

Circular Memorandum #513

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January 2020

Announcing Our 548th Meeting
The 25th Annual Frank Rankin Lecture
"The Civil War: Kentucky's Mercurial Path"
Will be Presented by Kent Masterson Brown

DATE: Saturday, January 18

Location: Big Spring Country Club

COCKTAILS: 6:00 P.M.

DINNER (\$28.00): 7:00 P.M.

PROGRAM: 8:00 P.M.

Meet Our Speaker - Kent Masterson Brown

We welcome back Kent Masterson Brown who will deliver the 25th Annual Frank Rankin Lecture. Kent was born in Lexington, Kentucky on February 5, 1949. He is a 1971 graduate - and in 2014 named a distinguished graduate - of Centre College and received his juris doctor degree in 1974 from Washington and Lee University School of Law. Kent has practiced law for forty-four years with offices in Lexington and Washington, DC. Kent has published six books, all on the Civil War, including *Cushing of Gettysburg: The Story of a Union Artillery Commander*, *Retreat from Gettysburg: Lee, Logistics and the Pennsylvania Campaign*, and *One of Morgan's Men: The Memoirs of Lieutenant John M. Porter of the Ninth Kentucky Cavalry*; they have been selections of the History Book Club and Military Book Club. All of them have received rave reviews and numerous national awards. He is currently writing *George Gordon Meade and the Gettysburg Campaign*, which will go to press in the summer of 2020.



Kent has also written, hosted, and produced eight award-winning documentary films for public and cable television, including: *Bourbon and Kentucky: A History Distilled*, *Henry Clay and the Struggle for the Union*, *Unsung Hero: The Horse in the Civil War*, *Daniel Boone and the Opening of the American West*, and "I Remember The Old Home Very Well:" *The Lincolns in Kentucky*. All Kent's films have been widely broadcast throughout the United States, Canada, and overseas. Two of his films, *Daniel Boone* and *The Lincolns in Kentucky*, won the regional television ratings when they were premiered on Kentucky Educational Television. All have won Telly Awards; *Unsung Hero* was nominated for an Emmy Award.

A nationally known speaker and Civil War battlefield guide, Kent was the first chairman of the Gettysburg National Military Park Advisory Commission and the first chairman of the Perryville (Kentucky) Battlefield Commission, a seat he held for eleven years overseeing the expansion of the Perryville Battlefield. He served on the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and is now a member of the Kentucky Film Commission. He has also been a director of the Gettysburg Foundation. Kent is now the President and Content Developer for the Witnessing History Education Foundation, Inc. Kent lives in Lexington with his wife, Genevieve, and their three children, Annie Louise, Philip and Thomas.

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The Civil War: Kentucky's Mercurial Course"

At the time of the secession crisis in the winter and spring of 1861, Kentucky had all the indicators of joining her sister slave States in seceding from the Union but did not. Instead, Kentucky became, for all practical purposes, a Union State, even though 35,000 Kentuckians joined the Confederate armies. By War's end, Kentucky, as a State, believed it had embraced the wrong side, and, in the years after the War, became as ardently "Confederate" as its sister southern States. It remains so all the way through the mid-twentieth century. This is that story.

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Books! Books! Books!

We will have Kent's book, *Retreat from Gettysburg* for sale at the meeting at the special discounted price of \$15! Please note that the book is no longer available in hardback. In a groundbreaking, comprehensive history of the Army of Northern Virginia's retreat from Gettysburg in July 1863, Kent Masterson Brown draws on previously untapped sources to chronicle the massive effort of General Robert E. Lee and his command as they sought to move people, equipment, and scavenged supplies through hostile territory and plan the army's next moves. Brown reveals that even though the battle of Gettysburg was a defeat for the Army of Northern Virginia, Lee's successful retreat maintained the balance of power in the eastern theater and left his army with enough forage, stores, and fresh meat to ensure its continued existence as an effective force.

Reservations

RESERVATIONS: Please Note!!! If you email Bryan Winslow and **do not** receive a confirmation, you need to call Doug Krawczyk (502-425-0325) and make your reservation. Not receiving a confirmation via email means you do not have a reservation, and this is a problem for Big Spring as they need an accurate count of our reservations so they can prepare enough fried chicken for us!

RESERVATIONS: Call Doug Krawczyk (502-425-0325) to place your reservations. If you are making reservations for more than just yourself, please give the names of the others. If you leave your reservation on his answering machine, please spell out your name so he can correctly identify you. You can also make your reservation by e-mail by sending it to bryanw@macconstruction.com. If you do not receive a confirmation from Bryan, please call Doug and make your reservation. Please call or email **no later than Wednesday, January 15**, by noon. If you wish to join us just for the program, please call and make a reservation so that we can provide you with a chair. If you are only coming for the program, you can call Doug anytime up to 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Reminder for Table Reservations: We can reserve tables for parties of **eight** only, and we need you to provide us with the names of all the people in your party when you make the reservation. This will enable us to manage our meeting space in a more efficient manner. Thank you.

2020 Spring Field Trip: 1865 Carolinas Campaign

\$200 Non-refundable Deposit is Due!

This year's field trip will be to North Carolina where we will study the 1865 Carolinas Campaign. This trip is one we have never done before. The dates for the trip are April 1-5, 2020 and our guide will be Wade Sokolosky. Wade is a retired Colonel and a 25-year veteran of the U.S. Army. He is a leading expert on the 1865 Carolinas Campaign and has led many tours of these historic sites. We will be headquartered in Smithfield, N.C. which is about 30 miles south of Raleigh. From our headquarters in Smithfield we will visit all the major battlefield and historic sites of the 1865 campaign including the battlefields of Wise's Forks, Monroe's Crossroads, Averasboro, and Bentonville. We will also visit several other historic sites and museums in the area including a visit to the C.S.S. Neuse at the Ironclad State Historic Site. There the *remains* of the Neuse are preserved and there is a full-scale replica of the Neuse. Our Guide, Wade Sokolosky, in addition to leading battlefield tours, has lectured widely on the Carolinas Campaign at historic organizations and roundtables and has co-authored with Mike Smith "No such Army Since the Days of Julius Caesar: Sherman's Carolinas Campaign". He is the author of "Final Roll Call: Confederate Losses in the 1865 Carolinas Campaign". Wade's latest book, also co-authored with Mark Smith, "To Prepare for Sherman's Coming: The Battle of Wise's Forks, March 1865". We are very fortunate to have Wade as our guide and we are looking forward to another great field trip. Mark your calendars for April 1-5, 2020. **The signup sheet will be at the January meeting.** We are now taking signups and collecting the **\$200 non-refundable deposits**. You can sign-up by emailing John Davis at johnd.davis@twc.com and mailing your \$200 non-refundable deposit check made out to LCWRT directly to Louisville Civil War Round Table, 9462 Brownsboro Road - #142, Louisville, Ky., 40241. You can also signup at the meetings.

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The \$200 Non-refundable Deposit Explained

To guarantee your reservation for the April 2020 Field Trip, you will need to make a \$200 non-refundable deposit. We expect this trip to be a sellout. Please understand that once you make this payment it is **non-refundable** for any reason after the January 18th meeting. If you need to cancel after January 18, only the amount of the trip fee above \$200 will be refunded. This policy is necessary because we must make several payments in February and March for the bus, insurance, and other items in advance of the trip. We also need a guaranteed count on the number of people going so we can keep the price of the trip as low as possible.

1865 Carolinas Campaign Suggested Reading

Time to start your study for the upcoming field trip. Here is a suggested reading list. All these books are available on Amazon and used versions are available on Abebooks.com

A good place to start is our guide's book "**No Such Army Since the Days of Julius Ceasar**" which is a detailed study of the entire campaign. Gen. William T. Sherman's 1865 Carolinas Campaign receives scant attention from most Civil War historians. Career military officers Mark A. Smith and Wade Sokolosky rectify this oversight with this book a careful and impartial examination of Sherman's army and its many accomplishments. The authors focus on the overlooked run-up to the seminal Battle of Bentonville. They begin on March 11, 1865, with the capture of Fayetteville and the demolition of the arsenal there, before chronicling the two-day Battle of Averasboro in more detail than any other study. At Averasboro, Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee's Confederates conducted a well-planned and brilliantly executed defense-in-depth that held Sherman's juggernaut in check for two days. With his objective accomplished, Hardee disengaged and marched to concentrate his corps with Gen. Joseph E. Johnston for what would become Bentonville. This completely revised and updated edition of "No

Such Army Since the Days of Julius Caesar" is based upon extensive archival and firsthand research. It includes new original maps, orders of battle, abundant illustrations, and a detailed driving and walking tour for dedicated battlefield enthusiasts. Readers with an interest in the Carolinas, Generals Sherman and Johnston, or the Civil War in general will enjoy this book.

Another good book on the campaign is also by our guide and Mark Smith, "**To Prepare for Sherman's Coming: The Battle of Wise' Fork, March 1865**". In March of 1865 Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman was operating with nearly complete freedom in North Carolina on his way north to form a junction with Union forces in Virginia. The responsibility for ensuring a functioning railroad from New Bern to Goldsboro rested with Maj. Gen. Jacob D. Cox. On March 2, 1865, Cox ordered his hastily assembled Provisional Corps to march toward Goldsboro. In response to Cox's movement, Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston executed a bold but risky plan to divert troops away from Sherman by turning back Cox's advance. Under the command of the aggressive but controversial Gen. Braxton Bragg, the Confederates stood for four days and successfully halted Cox at Wise's Forks. This delay provided Johnston with the precious time he needed to concentrate his forces and fight the large and important Battle of Bentonville.

Eric Wittenberg's "**The Battle of Monroe's Crossroads**" is another good read. This book is the definitive account of this crucial and fascinating cavalry battle between Judson Kilpatrick's and Wade Hampton's troopers fought on March 10, 1865. This battle played a key role in the campaign. If all goes as planned, we will get to tour this battlefield on our field trip. It is located on the property of Fort Bragg and access is very limited.

Mark Bradley's "**The Battle of Bentonville: Last Stand in the Carolinas**" presents the campaign from both the Northern and Southern point of view and is also a comprehensive study of the entire campaign. This is a very good study that is well-written.

There is also an issue of the *Blue and Gray* magazine on the battle of Bentonville. As usual with this publication, there are excellent maps and contemporary photographs. Ironically, this was the last publication of the Blue and Gray before they ceased operations. You can purchase this issue by visiting their website at <https://blueandgraymagazine.com/2017/03/23/the-battle-of-bentonville-volume-32-6/>

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2020 Schedule

Saturday January 18	Kent Masterson Brown	"The Civil War: Kentucky's Mercurial Path"
Saturday February 15	Chris Kolakowski	"Civil War to World War: The MacArthurs And the Buckners"
Saturday March 14	Keith Bohannon	"James Longstreet and John Bell Hood"
Saturday April 18	Michael Parrish	"The Importance of Texas in the Civil War"
Saturday May 9	William C. Davis	"TBA"

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THE LOUISVILLE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

9TH ANNUAL BOURBON & BBQ FUND RAISER

13 JUNE 2020

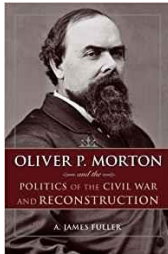
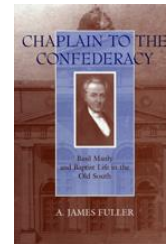
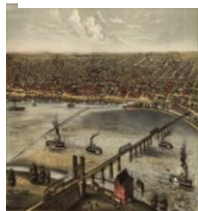
"DEVILS & SPIRITS OF KENTUCKIANA"

3:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

HISTORICAL PRESENTATION

"CHASING A CIVIL WAR SERIAL KILLER"

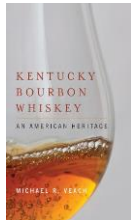
A. James Fuller, PhD



University of Indianapolis

HOOSIER WHISKEY TASTING PRESENTATION

Michael Veach



Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame Historian

BBQ RIBS & PULLED PORK SLOW COOKED BY CHEFS

ART BOERNER & MARC OCA

PLUS!

FIXIN'S, SAUCES, SIDES & DESSERTS

\$60.00* Member/\$70.00* Non-Member *non-refundable

COVERS FOOD, HISTORICAL &

INDIANA WHISKEY TASTING PRESENTATIONS



LIMITED SEATING**

*Reservations Required****

Phone: (502) 425-0325

**limited to 60 guest seats*

****payment guarantees seating*

After LCWRT May Meeting

\$65.00 Member

\$75.00 Non-Member

ON THE BANKS OF THE OHIO RIVER



MAIL CHECK TO

LCWRT

9462 Brownsboro Rd.

#142,

Louisville, KY. 40241

No credit cards

accepted

DECEMBER 2019 QUIZ:

1. What was the inscription on Mary Lincoln's wedding ring and what happened to it?
It was inscribed: "A.L. to Mary, Nov. 4, 1842. Love is Eternal." It was buried with her.
2. Who was the Civil War's only official Army photographer?
Captain Andrew J. Russell of Company F, 141st New York Volunteer Regiment developed an interest in and learned the process of photography. On March 1, 1863, he was removed from his regiment so he could photograph for the United States Military Railroad and the Quartermaster Corps.
3. Who was "Petroleum V. Nasby"?
This was the pseudonym for David R. Locke, one of President Lincoln's favorite humorist. Locke wrote the "Nasby Letters", which were supposedly written by a despicable Southern supporter but actually made fun of the Southern cause and were intended to rally support for the Union. The letters continued throughout the Civil War and into the Reconstruction Period.
4. Who were Shannon's Scouts?
It was an elite Confederate group of 20 to 30 men from a Texas cavalry and led by Captain Alexander May Shannon. Their mission was to harass Union General Sherman's army as it crossed Georgia.
5. What Union general bragged that his headquarters would be "in the saddle"?
Major General John Pope initially saw action in the Western Theater before President Lincoln brought him East in 1862 to command the Army of Virginia. He made that remark as part of his message to his new troops about how he would lead them. This didn't do him any good at the Second Battle of Bull Run/Manassas, where he was soundly defeated.

JANUARY 2020 QUIZ:

1. What was a "red badge of courage"?
2. In Washington, D.C., what building stands on the site where the commandant of Andersonville was hanged?
3. Before battle, what was the usual allotment of ammunition per man?
4. What was the salary of a Union chaplain?
5. What did the soldier do when he "foraged"?

The Quiz is prepared by Harriette Weatherbee.

Attest:

**John Davis
Adjutant**

By Order of:

**Marc Oca
President**