

627th REGULAR MEETING

**ARNOLD W. SCHOFIELD ON
“FORGOTTEN WARRIORS:
AMERICAN INDIANS
IN THE CIVIL WAR AS
ALLIES & ADVERSARIES”**

Friday, January 9

**HOLIDAY INN MART PLAZA
350 NORTH ORLEANS STREET**

*Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.*

\$30 - Members/Non-members

*Entrée:
Baked Manicotti or
Catch of the Day*

(We are offering, on a Trial Basis, the option of choosing not to have dinner and coming only for the address at 7:30 p.m., for a charge of \$10 per person.)

PLEASE NOTE

Make your reservation by **MONDAY, JANUARY 5**, by calling Carole Le Claire at **847-698-1438**.

People who attend without having made a reservation will pay a \$5 walk-in charge. If you make a reservation and then find you cannot attend, please call to cancel or you will be billed for a dinner.

Until the end of the year, parking is at the lot at the corner of Hubbard and Orleans Streets. The hotel is providing shuttle bus service for guests between the lot and the hotel.

Parking is \$7 with a validated parking sticker. Tickets will be validated by the Round Table treasurer at the meeting.

ARNOLD W. SCHOFIELD

- on -

**“Forgotten Warriors:
American Indians
in the Civil War as
Allies & Adversaries”**

A LEAST EXPLORED TOPIC

BY BARBARA HUGHETT

The role of American Indians as allies and adversaries of both the United States and the Confederate States of America is one of the least explored topics of Civil War history. The traditional view is one of Indians serving in the Confederate forces—such as the one commanded by Albert Pike and Stand Watie in the Trans-Mississippi Theater of Operations—and committing atrocities, such as scalping and mutilating the bodies of their enemies.

While this did happen, the reality of American Indians serving in the Civil War is much more varied and complex. The largest concentration of American Indians to serve in organized regiments in the United States Army during the war came from Kansas. Approximately 3,000 displaced Indians served in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd regiments of Indian Home Guards. Indian warriors served with courage and gallantry in both volunteer forces of the Union and Confederate armies. This was typified when Union and Confederate Indians opposed each other in mortal combat in the Battle of Honey Springs/Elk Creek, Indian Territory, on July 17, 1863.

At the same time the Civil War was taking place, there was also a vicious war being waged on the plains of the West between



Arnold W. Schofield

1863 and 1865. Many western Indian tribes—such as the Cheyenne, Sioux, Kiowa, Navaho, and Apache—were fighting for their survival against the encroachment of Euro-American settlement on their lands. "Forgotten Warriors: American Indians in the Civil War as Allies & Adversaries" will be the topic of Arnold W. Schofield when he addresses The Round Table on January 9.

Arnold W. Schofield currently serves as senior research historian at Fort Scott National Historic Site in Fort Scott, Kansas. He is a career public servant, with 41 years of Federal service—31 years with the National Park Service and ten years with the Department of the Army. During his 23-year tour of duty at Fort Scott National Historic Site, Schofield has become very knowledgeable about various aspects of the Civil War in the West.



Prior to being stationed at Fort Scott, he served as a cultural historian on the Blue Ridge Parkway and at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. While working for the Department of Defense, he attended college on the G.I. Bill and received

a degree in history in 1972.

Schofield also serves as the NCOIC of the Fort Scott National Historic Site Ceremonial Color Guard, and as a regimental sergeant major of the 1st United States Dragoons. Both of these companies were stationed at Fort Scott between 1842 and 1853.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Founded December 3, 1940
28 East Jackson Building, #10-C817
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Phone: 847-698-1438
www.thecwrt.org

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The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Membership Committee, 28 East Jackson Building, #10-C817, Chicago, Illinois 60604, or contact webmaster@www.thecivilwar.org.

BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION UPDATE

BY ROGER E. BOHN

Jerry L. Russell, our Nevins-Freeman Award recipient in October, died, December 5, 2003. He was thought to be recovering from his lung surgery of November 24, but he died from complications following that surgery. He is survived by his wife, Alice Anne, and his children and grandchildren. I am pleased to have had personal contacts with Jerry over the past several years and to have had the benefit of his voluminous updates regarding battlefield preservation. I was also fortunate to have had the very pleasant assignment of driving Jerry and Alice Anne up to Milwaukee and back before his October presentation to our Round Table...it was interesting, enlightening, and entertaining.

The *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* mentioned in Jerry's obituary that he had received accolades, including the *Nevins-Freeman's Award* from the Civil War Round Table of Chicago for his forty years on behalf of battlefield preservation. A year earlier the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), the nation's largest non-profit battlefield preservation group, had also honored Jerry with a lifetime achievement award. CWPT's president, Jim Lighthizer, said "Our achievements of today would not have been possible without the yeoman's work done by Jerry Russell during the past four decades." Amen to that.

Alice Anne Russell said, in a recent conversation, that the future of the Civil War Round Table Associates has yet to be determined, but *the planned tours and conferences for 2004 will be held as scheduled*. The Annual Congress of Civil War Round Tables will be held in Vicksburg, October 7-10, 2004..."details to follow." Ed Bearss will lead the Vicksburg tour, which was billed as "A Living Tribute to Ed Bearss," and which will also be "A Memorial to Jerry Russell."

Political consultancy put food on Jerry Russell's table, but Civil War battlefield preservation was his passion. Jerry will indeed be missed.

The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) reports that a U.S. House-Senate conference on the fiscal year 2004 Interior Appropriations Bill has just agreed to allocate \$2 million for the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program (CWBPP). This bill annually funds the National Park Service, including the CWBPP. President Bush's 2003 budget request included the \$2 million requisition for the CWBPP, which was the first time a president had asked for money to fund Civil War battlefield preservation matching grants. The CWPT worked with key political figures to support the funding. The CWBPP, since 1999, has

used a total of \$18 million in federal matching grants to save over 11,000 acres of high-priority Civil War battlefield sites in fifteen states.

A redesigned website for the CWPT: www.civilwar.org We can learn more about the CWPT and the preservation community with which we interact, the threats that preservation efforts face daily, and news about other CWPT members. The organization works with groups and sites to preserve battlefields and to educate the public about the American Civil War. The CWPT's online "Partners in Preservation" database gives basic information about local, state, and federal organizations that are working to accomplish our common mission.

The CWPT also reported that their members will be able to save money at selected sites, one of which we will visit on our 54th CWRT Annual Tour to Atlanta next spring: Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Just show your membership card for a percentage discount on purchases in the bookstore—for some of us, that could be very beneficial!

A Fire in Kernstown! reports the *Camp Chase Gazette*. The "conflagration" was more triumph than tragedy, however. Kernstown Battlefield Association president, Larry Duncan, burned the mortgage on the 315-acre Grim farm, which was critical to the First and Second Battles of Kernstown. That means no more interest payments on that site, so they can now move on to protecting and restoring the Pritchard house on the Grim farm. The Association has earned our continued support.

Preserving Kennesaw is the aim of Willie Ray Johnson, Historian at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. *The Civil War News* reports that the preservation of three relatively undeveloped areas along the park boundary has been declared critical. Major funding for this effort is coming from a Georgia Civil War Commission grant of \$125,000 coupled with \$75,000 from Cobb County's share of the governor's Green Space Program Fund. The plan is to turn the properties over to the National Park Service to be administered by Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Another major problem in the park is vehicular traffic, estimated at 50,000 cars daily. The Park is also being "loved to death" by non-Civil War lovers of the sixteen miles of walking trails and green fields...perfect for those wanting a quiet walk (or run!). All of this will, of course, be settled and smoothed out by the time our 54th Annual Tour gets there.

DECEMBER MEETING

BY LARRY GIBBS

On December 12, Hans L. Trefousse gave an interesting presentation, entitled "Booth Shot Better Than He Thought He Did," before 83 members and guests at the 626th regular meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Chicago. A resident of New York City, Trefousse is a renowned authority on Reconstruction history and has written a number of books about this period of American history. The hypothesis of his speech was that the unfortunate presidency of Andrew Johnson was a major reason for the failure of Reconstruction. Above all, Johnson wanted the United States to remain "a white man's country" and his policies as president supported this desire.

President Abraham Lincoln gave a brief speech from the White House on April 11, 1865, in which he discussed in general terms his plans for reconstructing the country after the devastating Civil War. That evening a spectator, John Wilkes Booth, said, "That will be the last speech he ever makes!!" Three days later, Booth assassinated Lincoln and Andrew Johnson became the seventeenth president of the United States.

Johnson had been chosen as Lincoln's vice presidential running mate because, as a U.S. senator from Tennessee, a state that joined the Confederacy, he remained loyal to the Union. When he first became president, the Radical Republicans, who advocated harsh punishment of the South, thought Johnson agreed with them. Radicals also thought that President Johnson would use federal power to assist the newly freed four million blacks. However, they were soon bitterly disillusioned with the policies Johnson put forth.

Andrew Johnson, a former slaveholder, was an ardent racist. He believed that the black race was inferior to whites in every way, especially in intelligence. His views differed sharply from the views of the Radicals concerning racial relations.

A vacuum of power existed immediately after the end of the Civil War and Lincoln's assassination. "Southern whites were contrite and would acquiesce to Union power since southerners were anxious to restore authority," Trefousse asserted. Johnson took the initiative by claiming that former Confederate state governments should be restored as soon as possible. On May 29, 1865, President Johnson issued a

blanket amnesty to all but the highest-ranking ex-Confederate officials. Additionally, Johnson called for elections to frame new state constitutions in former Confederate states—but only whites could vote!

These actions of Johnson's emboldened whites in the South to challenge any attempt to promote black suffrage. Trefousse proclaimed, "If true free love were established in the South, then the white southerners would have acquiesced. Pro-slavery spirit was given life due to Johnson's policies. Old feelings of racial hatred surfaced, eventually ending any chance for a successful Reconstruction.

In 1866, the southern state governments tried to restore the legacy of slavery with the Black Codes. These laws disenfranchised blacks for a short time, until the Radicals overturned them. High-ranking former Confederates were elected to Congress. President Johnson vetoed the 1866 Civil Rights Act and an extension of the Freedmen's Bureau. The Freedmen's Bureau was perhaps the nation's first welfare system, giving food, clothing, shelter, and educational opportunities to the blacks and poor whites in the devastated South. Both pieces of legislation were overridden by the Radical-controlled Congress. The white southerners saw that Johnson gave them a chance to subvert Radical plans for protecting blacks with his actions in 1866.

Many Radicals held out hope that Johnson would accept the Fourteenth Amendment. This amendment to the Constitution defined citizenship, protected equal rights of blacks, and gave due process to all U. S. citizens—including the freedmen. However, these hopes were dashed when Andrew Johnson doubted if any amendment should be given to the states; once again, he raised the hopes of white southerners that the Fourteenth Amendment could be defeated. This amendment eventually passed into the United States Constitution in 1868.

Johnson's political power waned in the fall of 1866, when he made many speeches in support of "white rule." Johnson warned that any black rule or representation was an invasion of the rights of states. Many Radicals were elected in the election of November 1866, to repudiate Johnson's policies. In 1867, the Reconstruction Acts were

passed over a presidential veto. He felt these acts imposed black suffrage on the states. Civil authority in the conquered South was replaced by military authority. The clashes between Johnson and the Radicals led to the first impeachment of a president in American history.

In 1867, the Tenure of Office Act was passed. It stated that a president could not fire any of his own cabinet members. To challenge the constitutionality of this act, Johnson defiantly fired his Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton. Nine of the eleven counts of alleged wrongdoing dealt with the Tenure of Office Act. The House of Representatives presented the articles of impeachment for a Senate impeachment trial in March 1868. After officially being impeached, Johnson avoided being removed from office in the Senate trial by one vote—35 to 19. The failure to remove Johnson from the presidency was seen as a pivotal event in the struggle for political power during Reconstruction. As the *Richmond Whig* newspaper claimed, "The tide [against Radical Reconstruction] is turning!"

Congressional Reconstruction continued with the approval of the Fourteenth Amendment in July 1868. Blacks gained their suffrage for a brief time, but the process broke down by the early 1870s. Many northerners lost their resolve to fight for black civil rights. Many Radicals either died or lost elections. By the Compromise of 1877, Republican Rutherford B. Hayes was elected president, while the remaining 5,000 U.S. soldiers were removed from the occupied former Confederate states. Black voting rights were denied, sharecropping restored white supremacy in land ownership, and Reconstruction was deemed a failure. In essence, Johnson's idea of "a white man's country" prevailed, at the expense of black civil rights.

As Trefousse surmised, the defeat of Reconstruction was a great tragedy in United States history. Everything changed when Booth fired the bullet that killed Lincoln. The situation could have been prevented if Andrew Johnson had not been president during early Reconstruction. His policies to make the U.S. "a white man's country" had profound impact on racial injustices over the next one hundred years. "An opportunity to achieve racial equality after the Civil War was missed because of the presidency of Andrew Johnson!"

THE NEW BOOKS

Compiled by C. Robert Douglas

- Plummer, Mark A. *Lincoln's Railsplitter: Governor Richard J. Ogelsby*. U. of Illinois Press. 2001. \$34.95.
- Stone, DeWitt B., Jr. *Wandering to Glory: Confederate Veterans Remember Evans' Brigade*. U. of S. Carolina Press. 2002. \$34.95.
- Stowell, Daniel W. *In Tender Consideration: Women, Families, and the Law in Abraham Lincoln's Illinois*. U. of Illinois Press. 2002. \$34.95.
- Styple, William B., ed. *Writing and Fighting the Confederate War: The Letters of Peter Wellington Alexander, Confederate War Correspondent*. Belle Grove Publ. Co. 2002. \$33.00.
- Styple, William B., ed. *What Death More Glorious: A Biography of General Strong Vincent by James H. Nevins*. Belle Grove Publ. Co. 1997. \$21.95.
- Thompson, Kenneth E., Jr. *Civil War Commodores and Admirals: A Biographical Directory of All Eighty-eight Union and Confederate Navy Officers Who Attained Commissioned Flag Rank During the War*. C. Clayton Thompson. 2001. \$24.50.
- Thomsen, Brian M., ed. *Shadows of blue & Gray: The Civil War Writings of Ambrose Bierce*. Tom Doherty Associates LLC. 2002. \$24.95.
- Tomasek, Peter and Richard A. Sauers, eds. *Ricketts' Battery: A History of Battery F., 1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery*. Luzerne National Bank, 118 Main St., Luzerne, PA 18709. 2001. \$24.95.
- Trout, Robert J. *Galloping thunder: the Stuart Horse Artillery Battalion*. Stackpole Books. 2002. \$44.95.
- Walker, Paul D. *The Cavalry Battle that Saves the Union: Custer vs. Stuart at Gettysberg*. Pelican Publ. Co. 2002. \$18.95.

NEW MEMBERS

- James F Catroppo, 817 Liverpool Circle, Manchester, NJ 08759, 732-323-8738
- Janet Garretson, 823 Lake Street, Oak Park, IL 60301, 708-524-9037

SCHIMMELFENNIG BOUTIQUE

The history of The Round Table, *The Civil War Round Table: Fifty Years of Scholarship and Fellowship*, by Barbara Hughett, is available for \$30 per copy. You may purchase the book at the monthly meeting or order it from Morningside Bookshop, 260 Oak Street, Dayton, Ohio 45401 (1-800-648-9710), or online at barnesandnoble.com or amazon.com.

In addition to The Round Table history and *The Continuing Civil War*, a collection of essays from the Fiftieth Anniversary Proceedings, the following items are generally available at each monthly meeting: Lapel pins, Mugs, Meeting Tapes and CDs, and Civil War Buff posters.

Proceeds from the sale of these items go to support the Battlefield Preservation Fund of The Civil War Round Table of Chicago.

An "Illinois in the Civil War" online message board has been created as a forum to ask questions and get answers about our state in the Civil War (<http://history-sites.com>). This portal also contains links to similar Civil War message boards for many other states. The message boards are excellent sources to seek information on specific units or battles or to learn about Civil War ancestors.

The annual Abraham Lincoln Symposium will take place on Thursday, February 12, in the Hall of Representatives at the Old State Capitol in Springfield, Illinois. The theme this year is "Abraham Lincoln and the Party System." Speakers are Mark E. Neely, Jr. (this Round Table's 1989 Nevins-Freeman honoree), Michael Holt, and Mark Voss-Hubbard. Comments will be made by Graham Peck. The Symposium begins at 1:30 p.m. and is open to the public, free of charge. Martin Marty, of the University of Chicago, will be the speaker at the annual banquet of the Abraham Lincoln Association, held the evening of February 12 in the ballroom of the Springfield Renaissance hotel. The cost of the banquet is \$50 per person. For information and to make reservations, contact Cathy LeConte at Illinois National Bank in Springfield (217-747-5502).

SILENT AUCTION

A silent auction is held at each monthly dinner meeting, for books donated by late Round Table founding member Ralph G. Newman. The minimum bid is \$5 per book, with a minimum rise of \$1 per bid. Five minutes after the conclusion of the speaker's presentation, bidding will close and the last highest bid is the winner of each book. Proceeds go to benefit battlefield preservation.



Bulletin Board

FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, 350 North Orleans Street, the second Friday of each month, unless otherwise indicated.

- January 9: Arnold W. Schofield, "Forgotten Warriors: American Indians in the Civil War as Allies and Adversaries"
- February 11: Lawrence Lee Hewitt, "The Confederacy's Best Chance for Victory: Robert E. Lee and the Battle of Annihilation" (**Please note that this is the second Wednesday of February.**)
- March 12: Thomas F. Schwartz, "Crazy Folks ... Why must I take my chances? -Abraham Lincoln and Death Threats"
- April 16: (**third Friday**) James Ogden, topic to be announced.
- April 29-May 2: Annual Spring Battlefield Tour, Atlanta Campaign
- May 14: Bruce Tap, "Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War"
- June 11: To be announced

The annual George L. Painter Lincoln Lectures will be held on Thursday, February 12 at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site Visitor Center in Springfield, beginning at 9:00 a.m. This year's lectures feature Michael L. Carlebach, professor of art history at the University of Miami, and Vibert White, director of the public history program at the University of Central Florida. Admission is free. For information, contact Tim Townsend at 217-492-4241 or via email at tim_townsend@nps.gov.

JERRY L. RUSSELL IN MEMORIAM

The Civil War Round Table of Chicago, along with all the other Round Tables around the world and thousands of people who care about the preservation of Civil War history, mourn the death of Jerry L. Russell on December 5, at the age of 70. Jerry was so vital when he addressed us on October 10, when he accepted our thirtieth annual Nevins-Freeman Award. It's extremely difficult to believe that he is gone.

Jerry was my good and loyal friend and had been for more than fifteen years. I will miss him very much. He was a good, honest, and dedicated man. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow Alice Anne and his entire family.

Barbara Hughett

(For further information, see the first item in the Battlefield Preservation Update on page 2.)