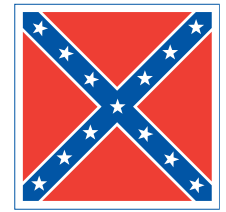


THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Founded December 3, 1940



Volume LXV, Number 2

Chicago, Illinois

October 2004



634th REGULAR MEETING

ROBERT ZAWORSKI ON
"DIVING TO THE MONITOR"

★ ★ ★ ★

Friday, October 15

★ ★ ★ ★

**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:
Chicken Casserole,
Catch of the Day or
Fruit Plate*

(We are offering, the option of choosing not to have dinner and coming only for the address at 7:30 p.m., for a charge of \$5 per person.)

PLEASE NOTE

Make your reservation by **MONDAY, OCTOBER 11**, by calling Pepper Zenger at 630-460-1865. We now also have a **new online dinner reservation system** at <http://www.thecwrt.org/commiss.htm>. Just fill in your name, email address, choice of entree and number of attendees on the easy-to-use form, then click on the "send information" box. 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 \$8 with a validated parking sticker. Tickets will be validated by the Round Table treasurer at the meeting.**

ROBERT ZAWORSKI, M.D.

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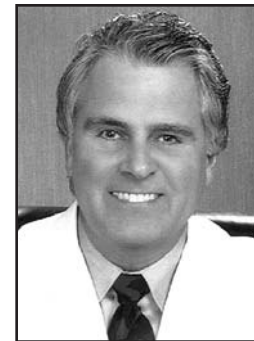
"Diving to the Monitor"

BY BRUCE ALLARDICE

One naval battle in the Civil War can fairly be termed "historic"--the first-ever battle of ironclad warships between the U.S.S. *Monitor* and the C.S.S. *Virginia* (ex-U.S.S. *Merrimac*), at Hampton Roads, Virginia, March 9, 1862. As S. Dana Greene, the *Monitor's* captain during the battle, later wrote, "No ship in the world's history has a more imperishable place in naval annals than the *Monitor*. Not only by her providential arrival at the right moment did she secure the safety of Hampton Roads and all that depended on it, but the idea which she embodied revolutionized the system of naval warfare which had existed from the earliest recorded history." The *Monitor's*, a revolutionary design embodying a revolving gun turret and more than 40 patented inventions, became the prototype for naval vessels from that day in 1862 to the present.

Ironically, these two famous ships both had a brief life. The Confederate *Virginia* was scuttled and burned by her crew two months after the battle, when Union forces threatened to seize her base. Ordered south in late 1862, the *Monitor* sank in storm off Cape Hatteras the morning of December 31, 1862, with the loss of sixteen lives.

In August of 1973, Duke University's research vessel *Eastwind* discovered the long-hidden wreck, under 235 feet of water on the ocean floor 16 miles west of Cape Hatteras. The federal government immediately designated the site as a national marine sanctuary in order to preserve the ship's remains. At first, the government only allowed submarines to photo the wreck, but in 1990 the government finally started awarding permits to qualified diving



Robert Zaworski, M.D.

expeditions to visit the site. The divers soon noticed that corrosion and decay were causing more damage to the *Monitor* than Confederate guns ever did, and that if any artifacts from the *Monitor* were to be saved, the divers would have to save them.

On October 15, 2004, Rob Zaworski will give an audiovisual presentation, "Diving to the *Monitor*", to the Civil War Round Table. Rob was a member of the first team to scuba dive to the wreck. He had the honor of transporting to the surface the first artifacts--five condiment bottles--rescued from the wreck site. Rob will share with us his slides and video of his dives, and update us on the ongoing efforts to preserve and protect what may be the most historically important naval shipwreck in the world.

Dr. Rob Zaworski is a native of Ohio who graduated from Northwestern University Medical School, Dental School and Graduate School. He has been in private practice in the field of plastic and reconstructive surgery in Atlanta, Georgia, the past 25 years. Rob started scuba diving in 1959 and has had a long career in diving, including salvage operations on a Spanish Galleon fleet. He was a member of the 1992 and 1993 U.S.S. *Monitor* Salvage Expeditions. Rob has served as president of the Atlanta Civil War Round Table and has written extensively on the Civil War. He is a member of the Society of Civil War Historians and the Sons of Union Veterans.

BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION UPDATE

BY MARY MUNSELL ABROE

Upcoming Rocco Print Drawing Will Benefit Urgent Need of Newtonia (MO) Battlefield: Mrs. Ruth Kliger, widow of late and much-loved member Paul Kliger, has donated an early Keith Rocco print from Paul's collection to the Civil War Round Table of Chicago, and she has approved our use of it to advance battlefield preservation. The print in question, "The Defense of Little Round Top by the 20th Maine, July 2, 1863," was Keith's first limited-edition print (1987). It is Number 163 of 600, pencil-signed by the artist, matted and unframed; after-market value is \$500.

Starting in October and ending with the December meeting, the Battlefield Preservation Fund committee will sponsor a drawing for this print--with the proceeds supporting a time-sensitive project of the Newtonia Battlefields Protection Association, from whose hospitality participants in the May 2002 battlefield tour benefitted. Late in 2002 the association finally achieved its long-time goal of acquiring the historic Ritchey Mansion, a significant Civil War-era structure. Financing for the purchase came in part from a National Park Service grant, with the association required to provide matching funds. While members work to retire this debt of \$150,000 with the help of the Civil War community (our own included), recent inspection of the mansion revealed structural damage that must be addressed sooner rather than later. The association therefore has launched a \$50,000 capital-improvement campaign in order to stabilize the structure, in part by removing modern additions that are deteriorating and thus threatening it.

Our upcoming drawing will support this important effort of the good people in Newtonia. The need here is immediate, specific and serious; so that the Round Table might provide substantial support, we request a donation of \$10 for one ticket and \$20 for three. Those who knew Paul Kliger also remember his abiding interest in Civil War actions further west than the trans-Mississippi theatre represented by Newtonia. He loved battlefield tours, however, and he was an ardent supporter of preservation; we believe that he would endorse this enterprise of ours. We ask that members do the same by supporting it. Please address questions about the Newtonia group to Kay Hively (editor of its newsletter) at khively@joplin.com <<mailto:khively@joplin.com>> or to Mary Abroe at DrMJMAbroe@cs.com <<mailto:DrMJMAbroe@cs.com>>.

Progress on Illinois Monument Renovation Is Reported by Winschel: A recent letter from our friend Terry

Winschel, chief historian at Vicksburg National Military Park, reports on the status of restoration work currently being done on the Illinois Monument. A cooperative effort by numerous state round tables, our own among them, raised \$5,000 in 2002-2003 to support that work, with \$9,000-plus coming from Vicksburg's own monument maintenance account. The goals of this current project are as follows: 1.) removal of stains from the interior's marble walls and from the bronze plaques that list names of the 36,000-plus Illinois soldiers who participated in the Vicksburg campaign; and 2.) re-gilding of the walls' inscriptions that indicate the names and commands of brigade, division, and corps commanders from Illinois as well as the names of Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and President Abraham Lincoln. The entire restoration project started during the mid-1990s, at which time the eagle atop the monument's portico was re-gilded--with financing provided in part by several Illinois round tables, our own again among them; fortunately, there were adequate funds at that time also to re-gild inscriptions on the monument's facade that bear the words of Lincoln, Grant, and war governor Richard Yates. This multi-phase renovation of the Illinois "Memorial Temple" intends to prepare the structure for observance of the centennial of its dedication in October 2006.

Terry begins his letter by thanking all of us and he continues as follows: "(A)t long last we are finally completing restoration of the Illinois Monument by gilding the interior inscriptions that bear the names of the higher ranking officers from Illinois who participated in the Vicksburg campaign....It looks magnificent! and I can but hope that the good people of Illinois who so generously donated of their time and money will approve of the work we have done and that the monument will enhance the pride and honor with which the people of Illinois embrace those whose service at Vicksburg has endeared them to their countrymen."

Here's What Our Battlefield Preservation Fund Dollars Have Been Doing Lately: As reported at the Round Table's recent Executive Committee meeting, our Battlefield Preservation Fund assisted a wide variety of groups and projects during the past fiscal year. In only its third year, the Ed Bearss Preservation Award received significant financial support from an expanding number of CWRT members. The award also was the subject of a feature article appearing in the July issue of the Civil War News. This year Ed chose the Land Conservancy of Adams County

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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, 9670 N. Dee #205 Des Plaines, Illinois 60016, or contact webmaster@www.thecivilwar.org.

(Pennsylvania), which works to preserve the rural character and historic ambiance of Adams County and the Gettysburg battlefield, as recipient of the \$1,000 prize from our organization. Past winners were the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust and the Kernstown Battlefield Association.

While the Bearss Award is sustained by donations restricted to that purpose, the main sources of income for our Battlefield Preservation Fund are our monthly meeting's book drawing/Ralph Newman silent auction/Schimmelfennig Boutique as well as offerings made for speakers' tapes. Periodic, special fundraising efforts also buttress the fund. Last year a combination of these sources allowed us to join (as a group) or renew our memberships in the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, Civil War Preservation Trust, and the Save Historic Antietam Foundation; the generosity of an anonymous donor paid our dues for the Kernstown Battlefield Association as well. We also contributed financially to the work of the Perryville (Kentucky) Battlefield Preservation Association and the Newtonia (Missouri) Battlefields Protection Association. Finally, our Round Table gave \$2,500 to the Illinois National Guard and Militia Historical Society for the ongoing campaign to fund restoration of the national flag of the 36th Illinois Volunteer Infantry (aka the "Fox River Regiment").

Our continued involvement in preserving the nation's tangible Civil War legacy will not be inexpensive, but it is essential if we want to consider our group a leader among round tables. Members of the Battlefield Preservation Fund committee (Mary Abroe, Roger Bohn, Larry Gibbs, Rob Girardi, Nancy Jacobs, Marshall Krolick, Steve Stewart, and treasurer David Zucker) welcome comments and questions. Please contact any of us with your input.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

BY LARRY GIBBS

On September 10th, 2004, Parker Hills presented "The Forgotten Vicksburg: The Louisiana Campaign" to 96 members and guests at the 633rd regular meeting of The Civil War Round Table of Chicago. A native of Mississippi, Hills retired after 31 years of military service with the rank of Brigadier General. A respected author, General Hills will be a tour guide for our Vicksburg tour in May, 2005. His presentation gave insights into Union General Ulysses S. Grant's brilliant Vicksburg campaign and how Grant followed historic principles of military leadership.

"War is more of a struggle between views of generals than battle between soldiers," proclaimed Hills. "A great general puts himself in other generals' places in order to read his mind. In the Vicksburg campaign Grant outgeneraled other generals by reading his opponents eyes and mind." Grant's innovative offensive planning sealed the fate of the Confederacy with the outcome at Vicksburg.

Often considered the greatest military campaign in U. S. history, the Vicksburg campaign is usually studied from the crossing of the Mississippi River on May 1, 1863, to the eventual siege and Union capture of Vicksburg on July 4th. Hills claimed that Grant's emphasis on maneuver, speed, and offensive strategy in Louisiana (opposite the Vicksburg bluffs) from January to April, 1863, served as a model for great military leadership qualities. These qualities served as a solid stepping stone for the eventual capture of Vicksburg.

According to Hills, the outstanding qualities Grant possessed were perspective, responsibility, intuition, daring, and endurance (P.R.I.D.E.). Perspective is the ability to analyze, anticipate, and react to the thought processes of an opponent. Objectives must be defined in a military campaign. Grant's objective in this campaign was to gain the dry ground on the eastern (Vicksburg) side of the Mississippi River. Grant realized that if he returned his army north to Memphis to begin his campaign from that city, most Union officials would look at this movement as a retreat, so Grant knew he would venture south

before crossing the Mississippi River. "He had to proceed," exclaimed Hills.

"Courage is the first requirement of a soldier; the two types of courage are personal danger and the ability to take responsibility," asserted Hills. "Responsibility cannot be delegated. A leader's responsibility occurs because he entreats his soldiers to carry out duties."

Intuition, as defined by Hills, consists of quick, ready insights into decision-making. "Lessons for future events learned from contemplation, and reflections based on experience, is intuition," explained Hills. General Grant knew in January, 1863, that he had to cross the Mississippi River south of Vicksburg; he had to create a diversion north of Vicksburg to deceive the Confederates. He ordered Union General William Sherman's corps to feint an attack from the Yazoo River area north of Vicksburg. Grant had the capacity of outguessing Confederate General John Pemberton in Vicksburg about Union intentions and movements. The window of opportunity opens and shuts very quickly in warfare, so a great general must move quickly and decisively.

Daring is making immediate decisions in uncertain situations. This quality is rare. It separates the great generals from the merely good generals. The decision to cross the entire Union army at Bruinsburg was the crucial decision in the first stages of the Vicksburg campaign. Grant knew that he would be blamed if the crossing became a debacle. Of Grant's immediate subordinates, only General John McClernand, a politician turned soldier, supported Grant's daring move; other, more experienced subordinates like Sherman did not approve. Grant allowed McClernand's corps to lead the advance across the Mississippi, understanding that a general should never delegate to one who does not share the commander's vision and decisions.

Hills stated, "There are two aspects of endurance--physical and mental exertion. An organization--i. e., the Union army at Vicksburg--performs the way a leader responds." If a leader does not plan effectively, fatigue can be remarkably contagious. On the other hand, when a leader is proud of his

army, he instills pride and good performance. Where General Pemberton exhibited fear and doubt to his men, Grant illustrated perseverance and indomitable spirit to his men. A successful general needs good health, youth, and energy. However, Grant suffered from maladies such as hemorrhoids and dental problems requiring false teeth. Even though Grant was unable to comfortably sit, lay, or stand during the Vicksburg campaign, he never complained, never submitted to duress or fatigue. Grant understood that fatigue makes cowards of us all.

The Louisiana portion of the Vicksburg campaign was a true test for Grant's generalship, even though it was essentially bloodless. Hills concluded, "It has been astutely stated that great knowledge from previous leaders is critical. Great leaders of yesterday can give lessons for great leaders of tomorrow."

CWRT SPRING TOUR:

"THE FORGOTTEN CAMPAIGNS FOR VICKSBURG"

From April 28 - May 1, 2005, we will see the Vicksburg Campaign as never before! The most vicious "fighting" in the quest for this "key" occurred before Grant ever set foot near it. Occasionally even encountering Rebels, Grant battled weather, water, disease, fatigue, politics and the press.

We will re-fight Grant's battles--walking Chickasaw Bayou, Grand Gulf and Champion Hill; go back in time at Windsor and Winter Quarters Plantations; tour the Cairo and IL Monument. This is the "signature tour" of Ed Bears, assisted by Terry Winschel and Parker Hills. Early reservations for this popular tour will begin in Fall 2004.

Longtime CWRT member Charles J. Shields died on September 15th. Charlie was a former reporter, and editor of the Star Publications in the south suburbs. He helped found the South Suburban CWRT and the south suburban chapter of the Sherlock Holmes Society. He will be missed.

GRAPESHOT



Immediate CWRT past president Ted Birndorf is recovering from major surgery. He's doing fine, and would like to thank everyone who's sent get well wishes.

CWRT Executive Committee member Jerry Allen spoke to the Northern Illinois CWRT October 1st on "Fur Gud og Vort Land. Wisconsin's Scandinavian Regiment". Jerry is an expert on the 15th Wisconsin Infantry and its Colonel Hans Christian Heg. For the curious, the title is Norwegian and stands for "For God and Country".

The latest issue of "Blue & Gray" magazine features a review of the new book, "Three Years With Wallace's Zouaves: The Civil War Memoirs of Thomas Wise Durham" by CWRT member Charlie Larimer.

Starting this month, the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop will be open until 7 on Thursdays. Also, the new Saturday hours are 10-4. Online shopping is available at www.ALincolnBookShop.com.

CWRT President Jerome Kowalski announced the appointment of Frank Pettice and Bruce Allardice as members of the House Committee.

CWRT member Oscar Walchirk spoke on "Jewish Soldiers in the Civil War" July 6th at the Skokie Public Library. He will speak on the same subject this month at a senior center in Skokie and this spring at the Skokie Branch of Oakton College. For details, contact Oscar at www.gfow401@aol.com.

Know of any upcoming talks, events, or publications? All members are welcome to contribute items to the newsletter. Contact the editor at bsal-lardice1@aol.com or (847) 375-8305.

SCHIMMELFENNIG BOUTIQUE

The following items are generally available at each monthly meeting: The Civil War Round Table History. 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. There is also a book raffle, with proceeds again going to benefit battlefield preservation.

SILENT AUCTION

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the October meeting, much delay was created by the attendees who had NOT made dinner reservations. The hotel plans the dinners based on the number of reservations we phone in to them, and if a large number of attendees don't make reservations, the result is delayed or substitute dinners for everybody. Please be helpful and courteous in making your dinner reservations by the Monday before the meeting. On another topic, members who have not yet renewed for the 2004-2005 year are reminded to send in their dues.

FRUIT PLATE OPTION

Starting with the October meeting, members calling in their reservations can, if they so desire, ask for a fruit plate in lieu of the main courses.

NEW ACQUISITION AT LINCOLN MUSEUM

A leather portfolio that Abraham Lincoln likely used to carry draft copies of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Gettysburg Address has been donated to Springfield's Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Tom Heyser of Maryland and his family donated it. His parents were housekeepers for Robert Todd Lincoln, President Lincoln's only surviving son, and Robert's wife told the Heysers that the president used the portfolio for carrying official papers. The portfolio has Lincoln's name embossed on it in gold.

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*.

October 15: Dr. Robert Zaworski, "Diving to the Monitor" **This is a THIRD FRIDAY meeting for us.**

November 12: Dorothy Kelly, "The War in East Tennessee"

December 10: Dr. David Zarefsky, "Lincoln, Douglas and Slavery: in the Crucible of Public Debate"

January 14, 2005: Terry Winschel, "Stephen D. Lee and the Making of an American Shrine" **Nevins - Freeman Award Presentation**

February 11: Rev. Bob Miller, "Both Prayed to the Same God--Religion, Faith and the Civil War"

March 11: Bruce Allardice, "The Vote To Win the War: The Election of 1864"

April 8: To be announced

May 13: To be announced

June 10: Nat Hughes, "The Civil War as seen through the eyes of Robert Stiles, ANV"

NEW MEMBERS

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