



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

CLEVELAND, OHIO

OCTOBER, 1963

Vol. 7, No. 1

55th Meeting

DATE:	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1963		
SPEAKER:	GENERAL S.H.A. MARSHALL		
SUBJECT:	GARFIELD THE SOLDIER		
PLACE:	UNIVERSITY CLUB - 38th & Euclid Ave		
PRELIMINARIES:	6:00 P.M.	Dinner:	7:00 P.M.

FUTURE MEETINGS & SPEAKERS

56th Meeting

NOVEMBER 12, 1963

Mr. William Lemmers
"General William Stark Rosecrans"

* * * * *

57th Meeting

DECEMBER 10, 1963

Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry
"Zollicoffer & Battle of Mill Spring"

PAST MEETING & SPEAKER

The May meeting of the CWRT was a rousing success. The program was presented by member Carl Jensen. Carl is also the head of the 7th OVI.

The membership was treated to an evening filled with ordinance. Carl and two members of the 7th OVI, Robert Wright and Walter Glendenning, brought many pieces from their

individual collections to acquaint our members with the types of weapons used during the Civil War. The largest piece was a mountain howitzer, which quickly became one of the centers of attraction.

Carl and his fellow enthusiasts explained each piece they brought and how it was used. They also displayed, as well as wore, uniforms and other equipment.

A spirited question and answer period prevailed all during the talk and long into the evening after the meeting was called to an official close.

"THE GENERAL"

For those of you who did not view the famous Civil War locomotive "THE GENERAL", the golden opportunity was lost.

We wish to thank member and past president HOWARD K. PRESTON, and the Cleveland Plain Dealer for their diligent work in bringing this historic engine to Cleveland.

THE CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

FOUNDED FEBRUARY 20, 1957

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Guy Di Carlo Jr.
 VICE PRESIDENT Lester L. Swift
 SECRETARY Carroll Prosser
 TREASURER T. Knickerbocker

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

TERMS EXPIRING:

1964: Dr. Paul Schildt
 Gordon J. Berry
 1965: Donald MacDowell
 Edward S. Wells

EDITOR OF NEWSLETTER . . Theodore I. Adams
 REPUBLIC STEEL CORPORATION, CLEVELAND, OHIO

OHIO TROOPS IN THE FIELD Edward T. Downer

Chronology of Ohio Troops

October, 1863

"The admirably conceived and perfectly executed coup at Brown's Ferry--has robbed the Confederacy of its clearly earned advantage gained at Chickamauga", wrote a Richmond newspaper. The "Cracker Line" had been restored and Braxton Bragg's design to starve out the Army of the Cumberland beleaguered in Chattanooga had come to naught.

This amphibious expedition to Brown's Ferry was almost entirely an Ohio enterprise. Of the fifteen regiments which participated, eleven were from Ohio. The fifty-two pontoon floats which before sunrise on October 27 sailed silently past the Confederate sentinels, were under the command of Tim Stanley of Ohio, grandfather of our member Welles Stanley. The attacking party was led by William B. Hazen from Hiram, Ohio, and of the 1,400 picked men who stood in the toppling boats, 800 were Ohioans selected from the 1st, 6th, 41st, 93rd, and 124th Ohio regiments.

For more details on Brown's Ferry episode refer to Joseph S. Fullerton's account in BATTLES AND LEADERS, Volume III, Page 719.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are beginning our 7th year and to paraphrase a very popular Broadway show, "We have the Seven Year Itch".

This column is going to be a regular feature of the newsletter. It will be your ear on the executive committee and officers. We will tell you of our plans, hopes, and dreams. Our successes and our failures in trying to operate the organization for your benefit and enjoyment. Of course we will constantly need your help and suggestions.

The questionnaires sent out at the very close of May were very carefully surveyed. We had 45 returns from the 75 sent out, and some very good ideas emerged. A few of these have already been put into practice and the others will be discussed at future executive meetings.

As you can see we have already given the newsletter a face lifting, but it hasn't been changed. Knowing the human resentment to any change no matter how small it may be, we have endeavored to improve but not change. Relax.

Through the unceasing efforts of our Vice President and Program Chairman Lester Swift, we are set with a sparkling program schedule for 1963-64. Les has done a marvelous job in contacting the speakers and working with the Roundtables of Toledo and Dayton in sharing speakers.

We have set the second Tuesday of each month as our permanent meeting date. You can count on it, so tell the wife, sweetheart, or mistress that you'll be busy that evening.

The price of eating has continued to spiral upwards. However we are going to hold the line at \$4.00. Anything over this amount will be recompensed from the treasury until it becomes such an amount as to be extravagant.

Our meetings will be confined to two places for the coming year. The University Club and The Cleveland Engineer's Center on Chester Ave. It was discussed and felt by the officers and executive committee that we should have the proper surroundings and atmosphere for our speakers, so we must abandon some of our old haunts.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

At the meeting held on June 6, 1963 the following action was taken by the executive committee.

Three men were dropped from the CWRT roster because of lack of attendance, and one member, Gordon Tatum was moved to the out-of-town roster. This provided four openings which were filled by the following men:

1. Mr. Stuart Cramer
2. Mr. Donald Ryan
3. Mr. Joseph Brown
4. Mr. John E. Sommers

Congratulations and we will see you at the coming meetings.

The waiting list for membership in our organization now stands at six.

Quite a few of the members were written letters concerning the attendance clause of the CWRT constitution. Wherein a member must be in attendance at any three (3) meetings during the year's period from October thru May.

Gentlemen. The rule of attendance is a most flexible one. If you find that you can not meet the minimum number of meetings please contact the Secretary and explain your situation. It is the man who says nothing to explain his not attending the minimum number of meetings that draws the committee's attention as a candidate to drop from membership.

Discussion of the coming year and the programs and speakers drew quite a bit of attention. The questionnaires sent out to the membership was discussed.

The next meeting of the executive committee will be held at 5:30 pm the 8th of October, before our regular dinner meeting.

7th Annual Field Trip
by one of the "veterans", Neville Bayless

Debouching from Cleveland via auto and plane, nine members and two guests zoomed into Harrodsburg, Kentucky, Thursday afternoon, September 11, to begin the first field trip to Western Theatre. Members reporting for duty

were Cullen, Prosser, Schlesinger, Ramsey, Bayless, Clarke, Ryan, Swift, and Di Carlo. Solid refreshment began with country ham and yellow-leg chicken at delightful old Beaumont Inn. After dinner Dr. Hamilton Tapp (Chairman, Kentucky Civil War Cent. Comm.) talked expertly on Kentucky's unique situation at the War's beginning. He also described the Bragg-Kirby Smith invasion up to Perryville.

Friday morning, under Dr. Tapp's guidance, this battlefield was thoroughly covered. At long last Perryville is well marked. Outstanding is the large battlefield map, located by the in-town bridge crossing Chaplin River. Next the caravan moved on to Springfield, near which a visit was made to a replica of Lincoln's grandmother's cabin, plus the original Barry mansion (!) where Nancy Hanks was raised.

Lunch, including "Boilermakers", was consumed at Bardstown in the Talbott Inn, built about 1789. In Bardstown a tour was also made to Federal Hill ("My Old Kentucky Home" to the noncognoscenti). Next stop was the Abbey of Gethemene, where the life of Trappist monks proved fascinating. That evening, Les Swift, at a command performance, traced Lincoln's ancestry back all the way to Adam.

Saturday morning started with a tour of the old capitol building at Frankfort, filled with Kentuckiana. The brave band next climbed pristine Fort Hill overlooking Frankfort. Members rechristened it "Coronary Hill".

Returning to Lexington, Hamburg Horse Farm, home of five Derby winners, was visited. Most of the group obtained full details about stud operations. The Hunt-Morgan Home was the final stop. Its lady curator was voted the greatest gasser in all Kentucky.

Festivities concluded with an after dinner song fest in a private dining room. New highs for field trip singing were achieved both in decibel-count, and in the uncensored vernacular.

Thus concluded still another splendid field trip, thanks this year to Kentucky Colonel, James K. Ramsey (suh).

FROM THE "RESEARCHERS"

Member Frank Gillen has discovered some interesting facts concerning Comdr. Cushing's launch, famed for the sinking of the Confederate ironclad "Albemarle". Frank's material is based upon a volume, from his collection, entitled Submarine Warfare, by Lt. Comdr. J. S. Barnes, published in 1868. We quote from Frank's letter:

"We all know that Comdr. Cushing blew up the "Albemarle" by running a small steam launch at full speed over the log booms, and by means of a spar torpedo managed to sink her while the ship was at anchor. In doing so he lost his launch and almost all his crew. He stated in his report that a cannon was fired at him at the instant he blew up the "Albemarle" and lost his launch by the shot, "which seemed to go crashing through her sides". He was there--he made the report which still stands on record. What he didn't know at the time he made the report was that the launch was sunk by the descending column of water caused by blowing up the "Albemarle"!

When Plymouth was taken the little launch was raised and found to be intact, and was restored to service. There is a footnote to this that gives further details of the fate of "Lieut." Cushing's launch. After the war the little craft was taken to the Naval Academy where she was fitted up in a very elegant manner by Vice-Admiral Porter as a steam yacht. She steamed easily at 10 knots and when pushed would do 12 knots. She was rigged as a brig with a crew of neatly dressed boys, presenting a beautiful representation of a miniature gunboat. Upon a trial trip, after the engineer re-arranged her machinery, her boiler exploded killing Mr. Hoyt the engineer and four men.

So ended the career of Cushing's launch, supposedly blown up in action".

EDITOR'S NOTE: This newsletter is very definitely open to contributions from the membership. Interesting material from Civil War letters, diaries, or short book reviews, of present day publications, reports of travels, or other material is welcomed.

FOR THE WIVES...A CIVIL WAR RECIPE

- For Those Who Collect Such Things From The Pages of the Daily Newspaper.

This is excerpted from a letter written by Pvt. George T. Squire, 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, describing the Battle of Murfreesboro

"We had been out of rations since the morning of the first (January 1, 1863) and about noon the second we got some bacon and flour without anything else. We wet the flour up in our tin cups without salt, and some roasted it in the ashes. But I took a big flat stone and laid it on the fire 'til it got hot through. I took and spat my dough out flat--put it on the stone and turned it up before the fire, and then took and roasted a piece of meat and let the grease drop on it while baking. Well, I had just got mine done when all at once came an order to fall in and we were started off on the double quick toward the left wing. I ate my dough while running and I never had anything taste better".

MONUMENTS...An Interesting Sidelight of the War.

How deeply the people of the nation were emotionally involved in the war is shown by the number of monuments erected afterward. Much has been said about the number of books written about the Civil War. Similarly, the war brought forth monuments, in stone and bronze, such as no war before or since has done. Is there a small town, or city, anywhere in the country, that was in existence during the war years, that doesn't have its Civil War Memorial in the town square?

Traveling through New Hampshire on his vacation this summer, member Ray Williams glimpsed an imposing one, in a village, bearing the inscription, "From Big Bethel to Appomattox". Later, he consulted his books for information on Big Bethel, which turned out to be one of the earliest actions of the war. Whatever outfit or regiment was commemorated, it was engaged from beginning to bitter end.