



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE.

Founded December 3, 1940



Volume LXI, Number 1

Chicago, Illinois

September 2000



593rd REGULAR MEETING

**THOMAS P. LOWRY ON
"SEX IN THE CIVIL WAR"**

Friday, September 8

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

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

\$30 - Members \$35 - Nonmembers

Entrees:

*Chicken Havana
or Catch of the Day*



PLEASE NOTE

Make your reservation by **MONDAY, September 4**, by calling registrar 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.

PARKING: If you are driving and coming from the south, turn left into the Mart Plaza lot just after crossing the river on Orleans. From the north, turn right from Orleans on Hubbard, left on Kingsbury, right on Kinzie, and left into the Mart Plaza lot. Parking is \$7 with a validated parking sticker.

THOMAS P. LOWRY

~ on ~

"Sex in the Civil War"

RARE ORIGINAL RESOURCES
RESEARCHED

BY BARBARA HUGHETT

BELL I. Wiley, the late eminent professor of history at Emory University, once commented that a book about Civil War sex could not be written because so much had been hidden or destroyed. Dr. Thomas P. Lowry proved otherwise when his book, *The Story the Soldiers Wouldn't Tell: Sex in the Civil War*, was published in 1994. Dr. Lowry will address The Round Table on September 8 on the topic of "Sex in the Civil War."

In his widely acclaimed book, using primary documents as well as standard historical works, Lowry, a physician and medical historian, presents a fascinating study of sexual behavior during the American Civil War. The first book to cover all aspects of sexuality during the Civil War, much of it is based on rare original sources, including soldiers' jokes, songs, letters, and diaries. The book's introduction was written by historian Robert K. Krick. While noting that the saint-like icons of the war—Lincoln, Lee, and Jackson—probably deserve their reputations, he said that it's another story for the vast majority.

According to a review in the *Library Journal*, "From camp followers to gay lovers to vulgar language, Lowry examines Civil War-era sex from every conceivable angle. Recommended for public libraries and as ancillary reading in academic libraries where Civil War materials are collected."



Thomas P. Lowry

A native Californian, Lowry earned his B.A. and M.D. degrees at Stanford University. He served his internship at Minneapolis General Hospital and his psychiatric residency at the University of California at San Francisco. He was a captain in the United States Air Force Medical Corps, spent many years in private practice, and was also employed by the states of California, New Mexico, and Hawaii. He spent one year on the staff of Masters & Johnson in St. Louis and six years as an associate clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California at San Francisco. He retired from active medical practice in 1996.

In addition to *Sex in the Civil War*, Lowry has written *The Attack on Taranto: Blueprint for*

Pearl Harbor (1995), *Civil War Bawdy Houses of Washington, DC* (1997), *Tarnished Eagles: The Court-Martials of Fifty Union Colonels* (1998), and *Don't Shoot That Boy! Lincoln and Military Justice* (1999). His new book, co-written with Dr. Jack D. Welsh, *Tarnished Scalpels: The Court-Martials of Fifty Union Surgeons*, is being released this summer. He has also written numerous articles and book reviews and designed a map of "Mr. Lincoln's Civil War Washington, DC."

(continued on page 3)

**RESERVATIONS
BY MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 4**

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Founded December 3, 1940
601 South La Salle Building, Suite C-817
Chicago, Illinois 60605
Phone: 847-698-1438
www.thecwrt.org

Officers

President	Bruce Allardice
Senior Vice President	Roger E. Bohn
Vice President	Janet Linhart
Vice President	Ted Birndorf
Treasurer	Marge Smogor
Secretary	Norman Poteshman
Assistant Treasurer	Jerome Kowalski
Assistant Secretary	Nancy Jacobs
Inspector General	Bruce Allardice
Membership Registrar	Carole Le Claire
Tour Registrar	Carole Le Claire
Newsletter Editor	Barbara Hughett
Contributing Editors	Mary Munsell Abroe Roger E. Bohn, C. Robert Douglas Larry Gibbs
Field Artist	Jerry Warshaw
Field Photographer	Roger E. Bohn
Webmaster	William Sullivan

Founding Newsletter Editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968

Board of Trustees

Terms expiring in 2001:	Richard Farmer, David Jackowski, Jrry Schur, David Zucker
Terms expiring in 2002:	Ralph DeFalco, Roger Rudich, Steven Stewart, Bill Todd

Committee Chairs

Spring Battlefield Tour	Janet Linhart
Co-chair	Mary Munsell Abroe
Ways and Means	Kurt Carlson
Membership	Marge Smogor, Gene Holland
Battlefield Preservation Fund	Mary Munsell Abroe
Nevins-Freeman Award	Barbara Hughett
Honors	Norman Poteshman
Publications/Printed Material	David Richert
Publicity/Public Relations	Jerri-Jennifer Smart
Sixtieth Anniversary	Marvin Sanderman
Co-chair	Roger E. Bohn
Hospitality	Bill and Margaret Todd
Nominating	James Nethery
Archives	Paul Eastes, Art Kunis
Battlefield Preservation Raffle and Schimmelfennig Boutique	Paul Eastes David Jackowski, Nancy Jacobs Bing Owens, Jackie Wilson
Tape Record Librarians	Robert Girardi Richard Farmer, Jerome Kowalski
House	Paul Eastes, Steven Stewart David Zucker
Shows	Robert Carlson, Larry Hewitt David Howe, Jerome Kowalski

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, 601 South LaSalle Building, Suite C-817, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION UPDATE

BY ROGER E. BOHN

A Keith Rocco print will be the prize in a drawing/raffle at the Sharpsburg Heritage Festival, Sunday, September 17, in Sharpsburg, Maryland. Titled: "Always Ready—9th New York Hawkins' Zouaves at Sharpsburg," the signed, numbered print is framed and ready to hang. Tickets will be available at our CWRT September meeting, through Mary Abroe, and are \$2 each or \$5 for three. *You can also purchase tickets by calling Mary Abroe at 847-251-4745.* The winner need not be present at the drawing, and all proceeds will go to land-purchase programs of Save Historic Antietam Foundation (SHAF). We should support this very worthy effort and, who knows, you may just win the grand print!

Rocco will be exhibiting at the 60th Anniversary Symposium at the Fountain Blue Conference Center, November 11, 2000. See the *Newsletter* for all the details.

Civil War Preservation Trust asks Congress for \$37 million, according to *The Civil War News*. CWPT President, James Lighthizer, said "We need a partnership with the federal government if we're going to save this [battlefield] land." He added that an additional \$15 million should be authorized to buy land at non-federal sites. Why do we have to continue to scrounge for money through raffles and book auctions if the government can be convinced to pay out these huge sums? First, the sums that may be allocated are not "huge" sums in light of the total actual dollars involved; and second, Congress (who does the allocating) insists on at least a one-to-one matching requirement from the public and other local, civic-minded organizations (i.e., The Civil War Round Table of Chicago).

Projects under negotiation by the CWRT covers a total of 3700 acres in Chickamauga, Georgia; Port Hudson, Louisiana; Vicksburg and Brices Cross Roads in Mississippi; Bentonville, North Carolina; Palmito Ranch, Texas; Balls Bluff, Brandy Station, Cedar Mountain, Cedar Creek, Chancellorsville, Cross Keys, Fredericksburg, Ft. Collier, Malvern Hill, McDowell, Saltville, Totopotomoy, and Wilderness, Virginia; and Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Note that not all negotiations result in land purchase, so we must "keep our noses to the grindstone."

On that note, we quote a contest winner in CWRT's "History Happened Here: Stop Destroying Our Battlefields!" "... Destroying our battlefields not only destroys our past, but our future. Knowledge is power. Battlefields are the best method of education. Dirt shuffled through, remaining trenches and once bloodied grassland teach tomorrow's

leaders what the United States is all about. A picture may be worth a thousand words, but a battlefield is worth a thousand Civil War lectures.... Battlefields breathe life into history, making it real. This sacred ground, where blood was shed, triggers emotions that a textbook could never manage ... *because history happened here.*" Nicely put by *Miriam Lieberman, 12th grade.*

New York State appropriated \$175,000 to preserve 1500 flags and banners, which constitute the nation's largest collection of Civil War flags, according to *The Civil War News*. Their situation is much like that of our own battle flags in Illinois, and the question is: Should we preserve these fragile fabric symbols when preservation monies are tight and preserving the flags is not a popular priority? The New York Office of Historic Preservation estimates that it will cost \$15 million to restore the entire flag collection over the next ten years.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is reported to have offered to buy the Confederate flags from New York for \$350,000 on condition that the SCV could keep them. An official responded that "New York's history is not for sale." He would like to see private individuals and organizations "adopt" a flag and fund the restorations. We are just beginning to look into this question regarding our own long-neglected collection in Illinois.

"War in the Waters: Civil War Naval Operations" is the theme of the annual Chicago Historical Society Civil War Symposium on September 23. The Civil War Round Table of Chicago is a co-sponsor of the event. Among the speakers is renowned Civil War historian Edwin C. Bearss. A reenactment encampment is also on the program. The cost is \$35 per person, or \$25 for Round Table members. A box lunch can be reserved for an additional \$10. For information, call 312-642-4600 and ask for Visitor Services.

A special luncheon meeting of the Stephen A. Douglas Association will be held on Saturday, September 16, in the Brio Lounge of the Holiday Inn Mark Plaza, at 12:30 p.m. John Hoffman of the Illinois Historical Survey, will speak about sculptor Leonard Volk in "Douglas for the Ages." The cost is \$30 per person. For reservations call David Richert at 312-558-6900x119. The luncheon will be preceded by a program at the Douglas Tomb at 11 a.m.



JUNE MEETING

BY LARRY GIBBS

"Lincoln and Grant: The Commander in Chief and the Chief Commander" was the topic of John Y. Simon's presentation when he addressed 108 members and guests at the 592nd regular meeting of The Civil War Round Table on June 9. A professor of history at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Dr. Simon is the editor of *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant*. His presentation illustrated the evolution of the command structure within the United States during the Civil War. The development of this structure has affected the presidency up to the present time.

"There has been a degree of uncertainty," Simon asserted, "about the role of commander in chief since the inception of the country. The U.S. Constitution was brief and vague about the commander in chief in Article 2, Section 1." As president, George Washington summoned militia to repulse the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794. Andrew Jackson threatened the use of federal military power in the question of nullification in 1832-33.

James Polk used presidential power as commander in chief to quickly declare war against Mexico in 1846. Abraham Lincoln, in 1847

during his one term in Congress, questioned the correct location of the spot where the first shots of the Mexican War were fired. Lincoln claimed that the United States was not justified in starting the war in what were later referred to as his "spot resolutions." His opponents sarcastically dubbed him "Spotty Lincoln" or "Ranchero Spotty."

General Winfield Scott was commander of the armed forces for eight months and wisely advised Lincoln about the indefensible military position of Fort Sumter. Scott, 75 and ill, was forced by retire in the fall of 1861 by the new commander, General George B. McClellan.

During 1861, with his authority as commander in chief, Lincoln took two actions concerned with the issue of slavery. He revoked General David Hunter's orders to free slaves in Florida and South Carolina and General John C. Fremont's similar orders in Missouri, stating that the generals did not have the authority to do so. On September 22, 1862, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which would free the slaves in areas controlled by Confederate armies.

As the war progressed, three levels of command emerged. The president, as commander in chief, was dominant, followed in rank by the secretary of war, and then by the general in charge of military affairs. In early 1864 Lincoln, concerned with his reelection

prospects, had a three-day meeting with General Ulysses S. Grant. Simon stated that, "Lincoln needed Grant as a general, but he had to be certain that Grant posed no political threat. On the other hand, Grant needed reassurance that Lincoln was no meddler in military decisions."

Satisfied that Grant was not a political threat, Lincoln assured his chief commander that he would not undermine or question his battlefield strategy. Grant exhibited his offensive style by pressing the attack on Confederate General Robert E. Lee's army with the 1864 Overland Campaign in northern Virginia. Lincoln, always the astute politician, felt that the burden of the success of the Overland Campaign should fall on Grant alone. However, Grant was so offensive-minded that he was slow in fending off Confederate General Jubal Early's back-door attack on Washington with the Battle of Monocacy in Maryland on July 9, 1864. In the end, Grant's strategy of pushing forward was successful.

As the war was ending, Lincoln demanded that the Confederacy accept union and emancipation as necessary conditions to end the war.

Grant had at first demanded only unconditional surrender. Simon claimed, "By January 1865, Grant realized his blunder when Lincoln told him that freedom of slaves was prerequisite for surrender."

"Near the end of the conflict," Simon concluded, "Grant created the impression of harmony and respect for Lincoln, but these two men forged their mutual respect only after a sense of uneasiness." The Union partnership of Lincoln and Grant was instrumental to the eventual Federal victory.

The Fifteenth Annual Lincoln Colloquium will be held this year at The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Saturday, September 23. The theme is "Now He Belongs to the Ages: Lincoln and the New Millennium." Speakers include Harold Holzer, Thomas F. Schwartz, Allen Guelzo, and Gerald J. Prokopowicz. This year, the all-day event will be followed in the evening by the Twenty-first Annual R. Gerald McMurry Lecture, which will be given by a Round Table member, Judge Frank J. Williams. His topic is "Edward Bates and Abraham Lincoln: The Attorney General and the Attorney President." An elegant reception will follow the Lecture. Admission is \$35 per person or \$30 for museum members (reception included). Contact Kathy Grabler, at 219-455-6087, or by e-mail, kgrabler@inc.com.



The Civil War Round Table of Chicago, the original Round Table, has inspired the formation of over 300 Civil War Round Tables around the world. On November 11, in honor of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Civil War Round Table movement, we are sponsoring a symposium which will feature top-notch speakers, plus entertainment and meals.

Please read the flyer accompanying this newsletter and send in your reservations. Space is limited!

See you there!

Bruce Allardice
President

THOMAS P. LOWRY (from page 1)

He and his wife Beverly have completed a computerized index of the 84,000 Union general court-martials, from April 1861 through August 1865. With this database, they can make single or multiple variable searches by such subjects as name, rank, regiment, state, crime, guilty v. acquitted, sentence, battle, crime location, women, spies, guerillas, horses, alcohol, oysters, and pets.

Dr. Lowry has several books in preparation. Scheduled for publication in 2001 is an edited diary, *Swamp Doctor: A New York Surgeon in North Carolina and the Peninsula*. Also scheduled are a second book on Lincoln, a final book on sex in the Civil War (based on thousands of newly-found documents), a book on Fort Dallas, Oregon, in the Civil War, and a book on the little village with was the "R&R" center for Fort Union, New Mexico. The Lowrys currently reside in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Trustee Steve Stewart reports that the General P. H. Sheridan Camp #2 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) will be hosting a dedication ceremony at Union Ridge Cemetery, 6700 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, on Saturday, September 30, at 10:00 a.m. Twenty-five Union veterans will be honored with replacement government-issue headstones. All are invited to attend.

THE NEW BOOKS

Compiled by C. Robert Douglas



- Still, William N., Jr.; John M. Taylor and Norman C. Delaney. *Raiders and Blockaders: The American Civil War Afloat*. Brassey's. 1998. \$24.95.
- Sullivan, Walter, ed. *The War the Women Lived*. J. S. Sanders & Company. 1996. \$27.95.
- Sutherland, Daniel E. *Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville: The Dare Mark Campaign*. U. of Nebraska Press. 1998. \$29.95.
- Swedberg, Claire, ed. *Three Years with the 92nd Illinois—The Civil War Diary of John M. King*. Stackpole Books. 1998. \$24.95.
- Taylor, Michael W. *To Drive the Enemy from Southern Soil—The Letters of Col. Francis Marion Parker and the History of the 30th Regiment North Carolina Troops*. Morningside Press. 1998. \$29.95.
- Thomas, Samuel N., Jr. and Jason H. Silverman. *A Rising Star of Promise: The Civil War Odyssey of David Jackson Logan: 17th South Carolina Volunteers, 1861-1864*. Savas Publ. Co. 1998. \$29.95.

We are shocked and saddened to report the sudden death of member Paul Feiss on August 15, from an apparent heart attack. He and his wife had just moved back to the Chicago area from North Carolina, where they had moved a couple of years ago. Paul, who had previously served on the Round Table board of trustees, told former President Larry Gibbs that he was looking forward to becoming an active member of the Round Table this year. Shortly before he moved away, Paul completed an extensive and impressive survey of Round Table members to help us in setting priorities, which he presented at the 1998 Summer Executive Committee meeting.

The funeral was held in Paul's native Long Island, but a memorial service will be held in the Chicago area soon. The details are not available at press time, but for information on it you may contact Dave Jackowski (630-810-9471) or Paul's widow, Pam Feiss (630-416-8261). Condolence messages may be sent to Pam at 1631 Westminster Drive, #109, Naperville, Illinois 60563.

We were so pleased to be getting Paul back with us and now we are all devastated at his loss. Our most heartfelt condolences go to Pam and her family.

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). Add \$2.50 for postage and handling.

In addition to The Round Table history and *The Continuing Civil War*, the essays from the Fiftieth Anniversary Proceedings, the following items are available at each monthly meeting: Lapel pins, Mugs, Meeting Tapes, Civil War Buff posters and T-Shirts, CWRT T-shirts, polos, and sweatshirts.

Proceeds from the sale of these items go to support the programs of The Civil War Round Table.

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.

The Midwest Civil War Collectors Show will be held on Saturday, September 16, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton. For information, contact Robert "Hawkeye" Nowak (773-539-8432, hawkeye@jvl.net.com).

Former President Mary Abroe reviewed *Battle of Gettysburg: The Official History* By The Gettysburg National Military Park Commission (compiled by Lieutenant Colonel George R. Large) in the June 2000 issue of *Civil War History*.

We are sad to announce the death of long-time Round Table member Alice Cromie, of heart failure, on August 11. She was 86. The widow of book-show host and writer Robert Cromie, she was a prolific writer in her own right. She is most noted for her 1965 (and later updated) book, *Tour Guide to the Civil War*. She was the first woman to address a meeting of The Civil War Round Table of Chicago, at a special "Ladies Night" meeting. (Women were not allowed membership until 1977!) Her topic on February 14, 1967 was "Serendipity and the Civil War." Our deepest condolences go to her family.

We are sorry to note the death of former member Helen Dutch, widow of longtime member Marty Dutch, on July 6. She was in her 80s. We send our deepest condolences to her family.

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.

September 8: Thomas Lowry, "Sex in the Civil War"

October 13: Charles P. Roland, Nevins-Freeman Award Dinner, "Robert E. Lee and the Leadership of Character"

November 11 (Saturday): All-day 60th Anniversary Seminar and Banquet

December 8: Gordon Rhea, "The Overland Campaign"

January 12: Terry Winschel, "The Vicksburg Campaign"

February 9: Jack Welsh, "The Medical Histories of Civil War Generals"

March 9: Mark Bradley, "The Surrender in North Carolina"

April 20: Richard McMurray, topic to be announced

May 2-6: Annual Battlefield Tour, Antietam

May 11: Anne J. Bailey, "The Recruitment of African-American Troops"

June 8: Leslie Gordon, "General George Pickett" **NEW MEMBERS**

William F. Bevan, III, 2116 Black Road, Joliet, IL 60435-3427, 815-741-0267

Paul R. Burkhardt, 3610 Salem Walk, Northbrook, IL 60062

Michael Carson, 621 Dover Street, Joliet, IL 60432, 815-722-8145

Philip Hade, 6747 N. Olmsted Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631-1251, 773-763-2564

Bruce Levy, P.O. Box 831, Mundelein, IL 60060, 847-566-2886

Garrett T. Power, 2085 Baldwin Lane, Hanover Park, IL 60103, 630-540-2040

William Pat Schuber, 1042 Wildwood Road, Oradell, NJ 07649, 201-646-3630

Thomas F. Schwartz, 26 Hawthorn, Pleasant Plains, IL 62677

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Don Anderson, 8800 Western Avenue, Des Plaines, IL 60016, 847-296-2780, dersdon@aol.com

Carl and Patricia Philips, 309 Lafayette Street, Valparaiso, IN 46383