



# The Scout's Report

Knoxville Civil War Roundtable  
P. O. Box 313  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37901

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009  
Buffet at 7:00 PM  
Speaker at 8:00 PM  
Dinner & Speech  
\$15.00 Members  
\$17.00 (Non-members)  
Speech Only  
\$3.00 Members  
\$5.00 (Non-members)  
RESERVATIONS ARE  
REQUIRED FOR DINNER  
AND MUST BE MADE BY  
11AM, MONDAY, NOV. 9  
CALL (865) 671-9001  
(PLEASE LEAVE  
MESSAGE)

**MENU:**  
Smoked Turkey w/ Dressing  
Baked Ham  
Garden Salad  
Baked yams  
Green Beans  
Rolls  
Beverages  
Assorted Desserts  
**Location:**  
Bearden Banquet Hall  
5809 Kingston Pike

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VOLUME XXVI

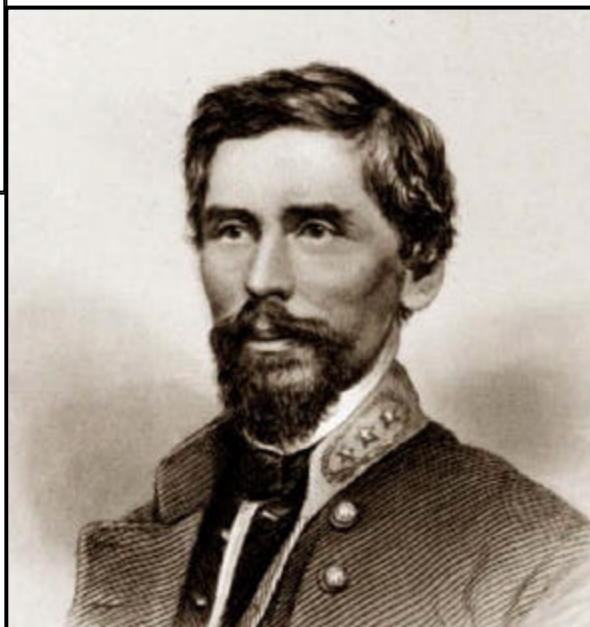
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## CLEBURNE AND SHERMAN AT TUNNEL HILL

In September 1863 the devastating defeat of the Federal Army at Chickamauga forced Gen. Rosecranz and his army to retreat into Chattanooga. For two long months the Federals were besieged by the Confederates entrenched on the surrounding ridges. However, on November 25 the Federals launched an attack on the seemingly impregnable crest of Missionary Ridge, defeating and driving back the Confederates. The one bright spot for the Confederates in this defeat was Gen. Patrick Cleburne and his division at Tunnel Hill. Repeated Union attacks were repulsed, frustrating the Union left-wing commander, the soon-to-be-famous General William Tecumseh Sherman.

Thomas Cartwright will focus on how Pat Cleburne's active and competent leadership not only embarrassed Sherman but also helped save the rest of the Confederate Army of Tennessee.





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I had a pleasant surprise waiting for me as I entered the front door of the Bearden Banquet Hall prior to October's meeting. One of our members, Rev. William J. Fowler, retired pastor from Knoxville's Church Street United Methodist Church (you might have seen him on TV Sunday mornings), told me he had invited the members of his history class at Hiwassee College in nearby Madisonville, TN, to that evening's RT meeting to get extra credit! It was great to see several of his students show up a little later after dinner.

Visitors are very important to our RT. They are the lifeblood of our CW group if we are to continue as a strong organization in that they are needed not only to replace those members who can no longer attend for various reasons but also, as a long range goal, to increase total membership. Hopefully, our new guests will enjoy themselves enough that they will return on a regular basis and eventually join our RT.

Visiting guests learn about our RT by different methods. They can find us through our excellent web site or maybe by reading newspaper announcements of our meetings (which are subject to continuous space restrictions), but probably the most common way a person discovers our RT is through a personal invitation from one of our members. I bet that's the experience of most of our folks.

I'm glad to see that each month we have several first time guests. But, there is always room for more! With a little effort, I bet each one of us can think of different people we can invite to our monthly meetings--a friend, co-worker, relative, or neighbor.

And don't forget your children or grandchildren! At October's meeting, I was happy to say hello to an individual I first meet at last April's Ft. Dickerson workday who had brought his teenage son! Then, there is Perry Hill who initially attended a RT meeting years ago with his father when he was about twelve and got hooked on the CW. After years of involvement as a CW reenactor, Perry is also a RT member as of July of this year and reenactor coordinator for our Living History.

Finally, whether you sit next to a visitor or spot one across the room, speak to that person and make him/her feel welcome. Chances are you will make a new friend and that visitor will likely come back next month!

Other RT business:

- 1) Be sure to attend our annual Ft. Dickerson CW Living History Weekend Nov. 14th-15th (see related article). School day will be on Friday, Nov. 13th. Thanks to George Lane and Laura Reagan for organizing this event once again.
- 2) The winner of the Kurz and Allen print, framed by Paul Eastes, was Hugh Morgan.
- 3) I went to the Ft. Sanders Reenactment on Sunday, October 18th, and, the same as last year, enjoyed it immensely!
- 4) Expect an excellent program by Thomas Cartwright who will describe how Patrick Cleburne's men severely punished Sherman's Union troops at Missionary Ridge in Chattanooga.
- 5) Invite someone to the November meeting!

Norman Shaw, President



#### UPCOMING SPEAKERS 2009

**November 10th--Thomas Cartwright, historian/author, "Cleburne and Sherman at Tunnel Hill"**

**December 8--James H. Ogden, Chief Historian, Chickamauga/Chattanooga NMP, "Lightning at Alexander's Bridge: Wilder's Brigade on Chickamauga's First Day"**

#### 2010

**January 12---Dr. Roy Wyatt, "Up from the Ashes: Richmond, 1865-1875"**

**February 9---Steve Wilson, Asst. Director & Curator, Lincoln Library & Museum, LSU. "Lincoln as Leader"**

**March 9---Dr. Michele Butts, Professor, Austin Peay State University, "The Galvanized Yankees: Confederate Prisoners Of War in Blue"**

**April 13---Paul Taylor, Historian/author, "Orlando M. Poe: Civil War & Great Lakes Engineer"**

**May 11---Frank O'Reilly, Historian Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania NMP, Topic TBA**

**June 8---Bruce Allardice, Historian/author, Topic TBA**

**July 13th--Jim Lewis, Historian at Stones River NMP, "The History of the Orphan Brigade"**

**August 10th--Jeffrey Wert, Historian/author, Topic TBA**

**September 14---Wiley Sword, Historian/author, Topic TBA**

**October 12---**

**November 9---Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus NPS, Topic TBA**

**December 14---James H. Ogden, Chief Historian Chickamauga/Chattanooga NMP, Topic TBA**

## **OUR SPEAKER THOMAS Y. CARTWRIGHT**

**Thomas Y. Cartwright has long been known for his knowledge of the Civil War in the Franklin area. For nearly 20 years he served with the Carter House, first as Military Curator and Historian and then, from 1997 until 2008, as Director. He is currently associated with the Lotz House where he leads tours of Franklin's Civil War sites.**

**Cartwright has authored numerous articles and appeared in numerous documentaries for the History Channel, CNN, Discovery and Travel Channels. He is currently working on two books, the Battle of Thompson's Station and Mascots in the Civil War.**



### **FORT DICKERSON LIVING HISTORY AND SCHOOL DAY**

**Get ready! Fort Dickerson Civil War Living History Weekend is just around the corner. Friday, Nov. 13 is School Day. We have four area schools planning to attend with a total of 300+ students. We will divide them into small groups of 25-30 students and we need guides to escort the school groups to each living history station. We will need 10-12 guides on Friday. This task is not hard and the rewards are many. If you can walk and tell time, we need you. The hours on Friday are 8:30 AM –3:00 PM. Last year we had a remarkable group of guides and the day was amazing. If you have assisted as guide in past years, we need you. If you are a new member, you will want to volunteer for School Day. You can thank me later. Call Laura at 865-828-8752.**

**Saturday Nov. 14 and Sunday Nov 15 we will need members to assist in a few areas. If you plan to attend the event, perhaps you could volunteer for one or two hours. This is our yearly opportunity to make the public aware of Fort Dickerson and the Knoxville Civil War Roundtable. We will have an information table, promotions table for sale items, etc. The hours on Saturday are 9:30AM–4:30PM and Sunday, 10AM -4PM. Call Laura at 865-828-8752.**

**Firewood will be needed for the soldiers. If you can donate firewood, call Laura at 865-828-8752.**

**I placed a Fort Dickerson flier on page 7. If you can, please print off a few copies and post them at your local library, grocery store, etc.**

## Battle of Nashville Preservation Society Civil War Seminar at Ft. Negley

The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society's Civil War conference is slated for Nashville's historic Ft. Negley Park. This educational event will be held on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 and it runs from 8:30 AM through 4:30 PM. Included in the conference is a tour and lunch and the fee is only \$40 (before November 1st) and \$45 thereafter. Seating is limited and it is first come, first in. The speakers include:

Sarah Boyd - Williamson County, TN history teacher - *The Roots of the Civil War: How Our Forefathers Passed the Buck*

Carole S. Boyd - history professor at Volunteer State Community College - *Storm Clouds On The Horizon: Nashville In The Decade Before the Civil War*

Myers Brown – History and Extension Services Curator, Tennessee State Museum - *Spies, Scouts and Guerrillas: Irregular Warfare in Middle Tennessee*

Krista Castillo - Museum Coordinator, Ft. Negley Park/Nashville CWRT - *Finding Peace: Reconstructing Middle Tennessee*

Thomas Flagel - history professor, Columbia State Community College - *Appomattox: The Place of Lee's Surrender and a National Resurrection*

John Allyn - Battle of Nashville Preservation Society/Nashville City Cemetery Association - *The Nashville City Cemetery* (and tour guide for the tour there)

The symposium is sponsored by the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society and Nashville Metro Parks. Make your check payable to BONPS and send to BONPS, c/o Ft. Negley Visitors Center, 1100 Ft. Negley Blvd., Nashville, TN 37203. Remember seating is limited and the fee includes lunch and the tour. If you want a vegetarian lunch please make that known.



## From the Archives—by Norman Shaw

Whenever I drive close to either McKay Used Books or The Book Eddy, I can't help stopping by to look for favorably priced Civil War books to add to my library. I don't always know what I am looking for, but I know a keeper when I see it. Otherwise, I scan the shelves for books to sell at our RT meetings.

Sometimes, I discover something special while browsing, which happened recently. What I found for only \$1.00 was a thin folder that contained a March 1957 reprint article from Civil War History, a publication of State University of Iowa. The short, five page article was interesting in itself by giving solid proof that fiery secessionist Edmund Ruffin did not fire the first cannon at Ft. Sumter in Charleston Harbor on April 12, 1861, as cited in some CW literature.

But, here's the best part—written in blue ink on the face of the folder is a note that states, "please return to Bell I. Wiley. 'Tis my only copy". Could this actually be a note, and hence an original signature, of the same Bell Wiley who was a prominent professor of history at Emory University in Georgia for about thirty years? One thing for sure, if the notation is real, the binder was never returned!

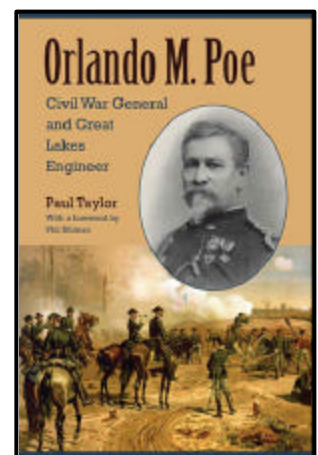
Bell I. Wiley, a native Tennessean, made numerous contributions to the study of the CW before he died in 1980. Among them are two great books he authored that drew attention to the common CW soldier, The Life of Johnny Reb and The Life of Billy Yank, which remain popular fifty years later. Some of Wiley's former doctorate students are current leaders in the field of CW history. One, Richard McMurry, a favored speaker at our RT for many years, dedicated his insightful book, Two Great Rebel Armies (1989), "For Bell Wiley, teacher and friend". Another, a former regular KCWRT speaker, is prolific CW writer, James (Bud) Robertson, Jr.

Since Wiley signed many books, the signature I possess, if real, probably doesn't have any monetary value but only sentimental value to me as owner. I may ask McMurry if he can help determine whether the note on the binder is authentic or not.

## Orlando M. Poe Biography Now Available

April 2010 Speaker Paul Taylor is the author of Orlando M. Poe: Civil War General and Great Lakes Engineer. The first biography of William T. Sherman's chief engineer and the man whose post-Civil War engineering work changed Great Lakes navigation forever is now available. For more information check out <http://www.paultaylor.com/index.html>

"Once in a while, a new book comes along that is both original and a real contribution to our understanding of the Civil War. Paul Taylor's biography of Orlando Poe is such a book." Dr. Philip Shiman, from the Foreword.



# Fort Dickerson Living History Weekend November 13-15, 2009

## THREE DAYS OF LIVING HISTORY Celebrating Our Veterans, Past and Present

- ?? Confederate and Federal Camps
- ?? Artillery Demonstrations
- ?? Infantry Demonstrations
- ?? Cavalry Demonstration
- ?? Medical /Surgical Demonstrations
- ?? Signal Corps Demonstration
- ?? Ladies Fashions
- ?? Fort Tours
- ?? Free Event/ Free Shuttle
- ?? Battle Both Saturday and Sunday

Friday Nov. 13 is set aside for area schools to participate in Kids Day.

**Saturday, November 14, 2009**  
10:00 am - Camps open to public  
10:30 am- Signal Corps  
11:00 am - Remembrance  
11:30 am - Infantry Drill  
12:00 pm - Civil War Arms-Gerald Augustus  
12:30 pm – Medical Demo by Ed Archer  
1:00 pm - Artillery Demonstration  
1:30 pm - History of Fort Dickerson  
2:00 pm - Battle Of Fort Dickerson  
3:00 pm - Pass In Review

3:30 pm - Civil War Medical Demonstration  
4:30 pm - Camps close to public  
**Sunday, November 15, 2009**  
10:00 am - Camps open to Public  
12:00 pm - Civil War Arms-Gerald Augustus  
12:30 pm - Infantry Drill  
1:00 pm - Civil War Medical Demonstration  
1:30 pm - History Siege Of Knoxville  
2:00 pm - Civil War Skirmish  
3:00 pm - Pass in Review  
4:00 pm - Camps Close to Public

Fort Dickerson Park is located off Chapman Highway, South Knoxville at 3000 Fort Dickerson Road.  
Park and ride Free Shuttle. No vehicles beyond lower parking lot.



Hosted by  
The Knoxville Civil War Roundtable  
Sponsored by The City of Knoxville  
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