

# THE WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER

## PUGET SOUND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

[HTTP://WWW.PSCWRT.ORG/](http://www.pscwrt.org/)  
**OCTOBER, 2011**

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, October 13, 2011**

**China Harbor**, 2040 Westlake Avenue North, Seattle, Washington

**Time:** Social hour at **6 p.m.**; Dinner served at **7 p.m.**; Program at **8 p.m.**

**MENU CHOICES: Mongolian Beef, Chicken or Salmon**

Dinner includes: salad, vegetable delight, General Tao's chicken, fried rice and fresh fruit. **Cost is \$21 for adults and \$10 for those under 18 (student rate), payable at the door, but reservations and meal choices are required.**

You have two choices to make reservations and meal choices:

1. Go to <http://www.pscwrt.org/> and click on "DINNER RESERVATIONS". Then follow the easy instructions to register your choices.

2. Call **Rod Cameron at 206-524-4434** and let him know.

**Deadline for reservations is 12 NOON on Tuesday, October 11.**

## **KNUTE BERGER ON SECTIONAL POLITICS AND STRIFE IN THE ANTEBELLUM PACIFIC NORTHWEST**

, including struggles over blacks in the region and over slavery in the territories, issues he has discussed in his article "Slavery? Here?" Author of *Pugetopolis: A Mossback Takes on Growth Addicts, Weather Wimps and the Myth of Seattle Nice*, Mr. Berger writes a monthly column for *Seattle Magazine*, is a regular commentator for KUOW, and writes the Mossback column for Crosscut.com, a Pacific Northwest online daily.

**NOTE: Remember to turn off cell phones before the meeting so there are no distractions for the speaker. Thank you!**

## **NEWSLETTER CHANGES COMING**

**By Mark R. Terry**

Starting with this issue, the newsletter will be posted on the PSCWRT website for members to access, rather than be sent via email. I am currently in conversation with Michael J. Movius, PSCWRT Webmaster, to see what can be done to streamline the newsletter since much of the information included in the newsletter can be placed on- or is already included in- the Round Table website. For instance, the newsletter often highlights Internet resources relating to the Civil War. These notices will continue, but will not have much information other than a link to our website. Mike has said he will have a "What's New" link on the site that will directly be able to access sites featured in the newsletter. Additionally, starting in this edition, the newsletter will give instructions on making meeting reservations online through the website. I've just utilized it myself. What's nice is you get a confirmation email in return so you know if you did it right. You can still call Rod Cameron by phone if you need to. Of course, material submitted by members will still be published in full in the newsletter *and* the website as well. We want as much exposure of your expertise as possible. Something else Mike and I discussed was that if you have done some past research and you'd like it on the Internet, we could post that on the website as well. **Don't forget the link to order books through the Amazon.com link on the website. Why? Doing so will allow the PSCWRT to receive a percentage back to our**

**organization's coffers, which is always welcomed!** Here is the URL:  
[HTTP://WWW.PSCWRT.ORG/](http://www.pscwrt.org/)

## **WHAT'S NEW ON THE PSCWRT WEBSITE?**

Mike Movius continues to work on making the website a place for communication concerning the Round Table. For instance, very soon Mike will have a page you can access the minutes of our immediate past board meeting, which took place in August, 2011. This information will be "member only" meaning that if you want to see it, your 2011-2012 dues will need to be paid in full. Then you will get log on information to access the minutes. Another idea that has been in the works (that I am very interested in) is a Blog or Forum page. This would allow members and those registering from the Internet to post comments on various subjects. I would especially be interested in having a place we can comment on a recent speaker and their subject. As far as I know, the only thing hindering this is the lack of a moderator. Would you be interested? Let Mike know!

## **TOURING GETTYSBURG**

### **President's Corner, October 2011**

**By Dick Miller**

Our webmaster, Mike Movius, has suggested that members share their battlefield visits on the PSCWRT web site. I am going to take up Mike's suggestion with this brief piece on my wife's and my trip to Gettysburg in early September. We stayed there a day and a half, which is ample time to visit the new Gettysburg Visitors Center and to do the highlights of the battlefield. Of course, one could spend many more days there studying the battlefield and its 850 monuments in depth and exploring the town and its attractions.

Prior to our visit, I brushed up on the battle by reading Steven E. Woodworth's [Beneath a Northern Sky: A Short History of the Gettysburg Campaign](#). Many students of the battle list Stephen Sears' [Gettysburg](#) as the best history of the campaign but the book is over 500 pages long and Woodworth's short history gave me the necessary foundation for understanding the events of the three days. I recommend it to anyone wanting a brief accounting of the Gettysburg campaign.

There are many ways to tour the battlefield. During our time there, I saw plenty of guided tours, both large groups traveling by bus and personally led tours with two or three people. The Visitors' Center sells an audio guide to the battlefield; one can't help noticing the audio guide's clearly marked signs directing drivers around the battlefield in a rough chronology of the fighting. I decided that I wanted to explore on my own and chose to purchase Mark Grimsley's and Brooks Simpson's [Gettysburg: A Battlefield Guide](#), which had been recommended by both Steven Woodworth in his book as well as a man I spoke to who was walking his dog at the High Water Mark. I bought a used version from Amazon for \$4.95. For the most part, the book's directions are easy to follow and because the book also guides the reader around the battlefield in chronological order, I was able to confirm my location by the audio guide signs. The only problem I found with the guide was that some landmarks used to orient the reader--most notably the old cyclorama building--are no longer there. Perhaps Grimsley and Simpson have updated their guide with the opening of the cyclorama in the new Visitor's Center.

The day I toured the national park, the battlefield was shrouded in mist and a light rain started around noon. Standing at the High Water Mark, I could barely see the Virginia Monument about a mile away where Lee's veterans stepped off on July 3. Regardless, with the help of Grimsley's and Simpson's narrative, I could easily imagine the hopelessness of that "charge" with men under artillery fire for most of that long mile. Walking the battlefield, I could understand why Davis' Mississippians, trapped by the railroad cut's steep embankments, were forced to surrender on the first day or visualize the 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan and the 19<sup>th</sup> Indiana regiments slugging it out with the 11<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> North Carolina regiments, separated by only forty yards in Herbst Woods. Looking down the wooded and rocky slopes of Culp's Hill and Little Round Top, I got why holding the high ground was so important to the Federals.

I spent about six hours touring the battlefield and in that time, covered all twenty stops in Grimsley's and Simpson's guide. Readers with more time can take advantage of the book's "excursions" through the Wheat Field, from the Confederate vantage point for Pickett's Charge, and to the cavalry battlefields of July 3. I read the "Orientation" and "What Happened" sections of the guide; Grimsley and Simpson also offer "Analysis" and "Vignettes" at many stops. I'm sure the guide will have something to offer any visitor, no matter how many times he has toured the battlefield.

Finally, some suggestions about the trip itself—for what they are worth. My wife and I stayed at the Brickhouse Inn, a bed and breakfast in town on the Baltimore Pike. Admittedly, it is more expensive than the hotels on the outskirts of town, but staying in a home contemporary with the battle and only yards away from buildings where Confederate sharpshooters picked off Federals on Culp's Hill—well, that thrill made the price worthwhile for me. The Brickhouse Inn is within a brief walk of the Dobbin House, a highly recommended restaurant dating back to an 18<sup>th</sup> century inn. My wife and I ate downstairs in the tavern and we were not disappointed. We also had lunch at the Tipton Grill, at 135 Baltimore Pike, which is low key, inexpensive, and offers good sandwiches.

While I was traipsing around the battlefield, my wife spent the day in town. She had hoped to find some antique stores to occupy her time, but frankly, there isn't much in historic Gettysburg except stores relating to the Civil War. Civil War artifacts, re-enactors' garb, books, toy soldiers, Civil War art—the shops are all there. One final suggestion—the American History Store, at the intersection of Baltimore Pike and Steinwehr Avenue, is the best Civil War book store I have ever seen and much better than the "book store" at the Visitors' Center. Skip the Visitor Center's store, unless you collect snow globes like my wife and I do, and do your book shopping at the American History Store.

## **Are You Doing Your Homework???**

Does this sound like your parents from years gone by? My apologies, but as you should know by now, our December meeting will NOT have a speaker. Instead, there will be a discussion on the topics coming from the three books that have been chosen, which are:

***Controversies and Commanders: Dispatches from the Army of the Potomac***, by Stephen W. Sears; ***This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War*** by James M. McPherson, and ***Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*** by David W. Blight.

Are you required to read the entire book or books? No. You may choose to read only one or two of the books, but please try to be informed of the material. Here are the chapters/sections from each book that the discussion will be drawn from:

1) **Stephen W. Sears, Controversies and Commanders: Dispatches from the Army of the Potomac.** Read Preface and Chapters 1, 4, 6, 7, and 10, covering McClellan and the historians, McClellan's return to command after 2nd Bull Run, the revolt of McClellanite generals that undermined Burnside and Hooker, a defense of Hooker at Chancellorsville, and Sheridan's removal of the McClellanite Warren at Five Forks.

2) **James M. McPherson, This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War.** Read Chapters 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, and 15, covering Confederate strategy, Lee's goals in the Gettysburg campaign, the Lost Cause textbook crusade, Grant and Sherman, Hard War, Lincoln and Grant on Vicksburg, Harvard at war, no peace without victory, and Lincoln and the historians.

3) **David W. Blight, Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory.** Blight argues that postwar North and South achieved sectional reconciliation at the expense of the emancipationist vision and racial progress. Read the Prologue, Chapters 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 (pages 237-254 only), 8 (pages 264-266 and 292-299 only), 9, 10 (pages 338-345 only), and the Epilogue, covering the transformation of decoration day, soldiers' memory and faith emphasizing soldiers' passion, heroism and memory immunized from causes of the war, sentimentalism vs. realism in war memory, the Lost Cause transformed into national reunion, dissenters from the Lost Cause, black memory and progress of the race, and the bronze relief memorial to Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Massachusetts.

## Local Civil War Mystery

President Dick Miller of the PSCWRT was sent this email request for help in searching for a possible Civil War ancestor. Dick asked me to include it in the newsletter, so for all you researchers out there here is some red meat to chew on:

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From: [owlisnapp@gmail.com](mailto:owlisnapp@gmail.com)  
Subject: Cornelius Knapp  
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 2011 14:59:07 -0700  
To: [Milomiller882@msn.com](mailto:Milomiller882@msn.com)

I am trying to find more information about his Civil War service.

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSvcid=30333&GRid=6379910&>

His wife was: Massey Knapp.

Per this memorial, he served "as Company Comander of Co. C 15th New York Vol. Cav. During the Civil War of 1861-65." The source for the information was: "The C-1890s Photo of Cornellus & Ann Knapp is courtesy of the Western WA. Civil War Round Table Soc."

I have written to the National Archives and I'm unable to locate more information. They state they have no record of him serving.

I have him being born in OH.

1860 United States Federal Census
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Name: Massey Knapp  
Age in 1860: 16  
Birth Year: abt 1844  
Birthplace: Ohio  
Home in 1860: Scott, Linn, Kansas Territory  
Gender: Female  
Post Office: Twinn Springs  
Value of real estate: View image  
Household Members: Name Age  
Charles Knapp 26  
Massey Knapp 16

U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865  
Name: Cornelius Knapp  
Residence: Scott, Linn, Kansas  
Class: 1  
Congressional District: Southern  
Age on 1 July 1863: 32  
Race: White  
Marital Status: Married  
Place of Birth: Ohio

1900 United States Federal Census  
Name: Cornelius Knapp  
Home in 1900: Arkansas, Cowlitz, Washington  
[Olequa, Cowlitz, Washington]  
Age: 68  
Birth Date: Apr 1832  
Birthplace: Ohio  
Race: White  
Gender: Male  
Relationship to head-of-house: Head  
Father's Birthplace: New York  
Mother's Birthplace: Canada Welsh  
Spouse's Name: Massey A Knapp  
Marriage year: 1858  
Marital Status: Married  
Years married: 42  
Occupation: Farmer  
Household Members: Name Age  
Cornelius Knapp 68  
Massey A Knapp 56 b. Ohio Jan 1844

Is there a way of contacting the Western WA Civil War Round Table Group?

Thank you very much for any help you can provide,  
Alice Knapp

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Being curious myself, I went to my source for Civil War soldiers, [civilwardata.com](http://civilwardata.com) and found at least two soldiers listed as “Cornelius Knapp”, but neither of them appear to be the one Alice is looking for. I am hoping that some GAR records can be found, since his military records are missing. Additionally I Googled the names and found out that oddly enough the couple appear to have been murdered in their home by someone looking for money- very strange indeed. If any of you come up with something, please let Alice- and the rest of us- know...

## **THE “LAST WORD”**

By Mark R. Terry, Editor

I began this column as a method for me to chat with you regarding the newsletter, which for 25 years has been the main source of information and communication within the PSCWRT. My hope is that the newsletter will hold your attention long enough for you to read this far!

### ***This Month’s Issue***

You may note that this issue is a bit short on historical articles, etc. One of the reasons for this is that I am dependent on you, our membership, for submissions and ideas for items to place in each edition. Without that, the newsletter will be very skimpy indeed. Of course, the main information about speaker, topic and such will always be there, but if you want this to be more than that, I will need your help. A submission can be almost anything related to the Civil War- treks to battlefields and sites, ancestor stories, research, opinion, ideas for the group- it will only be hindered if you don’t contribute. Last month we had many submissions by people collected over the summer, and we had no shortage of material, but this month not so much.

All submissions to the “Washington Volunteer” should be into the editor by 15 days (two weeks plus one day) prior to the meeting. For instance, October’s deadline was September 28, while November’s deadline will be October 26. Be creative! Please note that longer submissions may be published over two (or more) issues, but you will be informed beforehand in that case.

### ***The December Book Club Meeting***

I’ve been reading the book by Sears so far (my goal is to read each of the three books) and it has been very good. Sears’ material on McClellan was known to me, but his views on Hooker have been somewhat of a revelation. If you are like me, you like to focus on the battles, but I would encourage you to expand your knowledge by delving into these books. Then come in December and share your thoughts and ideas based on that reading. It should be a great time!

### ***Gettysburg!***

I enjoyed reading Dick Miller’s excellent column on the visit he and his wife made to Gettysburg last month. I was struck by how much has changed. The last time I was there was 1998 for the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reenactment. Kim and I went with a Battlefield Guide who did a great job of explaining things and pointing out what otherwise we would have missed. Recently, the CWT has been able to obtain the land immediately west of McPherson’s Ridge which for many decades has been a golf course. I am looking forward to walking that area sometime in the future. What Dick wrote on his experience at Gettysburg is the perfect example of the kind of article I’m looking from you to include in our newsletter- and for the website as well.

**See you at the October meeting!**

## **DUES & DONATIONS**

Now that the new season is beginning, here is your second reminder that membership dues are payable either at the meeting or by mail: \$20 per individual, \$25 for a couple. Also, donations are gratefully accepted. These will help secure speakers for our meetings. Please note that all donations are tax deductible as the PSCWRT is a 501(c)3 organization.

**See Membership form attached at the end of this newsletter**

### **2011-2012 OFFICERS**

#### **Elected\***

President, Richard Miller, 425-201-3234 or 206-808-8506, Milomiller882@msn.com

Vice-President/Successor, Steve Bass, sbass@monsonandbass.com

Immediate Past-President Mark Terry, 425-337-6246, markimlor@comcast.net

Vice-President, Programming, Pat Brady, 206-246-1603, patsbrady@comcast.net

Vice-President, Newsletter, Mark Terry (info above)

Treasurer, Jeff Rombauer

Secretary, Larry Jilbert,

*\*Except for Immediate Past President, which is an automatic position.*

#### **Appointed**

Publicity Chairman, Stephen Pierce, 425-640-8808, horseless1@juno.com

Assistant Treasurer, vacant

Dinner Reservations Coordinator, Rod Cameron, 206-524-4434, rodcam@comcast.net

Webmaster, Michael Movius

Official Greeter, Larry Cenotto, cenottothe5th@yahoo.com

#### **Elected Board of Directors**

Jim Dimond, Mike Movius, Rick Solomon

**Website: <http://www.pscwrt.org/>**

Puget Sound Civil War Round Table meets on the second Thursday of each month, September through May. The PSCWRT is a 501c3 organization, and as such, donations you make to the organization are tax deductible.

#### **Membership Dues**

Dues are \$20 for an individual and \$25 for a couple. You can mail your dues to the PSCWRT, c/o Jeff Rombauer, 22306 255th Ave SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038.

**Questions?** Email: [jeff.rombauer@pse.com](mailto:jeff.rombauer@pse.com)

# Puget Sound Civil War Round Table Membership Form

Dues for the program year 2011-2012 are now due. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals and \$25 for couples.

Please complete this form, enclose your check or a money order made payable to PSCWRT, and forward to:

**PSCWRT Treasurer, Jeff Rombauer, 22306 255th Ave SE, Maple Valley WA 98038-7626.**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MEMBERSHIP-INDIVIDUAL

NEW MEMBERSHIP-COUPLE

NAME FOR BADGE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME FOR BADGE \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL-INDIVIDUAL

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL-COUPLE

CHANGE OF ADDRESS (If you have changed your address since registration last year,

please let us know.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP (Please use 9-digit zipcode) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBERS (Include Area Code):

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

The data requested above is for the membership files of the Puget Sound Civil War Round Table. It will also be published in our Membership Roster. Two telephone numbers can be listed if you want to include both a home and office number. You may also elect to give us your e-mail address and that will be included in the roster as well. If you do not want these published in the roster, please so indicate.

PUBLISH MY PHONE NUMBERS ON THE ROSTER: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLISH MY E-MAIL ADDRESS IN THE ROSTER: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have membership questions, please call  
Jeff Rombauer at 425-432-1346.**