



The Cleveland Civil War Round-Table
P.O. Box 18900, Cleveland, Ohio 44118

THE CHARGER

Vol. 18 #9

352nd Meeting

May, 1997

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

40th Anniversary Celebration

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE DAN ZEISER
MASTER OF CEREMONIES J. E. T. TIRPAK
SPECIAL MUSIC DARLENE HAIGHT
THE EARLY YEARS CHARLES CLARKE, JR.
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE & SPECIAL REMEMBRANCES . . .
. ROBERT E. BATTISTI

THE CHARGER BRIAN KOWELL
THE STATE OF THE ROUND-TABLE TODAY DAN ZEISER
SPECIAL AWARDS . . .
SPECIAL MUSIC CLOSING . . .

FOUNDING MEMBERS

KENNETH S. GRANT
JOHN W. CULLEN, JR.
WILLIAM L. SCHLESINGER
CHARLES CLARKE
ROY H. SMITH, JR.
GEORGE FARR, JR.
E. PRESTON RUTTER
WILLIAM J. GAUL
GORDON B. TATUM
WILLIAM D. HUGHES

*Date: May 15, 1997
(Note, This is a Thursday)*

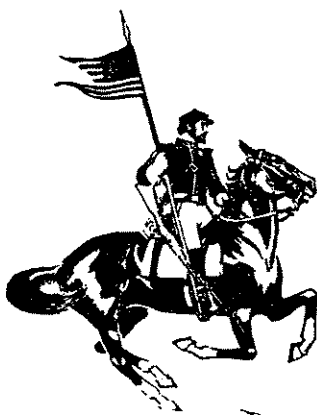
Place: The Hermit Club

*Time: Drinks 6 PM
Dinner 7 PM*

*Reservations: Please call
JAC Business Communications
at 861-5588.*

The Cleveland
Civil War Round-Table
1957 1997

40
years



President: **Dan Zeiser**
Vice President: **John Moore**
Secretary: **Dick Crews**
Treasurer: **Bob Boyda**

Editor of the **THE CHARGER**
Dick Crews
3673 Traver Rd.
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122
(216) 752-9961 (800) 800-8310

Published by **JAC Communications**
Hanna Bldg, Cleveland, Ohio
(216) 861-5588
John & Anne Caputo

The Cleveland Civil War Round-Table meets normally on the second Wednesday of each month from September through May. The Round-Table also sponsors a Fall field trip each year to a selected Civil War site.

Dues are \$35.00 per year.

Membership information can be obtained from Secretary:
Dick Crews (216) 752-9961 or (800) 800-8310

Past Cleveland C.W.R.T. Presidents

1996	John Sutula	1976	Milton Holmes
1995	Norton London	1975	Thomas Gretter
1994	Robert E. Battisti	1974	Nolan Heidelbaugh
1993	Kevin Callahan	1973	Arthur Jordan
1992	Bob Baucher	1972	Bernard Drews
1991	Joe Tirpak	1971	Kenneth Callahan
1990	Ken Callahan Jr.	1970	Frank Schuhle
1989	Neil Gleaser	1969	Donald Heckamen
1988	Martin Graham	1968	Frank Moran
1987	George Vourloziaris	1967	William Schlesinger
1986	Tim Beatty	1966	Donald Hamill
1985	Brian Kowell	1965	Lester L. Swift
1984	Neil Evans	1964	Guy DiCarlo, Jr.
1983	William Victory	1963	Paul Guenther
1982	William Harkness	1962	Edward Downer
1981	Thomas Geschke	1961	Charles Clarke
1980	Charles Spiegler	1960	Howard Preston
1979	William Bates	1959	John Cullen, Jr.
1978	Richard McCrae	1958	George Farr, Jr.
1977	James Chapman	1957	Kenneth Grant

Calendar of Events

May 15, 1997 - (Note this is a Thursday)

40th Birthday Celebration

June 4, 1997 (Note this is the 1st Wednesday)

Special Meeting

**Gettysburg
Fall Field Trip 1997
Sept 25 - 28**

**Spring Field Trip
May 10, 1997
Lakeview Cemetery**

Words from The General...

The 1996 - 1997 CCWRT Directory will be reprinted. There were several names which were inadvertently missing. JAC Communications has graciously agreed to reprint the directories and will send them out to all members.

General Joe "J.E.T." Tirpak

Reservations are a must ! Call (216) 861- 5588.

MEMORIES OF FORTY YEARS OF THE ROUND TABLE

By Paul Schildt

Forty years of membership in the Round Table, not as a charter member but as a member from the second meeting, bring back many memories and these memories are 99 per cent good ones. The members have had varied backgrounds and occupations but seem to have a common characteristic in that all have an interest in history and in human nature and human events- and one should mention also a certain sense of humor about tragic events. What could be more tragic than good people of a nation founded upon the principles of liberty and justice killing one another for four years over a lack of understanding? Speaking of a sense of humor, how helpful that faculty is when one reads about Generals George

B. McClellan, Benjamin Butler, and Braxton Bragg. So, a salute to the membership of the Civil War Round Table over the past forty years. **They have been great.**

Dr. Thomas Knickerbocker introduced me to the Round Table. Tom was born in Texas and educated in Tennessee and was partial to the Southern cause and to Robert E. Lee. At one early meeting he participated in a panel of four members who discussed whom they considered the 'best' and the 'worst' General Officer of the two sides. Tom discussed General Lee as 'the best' and General Grant as the 'worst' and then apologized to me on the way home in deference to my respect for Grant. He said it was necessary for him to be partial to the area of his origin.

For a time in the past there was a friendly rivalry for membership between the lawyers and the physicians. When new members were introduced and the word 'lawyer' was used the doctors all groaned aloud: when the new member turned out to be a doctor the lawyers called out in unison, "Oh, God, not another doctor!" Peace seems to have prevailed.

A memorable President was Ned Downer, who was the Registrar at Western Reserve University. He was always very much a gentleman and was primarily interested in the Civil War as an Historian, relating always the number of troops from this area and from that area in this and that battle with great accuracy. On one field trip some members who were cavalry veterans began (after dinner and a few drinks) to sing some rather ribald songs- and Ned ambled off to bed mumbling about the need for more intellectuality in the group. He said that the study of the Civil War was a serious undertaking.

At that time the Round-Table had a member (who shall remain nameless) who was elderly and "rough cut" and who had been with General Pershing in Mexico- with photos of himself and the General to prove it. He was quite often out-spoken and his dinner often consisted of very little food and a quadruple shot of Jack Daniels in a water glass- which added to his ability to speak out. A visiting speaker was speaking to "Civil War prison Camps" and expressed the mild opinion that certain Northern prison camps such as Elmira, New York and Johnson's Island were almost as bad as Andersonville, Georgia. At the conclusion of the speech, our out-spoken member jumped up and declared in a loud voice, "I wish to protest those statements of the speaker of the evening". Ned Downer, who was presiding~ said, "Sir, your protest is duly recorded." Ned rapped his gavel sharply and then said in a loud voice, "**MEETING ADJOURNED!**" We were all heartened by this neat solution of what might have been a bad situation.

Dr. Bill Schlesinger, who was a classmate of mine in medical school, was a great president of the Round Table. On "Ladies Night" Bill made a slightly ribald remark(much more acceptable socially than what one hears on TV these days) and his wife looked slightly askance at him. Bill grinned out at the audience and said, "Later tonight we will have what we call 'A Moment of Truth' at our house". And his wife grinned also at the audience and nodded her approval of his statement. What a wonderful testimonial to a marriage that lasted well more than fifty years.

Memorable also was Dr. David Wood's impersonation of Edwin M. Stanton in costume. He makes it 50 realistic that one hopes he might be persuaded to repeat it some day. Member Charley Clark made several presentations whose excellence made them worthy of a repeat- and many other members proved that 'home grown' speakers are as good as imported ones.

Truly, it has been a worthwhile forty years.

Paul Schildt



1957

40 years

1997

October 12, 1956

PLANS FOR A CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

For some time, we have talked about a Cleveland Civil War Round Table, one that would be patterned after similar groups in other large cities. Those of us who enjoy a discussion of the various phases of the "War Between The States" are of the belief that such an organization would receive strong support from "experts" in this area. As you are probably aware, there are Round Tables in some 17 cities across the country and, further, that with the Centennial immediately ahead of us that this number will undoubtedly grow and grow.

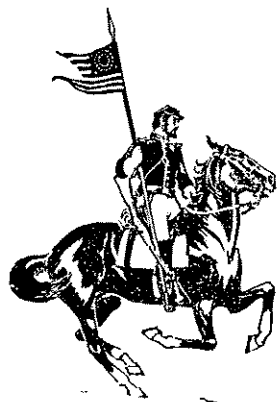
The pattern of Round Table operation in other cities has been a monthly dinner meeting and for the most part restricted to male attendance. Whether or not ladies should be included in the Cleveland group is a question that should be decided, we've had inquiries from several individuals along that line.

The program for the meetings has invariably featured a speaker on some phase of the "War Between The States". We do not consider the arranging of programs a problem as we have some authorities right here in Cleveland and recognized out-of-town speakers can be had at a reasonable fee. Several of our prospective members already belong to the Chicago Civil War Round Table and will be of help to us in getting our group off to a fast start.

Please keep in mind that our thinking with regard to the Cleveland Civil Round Table is in embryo form. That a Round Table will be established is definite, it's up to you and others to decide the pattern to be followed.

At the moment, we are trying to get together a small group to meet early in November and for a discussion of the above. We'd like to have you indicate whether you would be interested and we'd also like to have the names and addresses of others who might be invited to come in once the framework of the organization is decided on.

Any questions in connection with this proposal can be answered by Kenneth S. Grant, 19405 Purnell, Rocky River, Ohio ('phone - EDison 1-4969) or John W. Cullen, Jr., 3121 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland 15, Ohio ('phone EXpress 1-7940).

**1966**

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P. O. BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44101

DECEMBER 1966

Vol. 10 No. 3

81st Meeting

DATE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1966

SPEAKER: HOWARD K. PRESTON

SUBJECT: "CIVIL WAR HUMOR & POST WAR HUMOR"

PLACE: HERMIT CLUB, DODGE COURT

PRELIMINARIES: 6 PM DINNER: 7 PM

HOWARD K. PRESTON

Our December speaker is one of our own. Howard is a feature writer for the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Many of us have in the past enjoyed Howard's column and will do so in the future.

Howard is one of our charter members and a Past-President of our Roundtable. It is with great pleasure that we finally get this honored member to give us a talk.

Howard's subject is "Civil War Humor & Post War Humor" but I understand it also had another title which might give us an insight into exactly what sort of evening we can expect...The title? This could only be Howard's...."Why I gave up the stage by John Wilkes Booth" In his presentation Howard will be ably assisted by our Program Chairman-Vice President Frank "Pat" Moran and member William Victory. Have a ball fellas.

82nd Meeting

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1967

SPEAKER: RT. REV EDWARD J. O'BRIEN, S.J.

SUBJECT: "CINCINNATI DURING THE CIVIL WAR"

1966Note what dinner cost

THE CLEVELAND BULLETIN BOARD

DINNER RESERVATIONS

Nothing like beating a subject to death...however we want to impress on the membership the importance of mailing in your dinner reservations. We're improving...the scoreboard...October 11, and November 18...each month's actual attendance was between 35-40 men. It takes but a moment when you get the newsletter to write the check and use the stamped envelope.

There is still some confusion as to the \$5 or \$6 cost..Very very simply it is this...If you pay by check it is \$5.00....If you have n check and pay by cash it will cost you \$6.00. We are trying to get everyone to give us checks..not cash..but checks. So you can pay at the door by check and pay only \$5.00.

If your decision to attend can be made only at a time too late for mailing your check, please do not hesitate to come on this accu Call Don Heckaman at 436-2172.

CIVIL WAR HISTORY QUARTERLY

This is an out and out public attempt to get the membership to subscribe and for many of us to renew our subscriptions to the CIVIL WAR HISTORY QUARTERLY. For the benefit of our new members this is a publication from the University of Iowa that is fantastic reading. I is a must for Civil War buffs. Under a special arrangement for all Civil War Roundtables the cost is \$4.00 per year. An application blank will be enclosed soliciting your dues and subscription. Please avail yourself of the opportunity.

NEW MEMBERS

The roundtable wishes to announce the acceptance of the following men as regular members. Congratulations and welcome.

Judge Earl R. Hoover, 3356 Grenway Rd., Cleveland Ohio
Mr. Meredith B. Colket, 2263 Lamberton Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 441
Mr. Alan J. Kline, 1423 Lorimer Road, Parma, Ohio

As you will note Judge Hoover was our speaker for October, and his son Richard at one time was a junior member of the Roundtable. Mr. Colket is a director of the Western Reserve Historical Society. Last but not least we have Al Kline another member of the Cleveland Plain Dealer. The boys from the Plain Dealer are becoming as numerous as the attorneys and physicians. Welcome anyhow Al.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING

It can be said without objection that the members added greatly to their store of knowledge. A moving and most eloquent address on the life of one of Ohio's greatest sons, Benjamin R. Hanby, often called the Stephen Foster of Ohio, held the audience enthralled.

"...the life of this young Ohio composer was one of the vital, exciting ones that challenged the American scene a hundred years ago...I challenge you to listen and not be inspired by this amazing life. We excepted the challenge and listened and were inspired by his exploits and accomplishments. Thank you Judge Hoover.

THE COURIER
of
THE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE OF CLEVELAND, OHIO
FOUNDED FEBRUARY 19, 1957

1966

Christmas

PRESIDENT Dr. WM. SCHLESINGER
VICE PRESIDENT. FRANK A. MORAN
SECRETARY GUY DI CARLO JR.
TREASURER DONALD A. HECKAMAN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

TERMS EXPIRING 1967: WM. HUGHES
PIERCE O'CONNOR
1968: JOHN W. CULLEN JR.
FRANK SAXTON

EDITOR, NEWSLETTER. .GUY DICARLO JR...BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO

SILENT NIGHT

Silent Night, Shadowy Night	Silent Night, Mystical Night
Purple Dew, Starry Light	Kings and seers sought the Light.
Pouring splendor of centuries down	Where the watch of the shepherd is kept.
Gold and purple, a glorious Crown.	Heavenly Hosts through the stillnes have swept.
Where the Manger so rude and wild	Clear, proclaiming a Savior born,
Cradled a sleeping Child	Singing on Christmas morn.

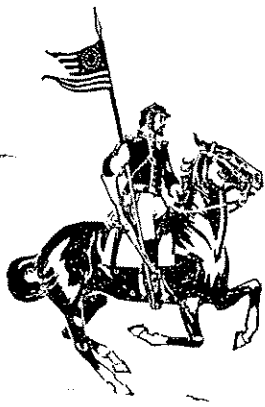
Holy Night, Hearalding Dawn
Far and Near breaks the morn,
Breaks the day when the Savior of Men,
Bringing pardon and healing again;
Holy, Harmless, and Undefined,
Cometh a little Child.

Brought home from the Civil War by Jones McCormick of Clarion, Pennsylvania. He learned these verses when he was a prisoner in Andersonville prison during the war. He weighed only 20 pounds when he came home, but he lived to be 85 years old. He was also a prisoner in Libby prison. Mr. McCormick was an Uncle of Mrs. George J. Urban, 4518 Ardendale Road, South Euclid, Ohio.

CIVIL WAR HUMOR

Fredericksburg, Va.
December 13, 1862

A wounded Union soldier being carried off the field was asked by the regimental chaplain, "Was it not a consolation in the midst of perils encompassing you to know that thee were supported by Divine Grace?" To which the soldier replied, "I don't know about Divine Grace, but we got good support from the Irish Brigade."



1977

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P. O. BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44101

FEBRUARY, 1977

Vol. 20 No. 6

----- 169th Meeting -----

Date: Tuesday, February 8th
Speaker: Mark E. Neely, Jr.
Subject: "Lincoln, the Constitution, and the Union"
Place: The Hermit Club, Dodge Court
Preliminaries: 6:00 P.M. Dinner: 7:00 P.M.

WAS "HONEST ABE" A "FACIST PIG" ??? No way says our speaker who says he will prick the balloon of Lincoln's alleged "dictatorship". Mr. Neely believes that constitutional questions are the important ones about every presidency. So he will address the question of whether Lincoln was more a nationalist than a humanitarian. Neely will also discuss the "civil libertarian" anti-Lincoln rhetoric, and compare Lincoln to Jefferson Davis on a constitutional basis rather than the usual analysis of their relative military abilities.

Mark E. Neely, Jr. received his B.A. and his Ph.D at Yale. He is Director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation's library and museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana. It houses one of the world's leading collections of books, manuscripts, letters and memorabilia about our 16th President.

* * * * *

Nota Bene: If you are unable to attend the dinners, you are always welcome to be present for the talk which starts at 8PM.

1977

We just learned of the death this past week of Al Narwold. He was a long time member of the Roundtable and, until recently, a regular and enthusiastic participant in Roundtable affairs. We will miss him.

CLEVELAND CWRT NO LONGER A TEENAGER

This month marks the twentieth birthday of our Roundtable as it was founded on February 19, 1957. Of the charter members, the following are still members: Neville Bayless, Charles H. Brown, Raymond Channock, Charles Clarke, John Cullen, Harrison Frost, George Hoagland, William Hughes, Howard Preston, William Schlesinger, Nick Stuffer and Gordon Tatum. (The last two are now out of town members.)

PEN PORTRAIT OF LINCOLN BY A BOSTON BRAHMIN

"The President is, I think, the ugliest man I ever put my eyes on; there is also an expression of plebeian vulgarity in his face that is offensive (you recognize the recounter of coarse stories). On the other hand he has the look of sense and wonderful shrewdness, while the heavy eyelids give him a mark almost of genius. He strikes me, too, as a very honest and kindly man; and, with all his vulgarity, I see no trace of low passions in his face. On the whole, he is such a mixture of all sorts, as only America brings forth. He is as much like a highly intellectual and benevolent Satyr as anything I can think of. I never wish to see him again, but, as humanity runs, I am well content to have him at the head of affairs. . . ."

-from Mead's Headquarters, The Letters of Theodore Lyman

DREWS NAMED OUR BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION CHAIRMAN

At the recent Congress of the Civil War Round Tables in Carlisle, Penna. it was requested that each Round Table name a Battlefield Preservation Chairman so that efforts in this important area can be coordinated. Protection of battlefield sites from commercial and other encroachment is a never ending struggle, and frequently the Round Tables have been effective in stopping further despoilation. As our Chairman, Bernie Drews will maintain, liaison with other Round Tables and advise us who to write and when as preservation efforts are indicated.

40
Years

Long time members of our Round-Table were asked for war stories from their years in the Club. Brian Kowell is a long time member, former Club President, speaker, and best known as the outstanding Editor of *The Charger* for eight years.

One of my Best Memories

By Brian Kowell

One of my best memories of my time as a member of the Cleveland Civil War Round-Table revolve around our annual field trips. After one long, hot grueling day in the fields, the small group had dinner and drinks and retired to a member's room, to hear the late John Devine talk on the cavalry actions at Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville.

Dick McCrae, being more tired than the rest, soon was fast asleep on one of the beds. The other members raptly listen to Devine's vivid description of the arrival on the field of Randol's Union battery wheeling into position and replying to salvos of the enemy's guns; **McCrea** provided his own audible sound effects with a salvo of flatulence to punctuate Devine's remarks. **The resulting laughter never woke McCrea.**

Brian Kowell

The Battle of ANTIETAM

by Chris Cottam

During the course of the Civil War many brave men died noble deaths. Some died in giant battles such as Gettysburg; others died in smaller battles and skirmishes, pierced by bullets and bayonets. All of these battles, large and small, had an effect on the outcome of the Civil War. Yet no battle had such a drastic effect on the outcome of the Civil War as did the Battle of Antietam. Because of this battle's long-term effects, the Battle of Antietam was the most decisive battle of the Civil War.



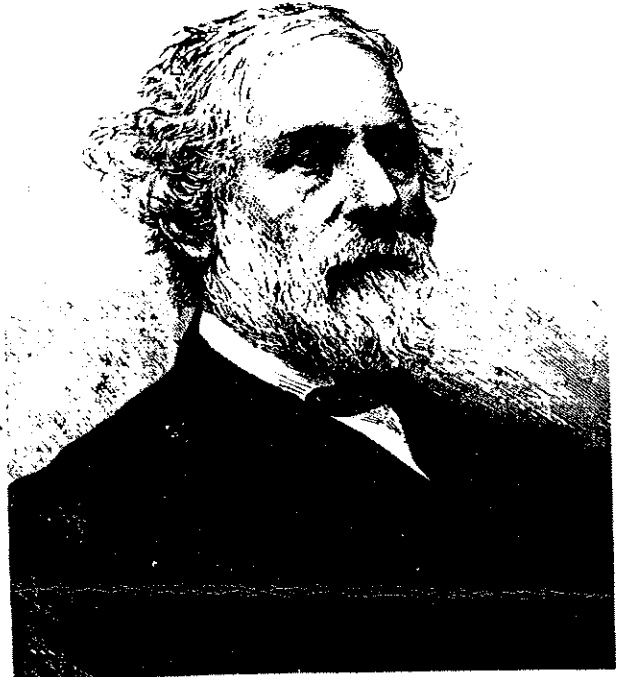
One reason for the incredible importance of this battle is that it forced the Rebels back into the South, stemming their invasion. This in turn set the stage for the Battle of Gettysburg, as Lee and fellow Southern commanders believed that the war would be won for the South if they could rout the Union Army on Northern soil. Because this did not happen at the Battle of Antietam, *General George B. McClellan greatest Military victory was Antietam* the South was forced to wait, and this caused Gettysburg. The significance of this is that the Confederate Army lost at Gettysburg, the turning point of the war for the North.

Because the Confederate Army was also undermanned (in comparison with the North) the Southerners suffered greatly by losing so many men at Antietam and not winning a decisive victory there. While the North ached greatly from this battle as well, they still out manned the Southern army. Thus the Battle of Antietam swung the balance of the war in favor of the North in this manner as well.

Chris Cottam is a junior at Bay High School, Bay Village, Ohio. Chris was the 1997 winner of the Cleveland Civil War Round-Table's *William L. Schlesinger* essay contest. The 1997 topic was "the Decisive battle of the American Civil War. Congratulations Chris."

Furthermore, the Battle of Antietam forced the complete war-time estrangement of the North from the South in the form of the Emancipation Proclamation. Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation only out of political shrewdness and the Union victory at the Battle of Antietam gave Lincoln the opportunity to do so. The Proclamation, while not actually freeing any slaves at that point in time, announced that slavery was now a dead institution..

This gave many Northerners who had formerly been opposed to fighting the South the motivation to battle with the South over the fate of the country. The Emancipation Proclamation caused a psychological phenomenon to occur by inspiring many Northerners to take up arms and make themselves heroes by "freeing" the slaves. Thus the Battle of Antietam yet again had an effect on the war by causing the Union Army to fight more ferociously. Consequently the Battle also worked the South up into a state of frenzy as they realized that they must win the war in order to maintain their current labor system. This in turn caused the South to make drastic, desperate military moves which cost the South many men. And Antietam is responsible for this.

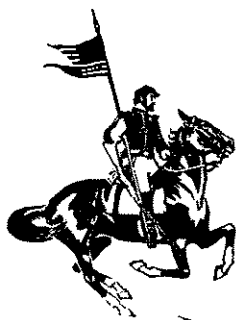


Robert E. Lee suffered a major military set back at Antietam

Antietam also installed some much needed confidence in the North. After being beaten throughout most of the war to this point, the will of the North to continue fighting was increased, even if the victory had been a costly one.

Although all of the battles fought during the Civil War had some effect on the outcome, none had so decisive an impact on the outcome of the War to Preserve the Union as did the Battle of Antietam. By forcing the Confederates to retreat South, Antietam caused the war to be fought a little longer, enabling the Northern industrial powerhouse to outlast the South, swaying the outcome of the Civil War in favor of the North. By stemming the inevitable Confederate advance into the North, the Battle of Antietam helped bring about the Battle of Gettysburg, the battle that would swing the balance of the war into the North's hands. Furthermore, the Battle of Antietam enabled Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, which had a drastic psychological effect on both sides and consequently convinced many Northerners that this was, in fact, a war worth fighting, and giving the Northerners some confidence in themselves. In short, no battle throughout the course of the Civil War had so great an impact on the outcome of the Civil War as did the Battle of Antietam.

Chris Cottam



**Cleveland Civil War
Roundtable
Fall 1997 Field Trip
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
September 25, - 28, 1997**

Guide: *Hugh Earnhart*, retired head of the History Department,
Youngstown State University

Reservation Deposit: \$65.00

Hotel: *Holiday Inn* \$95.00 divided by two
Baltimore St.
Gettysburg, Pa.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY & ZIP _____

PHONE _____

☐ Will be riding in the Van with the gang.

Please make the Check Payable to:

Frank Yannucci
22 West Heights Ave.
Youngstown, Ohio 44509
(330) 792-3501



James A. Garfield

1831- 1881 Union General and 20th President of the United States

Spring Field Trip

Date: Saturday, May 10, 1997

Place: *LakeView*, Cleveland's Historic Garden Cemetery
12316 Euclid Ave. Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Time: 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Orientation program starts at 9:30 *Sharp* at the James A. Garfield Memorial

Orientation and history of the Lake View Cemetery

Guided tour of the Garfield Tomb

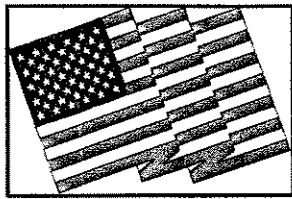
Guided walking tour of the Cemetery

Gourmet boxed lunch at Garfield Memorial under tent canopy.

Luncheon Speaker

COST: \$ 25.00 Make check payable to CCWRT and send to:

Gen. JET
7239 Maple Street
Mentor, Ohio 44060
Questions: (216) 255-8140



President's Message

This is my last message to you. It has been an honor and a lot of fun being President this year. I tried to put together a collection of programs both interesting and diverse. In that I believe I succeeded. I only hope you enjoyed the speakers and topics as much as I did.

For those of you who could not attend last month's meeting, you missed one of the more lively ones. Jay Ruoff, a member of the Cuyahoga Valley Round Table, spoke to us on Clement Vallandigham, one of Ohio's own. Jay is a fascinating speaker; he was a member of the Foreign Service for over 20 years and lived in six different foreign countries -- including a couple of war zones. He presented a very thorough and balanced history of Vallandigham life. I enjoyed his talk as much as I did meeting his lovely wife, Mona, who was by his side throughout his years in the Foreign Service.

The issue of admitting women to our group came to the fore as well. We have received an application from a woman for the second time. Mary Lou Braman (she goes by Lou) has been a guest at our meetings this year. She is a high school history teacher at Heights High. As everyone is aware, we cannot admit women without amending our Constitution. After a short but lively debate on how the issue should be presented, it was decided to hold a special meeting in June to vote on amending the constitution. The meeting will take place on the first Wednesday in June, June 4, at 6 p.m. at the Hermit Club. Unfortunately, the Hermit Club is only open in the evenings through the first week of June. Therefore, we will hold the meeting the first Wednesday, June 4. Rather than have our usual meeting, we will have a cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres. We will then have a debate on the issue followed by a secret ballot election. The results will be announced at the end. I hope we can close the meeting by 8 p.m. or shortly thereafter. Since this subject came up during my presidency, I have volunteered, and John Moore has graciously accepted, to follow this through and run the meeting. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Finally, our last meeting of the year will be on Thursday, May 15. Please note it is not on Wednesday. Due to a conflict with the Hermit Club, we cannot have the second Wednesday. This meeting will be our 40th Anniversary Celebration. Joe Tirpak, Bob Battisti, and I have put together a program honoring our 40 years of history and our members, old and new. I hope you will be able to attend. Remember, guests are welcome and encouraged. It should be a fun night. As a little change of pace, we will have a choice for dinner -- either salmon or Black Angus strip steak. When you call to make your reservations, JAC will ask which you would like for dinner. They will prepare a card (blue for salmon, red for steak) that you will receive at the meeting when you sign in and pay. Due to the number of people we expect and the extra work for the chef in giving us a choice, there can be no changes once your reservation is made. Please remember to make your reservations and be ready to choose your entree.

I want to thank everyone for a wonderful year. There are too many names of those who helped make this year a success to mention. It has been an honor to be your President. I turn over the reins to John Moore knowing the Round Table is in even more capable hands. Thanks to all for a good year and good luck to you, John. I hope your year is as much fun for you as this past one has been to me.

Dan Zeiser

P.S. Don't forget the field trip! We are going to Gettysburg. Frank Yanucci has planned an excellent trip. **Hope to see you in September on Cemetery Ridge.**





The Cleveland
Civil War Round-Table
PO Box 18900
Cleveland, Ohio 44118

Daniel B. Zeiser
5877 Williamsburg Drive
Cleveland, OH 44143