NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 11, 2016
China Harbor, 2040 Westlake Avenue North, Seattle, Washington
Social hour at 6 p.m.; Dinner served at 7 p.m.; Program at 8 p.m.

MENU CHOICES: Mongolian Beef, Chicken, Salmon or Vegetarian
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, February 9, 2016.

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

RICK SOLOMON WILL DISCUSS ALL FOUR “LEE TO THE REAR” INCIDENTS. May 1864 was a desperate time for Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia. In addition to the famous “Lee to the Rear” incident early on the second day of the Battle of the Wilderness, memorialized in a poem, there were three more “Lee to the Rear” incidents a week later during the Battle of Spotsylvania. Did these incidents reflect a death wish by “Marse Robert”? A longtime Round Table member, Rick has been president and newsletter editor.

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES

Additions to the PSCWRT Board of Officers

At the recent PSCWRT Board Meeting held on Wednesday, January 27th, there was a motion to appoint two new board positions, VP- Marketing and VP- Partnerships. Both of these positions are needed to enhance the mission of the Round Table going forward. Although we are excited to have Stephen and Susan on the board, these positions will not be official until the changes in the Constitution are voted upon by the membership at the May, 2016 meeting. Here they are:
Susan Martin  
Vice President- Marketing

Susan Martin is originally from Dayton, Ohio, and has also lived in Michigan and Minnesota. Her day job has ranged from fraud investigator for banks, to a mobile app project manager, to digital advertiser, and now as tech support for librarians. These things pay the bills, but her deeper passions involve music composition, theology, photography, architecture, and many other things. And history, of course!

Susan’s interest in the Civil War began in childhood thanks to parents who were deeply inquisitive about art, culture, and history. On epic family road trips, they would seek out battlefields, parks, and museums. Large or small, it didn't matter. Even if it was a simple historical marker by the road, her family would stop to read them all and ask questions and think about the people who came before us. While doing genealogical research, her interest in the Civil War was rekindled as she learned about a great-great-great grandfather, Jonas Turnbell, who fought with the 49th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company D, and was injured at Chickamauga. Suddenly history seems even more alive and personal than ever, which made it all the more meaningful to become a part of the PSCWRT community. Susan says that she is honored to join the board and do what she can to contribute to the ongoing vitality of the Roundtable.

http://www.numinouscreations.com

Stephen J. Clayton  
Vice President- Partnerships

Stephen was born and raised in Bremerton Washington. He was active in swimming and hiking in his childhood as well as Boy Scouts. He attended Highline Community College graduating with an Associate Degree in Applied Science and continued his education at Western Washington University graduating with a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Service Management.

Stephen is a Vietnam-era veteran having served in the U.S. Navy as a Hospital Corpsman. He has been a Health Care Manager for over 35 years, both in for-profit and not-for-profit organizations in the Puget Sound area. He successfully began and developed two businesses. His wife, Patty and Stephen have lived in Northeast Seattle for 34 years and have a son who works in international trade and business. They enjoy traveling especially to places in America of historical significance.

PSCWRT Annual Auction- April 14, 2016

It was decided at the board meeting that our annual auction will be held at the 14 April 2016 meeting. PSCWRT Member Stephen Pierce has agreed to organize the auction. Efforts are being made to further streamline the auction in order to allow our speaker to have as much time as necessary for his presentation. Details will be forthcoming next month- stay tuned!
Fort Steilacoom field trip report
By Mark R. Terry

On Monday, January 18, 2016, twenty-five members and friends of the PSCWRT traveled to Lakewood, Washington to tour Fort Steilacoom for our 2nd Annual PSCWRT Field Trip. The fort is one of the more significant historic landmarks from the early days of Washington Territory. Founded in 1849, Fort Steilacoom provided a presence for the United States and security for American settlers in an area dominated at the time by the Hudson’s Bay Company. The first structures were made of logs, but in the mid-1850’s they were replaced by wooden frame & brick houses and barracks. The fort consisted of about 15-20 buildings set in a U shape with a 4-acre parade ground in the center. Four of the houses still stand, one of which (Quarters 3) is having its foundation restored.

We were welcomed by several members of the Historic Fort Steilacoom Association- Loran Bures, Joe Lewis, Ken Morgan, Alan Archambault and Patricia Bures. Joe Lewis & Ken Morgan started out by giving us an overview of the fort and its history, using a large diorama. Afterwards we broke up into two groups and saw two original Civil War Napoleon artillery pieces maintained by the fort, then were given a presentation on the life and duties of a Laundress in the U.S. Army by Patricia Bures, dressed in period attire. Lastly, while we all ate lunch, Alan Archambault did a multi-media presentation about the most prominent officers stationed at the fort who played significant roles in the Civil War.

Personally speaking, I learned quite a bit about the fort that I knew nothing about. I found it interesting that when the fort was abandoned by the Federal government in 1868, the state took over the fort and used the enlisted men’s barracks as a mental institution. Gradually, however, the old buildings grew dilapidated and a new hospital was erected very close by- Western State Hospital. I had never realized the connection one had with the other!

Members and friends who attended were Jim Dimond, Jeff Rombauer, Rod Cameron, Stephen Pierce, Jorgen Bader, Marilyn Rexilius, Jay Secord, Ann Brown, Dick Miller, Mark Terry, Kim Terry, Richard Kerr, Jon Echols, Susan Martin, Doug Galuska, Steve Clayton, Betty Clayton, Malcolm Garber, Ray Caldwell, Susan Shelby, Nick Adams, John Hough, Keith Clark, W. Carlson, and Rick Solomon.

I am sorry for those who weren’t able to attend. It was a wonderful and informative event. Rick says next year he is hoping to set up a field trip to the U.S. Army Museum at JBLM.
The Joys of Website Management
By Mike Movius

Although many of you will never get the opportunity to design, develop and manage a website, let me tell you how wonderful it actually is. When I first got the idea of redeveloping the site in 2010, I had no idea of the wonderful world of websites. (No, that’s not what www stands for.) I began by throwing out ideas to the board, and they responded…mostly. And, some of my “better ideas” we nixed. But, in the main, I was happy with the outcome of the design process.

Then, came the development. Being a novice, I didn’t know about naming conventions for pages, nor did I even remember ever to have looked at my browser to see them before. But, as I published and launched the first couple versions, I began to encounter lockdown programs and .htaccess files that prevented both you and me from opening the website without a password. And, even sometimes, they didn’t work.

And, that brings me to my recent ecstasy. Our website development software offered an update, and I downloaded it without a care in the world. And, it happened. All my themes, all my plugins and all my addons ceased working. No, they ceased to show up in the library. And, it was time to integrate the new Washington Volunteer.

I quickly wrote the software folks and asked for their help. I asked again and again, and yet again. They wanted to know if I had a “hackintosh”. So, I got to re-download my component software files AGAIN! And after three weeks of rapture, I published and launched a new-look website on January 25, 2016 at www.pscwrt.org

It has some bugs…not every link works correctly. And, navigation is very different. Remember that are over 1,900 files. When you get to a broken link…or one that takes you to somewhere you didn’t expect, drop me a line. Share my fun…
Website Photographs
By Mike Movius

We have been asked to identify the photographs that adorn our redeveloped website. Since I took all of them, it seems only fitting that I divulge where they were taken. The HOME page photo was taken from Little Round Top behind the statue of Brigadier General Gouverneur K. Warren in November 2013. This link has more photos of the famous general: http://gettysburg.stonesentinels.com/monuments-to-individuals/gouverneur-warren/

The PSCWRT photo was taken at Vicksburg National Military Park in July 2013. This statue flanks the very tall Wisconsin memorial topped by the Eagle, “Old Abe”. This link helps to place it in context. http://www.nps.gov/vick/learn/historyculture/wisconsin-memorial.htm

The ACTIVITIES photo was taken within the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Virginia at the General Robert E. Lee headquarters display in December 2012. This link and the photo it contains give you a better understanding that his headquarters was in his tent. http://www.alamy.com/stock-photo-exhibit-of-robert-e-lee-s-headquarters-tent-museum-of-the-confederacy-19611178.html

The RESOURCES photograph was taken of the of the Civil War Soldier statues near the capital building on the mall in Washington City in February 2010. When you visit the link, you will notice that the statues are actually green. I turned it into a black and white photo as it looks much more dramatic. http://www.dreamstime.com/photos-images/civil-war-soldier-statue.html

The PROJECTS photo is rather unique. It is the interior of the Bancroft Hall dome at the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. I took the phot during a guided tour conducted by a midshipman from Washington state, the son of a friend of my brothers. The colors and lighting seem exquisite. This link provides an idea of how fortunate I was to have taken this photo. https://www.google.com/search?q=bancroft+hall+dome&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiW5vmmhc7KAhVJ3WMKHYLgCQYQ7AkILg&biw=1521&bih=1133#imgrc=

The ABOUT photo was taken at the U. S. Library of Congress in February 2009. The ornate decorations in the Great Hall are suitably impressive. This is such an oft photographed interior that many professional photographers showcase their skills on the web. This link has several some classical examples: http://www.sdcphotography.com/2014/05/23/us-library-congress-national-shrine-immaculate-conception-basilica-meet/

The MEMBERS ONLY photo is a night time classic of the Lincoln Memorial taken in February 2009 in Washington City. The Great Emancipator rests easy atop a staircase of 56 steps, one for every year he lived. Notice that one hand is clinched showing his strength and determination during the Civil War. The other is open showing his warmth and compassion. This link provides the history and context of the memorial and statue: http://www.nps.gov/linc/learn/historyculture/lincoln-memorial-design-individuals.htm
Washington Project Receives Questions about Relatives
By Mike Movius

I recently received the following email from Kirk Mayer of East Wenatchee:
I have several "Robinson family" members buried at the Davenport, Washington Mountain View
cemetery. My grandfather Ernest Albert Robinson was born at the Bluestem farm near
Davenport, WA.

In the Davenport cemetery is a T J Robinson, Captain, 47 Regiment, Company C, Indiana
Infantry. No birth or death dates on the headstone. Your records list his first name as: John.

Can you provide me with some ideas on how to find more information about the T J Robinson
buried in Davenport, WA.?

Note: A family member mentioned that our family did have a member named John Theodore
Robinson that was born and buried on the Bluestem farm near Davenport, WA. He was born
May 5, 1891 and died May 15, 1891. (He may have been named after a deceased relative??)

I have not found any information about either person. Thanks for your expertise and assistance.

Our response was quick and to the point:
Kirk, It is Captain J. T. Robinson, Co G 47th Indiana Infantry buried in the Mountain View
Cemetery in Davenport, Lincoln County.

We use several sources, including
http://www.findagrave.com
plus https://www.fold3.com

It can get quite complicated, especially with common last names,
but when we actually find the right record, it is pretty rewarding.

Mike Movius, Olympia

The following poem “Lee to the Rear” is taking the place of “The President’s Corner” at
the request of President Rick Solomon. Rick felt thought it would be a good “appetizer” for
his talk. Immediately following is how Don Troiani pictured it in “Lee’s Texans”

John Reuben Thompson was a native of Richmond, who before the war became the editor of the Southern
Literary Messenger, which was once edited by Edgar Allen Poe. During the war, he was the assistant
secretary to the Commonwealth and also edited two publications. In failing health, he ran the blockade to
England in 1863 and edited a pro-Confederate newspaper there. While in England, he moved in the
highest English literary circles, counting Thackery, the Brownings, Tennyson, and Carlisle among his
friends.

Thompson returned to New York in 1866, eventually dying there in 1873 and is buried in the Hollywood
Cemetery in Richmond, VA.
Lee to the Rear

By John Reuben Thompson

Dawn of a pleasant morning in May,
Broke through the Wilderness cool and gray;
While perched in the tallest tree-tops, the birds
Were carolling Mendelssohn's 'Song without Words.'

Far from the haunts of men remote,
The brook brawled on with a liquid note;
And Nature, all tranquil and lovely wore
The smile of the spring, as in Eden of yore.

Little by little, as daylight increased,
And deepened, the roseeat flush in the East-
Little by little did morning reveal
Two long glittering lines of steel;

Where two hundred thousand bayonets gleam,
Tipped with the light of the earliest beam,
And the faces are sullen and grim to see
In the hostile armies of Grant and Lee.

All of a sudden, ere rose the sun,
Pealed on the silence the opening gun-
A little white puff of smoke there came,
And anon the valley was wreathed in flame.

Down on the left of the Rebel lines,
Where a breastwork stands in a copse of pines,
Before the Rebels their ranks can form,
The Yankees have carried the place by storm.

Stars and Stripes on the salient wave,
Where many a hero has found a grave,
And the gallant Confederates strive in vain
The ground they have drenched with their blood to regain.

Yet louder the thunder of battle roared,
Yet a deadlier fire on the columns poured;
Slaughter infernal rode with Despair,
Furies twain, through the murky air.

Not far off, in the saddle there sat
A gray-bearded man in a black slouched hat;
Not much moved by the fire was he,
Calm and resolute Robert Lee.

Quick and watchful he kept his eye
On the bold Rebel brigades close by,
Reserves that were standing (and dying) at ease,
While the tempest of wrath toppled over the trees,

For still with their loud, deep, bull-dog bay,
The Yankee batteries blazed away,
And with every murderous second that sped
A dozen brave fellows, alas! fell dead.

The grand old gray-beard rode to the space
Where Death and his victims stood face to face,
And silently waved his old slouched hat-
A world of meaning there was in that!

'Follow me! Steady! We'll save the day!'
This was what he seemed to say;
And to the light of his glorious eye
The bold brigades thus made reply:

'We'll go forward, but you must go back'-
And they moved not an inch in the perilous track:
'Go to the rear, and we'll send them to hell!'
And the sound of the battle was lost in their yell.

Turning his bridle, Robert Lee
Rode to the rear. Like waves of the sea,
Bursting their dikes in their overflow,
Madly his veterans dashed on the foe.

And backward in terror that foe was driven,
Their banners rent and their columns riven,
Wherever the tide of battle rolled
Over the Wilderness, wood and wold.

Sunset out of a crimson sky
Streamed o'er a field of ruddier dye,
And the brook ran on with a purple stain,
From the blood of ten thousand foemen slain.

Seasons have passed since that day and year-
Again o'er its pebbles the brook runs clear,
And the field in a richer green is drest
Wherever the dead of a terrible conflict rest.

Hushed is the roll of the Rebel drum,
The sabres are sheathed, and the cannon are dumb;
And Fate, with his pitiless band, has furled
The flag that once challenged the gaze of the world;

But the fame of the Wilderness fight abides;
And down into history grandly rides,
Calm and unmoved as in battle he sat,
The gray-bearded man in the black slouched hat.
Don Troiani, “Lee’s Texans”. Notice the soldier reaching for Traveller’s bridle to restrain Lee.

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 March 2016 Washington Volunteer is Monday, February 22, 2016. Please have it in Mark Terry’s hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!

2015-2016 OFFICERS
Elected:*
President: Rick Solomon, ricksolo@ricksolo.com
Vice-President-Successor: Mike Movius, webmaster@pscwrt.org
Past-President: David Palmer, davidpalmer7@comcast.net
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: Marilyn Rexilius, marilyn.rexilius@frontier.com
Vice President-Social Media: Mike Movius, webmaster@pscwrt.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, LJilbert.CJilbert@comcast.net

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