NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 9, 2020
China Harbor, 2040 Westlake Avenue North, Seattle, Washington
Time: Social hour at 6 p.m.; Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.; Program at 7:45 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: $24 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 Jeff Rombauer at: jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com
Or lastly, call Jeff Rombauer at 425-432-1346
Reservations are MANDATORY and be in by 12 NOON on Tuesday, January 7, 2020.

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

RICK SOLOMON WILL DISCUSS THE 1862 FATAL SHOOTING OF UNION GENERAL WILLIAM NELSON, by another Union General, Jefferson C. Davis, in Louisville, Kentucky, in response to alleged insults by Nelson. A Past President and longtime member of the Round Table, Rick will also discuss the poor performance at the Battle of Perryville by Nelson’s replacement, General Charles Gilbert.

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES

Critical Need: Sound System Assistant needed this month
Dick Miller is asking for your help. Dick sets up our sound system for each meeting but cannot attend next month’s February 2020 meeting. He says “Our setup is pretty simple so the volunteer does not need to be particularly technical. Please see me before the meeting in January so that I can give them the basics of the setup”. We need someone reliable who can be there monthly to help Dick, and on those occasions when he is absent to bring it in and set it up. Someone needs to step forward this month at least to start the process. Thank you!
January Birthdays

Several members have birthdays in January and we’d like to acknowledge their special day! They are:

Phillip Allen  Bob Hazen  Mitch Robinson
Pat Brady  Judy Henriksen  Jack H. Seeley
Deborah Dickson  Mike Karbowski  Donald Spenard
Jon Echols  Greg Meldahl  Leighton Wingate

PSCWRT Board Meeting

January 9, 2020, 5 p.m. China Harbor Restaurant. Prior to regular membership meeting. Board members and Advisors please attend.

Civil War Book Club: Next Meeting in February 2020

The next book club meeting will be February 13, 2020 at 5 p.m., just prior to the February member meeting at China Harbor. The book title will be David Blight’s *Race and Reunion*, which addresses the issues of how remembering and forgetting the Civil War determined social progress in our country. If you have any questions, contact Arthur Banner at: banneras@comcast.net

**FEATURED ARTICLES**

Off the Beaten Path: “Treu der Union”

Located in the town of Comfort, Texas, in the heart of “the Hill Country, stands a 20-foot obelisk dedicated to 34 German-Americans killed or executed in August 1862 by Confederate troops at what is called the “Battle of Nueces.” Around 20,000 German immigrants lived in the state, many opposed to secession, and remained true to the Union. With the imposition of the 1862 Confederate draft law, some 65 German Americans tried to flee to Mexico in early August 1862. Pursued by Confederate forces, their camp near the Mexican border, on the banks of the Nueces River, was attacked in the early hours of August 10th, 1862. After beating back the first attack, the unionists were overwhelmed with the loss of 19 men during the battle, and another 9 wounded men executed. About a third of the 65 Germans escaped, while another 6 were executed later. In 1865 the bones from the battle site were gathered up and brought to Comfort for burial in a common grave. With contributions from the local German community and families of the victims, the monument was dedicated August 10th, 1866. While not the only Unionist monument in a former Confederate State, nor the earliest, the obelisk does reflect the tragic nature of the Civil War where neighbor fought neighbor. Photo from: www.texasescapes.com
Recommendations for additional reading on the Speaker’s Topic: The Murder of General William “Bull” Nelson
By Jeff Rombauer

One of the most bizarre incidents of the Civil War occurred September 29th, 1862 at the Galt House in Louisville, Ky. That morning following a confrontation between two Union generals, William “Bull” Nelson and Jefferson C. Davis of Indiana. Davis borrowed a pistol from a fellow officer and again confronted Nelson and shot him in the chest. Nelson died shortly thereafter. That same morning, the commanding officer of the union Army of the Ohio, who was the superior of both officers, Don Carlos Buell, was removed from command, to be potentially replaced by General George Thomas. Davis was temporarily placed under house arrest. But both Buell and Thomas telegraphed Commander of all U.S. Armies General Henry W. Halleck to cancel the change in command due to the threat posed by the invasion of Kentucky by Confederate Generals Kirby Smith and Braxton Bragg. Lacking time to convene a Court Martial, Buell turned Davis over to civil authorities, who indicted the officer for manslaughter. Released upon a bond, the Indiana general was released from House arrest, in October and returned to command later that month. In the end Davis was never tried or court martialed. Listed below are additional readings on this case.


James Fry was the Chief of Staff to General Buell and was at the Galt house the morning of the shooting. This slight pamphlet recounts the events of September 29th. Although a friend of Davis, it is Fry’s opinion that “though Davis was aggrieved, it is difficult to see now, even if it was not then, how he can be justified in provoking the final quarrel and committing the foul deed.”


Hazen was another Army of the Ohio officer who was present at the Galt house when Nelson was shot by Davis. Although he disarmed Davis after the shooting, most of his account relates to the character of Nelson.


An excellent well researched biography of the Naval/Army officer. Clark believes that Jefferson C. Davis was not prosecuted “because a public angered by the arrogant behavior of Federal officers generally approved of Davis having dispatched an abusive tyrant.”


This excellent, well researched modern biography of the Indiana General, traces his Army career from an 18-year old in the Mexican American war to his post war service, in such stations as Alaska. While Davis was never tried for the murder, the authors believe the shooting of Nelson “blighting his life.” And “sullied; his name”.


This modern biography of the Commander of the Army of the Ohio, provides a clear description of the chaos of the military situation in Louisville on the eve of Nelsons murder by Davis. Well researched and written despite a dearth of Buell’s correspondence.
EDITOR: This being January, I thought it would be appropriate to find an account of “winter quarters”, the time when the harsh reality of “General Winter” put a temporary end to active campaigning. This is an account from a Confederate soldier in the 2nd Georgia Infantry. Source is the American Battlefield Trust website: https://www.battlefields.org/learn/primary-sources/winter-quarters-dalton-ga-1863-64

In Winter Quarters at Dalton, Georgia
Confederate Veteran, Vol. XXVI
FRANK S. ROBERTS, 2nd Georgia Battalion Sharpshooters, Company C

Our brigade, Gen. John K. Jackson's, Maj. Gen. William H. T. Walker's division, Lieut. Gen. William Hardee's corps, was encamped about two miles east of Dalton on a slightly elevated plateau sloping generally in every direction, thus affording good drainage. Our cabins were built of split logs, the cracks being "chinked" during the severest weather with red clay, thus making a very comfortable house indeed. An ample chimney was constructed of sticks "chinked" in the same manner as the house; and when the fireplace was piled up with wood and set going, we had as comfortable quarters as to warmth as one could wish. Our bedsteads were four posts with end and side pieces nailed to them, and boards were placed so as to give us room to fill in with straw, and over this our quilts and blankets were spread.

I occupied a cabin with my brother Charlie, who was adjutant of the sharpshooters, 2d Georgia Battalion. We were as comfortable as the proverbial "bug in a rug." Our mess was composed of Adjutant Roberts, Color Sergt. (afterwards Orderly Sergt.) William Mulherin, Sergts. Martin V. Calvin and Henry Miller, Corps. Charlie Cheesborough and Mike Roulette, and Privates Tommy Brennau, Jimmy Robinson, and myself. Being a very large mess, our ration came in a good-sized chunk, especially beef. Sergeant Miller was an excellent cook, and he could bake or roast our ration of beef to "a turn," and, believe me, it was good. At times we had potatoes, which were "powerful" good with the savory gravy he made. Corn bread was our stand-by in that line. This was baked in a big old Dutch oven about fourteen inches in diameter, two bakings of three pones each being required at each of our three meals per day. He used liberally of the little Mexican red peppers for seasoning, which was a most healthy tonic for us. (Just here I shall digress to say that when we passed through Dalton in October, 1864, on our way into Tennessee, the previous winter's camps could be located by the sea of pepper plants full of peppers that covered the country from the seed that had fallen on the ground.) Occasionally bacon, with some kind of green vegetable, varied our bill of fare. We ordered a five-gallon keg of Georgia cane syrup (it cost us only $300), which went splendidly with our corn bread for dessert. I can now hear dear "Billy" Mulherin say: "Please pass me those molasses." He was a noble fellow, as true as steel. In fact, you could hardly get together a nobler band than our mess at Dalton was. Martin Calvin was correspondent for one of the Augusta papers, and for many years after the war he represented Richmond County, Ga., in the legislature. He and I are the only survivors of that mess, and I know of but two other members of our company (C) that are living. They are Capt. George F. Lamback and W. H. Hendrix, of Augusta, Ga. I met these two at the Reunion in Washington in June, 1917. It had then been fifty-three years since I saw Hendrix as he was leaving the field in front of Kenesaw Mountain, near Marietta, Ga., Sunday, June 19, 1864, with blood streaming down his neck from a wound in the head. Except that he was older and grayer, he had not changed since I last saw him. In this skirmish Sergeant Miller also received a severe
wound in the leg, and I never saw him again after he was taken from the field. He died several years ago.

Not long after I joined the command at Dalton I was ordered to brigade headquarters to assist Capt. S. A. Moreno, adjutant general, in the clerical work of his office. This operated to relieve me of all camp duty. I had then done only one or two tours of guard duty. It came in mighty handy during the hard weather in January and February.

Our life in camp had its pleasant side, singing being the chief feature. I had a high, clear falsetto voice, and, knowing all the popular songs of the day, I was constituted leader of the gang. Buchanan (dear old Buck!), one of our musicians, had a sweet tenor, my dear friend "Griff" (Orderly Sergt. W. A. Griffin) had a lovely voice, and my brother Charlie held up the bass end of the line. One of our songs was "Annie Darling," which began,

"The watchdog is snarling for fear, Annie darling, Some Yank would come and steal her away";

and the refrain was,

"Come, come, come, rain, come, come, flow to the top of my boots; O come, and I'll thank ye to keep back the Yankee until our ranks are filled up by recruits,"

and that beautiful song, "Silence, Silence, Make No Noise Nor Stir." Many were the nights we sang these songs and many others, and hundreds of the boys from the adjoining camps came over to hear us sing. And now that is only a sweet memory.

About the end of February, 1864, we were called from our quarters by a demonstration in force in our front at Rocky Face Ridge, near Dalton, which was vigorously met and frustrated, Gen. M. A. Stovall's brigade taking a very active part in the defense of the position. After remaining there a few days, we were ordered back to our camps. However, I had developed a fever and was put in the hospital at Dalton, sent from there to Marietta, Ga., and placed in a ward there on the square which had been the store of Mr. D. M. Young, whom I had known in the fifties, when I was a small boy. I remained there until the early part of April, returning then to camp at Dalton. Shortly after my return another demonstration was made on our right over near Spring Place, in Murray County. Our division (Walker's) was sent over there to see what it meant, but we returned to camp in a few days and settled down to our usual duties. But it was not to be for long. About the first of May General Sherman "got busy," shortly after sending General McPherson down to Snake Creek Gap to attack us at Resaca. General Johnston was alive to his tactics and at once made disposition to meet him, which was done at Resaca on May 14-16, 1864, inflicting heavy loss on Sherman. With this began the heavy and continuous fighting that ensued for nearly one hundred days, until General Johnston was taken away from us, which worked disaster to us to the end.

A sad and pathetic accident occurred in April, 1864. The brigade which had occupied the camp next to ours moved out, and a brigade of General Walthall's division moved into it; I cannot recall whose brigade it was. They busied themselves in getting the camp in thorough order, and by Saturday this was done. That night the men were gathered together holding a prayer meeting
by the light of the camp fires. During the clean-up a fire had been built at the foot of a large dead oak tree, and this had burned until it was standing with only a shell at the base. Suddenly in the midst of the service this old tree swayed and fell with a crash into the midst of the worshipers. Nine men were killed and a number injured, casting a terrible pall over the camp and the surrounding ones. The next evening, Sunday, as the sun was nearing its setting, three army wagons moved from the camp, each bearing a coffin with a body in it. The procession moved across our drill and parade field, headed by one of our finest bands playing that beautiful funeral march, "Pleyel's Hymn," to a grove of oaks, and there as the sun was sinking they were laid to rest. Three volleys were given, and then "taps" was sounded. It was the most beautifully sad sight I ever witnessed as the war-worn veterans, with bared heads and tear-dimmed eyes, paid this last mark of love and respect to their dead comrades, left to their rest far from home and loved ones.

Curious about the author, I found this on civilwardata.com:

Frank Stovall Roberts

Residence Athens GA; a 16 year-old Student.

Enlisted on 3/15/1863 at Augusta, GA as a Private.

On 3/15/1863 he mustered into "C" Co. GA 2nd Battn SharpShooters
(date and method of discharge not given)
(Estimated day of enlistment)

He was listed as:
* Detailed Brigade Headquarters (date not stated) (Detailed as an orderly)
* Hospitalized 3/1/1864 Dalton, GA (Estimated date)
* Hospitalized 3/15/1864 Marietta, GA (Estimated day)
* Returned 4/10/1864 (place not stated) (Estimated day)
* Hospitalized 2/1/1865 Iuka, MS (Estimated date, sick)
* POW 4/20/1865 Macon, GA
* Oath Allegiance 4/21/1865 Macon, GA (Estimated day, released)

Other Information:
born 3/31/1846 in Macon, GA
died 10/19/1923 in Washington, DC
Buried: Arlington National Cemetery, VA

(Married Mary Herbert Mastin on 12/26/1888 in Mobile, AL)

After the War he lived in Mobile, AL & Washington, DC

Sources used by Historical Data Systems, Inc.:

- Index to Compiled Confederate Military Service Records
- Confederate Veteran Magazine
- Photo from Confederate Veteran Magazine
(c) Historical Data Systems, Inc. @ www.civilwardata.com
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!!!
By Mark R. Terry

Perhaps one of your New Year’s resolutions is to be more active in our CWRT (one can only hope!). The list below was already posted last month, but it needs to be re-posted until these positions are filled. Our CWRT will only be as effective as the membership within it. What are you willing to do to help in the year 2020? WE NEED:

GREETERS
We need motivated people who are outgoing who would be willing to meet and help visitors and new members, to answer questions and help them feel welcome to our group. This is currently a non-board position. So far, one member has stepped forward, but for this position “the more, the merrier”. Everyone here was new at some point. Didn’t you like being welcomed rather than ignored?

SECRETARY
The main job of the Secretary is to take minutes at board meetings and to publish them for the board, the advisors and the general membership.

VICE-PRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP
The main responsibility of VP-Membership is to maintain an accurate and up-to-date roster. That person is also involved in helping other board members in developing ways to encourage and promote membership in the PSCWRT.

VICE-PRESIDENT RESERVATIONS
This is the person that records the meal choices and reservations for each month’s meeting as they come in. With two-thirds of the meetings still to go, we need someone regular in that position. President Jeff Rombauer has stepped in temporarily.

VICE-PRESIDENT EDITOR
This monthly newsletter, the Washington Volunteer, is edited and put together by the VP-Editor. The opening will start this summer, but if you volunteer now, you can be trained to make the transition seamless by the September issue of 2020, which will need to be done by mid-August of this year.

Please note that anyone who volunteers will be given help and instruction for their role. For the most efficient and smooth operation of the PSCWRT, we need YOUR HELP to make it happen!

CORRECTION FROM DECEMBER ISSUE REGARDING CREDIT FOR STORY
As you may recall, in the December issue of the Washington Volunteer, I included the photo and account of Private Ephraim Kale, Company I (the "Catawba Marksmen") of the 49th Regiment N.C. Troops. Because I saw it on the Facebook page of the North Carolina Civil War & Reconstruction History Center in Fayetteville, NC, I credited it to them, and later thanked them on Facebook. Soon afterwards, I read this from Fred Taylor: “This image and the historical biography about Private Kale actually came verbatim from the State Troops and Volunteers page, administered by author Greg
Mast and myself. While we certainly believe ‘imitation is the greatest form of flattery’, we would appreciate an appropriate credit if you are going to use our material, much less giving others permission to reprint it.” I told them I would be sure to do this. Here is their Facebook URL: https://www.facebook.com/State-Troops-and-Volunteers-321689201335430/?hc_location=ufi

**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: Chris McDonald, Treasurer, 34705 NE 14th Avenue, LaCenter, WA 98629. Call (503) 930-4940 or email: alpacamomchris@gmail.com

We welcome your article or research submissions for the newsletter, but they may be edited for space. Note that the contents of each newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the PSCWRT. The deadline for the February 2020 Washington Volunteer is Monday, January 27, 2020. Please have it in Mark Terry's hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!

**2019-2020 OFFICERS**
Elected:*
President: Jeff Rombauer; jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com
Vice President Successor: Rick Solomon; rickso@ricksolo.com
Past President: Mike Movius; webmaster@pscwrt.org
Vice President Programs: Pat Brady; patsbrady@comcast.net
Vice President Editor: Mark Terry; markimlor@comcast.net
Vice President Marketing: Dave Otis; jbhood81@aol.com
Vice President Membership: Arthur Banner; banneras@comcast.net
Vice President Partnerships: Jim Dimond; shinodad@gmail.com
Vice President Reservations: VACANT
Vice President Social Media: Mike Movius; webmaster@pscwrt.org
Treasurer: Chris McDonald: alpacamomchris@gmail.com
Secretary: VACANT

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