

# **THE FUGELMAN**

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SECOND  
WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY  
ASSOCIATION**

**THE BLACK HAT BRIGADE---THE IRON BRIGADE  
1861-1865**

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**VOLUME XXVIII      ISSUE 1      JANUARY, 2018**

**EDITOR: JAMES H. DUMKE**

**FU-GEL-MAN: A well-drilled soldier placed in front of a military company as a model or  
guide for others.**

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## **PASS IN REVIEW**

*From the quill of Lt. Colonel Pete Seielstad*



**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Vol. Inf. Association will be holding its annual meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Community Congregational Museum in Fox Lake Wisconsin. Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.**

**The agenda for this important meeting is posted in this issue of *The Fugelman*. All members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Association are encouraged to attend. Your participation is important to the health of this organization. Contributing your thoughts helps us to determine the direction we wish to follow.**

**As well as elections of officers, (president & corporate secretary) we will be deciding which events (national, regional & local) to attend. In a like manner I would like to open a discussion on how we choose our company 'tier one' events.**

**A major item to consider (and to understand) is the status of the Model 1857 12 Lb. Bronze Field Gun #276. This past year we have been consumed with finding a way to work with the National Guard concerning the cannon that had been an important part of our mission statement for 22 years. Our attempt to secure continued use has been ultimately stymied and we'll need to consider our options.**

***[Letter to Governor Scott Walker and letter to Pentagon on our behalf sent by Rep. Ron Kind on this issue are in this addition of *The Fugelman*.]***

**There have been many accomplishments from our organization. I will allow all the Company reports to reflect on their own successes at the annual meeting.**

**On a personal note, one significant accomplishment for our organization was the work done behind the scenes in order to move the La Crosse Light Guard Flag to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Co. B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin, our sister company, pursued the safest consideration for the slowly deteriorating flag, bringing to light the issues of preservation to the parties involved and securing a safe home for this unique relic of Wisconsin's involvement in the American Civil War.**

**As we move into the New Year and another campaign season, I look forward to seeing all of you at some point in time. At the annual meeting, in camp, on the field, around the campfire or in one of those long road trips to an event, I hold dear my friendships created by a certain passion in understanding the American Civil War. Indeed, 2018 will provide another great year of shared memories.**

**Your obedient servant,**

**Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad**



**CAMPAIGN SCHEDULES OF  
THE COMPANIES AND  
ASSOCIATION**

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**Jan. 27**

**Association Annual Meeting**

**Fox Lake, WI**

**NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO  
THE TROOPS**

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*This year's new year's message is a little different from those in the past. The basis for this message comes from the book What This Cruel War Was Over by Chandra Manning. Where Manning is directly quoted in the body of the message instead of quotation marks it will be in italics. The editor has maintained the spelling and grammatical errors as they appeared in the original. Before the editor launches into the message itself, let him take this opportunity on behalf of all your officers in the Association and The Fugelman to wish all of you a happy and prosperous new year. May this year see all your hopes and dreams fulfilled, may it be a year of good health and happy memories!*

**In camp near Falmouth, Virginia, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863:**

**I**t is six o'clock in the morning. The sky is overcast and it is barely light outside the small hut where messmates huddle around a small fireplace for some warmth. It is damp and there is a slight breeze which chills one to the bone at this hour of the day. Coffee is boiling on the rocks that form the base of the fireplace as four men sit near the fire awaiting their morning brew.

The four men were a study in contrasts. Nineteen year old Carl Cropper was from Illinois. He loved and worked on his family's farm. When a local regiment in Freeport filled so quickly Carl could not enlist, he took a train to Janesville, Wisconsin, and enlisted there with a company that would become a part of the Second Wisconsin. Carl was a Democrat in name only, as he was not very political. Carl was unmarried. Twenty-five year old Ingmar Johansson was from Janesville, Wisconsin. He was a college graduate, he worked as a teacher and on the local Republican newspaper as an editor, a Republican, and he worked on the underground railroad for a number of years. Ingmar was married and had two children, two boys. Josh Gruenwald was a German immigrant who had purchased a farm northeast of Milton, Wisconsin, and owned a mill on the Rock River. Josh was 32 years old and had served fourteen years in the German army. Josh had graduated from the [Kriegsakademie](#) (Prussian Military Academy) and currently held the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant in the regiment. Finally, William Anderson came from Evansville, Wisconsin. William, or Bill, was 41 years old and had been a lawyer before enlisting. Bill was originally from New York and had graduated from Harvard Law School. Bill had moved to Evansville in 1852, and had served as both District Attorney for Rock County and clerk in the state Assembly. Bill had been an anti-

**Nebraska Democrat, but joined the Republican Party in 1858 because of its opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska Act.**

**At first there wasn't much conversation as the men huddled around the makeshift cook-stove and fireplace. Once the coffee was done and each man had poured a tin cup full of the hot black liquid they sat back on their cots and began a conversation.**

**"It's been a hard year for us." muttered Carl.**

**"Indeed it has," responded Ingmar. We've marched hundreds of miles, survived onhardtack and salt pork forever it seems, and drilled until our legs were ready to fall off!"**

**"It isn't just the monotony of soldiering, my friends," chimed in Bill, "There is the fighting, too. We've seen too much of that! And picketing is dangerous as well! How many guys have we lost on picket duty?"**

**Josh responded, "Well maybe this year we will see an end to this cruel war and the arrival of peace. It's a new year fellas, 1863."**

**"Today could be a momentous day, guys." Ingmar said.**

**"Why so," Carl Croter inquired. "What makes this day special?"**

**"Today is the day Old Abe is supposed to issue the final version of the Emancipation Proclamation. There are those who believe Old Abe will reconsider and not sign the proclamation. I, for one, hope he does."**

**"Me too." said Bill. "When we enlisted freeing the slaves was not an issue. We joined up to fight to preserve the Union and protect our beloved Constitution from a minority's efforts to destroy it. During the presidential contest Lincoln said he only wanted to prevent slavery from moving into the territories, and I hold with that. Look what happened in Kansas as a result of popular sovereignty, the rebels disliked the idea of popular sovereignty as well, but because they felt entitled to make that land safe for slavery."**

**"I didn't enlist to fight for no niggers one way or the other. I could not stand by while the rebs attacked our flag and our good government, but I have no brook for the nigger." said Carl.**

**Illinois was known for its anti-black attitudes. The southern part of the state had been settled by folks from the slave holding states to the south. Carl's folks had moved to Illinois from Tennessee and although he lived in**

**the northern part of the state he still harbored the principles of his people. The northern part of the state had been settled by people coming from the northeast and slavery was unpopular there.**

**Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln had faced off against one another in the 1860 presidential election. Douglas made popular sovereignty a keystone of his campaign. Douglas had borrowed that term from Henry Clay, but he made it his own when he ushered through the Congress the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854. Lincoln had argued during his campaign that slavery should be barred from all the territories, just as it had been barred by the Northwest Ordinance in 1787. He also pointed out that the Constitution prevented abolishing slavery where it currently existed, and that he had no desire to abolish slavery in the slave states. However, he also argued that by preventing the spread of slavery it would be on a course of “ultimate extinction” and eventually die of its own accord.**

**In the summer of the second year of the war, 1862, Lincoln had determined to issue an Emancipation Proclamation. But the war had not been going well for the Union cause after some success in the West early in the year. Secretary of State William Seward convinced Lincoln at a July 22<sup>nd</sup> cabinet meeting not to issue the proclamation until he could do so after a significant Union victory, otherwise it would seem like a “last shriek in defeat.” Lincoln was convinced and pigeon holed the proclamation. Following the Union victory (if sorts) at Antietam on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1862, Lincoln issued his preliminary draft of the proclamation on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1862. The rebellion, under the terms of the preliminary proclamation, had 90 days to stop the fighting or there would be a final proclamation freeing the slaves in the areas still in rebellion. That 90 day period would run out on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863.**

**“Well, the intent of the Emancipation Proclamation was to hit the rebellion where it hurt. It would undermine their war effort. Men currently under arms would have to leave the ranks to plant and harvest needed crops to feed the rebs, build fortifications, cook, and drive their wagons. *Emancipation is necessary for the preservation of the Union but to make the Union worth saving. (82)*” Bill said. “An end to slavery would remove the stain of that institution from this country forever and move us towards an era of freedom.”**

**Ingmar queried, “*If all this untold expense of blood and treasure, of toil and suffering, of want and sacrifice, of grief and mourning is . . .***

***to result in no greater goal than the restoration of the Union as it was, what will it amount to? (84)***

**Carl responded, “*This peculiar institution . . . has become so deeply rooted that [removing] it will shake the nation. (83)*” “This war will become one remorseless revolutionary struggle, as Old Abe has said, and the rebs will never quit fighting if it means losing their slaves. The war will go on and on! Not only that, but it will strengthen the anti-war sentiment back home. The Democrats opposing the war will howl and dig in to stop the war before we have achieved victory! Our glorious Union will be lost!”**

**“I disagree,” concluded Josh, “. . . *to destroy the tree root and branch is the surest way to brake this rebellion. (90)*”**

**Carl sat quietly for a moment and then he spoke saying, “*It really seems to me that we are not fighting for our country, but for the freedom of the negroes.(91)*” “It seems to me that the Emancipation Proclamation does more harm than good. The niggers caused this war and it seems unjust to reward them now with freedom!”**

**“My faith teaches me that all men are created in God’s image. Do slaves not bleed when subjected to the lash? Do they not love, laugh, and struggle as white men do? Black people yearn for freedom, too. That was why I left Norway and came to America, to be truly free and where I could rise as far as my talents would take me. Negroes are no different except they have no choice as far as advancing their dreams in this country. Have you not seen the vestiges of slavery here?” asked Ingmar.**

**“As I see it blacks have a natural right to freedom. Jefferson acknowledged this in the Declaration of Independence when he ascribed the state of freedom to God’s creation. All men are created equal and endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights Jefferson said. I believe Jefferson was right in his views.” offered Bill.**

**Carl seemed agitated and argued emphatically, “*When we think it is all for the purpose of raising the poor downtrodden african to a common with an intelligent race of beings [!] My abolition enimys . . . say . . . free the negroes at all hazards whether the union is saved or not if it takes the last man, yes this is their language. The nigger, nigger, nigger, free him, free him, free him, sacrifice money, wealth, treasure, blood, life and country, but free the nigger, and their mottow is emancipation first and the union afterwards. (92)*”**

***As 1862 drew to a close many such conversations were heard in the Union armies' camps. Civil war soldiers on both sides saw themselves as citizens first and soldiers secondly. There was no compunction to discuss political and social issues among the troops. As 1863 drew nigh there was much discussion of the anticipated Emancipation Proclamation promised by President Lincoln. Civilians at home discussed the issue as well. No one had carefully thought out all the ramifications of freedom for the slaves. Many questions remained to be resolved, but Lincoln felt that these questions would be resolved as freedom became the first principle.***

***January 1<sup>st</sup> will be the 155<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this incredible document. In the last 3 decades historians have debated the impact of the Emancipation Proclamation. Lerone Bennett, Jr. began a process of re-evaluating the Emancipation Proclamation in his book Forced Into Glory. Bennett argued that the slaves themselves had forced Lincoln's hand by freeing themselves. The Emancipation Proclamation, according to Bennett, just recognized the reality on the ground, and that Lincoln was reluctant to issue the document. In recent historical writings authors have denigrated the proclamation issued by Lincoln. They point out that not all slaves were freed under the proclamation, that the slaves subject to the proclamation were outside the ability of the Union to enforce, that Lincoln was slow to issue the proclamation, and that the slaves had already asserted their freedom by fleeing into Union lines whenever they could.***

***This editor believes one must look at the Emancipation Proclamation in the context of its time. It was issued at a time when racist views predominated in both the North and the South. Many people, but not a majority, wanted to see slavery end, but no one had a clear idea of what was to become of the former slaves once they had their freedom. Lincoln, however, knew it was the right thing to do. As he said just before signing the Final Emancipation Proclamation, if he was to be remembered at all it would be for signing this document.***

***We should not overlook the important things accomplished by the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation. First, it established a national policy of working towards the freedom of the former slaves. This would not only add a war aim for the Union cause, that of an expansive view of freedom, but it would take European recognition of the rebellion off the table for the remainder of the war.***

***The second accomplishment of this unique document was that it put the muscle of the Union military behind enforcement of the freedom granted in the proclamation. No longer could commanders dither about whether or not to return runaways to the masters. It didn't matter now whether a master was pro-union or supported the rebellion. Slaves who reached the Union lines (or those where the Union forces reached them) were free, no questions asked. Freedom would be enforced at the point of the bayonet!***

***Another very important result of the proclamation was that it provided for the enlistment of black soldiers. In all nearly 180,000 black men would enlist and fight for the preservation of the Union and freedom for their people. Their service would also provide a compelling argument for obtaining equal rights once the war was over.***

***The final point is of significant value to the discussion of what to do with the 3 millions of freed slaves subject to the Emancipation Proclamation. In the preliminary draft of the proclamation Lincoln points to colonization as an answer to the problem of what to do with the newly freed people. Lincoln was convinced that the racist proclivities of whites would make it impossible for blacks to advance in society once they were free and that separation was the only effective answer to the problem. That policy disappeared in the final proclamation issued by the President and there was no mention of colonization in the final document. Whatever course freedom would take in the future, sending large numbers of blacks to Africa or the Caribbean were no longer options for dealing with the newly freed peoples.***

***Thus on New Year's day in 1863, Lincoln issued one of the most important documents in the history of our nation. The hopes of Ingmar, Josh and Bill were realized, and Carl would come to see that the Emancipation Proclamation was hurting the rebel war effort and he too became as he would say an abolitionist too. While Carl hated blacks, he hated their masters more! Victory was Carl's guiding star and anything that aided in the final victory over the rebels was necessary and appropriate and he would support that policy wholeheartedly.***

***New Year's is a time when we look forward. We make resolutions to become better individuals or seek improvements in our lifestyles in***

*the coming year. But it is also a time we look back and reflect on what has gone before. Who are we and why are we what we are? Did we treat others as we would be treated? Is my circle of friends, family, and community better off than before because of the things I did? Lincoln must certainly have reflected on the same things that January 1<sup>st</sup> as he prepared to sign the final Emancipation Proclamation. It was disappointing that in 2015 the issuance if the Emancipation did not get more recognition and commemoration. Let us take time to remember that 155 years ago the Union and human freedom hung in the balance and that Lincoln took the step to extend freedom to those who for 2 centuries had been denied their freedom and in so doing helped preserve that Union and make it a nation worth saving!*

## **REGIMENTAL DISPATCHES**

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### **EFFORTS TO RETURN CANNON TO BATTERY B**

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**Below you will find copies of two letters FROM our Lt. Col. regarding the status of the cannon used by Battery B. Take time to read these letters, and it might be suggested that some of our members follow suit and send letters of their own. We may be few (in the grand scale of things) but we are a mighty force when we all pitch in to a common strategic effort. Let's hear three hearty cheers for our beloved commander!**

#### **FIRST LETTER:**

**Office of Governor Scott Walker**

**115 East Capitol**

**Madison, Wisconsin 53702**

**December 26, 2017**

**Re: Model 1857 Bronze Field Cannon serial #276**

**Dear Governor Walker,**

**As commander of the Second Wisconsin Association, an organization established on 29 August 1962, to commemorate the American Civil War of 1861-1865 and to preserve our American heritage and traditions of the old United States Army, I am writing in order to retain the use of an important part of our organization's mission statement. The Model 1857 Bronze Field Cannon serial #276.**

**Since August of 1994, the First Battalion - 121<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Regiment and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Association, by contract, agreed on a simple principle for a desirous outcome; to join together this artifact and a suitable gun carriage for the use of display, demonstrations and ceremonial functions; further more to utilize the cannon at 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Association events and demonstrations.**

**The Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association took the necessary steps to raise and provide funding to properly construct a suitable carriage for the cannon. Our members have taken great pride in tending to the perpetual care of the cannon, carriage, limber and implements as well as a trailer to transport the cannon to events around the state of Wisconsin. Additionally, we also provide insurance coverage to extend our responsibilities.**

**Recently our access to Model 1857 bronze field cannon serial #276 has been terminated through the Wisconsin National Guard. Therefore, after years of conscientious care, substantial investment, and developing a heartfelt affection for the cannon, it is no longer available to our association.**

**To be brief, our intent is to continue use of the cannon in the same manner that we have for the past 22 years. That is, to use it at school and public presentations held throughout the state of Wisconsin. In the past the cannon has appeared at Heritage Hill in Green Bay, Wade House near Sheboygan, Norskedalen in Coon Valley and other sites that have requested our attendance in presenting the history of Wisconsin in the American Civil War.**

**For your benefit, I have enclosed a summary of our attempts to return the use of the cannon to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Association. In June of 2017, I had contacted Congressman Ron Kind in this matter and he has sent a letter to the Pentagon Liaison. (Corresponding letter also enclosed.) Note: No response from Pentagon.**

**I thank you for your assistance in this matter.**

**Sincerely,**

**Peter Seielstad**

**1745 S. Highland Dr.**

**Sparta, WI 54656**

**Phone: 608-343-8429**

**E-mail: [pdseielstad@hotmail.com](mailto:pdseielstad@hotmail.com)**

**RESPONSIVE SECOND LETTER:**

**A response by Rep. Ron Kind to the letter submitted by Lt. Col. Seielstad.**

RON KIND  
THIRD DISTRICT, WISCONSIN  
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August 31, 2017

Chief of Legislative Liaison  
1600 Army Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20310-1600

Dear Chief of Legislative Liaison:

I was recently contacted by my constituent Peter Seielstad with a request for assistance regarding a cannon the Second Wisconsin Association has been using for the past 22 years as part of its American Civil War reenactment commemorations and other educational activities. I would appreciate if your office could look into this matter for me.

For your reference, I am enclosing a copy of the letter I received from Mr. Seielstad as well as the history of the Model 1857 Bronze Field Cannon serial #276. According to Mr. Seielstad, the Wisconsin National Guard recently informed the Second Wisconsin Association that it could no longer use this cannon during its educational demonstrations and ceremonial functions, in spite of the years of conscientious care, substantial investment, insurance coverage and heartfelt affection the association has invested in the cannon.

In light of the information provided by Mr. Seielstad, I ask for your review of this matter. For 22 years, the Second Wisconsin Association has used this cannon in a safe and appropriate manner.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Please direct all information and communication to my aide Mark Aumann in my Eau Claire district office at the address below. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

RJK/mda

Enc.

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## ASSOCIATION MEMBER NOW A PUBLISHED AUTHOR

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***The Fugelman* editor received a communication from a gentleman who goes by the handle, Ron Larson. The editor had the privilege of meeting Mr. Larson a couple of years ago at the Kenosha Civil War Museum. Mr. Larson said that he had been a member of Company A a few years ago, but had not attended any events with the group. Mr. Larson indicated that he would like to receive the newsletter and has been since that chance encounter in Kenosha. (There are about 20 folks who receive the newsletter but are not members of the Association. They are people who have been members in the past like Mr. Larson and folks who share our interests in the Iron Brigade or one of our companies.)**

**In the communication Mr. Larson announced he had a book published entitled Wisconsin and The Civil War. Mr. Larson stated that he had dedicated a year and a half to the writing and research for the book. The book was published by History Press which is part of Arcadia Publishing out of Charleston, South Carolina. The book relies on previously unpublished letters from the Civil War Museum in Kenosha and other new research. Doug Dammann, whom many of us know, wrote the Foreward for the book. It is for sale by the publisher at <https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467137195> and on Amazon, and in retails spaces in Wisconsin. The editor has not read the book but will and report to the Association via the newsletter in the future.**

**The material below came from the back of the book jacket:**

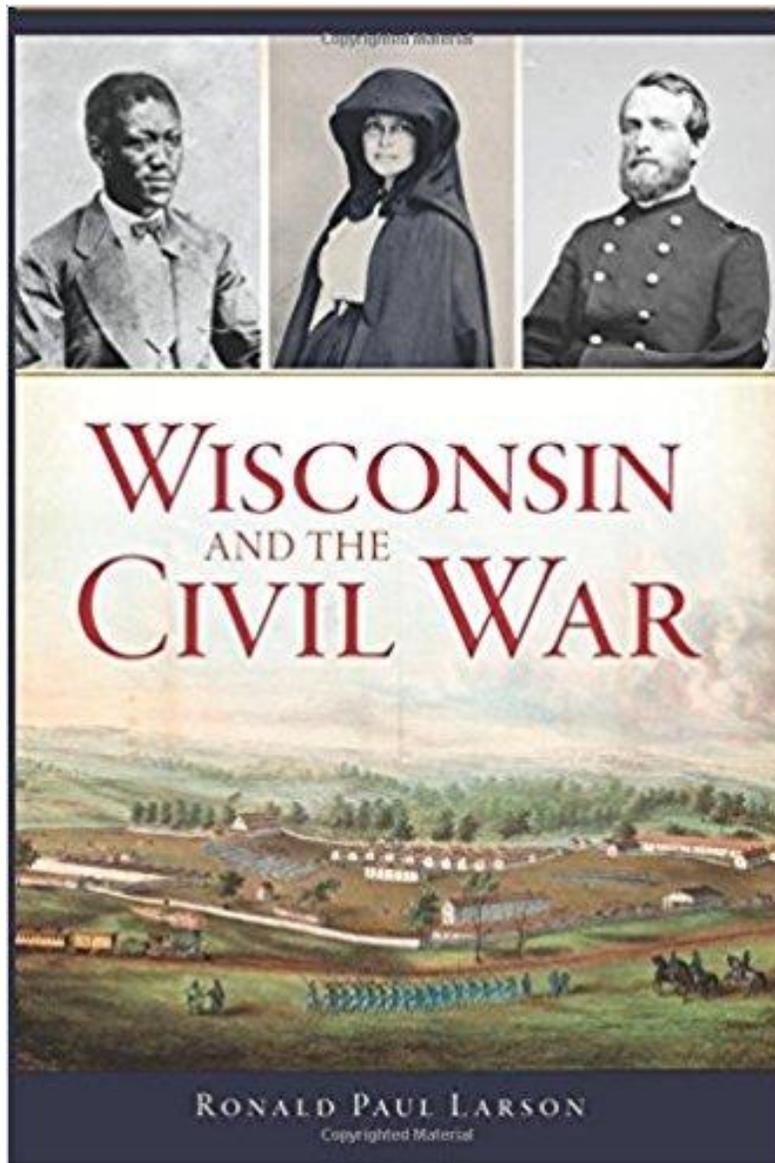
### **Wisconsin and the Civil War**

**Wisconsin troops fought and died for the Union on Civil War battlefields across the continent, from Shiloh to Gettysburg. Wisconsin lumberjacks built a dam that saved a stranded Union fleet. The 2nd Wisconsin Infantry suffered the highest percentage of battle deaths in the Union army. Back home, in a state largely populated by immigrants and recent transplants, the war effort forced Wisconsin's residents to forge a**

**common identity for the first time. Drawing on unpublished letters and new research, Ron Larson tells Wisconsin's Civil War story, from the famous exploits of the Iron Brigade to the heretofore largely unknown contributions of the Badger State's women, African Americans and Native Americans.**

***"Our boys fought like devils and have earned a name for themselves and their state."***

**-James Anderson of Manitowoc, of the "Bloody Fifth" Wisconsin Infantry**



**A SOURCE FOR CIVIL WAR CLOTHING**

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**This article may be a little convoluted!**

**The Lincoln-Tallman House in Janesville has a Christmas endeavor, now two years old. Businesses, schools, and individuals contribute money to rent and decorate Christmas trees in the house. While the editor and his wife were helping decorate the Tallman House for the holidays the editor met Denise Severson. She was decorating her trees (2) which were remarkable. (Photo below) Ms. Severson it turns out is a seamstress. She indicated that she does do civil war era clothing and has done so for theatrical events and others. She indicated the cost of her work depends on material selected and degree of authenticity. Denise said she does two versions of Victorian clothing, authentic and “look-a-like”. Ms. Severson can be reached at [denise@jvlalt.com](mailto:denise@jvlalt.com) or (608) 921-0566 for information and pricing.**

**Below are two photos of the trees decorated by Denise Severson in the Tallman House. The trees are located in the guest bedroom where Mr. Lincoln spent 2 nights during his 1859 visit to Janesville, Wisconsin.**

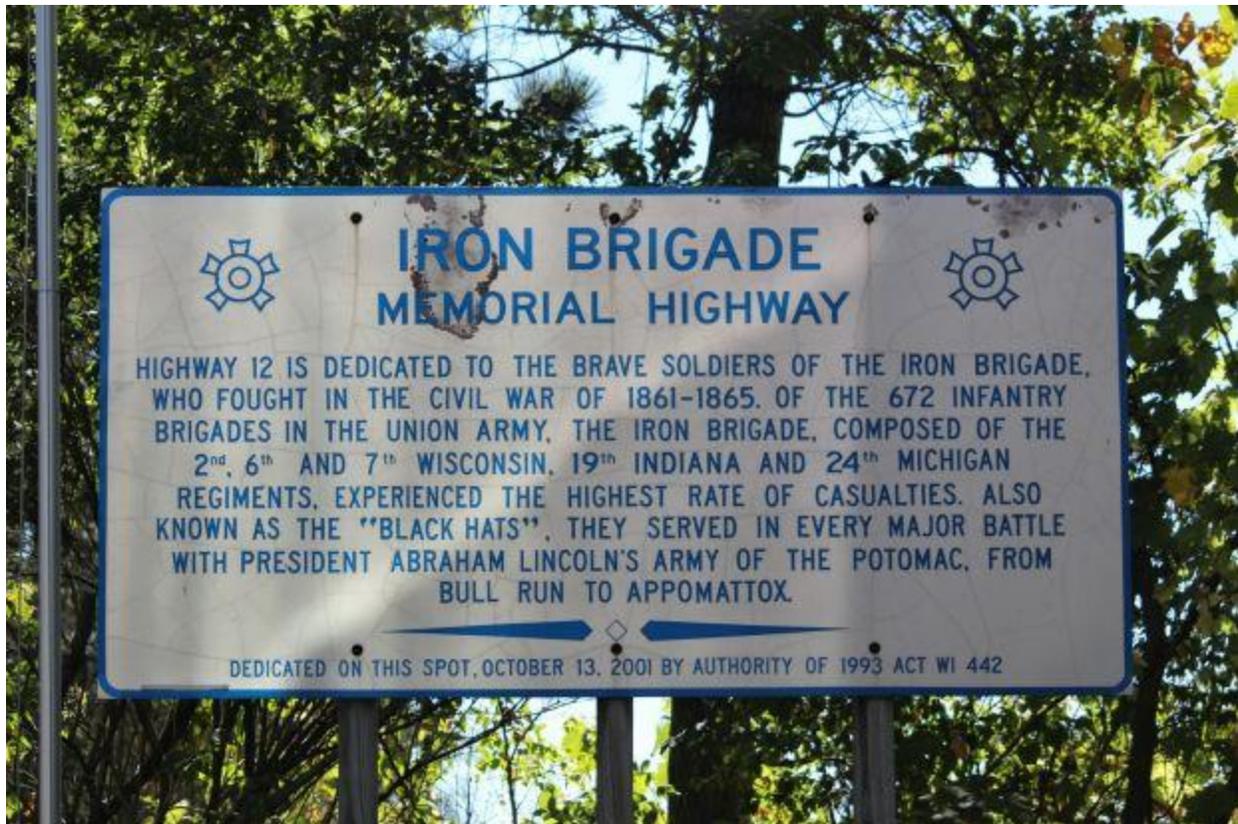




**THE IRON BRIGADE  
HIGHWAY**

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**Stan Graiewski sent the following photo to the Fugelman. This sign can be found along U.S. Highway 27 near Augusta, Wisconsin. The sign was designated as a war memorial sign and was dedicated in October, 2001. The photo was taken by Melinda Roberts. We thank Stan for sharing this with our readers.**



Christmas at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in Springfield

## **ATTENTION TO ORDERS**

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### **ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING**

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**T**he annual meeting of the **Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association** will take place on **January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. The annual meeting is scheduled to commence beginning at **10:00 a.m.** The meeting will be held at the **Community Congregational Museum, 206 College Avenue, Fox Lake, Wisconsin 53933**.

**Below are the minutes of last year's meeting for your review. The editor reports that the section of the minutes for the Treasurer's report are not**

**present. It proved impossible to download and include them in the minutes. Also one should take the time to review the minutes of last year's meeting (posted below) prior to the meeting to expedite the approval process for the minutes.**

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETING JANUARY 28TH  
2017**

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**Meeting called to order at 10:04 A.M. by President Kevin Hampton. Scott Frank welcomed everyone and gave brief history of the church (built in 1855), which was used as a meeting place for the original members of Co. A before and after the Civil War.**

**I Call to order**

**A. Invocation given by Gary Klas**

**B. Presentation of Colors: Tom Bass**

**C. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Kevin Hampton**

**D. Oath: administered to new member Jared Alexander (Co. B), Lenard Sedivy (Co. G)**

**E. Moment of Silence for past members of the Association; Led by Pete, names of all members who passed away in recent years were read.**

**II-Minutes Motion was made by Ryan Holbrook to approve minutes as written without any changes, 2 nd by Drew Young. (Minutes approved as written by membership).**

**III Treasure's Report Scott Frank reported that the Association finished the year with a balance of \$7,097.44, an increase of \$551.90 from previous year. Only one scholarship was given out which reduced expenses. Copies of the report were handed out to those in attendance. Scott's opinion was that we have enough funds to continue the scholarship program. A motion was made by Scott Frank to accept the treasures report as presented, 2nd by Gary Klas. (Motion carried) A copy of the Treasures Report is listed below:**

**IV Board and Military Officers Reports**

**A. President Kevin Hampton; Kevin thanked everyone for attending the meeting and was pleased with the unity, communication and cooperation between the companies. Kevin also apologized for not being as involved as he would have liked in 2016 but plans on being more active in 2017.**

**B. Vice-President: No report given by Tom Bass**

**C. Secretary Dave Sielski: Association membership in 2016 was 124 paid members for the year, a loss of 9 members from 2016. Membership down due to loss of Batty B. Dave reminded everyone that dues and rosters need to be submitted ASAP along with any changes to the event schedule. For a member to be covered by our insurance or be eligible for the scholarship they must be on the official roster. Dave also has blank membership cards for anyone needing them.**

**D. Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad: As an association, we need to continue to recruit and communicate, it's the help of our individual members to make who help make us a strong group. Events went well this season and we presented ourselves well in the field. In closing Pete thanked everyone for helping teach the history of the Civil war and that the commitment of our members is greatly appreciated. Please remember to keep our families in mind for their support in allowing us to participate in this hobby. Pete also discussed the founding of a National Alliance of Western Units from the West called the GAR, The hope is that this will help strengthen regional & National events, Groups participating in this agreement are:, Army of the French Broad, Army of the Wabash, Black Hat Battalion (2nd WI), Cumberland Guard, Federal Cav Assoc, First Federal Division, Military Div of the Mississippi, Muddy River Battalion, Western Artillery Reserve, 1st Illinois Vol & 49th New York. At this point we will need to wait and see how things go during the year to see how effective agreement will be. Please contact Pete should you have any additional questions.**

**E. Major Robert Schwandt: Robert thanked everyone for their attendance during the year as without the men in the ranks the officers would have no men to command. Robert said he appreciated everyone bearing with him on the field under his first year of command.**

## **F. Company Officers and / or Presidents Reports**

**1. Company A Scott Frank: 2 trips to Gettysburg are planned to do repairs to the battlefield, when dates are finalized information will be sent out for those interested in participating.**

**2. Company B John Dudkiewicz: 19 members have paid dues to date for 2017, of which 4 are poor boys over age 18. The Coon Valley event year is back on for 2017 but will be a week later with the dates being October 14th & 15th**

**3. Company C.: Reported By Pete as still inactive.**

**4. Company E. Charles Bagneski: Finished the year with 55 military members with 48 having participated in at least 1 events, Co.E gained 2 new members for the 2016 season. The main events being supported will be Heritage Hill, Pine Crest, Wade House and Menomonee Falls.**

**5. Company G Gary Klas: Membership remains at 4 members, looking to assist with school day's and preservation efforts in Gettysburg. Company has added one new member.**

**6. Company H report: Report was received from Tony Vranicar, Co. H currently has 8 members with a campaign schedule of 12 events in 2017.**

**7. Company K. Ryan Holbrook: The Company currently has 30 members. Co. K looking will again be supporting the event in Galena, IL. In April. They will also be hosting the annual school day May 19th. Co. K is also putting together a recruitment video at a cost of \$3,000, any companies looking to become involved please contact Ryan Holbrook or Ryan Schwartz.**

**8. Battery B. Remains Inactive for 2017 9. 6 th WI LA Wally Hlaban: Wally reported having 12 members, participated in 10 events in 2016. All equipment form Batty B has been consolidated with the 6th WI. Both guns were used in 2016 & the same is expected in 2017. Some repairs are needed on the carriage for the Batty B piece, repairs will be covered by the battery as enough funds are available to cover the repairs. The Batty B gun has been moved to a different armory, issues on ownership & use of the gun have been cleared up.**

**10. Field Hospital Stan Graiewski: Stan reported that he and Jim Dumke participated in 6 events in 2016.**

**The field hospital also is part of the Association of Civil War Surgeons. G. Keeper of the Colors- Tom Bass: took over as keeper of the colors in 2015 from Robert Schwandt. Colors were used at a number of events in 2016, some minor repairs are needed on a seam and will be taken care of by Tom. The Assoc. colors still remain at the Dresang home. Kevin & Dave will make arraignments to get these picked up from Theresa.**

**H. Fugelman -James Dumke: Jim thanks everyone for submitting info to the newsletter.**

**I. Website: Jim Johnson sent a report to Pete, Highlights are as follows, Jim's wife Sue has been dealing with cancer and this has taken up much of Jim's time during the year. Jim continues to update things on the website and Jim asks that people continue to send him stories & pictures so that they can be posted to the website. Pete asked that members keep the Johnson family in their prayers.**

**HEADQUARTERS 2 D WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY (ACWSA) 5692 WILLIAMSBURG WAY  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53719 JANUARY 28, 2017**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honor to report, The 2017 annual meeting for the 2nd Wisconsin skirmish team will begin at noon on Saturday, February 11, 2017 in the home of Roy and Cathi Nelson, located at W4982 Woodside Lane, Watertown, WI. New members get their first year's dues free.**

**2016 Season Summary: Overall participation was steady, even though we had an unusually high number of family and work conflicts and illnesses. The skirmish team finished last year with 24 members, down four from the previous year. Two of our losses were ghosts, but the others were a married couple that were the core of our revolver team who moved to North Carolina. Our season typically had six skirmishes but last year had nine.**

**The ACWSA added a "National" competition in 2017, then after the beginning of the season the North-South Skirmish Assn. (N-SSA) opened two of their events to us. It was just too much. We did not go either of the N-SSA skirmishes, but made it all the**

**ACWSA events. In spite everything we fielded teams in every competition offered except for one revolver team competition at one skirmish. In spite of the high number of absences we still managed to put more than one team on the line at multiple events. Missing some of our better shooters did make us less competitive though, and we placed a little lower than last year. Our “A” teams all finished middle-of-the-pack, but our “B” teams finished either first or second in everything.**

- **Musket Teams: A 4 th B 1 st**
- **Carbine Teams: A 4th B 2nd**
- **Revolver Team: A 3rd**
- **Smoothbore: A 4th B 1st**
- **Breechloader: A 3rd**
- **Breach Loaders: We now have enough members with Henry and Spencer rifles to field two complete breach loader teams.**
- **Smoothbore Pistols: Smoothbore pistol has become popular over the past three years. So far the competitions have been informal demonstrations, but it's close to becoming an official event. We've been using borrowed guns to participate in the demonstrations, but last year enough members bought enough smoothbore pistols to field our own team.**

**The ACWSA hosted a station on Civil War small arms at Company K's School Days in May, and plan on supporting them again this year.**

**Our Old Soldier Fiddlers group performed at the Civil War Expo in Kenosha last year and will be there again on March 11. If your unit isn't going to be there, but has brochures that could be distributed, send them with me and I'll hand them out.**

#### **2017 Outlook:**

**The following members served as cadre in 2016, and I don't expect any changes are in 2017. Commander (Sergeant) Gary Van Kauwenbergh Corporal Roy Nelson Paymaster Darlene Van Kauwenbergh The team looks healthy again for next year.**

**We have seven competitions scheduled.**

- 1. April 22-23 114th ILL (N-SSA) & 2nd WI @ Springfield, IL**
- 2. May 6-7 2nd ACWSA National Skirmish near Bristol, Indiana June 3-4 66th NC @ Appleton, WI**
- 3. June 24-25 Btry B @ Sandy Ford, near Streator, IL**
- 4. July 15-16 56th VA @ Bristol, WI**
- 5. Aug 5-6 15th & 8th WI @ Boscobel (without the reenactment)**
- 6. Sept 1-3 8 & 2 WI @ Rhinelander, WI**
- 7. Sept 16-17 15th WI @ Bristol, WI**

**Reminders:**

**1. If your unit making group purchases, you do not need to pay Wisconsin Sales tax. We have a Sales Tax Exemption certificate you need to show at the time of purchase. E-mail me if you want a copy of it.**

**2. If you use your computer to help the Association, and need to purchase new or upgraded software or equipment, you can get it dirt-cheap through TechSoup. TechSoup is a non-profit organization that provides low-cost software and hardware to other non-profit organizations. They sell everything. For example, you can get Microsoft Office for as low as \$29. I'm the Association coordinator.**

**3. Amazon Smiles is a program where .5% of online purchases made through Amazon come back to the organization as a donation. This is something our Association should consider. It's easy to set up, and once are, they just automatically transfer donations into your bank account every quarter. It doesn't cost you a dime, and does not limit who you can purchase from. You're not going to get rich from these donations, but it's free money. 2017 was the first full year the ACWSA has been in the Amazon.Smiles program, and last year they received over \$100.**

**4. The 2nd Wisconsin skirmish team is open to anyone interested. You reenact in the same uniform we wear, and the ACWSA still has a 'first-year-free' promotion. After that annual dues are just \$10. Just like reenacting, we**

**have more events available than most people can attend. Our philosophy has always been to keep a big roster and not depend on a small group to go to everything. Some of our members only come to one event a year. Before each event, I send out an e-mail with the skirmish information, and ask who's going to be there. You only have to say no once - and there's no hassling. On a good weekend we've put as many as five teams on the firing line, on a weekend where members have a lot of conflicts, we may only muster one. Even if you're only interested in live-firing once, and not interested in competing with the team, I encourage you to shoot with us first. This is not brain surgery, but there are some things like finding the right bullet and powder charge that aren't intuitively obvious, and it's not uncommon for new shooters to get a round stuck in the barrel, or have ignition problems. We can save you frustration. If your company would like a chance to live-fire, but doesn't want to come to a skirmish, let me know and we'll see if we can't come to you.**

**Respectfully submitted by, Yr. Obt. Srvt.,**

**Gary Van Kauwenbergh**

**Kevin Hampton called for a short break from 10:55 to 11 A.M.**

#### **V. Nomination & Elections**

**Kevin started by listing the term expiration dates for the board:**

- **President 2018,**
- **Vice President 2017,**
- **Treasurer 2019,**
- **Corporate Secretary 2018,**
- **Lt. Colonel 2017,**
- **Major Infantry 2019,**
- **Major Artillery 2019 &**
- **Quarter Master 2017. A.**

**A. Nominations were taken for Vice President: Tom Bass was nominated by Ryan Holbrook, 2nd by Casey Hulbott. John Dudkiewicz was also nominated by declined, motion was made by John Thielmann to close**

**nominations, 2nd by Ryan Schwartz, and Tom was reelected for a 2nd term as VP.**

**B. Nominations were taken for LT. Colonel: Pete Seielstad was nominated by Dave Vargas with a 2nd by Gary Klas. No other nominations received, Motion to close nominations by Scott Frank, 2nd by Ryan Holbrook, Pete reelected unanimously as Lt. Colonel.**

**C. Nominations were taken Quartermaster: Tom Klas was nominated by Scott Frank, 2nd by Casey Hulbott. No other nominations received, motion made to close nominations made by Brant Doty, 2nd by Ryan Holbrook. Tom reelected as Quartermaster**

## **VI. Old Business**

### **Scholarship continuance:**

- A. In 2016 1-\$1,000 scholarship were given out. A total of 3 applications were received (3 in 2015). A number of conversations were had on what to do to increase participation, which included increasing the amount scholarship and increase the pool of people that could apply. After a long conversation a motion was made by Dave Sielski to offer for 2017 only one scholarship for \$1,000 and a 2nd scholarship of \$500 no matter how many enter, 2nd by Ryan Schwartz, (Motion carried) the scholarship committee has to meet to decide on a new essay questions for the 2017 scholarship, when application form is updated it will be sent to all companies who are encouraged to promote this to unit members. All members in good standing are eligible along with children or grandchildren. The amount of the scholarship will be discussed on an annual basis and amounts will be based on Association funds.**
- B. Surplus funds disbursement: Scott Frank reported that per by-laws of the association, our current balance is below our ceiling that requires us to use excess funds, with an additional scholarship being given out also in 2017 the recommendation is not to distribute any additional funds. Subject will be revisited at next year's meeting. Motion Made by Gary Klas, 2nd Joe Gack not no funds be distributed (motion carried). A. Insurance Update: Report given by Scott Frank, no claims in 2016. Only Dues paying military members are covered by insurance, event must also be on the Association schedule to be covered by insurance. Insurance premium was \$828.10 in 2016 and has remained the same for a number of years. Scott is still waiting for the current bill for 2017**

**but expects it to be about the same. B. Handbook Committee:  
Nothing reported by Tom Klas.**

## **VII. New Business**

**A. Awards: Pete presented David Sielski with a certificate of appreciation for his support in the ideas and principles of the 2nd Wisconsin Association.**

### **B. Event Calendar**

**1. Association Max effort event: Grant's Home Front April 29th  
30th**

**2. National Event: Shiloh TN. April 6 th - 9th**

**3. Company Max effort event (6 th WI): Coon Valley. October  
14th - 15th.**

**4. Battalion Drill: Galena April 29th& any other event were  
numbers permit.**

**5. Tentative Assoc schedule was passed out to all in attendance,  
members were reminded to review and send any updates or charges to  
the corporate secretary.**

**C. By-Laws: Motion was made at 2016 meeting to suspend 1.04 of the  
by-laws until it could be reviewed further. Kevin Hampton explained  
the current rule and what it would be changed to (see below). After  
some discussion on why the change was being made a motion was  
made by Ryan Holbrook with a 2nd by Scott Frank to make the  
change. Motion carried.**

**D. Kevin mentioned that the Vets Museum is looking at procuring the  
Co.B flag from Lacrosse. John Dudkiewicz gave a history of the flags  
journey. If the flag would get donated, Kevin would like to have some  
members present for an honor guard for the ceremony. This us a rare  
flag only a couple like it are still around across the country.**

**E. Motion Made by John Dudkiewicz, 2nd from Kevin Klandrud to  
donate \$100 to the Fox Lake Historical society for allowing us to use  
the building for the meeting. Motion approved by the membership.**

**VIII Closing A. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by John Dudkiewicz, 2nd by Dave Vargas, (motion carried). Meeting adjourned at 12:23 P.M.**

**Lunch & conversation was held after the meeting instead of 1/2 way through.**

**Meeting Attendance**

**Dave Sielski Co.E**

**Casey Hulbott Co.K**

**Gary Van Kauwenbergh Co.G**

**Pete Seielstad Co.B**

**Scott Frank Co.A**

**Jared Alexander Co.B**

**Gary Klas Co.G**

**Tom Klas Co.A**

**PROPOSED AGENDA FOR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL  
MEETING**

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**AGENDA**

**2<sup>ND</sup> WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY  
ASSOCIATION**

**27 JANUARY 2018**

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- I. Call to Order**
  - A. Invocation**
  - B. Pledge of Allegiance**
  - C. Moment of silence for those absent from our ranks**
  - D. New Members' Oath**

- II. Minutes**
- III. Treasurer's Report**
- IV. Board & military Officers Reports**
  - A. Board President-Kevin Hampton**
  - B. Secretary - Dave Sielski**
  - C. Lt. Col. - Pete Seielstad**
  - D. Major - Robert Schwandt**
  - E. Company Officers and/or President Report**
    - 1. Co. A (Citizen's Guard) - Scott Frank**
    - 2. Co. B (La Crosse Light Guard) - Bill Wojahn**
    - 3. Co. C (Grant County Grays) - Inactive**
    - 4. Co. D (Janesville Volunteers) - Unassigned**
    - 5. Co. E (Oshkosh Volunteers) - Dave Sielski**
    - 6. Co. F (Belle City Rifles) - Unassigned**
    - 7. Co. G (Portage City Guards) - Gary Klas**
    - 8. Co. H (Randall Guard) -**
    - 9. Co. I (Miner's Guard) - Unassigned**
    - 10. Co. K (Wisconsin Rifles) - Ryan Holbrook**
  - F. Artillery Officer's Report**
    - 1. Battery B, 4<sup>th</sup> US Artillery - Inactive - Wally Hlaban**
    - 2. 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Light Artillery- Wally Hlaban**
  - G. Competitive shooting - Gary Van Kauwenbergh**
  - H. Regimental Field Hospital - Stan Graiewski**
  - I. Keeper of the Colors - Tom Bass/Pete Seielstad**
  - J. Fugelman - James Dumke**
  - K. Website - James Johnson**
- V. Nomination & Election of Officers (Office incumbent & term)**
  - A. President**
    - 1. Kevin Hampton (term expires Jan. 2018)**
  - B. Vice President**
    - 1. Tom Bass (term expires Jan. 2020)**
  - C. Treasurer**
    - 1. Scott Frank (term expires Jan. 2019)**
  - D. Corporate Secretary**
    - 1. David Sielski (term expires Jan. 2018)**
  - E. Lt. Colonel**
    - 1. Pete Seielstad (term expires Jan. 2020)**
  - F. Major of Infantry**
    - 1. Robert Schwandt (term expires Jan. 2019)**
  - G. Major of Artillery**
    - 1. Wally Hlaban (term expires Jan. 2019)**
  - H. Quartermaster**
    - 1. Tom Klas (term expires Jan. 2020)**
- VI. Old Business**
  - A. Scholarship continuance**

- B. Surplus funds disbursement**
- C. Insurance assessment**
- D.**
- VII. New Business**
  - A. Presentation of awards**
  - B. Napoleon cannon (pursuit/replacement)**
  - C. Company event formula review & evaluation**
  - D. Event calendar**
    - 1. Association**
    - 2. National**
    - 3. Company event: Company A (Citizen's Guard)**
  - E. Spring Muster & Battalion Drill (Date/Location)**
  - F. Other**
  - G. Other**
  - H. Motion to offer a \$100.00 donation to Community Congregational Museum- Fox Lake (Use of building and amenities)**
- VIII. Announcements**
  - A. Annual meeting 10:00 a.m. January 26, 2019  
@ Community Congregational Museum- Fox Lake**
  - B.**
  - C.**
  - D. Close**

## DETAILS ON LUNCHEON AT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

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***As in the past there will be a lunch provided by members of the Fox Lake Historical Society for our members attending the Association Annual Meeting. The Fugelman received the following dispatch from Tom Klas providing the menu and costs. If you plan to eat lunch at the meeting you should contact the men who are preparing the lunch at the contacts provided below. This is necessary so they know how much food to prepare. If you fail to let them know you could be out of luck getting a meal at the meeting. Thank you Tom for providing the newsletter with the menu and for your efforts to feed our comrades. It is truly appreciated!!***

**We have the Revised Fox Lake Historical Society Menu for the Annual Meeting Below.**

***New for 2018*** – we have added **Juice, Apple's & Bananas** for those looking for healthier options. In addition, we have added **Brats** for lunch as well. We appreciate everyone's patronage.

### **LUNCH ORDERS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING**

In order to best serve everyone please let us know at the contacts below of what you would like to order. We will try to have some additional on hand but an accurate head count would be appreciated. Thank You!

#### **MENU & COSTS:**

**Brats \$2.00**

**Hamburgers \$2.25**

**Cheeseburgers \$2.50**

**Assorted Sodas & Juice \$1.00**

**Assorted Chips \$ 1.00**

**Cookie \$ 1.00**

**Coffee \$ 1.00**

**Apple or Banana - \$1.00**

**Donut \$1.00**

**Please contact Tom Klas at [fallriversoldier@hotmail.com](mailto:fallriversoldier@hotmail.com) or call (920) 326-9972, Scott Frank at [scottfrankdesigns@hotmail.com](mailto:scottfrankdesigns@hotmail.com) or call (920) 296-0254 to pre-order your items.**

**Thank you,**

**Scott Frank, Gary Klas, & Tom Klas**

**LAST CALL TO PAY DUES AND SUBMIT COMPANY  
REPORTS**

**ONE LAST REMINDER!!** Members of the Association are encouraged to pay their dues as soon as possible, if you have not done so. Dues need to be paid before the Association meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018. If you want to be listed on the roster as an active member of the Second Wisconsin and one of its member companies you must get those dues submitted.

Company secretaries are reminded that they must submit their annual company reports to the Association secretary before the annual meeting. Secretaries need to submit their company's 2018 event schedules to the Association secretary. Company secretaries must also submit their rosters prior to the annual meeting. The rosters must also include company corporate and military officers along with their rank. This is necessary to facilitate communications from regimental command and keep our officers informed of regimental directives.

## A NEW ASPECT FOR DRILLS FOR THE SECOND WISCONSIN

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The following was posted to Facebook by Casey Hublot from Company K. Apparently this article will provide the impetus for drills in the spring. Thus it might be worth the time to make yourself familiar with the movement so that when called upon to execute the maneuver you will have a basis on which to carryout the order from your officers.

### Countermarch!

*You're probably doing this wrong*

.. if you're doing it at all.

“Countermarch” probably doesn't mean what you think it means. And so it's a good topic for the first in our “spring drill” series of posts.

**After thinking really hard, I can't come up with a single instance since I started doing this in 1992 where a unit I was with or in proximity to did the countermarch correctly. I'm sure it's been done, but I don't remember seeing it.**

**What I have seen is someone yell "countermarch!" when they want to stop a flank march ("column of fours") and get the group to march in the other direction. Everyone marches around some pivot point. The whole battalion, one company after another.**

**Since a regiment of a thousand men could take up a thousand feet of road - a fifth of a mile - why would you want the poor schmoes at the end of that column to have to walk all the way along the length of the regiment before reversing direction and covering the same ground? What are you, a sadist? Besides, if you want to reverse direction in a countermarch, you just halt, front, and march by the other flank.**

**The "Real Countermarch™" is not for a flank march, but for a column of companies.**

**Another reason for learning it? really annoying one, in my opinion? As a training exercise, simply to introduce recruits to the concept of "breaking two files to the rear," a concept that continues to baffle those reenactors who always drill in companies and never drill in battalions, and therefore don't understand the maneuver is intended to compensate for the fact that in a battalion front, you are boxed in at each end by other companies.**

**A "Real Countermarch™" involves each company changing direction almost within its own footprint.**

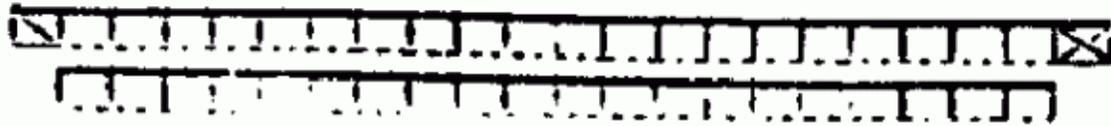
**You know how I'm always caviling that you really should read the sections in Casey marked "principles of" the whatever? You really can make better sense of the countermarch if you grasp the context - the principle behind the maneuver.**

**Picture a battalion in a column of companies.**

**For whatever reason you wish to face it in the opposite direction. You could just say "About face," but that produces a scramble among file servers. Here's countermarch, with Casey's instructions in green and my comments in black.**

**343. The company being at a halt, and supposed to constitute part of a column, right in front, when the instructor shall wish to cause it to countermarch, he will command:**

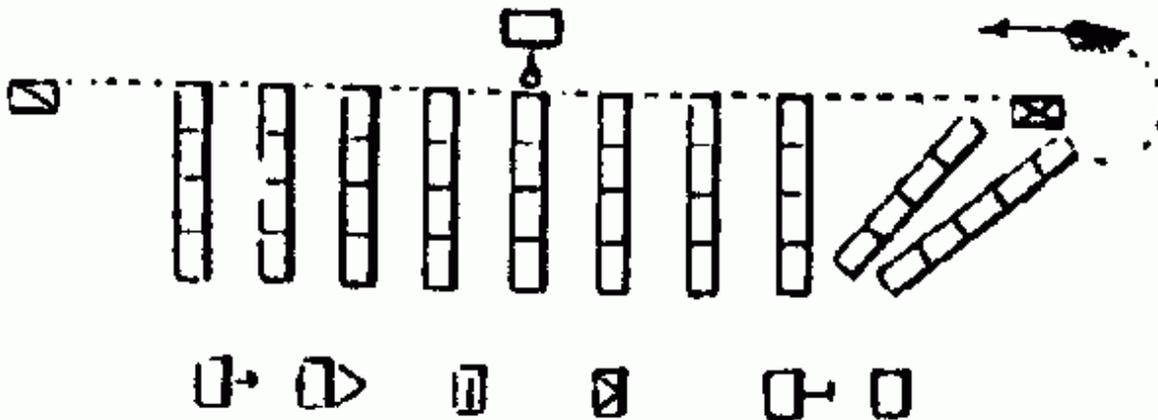
**Countermarch. 2. Company, right—FACE. 3. By file, left. 4. MARCH.**



*To countermarch. No. 343.*

Here's the company, fronted, in a column of companies. The men are facing toward the top of the page, first sergeant is on the right, second sergeant on the left.

**345. At the command *march*, both guides will stand fast; the company will step off smartly; the first file, conducted by the captain, will wheel around the right guide, and direct its march along the front-rank so as to arrive behind, and two paces from the left guide; each file will come in succession to wheel on the same ground around the right guide; the leading file having arrived at a point opposite to the left guide, the captain will command:**



Just read the words and follow along: Right face, with the added twist of that pesky "break two files to the rear" command. Here's all it means, shown in picture form. Then it's "by file, left," and the men wheel around the first sergeant. Note that the file closers (more than we usually have in reenacting, yup) move out along with the rank and file and also go around the first sergeant. **NOTE:** left the captain out front to remind you where the "front" is right now. The text says he'd be over by the "bent files" making sure everything goes right.

**Company. 2. HALT. 3. FRONT. 4. Right—DRESS.**

**346. The first command will be given at *four* paces from the point where the leading file is to rest.**

**347. At the second command, the company will halt.**

**348. At the third, it will face to the front. Note that the files of four “undouble” and that the “front” is now at the bottom of the page!**

**349. At the fourth, the company will dress by the right; the captain will step two paces outside of the left guide, now on the right, and direct the alignment, so that the front-rank may be enclosed between the two guides: the company being aligned, he will command FRONT, and place himself before the centre of the company as if in column; the guides, passing along the front-rank, will shift to their proper places, on the right and left of that rank.**

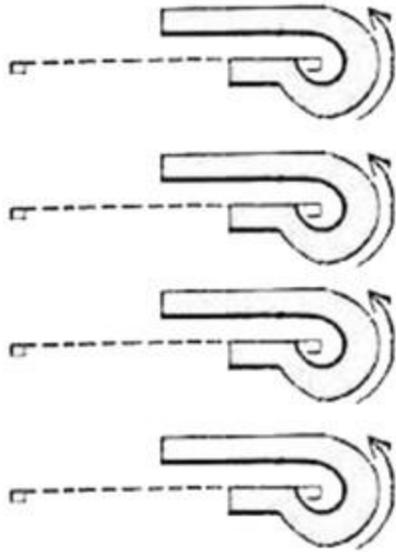
**Note that the captain positions himself to see if the alignment is straight. When he calls out “Front!”, he moves to the center and THEN the two sergeants switch places, so the first sergeant is again on the right of the fronted company and the second sergeant is on the left. They both pass in front of the company, no big mystery or ritual here.**



**All lined up and ready to go - toward the bottom of the page!**

**IF you are being led by a particularly daring battalion commander and are marching left in front instead of right in front, (because a great many reenacting units never do learn “left face”), you do all the same things except you go around the second sergeant instead of the first sergeant. Please don’t think about it too long or hard, you’ll get a headache, just trust that that’s what happens.**

**Here’s what it looks like in a column of companies at half distance:**



## CIVILIAN CORNER

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**OK, you got bad news that you were doing it wrong when you did it at all, so here's a little taste of the past to get the bitterness of despair out of your mouth:**

**HOWE SEWING MACHINES.**  
**E** HOWE, J.: Original inventor and Patentee, Estab-  
lished 1845, still maintain their su-  
perior reputation  
for Tailors, Boot and Shoe, Harness and  
and Family use. The Family Machine sews both light  
and heavy work, from the lightest to  
the heaviest Gar-  
ment.  
dec7-tf  
HEZARIAH DA  
18, Agent,  
120-66 Street.

**Why, yes, that is an advertisement for Howe sewing machines, appearing in the Jan. 4, 1861 edition of the Syracuse Daily Courier and Union. There were an estimated 100,000 sewing machines in use in the country by 1861, most in homes, not factories. Women with families to clothe saw the immediate value and manufacturers, having failed to convince tailors that machines were the future, pitched the idea to women. They also allowed women to buy the machines with payments made over time, the first such financial arrangement in history. And from those modest beginnings we are now all \$779 billion in credit card debt....**

The [Historical Society](#) is at THE COLUMNS MUSEUM, 608 Broad Street, Milford, PA. Careful with the GPS mapping: There's a Milford in New Jersey, too, a long ways away!

**FROM THE CAMPS OF THE  
COMPANIES OF THE SECOND  
WISCONSIN**

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**INFANTRY**



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**COMPANY B**

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**NEW OFFICERS ELECTED IN COMPANY  
B**

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**At the recent Company B annual meeting officers for 2018 were elected. John Dudkiewicz reported that the following were elected to military posts: Officer, John Dudkiewicz, 1<sup>st</sup> NCO Bill Wojahn, 2<sup>nd</sup> NCO is Jared Alexander. Congratulations fellas!**

**These men should be commended for their willingness to tackle the additional responsibilities as officers on the field. Any organization is only as strong as the people who are willing to assume the duties of leadership in that group. Thus we are grateful to these men, and others like them, who have stepped up to serve the interests of their members. They have demonstrated that they are ready and willing to spend additional time to prepare themselves for service to Company B.**

**It should also be noted that their fellow comrades in the company see them as capable leaders and expressed their confidence by electing them to lead on and off the field. It should be perceived as a great honor to be selected by one's peers to assume a leadership role.**

## **OLMSTEAD, MINNESOTA EVENT**

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**The following photos were delivered to the offices of *The Fugelman* dispatched by John Dudkiewicz of Company B. The photos come from an event sponsored by the Olmstead County Historical Society in Olmstead, Minnersota. By all reports this is a very nice event enjoyed by reenactors who have attended the event. At the end of the photo array one can find a copy of the poster promoting the 2018 event. On behalf of *The Fugelman* and its readers we offer our thanks to John Dudkiewicz for sharing these photos with us.**





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**JULY 14TH & 15TH, 2018**

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- Vintage Base Ball Games
- Food & Period Vendors on site
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- See both Confederate and Union Infantry



**\$10.00 ADMISSION WRISTBAND AT THE GATE ON  
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**COMPANY H**

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## A REPORT FROM OUR COMRADES IN COMPANY H

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**The following photo comes to us thanks to the efforts of 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Tony Vranicar from Company H. It is reliably reported that the men from Company H had a great reenacting season. The photo below was taken at Knight's Ferry Bridge in Stanislaus County (in the land beyond the sun), California. It was the first battle event of the year for the boys from Company H.**

**The men from Company H also send along their wishes that their comrades have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Vranicar for sending along the photo and holiday greetings.**



# COMPANY K

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## COMPANY K ANNUAL MEETING! NEW LOCATION-MILTON HOUSE MUSEUM!

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**Company K will hold its annual meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. The meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>, will be at a new location. The Company K annual meeting will be held at the Milton House Museum, 18 South Janesville Street, in Milton, Wisconsin. Members of Company K are familiar with this site as it is where the Company K school day event is held and the Milton Living History event also occurs.**

**Secretary John Thielmann reminded all the members, military and civilian, of Company K that the annual meeting is a MAXIMUM EFFORT event. One only gets out of our hobby what they put into it and so it is important to attend the annual meeting and share your input with the organization and contribute to the decision making that takes place at the annual meeting.**

**Among the items of business on the meeting agenda will be setting the 2018 calendar of events. One of the more important activities will be the election of civilian and military officers. Any organization is no better or worse than its leadership. These are important decisions and everyone should have a say in who will lead in the coming years. If anyone has an item they want considered they should contact Ryan Holbrook, as soon as practicable, at [time\\_weever@yahoo.com](mailto:time_weever@yahoo.com) to have the item included in the meeting's agenda.**

**Immediately following you will find the minutes of the 2017 Company K annual meeting. Please review this document prior to the annual meeting as it will enhance the adoption of the minutes at the annual meeting.**

## COMPANY K ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 7, 2017

**President Ryan Holbrook called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.**

**The Opening Prayer was led by Wayne Vawter All recited the Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Secretary's Report:**

**John Thielmann reported that communications with members, the regiment and event organizers seemed to flow smoothly last year. The company uses email and facebook for most two-way communication. He asked anyone experiencing difficulties, or with suggestions for improvements, to contact him.**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

**Patrick Lynch submitted his report in writing, but verbally noted that the company had received more money since the date of the report. This means that we are in even better financial shape than the report would indicate.**

### **President's Report:**

**Ryan Holbrook expressed thanks to Wayne Vawter for maintaining the Company K website. (<http://companyk2ndwi.org/> ) He further noted that the company had a good year, despite some significant changes in available events.**

### **Recruiters' Report:**

**Ryan Schwartz reported an uptick in new recruits at the end of 2016, and that we have 7 or 8 more possible recruits on the line.**

### **Quartermaster's Report:**

**Tom Bass reported that, due to a current change in residence, he was not able to do a detailed inventory. In general, the company has at least 3 complete kits available for use, 13 pounds of powder, and 2,000 caps. He plans on ordering another keg of powder and 5,000 caps for the coming year. Company members are asked to notify Tom**

**of any extra gear they have for loaning to new recruits.**

**Civilian coordinator:**

**Amy Zimmerman noted that she has a spare dress for female civilians.**

**School Day Report:**

**Ryan Schwartz reported that with 14 schools participating, we had 1,769 students at the 2016 School Day. With accompanying adults, the total attendance was about 1,900. Beginning this year, the per-pupil fee will increase from \$1 to \$2. This will allow for increases/improvements in presenters, and help to build a “rainy day fund” should a school day happen to be cancelled for inclement weather. It was noted that the company has significant outlays of funds prior to each School Day. Historically, the company broke even each year. A rain-out would cause a significant loss. Ryan Holbrook reported that, beginning this year, Milton House will charge Company K for use of the grounds for the School Day, and Company K will be paid by Milton House for its presence during the weekend. Financially, this will amount to wash, but it will provide clarity for each group’s role over the weekend, as well as clarity for their records. The theme for this year is “Abolition & Slavery.”**

**Election of Officers:**

**Corporate officers- Recruiter President Ryan Holbrook noted that the company had originally established an office for two recruiters, one in the Madison area and one in the Milwaukee area. Both recruiters currently reside in the Madison area. He then posed the question as to whether a new recruiter should be selected for the Milwaukee area. In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that, with communications being conducted primarily via the internet, the physical location of the recruiter was not important. It was further noted that these are appointed, and not elected, positions. Consensus among present members was that there was no need to select/appoint a new recruiter.**

**Field Officers, 2 Corporals, 2 year terms (Currently Charlie Holbrook and Casey Hulbott) Charlie Holbrook nominated Casey Hulbott, with second by Patrick Lynch. Casey Hulbott nominated**

**Charlie Holbrook, with second by Tom Bass. Weston Weisensel was nominated by Ryan Schwartz, with second by Casey Hulbott. Members present voted for their top two choices. Charlie Holbrook and Casey Hulbott were reelected to the rank of corporal.**

**Old Business:**

**Company Website - Wayne Vawter reported on its current status. The monthly Company K Gazette will be added to the website.**

**Company Mess - Charlie Holbrook apologized for being unable to be present at many events in the past year. He asked if the company wanted the program to continue. Consensus from the following discussion was that it should. Ryan Schwartz moved that the company allocate \$150 to the Company K Mess for the coming year. Dan Byers seconded. Motion carried.**

**New Business:**

**Recruitment Flyers- Recruiter Casey Hulbott proposed printing a new set of recruitment posters on good stock, which would include our 2017 campaign schedule. Dan Byers moved that the company allocate \$60 for this purpose, with second from Wally Hlaban. Tom Bass moved to amend the motion to the amount of \$100, with any funds not spent on printing going to Casey Hulbott as compensation for the original artwork Casey has included on the flyers. John Thielmann moved to further amend the motion to allocate up to \$100 for printing and a set amount of \$25 be allocated to Casey for the artwork. The motion, as amended for the amounts of \$100 & \$25 was carried.**

**Recruitment Video - Ryan Schwartz presented on the options and expenses involved with the production of a short recruitment video. Two companies, Drywater Productions and Highlights Media, LLC. have responded with estimates. UW-Milwaukee Film School had initially responded, a year ago, but the people involved are no longer there and contact has been lost. An estimated cost range of \$2,500-\$3,000 was presented as a likely standard for videos of nonprofit organizations. Ryan showed a sample video from each of the three groups. In the ensuing discussion, the topic was broken down to three questions:**

- **Should we do it?**
- **If so, which group to hire?**
- **Should it be made available to other companies?**

**Casey Rogers moved and Dan Byers seconded that the company allocate up to \$3,000 for the project. Motion carried unanimously. Tom Bass moved and Joshua Juarez seconded that Highlights Media, LLC be hired. Motion carried. Wally Hlaban moved and Tom Bass seconded that Drywater Productions be the backup, should Highlights Media not be feasible. Motion carried. Tom Bass moved and Charlie Hull seconded that opportunity to participate, financially and physically, in the creation and use of the video be offered to the other companies of the 2nd Wisconsin Infantry Association, with the understanding that creative control of the video rests with Company K. Motion carried.**

**Company K 2017 Campaign Schedule:**

**John Thielmann moved and Charlie Holbrook seconded that the designation of “Maximum Effort” be applied to only 3 events, with two being the Company K School Day and the event chosen by the 2nd Wisconsin Association. Motion Carried.**

**For the third Maximum effort event, Tom Bass moved and Ryan Schwartz seconded Grant’s Home Front, Galena, IL, April 29-30. John Thielmann moved and Wally Hlaban seconded Old Falls Village, Menomonee Falls, WI, July 15-16. Motion for Grant’s Home Front carried.**

**The official Company K Campaign Schedule is as follows:**

**January 28 - 2nd Wisconsin Association Annual Meeting, Fox Lake, WI**

**February 18 – Company K Drill, Waterloo, WI**

**March 18 – Company K Drill, Waterloo, WI**

**April 22 – Company K Drill, Wally’s Farm or Waterloo WI in case of rain**

**April 29 & 30 – Grant’s Home Front, Galena IL (Maximum Effort)**

**May 19 - Company K School Day, Milton, WI (Maximum Effort)**

**May 20 & 21 - Milton Living History, Milton, WI**

**May 29 - Memorial Day events at various locations**

**June 3 - Milwaukee VA 150th Anniversary, Milwaukee, WI**

**June 10 - Kenosha Civil War Museum Timeline event, Kenosha, WI**

**June 24 & 25 - Heritage Hill, Green Bay, WI**

**July 8 & 9 - Civil War Days, Lake County Forest Preserves, Wauconda, IL**

**July 15 & 16 - Old Falls Village, Menomonee Falls, WI**

**August 4, 5 & 6 - Reliving Our Heritage, Boscobel, WI**

**September 23 & 24 - Wade house, Greenbush, WI**

**October 13 & 14 - Norskedalen, Coon Valley, WI TBD -**

**A Saturday encampment in August or September at the Kenosha Civil War Museum, exclusively for Company K Note: The above is the official schedule. This means that all military members are covered by the Association's liability insurance. There are several other events which will be publicized, and members will be invited to participate, if so inclined. These events include: Feb 13 - School Day, Milwaukee War Memorial, Milwaukee, WI March 11 - Kenosha Civil War Expo, Kenosha, WI Late May - School Day, Kenosha Civil War Museum, Kenosha, WI July 4 - Parade in Waterloo, WI or an event at the Kenosha Civil War Museum August 26 & 27 - Battle of Morseville, Stockton, IL October 7 - Living History, Hoard Museum, Fort Atkinson, WI November 4 - Veterans Day Parade, Milwaukee, WI November 4 & 5 - Fort Branch, Hamilton NC November 20 - Remembrance Day, Gettysburg, IL December 16 - Wreaths Across America, Milwaukee & Madison, WI At 12:50,**

**Charlie Holbrook moved the meeting be adjourned. Charlie Hull seconded. Motion carried.**

**Members in attendance:**

**Thomas Bass**

**Walt Hlaban**

**Amy Zimmerman**

**Ryan Schwartz**

**Charlie Holbrook**

**Rob Pasko**

**Wayne Vawter**

**Patrick Lynch**

**Casey Hulbott**

**Ryan Holbrook**

**Charlie Hull**

**Dan Byers**

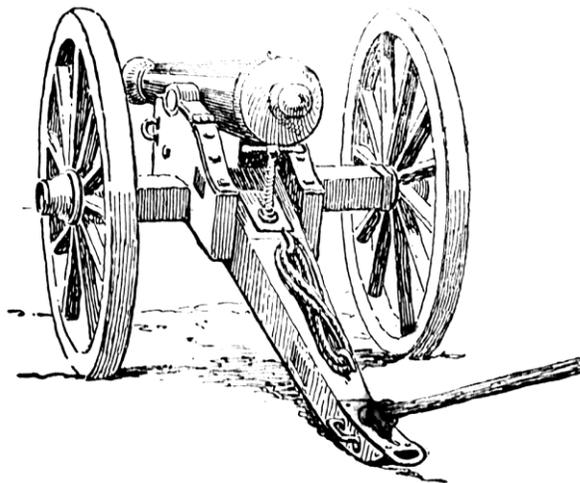
**Weston Weisensel**

**Lucas Wright**

**Josh Juarez**

## **ARTILLERY**

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# SKIRMISHERS

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## AN INTERESTING PRESENTATION ON JACKSON'S TACTICAL AND STRATEGIC PLAN AT 2<sup>ND</sup> BULL RUN

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**Gary Van Kauwenbergh sent the following dispatch to *The Fugelman*. The editor reviewed the video and it is well worth your time to view it also!**

**Dan Welch, co-author of *The Last Road North: A Guide to the Gettysburg Campaign, 1863*, talked about General Stonewall Jackson's stand at the Battle of Second Manassas, and discusses the action at Brawner's Farm with the Iron Brigade from Stonewall's perspective beginning about 22 minutes into his presentation. This talk was a part of a symposium on the "Great Defenses of the Civil War," hosted by the Emerging Civil War blog.**

**See: <https://www.c-span.org/video/?431933-1/emerging-civil-war-conference>**

## 2<sup>ND</sup> WISCONSIN REGIMENTAL FIELD HOSPITAL

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**PERCEPTIONS  
OF  
19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY MEDICAL PRACTICES**

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**Massachusetts physician Dan King identified 19<sup>th</sup> century quackeries in his 1858 book, *Quackery Unmasked*. Dr King identified the following public health dangers:**

- a. Patent peddlers traversing the country selling secret concoctions known as snake oils.**
- b. Cancer doctors, bonesetters, inoculators and abortionists practicing without professional training and sanctions.**
- c. Female practitioners, Native American healers and clergymen offering medical care in homes of patients despite a lack of formal education and training.**
- d. New medical sects, homeopaths, Thomsonian doctors, eclectics and hydropaths who promoted allegedly natural cures that blatantly contradicted thousands of years of knowledge accumulated by the medical profession.**

**King claimed antebellum individuals had become “great lovers of nostrums” devouring anything new with “insatiable voracity.”**

**Mainstream medicine’s efforts to maintain an orderly house were ignored or misunderstood.**

**Medical quackery accusations pointed in the wrong direction. Accusations were directed at mainstream medical practices. Individuals with medical degrees became victims. They were considered “learned quacks.” Mainstream practitioners were pejoratively portrayed as “mineral doctors, poison depletive quacks, mercury dispensers, drug doctors, and knights of calomel and the lancet.” Mainstream medicine was characterized as “a murderous system” and as “a mineral, humbuggery practice.” Patent medicine promoters rallied against dangers of mainstream medicine’s “heroic manifestations.” Advertising campaigns monopolized on fear, death, suffering and evil.**

**By 1861 reformers steadfastly believed public education could curb excesses of the most egregious quacks. Critics unhappily noted a demand for cures-all and services from those claiming cures from extraordinary means were “not confined to those deficient in intelligence or weakened and discouraged by exhausting diseases.”**

**Reformers admitted they could never expect a complete extermination of medical quackery.**

**Dr King noted in 1858, “History informs us that it has always existed in some form or another, and a consideration of the human propensity leads us to conclude that it always will.” After the Civil War, even the most ardent medical reformers often admitted “the quack, shyster, the sheep in wolf’s clothing would always exist.”**

**The Civil War launched a revolution in journalism and advertising encouraging drug advertising to effectively reach potential customers. High volume patent medicine companies became the first American advertisers to seek out a national market by:**

- a. Going directly to consumers with messages about their products.**
- b. Employing a multitude of psychological techniques to entice buyers.**

**Newspaper and magazine advertisements, pamphlets, calendars, almanacs, story books, cook books, joke books and other publications bombarded the public much the same way as today’s television advertisements.**

**In exploiting fears, companies played on patriotic sentiments by depicting war heroes and presidents in advertisements. Times haven’t changed. This technique exists today.**

**Within a month of Lincoln's inauguration, an advertisement for Bellingham's ointment appeared on the front page of the New York Herald, claiming credit for the new president's magnificent beard.**

**The Civil War had an effective impact on advertising themes. Certain remedies were promoted by drawing attention to prevailing difficulties" faced by soldiers (diarrhea and dysentery).**

**Brandeth's Pills piggy-backed on testimonies from "Sixty Voices from the Army of the Potomac" as evidence for effectiveness by protecting soldiers from the "arrows of disease, usually as fatal as bullets of the foe."**

**An officer in the Shenandoah Valley reportedly considered Hostetter's Bitters "The Soldier's Safeguard."**

**A pamphlet for Piper's Magical Elixir insisted their remedy for diarrhea was based upon gathered testimony from satisfied customers. The product was advertised being known to "those braves, so many have of whom have fallen a prey to the disease of the Seat of War."**

**The Civil War was used to sell a wide range of remedies during and after the war.**

**See's Army Liniment promised to ease aches and pains.**

**Union Hair Restorative offered a cure for baldness.**

**Holloway's Pills depicted an image of a union officer rushing a box of the remedy to a fallen soldier on war themed posters.**

**Drug manufacturers targeted thousands of returning soldiers. The idea was to help them recover from war time illnesses.**

**Dr Williams Medicine Company, maker of Pink Pills for Pale People, lamented: "It is not alone those who were wounded who deserve our sympathy, it is the great majority who were not, but who contracted the seeds of disease in Southern swamps and prisons, and who have lost their health before their time."**

**We can now understand why the Civil War was described as the end of Medieval medicine.**

# CIVIL WAR MILESTONES

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## JANUARY

- Jan. 1, 1863**                      **Lincoln signs Emancipation Proclamation**
- Jan. 8, 1821**                      **Gen. James Longstreet, CSA, born**
- Jan. 9, 1861**                      **Mississippi secedes**
- Jan. 10, 1861**                      **Florida secedes**
- Jan. 11, 1861**                      **Alabama secedes**
- Jan. 14, 1836**                      **Gen. Judson Kilpatrick, USA, born**
- Jan. 13, 1865**                      **Adm. Porter, USA, attacks Fort Fisher**
- Jan. 16, 1815**                      **Gen. Henry W. Halleck, USA, born**
- Jan. 18, 1862**                      **Battle at Mill Springs**
- Jan. 19, 1807**                      **Gen. Robert E. Lee, CSA, born**
- Jan. 19, 1861**                      **Georgia secedes**

- Jan. 19, 1862**                      **Battle at Mill Springs**
- Jan. 21, 1813**                      **Gen. John C. Fremont, USA, born**
- Jan. 21, 1824**                      **Gen. Thomas J. Jackson, CSA, born**
- Jan. 26, 1861**                      **Louisiana secedes**
- Jan. 26, 1863**                      **Gen Joe Hooker takes command of the Army of the Potomac**
- Jan. 28, 1825**                      **Gen. George Pickett, CSA, born**
- Jan. 31, 1862**                      **President Lincoln issues General War Order No. 1 calling for all United States naval and land forces to begin a general advance by February 22, George Washington's birthday.**

## ADVENTURES ON THE ROAD TO CIVIL WAR DESTINATIONS

CIVIL WAR TRAVEL LOG – GARY VAN KAUWENBERGH

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***The following article was received from our comrade and Fugelman contributor, Gary VanKauwenbergh. The article has some good travel tips and whets the appetite to do a little civil war road trip for our members. Thank you Gary for taking the time to put this together and sharing it with our members!***

**My wife and I recently took our family to Disney World, and we decided to drive down to take in a few Civil War sites along the way. I thought I'd share a brief sketch of what we saw and some travel tips with the Association.**

**Alabama Capitol Building – Secession began on Dec. 20, 1860 with South Carolina, but each state leaving the Union was its own separate ‘country’ until the Confederate States of America organized the following February in the senate chambers of the Montgomery, Alabama capitol building. Representatives of the six states that left the Union up to that point formalized the Confederacy, and elected Jefferson Davis their President there. President Davis’s first White House was right across the street from the capitol building, and the orders to fire on Fort Sumter actually came from Montgomery. The Confederacy decide to move their capitol to Richmond, Virginia in May of 1861.**





**SOUTH CAROLINA CAPITOL BUILDING –**

**The capitol building currently used by South Carolina in Columbia was under construction during the Civil War, and only the walls were standing when General Sherman came through on his march to the sea. Sherman's artillery shelled the building, and the pock marks left on the façade are marked with bronze stars on its exterior. During the War their government was operating out of an adjacent wooden building, which was burned during Sherman's visit. Who set it ablaze is still being debated. After the War Sherman said he didn't mind that it had been burnt, but denied ordering it burned. The locals seem to prefer saying Sherman set it ablaze, but current scholarship supports Sherman's statement.**



**LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN –**

**This National Park offers a spectacular overlook of the Chattanooga, Tennessee battle**

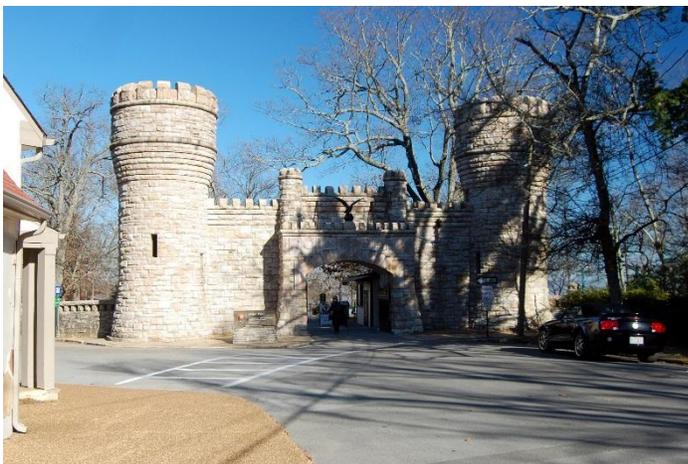
**area. The park visitor center is nice, but the commercial museum located next door is a ‘must see’ before walking the park. The museum features a**

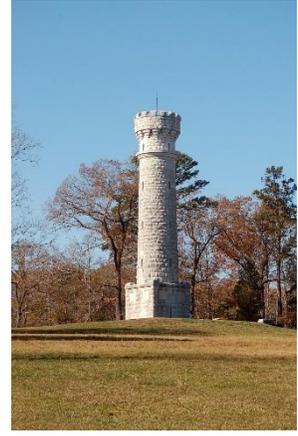


***large diorama of the battlefield presenting a multimedia, chronological display of the troop movements around Chattanooga. For a more complete understanding of the actions around Chattanooga and Chickamauga watch the Civil War Trust animated map at***

**<https://www.civilwar.org/learn/maps/chickamauga-animated-map>**

**Chickamauga Battlefield – This battlefield is enormous and strewn with monuments to the different units who fought there at key locations. It would take days to visit all the memorials and understand all the maneuvers. The Visitors Center there is great, and you should allow at least an hour just to take in the hundreds of small arms displayed in the Fuller gun collection.**





## **SPEAKER HAROLD HOLZER'S SPEECH FROM REMEMBRANCE DAY, 2017**

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**Some three score and seven miles from this spot—in Washington—stands a statue of Abraham Lincoln.**



The Abraham Lincoln statue, 1879, by Thomas Ball is located in Park Square in Boston. (Photo by David L. Ryan/The Boston Globe via Getty Images)

**Not *that* one; another one: Thomas Ball's statue of Lincoln as a liberator, with one arm clutching the Emancipation Proclamation, the other extended in a blessing, lifting a shackled, half-naked African American from his knees.**

**It's unique because it was funded entirely by African American freedmen. Frederick Douglass himself dedicated it. "For the first time in history," he declared that day, people of color had "unveiled [and] set apart a monument of enduring bronze, in every feature of which the men of after-coming generations may read something of the exalted character and great works of Abraham Lincoln."**

**But today, Douglass's endorsement has been forgotten. The statue is out of fashion—politically incorrect.**

**To some, the image of Lincoln looming above a kneeling slave is degrading. Critics believe it's time to take it down and erase it from both the cityscape and popular memory. Despite Douglass's hopes, it may not long endure, after all.**

**It is altogether fitting and proper to recall such contested sculpture here and now. We cannot re-consecrate this hallowed ground without acknowledging the statue controversy—the memory crisis—now roiling the country. We gather here above all to remember a great speech on a sacred spot. But Gettysburg is not only a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that the nation might live. It is an outdoor sculpture gallery, too, with more than thirteen hundred monuments: Meade and Lee; Longstreet and Buford; Wadsworth and Warren.**

**These statues recall a time when valor, more than values, elevated subjects onto pedestals, and when, let's admit, the real issue that ignited secession and rebellion receded into the shadows; when the Lost Cause was still considered retrievable, and the words that Lincoln echoed here—that all men are created equal—remained a promise unfulfilled.**

**Now we are engaged in an often *uncivil* war—a day of reckoning long coming—in which some historians have condemned, civic leaders removed, and activists have defaced, statues. Today, as we remember Lincoln and his finest hour, a speech that went on to inspire statues of its own, we face a challenge to countless other statues and to collective memory itself. Do we embrace it, revise it, or erase it?**

**That controversial Thomas Ball Lincoln recalls an age when Lincoln held the undisputed title of Great Emancipator.**

**That was before African-American agency and the U.S. Colored Troops belatedly won recognition by whites as key instruments of black freedom. But does that overdue credit mean that all symbolic, if overzealous, tributes to Lincoln as the sole source of freedom should vanish, including one raised**

**by African Americans themselves? Such a purge could leave our history over-corrected and our landscape barren ... and what Lincoln himself called his “greatest act” ignored.**

**Extremism on both ends of the historic pendulum can distort the arc of memory. Not enough, we must hope, to jeopardize Lincoln — still a hero in an unheroic age.**

**But enough, I do hope, to make us recognize that the statues of Confederates erected in the South during Jim Crow are sincerely viewed by many as emblems not just of a lost cause, but a bad cause, a treacherous cause, and a racist cause.**



Harold Holzer, Jonathan F. Fanton Director, Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College, delivers the Keynote Address at the 2017 Dedication Day Ceremony in Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg National Military Park. (Photo by Henry Ballone)

**The question is: should they come down? And if so, what happens to the monuments here at Gettysburg, notwithstanding the National Park Service's recent vow to keep them safe for all time, because there are no forevers in the constant reappraisal of American memory.**

**Let's acknowledge one fact: this issue is far from new. Iconoclasm—the desire to destroy effigies—has been a part of the human experience ever since Moses destroyed the golden calf. The ancient Egyptians erased the memory of their only female pharaoh, Hatshepsut, by destroying her statues. Roman emperors obliterated the images of their predecessors.**

**France tore down its Napoleon statues. And in both Canada and India, independence from the Commonwealth emboldened citizens to topple statues of Queen Victoria. But as good causes won, good art lost.**

**Nor have Americans been immune to such outbursts. In my own native New York, patriots celebrated the Declaration of Independence by hauling down**

**a giant lead statue of King George III, breaking it to bits, and melting the fragments to make bullets to fight the British.**

**Lincoln iconoclasm has a history of its own. The U. S. Capitol rotunda boasts its own Lincoln-the-Emancipator statue. Never beloved, officials decided late in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century to remove it. But in the process, workmen accidentally broke off the Emancipation Proclamation that it holds in its hand.**

**The workers promptly declared the mission jinxed, and refused to carry it out. Instead of crating Lincoln up, they repaired the scroll and left it where it was. It has stood there ever since.**

**Yet consider this: on the other side of the world, where the public didn't have much to say about anything, not even the Russian Revolution could purge the most famous monument in Leningrad: the giant equestrian of Peter the Great.**

**The Communists simply embraced the legend that as long as that statue stood, the city would stand. Decades later, when the Nazis laid siege, the Soviets padded the bronze czar with sandbags and viewed its survival as the key to their own. It still stands today in the city again known as St. Petersburg.**

**More recently, when the Taliban blew up the Bamiyan Buddhas, when Isis destroyed the ancient statues at Palmyra, people all over the world lamented these affronts to our shared culture, our common civilization.**

**Which brings us to New Orleans—Charlottesville—Memphis—Baltimore—and back to New York, where busts of Lee and Jackson have been exiled and statues of Christopher Columbus and Theodore Roosevelt face removal because of how they treated native peoples.**

**So what should we do about monuments that mark, even celebrate, what the Confederacy fought for, and the Union fought against? Statues do matter, because they compel us to look back, sometimes with pride, sometimes with anger. National ideals matter because they inspire us to look ahead.**

**But without knowledge and care, emotions often rule—and irreversible decisions can be rushed by recrimination, the “fake news” of cultural re-analysis from a distance.**

**Still, we must acknowledge together that some statues are now touchstones for racists advocating their survival in the name of white supremacy, and we must summon the courage to condemn that impulse and disavow such rationales. That will give us standing to resist when other monuments,**

**including Lincoln statues, become splatter boards for the red paint of misguided protest.**

**As some have. Recently, a Native American student organization conducted what it called a “die-in” before a Lincoln statue at the University of Wisconsin.**

**The group’s spokesman justified the protest this way: “Everyone thinks of Lincoln as the great freer of slaves, but let’s be real. He owned slaves, and...ordered the execution of native men.”**

**How can we deal with such views? Of course, Lincoln never owned slaves, and did more than any man of his age to end it. Where this myth originated is baffling; that it continues to poison the Internet is regrettable; that it percolates at the college level is nothing less than tragic; and that it informs the statue controversy is frightening.**

**As for the other charge: yes, Lincoln did authorize the execution of 38 Sioux Indians in Minnesota convicted of rape and murder during the Dakota Uprising. But he pardoned 300 others found guilty only of accompanying the others.**

**Instead of a die-in at the Lincoln statue, why not a teach-in, or a plaque that explains the Sioux executions in full?**

**Defiling or dislodging statues reflexively—instead of reflectively—eradicates not only the original impulse for commemoration, but knowledge of the events themselves.**

**Is memory really worth obliterating—rather than comprehending and, where necessary, countering?**

**Lincoln once said—not his most elegant phrase though he loved to repeat it: “Broken eggs can never be mended.” Neither can broken statues.**

**Might we here at least highly resolve to slow the rush to judgment—to consider the genuine benefit of art for art’s sake, and to consider that wonderful alternative: context. Why not explain statues instead of reducing them to dust? Why not add new plaques or computer screens to tell full stories?**

**All of us should deeply sympathize with the many people sincerely offended by statues of Lee or Jackson, and understandably resentful of having come of age in their shadow. Our Civil War past still haunts us. But obliterating relics cannot change yesterday; learning from them can change tomorrow.**

**Not all art is meant to fill us with joy. Think of the Arch of Titus in Rome, which glorifies the looting of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, yet provokes no demands that it be torn down. As art, it deserves preservation; as history, it provokes discussion.**

**Remember: statues can also be moved to museums, or cemeteries, or parks, or, yes, battlefields.**

**In the South, if they stay where they are, the fate the Soviets chose for Peter the Great—with new plaques—they should testify to vanished and banished traditions—and not the vile efforts by post-war ideologues to perpetuate white heroes to intimidate black citizens.**

**But when we blow up memory altogether, and leave no trace of it for our children and theirs, we forget who we were, who we are, and how we can become something even better.**

**Instead of leaving empty pedestals, why not raise high more monuments? Just as Richmond put up a statue of Arthur Ashe to face the Confederate leaders along Monument Avenue; just as Annapolis treated its disputed statue of Chief Justice Roger Taney, the man who ruled that black men could never be citizens.**

**They did not tear it down. They raised up a statue of Thurgood Marshall, the first black man to sit on the Supreme Court, a supreme response, if ever there was one, to Taney's prejudice.**

**What better way to trace the arc of American history than by pointing first to Taney, and then to Marshall, to comprehend how far we've come, even if we still have a long way to go? Without Taney in place, Marshall stands at Annapolis without recognition of what he overcame.**

**In New York, we just green-lit a new statue of Sojourner Truth—our first. And Central Park, which has 159 statues but only two of women—Alice in Wonderland and Mother Goose—will now get a real woman, Susan B. Anthony to face nearby statues of Lincoln and Douglass.**

**Some statues are too misguided and offensive to survive. And they are bad artistically in the bargain. I count among these the tribute to the Battle of Liberty Place, the uprising against the mixed-race Reconstruction-era government of Louisiana.**

**That monument was an outrage, and we should celebrate its removal by the mayor of New Orleans. Frankly, I have no love, either, for statues of Jefferson Davis, unpopular then, irredeemable now.**

**But these are the exceptions, and I still hope they would not dictate the rule. Context, counter statues, and relocation should always come first.**

**Let me end with one more proposal, an idea that acknowledges one of Gettysburg's living heroes, Professor Gabor Boritt. He was born in Budapest, a city that has been occupied, over time, by both Nazis and Communists.**

**His own family fell victim to both rounds of terror. But even in Budapest, after decades of turmoil, Hungarians refused to destroy the public art once raised to celebrate villains. Instead, they created what they call "Memento Park."**

**Here, old statues are arranged in a permanent display that, instead of erasing the painful memories of the past, compels people to confront, comprehend, remember, and above all, learn from them.**

**Maybe we can be strong enough to do that here: to place the statues of disputed Civil War figures in memento parks of our own.**

**Lincoln once said, "We cannot escape history. We will be remembered in spite of ourselves."**

**He posed for enough sculptors in his lifetime to suggest he profoundly understood the power of images to nourish that history. Let's not recoil from them. Let's use them as tools to learn from, and, when necessary, warn against. "Multiply his statues," Frederick Douglass said in dedicating the Thomas Ball Lincoln, "and let them endure forever."**

**Hopefully, we are now strong enough and wise enough, to preserve good art while condemning the bad impulses that inspired some of them.**

**If not, we might suffer empty squares, empty parks, and, eventually, empty museums too. And maybe empty memories to go with them. Isn't it better to look than look away?**

**Let's take the time we need, so we can be sure, to paraphrase Lincoln, that we are honorable alike in what we give, what we preserve, and what we take away.**

**Let's consider that even the most painful parts of our history should not perish from the earth, but long endure to be exposed and confronted.**

**Rather than defacing or dislodging these statues in anger, let's consider making some of them teachable instruments that illuminate neglected**

**truths. Rather than take a sledgehammer to the unsettling past, let's fill in the gaps of our full national story.**

**We have set aside too much hallowed ground to stop remembering, and face too much unfinished work to stop striving to make the last, best hope of earth even better. In that spirit, may old statues inspire new statues, and may the monuments to a divided and divisive past yet become the foundations of a united future.**

**Thank you.**

***Harold Holzer is the Jonathan F. Fanton Director for the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College and noted Lincoln expert and author.***

## **SURVIVING CIVIL WAR FOOD**

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***The following article was submitted by Stan Graiewski, from the Regimental Field Hospital, for the benefit of our readers. Thank you Stan for your contribution to this month's newsletter!***

**Soldiers survived hardtack, beans, watery coffee, and a rare rasher of bacon.**

**Soldiers learned many life skills. They were on their own for the first time. They lacked knowledge about personal hygiene and meal preparation.**

**Soldiers were given a pan (usually iron) and a cup (tin). Few knew how to clean them or prepare food. After a few experiences with food poisoning, a.k.a. "death by skillet," they learned. They also learned not to camp under trees where fellow soldiers relieved themselves.**

**There were few comforts of home for soldiers. Families tagged along behind the regiment in caravans.**

**Few things beat a hot cup of coffee. The war ran on coffee. For Union soldiers, and lucky Confederates who could scrounge some, coffee fueled the war. Soldiers drank coffee before marches, after marches, on patrol and during combat. In diaries, “coffee” appears more frequently than “rifle,” “cannon” or “bullet.” Ragged veterans and tired nurses agreed with one diarist: “Nobody can ‘soldier’ without coffee.”**

**In September 1862, a young William McKinley brought “vats” of hot coffee to Union troops under heavy fire to restore their will to fight at Antietam. Thirty years later, President McKinley ran for president in part on this famous coffee run.**

**With or without coffee, soldiers suffered a great deal on the battlefield and more so in disease-ridden camps where they spent most of their time. Camps were cesspools. Remember, this is before the age of antibiotics. They had limited knowledge about germs. Of the 1,500 days soldiers were enlisted, they only spent approximately 45 days in battle.**

**One of the greatest challenges hospitals and camps encountered was feeding a lot of people at one time. During the war, the city of Frederick had a population of 8,000 residents and 10,000 hospital patients.**

**Hospital administrators and camp cooks figured how to stretch meats and vegetables across meals via soups and stews to combat scurvy and dehydration. They invented “beef teas” in which beef and bones were boiled. They also made use of lemons, potatoes and onions, with some access to molasses, and any herbs and meat they could scrounge.**

**Civil War cooks discovered ways to make large quantities of food hot at once using giant split-level cauldrons set up over hot fires that burned all day.**

**Extracted from April Fulton’s article *If the Civil War Didn’t Kill You, the Food Might.***

## **DISUNION: THE FINAL Q & A**

*By THE EDITORS*

JUNE 10, 2015 12:25 PM JUNE 10, 2015 12:25 PM

**In April 2011, the editors of *Disunion*, The New York Times's series on the Civil War, convened a panel of historians to mark the 150th anniversary of the Confederate assault on Fort Sumter and the onset of the four-year conflict. Before a sold-out audience at the Times Center in New York City, the panelists – David Blight, Ken Burns, Adam Goodheart and Jamie Malanowski – discussed the origins of the conflict, the role of slavery and the immense challenges facing a still-new president.**

**Four years later, with the anniversary of Appomattox behind us, The Times has reconvened the same panelists – virtually, this time – to bring the series to a close. Using questions posed by readers and Facebook fans, *Disunion* asked them to consider the meaning of the war, its consequences and its legacy.**

**1. WHAT WERE THE TWO OR THREE BIGGEST MISTAKES MADE BY JEFFERSON DAVIS?**

**Photo**



**Jefferson Davis**Credit Library of Congress



***David Blight, professor of history, Yale University:* There is a case that Davis made big mistakes in not developing a better tax policy for the Confederacy, although he surely did work to great ends to develop a centralized federal government, ironically thwarting or ignoring so much of the states' rights doctrine on which his government was founded. The cotton embargo may also have been in the long run a big mistake, although that was not all Davis's doing.**

**But as a long-term historical mistake – or perhaps more of an embarrassment – I would rank Davis's publication of his memoir in 1881 as a genuine low point in the development of his legacy.**

**The two-volume, 1,279-page “Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government” is perhaps the longest, most turgid and most self-righteous defense of a failed political movement ever written by an American. The book is hundreds of pages of vindication for the Confederacy, for the slaveholders' republic he led, and for the right of secession.**

**The book also stands as one of the most open and aggressive defenses of slavery written by a former Confederate. Although Davis went to great length to argue that slavery “was in no wise the cause of the conflict, but only an incident,” he nevertheless provided a thorough version of the alleged mental and historical inferiority of black people. American slaves' African ancestors, argued Davis, “were born the slaves of barbarian masters, untaught in all the useful arts and occupations, reared in heathen darkness.” In America they had been “enlightened by the rays of Christianity,” taught the “arts of peace, order and civilization” by their new masters. This world of “contented ... faithful service,” a “happier dependence of labor and capital” than realized anywhere else in the world, had all been crushed by Yankee armies and industry.**

**Davis thus gave the Lost Cause its fundamental lifeblood – faithful black slaves and heroic, victimized white Southerners who in their noble exercise of “sovereign” rights had tried to hold back the ravages of the Yankee**

**Leviathan. It would be ahistorical to simply wish Davis had not written such a defense of the Confederate cause; but it is always fascinating to witness a colossal tragedy and failure all but unwittingly defended.**

**Photo**



***Ken Burns, documentary filmmaker: I think the biggest mistake that Jefferson Davis made was being on the wrong side. But it wasn't so much the mistake that Jefferson Davis made but the very configuration of the Confederacy that was central to its defeat – a defeat blamed on Davis the politician rather than on the celebrated generals. Davis had to manage the loose confederation of states when he needed a strong federal government as Lincoln had. The prosecution of the war was impossible for Davis under those circumstances.***



***Adam Goodheart, director of the C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience at Washington College: Jefferson Davis's first mistake of the war was also his biggest: the decision to open fire on Fort Sumter in April 1861, thus taking upon the new Confederacy the responsibility for the Civil War's first shot. By doing so, he created for the Union a moment much like Pearl Harbor or 9/11, when the nation rallied together in the face of a shocking attack, setting aside previous political differences to avenge the awful sight of the American flag going down amid smoke and flames. He badly underestimated the impact this would have on Northern public opinion, especially at a moment when new technologies like the telegraph and steam-powered printing spread descriptions and images of the attack throughout the Union almost immediately.***

**Davis might easily have waited. The new Confederacy faced no real threat from the tiny Union garrison – just five dozen soldiers and a brass band on a two-acre island, hemmed in on all sides by thousands of rebel troops – and Abraham Lincoln was clearly loath to open hostilities himself. The worst**

**thing Davis could say about the Sumter garrison, in a private letter just a few days before the attack, was that its existence “irritate[s] the people of these [Confederate] states.”**

**Had Davis instructed rebel commanders to hold their fire, he not only would have avoided the blame for starting the war, but could also have embraced the opportunity to make his government appear moderate and reasonable to the Northern public and foreign powers. He could have taken additional time to establish the authority of Confederate rule and the apparatus of government – currency, a postal system, custom houses, courts – throughout the South. A smarter strategist might have maneuvered U.S. authorities into effectively treating the Confederacy as a foreign power in negotiating Sumter’s fate. All of this would have advanced the rebels’ true strategic interest, which was not to kill Yankees but rather to establish the Confederate States of America as a legitimate national power.**

**In short, Davis made a mistake that Lincoln would never have: He let a purely symbolic irritant determine the course of national policy. The rebel forces’ 34-hour artillery barrage at Fort Sumter killed not a single Yankee. But it may have cost the newborn Confederacy its life.**



***Jamie Malanowski, author of “Commander Will Cushing: Daredevil Hero of the Civil War”:* Many people believe that Davis’s biggest mistake was to start the war. True enough, by reacting to Lincoln’s plan to resupply the garrison at Fort Sumter by opening fire, Davis lost any claim to reasonableness, alienated Northerners who didn’t care if the South stayed or left, and fired up the union cause.**

**But the bigger mistake, the tragic mistake, was in thinking, like the rest of the secessionists, that the Confederacy could ever win the war. At the time the war began, the Confederacy was composed of only seven states; by opening fire, Davis won his bet that he would draw Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas to his side, but he was wrong about**

**Maryland and Kentucky. The confederacy was ill equipped for war; it had a much smaller population than the North, and lacked foundries and railroads. Davis might have sensed that he was being delusional when he appointed a secretary of the navy, even though the South had no ships. Moreover, the South was hardly unified; tens of thousands of former slaves eventually fought for the Union, but 100,000 white Southerners did as well. Southern armies consistently lacked ammunition, equipment and, most seriously, food, primarily because plantation owners kept producing cotton instead of corn.**

**Most seriously, Davis, like most secessionists, simply underestimated the resolve of the North to preserve the Union. Davis and his fellow secessionists invited the war, and reaped the whirlwind.**

## **2. WHO WAS THE MOST EFFECTIVE MILITARY LEADER OF THE CIVIL WAR**

### **Photo**



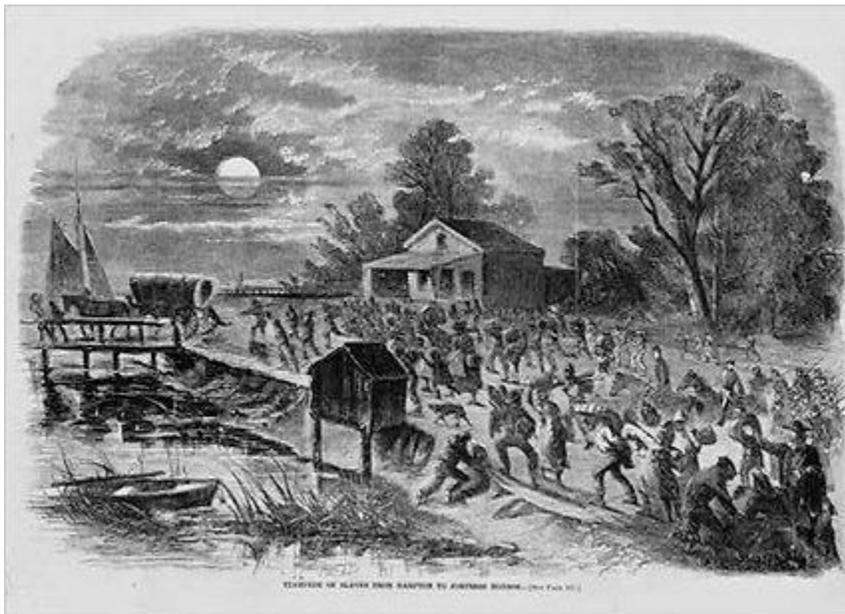
**William T. Sherman**Credit Library of Congress

***Burns:* We celebrate the daring and genius of many Southern generals, including Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and Nathan Bedford Forrest. But they were in essence the last vestige of an old order. The new order was best represented by very middle-class (rather than aristocratic) military men, particularly Ulysses S. Grant and William Tecumseh Sherman. Though Sherman is hated in the South, and a good deal of that hatred has migrated north, he was by far the most effective leader of the Civil War, bringing the war to the “industrial” centers of the South, i.e., the plantations.**

***Malanowski:* Let's raise a glass to Gen. Winfield Scott. Though seemingly something of a comical figure, the aged, infirm Scott devised the strategy of strangulating the Southern economy with a total blockade of the Southern coast, while using a joint Army-Navy force to capture the Mississippi and sever the Confederacy in two. At first it was derided for its passivity; it wasn't called the Anaconda as a compliment. But it worked. Although many blockade runners successfully eluded Navy vessels, Southern commerce was reduced to a tenth of prewar levels. The Southern economy could not supply the food it needed to feed its people, let alone the weapons and supplies needed to sustain a war.**

**3. NOTWITHSTANDING THE MUCH-CELEBRATED EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION, WAS THE END OF SLAVERY NOT ACCOMPLISHED BY THE SLAVES THEMSELVES, BY REFUSING TO REMAIN SLAVES WHENEVER THE PRESENCE OF UNION FORCES MADE THIS POSSIBLE?**

**Photo**



**A wood engraving of “contraband” slaves escaping to Fort Monroe, Va. Credit Library of Congress**

***Blight:* We have almost worn this question out. The answer should be and always has been that emancipation was both the result of Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation (the policy) and the brave volition and actions of the slaves themselves (the process). History can never be as simple as sometimes we would like it to be. “Either-or history” simply does not work**

**in this instance. The crooked path to the Proclamation during 1861-62, its roots in Republican Party ideology, in congressional measures such as the Second Confiscation Act and in hugely important military events such as the battle of Antietam – all this is crucial to understanding how Lincoln ends up delivering the executive order to the armed forces to free all slaves in the states in rebellion by January 1863. But the thousands of individual decisions by slaves themselves, who were at least in proximity to the Union forces, to strike out for their own liberation are equally important.**

**The very term “self-emancipation” has sometimes been forced to carry too much weight and significance. It is simply too operative. This dual story needs to be seen through real evidence, real stories on the ground during the war. There are thousands of such cases well documented in the documentary history of emancipation volumes published over the years at the University of Maryland.**

**But as a streamlined way into understanding how emancipation came about, see my book “A Slave No More,” which reprints the postwar memoirs of two former slaves, John Washington and Wallace Turnage. In each case, these former slaves would never have achieved their freedom without their own cunning and extraordinary courage. But they also would never have become free without the presence of the Union Army along the Rappahannock River in April 1862 (Washington’s case) and the Union Navy in Mobile Bay in August 1864 (Turnage’s case). Willing or unwilling, Union soldiers and sailors helped to “free” thousands of slaves who were already risking everything to free themselves.**

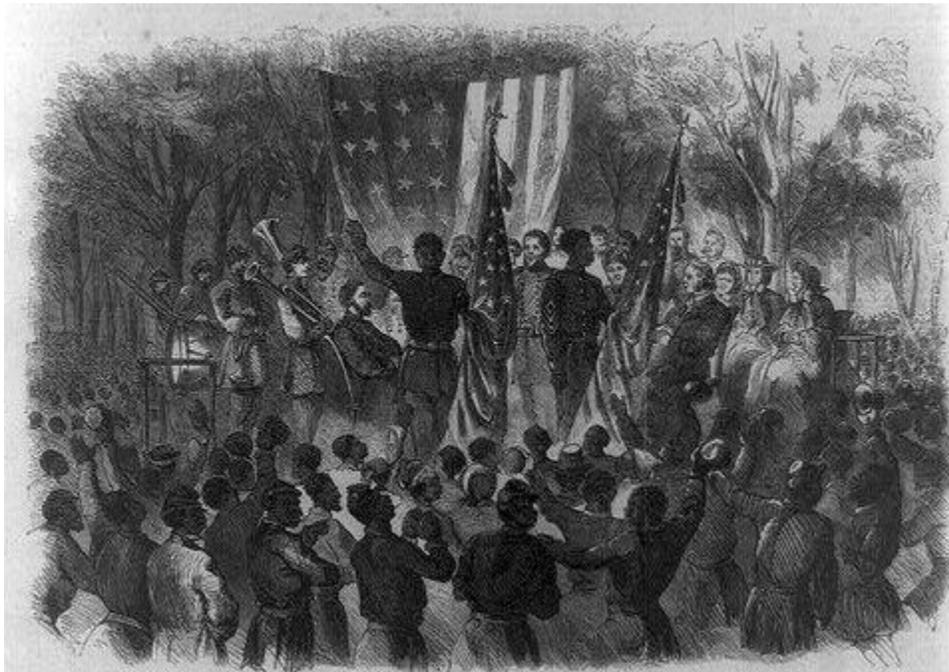
***Goodheart:* In early 1861, Lincoln and nearly all other white Northern leaders – and most of the general public – wanted to avoid the slavery issue as much as possible. It seemed much safer to frame the struggle in terms of Southern treason and the Union’s survival. It was enslaved African-Americans themselves who forced ending slavery onto the Union’s wartime agenda.**

**The most dramatic single event occurred on the night of May 23, 1861, when three Virginia slaves – Frank Baker, Shepard Mallory and James Townsend – escaped across the James River and sought asylum with U.S.**

**forces. By declaring them “contraband of war” and offering his protection, Gen. Benjamin F. Butler placed the federal government in the role of liberator. This was a revolutionary change, since throughout its previous existence U.S. authority had protected slaveholding as a constitutional right. Soon, thousands more escapees were pouring into the Union lines and becoming the Yankees’ only reliable allies in the otherwise hostile South. This eventually made Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation appear not just politically acceptable to millions of Northern whites, but even historically inevitable.**

**To give the Confederates their due, they also did their part to hasten the day of jubilee – albeit inadvertently. When leaders like Vice President Alexander Stephens declared slavery the “cornerstone” of the Confederacy’s existence, they more or less acknowledged that Union forces could undermine the rebellion by freeing the slaves. Increasingly as the war went on, Northern leaders, ordinary soldiers and the general public found that a pretty tough invitation to resist.**

**Photo**



**The Emancipation Day celebration at Camp Saxton, S.C., Jan. 1, 1863. Credit Library of Congress**

**4. HOW DIFFERENT WAS ANDREW JOHNSON’S RECONSTRUCTION STRATEGY FROM THE ONE LINCOLN WOULD HAVE LIKELY EMPLOYED HAD HE LIVED TO COMPLETE HIS SECOND TERM?**

***Blight:*** To answer and understand this question would take pages. But a quick way to grasp how different Johnson's policy was is to concentrate on the period from midsummer to December 1865. During this period, with Congress out of session, Johnson engineered a process by which the ex-Confederate states were allowed to take back control, practically overnight, of their state governments and of their societies generally. They passed the infamous "black codes," restricting movement, economic activity and any civil or political rights for the freedmen. They also restored ex-Confederates to power and office.

**Johnson's approach to Reconstruction was rooted in a few fundamental ideas: states' rights, white supremacy and rapid presidential control over the readmission of Southern states to the Union. His philosophy about Reconstruction was often summed up in a slogan he adopted: "The Constitution as it is and the Union as it was."**

**We cannot know precisely, of course, how Lincoln would have done all of this differently. What we do know is that he had at least signaled some support for black suffrage, and he was a far more adroit politician than Johnson, a great deal more skilled in dealing with friends or enemies in Congress. It is worth remembering that Johnson was not a Republican; he was an old Jacksonian Democrat, placed on the presidential ticket in 1864 because of his loyal unionism from a seceded state during the war. And it is worth concentrating on why, for very good reasons, the congressional Republicans wrested control of Reconstruction away from Johnson in 1866.**

***Burns:*** President Johnson was a reluctant Reconstructionist, a pale diet version of the one Lincoln would have likely employed. He was tentatively carrying out his dead predecessor's wishes and into the vacuum of his ambivalence was driven the wedge that would ultimately help cause Reconstruction to collapse.

***Malanowski:*** I don't know about policies, but it would have been interesting to see if Lincoln's personal qualities – his magnanimity, intelligence, empathy, personal warmth – and his gifts of language and

**politics would have allowed him to make a connection with ordinary Southerners and bring about genuine reconstruction. Sadly, it's possible that the task would have overwhelmed anyone, and left Lincoln with a diminished reputation.**

**5. SINCE THE END OF THE CIVIL WAR, THE UNITED STATES WENT ON STEADILY TO BECOME A GLOBAL POWER, WHILE EUROPE WENT IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. CAN YOU COMMENT ON THE EFFECT OF THE POST CIVIL WAR UNITED STATES IN THE GEOPOLITICAL CONFIGURATION OF THE WORLD?**

***Burns:* In very simple geopolitical terms, the paradox of the Civil War is clear: It made a diverse collection of states one thing, a Nation. Before the war, when speaking about our country Americans said, "the United States are," plural. After the war, we began to say, as we do today, "United States is," which is actually ungrammatical. That "one thing" would within 50 to 75 years be the most powerful country on earth, freed seemingly forever from the sectarian divisions that had driven it to civil war. Europe, with its long history of separate nationalities, its cultural and linguistic differences, couldn't keep up. Even its modern-day attempt at union is beset by problems and divisions from all corners.**

***Malanowski:* I think you would have a hard time convincing Queen Victoria or Winston Churchill or Otto von Bismarck or Vladimir Lenin or almost any European that Europe declined vis a vis the United States at any point prior to the catastrophe of World War II.**

**It's much more interesting to consider how the post-Civil War United States would have declined if the South had won the war. Had secession succeeded, it's easy to imagine other states and sections breaking away, leaving North America like 18th century Europe, a continent of smallish nations of competing interests and ideologies, vying for and going to war over land and resources. Powerful European nations like France and Spain would have tried to retrieve old possessions, inviting Britain and other powers to tamper as well.**

**And even with the federal armies defeated, it is hard to imagine that millions of Southern slaves would have docilely accepted their crushed**

**hopes. North America would have been a constant war zone, and the wealth and prosperity and power enjoyed by a stable United States during the last 150 years would have been squandered in war and competition.**

**Photo**



**A giant bust of Lincoln by the artist David Adickes in a field outside of Williston, North Dakota. Credit Shannon Stapleton/Reuters**

**6. How do you envisage the Civil War's bicentennial being commemorated in 50 years time? Both within the academic world of Civil War scholars and within the wider American political and public spheres? Where do you see the future of the Civil War heading in these arenas?**

***Blight:* At various gatherings and panels this past spring commemorating the ending of the Civil War, this question would often emerge in some form. The real answer is, of course, none of us know. It would be too easy to predict that the Lost Cause and neo-Confederate memory will have eroded much more, if not even died out. But I rather doubt that. As long as we have a politics of race in America we will have a politics of Civil War memory, and therefore the Lost Cause will have salience. It certainly still does in America's right-wing politics.**

**I suspect that the roiling salience of federalism, the battles over states' rights that are so persistent in our political culture today, will still be around in some form. But events determine these matters, over and over.**

**The only thing we might be certain of is that if as a world community, as a species, we do not do something serious and soon to reduce greenhouse gases, and therefore stop global warming, then the commemoration of the Civil War in 2061 will likely not be held in Charleston to remember Fort Sumter, because that city may be under the sea. Perhaps, ironically, by 2061 we will have a new Lost Cause with which to contend: the long, failed effort to thwart the power and greed of climate change deniers. Why is it that only dystopian projections come to mind in relation to this counter-factual question, and very few resembling their opposites?**

**But to offer something uplifting: Let's all hope that the 14th Amendment survives the next 50 years, that the right to vote for every American, rooted so deeply in the blood of the Civil War, will not be further eroded by one of our political party's desperation to survive, that we can somehow imagine a politics that will revive faith in that federal government saved in the war of 1861-65, and that the disasters that will be necessary to force us to rebuild our national infrastructure will not be too terrible.**

***Burns:* I believe that the Civil War's centrality will never diminish as long as the United States survives. Fifty years from now at the bicentennial, both the academy and the wider public will marvel at how important the Civil War was and is to almost every aspect of American life.**

***Goodheart:* I hope I'll still be around to see the start of the bicentennial. I'll be 90 years old then, so my own lifetime will cover nearly half the distance between the 1860s (a past that we think of as distant) and the 2060s (a future that still feels remote). The Civil War, in other words, will still be barely two lifespans away. In biological terms, that's the merest blip. Yet our pathetic human concept of what constitutes "a long time" - unlike our idea of "a long distance" - seems only to have shrunk during the modern era.**

**Something tells me that this may start changing in the next 50 years, as the cycles of climates, species and technologies come to overshadow those of wars and presidencies. Centuries and millennia may (again) loom larger than years and decades as the significant units of historical and political time. So I'll make a wild bet that in 2061, the Civil War may actually feel less distant than it does now.**

**Does that mean it will seem more important, or less? Hard to say. But I'm guessing it will increasingly be seen as a signal modernizing and liberalizing moment not just for the United States, but also for the world. Other major developments of the 1850s and 1860s – Darwinism, digital communications, mass media, consumerism, new ideas about gender and sexuality, the rise of European nation-states, the end of Russian serfdom, the vast upheavals in China, India, and Japan – may get smooshed together with the American Civil War into one big story, the story of how one version of human society yielded way to another. The full consequences of that painful and joyous revolution, that fiery jubilee, may be clearer to everyone in 50 years' time than they are now.**

**A safer bet is to predict that the story, or stories, of 1861-65 will continue to enthrall and infuriate us, unite and divide us. Certain episodes in history are like great books: They can be endlessly read, reread, retold and reinterpreted. The ancient Greeks' Iliad hasn't gone stale after more than a hundred generations, and there's no reason to expect that our "American Iliad" will do so after just another two.**

***Malanowski:* Americans don't have much interest in history generally, and less interest in the Civil War than they used to. This is particularly true in the South, where even those who still take pride in a defiant rebel yell find the legacy of slavery and segregation increasingly an embarrassment. Consider this: In February 1961, 100,000 people, most of them ardent segregationists, showed up in Montgomery, Ala., to mark the centennial of Jefferson Davis's inauguration. In Charleston S.C., in December 2010, about 400 people showed up for a secession ball.**

**We still battle with many of the same issues that brought about the Civil War, and perhaps will continue to do so in 2061. But an increasingly diverse, multiethnic America will find itself celebrating the South that produced Elvis Presley and Martin Luther King Jr., Eudora Welty and**

**Tennessee Williams, Peyton Manning and Muhammad Ali, B.B. King and Johnny Cash, Coca-Cola and whoever invented barbecue — all pillars of modern American culture - and stuffing Nathan Bedford Forrest into the attic.**