



Circular Memorandum #481

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September, 2016

Announcing Our 512th Meeting

**"The Question Was One of Supplies: The Logistics
for William T. Sherman's Atlanta Campaign"**

Will be Presented by Greg Biggs

DATE: Saturday, September 10

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 - Greg Biggs

Greg Biggs has been a student of military history for 50 years. His interests cover the ancient Greeks through modern military events with concentrations on the Revolutionary War, the wars of Frederick the Great, the Napoleonic era, the Civil War and World War 2. His primary focus on Civil War history is the war in the Western Theater. He has lectured all over the country to history, civic and Civil War groups since 1990 and began leading Civil War tours in 1993. Greg has had articles published in *Blue & Gray Magazine*, *North-South Trader*, the Civil War Trust's "Hallowed Ground," the Battle of Franklin Trust's "Battlefield Dispatch," *Civil War Regiments* journal and *Citizen's Companion* and several other publications. He has also written an essay for the book [The Tullahoma Campaign: The 1863 Civil War Struggle for Middle Tennessee.](#)

A Nationally known historian on Civil War flags, Greg has consulted for numerous museums, auctions house and private concerns as well as having written several articles and client essays on them. He has also contributed to books on Georgia's Civil War flags as well as those of Tennessee. He has lectured on flags at the Museum of the Confederacy and the Texas Civil War Museum as well as at conferences on flags and Civil War groups. Greg is a member of the Company of Military Historians and is president of the Clarksville, TN Civil War Roundtable, one of five he has founded or co-founded. He also programs the Nashville and Bowling Green CWRTs. Greg's wife Karel is a 7th grade teacher and they have four cats, all with Civil War names. They reside in Clarksville, TN.

The Question Was One of Supplies: Logistics for Wm. T. Sherman's Atlanta Campaign

No army in history moved without a secure line of supplies especially if it moved into enemy territory. If an army got cut off from its supplies then calamity usually followed often ending in defeat and/or destruction. When William T. Sherman set his sights on Atlanta he prepared for the supplying of his army in a manner that surpassed every other Civil War general. Rebuilding railroads and confiscating locomotives and rail

cars to haul supplies, Sherman set a daily goal for shipments to his forward base in Chattanooga. Ruthless in making sure that only supplies got on the cars, Sherman also had to worry about protecting the line of rails that ran back to Louisville, Kentucky from Confederate raiders. Building on a system begun by William S. Rosecrans, Sherman's engineers built forts and blockhouses and prepared pre-fabricated trestles for replacing those brought down by Confederate raiders. While his preparations were masterful and thorough, they were not without some flaws. This program will examine the nuts and bolts of these logistics and cover the errors that were also made. In the end, his supply line performed as expected and Atlanta was captured. This set the stage for two more campaigns that Sherman would undertake before the war ended in April 1865 as well as logistics for more modern wars.

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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 September 7**, 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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A Message From Our New President

Welcome to the 2016 - 2017 season for the Louisville Civil War Round Table. I am honored to be the President of our organization for the upcoming year. We are fortunate to have one of the premier Round Tables in the country and I am grateful for the opportunities for scholarship and fellowship which our organization provides.

We have an excellent year planned and hope that all of you can participate in the organization's activities. The Program Committee has worked hard to schedule interesting and informative programs for the year, which will include a visit this January by Peter Carmichael. Field trips are planned to visit the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky, in the fall, and in April, we will travel to Richmond, Virginia, to study the Seven Days Campaign, with noted historian, Bobby Krick. Also, we will be having the Bourbon & BBQ next June, as well as another bourbon tasting event in November. In all, an exciting and busy year is planned for the Round Table.

Let me express my appreciation for the hard work of the Board of Directors, the various committees which oversee the planning of events, the newsletter editor and his assistants, and all the other hard working men and women who make our organization run so smoothly.

I am anxious for another great year, and truly appreciate the opportunity to serve as President of the Louisville Civil War Round Table this year.

Dave Deatrck

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It is Time for Membership Renewals

Patron Memberships Are a Major Boost to the Round Table

If you have not renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible. If you decide to become a Patron member, any amount you give above the basic or family membership fee is tax-deductible since the Round Table has tax-exempt status as a 501 (c) (3) organization! Following is a description of four membership options from which you can choose. Please read carefully the following explanations so that you will understand what your choices are. First, you may choose a single membership. Your membership dues will be \$30 and this will allow you to attend all Round Table meetings and events. The second option is a family membership for \$35. Under this option, you may choose to add a spouse, son or daughter as a member. For each family member, the cost will be an additional \$5. For example, the cost for three family members would be \$40. A family is defined as anyone living in the same household. Thus, two brothers who live in the same house can join on a family membership. By choosing this option, the spouse or family member will be recognized as a member of the Round Table, will be eligible to be elected to the Board of Directors, can serve on committees appointed by the President, and will receive a name tag to wear at the meetings. The third option is a special category of membership called **Patron**, which was introduced in 1998 and has been a big success. This option allows members who so desire to make a contribution with their membership dues to the Round Table above the usual cost of membership. This is for members who want to make a financial gift because they believe the Round Table is a worthy organization and they wish to show their appreciation and insure its ongoing success. **Patron memberships start at \$55** and can include a family membership. Of course you can contribute more if you wish. Patron memberships provide no additional benefits to members but simply give the individuals the satisfaction of supporting our Round Table with a financial gift. The additional funds raised through this option will allow the Round Table to take a more active role in the Preservation of Civil War battlefields and sites and also help pay the costs of bringing the very best Civil War speakers to our meetings. A fourth option is a Student membership for \$10. If you are a student in high School, college, or graduate school, you qualify for a \$10 student membership. **Note: Please send your renewal check made out to LCWRT directly to Louisville Civil War Round Table, 9462 Brownsboro Road - #142, Louisville, Ky., 40241.**

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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.

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



2016 - 2017 Schedule

Saturday	September 10	Greg Biggs	"W.T. Sherman's Logistics for the Atlanta Campaign"
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	"TBA"
Saturday	February 11	Brian Steele Wills	"General George Thomas"
Friday	March 17	William C. Davis	"TBA"
Saturday	April 8	Lee White	"TBA"
Saturday	May 13	"TBA"	"TBA"

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 have more information about this trip at the September and October meetings as well as a sign-up sheet. There is no cost to attend this event.

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.

SUMMER 2016 QUIZ:

1. *Who was in charge of planning President Abraham Lincoln's funeral?*

George R. Harrington (1815-1892) was born in Massachusetts, had lived in Washington since 1842, and served as clerk for the Navy and later for the Treasury. In 1861 he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. In this capacity he planned the funeral.

2. *What did President Lincoln call his "greatest and most enduring contribution to the history of the war"?*

Lincoln told newspaper reporter James Scovel that the Emancipation Proclamation would be his greatest and most enduring contribution.

3. *What was the largest and costliest battle fought in the Shenandoah Valley?*

The Third Battle of Winchester, fought on September 19, 1864, involved more than 54,000 men, of which over 8,600 became casualties.

4. *Who made the official announcement to a joint session of Congress that Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin had been elected president and vice-president of the United States?*

On February 13, 1861, Vice-President John C. Breckinridge made the official announcement. Breckinridge, from Kentucky, later became a Confederate general.

5. *While on detachment in North Carolina early in 1864, Confederate General George E. Pickett ordered the hanging of how many prisoners of war and why were they hanged?*

Pickett ordered a total of 22 prisoners of war hanged in three separate hangings after he discovered that the Union prisoners were actually former Confederate soldiers who had switched sides.

SEPTEMBER 2016 QUIZ:

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

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

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

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

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

Attest:

**John Davis
Adjutant**

By Order of:

**David Deatrick
President**