served him well as a colonel in the Missouri State Guard, and later as a Confederate colonel. An equally

famous Irishman, Father John B. Bannon, served as chaplain to the Missouri Brigade, which fought east of the Mississippi River. See Philip Thomas Tucker's *The Confederacy's Fighting Chaplain; Father John B. Bannon*.

While Kelly and Bannon supported the South, the majority of the nation's Irish immigrants and first generation Irish-Americans fought for the Union. Their heroism has been illustrated by any number of artists, during the Civil War and since. My own favorite is Don Troiani's depiction of the Irish Brigade at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Good books on the Irish in the Civil War abound. Take a look at Joseph Bilby, *The Irish Brigade in the Civil War; The 69th New York and Other Irish Regiments in the Army of the Potomac*. For a less traditional but no less interesting focus, see Catherine Bateson, *Irish American Civil War Songs; Identity, Loyalty, and Nationhood*, Ryan Keating, *Shades of Green; Irish Regiments, American Soldiers, and Local Communities in the Civil War Era*, and Michael Ferrill, *Two Sisters; Irish Nuns in the Civil War*.

I look forward to seeing you at the March meeting. – Bill Piston

February 8, 2023 Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Bill Piston.

Opening prayer was given by Walt Hamer.

Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all.

Guests and new members were acknowledged.

Ladies were thanked for refreshments.

December Minutes were approved as printed in the *Buck and Ball*.

Treasurer's report was given by Tim Noonan.

Walt gave membership report-new Wilson's Creek calendars will be given to members who pay their dues for 2023.

Fund Raising volunteers asked for.

Buck and Ball questions were asked for by Nancy Piston.

Connie gave a report of programs for the coming year. Our calendar is filled for the year!

Sarah Cunningham gave Superintendent's report for Wilson's Creek. New volunteers for coming year; National Park Week-April 25.

Old Business- calendars

New Business- By-laws need to be updated regarding Article 5-this is to correct a by-law error from previous printing and Article 6.

Jan Perry gave description of books to be raffled this meeting.

Break-ten minutes

Connie Langum introduced speaker Michelle Brooks who gave a program on “Finding the Founders-the 62nd U.S. Colored Troops”.

Book Raffle

Adjourned at 8:15

March Book Raffle



Army Life in a Black Regiment by Thomas Wentworth Higginson

A former Massachusetts state senator; shaped by American Romanticism and imbued with Higginson's interest in both man and nature, *Army Life in a Black Regiment* ranges from detailed reports on daily life to a vivid description of the author's near escape from cannon fire, to sketches that conjure up the beauty and mystery of the Sea Islands. Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1823, Thomas Wentworth Higginson became best known as a radical abolitionist and advocate for women's suffrage, as well as a Unitarian minister, poet, author, and Civil War officer.

Shiloh and the Western Campaign of 1862 by O. Edward Cunningham

With Edward Cunningham's dissertation, Drs. Gary Joiner and Timothy Smith have unearthed a treasure; a first-rate work of scholarship and a finely-crafted re-telling of the story of the campaign.

Gettysburg-The Pivotal Battle of the Civil War, by R.K. Beecham

Beecham relates the three-day battle from several perspectives: a young soldier; an aged veteran recalling the days' glory and tragedy; and a concerned civilian, who, after nearly three decades after the war, reflects on how the events at Gettysburg permanently altered the nation.

With Face to the Enemy-Perspectives of the Civil War.

Its thirty-six illuminating essays examine the war from the perspectives critical to its outcome—the larger-than-life personalities of the important players from Lincoln to Lee and the national strategies and key battle tactics that shaped the four-year-long crisis. Contributors include the leading lights of the Civil War Scholarship: James M. McPherson, Stephen W. Sears, Gary W. Gallagher, David Herbert Donald, and seventeen others.

A People's History of the Civil War-Struggles for the Meaning of Freedom, by David Williams.

Historian David Williams has written the first account of the American Civil War through the eyes of ordinary people—foot soldiers, slaves, women, prisoners of war, draft resisters, Native Americans, and others. This is a vivid portrayal of a conflict in which both urban and rural laborers fought for economic justice, women struggled for rights and opportunities and for their families' survival, volunteers and conscripts demanded respect, Native Americans struggled to maintain their existence, and African Americans began fighting for freedom long before Lincoln advocated emancipation.

The Generals—Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee, by Nancy Scott Anderson and Dwight Anderson.

The two most celebrated generals in American history, adversaries whose lives were eternally bound together by the war that divided them, are here made vivid in all their paradoxical differences and likenesses. *The Generals* is a new reading of Lee and Grant - their families, their colleagues, and the history of which they were a part.

Civil War Book Review

By Jim Gallion

Gettysburg's Lost Love Story – The Ill-Fated Romance of General John Reynolds and Kate Hewitt, by Jeffery J. Harding

In telling the story of General John Reynolds and Kate Hewitt, Jeffrey Harding fills in the details of a story known to most Civil War students of the Battle of Gettysburg, that of General John Reynolds' secret engagement to Kate Hewitt, a young Catholic girl.

Beginning with the lives of John and Kate before they met, the author tells their back stories. Continuing after their meeting while traveling back east from California, he continues their story until the death of General Reynolds at Gettysburg.

After the death of John, he continues with Kate's story from her meeting with the Reynolds family, her time with the Daughters of Charity (fulfilling a promise she made to John if he was killed), and her subsequent marriage. Her story ends with her death.

While there are several gaps in the story, especially Kate's early life, due to the lack of primary sources, Harding does an excellent job of telling their story. This book is informative and easy to read. I would highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in the story of John Reynolds and Kate Hewitt as well as those who are interested in human interest stories of the Civil War and the tragedies that befell those loved ones who waited for their soldier's return.

Pea Ridge National Military Park Announces 161st Anniversary Events

Pea Ridge National Military Park will commemorate the 161st anniversary of the Battle of Pea Ridge on Saturday, March 4, 2023, with musket and artillery programs, living history talks, guided interpretive hike to Clemens field, and a display in the Visitor Center of original artwork from local artist Dan Hoffbauer. This event is NOT a battle reenactment. These programs are educational in scope and provide great insight into the lives of the men who fought at the Battle of Pea Ridge.

Pea Ridge National Military Park preserves and commemorates the March 7-8, 1862, battle that helped Union forces maintain physical and political control of the state of Missouri. Administered by the National Park Service, the 4,300-acre battlefield is located 10 miles north of Rogers, just off US Highway 62.

Schedule: Artillery demonstrations: 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm and 2:30 pm behind the visitor center. US Infantry demonstrations: 11 am, 12:30 pm, 2 pm and 3:30 pm at Elkhorn Tavern. CS/Missouri State Guard camp and talks: 10 am - 4 pm in the Elkhorn Tavern yard. Guided interpretive hike "Fight for Clemens Field" meets at 9:00 a.m. in front of Elkhorn Tavern. 1.5-mile hike approx. 1-1.5 hours. Tour Elkhorn Tavern: Elkhorn Tavern will be open from 9 am- 4 pm. Meet the artist Dan Hoffbauer on display in the visitor center. Meet the artist from 11 am - 3 pm.



2023

Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks Membership Application or Renewal



Civil War Round Table of the Ozarks

P.O. Box 3451,

Springfield, MO 65808-3451

"Meeting Continuously since 1960"

We appreciate your past participation in the CWRTTO and we look forward to your involvement in the coming year. See forms on the next page!

RENEWAL

Name: _____

2023 Couples Membership.....\$35.00 ☐

2023 Individual Membership.....\$25.00 ☐

2023 Student Membership.....\$10.00 ☐

Please update your personal information

In the form below.

NEW MEMBER

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address _____

Phone: Cell/Home _____

| Yearly Due | 1 st Qtr. | 2 nd Qtr. | 3 rd Qtr. | 4 th Qtr. |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Individual | \$25.00 | \$20.00 | \$15.00 | \$10.00 |
| Individual/Spouse | \$35.00 | \$30.00 | \$25.00 | \$20.00 |
| Full Time Student | \$10.00 | \$7.50 | \$5.00 | \$2.50 |

Mail Check to:

CWRTTO, P.O. Box 3451,

Springfield, MO 65808-3451

Payable to: CWRTTO