



Circular Memorandum #482

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October, 2016

Announcing Our 513th Meeting

**"A Sucking Dove, the Snapping Turtle, and a Deep Game:
George Gordon Meade and the Fall 1863 Campaigns in Virginia"**

Will be Presented by Ethan Rafuse

DATE: Saturday, October 8

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 - Ethan Rafuse

Ethan S. Rafuse is a professor at the U.S. Army Command General Staff College. He grew up in northern Virginia, received his BA and MA degrees in history at George Mason University, and received his Ph.D. at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Since 2004 he has been a member of the faculty at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, where he is a professor of history. He has published over 300 articles, essays, and reviews, and is the author, editor, or co-editor of eleven books, including 'George Gordon Meade and the War in the East', 'Robert E. Lee and the Fall of the Confederacy, 1863-1865', and the 'Guide to the Richmond and Petersburg Campaigns of 1864-65'.



He taught Civil War and military history at the U.S. Military Academy in 2001-2003. He lives with his wife and daughter in Platte City, Missouri.

Here's a [list of books by Dr. Ethan S. Rafuse](#) available on Amazon.

George Gordon Meade and the Fall of 1863 Campaigns in Virginia

In the aftermath of his failed 1863 invasion of Pennsylvania, Robert E. Lee was convinced it would have at least one major benefit for his army. The damage the fighting at Gettysburg had inflicted on George G. Meade's Army of the Potomac, he believed, would render that force "quiet as a sucking dove" for at least six months. Lee was wrong. The "snapping turtle" and he would conduct a robust series of operations during the months that followed the armies' return

to the Rappahannock-Rapidan line after Gettysburg. The subject of this talk will be Meade and what he labeled the "deep game" his Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia played during the fall of 1863 and the engagements they produced at Bristoe Station and Mine Run. While none of these matched the scale or deadly grandeur of Antietam, Gettysburg, or the Wilderness, they did offer compelling illustrations of the larger dynamics that shaped the course and outcome of the war in the East. Indeed, it was testimony to what the Union commander achieved in those operations that by the end of 1863 Lee was openly wondering if he had become "too old to command this army."

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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 October 5**, 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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Help Spread the Word Through Social Media!

"A group that doesn't grow dies" according to one unnamed sage. So one topic that comes up a lot around our meetings is enlisting new members. We can't always get a full page article with photos in the Courier-Journal. We have to use the Internet to spread out and let people know we are here. Two items of interest: as a quick check on 9/9/16, I looked on Facebook and there were 30,565 people talking about Kentucky in the Civil War and 1,000 talking about Louisville in the Civil War. That's a lot of potential members out there. We currently have 365 followers on Facebook. If you aren't following Joe Reinhart's posts there, please do! When you see something of interest, like it and share it on your own feed. It's the easiest way to let people know your interest and connect with friends and family you may not realize are interested in the Civil War.

Next: Go to the LCWRT Blog, where we have started posting new photos in several series. This is separate content from Facebook or the Adjutant's Call. Charlie Moore is writing about American Civil War Monuments, and these are neat. Plus we have started the series Our Civil War Ancestors, featuring LCWRT members' ancestors who served in the war. Follow us there and you can share these on Facebook, too. And if you have a photo of your Union or Confederate ancestor, let me know - I'd love to feature him, (or her, if she enlisted in disguise).

The blog: <http://louisvillecivilwarroundtable.blogspot.com/>

We are also now on Pinterest and Instagram, if you prefer those to Facebook. If so, follow and like!

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/LouisvilleCWRT/boards/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/lcwrt/>

Why all this following and liking? Numbers are important. Pages and posts with responses generate more interest and make the organization appear more energetic and viable. It's all free, it's all easy and it's all quick. And it's a great way to help the Round Table continue to grow and engage new members.

What else can the membership do to help? I need photos, preferably digital, but physical ones can be scanned. Subjects we would like to feature include photos of Civil War battlefields, Civil War monuments, and Our Civil War Ancestors. For this last, I am looking for photos of soldiers, sailors or veterans with at least name, rank and if available, hometown. If you have photos you would be willing for us to use (I would be happy to do a photo credit) just let me know at montyholly@twc.com. Or come see me at a meeting!

Holly Jenkins-Evans

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2016 Fall Field Trip: The Battle of Richmond Kentucky

We will be traveling to Richmond, Kentucky this October 23 for a tour of the Richmond, Kentucky battlefield. Phil Seyfrit, battlefield historian and preservationist, will be our guide as we walk the ground where the August 29-30, 1862 battle took place. The battle was the second largest Civil War battle in Kentucky and was one of the most decisive and complete Confederate victories of the war. We will meet at the Battlefield Visitors Center at 9:30 and begin our tour. After touring the battlefield with Phil Seyfrit as our guide, we will make the short journey over to White Hall, home of abolitionist Cassius Clay for a tour. The cost of admission is \$7.00. Afterwards we will go to Hall's on the River for a late lunch and then return home. Lunch at Hall's is of course optional. Directions should be obtained from the internet.

There will be a sign up sheet at the October meeting. If you wish to go and cannot attend the October meeting, please send John Davis an email at johnd.davis@twc.com or call him at 502-759-1152.

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The Battle of Richmond Kentucky August 29-30, 1862

In Major General Kirby Smith's 1862 Confederate offensive into Kentucky, Brig. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne led the advance with Col. John S. Scott's cavalry out in front. The Rebel cavalry, while moving north from Big Hill on the road to Richmond, Kentucky, on August 29, encountered Union troopers and began skirmishing. After noon, Union artillery and infantry joined the fray, forcing the Confederate cavalry to retreat to Big Hill. At that time, Brig. Gen. Mahlon D. Manson, who commanded Union forces in the area, ordered a brigade to march to Rogersville, toward the Rebels. Fighting for the day stopped after pursuing Union forces briefly skirmished with Cleburne's men in late afternoon. That night, Manson informed his superior, Maj. Gen. William Nelson, of his situation, and he ordered another brigade to be ready to march in support, when required. Kirby Smith ordered Cleburne to attack in the morning and promised to hurry reinforcements (Churchill's division). Cleburne started early, marching north, passed through Kinston, dispersed Union skirmishers, and approached Manson's battle line near Zion Church. As the day progressed, additional troops joined both sides. Following an artillery duel, the battle began, and after a concerted Rebel attack on the Union right, the Yankees gave way. Retreating into Rogersville, the Yankees made another futile stand at their old bivouac. By now, Smith and Nelson had arrived and taken command of their respective armies. Nelson rallied some troops in the cemetery outside

Richmond, but they were routed. Nelson and some men escaped but the Rebels captured approximately 4,000 Yankees. The way north was open. (From civilwar.org)

2017 Spring Field Trip: The Seven Days Battles

We have confirmed next year's field trip, and it is to Richmond, Virginia to tour the Seven Days Battles with Bobby Krick, the former park historian for the Richmond National Battlefield Park. Bobby Krick did this field trip for us back in 1996 and did a superb job. Once again, we were able to obtain the services of the best possible

guide for the battlefields we will be visiting. The dates will be **April 19 -23, 2017**. We will have a lot more information about this exciting trip in the coming months.

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Fall Fund Raising Event - Bourbon Tasting

We are excited to announce a fall fund raising event which will include an afternoon of bourbon tasting with a special Civil War presentation for all LCWRT bourbon aficionados and those who aspire to be!

Date: Sunday, November 6th 2016

Time: 4:00 pm-6:00 pm

Event: Bourbon tasting directed by bourbon historian and author Mike Veach
Civil War presentation by historian Richard McMurray

Location: Westport Whiskey & Wine in their professional tasting room
Westport Village Shopping Center
1115 Herr Ln
Louisville, Ky. Phone: (502) 708-1313

Tasting: The *star attraction* for this event is a bottle of 1960 circa Rebel Yell. This bottle was given to our oldest member, Lowell Griffin, by the founder of the LCWRT, Frank Rankin.

It has never been opened. This vintage Rebel Yell was distilled by the former Stitzel-Weller distillery owned and operated by the Van Winkle family as in "Pappy Van Winkle" fame.

As critiqued by bourbon historian, Mike Veach, "*Stitzel-Weller Rebel Yell is a thing of stunning beauty. It's a lot like Stitzel-Weller Cabin Still, slightly lighter and sweeter than the dark tannin complexity of classic Stitzel-Weller Old Fitzgerald*".

Attendees will be tasting this Stitzel-Weller circa 1960 Rebel Yell against the current Rebel Yell distilled product. Also, in addition to the Rebel Yell tasting, there will be other Civil War themed bourbons.

As follows:

- "Battlefield Bourbon"- Small Batch distilled with "fresh spring water from the battlefield in Franklin".
- "Johnny Drum" Private Stock - a Willett distilled product from Bardstown, Ky. "*Johnny Drum Private Stock may not be a whiskey you've heard of, but it's one of the best hidden gem whiskies on the market*"
- "Burnside Double Barreled" An Oregon state distilled product. Aged and double barreled in Oregon Oak.
- "Rebellion"- a Willett distilled product from Bardstown, Ky. Aged for a minimum of eight years

- "Cassius Clay"- 100-proof whiskey ages for around 8 years in charred American oak

Presentation: Richard McMurray will be discussing Civil War personalities from the Western Theater.

Only two openings are still available! Don't delay if you wish to attend.

Cost: \$100 per person; \$75 LCWRT Patron Membership level

Due to having only this one bottle of the Stitzel-Weller, Rebel Yell, this event is limited to 24 reservations.

Guarantee of seat will only be assured by payment.

Payment is non-refundable.

After September 30th any unfilled seats will be open to the public.

Light hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

Contact: Doug Krawczyk doug.krawczyk@nortek.com (502) 592-6864

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2016 - 2017 Schedule

Saturday	October 8	Ethan Rafuse	"A Sucking Dove, the Snapping Turtle, and a Deep Game: George Gordon Meade and the Fall 1863 Campaigns in Virginia"
Sunday	November 20	Bud Robertson	"The Four Legged Soldiers"
Saturday	December 10	Chris Mackowski	"The Battle of Resaca"
Sunday	January 15	Peter Carmichael	"Following in the Footsteps of a Confederate Deserter: The Story of N. Carolina's John Futch"
Saturday	February 11	Brian Steele Wills	"General George Thomas"
Friday	March 17	William C. Davis	"The Confederate Kardashian--Loreta Velasques, Rebel Media Celebrity and Con Artist"
Saturday	April 8	Lee White	"TBA"
Saturday	May 13	"TBA"	"TBA"

SEPTEMBER 2016 QUIZ:

1. On what date and day of the week was the Battle of Antietam?

On Wednesday, September 17, 1862

2. Who were the six generals killed or mortally wounded during the Battle of Antietam?

The Confederates were:

Brig. General George B. Anderson of North Carolina
Brig. General Lawrence O'Brian Branch of North Carolina
Brig. General William E. Starke of Virginia

The Federals were:

Major General Joseph K. F. Mansfield of Connecticut
Major General Israel B. Richardson of Vermont
Major General Isaac P. Rodman of Rhode Island

3. After the Civil War, what did Union General George McClellan do?

He traveled to Europe for extended periods, served as an administrator for a number of engineering firms, and in 1878 was elected Governor of New Jersey, serving until 1881.

4. What was the largest Northern town to be occupied by the Confederate army?

It was York, Pennsylvania. During the Gettysburg Campaign, the division of Major General Jubal Early spent June 28 - 30, 1863, collecting food, supplies, clothing, shoes, and \$28,000 in cash from the citizens and merchants.

5. Which Confederate general was known as "Prince John" by his army friends?

This would be Major General John Bankhead Magruder, who was noted for his delaying actions during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign and for successfully defending Galveston, Texas on January 1, 1863.

OCTOBER 2016 QUIZ:

1. The Battle of Perryville was the final battle of what Civil War campaign?

2. Which Union general was relieved of command for his failure to beat the Confederates at Perryville?

3. Late in the Battle of Perryville, which Confederate general was caught behind enemy lines and had to bluff his way back to safety?

4. When did Abraham Lincoln first run for public office?

5. When did President Abraham Lincoln issue the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation?

Attest:

John Davis
Adjutant

By Order of:

David Deatrick
President