

THE WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER

PUGET SOUND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

WWW.PSCWRT.ORG

MARCH 2017

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 9, 2017

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, Salmon or Vegetarian

Dinner includes: salad, vegetable delight, General Tso's chicken, fried rice and fresh fruit.

Cost: \$21 for adults; \$10 for minors and college students. **See below for reservations. Payable at the door.** Opting out of dinner? \$5 fee for non-members, \$1 fee for members.

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**

Reservations are MANDATORY and be in by 12 NOON on Tuesday, March 7, 2017.

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



JOHN F. (JEFF) MCLAUGHLIN WILL DISCUSS *CROSSING ANTIETAM: THE CIVIL WAR LETTERS OF CAPTAIN HENRY AUGUSTUS SAND: COMPANY A, 103RD NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS*, a work

he edited with Peter H. Sand as a labor of love and a fascination with families. Henry Sand's articulate, sometimes funny, and always insightful letters chronicle life in the Union Army. Henry first enlisted for 90 days in the 7th Regiment, New York National Guard, which arrived in Washington, DC, just in time to help dissuade the Confederates from attacking the Capitol after First Bull Run. He then helped raise the 103rd New York from among his German-American compatriots, and the regiment was assigned to Burnside's Corps in North Carolina and later in Maryland. Since the 103rd was a "silk stocking" regiment from New York, Henry's letters mesh closely with regimental press coverage in the New York Times, The Brooklyn Daily Eagle and other sources. A Professor Emeritus of pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine, Doctor McLaughlin is a pediatrician specializing in congenital anomalies and developmental disabilities, who cared for children at Seattle Children's throughout his career. His interest in the Civil War began when he read classics by Bruce Catton and Carl Sandburg as a high school student. The

book is dedicated to his deceased wife, Suzanne Rossire McLaughlin, who treasured the efforts of her great-grandmother to honor Henry Sand. He is also a member of our PSCWRT!

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES

ANNUAL AUCTION APRIL 2017- NEXT MONTH!!!

By Mark R. Terry

This is your “heads up” to start collecting items for the Annual Auction! As you may know, besides dues and individual donations, the auction is our only source of funds to keep the PSCWRT going. The bulk of it goes to finance our out of town speakers for airfare and accommodations.

In terms of what to bring to the auction, anything you feel someone else will want suffices. If everyone who attends brings at least one item for the silent auction, that would be great (although the more the merrier!). Additionally, if you have some major items for the Live Auction, those would be welcome as well. Sports tickets (there will be a couple up for bid for a Sounders match), paintings, rare books & documents. Be creative and be generous!

We are still looking for a coordinator for the auction, so if you are interested in helping, that would be great. At this point, it appears that our long-time Live Auction MC Dick Miller will be here to do it again. The actual timetable and details for the silent and live auction has yet to be determined, but we will let you know in online updates and in the April newsletter.

Thank you in advance for bringing items to donate AND to be generous in bidding on items. It's pretty simple- without the annual auction, our Round Table will not survive.

Here is a link on the website for all things Auction:

<http://www.pscwrt.org/activities/annual-auction.html>

March Birthdays

Several members have birthdays in March and we'd like to acknowledge their special day. They are:

Nick K. Adams

Ken Bertrand

Barbara Bruff Hemmingson

Marilyn Rexilius

Happy Birthday!!!

NEWS AND PROJECTS

Ed Malles' American Civil War Final Exam- Postscript

By Mark R. Terry

As was mentioned in the February Washington Volunteer, Ed Malles made available a Final Exam for those who wanted to take it to test their knowledge. Ed had said last month that the

answers would be posted in the March edition of the newsletter. Well, I took the test, and given the fact that the test is seven pages long, and the answer key almost as long I unfortunately could not publish the answers here. Instead of that, I am posting the link to the PSCWRT website (which has lots of room) where you can find both the test and the answers. If you don't have access to the internet but still want to take the test, please contact me and I will set you up! Here is the link: <http://www.pscwrt.org/PDF/FINAL%20EXAM%20KEY.pdf>

Discovering the History of PSCWRT

By Mark R. Terry

Over the years, the history of the PSCWRT has become clouded. Many of us have wondered who founded it and when the first meeting took place. Thankfully, we have Pat Brady, our longtime VP of Programming. Pat recently sent out an email to the board. He wrote "OK, so I've been sorting through boxes in my garage and came across the attached four pages on the founding of the Round Table in late 1985". Pat continued, "The document, written by Professor [Thomas J.] Pressly of the UW History Dept in 1999, summarizes the 1985 founding and mostly credits Dio Richardson. Dio and Loren Mann (co-founder of Round Table) had both been through Army ROTC together at UW before service in WW II; Loren was wounded in Italy."

Apparently the first meeting organizing the group was held in October 1985 and announced the next meeting for November 21, 1985. Unfortunately, that was cancelled due to a snow storm but on December 5, 1985 another meeting took place, where Professor Pressly was the speaker. The meetings in those days were conducted in the Gold Room of the Sand Point Officer's Club at the Naval Station. Sadly, Richardson, Mann, Pressly and another founder, Stewart Pope are no longer with us.

I believe it is important to know our history as much as the history of the American Civil War. As Pat wrote "my packrat hoard includes all Round Table bulletins/newsletters from the start to date, with a few missing." Pat is working with previous newsletter editor Sylva Coppock to fill the gaps in the list of meeting dates, speakers and topics. Mike Movius is working to post past newsletters on the PSCWRT website and hopefully soon it will be complete!

One of my goals is to write a short article on the history of the Civil War Round Table movement itself, which began 77 years ago in Chicago. Although CWRT's have grown not only here in the U.S. but around the world, there have also been a significant number disbanding in recent years. Mike Movius warned us at last month's meeting that 64 Round Tables in the East have disappeared.

This should cause us to redouble our efforts to keep the history of the Civil War alive in our corner of the country. Thanks for being a "packrat", Pat!

FEATURED ARTICLES



Get to Know: PSCWRT Vice-President Reservations – Rod Cameron

I was born in Tacoma, WA in 1938 and am now 78 years old. I graduated from Franklin High School in Seattle in 1957 and two weeks later enrolled at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. I managed my escape from there 4 years later (1961), emerging as a 2nd lieutenant. Married my first wife Betsy in Seattle in July 1961 two weeks after she graduated from Stanford.

I served my military service in Texas, California and Turkey (departing from Seattle for Turkey the day after the traumatizing assassination of John F. Kennedy), emerging back to civilian life in September, 1964, and, with wife and one year old son in tow. . .

Immediately enrolled in law school at UC Berkeley for another 3 years. I arrived there in September 1964. The Free Speech Movement began right before my eyes that October—Mario Savio and crowd. I watched the tumultuous ‘60s emerge around me with an open mouth, not of participation, but of astonishment.

With a JD and California Bar membership in hand I moved to Washington D.C.(1967) for two years picking up a second (Wash. DC) bar membership and working at the FAA and the DC Court of Appeals as a law clerk assisting my judge write his opinions.

My next move (in 1969) was to New York to assume the Executive Directorship of the Environmental Defense Fund, a group of lawyers and scientists who litigated various environmental causes. Our first major victory was to get DDT banned nationwide. That’s why eagles and other birds of prey can now be seen flying over Northwest (and other) skies. We also compelled a complete redesign of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline in 1973 thereby preventing what would have been a very problematic pipeline had it been built as originally (shoddily) designed. We got whales listed as endangered and took many other actions during my 5 years there. I resigned in 1975 and returned to Seattle.

I took the Washington State bar exam (my last, thank God!) and began the practice of law in my home state that year which I continued until 2001 when I retired.

I have been very happily married to my second wife, Heather Howard, also an attorney, since 1982. I have 3 sons all of whom currently live in Seattle.

Civil War interest? West Point saw to that. But it also whetted my appetite for history in general, often as seen through the eyes of military leaders. My pick for history’s top military leader: Hannibal of Carthage, who marched through Spain, over the Alps and into Italy (221 B.C.) and, with a ragtag collection of soldiers (and elephants), taught the Romans, nearing the apex of their power, and in their home court, what a truly towering military genius could accomplish.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

You may have heard me say that I will not preside over a dying organization. Nor should you want to be part of one. That's the sole reason for the committee structure that we are asking you to become a part of. At our February meeting, some of you stepped forward and effectively said, "I want to be part of the solution!" I was deeply gratified with your response. This is how our committees are shaping up:

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE Mark Terry – Chairman Rick Solomon Jeff McLaughlin Steve Garnett	GENEALOGY COMMITTEE Stephen Pierce – Chairman Mark Terry Verlin Judd Matt Ford	PROGRAM COMMITTEE Pat Brady – Chairman Dick Miller Rick Solomon
FINANCE COMMITTEE Jeff Rombauer – Chairman Jim Dimond	MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE Mike Movius – Chairman Steve Clayton Nick K. Adams	PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE Steve Clayton – Chairman Patty Clayton Nick K. Adams
GREETER COMMITTEE (Rangers) Doug Galuszka – Chairman	PRESERVATION COMMITTEE Jim Dimond – Chairman Nick K. Adams	SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE Mike Movius – Chairman Richard Dickson

I want everyone to consider the importance of American history in general and your Civil War interest or heritage specifically. What would your world be without the sacrifice these brave men and women made? Do you really think that the school system is preparing students with a satisfactory knowledge about the Civil War? The above committee member list is a good start, but there is plenty of room for you to step up.

THE LAST WORD

Just Another Day on Facebook

By Mark R. Terry



True confession. I spend way too much time each day on Facebook, one of the many “social media” sites on the internet. Facebook is a great way to communicate with friends and keep up with what is going on in their lives. We can also tune into the things that interest us, like the Civil War.

One of the groups I joined is called “The American Civil War”. Every day, items appear on my Facebook “wall” and I have the opportunity to engage or ignore, “like”, or comment on it. On January 17, 2017, the above painting was posted by Thomas Meagher. I commented “Armistead!” that day and moved on. About two weeks later, I happened to go back and read some more of the comments about the painting. The following ones got my attention:

Steve Reilly: Nice to look at, but we all know this is not what happened. Few made it past the wall and it ended fast.

Kevin Dally: I still don't believe THAT MANY CBF's would have been in that close proximity together in that section of the battle field. I'm betting artist's do that to thrill the pro-Confederate folk to make sales.

Steve Reilly: Kevin Dally is 100% right, the artist goal was to made [sic] money and if he could do that, by making the painting look like a grand confederate mile stone, so be it. When in fact, it was nothing more then [sic] entering the killing field.

Normally, I take comments like these with a grain of salt and move on, but I felt something needed to be said. I replied,

Mark Terry: Kevin Dally, the accounts that I have read go along with the painting. Yes, when the charge began, the flags were at the center of their regiments. But as the assault progressed, casualties within each regiment and the loss of cohesion within the division resulted in the original orderly battle lines becoming a mass of men and battle flags converging in the center. So please do some research before spouting your anti-Confederate rhetoric. Thanks.

Okay, I probably should not have included that last sentence, but I was feeling a bit frustrated. Kevin Dally responded with this comment:

Kevin Dally: Mark Terry Post sources of your "accounts" to back up your pro Confederate rhetoric. It's more like anti glorification of Confederates, not "anti Confederate"!

The challenge was on! After work the next day I looked through my books on Gettysburg and Pickett’s Charge and found the following information:

Dear Kevin Dally and Steve Reilly, since you asked me to give you sources for my assertions that the artist of the painting in question was correct in showing numerous Confederate battle flags at the Angle during the climax of the Pickett-Pettigrew Charge, I decided to consult “The Damned Red Flags of the Rebellion- The Confederate Battle Flag at Gettysburg” by Richard Rollins. This is a detailed study of the battle flags that were captured during the Gettysburg Campaign.

On Page 229, Rollins writes:

“How many Confederate battle flags were carried over the stone wall during Pickett’s Charge? One Federal eyewitness, a man in the 106th Pennsylvania who testified in court, said he saw six Confederate battle flags inside the angle. Lt. Haskell described “those red flags...accumulating at the wall” as numbering “a dozen” but did not specify their exact location on the wall or east or west of it. Yet at another point he mentioned 12 Federal flags at the wall and “nearly double this number of the battle flags of the enemy.”

At least nine Confederate battle flags crossed the wall and/or were in the Angle at one time or another, though perhaps not all at exactly the same time. Those were the flags of the 1st, 3rd, 9th, 14th, 28th, 53rd, 56th and 57th Virginia Regiments, and the unidentified flag captured by Pvt. George Moore of the 71st Pennsylvania. All were seized in the Angle. Two more, the unknown flag captured by Col. Devereux and the unknown flag captured by Pvt. Robinson and then given to a Colonel Rice, crossed the wall south of the Copse of Trees. That brings the total number of flags crossing the wall to eleven.”

Rollins goes on to write that it appears at least 38 Confederate battle flags were captured during Pickett’s Charge.

For Steve Reilly and Kevin Dally, their prejudices led them to the wrong conclusion that the painting was a pro-Confederate fantasy, when in fact it was portraying the truth. I share this with you for this reason. Before we make assertions about facts, we should probably examine the paradigm we see history through and adjust it with the truth.

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 for space. The deadline for the April 2017 Washington Volunteer is Monday, March 27, 2017. Please have it in Mark Terry’s hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!

2016-2017 OFFICERS

Elected: *[All, except for Past President, an automatic position.]*

President: Mike Movius, president@pscwr.org

Vice-President-Successor: Nick K. Adams, carmodnick@comcasst.net

Past-President: Rick Solomon, ricksolo@ricksolo.com

Treasurer: Jeff Rombauer, jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com

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

Vice-President- Membership: Marilyn Rexilius, marilyn.rexilius@frontier.com

Vice-President- Marketing: Vacant

Vice-President- Partnerships: Steve Clayton, cpsclayton@msn.com

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

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

Secretary: Vacant; Vice President-Social Media: Vacant