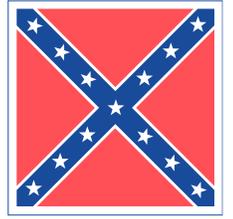


THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Founded December 3, 1940



Volume LXXIX, Number 8

Chicago, Illinois

April 2019

Brad Gottfried on: *The Maps of the Fredericksburg Campaign*



Every Civil War buff knows there are never enough maps—enough GOOD maps—to illustrate a battle or campaign. Our April speaker, Dr. Brad Gottfried, has addressed this concern by embarking on a journey to map every campaign in the Eastern Theater of the Civil War. His most recent effort, *The Maps of the Fredericksburg Campaign*, will be the subject his talk to our group. While most know of the futile attempts to capture Marye’s Heights, fewer know about the other major action at Prospect Hill that almost cost Lee his decisive victory. He will also illustrate the challenges Robert E. Lee and Ambrose Burnside experienced in getting their armies to Fredericksburg, and the dreadful January Mud March. Dr. Gottfried will have books on hand that he will sell and sign at a discount.

received a number of national and regional awards and recognitions for his leadership including: the National Council of Marketing Professionals’ *National Pacesetter of the Year* and Leadership Maryland’s *Gold Leadership Award*.

As an historian, Brad has authored thirteen books and two additional works are moving through the editorial process. After writing five Gettysburg books, Brad has devoted his time to researching and writing a series of map studies of the Eastern Theater Campaigns, including the: *Maps of First Bull Run*, *Maps of Antietam*, *Maps of Gettysburg*, *Maps of Bristoe Station &*

Mine Run, *Maps of the Wilderness*, and his newest volume, the *Maps of Fredericksburg*. He has completed two other books in the series, which should be published in the next few years: *The Maps of the Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign* and the *Maps of the Spotsylvania/Overland Campaign*. His *Maps of the Petersburg Campaign* is well under way. He has also completed a small book on the Point Lookout Prisoner of War Camp for Confederates, which he wrote with his wife and is self-published.



781st REGULAR MEETING

★★★★★

Friday, April 12th

★★★★★

HOLIDAY INN O’HARE
5615N. CUMBERLAND, CHICAGO

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

\$40 - Members/Non-members

ENTRÉE
BUFFET STYLE.

PRESERVATION NEWS

Dear Contributors,

Thanks to the generosity of supporters like you, more than one thousand acres of hallowed ground across seven Civil War battlefields are forever protected from development!

From the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign in Virginia and the “battle that saved Washington” in Maryland to Corinth and the Vicksburg Campaign in Mississippi to the Red River Campaign in Arkansas, this land represents a significant cross-section of major military movements in the war. Most of the tracts we’ve saved are adjacent to previously preserved ground, meaning that acre by hallowed acre, we are expanding outdoor spaces to honor and explore American history.

Altogether, this land is worth more than \$4.1 million. Thanks to a combination of matching grants, federal funds, we were able to save it for a fraction of that price. More importantly, the battlefields where these tracts are situated – Brice’s Cross Roads, Cedar Creek, Champion Hill, Corinth, Monocacy, Prairie D’Ane and Second Deep Bottom – saw more than 32,000 American combat casualties.

I’ll tell you what, my friend – an opportunity to save so much hallowed ground in one fell swoop is rare. But at the Trust, we work to match the scope of America’s defining conflicts. Members like you are the reason we can work at this level and leave a remarkable legacy for future generations of Americans.

Your good work has also inspired other battlefield landowners to preserve their important land, as demonstrated in our current fundraising effort to preserve 68 acres at Champion Hill.

In honoring our nation’s past, we help protect its future, ensuring that men and women for generations to come can learn from some of the best outdoor classrooms in our country. I continue to be astonished at all we can accomplish when we work together. Thank you for your partnership in this critical endeavor.

‘Til the Battle is Won,

Jim Lighthizer
President
American Battlefield Trust

P.S. Want to learn more about the land you saved? See how all these campaigns and battles fit together in our Animated Map of the Civil War, then peruse the battles by state or year.

SAVING THE SLAUGHTER PEN FARM

Way back in 2006, battlefield preservationists went above and beyond to save the Slaughter Pen Farm from industrial development with an investment of \$12 million – because the history was that important. Today, thanks to donors like you, this hallowed ground has been preserved and restored – but our work isn’t over.

On December 13, 1862, Federal troops marched across muddy farm fields south of Fredericksburg. This main assault of the Battle of Fredericksburg struck a weak point in the Confederate line, touching off a seesaw battle that raged from the wooded slopes of Prospect Hill and across the shell-swept plain of what is now known as Slaughter Pen Farm.

By the end of the day, more than 9,000 Americans – Union and Confederate

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1039 Hinswood
Darien, Illinois 60561
Phone: 630-460-1865
www.chicagocwrt.org

The only requirement for membership in The Civil War Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Membership Committee, 1039 Hinswood, Darien, Illinois 60561, or editor@chicagocwrt.org.

– had become casualties in one of the worst Union defeats of the Civil War. Five of the men who fought there would receive a Medal of Honor for their bravery. Today, this hallowed ground inspires modern Medal of Honor recipients with the stories and history that it holds.

The Trust’s purchase of 208 acres of the Slaughter Pen Farm for \$12 million in 2006 was the largest transaction we’ve ever undertaken. We can say without a doubt that it was well worth the cost given the historical significance of this hallowed ground, but it was a big commitment that we’re still making payments on today.

Each year we’ve relied on devoted members like you to help us meet our annual commitment of \$300,000 to continue preserving this vital piece of American history for future generations. This year, a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous has agreed to match all contributions up to \$150,000, a two-to-one match. That means we only need to raise another \$150,000 to make this year’s payment and get one year closer to preserving this incredibly significant battleground forever.

MARCH MEETING

By Mark Matranga

Michael J. Larson and John David Smith provided an incisive look into the life and times of a typical ‘Western’ soldier in their presentation “Dear Delia: The Civil War Letters of Captain Henry F. Young, Seventh Wisconsin Infantry” at the 780th Regular Meeting of The Civil War Round Table on March 8, 2019. Larson and Smith have culled Young’s letters to his wife and father-in-law to reveal not only the sentiments of a man willing to sacrifice his life for the nation, but also a man connected to his family. Young fought to save the Union but kept close contact with home.

Born in Western Pennsylvania, Young missed a chance to fight in the Mexican War and migrated westward where he met Jared Warner and went to work in his mill; he later went into business with Warner. He met and married Warner’s daughter, Delia in March 1853. When war broke out, he enlisted and was elected an officer in the local militia which was incorporated as Company F of the Seventh Wisconsin Infantry. Eventually, his unit was joined by the Second and Sixth Wisconsin and Nineteenth Indiana and, later, the Twenty-Fourth Michigan, to form the famous Iron Brigade. Young amassed considerable combat experience: Second Manassas, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Bristoe Station, Mine Run, The Wilderness, Petersburg, The Crater, and Weldon Railroad. After learning of the death of his daughter Laura in November 1864, he sought release from the service. Despite having reenlisted and expressing a desire to see out the end of the war, he was discharged on December 3,

1864.

Young often expressed thoughts of patriotism, writing his wife in November 1861 that he would “rather spend the last drop of blood I have” so that his family could have a free government. He made clear why he fought, often stating his core values of duty, family, and patriotism. He was more than willing to sacrifice his life to suppress the rebellion. He emphasized his emerging sense of community pride, loyalty, nationalism and intense patriotism. Serving in the military was signified a citizen’s right as well as his responsibility. Beyond these responsibilities, Young’s letters revealed the volunteer soldiers life, the connections with home and comrades, the meanings of courage, and the brutal realities of war.

Young’s letters reveal the perspective of an officer from America’s western heartland. The authors consider the ideas and thoughts of recruits considered ‘westerners’ have been underrepresented in Civil War editing. But these soldiers, their regiments and companies shared characteristics with soldiers from other sections. They were extensions of the community, always conscious of their connections and obligations to home, especially in their moral conduct and physical courage. Midwesterners feared southern secession would lead to a failure of the American experience, thus increasing their identification with the Union.

Young’s letters cover many topics, including details of military service: camp life and camaraderie; thievery among the troops; and food shortages. He provides invaluable insights into everyday military life:

building earthworks, ducking artillery barrages, sanitation, and obtaining medical care. He also discussed military leaders, maneuvers, and tactics. He spoke out on the strengths and weaknesses of African American troops. His views were somewhat equivocal in that he did not consider blacks qualified to fight but did support the Emancipation Proclamation as he felt it would help the war effort. Eventually, he supported blacks in uniform.

Regarding the election of 1864, Young expressed support for the candidate who could win the war. He first backed McClellan but changed his opinion, saying although Little Mac was a “true and loyal man,” he “would never be a big dog.” On the war itself, Young felt the southern people had been misled by their leaders, but now better understood northern character. He acknowledged sectional prejudices, but felt north and south could live in peace, especially once the south could be released from the shackles of slavery.

Larson and Smith provide considerable insight into how regional ties propelled men like Young to service to the union. Their volume is supported by copious footnotes which provides meaningful context for the letters.



SAVE THE DATE!

The 2019 Battlefield Tour of Vicksburg will be May 2-5, 2019. Ed Bearss and Terry Winschel will be our guides—and you can’t get better than those two! More information will be forthcoming.

GRAPESHOT



The **Civil War Museum of Kenosha, WI**, is hosting the following public programs and workshops in April.

On Wednesday, April 17, at noon, Larry Tagg, author of The Generals of Gettysburg and The Unpopular Mr. Lincoln, discusses the Civil War's Western generals and the strategies that resulted in the Battle of Shiloh.

On Saturday, April 6, from 1 to 3, author Dave Powell presents a workshop on "The Shenandoah Valley and Grant's Grand Strategy for 1864."

For more on programs at the museum, visit <https://museums.kenosha.org/civilwar/events/>

Bruce Allardice will speak to the Kankakee Valley CWRT April 3rd on "Charles Gunther: A Yankee in Dixie." For more on Professor Allardice, visit www.civilwarbruce.com.

Rob Girardi will speak April 6 at the Arlington Heights Library on "Chicago's Memory of the Civil War," and on April 8th at the Ann Arbor (MI) CWRT, topic TBD.

For more on Rob, visit <https://www.robertgirardi.com>.

Check the **Announcements** section of the CWRT's website for additional coming events.

Know of any upcoming talks, events, or publications? All members are welcome to contribute items to the newsletter. Contact the editor at editor@chicagocwrt.org or (630) 297-8046.

PLEASE NOTE

Make your reservations by Sunday, April 7, by emailing dinnerreservations@chicagocwrt.org, or calling 630 460-1865 with the names of your party.

If a cancellation becomes necessary after dinner reservations have been made, please email us at dinnerreservations@chicagocwrt.org and/or call us at 630-460-1865.

We are offering the option of choosing not to have dinner and coming only for the address at 7:15 p.m., for a charge of \$10 per person.

Parking at the Holiday Inn is FREE.

More Upcoming Civil War Events

April 5th, Northern Illinois CWRT: Dan Patterson on "General Longstreet"

April 9th, McHenry County CWRT: Trevor Steinbach on "Civil War Medicine"

April 9th, Southwest Michigan CWRT: Matt VanAcker on "Michigan's Civil War Regimental Battle Flags"

April 11th, Milwaukee CWRT: Brad Gottfried on "Maps of Fredericksburg"

April 16th, Lincoln-Davis CWRT: Larry Tagg on "The Generals of Shiloh"

April 17th, Starved Rock CWRT in Ottawa: Scott Wallace on "Yellow Tavern"

April 19th, Salt Creek CWRT: John Matuszek on "Sherman's Working Battery: History of the 1st Illinois Light Artillery, Battery H"

April 25th, South Suburban CWRT: Phil Angelo on "Mexico and the Civil War"

April 27th, Chicagoland Civil War and Militaria Show, Wheaton Fair Grounds

May 1st, Kankakee Valley CWRT: Rob Girardi on "Civil War Corps Command"

Bulletin Board



FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, the second Friday of each month, *unless otherwise indicated*.

May 10th: John Horn on "The Petersburg Regiment: the 12th Virginia"

June 14th: Doug Dammann on "Elmer Ellsworth and His Zouave Cadets"]

Sept. 13th: Janet Croon on "The War Outside My Window"

Oct. 11th: Jim Lighthizer on "Battlefield Preservation"

Nov. 8th: Ethan Rafuse on "The Valley Campaign of 1862"

Dec. 13th: Dan Weinberg on "Musings of a Collecting Voyeur"

Jan. 10, 2020: Pam Toler on "Heroines of Mercy Street: Nurses in the Civil War"

Feb. 14: Connie Langum on "Wilson's Creek"

Mar. 13: David Sutherland on "VMI's Civil War Legacy"

Apr. 10: Michael Shaffer on "Recollections of the 1st Virginia Cavalry"

May 8: Wil Greene on "The Petersburg Campaign"

June 12: Brian Wills on "George Henry Thomas"