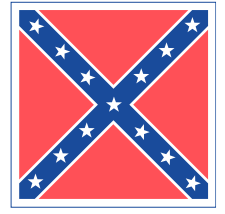


# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Founded December 3, 1940



Volume LXXVI, Number 7

Chicago, Illinois

March 2016



## 750TH REGULAR MEETING

★★★★★

Friday, March 11th

★★★★★

HOLIDAY INN O'HARE

5615 N. CUMBERLAND, CHICAGO

*Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.*

*Dinner at 6:30 p.m.*

**\$50 - Members/Non-members**

*Entrée: Chicken  
Marsala or  
Salmon*

**Please Note:**

**Make your reservations by Sunday, Mar. 6, by emailing [dinnerreservations@chicagocwrt.org](mailto:dinnerreservations@chicagocwrt.org), or calling 630 460-1865 with the names of your party and choice of entrée.**

If a cancellation becomes necessary after dinner reservations have been made, please email us at [dinnerreservations@chicagocwrt.org](mailto: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.**

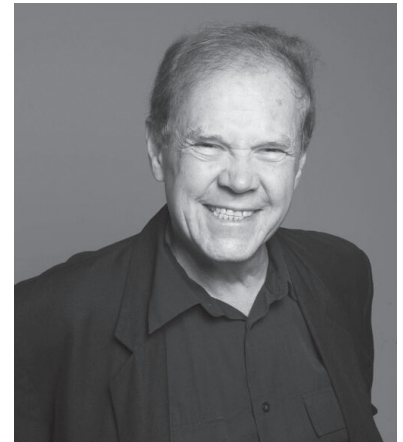
## Bruce Kraig on *Why the Civil War Made our Modern Food*

BY BRUCE ALLARDICE

How many people know that what we eat today, what we buy in our supermarkets, is the result of a war fought 150 years ago?

War is always a catalyst for change, and of all American wars, none changed the country more than the Civil War. That war accelerated trends and currents that had just begun earlier in the Nineteenth century, from economics, to social conditions, and cultural perceptions.

This was the first American war with mass mobilization of men and materiel. With it came what are now familiar effects: centralization of authority and economies into the hands of governments and larger business entities; technological change and intensification of manufacturing; and new plenty of other political and social ideas percolating through society. All of these have to do with food production because, as Napoleon supposedly said, an army travels on its stomach. The North won the war because it produced more food (and arms) and organized its distribution better than the South. The ultimate



result of all this was massive changes in the way that Americans grew, shipped, and processed food--and, of course, in what they ate. Open a can of food, eat peanuts, have turkey for Thanksgiving or even eat a hamburger from a chain restaurant, and thank (or not) what happened during the Civil War.



Bruce Kraig is Professor Emeritus in History at Roosevelt University in Chicago where he taught a wide variety of courses in history, anthropology, and popular culture. He also taught culinary subjects at the culinary school of Kendall College, Chicago. Bruce is the author or coauthor of numerous books and articles in academic journals on European and American history. He has written hundreds of articles on food in newspapers, journals and for encyclopedia.

## YOUNG ADULTS LEARN ABOUT HISTORY, HELP PRESERVE IT IN FREDERICKSBURG

(January 2016 *Civil War News*)

FREDERICKSBURG, Va. — Despite chilly, wet weather 42 students, 12 adults and several Central Virginia Battlefields Trust (CVBT) members spent a November Saturday morning working on the organization's newly acquired property at Pelham's Corner.

The site marks where Maj. John Pelham, during the Dec. 13, 1862, Battle of Fredericksburg, under the cover of early morning fog, positioned two cannons far in advance of the Confederate lines on the flank of the Union which was preparing to attack towards Stonewall Jackson's position across Slaughter Pen farm.

One of his guns was quickly silenced, but with the remaining Napoleon Pelham held up the Union assault for nearly two hours. Robert E. Lee while observing the fight from Prospect Hill, remarked "It is glorious to see such courage in one so young," referring to Pelham who resigned from West Point to side with the south in 1861.

Working with a local developer, Silver Companies, the CVBT's holdings at Pelham's Corner recently increased from 1 to 4.5 acres. The donated property is valuable commercially zoned land with more than 200 feet of road frontage. It is adjacent to CVBT's Pelham's Corner site which is marked by a replica Napoleon cannon.

CVBT communications director Tom Van Winkle said the trust "thanks all the volunteers for their hard work and interest in helping preserve our Civil War battlefields."

Wearing CVBT Youth Day T-shirts the volunteers assaulted the fields, ditches and dense woods, collecting a full trailer load of debris, as well as planting trees and placing mulch.

They were shuttled by bus to the Slaughter Pen battlefield where they were treated to a pizza lunch and two presentations. John Douglas discussed artillery during the war and showed artifacts. Ben Brockenbrough, CVBT's Chief Administrator, discussed the importance of historical land preservation and the need for young adults to become interested and active in its pursuit.

Live fire demonstrations by Stribling's Battery, Virginia Light Artillery, led by John Douglass, followed. Caleb Humberger from Mountain View High School, who was voted hardest worker based on the amount of mud he sported, was given the honor of firing the cannon.

CVBT Education Director Eric Powell sign up student volunteers from Spotsylvania High, Riverbend High, Mountain View High, Post Oak Middle, Chancellor Middle, Thornburg Middle and Rodney Thompson Middle schools and a group of home school students. The Riverbend students were from Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society and the MVHS students were part of the Learn and Serve program.

## MEDICAL MUSEUM SEEKS \$ FOR ITS COLLECTIONS ROOM

(January 2016 *Civil War News*)

FREDERICK, Md. — The National Museum of Civil War Medicine is raising \$12,500 for cabinets and archival supplies for its Collections Room. Two collections precipitated need for archival supplies and cabinets. The General Services Administra-

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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.

tion gave more 350 boxes of artifacts found in Clara Barton's boarding house rooms to the museum to care for. The museum operates the Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office in the Washington, D.C., boarding house.

A collection of more than 800 Union and Confederate medical artifacts was donated to the museum.

"This presents a challenge," said Interim Executive Director David Price. "The Collections Room provides ample square footage to store the artifacts, but we need cabinets and archival supplies to properly organize and care for them."

In addition to providing care for the artifacts, Price said the archival supplies will allow the museum to offer more "white glove" and "hands on history" tours during which visitors can examine the artifacts.

Donations may be made online at [civilwarmed.org](http://civilwarmed.org) or mailed to PO Box 470, Frederick, MD 21705.

## FEBRUARY MEETING

By Mark Matranga

Don Doyle spoke to The Civil War Round Table at its 748th meeting on *The Cause of All Nations: An International History of the American Civil War*. Many historians have considered the Civil War as unnecessary, a bloodbath brought on by abolitionist zealots and blundering politicians of the slavocracy. David Potter, an eminent historian of the period leading to the war, considered the war as uniquely American, about uniquely American ideas. But for Doyle the ultimate goal of the war was not merely restoration of the union as originally pronounced by the Lincoln administration, and not a narrow parochial intramural. Rather, he views the conflict as embracing a larger cause, that of democracy itself. He reaches this conclusion by looking at the Civil War from an outside perspective, specifically, the nations of Europe who maintained a great interest in, and in some cases, sought advantage from a potential downfall of the American republic.

At the outbreak of the war, the United States produced 80% of the world's cotton, and Europe was naturally concerned that the flow of this commerce would be interrupted. England, France, and even Italy had a stake in the outcome of the war. Perhaps more important than being deprived of a staple good, Europe looked to the United States for inspiration in an era when democracy seemed on the wane, especially after the failed revolutions of 1848. In the Americas the revolutions inspired

by Bolivar and San Martin had deteriorated into what eventually became caudillism. With secession, it appeared that this trend would continue. If the United States failed, there would be little hope for democratic reform in Europe. At the same time, European powers sought to capitalize on the weakness of the United States government in order to pursue their own separate agenda.

In England, the Duke of Shrewsbury proclaimed that democracy was on trial. He wrote that the United States was on the road to anarchy, "doomed to die in blood and mire," only to be replaced by monarchy. English papers pronounced that the republican experiment was over. Evidence of this could be found in the efforts of Spain and France, aided by England, to project power into the Western Hemisphere. Spain re-annexed Santo Domingo; France moved into Mexico, replacing the Juarez government with the regime of Prince Maximilian. This maneuver was prompted by geopolitical concerns: France desired to control the Isthmus of Panama and thereby communication with Asia.

In part, these Monroe Doctrine violations mirrored the southern model for establishing white supremacy - as the empires of European countries expanded into Asia and elsewhere, native peoples were subjected to European cultural as well as military dominance. Thus southern agents infiltrated into European centers of government, where they took on the role of

apologists for slavery. Slavery was outlawed in most European countries, of course. Czarist Russia had freed its serfs in 1861, but still sent its fleet to New York and San Francisco in a show of force. It appeared that the nations of Europe, even though they would not intervene directly in the sectional conflict, were lurking and watching, perhaps not exactly neutral but rather waiting to secure advantage in case of an unfavorable outcome for the Lincoln administration.

For this reason, Doyle posits, it was necessary for the United States to convince the world that it had a stake in the 'rebirth of freedom,' as Marx understood when saw in emancipation freedom for all labor. President Lincoln eventually articulated this idea, and Europe pulled back from its encroachments. The resurgence of liberty was short-lived: The country took a "dark turn" in the 1870's, but 'the cause of all nations,' democracy, survived.



## BEARSS FUND

Once again the CWRT is soliciting donations to its Ed Bearss Fund. At the end of our 2016 Battlefield Tour the money raised will be donated in Ed's name to the battlefields and preservation agencies that Ed designates. And who knows more than Ed which projects are the most worthy? As in the past, anyone who donates to this fund will be acknowledged by having his/her name published in the newsletter.

## GRAPESHOT



**Rob Girardi** will speak on “The Soldier’s View” March 3rd at Harper College, and on “Abraham Lincoln’s Doctor’s Dog” March 19th at the Canal Corridor Association, Lockport.

The busy presentation schedule of **Leslie Goddard** will include talks on “Gone With the Wind” March 8th, to the Northwest Circle of Friends, and March 30th to the Wintrust Bank of Chicago Platinum Adventures group. On March 31st she and Laura Keyes will present “Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Kennedy” at the Barrington Area Library.

The Kenosha Civil War Museum’s Friday Lecture, at noon on March 11, will be *Chicago Backs the Boys in Blue* by **Kurt Carlson**. Further details and registration information for Museum events can be found on their web site at <http://www.kenosha.org/wp-civilwar/events/>

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](mailto:editor@chicagocwrt.org) or (630) 297-8046.

### SCHIMMELFENNIG BOUTIQUE

Sixty plus years of audio recordings of CWRT lectures by distinguished historians are available and can be purchased in CD format. For pricing and a lecture list, please contact Hal Ardell at [hal229@ameritech.net](mailto:hal229@ameritech.net) or phone him at (773) 774-6781.

Each meeting features a book raffle, with proceeds going to battlefield preservation. There is also a silent auction for books donated by Ralph Newman and others, again with proceeds benefiting battlefield preservation.

### More Upcoming Civil War Events

- Mar. 2nd, Kankakee Valley CWRT: Larry Gibbs on “The Lost Cause”
- Mar. 4th, Northern Illinois CWRT: Lee White on “Pat Cleburne”
- Mar. 8th, McHenry County CWRT: Tom Gavigan on “Lincoln and Seward”
- Mar. 10th, Lake County CWRT: Dr. Phil Price on “Oberlin, Ohio - The Town that Helped Start the Civil War”
- Mar. 10th, Milwaukee CWRT: Bruce Kraig on “Why the Civil War Made our Modern Food”
- Mar. 15th, Lincoln-Davis CWRT: Tom Emery on “The Civil War in Illinois”
- Mar. 18th, Salt Creek CWRT: John Horn on “The Siege of Petersburg, August 1864”
- Mar. 24th, South Suburban CWRT: David Maas on “Wheaton College and Abolitionism”

### Tour Reminder

This year’s Battlefield Tour (Shenandoah Valley, 1864 Campaign) is April 14-17, 2016. Sign up soon!

## Bulletin Board



### FUTURE MEETINGS

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

April 8: Greg Biggs on “Nashville: Siren’s Song of the Confederacy”

May 13: Glenna Schroeder-Lein on “The Solders’ Home in Civil War America”

June 10: Dale Phillips on “Ben Butler and the Federal Occupation of New Orleans”

## Abraham Lincoln Book Shop is Moving!

For those who have not seen the latest, it is true the shop on Chicago Avenue is closed—a result of an abrupt sale of the building and subsequent loss of our lease. We are viewing new spaces regularly. We have found a couple of very good prospects. However the nature of negotiations coupled with a volatile Chicago commercial real estate market have left us without a space temporarily.

We are actively posting new items at [ALincolnBookShop.com](http://ALincolnBookShop.com) and keeping in touch via our blog, Margin Notes here at the site as well as regularly posting on Facebook and Twitter.

## Quizmaster—Volunteers Wanted!

The CWRT is looking for a new Adjutant General, who will do the quiz at our monthly meetings. If you’re interested, contact the president at [CWRT-President@ChicagoCWRT.org](mailto:CWRT-President@ChicagoCWRT.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CIVIL WAR MUSEUM IN KENOSHA

Doug Dammann of the Kenosha Civil War Museum reminds us that there are a number of great programs coming up. Upcoming events that you won't want to miss include:

- The Friday Lecture, *Chicago Backs the Boys in Blue* by Kurt Carlson at Noon on Friday, March 11. With the secession of the southern states and the start of the Civil War, a major financial crisis occurred in the merging city of Chicago. But Chicago's business backed the boys in blue, and while doing so spurred the city's industrialization.
- The Civil War Expo on Saturday, March 12 with a musical performance at Noon by the Old Soldier Fiddlers and a presentation by David Wege at 1:00 PM entitled *Co. E of the Calico 6th*.
- *Gettysburg, The First Day's Fighting* taught by Steve Acker on Sunday, March 13 (registration required).
- *The 3rd Annual Home Front Seminar* on Saturday, April 2. (registration required). Speakers include Dr. Betsy Estilow, on "Patriots in Petticoats: Southern Women and Medical Care During the Civil War"; Kristen Patterson on "Extra Pay for Wisconsin Civil War Families"; Dr. Margo Anderson on "How the 1860 Census Affected the Civil War"; and Scott Wolfe on "Ulysses S. Grant and Galena, Illinois."
- The *Behind the Scenes Tour of the Civil War Museum*, Tuesday, March 8, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Join curator Doug Dammann as he leads a tour of the different galleries and spaces of the museum. (\$25/\$20 Friends of the Museum)

Further details and registration information for all of these events can be found on our web site at <http://www.kenosha.org/wp-civilwar/events/>

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On April 30th, 2016, Joliet Jr. College will be hosting a Civil War Symposium, on the theme "Legacy, Social Change and Remembrance". Speakers include Professor Don Doyle, on "The Cause of All Nations: The International Impact of American Civil War"; Rob Girardi, on "Illinois in the Civil War"; Professor Doug Hurt, on "Agriculture, Food Production and the Civil War"; Professor Ted Karamanski, on "Chicago during the Civil War"; and Professor Nicholas Sambaluk, on the "Revolution in Technology during Civil War". For more information, contact Prof. Dennis Doyle at [doyoled@jcc.edu](mailto:doyoled@jcc.edu).

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## CWRT DINNER RESERVATION CANCELLATION POLICY

Because the CWRT is charged for reserved dinners, those members who don't cancel their reservations by noon on Thursday prior to the Friday meeting will be held responsible for paying for their meal. The CWRT will make a reasonable effort to collect the payment, and that if payment is not received, that member not be permitted to make further reservations until payment is made.

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## BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION DONATIONS

Below is the YTD record of CWRT Preservation donations:

- \$ 500.00 check for SHAF. Nevins-Freeman (Dennis Frye)
- \$ 100.00 check for Civil War Trust (Chickamauga/ Chattanooga, Dale Phillips)
- \$ 100.00 check for Georgia Battlefields Association Friend Membership for CWRT of Chicago
- \$ 100.00 check for Sons of Veterans SVR for Rosehill Cemetery funeral costs.
- \$ 300.00 check from Scott McIlvain including matching funds check from his employer CNA. Scott donated \$ 150.00 and his company matched with \$ 150.00 for total of \$ 300.00
- \$ 1,000 check for Civil War Trust (CWRT of Chicago color bearer annual membership).

# CIVIL WAR CANNONS RAISED FROM PEE DEE RIVER

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article36910053.html>

By Jeff Wilkinson

FLORENCE

For 20 years, amateur diver Bob Butler searched the murky waters of the Pee Dee River for cannons he knew had been jettisoned from a Confederate warship shortly before it was scuttled in advance of surging Union troops at the end of the Civil War

He found one in 1995 as he dove near U.S. 301 on the Florence-Marion county line. He discovered another in 2006. He was on hand seven years later as a member of the Pee Dee Research and Recovery Team when the third cannon was located.

On Tuesday, Butler watched with quiet satisfaction as a team from the University of South Carolina raised the cannons from the muddy bottom of the river, some of the final remnants of Union Gen. William Sherman's march through the Carolinas in 1865.

"We brought a little bit of South Carolina history to the surface today," Butler said. "This closed the book on a lot of history. It's really special."

The USC team began its search for the 150-foot Confederate gunboat and the cannons in 2009. The recovery project was funded, in part, by grant of more than \$200,000 from the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation in Florence.

There are hundreds of Civil War-era cannons in the state, most recovered from armories at the end of the war. But the cannons are significant, State Archaeologist Jon Leader said, because their service has been well cataloged.

"We've got that locked down tight," Leader said. ...

The recovery was made at the site of a former Confederate inland naval yard, helping researchers better understand the history of inland shipyards and ports used by Southern forces. During the war, the Florence area was most known for a large prison camp, part of which is the site of a national cemetery.

The cannons were thrown off of the CSS Pee Dee as Sherman's troops approached after the burning of Columbia.

The Pee Dee, or Mars Bluff, Navy Yard was constructed in 1863 when the federal naval blockade and the capture of many of the state's coastal areas drove the Confederate Navy's shipbuilding efforts inland.

Confederate leaders wanted a ship that could patrol the river and also sail in the ocean to harass the blockading federal ships. The CSS Pee Dee the first and only ship built at the Mar's Bluff yard. It was a Macon Class cruiser that was 150 feet long with a 25-foot beam, armed with three cannons pivoting at bow, stern and amidships.

The ship had sails as well as a boiler and giant twin propellers. The ship's masts that could be lowered to fit under railroad trestles and bridges. It was once referred to by the Confederate Navy Secretary as the finest ship ever built by the South.

But CSS Pee Dee's career was short lived. Upon completion, it steamed upstream to head off Sherman's troops, may or may not have fired on them, then returned to Mars Bluff where it was burned.

"The war would have been over before it stuck it's nose out of the inlet," Leader said of the CSS Pee Dee's future as an ocean-going commerce raider. "They basically finished it, ran it up the river, ran it back and that was it."

Leader and underwater archaeologist Jim Spirek, both from the University of South Carolina, headed the effort to raise the cannons. A team of underwater archaeologists from USC raised the three cannons. They include two Confederate Brooke Rifle cannons and one captured Union Dahlgren cannon.

A crowd of scientists, Civil War buffs and other onlookers cheered when the more than 150-year-old cannons were raised by a large yellow excavator from near the bank of the river.

For 90-year-old Catesby Jones, the day was special. He traveled from Selma, Ala., to watch the raising. His great-grandfather, also named Catesby Jones, worked at the foundry where one of the cannons was made.

"I've touched every cannon I could that came from there," the World War II veteran said. "They've been talking about this one for years. This is really exciting."

The cannons will be transported to the Warren Lasch Conservation Center in North Charleston for conservation. That is the same lab where the Civil War-era CSS Hunley— the first submarine to sink a ship in combat — is being restored. The cannons will go on permanent outdoor display at the new U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs building in Florence.

The cannons "will help raise questions about the Civil War," said Steve Smith, director of USC's Institute of Archeology and Anthropology. "And then they will start to ask questions. It's an important day."

