

THE WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER
PUGET SOUND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
HTTP://WWW.PSCWRT.ORG/
APRIL 2014

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 10, 2014

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.**

[PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD UPSTAIRS IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE THE AUCTION- SEE BELOW]

MENU CHOICES: Mongolian Beef, Chicken or Salmon

Dinner includes: salad, vegetable delight, General Tso's chicken, fried rice and fresh fruit. Cost is \$21 for adults and \$10 for minors and college students, payable at the door, but reservations and meal choices are required. See below.

To make reservations and meal choices, use one of these options (most preferred first):

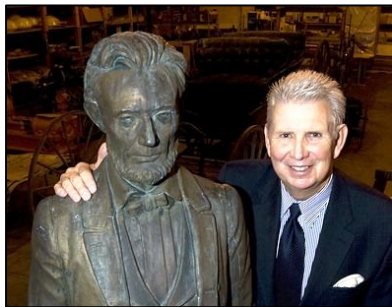
Click on <http://www.pscwrt.org/about/dinner-reservations.php>

Email **Rod Cameron** at: rodcam@comcast.net

Or lastly, call **Rod Cameron** at **206-524-4434**

Deadline for reservations is 12 NOON on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

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



DAVID LEROY WILL DISCUSS THE BOOK THAT ELECTED

LINCOLN, the publication of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, Lincoln's role in their publication, and the role of their publication in his election as president in 1860. A former prosecutor, attorney general, and lieutenant governor of Idaho, David Leroy has served as United States Nuclear Waste Negotiator and Chairman of the Governors Council of the U.S.

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. The author of *Mr. Lincoln's Book: Publishing the Lincoln-Douglas Debates*, he has written and spoken about Lincoln for more than 30 years.

ANNUAL PSCWRT AUCTION!

In conjunction with David Leroy's presentation this month we will hold our annual auction to allow us to bring in top-notch speakers for our monthly meetings! As the instructions above state, please proceed upstairs to the upper meeting room, which is much larger than our normal room. There, tables will be set up for our silent auction items along with our usual setup.

What to donate?

Items that have been donated for the live auction in the past have been sports tickets, rare book sets, pies or other desserts (always a hit), Civil War photos & documents, paintings, and offers to

have an original painting done for the donor by Mrs. Dana Thompson. Basically, donate anything you feel will raise funds.

How to donate items:

1. Please try to arrive during the “Social Hour” (6 p.m.) and if possible have your PSCWRT SILENT AUCTION BID SHEET filled out and ready for each item you are placing in the Silent Auction. Each form should have an item description, who it was donated by (you), and the minimum bid. Volunteers will help find places to put the items.
2. Please take Live Auction items to Dick Miller, who will be our auctioneer and discuss what the starting bid should be.

What should be the starting bid?

A good guideline might be how much you paid for the item originally. Don't begin too low, since we want to make money for our Round Table, right?

Procedure

This year our plan is to have our Live Auction first, followed by David Leroy's presentation around 8 p.m., then finish with our Silent Auction. Everyone should have time to peruse the silent auction items on the tables before dinner is served. If there is an item you really want to win, make sure your bid is the highest when the silent auction is closed.

How to Pay

Immediately following the end of the silent auction, please take the item(s) you won, along with the accompanying Bid Sheet(s) to where Treasurer Jeff Rombauer and his assistants will be. They will verify the final price and add up your donations. Please pay with a **check or cash**. Please be patient, as there will probably be a line.

Volunteers are working hard to ensure that it will be a success. If you have questions about donations or anything else related to the auction, please contact Dick Miller at:
Milomiller882@msn.com

We could also use volunteer help to set up and take down. Let Dick know if you can help.

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES

ELECTIONS COMING IN MAY - NEXT MONTH!

The Puget Sound Civil War Round Table has been in existence for 28 years. One of the reasons for this is that over the years we've had leaders dedicated to making this organization successful. Civil War Round Tables exist not only in the United States but also in foreign countries such as Australia, Great Britain and Germany. However, not all Round Tables are thriving, and some have even stopped operating. To operate at the optimum level, we continue to need members who are willing to be involved in leadership.

At this time, there are two positions open that need to be filled:

Vice-President Successor

Vice-President Membership

So far, **Mike Movius**, our Webmaster, has been nominated to take the place of the current **VP-Successor** Rick Solomon, who will be taking over as President of the Round Table in the fall, while the current president, David Palmer, will end his two-year term and become Past President in place of Dick Miller.

Meanwhile, the position of **VP Membership** is vacant, since no one has stepped forward to fill it.

Both of these positions are important to the health and growth of the PSCWRT. Although no special skills are involved in either of these positions, motivated individuals are needed to help the Round Table move forward and grow.

Whether you are a new member of the PSCWRT, or are a “veteran” of many years please consider nominating yourself or another willing member. **If you want to make nominations, or have questions you’d like answered, please go to the last page of the newsletter where the contact information for the officers is and contact us!**

PSCWRT TOUR OF “CIVIL WAR PATHWAYS”

By Mark R. Terry

Last month, I put out a call for members of our Round Table who are interested in going to visit the CIVIL WAR PATHWAYS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST exhibit at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma and to take a group guided tour representing the PSCWRT. So far, there are at least four members that have indicated an interest in going. The invitation is still there, so please let me know.

The idea is to sign up members- and their friends and family- who would like to go and also some who would be willing to carpool to Tacoma on a set day & time to make this a reality. May or June would seem to be ideal, and far enough out that we could plan it in advance. Once we have people signed up, we can verify the date and time. Remember, this exhibit will end on July 6 of this year. After that, if you want to see extensive Civil War artifacts, you may need to get on an airplane and fly across the country!

Please contact me if you are interested in

- a) Attending a group tour with PSCWRT members and
- b) If you’d be willing to drive a vehicle and bring members with you...

Thanks so much!

CIVIL WAR “SHOW AND TELL”

We are always looking for ways to make meetings interesting and compelling to our members. Recently, Mike Movius floated an idea for a “Civil War Show and Tell”. That is, what items do you- our members- have that you would be willing to get up and share with everyone at a meeting? Memorabilia, artifacts, rare books, photos, artwork, you-name-it, would be eligible. If you have something to show, please let Pat Brady at patsbrady@comcast.net or 206 246 1603 know about what you might bring and talk about. The “Show and Tell” would be scheduled some time during next season, Sept 2014 through May 2015. Before scheduling a show-and-tell meeting, we have to get an idea of how much showing and telling our members would come up with.

AMBROSE BURNSIDE – MY NOMINEE FOR BEST GENERAL

By Mike Movius

Everyone knows that Ambrose Burnside was an inventor, business man and leader. His Burnside Rifle was one of the best used during the Civil War. He also invented the Burnside Bridge currently on display in Portland, Oregon. And how about those chops? Burn, as his great and true friend George McClellan called him, developed the sideburns that were so very prolific during the 1960s. If only he had lived to see his influence.

And, there are the battles he won. Most notably was the Battle of New Burn...also named after him. Burn had some bad advice that cost him some reputation points. President Lincoln insisted that he undertake the Richmond campaign in November 1862 that resulted in the First Battle of Fredericksburg. Although that was a stunning defeat, it undoubtedly was the best planned campaign of the war. Unfortunately, the pontoon works were late in their delivery. If only they had been sent earlier, Burn would have won the war right there and then.

Don't be dwelling on the so called Mud March. The men all wanted to stretch their legs and soldier on. It was only through Burn's intelligence that he was able to stop their foolishness. Speaking of being a fool...how about a big APRIL FOOLS!

UPDATE ON BRISTOE STATION

By Mark R. Terry

At the March meeting, I gave a quick presentation about the situation taking place on the battlefield of Bristoe Station, Virginia. At the same time, I passed out a handout describing the situation, along with the contact information of those who would have a say in the outcome working for Prince William County, Virginia. Here is the main gist of it:

Basically, the Chapel Springs Assembly of God, which currently owns 25% of the Bristoe Station Battlefield core area (as defined by the American Battlefield Protection Program) is applying to build a commercial cemetery over their entire portion of the battlefield. This property contains several essential portions of the Bristoe Station Battlefield. One, it was the location of several large winter encampments (which subsequently 1,000 men died during and we only have found one known cemetery relating to those encampments, the others are unidentified). This land also contains core battlefield land for the Battle of Kettle Run (August 27, 1862) and the Battle of Bristoe Station (October 14, 1863) – both are classified as Priority I battlefields by the Department of Interior (their highest classification). Specifically, this land is where Confederate Gen. W.W. Kirkland's Brigade attacked the Federal 2nd Corps that was located behind the railroad (that abuts their property). Kirkland's Brigade suffered 600 casualties (40% of his total number) in this short attack. The records show the men were buried where they lay, thus there are already men buried on this tract of land.

The Church has submitted a Comprehensive Plan Amendment to change the use of this property to a commercial cemetery. They see no adverse effects on the battlefield or the current battlefield park that is across the street. The Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park consists of 133 acres of core battlefield, which preserves only 20% of the battlefield. The Civil War Trust has attempted to purchase this land or work out a deal with the church to no avail. Now, a cemetery may not sound like a bad idea to some, but it is the worst possible option to preserve a

battlefield. A shopping center, industrial park etc... can all be torn down in the future...a cemetery is PERMANENT. And, they will have to re-grade the whole tract of land, disturbing possibly hundreds of unidentified graves. It is ironic to me, that land is ALREADY a cemetery, but obviously one the church cannot make money off of. The landscape and its interpretive value to understand the battle would be lost forever.

I am not sure how many took this to heart and contacted those on the list. I know for certain that Mike Movius and myself did contact all the politicians listed in the handout to voice our concerns. Here is the latest news about what is going on from Rob Orrison who is working on helping to preserve the threatened land:

“Yes, the church has pulled their CPA application, but they have not given up. They are trying to figure out a new strategy since there was an OVERWHELMING negative response to their application (emails, phone calls etc...).

*The Civil War Trust is now going to write a letter to them again offering to buy the core ground and they are going to send that same letter to all the Board of Supervisor members as well. I hope something can be worked out. The last thing I heard, was the lawyer is trying to look for another avenue to get around the opposition. **So please tell Mark and others, that the fight is not over...just on hold for right now.** [emphasis mine- Ed.]*

The pulling of the CPA was a good thing, but it’s like scoring the first field goal in a football game...

Rob”

As you can see, letting people know how we feel about Civil War battlefield preservation does help. As you can also see, the latest Battle of Bristoe Station is not over. I will try to keep you up to date on what happens next. Thanks in advance for your help!

You may be wondering why I am so interested in the Battle of Bristoe Station. It is because in 1999, I wrote a research paper entitled “The Mystery Flags of Bristoe Station” regarding two Confederate Battle Flags that were captured there which you can read online at our website. The paper was used as source material for two books that were being written at that time, and in 2001 was accepted by the Museum of the Confederacy as a source for those two flags which reside in their collection. I’ve also visited the battlefield a couple of times and did a reenactment there in 2008.

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA QUIZ- 150 YEARS AGO

This month’s quiz focuses on the events of April 1864. In many ways, this month was the “calm before the storm”.

1. On April 8, the Senate ratified an amendment to the Constitution. What was the purpose of this amendment?
2. The Battle of Mansfield, on April 9, ended in the defeat of Union forces, effectively ending the Red River Campaign. The victorious Confederate commander was the son of what previous U.S. President?
3. What decision by Gen. Ulysses S. Grant on April 17 would have a dramatic effect on the prisoners of war on both sides?

Remember, there will be a “bonus question” revealed at the meeting!

THE LAST WORD

Auction/Elections

By Mark R. Terry

The months of April and May are an interesting paradox. Even as the Round Table season is winding down, two key events are taking place- the PSCWRT Annual Auction this month and the election of officers to the board in May.

Outside of our annual dues, the auction is our main fund raiser for the Round Table. VP of Programming, Pat Brady, has done an outstanding job season after season of bringing great speakers and presenters to our meetings. However, Pat relies on the resources the Round Table has in the bank to pay for these speakers. Without that, the supply of speakers dries up, and without that there would be no Round Table. Therefore, we need the support of everyone to step up and donate items, baked goods- whatever will help. I would ask a special favor to those who have had paintings done for them by my mother, Dana Thompson. If you could PLEASE bring the framed paintings to the auction so those bidding can see what she can do, since she has graciously agreed to put her artistic talents up for bid once more.

The other event that is crucial to the success of our organization is the election of officers. Sure, it is good to have money in the bank, but without great leadership, even the best companies and organizations can fail. I’ve already written about the positions that are open, but keep in mind that we are always looking for members who want to step up and help. Let’s face it- we are a “graying” bunch. We need to recruit new members. All of us have a network of people we know outside of the Round Table. Give us your ideas, give us your participation to go beyond showing up at meetings. Without the invigoration of new people with new ideas, any group is bound to go stale and eventually fade away. Let’s not allow that to happen!

DUES & DONATIONS

The PSCWRT season goes from September to the following May. Dues should be paid in September. 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. Mail to: Jeff Rombauer, Treasurer, 22306 255th Ave. SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038-7626. Call 425-432-1346, or email: jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com.

We welcome your article or research submissions for the newsletter, but they may be edited. The deadline for the May 2014 Washington Volunteer is Tuesday, April 22, 2014. Please have it in Mark Terry’s hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!

2013-2014 OFFICERS

Elected:*

President: David Palmer: davidpalmer7@comcast.net

Vice-President-Successor: Rick Solomon, ricksolo@ricksolo.com

Past-President: Richard Miller, 206-808-8506 or 206-236-5247, Milomiller882@msn.com

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

Vice-President-Editor: Mark Terry, 425-337-6246, markimlor@comcast.net

Vice-President- Membership: VACANT

Vice President-Social Media: Mike Movius, webmaster@pscwr.org

Vice President-Reservations: Rod Cameron, 206-524-4434, rodcam@comcast.net

Treasurer, Jeff Rombauer: 425-432-1346, jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com

Secretary, Larry Jilbert: 253-891-4022, ljjclj@comcast.net

Board of Directors: Jim Dimond: 253-277-3783, shinodad@gmail.com

**Except for Past President, an automatic position.*