

# THE WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER

PUGET SOUND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

WWW.PSCWRT.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2017

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 1

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 14, 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. Payable at the door. **Opting out of dinner?** \$5 fee for non-members, \$1 fee for members.

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



**RICHARD W. ETULAIN, PROFESSOR EMERITUS, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO, WILL DISCUSS ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE AMERICAN**

**WEST**, with special attention to the Pacific Northwest. He is the author of more than 100 essays and the author or editor of more than 50 books, including *Lincoln Looks West: From the Mississippi to the Pacific*; *The American West: A Twentieth Century History*; *Conversations with Wallace Stegner*; and *The Life and Legends of Calamity Jane*. He has served on the Board of Editors of several

journals and lectured in more than ten foreign countries. Reared on a sheep ranch in eastern Washington, he now lives in the Portland, Oregon area.

## ***IMPORTANT DISPATCHES***

**The 2017-2018 PSCWRT Season is Here! Please “Re-Enlist”!**

Yes, as you see below, VP of Programming Pat Brady has lined up another excellent group of speakers for us this year. Be sure to get your dues in so you can be a full participant! You have gotten a letter from Treasurer Jeff Rombauer by this time. Please fill it out and send the SASE back with your dues included. You can also pay dues via the website's PayPal link. PLEASE NOTE that dues are now \$25 single or couple. Thanks so much!

## **Puget Sound Civil War Round Table Program Schedule- 33<sup>rd</sup> Season!**

The descriptions below have been edited for space. For a more in-depth description of speaker topics and their backgrounds, go to <http://www.pscwrt.org/pscwrt/meetings/speakers.html>

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2017 (See above)**

**OCTOBER 12, 2017 Wayne Wei-Siang Hsieh**, Associate Professor of History, United States Naval Academy, will discuss the Civil War and the origins of modern warfare

**NOVEMBER 9, 2017 Richard A. Hanks** will discuss the book he edited, *Vermont's Proper Son: The Letters of Soldier and Scholar Edwin Hall Higley, 1861-1871*. Higley served as a lieutenant with the 1st Vermont Cavalry, Army of the Potomac, 1861-1865.

**DECEMBER 14, 2017 Professor Lesley J. Gordon** will discuss *A Broken Regiment: The 16<sup>th</sup> Connecticut's Civil War*. The 16<sup>th</sup> Connecticut was badly bloodied at Antietam in 1862 and surrendered en masse in North Carolina in 1864. *A Broken Regiment* focuses on this regiment of Union volunteers who struggled in many ways before, during and after their actual encounters on the battlefield.

**JANUARY 11, 2018 John McKay** will discuss Civil War and Civil Liberties--A Painful Legacy?, including President Abraham Lincoln's suspension of habeas corpus, the reasons for the suspension, and its later reflection in the decision to set up Guantanamo Bay.

**FEBRUARY 8, 2018 Karen Meador** will discuss the Fort Steilacoom to Fort Bellingham Road (still known as Military Road in South King County), a road linked to Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, George Pickett, George McClellan, Joseph Hooker, and other Civil War figures.

**MARCH 8, 2018 SHORT TOPICS:** 1) **Jeff McLaughlin** on his great-grandfather Daniel Joseph McLaughlin, Wagoner, 17<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin (aka the Irish Regiment), February to December 1862, with discussion of the challenges of medical records and serendipitous genealogical finds; 2) **Nick Adams** on *Away at War: A Civil War Story of the Family Left Behind* by a soldier of the 2nd Minnesota; 3) **Ed Malles** on Jackson in the Shenandoah and McClellan on the Peninsula, 1862, considered as one combined campaign, with Lee and Jackson controlling Union decisions through their superior strategy and brilliant tactics; 4) **Lou Berquest** on the letters of his grandfather Francis Bergqvist, 4th Minnesota Infantry, 1861-65, at Corinth, Iuka, Vicksburg, Atlanta, and the March to the Sea and the Carolinas.

**APRIL 12, 2018 Rick Solomon**, Round Table Past President, will discuss Longstreet's Winter of Discontent, 1863-1864, including the Knoxville Campaign and evaluating Longstreet's clashes with three longtime subordinate generals: his childhood friend and First Corps Division Commander, Lafayette McLaws; Evander Law, the excellent brigade commander in Hood's Division; and Jerome Robertson, the commander of the Texas Brigade.

**MAY 10, 2018 Stephen Murphy** will discuss the book he has edited, *The Perfect Scout*, the first-person narrative of George Quimby, detailed as a scout for Sherman's March to the Sea. While delivering dispatches to the blockading fleet through Rebel lines and surviving close escapes from Confederate forces, Quimby encountered plantation owners and slaves, sometimes receiving assistance from them, and even meeting his future wife.

## September Birthdays

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

Rick Bonk  
Wendell Carlson  
Patrick Eakin  
Patricia Ford  
Malcolm Garber  
Henry Grenley  
Andrew Hoyal  
Verlin Judd  
Denny Luthie  
John F. "Jeff" McLaughlin  
Cheryl Nunn  
Haley Ohrt  
Tim Rensema  
Mark Terry

## *NEWS & PROJECTS*

### Leadership Changes

It is with regret that we announce that two active members have stepped down from their positions in leadership.

**Marilyn "Rex" Rexilius**, has been a very active member and lately has been Vice-President of Membership. Rex stepped down at the end of May, 2017 for health reasons. One of the reasons Rex joined the Round Table is that she felt welcome when she first came. Taking that as her motivation, she worked hard at each meeting to help visitors feel welcome and accepted. Eventually she decided to become involved in the board as Membership VP. She has also been working on "Behind the Lines". We want to thank her for her outstanding work on the Round Table's behalf. Rex will be difficult to replace.

Another PSCWRT member who joined over 20 years ago and has done just about everything at one point or another is **James "Jim" Dimond**. Jim has recently been helping the Round Table by advising the board on matters related to the discovery, marking and burial of Civil War veterans. In the past, Jim has served as President and as a long-time board member in various positions. Jim reported that he is having some serious health issues and will also be leaving the Round Table as well. He may return at some point once his health concerns stabilize. Jim's wife Loretta has also been active in the Round Table and in finding Civil War veterans in Washington State. Thank you for all the time you've spent over the years helping the PSCWRT in one way or another!

### **Upcoming Events! Please write them on your calendar.**

#### **"Northern Women in the Aftermath of the Civil War" ,Joanne Rajoppi September 21, 2017,**

Bellevue Library, 1111 110th Ave NE,  
Bellevue, Washington 98004

Due to the response to the "Behind the Lines" project, the PSCWRT is proud to present the first of many speakers regarding what took place with Civilians during the Civil War.

THREE MILLION husbands, fathers, sons, uncles and brothers marched to war between 1861 and 1865. Of that number, nearly 750,000 never returned home. For Mary Ann Hamilton of New Jersey the conflict separated her from her husband and three sons. Her beloved youngest ultimately perished in battle and her war-wounded husband lingered in pain at home before finally dying. Rendered economically helpless, a woman like Mary Ann with young children--including a daughter considered "insane" at the time--eked out a living as best she could.

## **History Walk, Saturday, October 14, 2017 Calvary Cemetery in Seattle.**

Please mark Saturday, October 14 on the calendar. That's the day we'll be engaged in a History Walk of Calvary Cemetery (Seattle) learning about the lives of Civil War soldiers buried there, as well as other famous Washingtonians like Governor Albert D. Rosellini. Steve Clayton (VP- Partnerships) and his wife Patti have been working and planning for this event. This is not only open to our members, but to the general public as well. There are plans afoot to organize future "History Walks" similar to this one. For a flyer, click on this link:

[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/25b17ffab59e77dfaa9a46f09/files/3f656109-9dde-43b9-8134-a4e1c47c1366/HISTORY\\_WALK\\_2017.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/25b17ffab59e77dfaa9a46f09/files/3f656109-9dde-43b9-8134-a4e1c47c1366/HISTORY_WALK_2017.pdf)

### **Interment of Civil War Veteran**

The remains of Musician Zachariah M. Stucker, Company A, 48<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry, will be interred at the Washington Veterans Home Cemetery, 901 Olney Road, Port Orchard, WA. Thursday, September 28, 2017. Time 1 p.m. Please contact Heidia@dva.wa.gov for more information.

## ***FEATURED ARTICLES***

### **Recommendations for additional reading on the Speaker's Topic**

#### **By Jeff Rombauer**

As Richard W. Etulain notes in his bibliographical essay in *Lincoln Looks West*, there are thousands on books on Abraham Lincoln, but only a few are concerned with his dealings with the Far West. For those seeking more information on this our speaker's topic, the following works are recommended.

Etulain, Richard W. *Lincoln Looks West: From the Mississippi to the Pacific*: Edited by Richard W. Etulain. Carbondale and Edwardsville: Southern Illinois University Press, 2010. Pp. xi, 262.

A Collection of nine essays which deal on topics from Lincoln and the Indians, territorial patronage, and Lincoln and Washington territory.

Higham, Carol L. *The Civil War and the West: The Frontier Transformed*. Santa Barbara: Prager, 2013. Pp. xii, 152.

One of Prager's *Reflections on the Civil War series*, this work examines the West during the period up to 1862 and how internal conflict and divisions influenced the response to war.

Johannsen, Robert W. *Frontier Politics and the Sectional Conflict: The Pacific Northwest on the Eve of the Civil War*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1955. Pp. xiii, 240

An old standard work which looks at Oregon and Washington Territory in the 1850's.

Journal of the West. The Western States in the Civil War. Los Angeles. Volume xiv, #1. January 1975. Pp. viii, 214.

Nine essays by various historians covering all the Trans-Mississippi states during the civil war. James F. Carson writes on *Oregon: Patrolling the New Northwest*.

Journal of the West. *The Western Territories in the Civil War*. Los Angeles: Volume XVI, No. 2, April 1977. Pp. 120.

Eight essays covering all the Trans-Mississippi territories during the Civil War written by graduate students.

McArthur, Scott. *The Enemy Never Came: The Civil War in the Pacific West*. Caldwell: Caxton Press, 2012. Pp. xviii, 268.

From Indian wars, to economics, to soldier life, to copperheads in the Northwest, McArthur . covers the Civil War in Oregon and Washington.

McGinnis, Ralph Y. & Smith, Calvin N. *Abraham Lincoln and the Western Territories*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall Publishers, 1994. Pp. x, 222.

Yet another series of 15 essays by various historians on all the Territories west of the Mississippi during the Civil War.

Scharff, Virginia. *Empire and Liberty: the Civil War and the West*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2015. Pp. xv, 224.

A series of eleven essays written in conjunction with an exhibit in 2015 covering topics such as California's native cavalry, the Fremont's, the Cherokee Nation and Memory and Memorabilia in the far west.

## Get to Know: PSCWRT Treasurer– Jeff Rombauer



A native of Seattle, Jeff graduated from Nathan Hale High School in 1966 and Washington State University in 1970 with a BA in History. After serving in the Air Force during the Vietnam War, he took an accounting degree and worked for 33 years in the accounting department of Puget Sound Energy, retiring in 2014.

His interest in the Civil War dates back to 1958, when he was given his first Civil War book, *A Picture Life of Lincoln* by Stefan Lorant. From there it was on to reading all of Bruce Catton's books as well as Carl Sandburg's works on Lincoln. It was a simple matter from reading about the Civil War to collecting books on the war, especially in Seattle, where a

number of used book stores had relatively "cheap" books for sale in the 1960's. [His first copy of the original edition of *Grant's Memoirs* cost only a dollar] Using his small allowance Jeff managed to build up a collection of about 400 books on the war by the time he graduated from high school. Even overseas for two years in Thailand, he was able to add to the collection. Now after almost 60 years, his collection of over 16,000 pamphlets and books, along with manuscripts, documents, prints and photo's will eventually serve as a special collection at Washington State University.

Jeff joined the Puget Sound Civil War Roundtable at its third meeting in 1985. He has served either on the board, or as an officer for over 30 years. He has been president, newsletter editor for seven years, and currently treasurer for five years. Besides being a member of PSCWRT, he is also a lifetime member of The Southern Historical Society, and the Ulysses S. Grant Association, as well as the Abraham Lincoln Association, the Lincoln Forum, and the Society of Civil War Historians

Jeff has numerous relatives who served in the Civil War including:

- Gustave Koerner – great-great grandfather. A political associate of Abraham Lincoln, was briefly on the staff of John C. Fremont in St Louis in 1861, before being appointed as Ambassador to Spain [1862-1864]. Koerner was one of Lincoln's pall bearers. His book, *Memoirs of Gustave Koerner 1809-1896* is considered a primary source on Lincoln in the 1850's
- Robert J. Rombauer – great uncle, one of 4 brothers who served in the War. Was Colonel of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment U.S. R. C. Missouri. Author of *The Union Cause in St. Louis in 1861*
- Raphael G. Rombauer- great uncle. Major, Battery G 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment Illinois Light Artillery. In 1864 was detailed as Chief of Artillery, District of East Tennessee
- Roland Rombauer – great uncle. Served as Sgt. Co. B, 1<sup>st</sup> Light artillery, Missouri. Wounded at Wilson's Creek. In 1862 was appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Battery E, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, West Virginia Light Artillery. Fought at Strasburg, Cross Keys and Second Manassas. In 1864 appointed Captain, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment U.S. Florida Cavalry. At the end of the war was District Provost Marshall for the District of West Florida. Roderick E. Rombauer –great grandfather. Enlisted as a private in the First Regiment of Missouri Volunteers, later a Captain in the First Regiment of United States Reserve Corps of Missouri. Elected a Judge in St. Louis in 1863.
- Maximilian Hugo von Starkloff – great grandfather. Born in Germany, in 1832 at Ulm. Served as an officer trainee in the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in Stuttgart, but changed to the

study of medicine. Immigrated to the U.S. in 1854 and was appointed as a physician of the American Fur Company. Before the war also was an assistant surgeon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Cavalry Regiment. In 1861 he became the surgeon of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Illinois Infantry regiment. At war's end he was the Division Surgeon of the 7<sup>th</sup> Army Corps in Little Rock, Arkansas. His daughter Irma, married my grandfather Edgar R. Rombauer in 1899 and after his death in 1931 went on to write *The Joy of Cooking*.

Jeff and his wife Loretta have been together since 1978, and enjoy college football, college basketball, movies, as well as travel. They have been to every state in the United States, visiting book stores and antique malls, battlefields and museums. They both like reading mysteries and watching British mystery series. In addition to his interest in the Civil War, he also has a lifetime interest in the H.M.S. Titanic, and Silent Movies. While he has no children of his own, he is an Uncle to 7 nephews and nieces

## ***THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER***

**By Mike Movius**

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, we held a planning retreat at the Swedish Culture Center in Dexter Avenue. The 12 attendees tackled three areas of PSCWRT life: Fundraising, Membership and Marketing and Operations. The product of the retreat was six initiatives. Those initiatives are

- History walks - These are really opportunities to use of the rich historical resources in Puget Sound to engage the public, while learning about Civil War veterans and others. The first has already been scheduled.
- Bring a friend – We will be asking members to bring a friend to an upcoming meeting. There will be a visible incentive if you succeed.
- Member survey - The survey will be fashioned to determine why some continue their memberships while others do not.
- Book sales - This is a redefinition of how we acquire and distribute books and media on the Civil War and other histories.
- “Go Fund Me” – We plan to use this application in an effort to determine if we can make the case for 19<sup>th</sup> century history and preserving our heritage.
- CWT Color Bearer – This is a membership level of the Civil War Trust that will provide unique opportunities for PSCWRT members to attend exclusive Civil War events.

We hope you will find them engaging.

## ***THE LAST WORD***

### **Changes to the Newsletter and Opportunities for the Coming Season**

**By Mark R. Terry**

Over the summer, members were invited to participate in a one-day PSCWRT “Retreat” at the Swedish Club in Seattle. All those who came helped contribute to the direction of our organization for the coming year. Many ideas were brought up in two main areas- fund raising and increasing membership. Six of them were voted upon to help move the PSCWRT forward.

President Mike Movius has the details in an article elsewhere in this issue. I am hoping we can make the Retreat an annual event!

I say this every year, but I am excited about the new CWRT season coming up! As always, VP Programming Pat Brady has prepared a very good slate of speakers for the coming year- see the schedule of speakers/topics above. Note that a full, unabridged schedule is available for viewing on the website.

As the newsletter editor, I want to highlight two things. One you've probably noticed- we are using a double-column layout instead of a single column. We hope this will allow us to add more to each issue. The second and more important change is that Treasurer Jeff Rombauer is contributing his research and knowledge to a concise annotated bibliography of each month's topic! What makes this so outstanding is that it provides members with the opportunity to know more and dig deeper into each month's subject. As you know, the post-presentation Q&A time often produces the best insights into a given topic. If members are already "read up" on it, consider how much richer this time would be.

Please note that the PSCWRT is again working to expand our reach by putting together the Joanne Rajoppi talk on September 21 at the Bellevue King County Library (details in the newsletter). Every time we do something like this, we put our name out in the community, so it is a potential recruiting tool. We hope you will be able to attend.

## **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: \$25 per individual or 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 255<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038-7626. Call 425-432-1346 or email: [jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com](mailto:jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com).

**We welcome your article or research submissions for the newsletter, but they may be edited for space. The deadline for the October 2017 Washington Volunteer is Monday, September 25, 2017. Please have it in Mark Terry's hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!**

### **2016-2017 OFFICERS \***

President: Mike Movius, [president@pscwr.org](mailto:president@pscwr.org)

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Vice-President- Membership: Vacant

Vice-President- Marketing: Vacant

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*\*All, are elected except for Past President, an automatic position.*