

**THE WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER
PUGET SOUND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
HTTP://WWW.PSCWRT.ORG/
OCTOBER 2015**

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, October 8, 2015

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 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 listed 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, October 6, 2015.

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



**CLAIR FERRIS WILL
DISCUSS ABRAHAM
LINCOLN'S FUNERAL**

and the national outpouring of grief, including the extensive plans, the railroad cortege from Washington to Springfield, the procession at Springfield, and the burial at Oak Ridge Cemetery. Mr. Ferris is the owner and operator of Funeral Alternatives of Washington in

Thurston County, and is an officer or board member of many civic organizations.

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES

Citizens' Petition in Support of War Memorial Preservation

By Mark R. Terry

This section is usually reserved for matters of first importance to the PSCWRT. What I recently received from the Civil War Trust I felt needed to be shared with you- who have a great interest in the Civil War. This is a petition to protect and preserve ALL of our nation's war memorials. To me, this is just as important as preserving Civil War battlefields and historical sites. Rather than using my own words, the petition speaks for itself. I have copy/pasted the petition below. To sign the petition, go to this URL:

<https://secure3.convio.net/cwpt/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=187>

Citizens' Petition in Support of War Memorial Preservation

Ladies and Gentlemen: [Decision Maker],

As a citizen who cares deeply about America and its history, I respectfully petition you in strong support for protection of our country's war memorials and monuments.

Over the past few months, since the tragic Emanuel AME church shooting in Charleston, South Carolina, passions have been running high on the issue of how we as a nation remember our shared history.

It is our privilege as a free people to debate our history. However, we must remember that such freedoms come at a tremendous cost, paid for in the blood of brave Americans in uniform who sacrificed all to forge the country we are today. We owe these men and women a debt that can never be repaid.

Recognizing this debt, generations of Americans up to this day have built memorials honoring those who served in the military and have fallen in battle. These monuments are silent sentinels recognizing the soldiers who crossed the frozen Delaware River with Washington, fought amid the boulder-strewn hillsides of Gettysburg, served in the trenches of Vicksburg and Petersburg, landed on the beaches of Normandy and the islands of the Pacific, and most recently served in the deserts of Afghanistan and Iraq.

It is important to remember that many of these memorials are historic in their own right some more than 200 years old. In countless instances, these monuments were erected by the veterans themselves, who wanted to remember their leaders, their units and their fallen comrades. Many of these memorials were also paid for not with public money but through small dollar donations made by survivors and local citizens, determined to give of their limited means to honor the military.

As a member of the Civil War Trust, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving America's endangered battlefields, I believe we have a sacred duty to protect these war memorials, from all of America's conflicts, whether they rest on the battlefield, in national cemeteries, or on town squares.

I petition you, as leaders of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, to support the preservation and protection of our nation's war memorials. These unique and fragile resources, which are invaluable to remembering the sacrifices of young soldiers who defended freedom both here and abroad, must not be discarded in the passions of the moment. Future generations will never forgive us for failing to protect these monuments.

Please support this request to preserve and protect America's silent sentinels--our war memorials and monuments.

There will be another copy at the end of the newsletter for those who want to send the petition by U.S. Mail. Mail To: **Civil War Trust, 1156 15th St. NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005**

The following article was submitted by Mike Movius. Goodman (1891-1980) was a national leader in the Boy Scouts of America, and was very influential in their development from 1931-1951. His book, published in 1965, is a collection of reminiscences from his life. [Ed.]

An Extraction from **THE BUILDING OF A LIFE¹** By E. Urner Goodman

A great lesson in brotherhood came to the Boy Scout Movement early in its history. It was in the form of an opportunity to send a service corps of several hundred Scouts into the Fiftieth Anniversary Encampment of the veterans of the Civil War – both the Blue and the Gray – at Gettysburg in 1913. How can I ever forget the experience, for I was the Scoutmaster of one of the service units? Two of my patrols were assigned to the Encampment headquarters under the supervision of the State of Pennsylvania and the third patrol was on duty at the headquarters of the Confederate veterans.

Imagine 50,000 old veterans gathered on that historic site for a week. Imagine them shaking hands together over the old stone wall where, fifty years before, they had been blazing away at each other. On the Fourth of July came President Wilson to address the gathering. The word came that he was to be assigned a Scout orderly, in appreciation of the work that the Scouts had been doing, and one of my own Scouts, Glenn Anderson, was selected for the job. I have a vivid picture in my mind of that proud little fellow, standing beside the tall president as he spoke, holding his high silk hat before him like a royal crown.

But the impression left upon those boys was a lesson in the healing of civil strife and the building of brotherhood.

Just to show what this experience meant to the boys who were there, the story bears completion. In 1938, plans were made for a similar reunion, marking the seventy-fifth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg. The number of veterans still living at that time had shrunk to about 4,000. A certain Col. Baker was designated by the War Department to supervise the preparations.

It happened that on the very day on which the Colonel got his orders he had a dental appointment and, while seating himself in the chair, reported his orders to the dentist. The doctor immediately showed unusual interest, then excused himself and went into his private office. Returning, with a small white box in his hand, he opened it before the Colonel and showed him two medals within.

“Here are my two most precious possessions,” he said. “This you’ll recognize as the distinguished service cross. It was given to me in the World War. The other medal is my Boy Scout service medal, given to me by the State of Pennsylvania for our service at Gettysburg in 1913. If I had to give up one of these trophies, I’d hold on to the Gettysburg medal without hesitation.

There was another Boys Scout Service Corps at the 1938 reunion!

¹ Page 74-75, *Building of a Life*, 1965, self-published.

While I mention the War Between the States and speak of brotherhood, let me share with you a new story about President Lincoln that I picked up during World War I. While stationed at Camp Gordon as a personnel officer, I often visited in the Atlanta home of Judge Ellis, an old friend of the family. In a conversational mood one evening, the Judge told me about what happened to his older brother during Civil War days.

The boy was only four years old when the war broke out and Atlanta was threatened. So for safety's sake he was sent to live with relatives in the city of Washington. The little fellow used to play on the then unfenced lawn of the White House. One day a tall gentleman in a stovepipe hat passed by and then turned to talk to the boy.

"Where're you from, sonny?" he asked.

"I'm from Atlanta, sir" said the small boy, proudly.

"Is that so?" said the man. "Did you ever hear of Abe Lincoln down there?"

"Yes, sir," he replied. "They think he's a regular Debbil."

Then, the tall gentleman in the stovepipe hat stooped down and removed the hat. "Do you see any horns up there, sonny?" he asked. "I'm Abe Lincoln."

And, so began a continuing friendship between the "Little Rebel" and the great President.

MANDERSON STORY

By Nick K. Adams

It was the second leg of my journey home. Chicago to Seattle. For the moment, I needed to put behind me the special memories swirling in my mind of the two-week book tour across Minnesota I'd just completed. I had to, because in two days I would have to switch from portraying Governor Alexander Ramsey and become instead Washington's Governor/General Isaac I. Stevens at the Battle of Snoqualmie.

So as we headed west, I had my yellow pad out, along with copies of available information about Stevens, reviewing and taking notes. The cabin steward stopped, looked down, and softly asked, "Civil War?" That led to a brief conversation which drifted from where I had just been to where I would soon be going.

Devin Siems, the steward, then introduced himself and revealed, "I, too, had family in the war, but I don't know anything more than that. They were Irish immigrants, right off the boat."

I offered to help, of course, thinking that Mike Movius could be my enabler through the necessary research. At that point, Devin added: "I inherited a sword from my uncle. There's a name engraved on it, but I can't remember what it is..."

"Give me your email address," I said, "and when I get home I'll contact you for the name."



His response the following week was the name on the sword: "Col. C. F. Manderson." Just the name and a picture. No information about family connections or why his uncle had the sword to pass on to him. There was also a photo of some kind of double barreled gun.

I forwarded the name, and my request for help, to Mike, and the next day he sent me copies of several handwritten Manderson letters, his pension records, and a full page article from "Find a Grave."

After conveying all that information to Mr. Siems, I received back his grateful response for new information about his uncle's relative. He also added: "I'm not sure about the gun, except that it is a double barrel musket, and it's still loaded on one side from the days of the war." Well, there's another story to pursue...

Amazing what a simple conversation can turn up!

Here is the "rest of the story", from the American Civil War Database (www.civilwardata.com):



Charles Frederick Manderson

Residence was not listed; 24 years old.

Enlisted on 4/27/1861 as a 1st Lieutenant.

On 4/27/1861 he was commissioned into "A" Co. 19th Ohio Infantry
He was Mustered Out on 8/27/1861

On 9/1/1861 he was commissioned into "A" Co. 19th Ohio Infantry
He Resigned on 3/16/1865

He was listed as:

* Wounded 9/2/1864 Lovejoy Station, GA

Promotions:

* Capt 5/30/1861

* Capt 9/1/1861 (As of Co. A 19th OH Inf (3-years))

* Major 4/7/1862

* Lt Colonel 1/19/1863

- * Colonel 3/15/1863
- * Brig-General 3/13/1865 by Brevet

Intra Regimental Company Transfers:
* 4/7/1862 from company A to Field & Staff

Other Information:
born 2/9/1837 in Philadelphia, PA
died 9/28/1911 in Liverpool, England

(c) Historical Data Systems, Inc. @ www.civilwardata.com

Nick K. Adams to Appear

By Mike Movius

The ever-popular author and PSCWRT member Nick K. Adams will appear on Civil War Talk Radio on **November 18, 2015** at 4 p.m. Pacific. He will be discussing his latest book, "My Dear Wife and Children: Civil War Letters from a 2nd Minnesota Volunteer". The host of CWTR is a former PSCWRT speaker, historian and faculty member of East Carolina University.

You can listen to the interview at <http://www.impedimentsofwar.org> OR, you can download it as a podcast on iTunes at <https://itunes.apple.com/podcast/civil-war-talk-radio/id443517292>
Any way you go, it's bound to be fun listening to a couple of old friends talking about our favorite subject.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A Brief Biography of Confederate General Robert Toombs

By Rick Solomon

This brief biography of Georgian politician and General Robert Toombs. He was born July 2, 1810 near Washington, Wilkes County, Georgia. His father died when he was just five, and he entered Franklin College at the University of Georgia in Athens when he was just fourteen. During his time at Franklin College, Toombs was a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society, which honors him as one of its most legendary alumni to this day. He went on to study law at the University of Virginia Law School in Charlottesville, Virginia. Shortly after being admitted to the Georgia bar, Toombs married his childhood sweetheart, Julia Ann Dubois. They had three children.

Toombs served in the Georgia House of Representatives in 1838, 1840-41 and 1843-44. Due to his genial character, proclivity to entertain and success on the legal circuit, Toombs was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives (1844-53) along with his close friend Alexander Stephens. Toombs, like Stephens, emerged as a states rights leader, became a national Whig, and once the Whig Party dissolved, aided in the creation of the short-lived Constitutional Union Party in the early 1850s.

In regards to Texas according to historian William V. Thompson Toombs was “prepared to vote all necessary supplies to repel invasion. But he did not agree that the territory between the Nueces River and the Rio Grande was a part of Texas. He declared the movement of American forces to the Rio Grande at President Polk’s command “was contrary to the laws of this country, a usurpation on the rights of this House, and an aggression on the rights of Mexico.” In Toombs being a pro-slavery man I find this somewhat surprising.

From 1853-61 Toombs was a U. S. Senator, only reluctantly joining the Democratic Party when lack of interest among other states doomed the Constitutional Union Party. In the 1850s he was part of the “Georgia Triumvirate” along with Alexander Stephens and Howell Cobb. They supported Henry Clay’s Compromise of 1850. Thompson refers to Toombs as “hardly a man of the people with his wealth and imperious manner. But his handsome imposing appearance, undoubted ability, and boldness of speech appealed to Georgians, who kept him in national office until the Civil War brought him home.”

In the presidential election of 1860 Toombs supported John C. Breckinridge, and upon hearing of election of Lincoln he sent a telegram to Georgia stating “secession by March 4 next should be thundered forth from the ballot-box by the united voice of Georgia.” Toombs delivered a farewell address to the Senate on January 3, 1861 in which he said, “We want no negro equality, no negro citizenship; we want no negro race to degrade our own; and as one man we would meet you upon the border with the sword in one hand and the torch in the other.” He and Governor Joseph E. Brown led the fight for secession against Stephens and Herschel Johnson.

Toombs hoped to become president of the fledgling Confederacy. However confederate leaders rejected him because of his serious drinking problem. Nevertheless Jefferson Davis appointed him the Confederacy’s first Secretary of State. Toombs was the only member of Davis’ administration to voice reservations about the attack on fort Sumter. After reading Lincoln’s letter to the governor of South Carolina, Toombs stated: “Mr. President, at this time it is suicide, murder, and will lose us every friend at the North. You will wantonly strike a hornet’s nest which extends from mountain to ocean, and legions now quiet will swarm out and sting us to death. It is unnecessary; it puts us in the wrong; it is fatal.”

Soon afterwards he resigned his cabinet post and in July 1861 became a brigadier general of a Georgia brigade in what was later known as the Army of Northern Virginia. He said on several occasions that the confederacy would be “died of West Point”. During the Peninsula Campaign his service was undistinguished except at Malvern Hill. D. H. Hill reprimanded him for allowing his troops to break ranks and not rallying them. Toombs challenged Hill to a duel. Hill refused to give Toombs satisfaction stating that service to the confederacy demanded that both generals be at their posts rather than engage in personal quarrels. On the march to Second Manassas Toombs was arrested for failing to guard a roadway as ordered.

Toombs’s one great day as a commander came at Antietam. His brigade defended the crossing of the Burnside Bridge for several hours. Several years ago when I was on battlefield tour with Ed Bearss I asked Ed if he had ever taken a sitting president on a battlefield tour. Ed

told me that he had taken Jimmy Carter to the area of Toombs and his Georgia brigades' defense of the crossing of the Burnside Bridge. Toombs was severely wounded that day and was unable to lead his men at Fredericksburg. When he was not promoted Toombs resigned his commission in March 1863. At that time there were many brigadier generals more deserving of promotion than Toombs. He became Colonel of the 3rd Cavalry of the Georgia Militia, and subsequently served as a brigadier general and adjutant and inspector-general of General Gustavus W. Smith's division of Georgia militia. During this period Toombs launched a major attack on Davis and the government, opposed conscription and the suspension of habeas corpus, as newspapers warned that he verged on treason.

When the war ended he fled to Cuba, and then Paris. He returned to Georgia in 1867 but he refused to request a pardon from the president and regained neither his right to vote nor his political career. He did restore his lucrative law practice. In addition, Toombs dominated the Georgia constitutional convention of 1877, where once again he demonstrated the political skill and temperament that earlier had earned him a reputation as one of Georgia's most effective leaders. He gained a populist reputation for his attacks on railroads. In a series of personal tragedies his wife went insane, he drank heavily and went blind. Toombs died an embittered man on December 15, 1885.

See you October 8th!

Rick Solomon, President

THE LAST WORD

By Mark R. Terry

The following editorial was printed in the Charleston (WV) Gazette-Mail on Sunday, September 27, 2015. I felt it was worth passing on to you...

How many symbols do you want to purge?

By A.V. Gallagher

For four score and nine years, the flag of the United States symbolized and defended slavery. The battle flag of the Confederacy protected the peculiar institution for only four years. Should we shun the Stars and Stripes? In fact, had it not been for the rebel battle flag forcing us into the Civil War the South lost, we might never have eliminated slavery in the United States until well into the 20th Century, at least under Lincoln's original thinking. Should we, instead, venerate the rebel battle flag that generated the war that ended slavery? It would seem to make more sense.

Why has it suddenly become fashionable to despise the Stars and Bars? A shooting in a church in the South that resulted in nine deaths led to a new political revolution that now finds everything Confederate unfashionable, like we can somehow cleanse the taint of slavery and its symbols from the nation by eliminating a battle flag and thoroughly scrubbing any insurgent images from our landscape. Stalin perfected such rewrites of history when he used his form of Photoshop to pop his image in and out of pictures as necessary in the 1920s to enhance his own reputation. Mental illness and unfettered access to firearms are the culprits here, not political leaders who led a wrongheaded revolution against the United States more than 150 years ago, and certainly

not the foot soldiers who grabbed muskets and fought primarily for their own form of nationalism. A deranged man who fancied the rebel battle flag killed, and for that a seminal period of U.S. history should be whitewashed.

Politicians, fixating on the grief from these recent murders, are lashing out against the wrong symbols, but the politically easy ones. Their targets should be lack of funding for mental health programs, prenatal care, programs to keep pregnant women off drugs, support to keep teens from becoming pregnant, and banning deadly weapons, not toppling statues of Jefferson Davis and pulling down a flag whose history is gone with the wind. If we are going to look at symbols, then let's take in the whole record and see what else we should abhor for promoting slavery and all subsequent violence.

It was the U.S. Supreme Court that gave us the 1857 Dred Scott ruling that said slaves were not people and another in 1896 that said for more than half a century that separate-but-equal was the acceptable law of the land. Surely, we should not venerate such an institution.

The U.S. Constitution, which never mentions slavery, still includes three clauses — one of which deliberately subverts democracy — in its attempt to protect slavery. Should we pitch the Constitution? Slavery was legal and practiced in all of the original 13 colonies. Slavery started the Civil War. But as with many things in history, the answer is not so simple. When one throws facts into the mix and overlays it all on a grid of context, things can get significantly sticky. And when people confuse grief and a piece of cloth with what is really mental illness and an almost-maniacal devotion to firearms, and expedient ideas are pushed by uninformed or expedient politicians, then lots of things can happen and not all of them rational.

The killing of nine people is a tragedy, but it was not caused by a piece of cloth. And that type of tragedy will not be eliminated by banning that symbol or removing pigeon-dropped statues from town squares. I disagree that every southern man who flocked to the colors in 1861 and 1862 joined to defend slavery. Some did, surely. But the significant majority joined as young men do in any war: to protect the abstract notion of nationalism and their nation, not for a specific program. How many of the 2.5 million Americans who served in Vietnam knew what they were fighting for? How many men who joined the armed forces after Pearl Harbor knew where Pearl Harbor was? How many understood Iraq or Afghanistan? How many Union soldiers joined before 1863 to end slavery? None, because ending slavery only became a war aim when it was politically expedient to the North, and even then slaves remained in bondage in northern states. By all means, politically cleanse Stone Mountain by erasing the visages of those three slaveholders, and take Mount Rushmore with it, eliminating the faces of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, and modifying Abraham Lincoln's to reflect his ambiguity on everything about slavery save its expansion into the territories. Purge the Declaration of Independence since it was written by a slaveholder. But let's take with Jefferson, John Hancock, Benjamin Franklin and the conqueror of the South, U.S. Grant, because they all owned slaves and all, including Washington and Lincoln, fought for or defended Old Glory when it promoted slavery. Burning crosses and white sheets symbolized white supremacy in the South after the Civil War, but we do not seek to shun either the cross or color our sheets.

For 12,000 years, until the western democracies allowed a criminal organization to take control of Germany for a dozen years, the swastika symbolized well-being in countless civilizations across the globe. Now we hate that sign only because of what it symbolizes to each of us because

of the Nazis. The Nazis also gave us the two most powerful symbols of the Olympics in 1936, yet we haven't done away with the torch ceremony or the rings. Many in the South remain deluded over the Lost Cause and venerate their monuments; others do not. Nothing is wrong with either position unless we want to go down there and wash away every abstract thought we believe is not in conformity with how they ought to believe. Then we can bulldoze, chisel and purify the countryside, destroy those monuments and flags, to make sure everyone thinks properly. Just tell me who should decide how they should think. Shall we call George Orwell?

A.V. Gallagher, a former Gazette reporter, is executive director of the West Virginia Housing Institute. - See more at:

<http://www.wvgazette.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20150927/ARTICLE/150929624/1455#sthash.KNSQupCt.VVKQBG8Z.dpuf>

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 November 2015 Washington Volunteer is Monday, October 26, 2015. Please have it in Mark Terry's hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!

2015-2016 OFFICERS

Elected:*

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**All, except for Past President, an automatic position.*