

Circular Memorandum #479

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May 14, 2016

Announcing Our 511th Meeting

"Louisville's German Immigrants in the Civil War"

Will be Presented by Joe Reinhart

DATE: Saturday, May 14

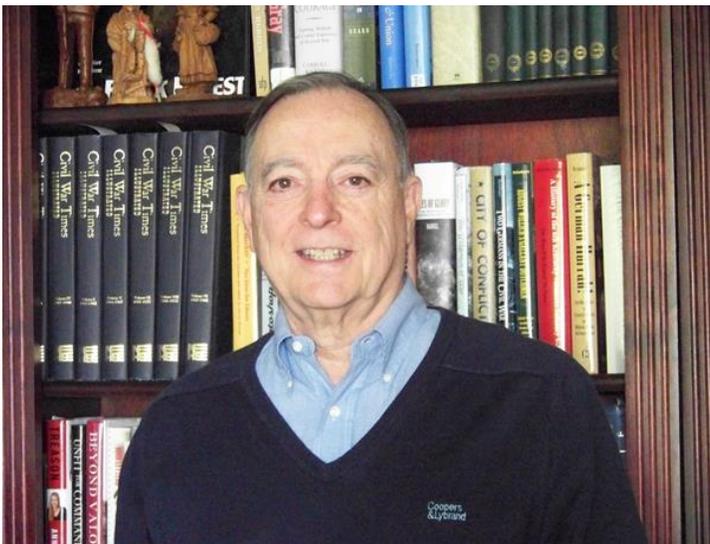
Location: Big Spring Country Club

COCKTAILS: 6:00 P.M.

DINNER (\$25.00): 7:00 P.M.

PROGRAM: 8:00 P.M.

Meet Our Speaker - Joe Reinhart



Joe Reinhart has been actively researching and writing about the Civil War for more than 20 years. He is the author of a history of the 6th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry Regiment U.S., and the editor of four books containing extensive collections of letters written by German-born soldiers that he has rescued from obscurity and translated into English. His most recent book is *Yankee Dutchmen under Fire: Civil War Letters from the 82nd Illinois Infantry* (2013). He is currently working on the manuscript for a book focusing on Louisville's Germans in the Civil War. He received the First Annual Immigrants' Civil War Award in 2014 from Long Island Wins. Joe is a Louisville native, a retired C.P.A. and earned

degrees from Bellarmine University and Indiana University. He is a long-time member of the Louisville Civil War Round Table and also maintains its website and Facebook page.

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Louisville's German Immigrants in the Civil War

Published histories of Louisville during the Civil War omit information about the contributions of its foreign-born population. This is unfortunate because in 1860 almost 30 percent of Jefferson County's population was born in other nations. There were almost 15,000 native Germans and 8,000 natives of Ireland in the mix. If you add these immigrants' children born in the United States who were still living with their parents, the percentage would rise to greater than 45 percent of the total population. Joe Reinhart will focus on Louisville's Germans during the Civil War, including their military service in terms of numbers, regiments and battles, their culture and political leanings, views on slavery, and conflicts with old-stock Americans.

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Books, Books, Books!!!

Joe will have the following books for sale at the meeting:

- Two Germans In The Civil War: The Diary of John Daeuble and the Letters of Gottfried Rentschler, 6th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry*
- A German Hurrah!: Civil War Letters of Friedrich Bertsch and Wilhelm Stangel, 9th Ohio Infantry*
- August Willich's Gallant Dutchmen: Civil War Letters from the 32nd Indiana Infantry*
- Yankee Dutchmen under Fire: Civil War Letters from the 82nd Illinois Infantry*
- Germans in Louisville: A History (Oct. 2015)*

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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. Please call or email **no later than Wednesday May 11**, 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.

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Vicksburg Field Trip



The bus left promptly at 6:00 A.M. Wednesday, April 17 for our destination of Vicksburg, Mississippi. For the next three days, we conducted a tour of the sites of U.S. Grant's campaign to wrest control of the Mississippi River from the Confederacy. Our guide was former Vicksburg park historian **Terry Winschel** who, just as he did in 2003, did a fantastic job of leading us through all the major sites and battles that led to the surrender of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863. We began our tour on the bluffs overlooking the mighty Mississippi River in one of the river forts on a grey and overcast Thursday. And for much of Thursday and all of Friday, we would be under cloudy skies

and rain. Friday brought a deluge to this part of Mississippi seldom seen and though it limited our time to get out of the bus and walk around, it did not dampen our enthusiasm and Terry just gave his commentary right there on the bus in some cases. But in other cases, we did venture out into the rain. On Friday, traveling down a narrow country road from Port Gibson to the battlefield at Raymond, our bus suddenly came to a stop just short of a bridge over a raging, rain swollen creek. There was a tree down on the bridge and we could go no further. There was no place to turn around and it looked like our excellent bus driver Scott, was going to have to back the bus down the way we came which was about two miles. Then fate intervened and suddenly a man appeared at the bus door with a chainsaw in hand and said if we would help him, he would cut the tree up and clear the bridge! The picture above shows how our members jumped at the chance to help and the fallen tree was tossed into the creek as fast as our friend could cut it up. He said he wished we were around to help him cut firewood. We offered our chainsaw wielding friend money for helping us, but he would not take it. Our heartfelt thanks had to suffice. We continued on our merry way to Raymond and then after lunch turned west toward Champion Hill. Here the decisive battle of the Vicksburg campaign was won by General Grant and his Union army and here our tour group faced its most challenging task since we climbed Bull Pasture Mountain in 1994. The rain was now coming down in sheets with no letup in sight as we approached the crossroads just below the now mud choked dirt path that led to the crest of Champion Hill. It was here 13 years ago that Monty Evans began to have strange pains in his chest as he journeyed up the crest. A few days later he was undergoing open heart bypass surgery. To Monty, this was a climb he had to make and damn the rain, he was going to make it! About 25 or so brave souls climbed out of the bus and began the mile long climb to the top in a driving rain led by our guide, Terry Winschel. Just like the real battle of Champion Hill, we began to take casualties almost immediately as we struggled through unbelievably thick mud. Every step was difficult. Some made it a third of the way and some halfway but then turned back. By now the path had become a river of mud and water rushing down the hill at us. But still some struggled on! By the time the second battle of Champion Hill had ended, eleven brave, some said stupid, troopers had made it to the top and returned. Soaked and covered in mud, they received much applause and congratulations upon their triumphant return to the bus!

Here are the honored names of those who made the "Champion Hill Mud March": first and foremost was Monty Evans who returned unharmed and in good health!; Holly Evans, Bryan Winslow, Cindy Winslow, Doug Krawczyk, Milt Koger, Jim Heflich, Steve May, Tom Lively, Clay Stuckey, and our intrepid guide, Terry Winchel. We concluded another great field trip on Saturday at the Kentucky Monument in Vicksburg National Park. I believe everyone who went had a great time and learned much and certainly had a trip they will not soon forget.

Here are Members of Our Tour at the Kentucky Monument



**Save This Date for 2017 Spring Field Trip
The Seven Days Battles**

We have confirmed next year's field trip to Richmond, Virginia to tour the Seven Days Battles with Bobby Krick, the former park historian for the Richmond National Battlefield Park. The dates will be **April 19 -23 2017**.

2016 Schedule

Saturday	May 14	Joe Reinhart	"Louisville's German Immigrants in the Civil War"
Saturday	September 10	Dennis Frye	"George B. McClellan: A Re-evaluation"
Saturday	October 8	Ethan Rafuse	"TBA"
Sunday	November 20	Bud Robertson	"The Four Legged Soldiers"

The Fifth Annual Bourbon and BBQ Set for June 11!

Once again the Louisville Civil War Round Table will hold a Bourbon and BBQ fund raiser event. This our fifth event will be held at Art Boerner's lovely home on the Ohio River on Saturday, June 11 beginning at 4:00. This event is sold out!! Special guests include Bourbon historian Michael Veach and former food critic of the Courier-Journal Susan Reigler! They have co-authored a book entitled "**Bourbon Tasting Notebook**". This year we will feature several different bourbons in our tasting and we will receive special instructions on how to taste great bourbons. We will have our usual great food featuring BBQ ribs and pulled pork (we promise not to run out this year) with sides, desserts, sauces etc. Those attending the event will receive directions to Art's and more detailed information about the Bourbon and BBQ by the River. The funds raised at this event will go to our funds for speaker expenses and our annual Preservation Grant.

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Work Day for Bourbon and BBQ Report

We had a great turnout on Saturday, April 23 to prepare the parking space for the June 11 Bourbon and BBQ. Thirteen hardy souls came out to Art Boerner's to clean the area next to the mighty Ohio River of driftwood and debris washed up during the spring rains. Twenty-one stacks of driftwood were piled up and with such a nice size crew we were able to get the job done in a couple of hours. Art had nine racks of ribs ready to reward those who had braved the traffic of Thunder Over Louisville to offer their service. Thanks to Clay Stuckey, Bryan Winslow, Doug Kremer, Steve Fleece, Ross Deatrack, Kevin Clark, Pat Kochert, Susie Schiller, Julie Bartlett, Mike Kurowski, John and Joy Davis, and Monty 'Chainsaw' Evans for a job well done! Without this effort, there would be no place to park the cars come June 11.

MAY 2016 QUIZ:

1. Which two future American presidents took part in the Third Battle of Winchester during the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign?
2. Who was the last surviving member of the Confederate government?
3. Who was supposedly Confederate General Jeb Stuart's favorite musician?
4. What was the Civil War soldier's most important item of equipment?
5. At what battle did Union General U. S. Grant break Confederate General R. E. Lee's line to capture Petersburg?

APRIL 2016 QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. Who were the last known Civil War veterans and when did they die?
According to the Department of Veteran Affairs, the last Confederate vet was Private Pleasant Riggs Crump of Alabama in 1951. The Union vet was drummer boy Albert Henry Woolson of Minnesota in 1956.
2. How long did Mary Lincoln remain in the White House following her husband's assassination?
She remained there for 40 days, finally leaving on May 22 or 23, 1865 for Chicago, Illinois.

3. Two officers who fought at the Battle of Perryville were fathers of significant World War II generals. Who were the fathers and sons?
Union 1st Lieutenant Arthur MacArthur was the father of General Douglas MacArthur. Confederate General Simon B. Buckner was the father of Lt. General Simon B. Buckner, Jr., who was killed by Japanese artillery on Okinawa on June 18, 1945.
4. Soldiers from how many states were present at the Battle of Perryville?
Soldiers from 21 different states were there: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin.
5. What American tradition was established by the United States government on April 22, 1864?
Congress passed the Coinage Act of 1864, causing the motto "In God We Trust" to be stamped on all United States coins. The first coin to get this motto was a bronze two-cent piece.

(The Quiz is prepared by Harriette Weatherbee)

Our Annual Preservation Grant

Our annual Preservation Grant will go to two worthy causes this year. The Civil War Trust will receive \$2000 which will be matched, for a total of **\$4000**, to help save crucial land at Perryville Battlefield. Also, \$500 will go to the Hart County Historical Society to purchase concrete and install three wayside markers along the Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve trails in Munfordville, Kentucky. The land at Perryville is one of the last major pieces of unprotected land at the battlefield, the largest and bloodiest battle fought in Kentucky. Preservation of this land is essential to the interpretation of the closing, climatic stages of the Battle of Perryville's northern flank. This land contains the most important man-made structure on the Perryville battlefield: the 430-foot long stone fence behind which Colonel John Starkweather's Union brigade finally stopped the advance of General Ben Cheatham's Confederate division. Go to www.civilwar.org/battlefields/perryville/perryville-2016 and you can read more about this very important action and how you can help preserve this crucial part of the Perryville Battlefield.

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Doris Kearns Goodwin Coming to Farmington July 23

DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN AT FARMINGTON...JULY 23rd. An Evening In the Garden with Doris Kearns Goodwin. This event features a presentation by noted historian, Presidential biographer (TEAM of RIVALS: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln), and Pulitzer Prize winning author on the ties of Lincoln and Farmington. Emceed by Dr. Thomas Mackey of the University of Louisville's Department of History and Kentucky's State Historian, James C. Klotter. A full seated dinner with open bar. \$225 per person. Ticket events at: www.farmingtonhistoricplantation.org. Dick Clements(LCWRT) @ 502-905-9835.

Attest:

**John Davis
Adjutant**

By Order of:

**Holly Evans
President**