



Circular Memorandum #517

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Summer 2020

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A Message from Incoming President Dave Hoffmann

Greetings to All

I am honored to serve as your president for the upcoming 2020-2021 year. My interest in the Civil War extends from my youth when my parents gave me a book, the title of which I have long forgotten, but it had pictures of battles which fascinated a young mind. As it turned out, my hometown in Iowa (Dubuque) has a rich Civil War history, and I had the great fortune to work in a museum in town as a summer job, and was able to work with the relics (flags, weapons, badges, etc.) of units from our area which included the Governors Greys of Wilsons Creek fame.

My family history includes 11 Civil War soldiers (all Federal), two of which were killed, one at Shiloh and one at Resaca. My great-great grandfather served with the 3rd Missouri (Federal) at Wilsons Creek and got out as soon as his 30-day enlistment was over. Returning to St. Louis he eventually moved to Iowa and became a partner, and head brewer, of a small-town brewery. It becomes obvious from this where my interest in the Civil War, and beer, comes from.

We are currently in a very unprecedented and uncertain time that, I dare say, none of us were planning on. But we all are dealing with these events as best we can.

Your Board of Directors of the LCWRT are working with Big Springs Country Club and with our great line-up of guest speakers as to how we need to proceed through all this uncertainty. Rest assured, the LCWRT will continue on as one of the best round tables in the country and we will resume our monthly meetings with our great members and speakers as soon as possible.

"If you do not know where you have been you have no idea where you should go." Bud Robertson (to his students).

Why Our Roundtable Is Important

We are approaching the start of our 59th year and what once promised to be a year of great speakers and events for us is now filled with uncertainty. We are now experiencing and seeing things that we could not have imagined back in January when Kent Masterson Brown gave us a stirring talk on Kentucky and the Civil War. The covid-19 or corona virus pandemic was suddenly on us and we had to cancel our April and May meetings and

our field trip to North Carolina and finally, what was to be the 9th annual Bourbon and BBQ. Now, we are experiencing a second wave of the virus just as we are getting close to the start of a new season in September. As our new President, Dave Hoffmann said, your Board of Directors is doing everything they can to get our meetings and events going again. But your safety is at the top of the list of our concerns. We cannot resume our meetings until Big Spring gives us the go ahead and as of the publishing of this newsletter, they are still waiting until they feel it is safe to give us the green light to meet. When we do meet, there may be restrictions on the number of members who can attend, and the food arrangements could also change. We will know a lot more in August and will let pass this information on to you. Rest assured that we are determined to get things going again as soon as we possibly can.

The other major developments that have taken place recently are the protests, riots, and efforts to attack American history and culture that most of us would not have believed possible a few months ago are now almost a daily occurrence. There is no need to go into the details because I know you are all aware of the things that are occurring. I mention this because it is now more important than ever that those of us who value our history must continue to do so. As stated in our by-laws, "The purpose of the Louisville Civil War Round Table, Inc. is to study all aspects of the American Civil War and to promote the interchange of knowledge about it." By studying, reading, and learning from great historians and speakers about this crucial time in our history, we insure that the sacrifices of those "who gave the last full measure" should not be forgotten or devalued and their memory forgotten. That is why I hope you will renew your membership and stay the course with us. We will come back and provide you with the very best in speakers, field trips, the Bourbon and BBQ, and yes, the fried chicken will return! We want to thank the 64 patron memberships we had last year! Your contribution is especially important to us. If you are not a patron, please consider becoming one.

It is Time for Membership Renewals

Patron Memberships Are a Major Boost to the Round Table

The annual membership fees of the Round Table are now due and there is good news! Once again, we are not raising any of our membership fees. And even more good news, 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 ensure 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 middle school, 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.**

To Summarize the Options:

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|---------------------------------|-------|--|
| Option One: Regular Membership | \$30 | Basic membership. |
| Option Two: Family Membership | \$35 | A spouse or family member living at the same address can also join +\$5 for each additional family member. |
| Option Three: Patron Membership | \$55+ | Membership with tax-deductible gift to LCWRT. |
| Option Four: Student Membership | \$10 | Student membership. |

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We Wish to Recognize and Thank the 2019-2020 Patron Members!

- Win Ahrens
- Jerry & Sharon Armstrong
- John Bellucci
- John & Faris Bilby
- Stephanie Blair
- Art Boerner
- Bob & Judy Bortner
- Bob & Beverly Braverman
- Les & Janet Brooks
- Wm. Bryant "Rusty" Brown
- Doug Butler & Jamie Jarboe
- David & Sandra Cheatham
- Kevin Clark
- Katie & Jordan Conlee
- John & Joy Davis
- Dave & Penny Deatrck, Jr.
- Ken & Melissa Draut
- Bud Durnil
- Monty & Holly Jenkins Evans
- David & Patricia Ezell
- Jim & Rose Marie Fishback
- Steve & Pam Fleece
- James & Sherry Forrester
- Otis & Lois Fox
- Paul Fridell & Alex Rohleder
- Sid & Sherry Gamertsfelder
- Dale & Donna Gettelfinger
- Dan Griffith
- Len Gross & Emily Durrett
- Larry & Mary Lou Hall
- Dave & Sue Hoffmann
- Jack & Virginia Holt, Jr.

- John & Mary Jefferson
- Al & Janet Jozik
- Mike & Cynthia Kirkland
- Janet Klein
- Ted & Virginia Kozark
- Doug & Margaret Krawczyk
- Doug Kremer
- Carl & Deena Kuhl
- Tom Lively & Suzanne Givan
- Thomas Mackey & Kelly Kane
- John & Jo Mader
- Bob & Linda Marrett
- Don & Peggy Meyer
- Charlie & Tish Moore, Sr
- Marc & Jill Oca
- Paul & Brenda Posey
- Terry Pyles
- N. Clark Rehtin
- Joe & Virginia Reinhart
- Kerry Short
- Kurtz Wayne Simmons
- Jim & Carol Simpson, III
- John & Katie Stites
- Clay & Jo Stuckey
- John Thomas
- Charlie Turner
- Noel Walker & Jack Walker
- Harriette Weatherbee
- Gregory & Jessie Weigel
- Bryan & Cindy Doyle Winslow
- Jack & Peggy Wood
- Herb Zimmerman

9th Annual Bourbon & BBQ Update

Though we have had to cancel this year's Bourbon and BBQ, there is some good news. Doug Krawczyk has confirmed with James Fuller concerning the cancellation of the 9th Annual LCWRT B&BBQ. "I asked Jim if he would be available next year to give his "Man Devil" presentation with the theme still being "Devils & Spirits of Kentuckiana". Jim replied, "Yes, put me down for next June!". So, though we are announcing the cancellation of this year's event, all is not lost! You will have the opportunity to hear the sordid and salacious tale of the Civil War era serial killer, "Man Devil" along with a shot of "Devil's Cut" next June. Forgiveness will be had with a snort of "Angle's Envy".

Cheers,
Doug

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2020 - 2021 Schedule

Friday September 11	TBA	"TBA"
Friday October 9	Wayne Motts	"Trust in God and Fear Nothing: Confederate General Lewis A. Armistead"
Sunday November 17	Gary Ecelbarger	"The Battle of Atlanta, July 22, 1864"
Saturday December 7	Eric Wittenberg	"Stuart's Ride in the Gettysburg Campaign"
Saturday January 16	Kent Masterson Brown	"Lee's Retreat From Gettysburg"
Saturday February 13	Robert Lee Hodge	"TBA"
Saturday March 13	Gordon Rhea	"TBA"
Saturday April 10	Tim Smith	"TBA"
Saturday May 8	TBA	"TBA"

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Spring Field Trip 2021 - Gettysburg!

Here is some good news, we are scheduled to go to Gettysburg next spring **April 21-25, 2021!** Mark your calendars now and start studying and reading. If you are bored and want something to do, there are only about 10,000 or so books on the battle of Gettysburg to choose from. As Gary Gallagher has said in his first book of essays on the Battle of Gettysburg, "the literature on the Battle of Gettysburg dwarfs that devoted to any other military operation in American history." Our guide will be **James Hessler**, a veteran of 20 plus years of giving tours at Gettysburg as a licensed guide. He recently conducted tours at Gettysburg for the Lincoln Forum and has an impressive resume. We will start taking signups this fall.

The Emerging Civil War Website

I urge all of you to subscribe to the Emerging Civil War website! Lots of great articles and news and yes, its free. Just logon to <https://emergingcivilwar.com/> and enter your email address and you will get timely articles and news. Recently, **Chris Mackowski** posted the following article on the removal of statues from battlefield parks.

From the Emerging Civil War Website:

Removal of Confederate Monuments from National Parks?

Posted on [July 15, 2020](#) by [Chris Mackowski](#)

A reader sent to me yesterday a copy of [the proposed 2021 appropriation for the Department of the Interior](#), which includes the National Park Service, and he called to my attention to an item on pg. 160 of the appropriation:

REMOVAL OF CONFEDERATE COMMEMORATIVE WORKS 7 SEC. 442.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law or policy to the contrary, within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the National Park Service shall remove from display all physical Confederate commemorative works, such as statues, monuments, sculptures, memorials, and plaques, as defined by NPS, Management Policies 2006, 9.6.1.

Hmmm, I thought. Does that mean what I think it means? I sent out a few inquiries to some history people in the know and also set to work poking around on my own. First, I looked up the NPS's "[Management Policies 2006](#)" to find out how the Park Service defines commemorative works. Here's what section 9.6.1 says: *the term "commemorative work" means any statue, monument, sculpture, memorial, plaque, or other structure or landscape feature, including a garden or memorial grove, designed to perpetuate in a permanent manner the memory of a person, group, event, or other significant element of history.*

One section I found particularly interesting was section 9.6.4, "Preexisting Commemorative Works." It offers the kind of historical perspective that's useful right now:

Many commemorative works have existed in the parks long enough to qualify as historic features. A key aspect of their historical interest is that they reflect the knowledge, attitudes, and tastes of the persons who designed and placed them. These works and their inscriptions will not be altered, relocated, obscured, or removed, even when they are deemed inaccurate or incompatible with prevailing present day values. Any exceptions from this policy require specific approval by the Director.

Two phrases in particular jumped out at me there: "they reflect the knowledge, attitudes, and tastes of the persons who designed and placed them" and "These works...will not be altered, relocated, obscured, or removed, even when they are deemed inaccurate or incompatible with prevailing present day values." This seems like a definite, deliberate attempt to guard history against presentism.

As I read the proposed appropriation, it would, as legislation, supersede the agency's policy, although I don't know enough about these sorts of legislative affairs to be sure. "It is pending," one colleague said in reply to my query. "The Senate has not considered the legislation yet. I see no chance of that provision surviving the Senate...."

The monument fever that swept the nation last month has finally seemed to quiet down, at least for now, although some folks are concerned that the fight has just shifted to other fronts (just ask Washington formerly-known-as-Redskins fans). Of specific concern have been monuments in national parks and battlefields. Battlefields, which serve as outdoor museums, provide perfect context for statues, monuments, and memorials. Those artifacts, in turn, help visitors understand and appreciate those battlefields.

Although monuments on battlefields have been targeted by vandals, the Park Service itself has steadfastly maintained that the monuments will remain up. I'm reminded of a simple statement I saw on Gettysburg National Military Park's website, [on a page devoted to Confederate monuments](#): "The NPS will continue to provide historical context and interpretation for all of our sites and monuments in order to reflect a fuller view of past events and the values under which they occurred."

I've thought, *No way would anyone take down monuments from National Parks.* But as the proposed appropriation suggests, *someone somewhere is thinking of it.* Even if the provision gets removed, it remains a shot across the bow. I have to eat my hat a little bit, and I'm not ashamed to say it.

I can't even imagine the cost that would be involved in removing Confederate monuments and markers from national battlefields. Whatever the price tag, spending that money when the NPS has amassed [an \\$11.6 billion dollar backlog of deferred maintenance](#) makes me queasy.

The proposed appropriation is pending, open for revision and amendment, so I'll try and keep my eye on how things pan out as the legislation moves forward. If you're interested in or concerned about monuments, you might want to keep an eye on it, too.

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SPRING 2020 QUIZ:

1. What was known as Black Easter?
That was the Easter Sunday after President Lincoln's death.
2. Who was probably the head pallbearer at President Lincoln's funeral?
General Ulysses S. Grant served in that position.
3. In what city was John Wilkes Booth eventually buried?
In 1869 his remains were released to his family, and he was buried in the Booth family plot in Green Mount Cemetery in Baltimore, Maryland.
4. Who invented the minie ball?
It was invented by Captain Claude-Etienne Minie of the French Army, who also invented the French Minie rifle.
5. What facial hair was named after a Union general?
Sideburns were named after General Ambrose Burnside, who was known for his unusual facial hairstyle.

SUMMER 2020 QUIZ:

1. Who was the youngest man to be appointed a full general in the Confederate Army?
2. When General Robert E. Lee retreated toward Appomattox in April 1865, whose army was he trying to reach?
3. Who preceded Abraham Lincoln as United States president?
4. Who were the Copperheads?
5. Which side won the Seven Days Campaign?

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Attest:
John Davis
Adjutant

By Order of:
Dave Hoffmann
President