Thanks
Thanks to Professor Randolph Hennes for his talk on battlefield memorials. Especially interesting was his comparisons of how Americans commemorated the Civil War versus World War I.

Next Meeting
Thursday December 12, 1996 at the Yankee Dinner. 6 PM Social Hour with dinner at 7 PM. Choice of Roast Tom Turkey or Pot Roast. The main entree is served with Caesar Salad, Biscuits, fresh vegetables, potatoes or rice with the chicken along with coffee or tea. Price is $16.00 a person. Please write your menu choice, name and the name of any guests on the enclosed card and mail it ASAP.

Program
Long time round table member Ken Bertrand will talk about the treatment of the Civil War on old-time radio, high lighted with samples of original broadcasts. This should be a lively presentation.

Dues
This is the last call for dues. Membership dues should be paid by the end of December. Dues for individuals are $15 or $20 for couples. For new members there is a $5.00 initiation fee which covers the cost of a name tag. If you have paid you name will a a "P" next to it on the enclosed roster. Please mail you check [payable to PSCWRT] to George Hood, 7105 156th Place NE, Redmond, WA 98052.

This Month in the Civil War
As the secession crisis deepened, Secretary of State Lewis Cass resigned from President Buchanan's cabinet on December 12, 1860 in protest over the President's refusal to reinforce the forts in Charleston, SC. On December 10, 1861 the "notorious" Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War was established as the U.S. House of Representatives approved the Senate resolution establishing the committee. The Army of the Potomac suffered one of its worst defeats on December 13, 1862 at Fredericksburg where its casualties were almost double that of the Confederates. After the disastrous campaign in Tennessee by the Confederate Army of Tennessee, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston was named to its command on December 16, 1863. Just a year later on December 15 & 16, 1864 that same army would suffer its worst defeat at the Battle of Nashville.

NEW BOOKS
Prolific author and long time Civil War historian William C. Davis has written a provocative new book The Cause Lost: Myths and Realities of the Confederacy. [Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1996 $24.95]. "In these pages, Davis brings into sharp focus the facts and fictions of the South's victories and defeats, its tenacious struggle to legitimate it cause and defeat an overpowering enemy, and its ultimate loss of will." In particular anyone reading the Chapter "Myths and Realities of the Confederacy" will have a hard time refuting the charge that slavery was not behind secession. This book will cause you to think about the cause and consequences of the Civil War and is recommended to our members.

HUMORS OF THE CAMP FIRE
Two soldiers lay beneath their blankets lookin up at the stars. Says Jack: "What made you go into the army Tom?" "Well," replied Tom, "I had no wife, and I loved war, Jack; so I went. What made you go?" "Well," returned Jack, "I had a wife, and I loved peace, Tom: so I went."

Confederate War Journal 1893.
Raffle, Displays & Documents.

As always we urge members to donate and participate in our monthly raffle, as this is an important source of funds for the roundtable. We also encourage members to bring in Civil War related items to share with our members and would like to thank David Smith for his display of GAR material at the last meeting. Finally we are looking for soldiers letters to publish in the bulletin. If you would like to share letters you own please submit a copy to Jeff Rombauer.

TRUE TO THE GRAY

By Pearl Rivers

I can not listen to your words, the land is long and wide;
Go seek some happy Northern girl to be your loving bride;
My brothers they were soldiers--the youngest of the three
Was slain while fighting by the side of gallant FITZHUGH LEE!

They left his body on the field (your side the day had won),
A soldier spurn'd him with his foot--you might have been the one;
My lover was a soldier--he belonged to GORDON'S band;
A saber pierced his gallant heart--yours might have been the hand.

He reel'd and fell, but was not dead, a horseman spurred his steed,
And trampled on the dying brain--you may have done the deed:
I hold no hatred in my heart. no cold, unrighteous pride.
For many a gallant soldier fought upon the other side:

But still I can not kiss the hand that smote my country sore,
Not love the foes who trampled down the colors that she bore;
Between my heart and yours there rolls a deep and crimson tide--
My brother's and my lover's blood forbid me be your bride.

The girls who loved the boys in gray--the girls to country true--
May ne'er in wedlock give their hands to those who wore the blue.

Preservation News

The Douglas Southall Freeman Branch, Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, c/o Robert Bluford 2109 Buckeye Dr., Richmond, VA 23228 is seeking funds to buy 13 acres of property of Beaver Creek Dam Battlefield, a key Union position during the first of the Seven Days Battle. The association is also seeking to raise money to purchase two sites of the 1864 Cold Harbor battlefield, a 100 acre farm, and 40 acres near the fighting at Bethesda Church. Membership at $20 includes free admission to APVA properties open to the public & newsletters. These sites are among the most significant and most threatened battlefields in the country. Once purchased, these properties will be turned over to the National Park Service. For more information call Robert Bluford, (804) 648-18891.

On the Net

The development of the internet offers unlimited possibilities for research. A fine example of such research information now available can be found at the Ohio in the Civil War Site [www.infinet.com/~sleevens] At this site can be found sketches of all 252 military organizations from Ohio during the war. For each unit a bibliography and history is given. Also found at this site are a complete list of Civil War rounds tables in Ohio, war stories contributed by the general public on soldiers from Ohio, and a general bibliography on Ohio in the war. Other research sites can also be accessed through this site, such as the sites relating to Illinois, Mississippi, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin in the Civil War.

Collectors Corner

Last minute suggestions for that Civil War buff for Christmas:

Civil War collectors watches with either Grant, Lee or "Stone-wall" Jackson are available from Robert J. Madison, P.O. Box 582, Clayment, DE 19703. These are quartz movement, gold plated case watches with a stainless steel back and black leather band with an image of one of the above generals. Each watch is $40 & $5 shipping.

The Wildcat Regimental Band has issued a new CD or cassette of "Brass Band Music of the Civil War" a musical collection of ballads, marches, quicksteps, overtures and more from the books of brass bands of the period. $11.95 and $1.75 for cassette or $15.95 and $1.75 for CD. The CD includes bonus tracks. Mail check or money order to Wildcat Regimental Band, 167 Route 85, Home, PA 15747.

Notices to be placed into the bulletin should be sent to Jeff Rombauer, 22306 255th Ave SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038
Civil War Book Notes

"the bloodiest man in America"

For the second time this year two new biographies of a Civil War figure have appeared within weeks of each other. Last spring two new biographies of George Armstrong Custer were published. Now this fall two new biographies of the infamous guerrilla William Clarke Quantrill have appeared. [See below]

Born in Ohio, Quantrill immigrated to Kansas in 1857 as part of a colony of Ohio farmers. Unwilling to engage in farming, he turned to stealing and was finally expelled from the area. During 1858 he traveled to Utah as a teamster on an army expedition and later joined a gold hunting party to the Pike's Peak area. Back in Kansas in 1859, he joined with "political bandits" of both proslavery and antislavery persuasions, playing one side against the other. When the war started in 1861, he fought with regular Confederate forces at Wilson's Creek. By 1862 Quantrill had become the best known leader of pro-Confederate guerrillas in the Missouri-Kansas border area, attacking Union troops and towns in that region. Quantrill is best known for his August 1863 raid on Lawrence, Kansas, where he led a group of some 450 guerrillas in sacking and looting the town and killing about 150 unarmed men. It was also in the fall of 1863 when he routed 120 escort troops of Union general Blunt at the massacre of Baxter Springs. Spending the winter of 1863-64 in Texas, Quantrill fell out of favor with Confederate authorities who attempted to arrest him for depredations caused by his men. The guerrilla leader, escaped and returned to Missouri, but his authority over his men was weakened, and eventually his band split into several groups led by younger leaders such as "Bloody Bill" Anderson and George Todd. With the failure of Price's raid into Missouri in the fall of 1864, Quantrill took a small band of supporters to Kentucky where he attempted to resurrect his guerrilla career. On May 10th, 1865 William C. Quantrill was surprised at a farm near Louisville where he was captured. Paralyzed by a back wound, he was taken to a military prison where he died June 6, 1865. To some Missourians Quantrill remains a romantic knight defending southern rights, to others he is a vicious sociopath. For members who would like to learn more about this controversial man the following books are recommended.

- **Noted Guerrillas, Or the Warfare of the Border.** John N. Edwards. St. Louis: Bryan, Brand & Company, 1877. A combination of romantic fiction and hard fact, this biography is by a Missouri newspaper editor who knew Quantrill during the war. This account played a large factor in mythically rehabilitating Quantrill and his men.

- **Charles W. Quantrill: A True History of His Guerrilla Warfare on the Missouri and Kansas Border During the Civil War of 1861 to 1865** by John P. Burch as Told by Captain Harrison Trow, one who followed Quantrill Through His Whole Course. Vega: By J. P. Burch. 1923. Frequently found in antiquarian book stores, this is the purported story of Quantrill as told by one who rode with him. However none of his modern biographers has seen fit to use this work.


A brief account which covers all the pertinent facts.

An excellent account by the noted historian, who traces the story of Quantrill's raids.

Title page from a very rare Union account of the Baxter Springs Massacre by one who was in the fort.

from farm boys defending their homes to "the most notorious gang of psychopathic killers and plunder-mad marauders who ever roamed the prairies."


The two latest biographies on Quantrill. Both are well written and researched.
Dear Ma,

Nothing from you since Mat came back, I hope you received my letter written after Mat's return thanking you and Pa both for the articles sent and for the good advice, you both gave me And once (and for all) you (needn't) have any uneasiness as to my associates on Post duty. My roommates are Al Chester who is a Methodist & Capt. McCluahan who is a Presbyterian but I believe I told you this before they are both gone on furlough to West Tenn. I fear I am not as good as I ought to be, and feel the need of being better, my health is very good, and my disease has disappeared. My leisure moments are spent in visiting the Ladies the Clayton family here are very interesting, they say we are Kin folks, and that I must not stand in ceremony, Sida Moore is their first cousin and niece too there is one of them with whom I am slightly pleased "Sallie" she is a good deal like Mrs. Jake Shasper, But there are 7 girls, 4 of whom are grown so nicely as she is the third one, 3 boys, I am afraid there are too many chances of getting 200 count brothers in law, write me all about them.

I have reached the age when I must fall in love with someone, and I sometimes feel as though I would give anything to have a sweetheart, but it is a life time business, and I dont intend leaping in the dark, Are the Misses Brown in Wayne & if so are they pretty, My love to Pa and all the children & servants.

yours affectionately

[unsigned]

[On the reverse side]

I am not aware of being engaged to Tilly Pickens, but maybe Mrs Chambers knows more about it than I do. I wonder whose imagination was so fertile as to originate the report. Just tell Sida, if she would like to hear from me at any time in the future, she will have to aprise me of the fact, for I am not disposed to write more than a dozen letters for no answer I am very much afraid she is completely carried away with the silly nonsense men talk nowadays, would that she had some of my experience in that line, Society is made up of "Stuff" and (haughtiness) Every Little miss of 13 is trying to be "cute" talk a Little foolishness soft talk and nine time out of ten you can hold their hands, and even though I might do this for amusement, yet what are my feelings toward them, why nothing but disgust.

Thanks to member Jim Diamond for providing this letter of a Georgia soldier. If you have letters or diaries from soldiers who fought or served in the Civil War and would like to share it with the round table please submit a transcript to Jeff Rombauer, 22306 255th Ave SE, Maple Valley WA 98038