

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P. O. BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44101



OCTOBER, 1978

VOL. 22 No. 11

* * * * 182nd Meeting * * * *

DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10th
SPEAKER: THOMAS H. GESCHKE
SUBJECT: TEDDY ROOSEVELT
PLACE: THE HERMIT CLUB, DODGE Court, Cleveland, Ohio
PRELIMINARIES: 6:00 P.M. DINNER: 7:00 P.M.
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Our member Tom Geschke, long associated with a little theater group in Independence, will combine his thespian talents with his historical knowledge to treat us to what promises to be a most novel and interesting program.

Appearing in costume, Tom will characterize the personality of President Theodore Roosevelt. Starting with the inauguration of the colorful first Roosevelt, he will cover the events, the "Rough Rider's" viewpoints on Big Business, Labor and Foreign Affairs through his last term.

Tom Geschke has been a history and Civil War buff for over twenty years, having joined us two years ago. He is married, has three youngsters, lives in Parma, and is Production Manager of Parr, Incorporated. He collects C. W. artifacts.

We keenly look forward to this presentation.

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BOOKS

Please bring your books for the Book Sale to the October meeting. Price them yourself or we will do it for you. Turn them over to Chuck Spigle or Stu Cramer, who will store them for the sale which will take place at the NOVEMBER meeting .

We need lots more than we have at present to make this interesting, so clean off those shelves and lug in the books you know you'll never read again. Who knows, you may replace them with some you will never want to part with!

The Third Battle of Bull Run

Stonewall Jackson and his foot cavalry were resting in the shade of an orchard on the Brawner Farm 115 years ago when he saw the vanguard of Pope's Union army marching down the Warrenton Pike 200 yards away. Jackson immediately ordered "Charge" and thus began the Second Battle of Bull Run and another victory for the Army of Northern Virginia.

Member Pat Moran wrote to the editor and enclosed an article from a recent "U.S. News and World Report," noting that the third battle is still raging. On one side are the Civil War Round Tables, historians, Park Service, preservationists and landowners trying to push along the "Harris Bill," now in Senate committee. The bill is to extend the boundaries of the 3,030-acre Manassas National Battlefield Park to preserve such areas as the Brawner Farm (the orchard is virtually intact) and other fields of the conflict.

The enemy are the developers, the Board of Supervisors of Prince William County and a few greedy landowners and politicians backed by the developer interests. Last year the local organization fighting for passage of the bill were able to defeat plans for a \$75 million amusement park adjacent to the park.

Such arguments as inheritance, historical interpretation, property rights and rate of development have been used to apparently convince Virginia's Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr. to object to the bill. It is now in limbo ready to die of inaction, and it seems that only Senator Byrd can get it out and on the floor.

What is needed are reinforcements. So join the fight and write to your senator. Write to Senator Byrd - they say he reads the mail from out of state citizens. A recent poll indicated that owners of most of the expansion area favor the plan even though it will take several years for the government to actually acquire the land. Supporters of the bill maintain that Prince William County already has five times as much land zoned for commercial expansion as it needs.

The issue has become of local and national concern for many reasons. One of them is Congressman Harris's reelection (he is the one who introduced the bill to restore Robert E. Lee's citizenship) and particularly because of the increased interest in the untouched quality of the park. The number of visitors rose from 104,900 in 1968 to 760,754 last year.

Let's join other Round Tablers and individually do what we can - sit down and spend about ten minutes writing to save Bull Run from the fate of Gettysburg!

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DAFFYNITION

Strategy is when you are out of ammunition but keep right on firing so the enemy won't know.

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Send any contributions to this nameless newsletter to me at P.O. Box 444, Vermilion, Ohio 44089. And how about a name? There are "Bugles", "Bugle Calls", "Index" and many others. Any ideas? S.C.

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THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF CLEVELAND

Founded Feb. 19, 1957

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A SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR
AMPHIBIOUS ACTION

When Ex-Confederate Joseph Wheeler was sworn into the United States Army as a Major General after confirmation by the Senate on May 4, 1898, he was almost immediately assigned a division of cavalry.

A month later he and his men embarked for Cuba. Because of a lack of transport, the cavalry mounts and a squadron from every regiment to take care of them were left in Tampa.

One hundred and fifty-four officers and 2,822 made up the invasion force, and were rather haphazardly disembarked on the beach at Daiquiri. There was no harbor and the naval officers concluded that they could safely land the army by the use of small boats belonging to the fleet and transports.

The high seas dashed several of these boats to pieces, with many men lost, but the method of disembarking the mules, artillery and private horses of the officers is hard to believe.

They were simply pushed overboard, and of course many were drowned in their attempt to swim to shore.

Information gleaned from "Campaigns of Wheeler and His Cavalry" Part II - Wheeler's Santiago Campaign, published 1899.

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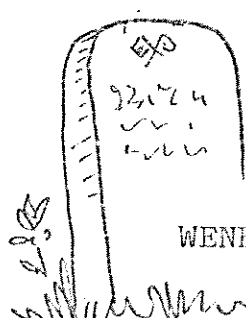
In grave Number 704 at Antietam National Cemetery lies the body of a Union soldier whose name must have been a headache for his sergeant and company clerk. He was from a New York regiment, and the name reads:

WENEPTHEOUS CORSTIRUPPLEICUTT.

From an old "Blue and Gray Notes," Hagerstown.

Apologies:

1. The stationery with our symbolic little lancer was not used for this news letter because we are out of it.
2. This issue is being produced by an "electric" stencil, which requires a perfect copy of each sheet...a requirement that is impossible for this writer and amateur typist to achieve.
3. To Chuck Spiegle for consistently spelling his name like it sounds, as in "receive." From now on we'll put the "i" before the "e" and call him Mr. Spigle.



He Didn't Know When to Quit

Amazing is the story of the short career of the Confederate Raider SHENANDOAH and its skipper, James Iredell Waddell, and even more amazing are the facts about their surrender.

No ordinary ship was the Shenandoah, a full-rigged wooden 230-footer of 1,160 tons with auxiliary steam power, a lifting screw and a retractable smokestack. She could make 17 knots under sail alone. Originally she was a British merchant steamer called the SEA KING and was specially fitted out for sea raiding, and was purchased by Captain Bulloch to replace the ALABAMA, which had been sunk by the KEARSARGE.

Lieutenant Waddell was born in North Carolina in 1824, and received an appointment as midshipman in the U. S. Navy in 1841. After a few months of service he got into a duel with another midshipman, was shot in the hip leaving him with a limp for the rest of his life. In 1858 he was promoted to lieutenant and appointed as an assistant professor of navigation at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Later, on a cruise with the East India Squadron in 1861, he learned that the War Between the States had started and resigned by mail from St. Helena. He then returned to America, running the blockade to Richmond.

Joining the Confederate Navy after he married an Annapolis girl, he was assigned to duty at the defenses of Drewy's Bluff; then he had a command in Charleston harbor, and from there was sent on "special duty" to England. There he rendezvoused with other officers and crew who had been sent incognito to man the C. S. Privateer SHENANDOAH. In October, 1864, Waddell assumed command somewhere off the Madeira Islands where another ship bought from Britain had transferred cannon and ammunition and supplies for a long journey.

Cruising south along the African coast, Waddell left a trail of burning U.S. vessels. Then he went around the Cape of Good Hope and put in at Melbourne, Australia, for repairs. Some of his crew jumped ship here, and after a hassle with local authorities, in February, 1865, left Melbourne very short handed, but once out at sea forty-one British seamen and a captain came out of the hold as stow-aways and signed on.

The Rebel Raider was next heard from in the South Pacific, capturing prize after prize, usually burning the ships or ransoming them and sending the prisoners to California. Three months out of the southern seas of Australia, Waddell sailed into the Okhotsk and Behring's Seas and the Arctic Ocean where he took after and destroyed the U. S. New England whaling fleet.

The Civil War was over. But between June 22 and 28th the SHENANDOAH captured, and either destroyed or ransomed no less than 24 ships! Newspapers taken from some of his captures indicated that Lee's army had surrendered, but he also learned that the seat of government had been moved from Richmond to Danville and that Jefferson Davis had urged the Confederacy to fight on, which was reason enough for the energetic Waddell to continue his depredations. With his knowledge of the conditions in America thus limited he had no reason to believe that the war had ended. On one occasion in June eight whalers were captured in a lump, and all eight captains brought aboard the Raider were drunk. The octette was fired, and the sea lit up with a wondrous mass of flame. The ships that is...

Waddell steamed southward, planning to devote his attention to the shipping between Panama and San Francisco. Meantime Bulloch was trying to communicate with him. From London he sent messages to Nagasaki, Shanghai and the Sandwich Islands announcing the arrest of President Davis and to cease hostilities. But Waddell visited none of these points.

On August 2, a British bark, the Barracouta, thirteen days out of San Francisco made the mistake of challenging the Shenandoah, the result being that the Confederates boarded her and were ready to take another prize when it was learned that the war had indeed ended, and that they were considered pirates by Secretary Welles.

So the guns were at once dismantled, ports closed, funnel whitewashed and the ship changed to an ordinary merchantman. Waddell decided to head for Europe seventeen thousand miles away. On November 6 Waddell brought her into Liverpool, not a vessel having been spoken during the long voyage even though the U.S. Pacific Squadron had been chasing around looking for the illusive ex-Confed.

Waddell turned the ship over to Captain Paynter, of her Majesty's ship Donegal, who placed a prize crew on board and contacted Lord Russell, British Secretary of Foreign Affairs. It was decided to turn the ship over to the United States and all efforts on the part of Mr. Adams to make the piracy claim stick on the officers and men came to naught.

At one point in the proceedings, Captain Paynter called the roll of the entire ship's company, and every one of them swore he was not a British subject. None were molested. Eventually the SHENANDOAH was sold by the U.S. to the Sultan of Zanzibar, and in 1879 was lost in the Indian Ocean.

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WORD PLAY FROM SOMEONE

WHO HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO...

Here is a Southern American platform which was arranged to suit all parties. Reading down the first column is the SECESSION platform; the second down is the ABOLITION platform; and the whole, read across in one line, represents the DEMOCRATIC platform of 1860.

Hurrah for	The Old Union	
Secession	Is a curse	
We fight for	The Constitution	
The Confederacy	Is a league with hell	
We love	Free speech	
The rebellion	Is treason	
We glory in	A Free Press	
Separation	Will not be tolerated	
We fight not for	The Negro's freedom	
Reconstruction	Must be obtained	
We must succeed	At every hazard	
The Union	We love	
We love not	The Negro	
We never said	Let the Union slide	
We want	The Union as it was	
Foreign Intervention	Is played out	
We cherish	The Old Flag	
The stars & bars	Is a flaunting lie	
We venerate	The Habeas Corpus	
Southern chivalry	Is hateful	
death to	Jeff Davis	
Abe Lincoln	Isn't the Government	From "Pleasury
Down with	Mob law	of Witticisms
Law and order	Shall triumph	and Word Play"
		By A. B. Lake

COMBINED MEETING AT PENINSULA

A goodly crowd of almost 50 members of the Western Reserve and Cleveland Civil War Round Tables gathered at the old G. A. R. Hall for their Annual Get-together on September 12th. Old friendships were renewed, the usual chit-chat with the swapping of tales and lies were exchanged, and a so-so buffet dinner consumed.

The speaker was Al Scheller, well known to many from the Park Service at Vicksburg Military Park. He reviewed interesting highlights of the Vicksburg campaign, emphasising the part played by Ohio troops. He pointed out that three of the commanding Union Generals were Ohioans: Grant, Sherman and McPherson, and that Vicksburg Park held 39 Ohio Regimental Monuments, indicating the number that had participated.

Scheller's talk was peppered with many anecdotes ^{about} ~~about~~ interesting individuals, and was very well received. A lively question and answer period followed.

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CRUMBS, BITS AND PIECES PICKED UP DURING CHOW

Bob Bayless, "What no pie?" (He had three last time).... "I picked up a set of Sherman's Memoires for three bucks a few years ago." "Yeah, I'm the guy who sold 'em and I wish I had them back.".....

Bill Schlesinger... "I've got a set of Battles and Leaders that were given to me..." "I'll give you \$30 for them..." "Well, maybe, the covers are falling off and you get brown junk all over you." "Okey then, \$10."

(Here we learned how Dr. Bill builds his library)...when he makes a call he casts an expert eye over the Civil War books that might be on the patient's bookshelves, gets the conversation around to them, and then after he has cured him, the grateful patient makes him a present.... electricians, plumbers and insurance salemen take notice..... "Who was it, Jack Cullen, was once in a general office in Columbus, and found they were using some of the original Official Records of the Civil War as doorstops?" And so on and on.

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Can you imagine 55,000 men whose average age was 70 gathering in one great camp of 5,000 tents covering 230 acres in the middle of a battle field where they fought one another? This actually happened the week of June 29, 1913, at the 50th Anniversary Encampment at Gettysburg. It took 5 years of planning, was financed by State of Penna. and Federal funds. Veterans' groups all over the country served to make it possible. The camp had its own hospital and transportation, was operated by 1,500 officers and men of the U.S. Army. 2,000 cooks prepared 688,000 meals during the week. 156,000 lbs. of meat, 25,000 dozen eggs, 2,000 gals. ice cream, 7,000 pies and tons of other edibles were consumed. There were many speeches, including that of Pres. Wilson, fireworks, etc., but the highlight was the reenactment of Pickett's charge. A remnant of 150 from the original 15,000 charged a few hundred feet up to the stone wall at The Angle and reached across to take the hands of 180 survivors of Wells' Union brigade. Dan Sickles, the only Major commander present watched with tears streaming. He was 95. At high noon on July 4th, activity ceased in the Great Camp and silence fell over the battlefield. Church bells tolled, taps were sounded as the Blue and Gray stood at attention, then suddenly the guns of Gettysburg fired one grand salute, echoing and re-echoing all over the field.