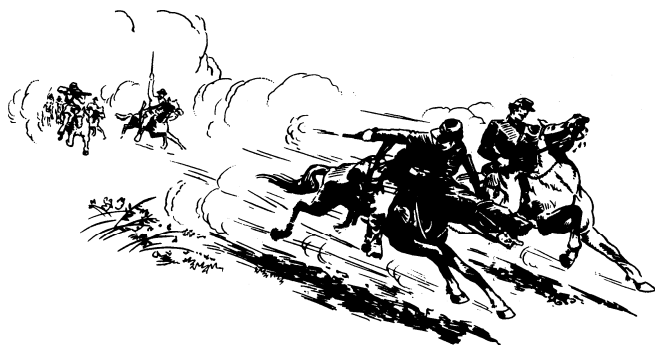


THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



News Letter

January 2009
Volume 58, Number 5

Confederate Patent Office

The Confederate Patent Office functioned throughout the Civil War, providing an outlet for creativity and innovation by Southern inventors. While the CPO functioned on a much smaller scale than the U.S. Patent Office and was subject almost from the first to the exigencies of communication across Union lines, the Commissioner and his Examiner did their jobs, filed their reports and thus provided a useful archive from which information about innovation in the South can be studied and appreciated. Some developments, particularly relating to weapons, were not patented, and several of these will be discussed as well. A

slide presentation will show period documents and photographs, and the Friends of the Hunley organization has given permission to show a number of photographs of the excavation of the interior of the Hunley since its raising from Charleston Harbor several years ago.

Mr. Adams has authored a short history of the Confederate Patent Office which is available at: <http://www.adamspat.com/Confederate.html>

His presentation adds substantial additional material to his history which was only recently made available to researchers.

January 2009 Meeting

Date:	Tuesday, January 13, 2009	Place:	Officers' Club
Price:	Dinner \$29.00 per person Lecture only \$5.00		Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
Agenda:	6:00 pm Social Hour:	Cash Bar	
	6.45 pm Dinner:	Tenderloin Tips with Noodles Vegetable of the Day (Vegetarian meals are available Rice Pilaf upon request in advance.) Cheese Cake	
	8:00 pm Speaker:	Thad Adams	
	Topic:	Confederate Patent Office	

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Monday, January 12, 2009. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall
3324 Glenmore Dr.
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942
Email: restall@joimail.com
If reserving a dinner by email, make
such you receive a confirmation email.

As the Round Table must pay for all meals ordered, members and guests
are obligated to pay for the meal in the event they do not attend.

PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE ON PAGE 2

Officers and Board of Governors for 2008-2009

President: Thomas R. Devaney Home: 703-385-6546 Office: 202-413-7200 Email: trdevaney48@msn.com	Vice President: Susan Claffey Home: 301-326-2477 Office: 202-654-2907 Email: sclaffey@gsabc.com	Board Member: Twyla Jackino Home: 571-434-3819 Office: 202-628-1776 x446 Email: tjackino@comcast.net
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Membership in the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia is open to anyone interested in the study of the American Civil War or American history. Our program year runs from September through June of the following year. Dues are \$30.00 per year (\$15 if you join after January 31, 2009) and should be mailed with a membership application form (available on our web site or from the address below) to:

CWRT of DC Membership Committee
Kenneth R. Rice
4110 N. 17th Street
Arlington, VA 22207-3005

Checks should be made out to **The CWRT of DC**. Membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter which contains notice of dinner meeting dates, speakers, and topics; information on field trips, and various Civil War related articles. Dinner meetings are held from September through June on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fort Leslie J. McNair Officer's Club in Washington, DC. Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

For further information about the Round Table, to submit a newsletter article, or present a program to the Round Table, please contact the newsletter editor.

IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

We have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

Newsletter by Email

This newsletter is now available by email as an alternative to US mail. All recipients of this newsletter are requested to choose the email version of the newsletter. This will reduce newsletter expenses and allow the money to be used for things like battlefield preservation. To receive this newsletter by email, please indicate so on your membership form, or email the newsletter editor. The newsletter is published on our web site listed below. The newsletter editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice
4110 N. 17th Street
Arlington, VA 22207-3005
Email: kennrice@erols.com
Phone: 703-527-0077

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtcdc.htm>

Thad Adams

Wesley Thaddeus Adams, III, was born on July 4, 1946 in Raleigh, North Carolina. He graduated from North Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1968 and from the School of Law at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Juris Doctor degree in 1971. Since 1971 he has practiced Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law in Charlotte, North Carolina, first with a large firm, and since 1978 in his own firm, Adams Intellectual Property Law, P.A.

Mr. Adams is registered to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and before the United States Copyright Royalty Arbitration Panel of the Library of Congress. He is also admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States of America and numerous lower courts.

Mr. Adams has carried an "AV" rating by Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory for many years. In the past several years Mr. Adams has been retained by other patent counsel throughout the United States to evaluate litigation positions and offer expert testimony in several significant patent infringement cases. Mr. Adams has presented dozens of presentations on patent, trademark and copyright topics before legal, industrial and trade groups.

Letter To The Round Table

I write in the hope that you personally, or another member of your group, will be able to help me with information regarding Private William H Sharrow, Company E, 1st Regiment of District of Columbia Infantry, Film M538, roll 3.

Currently, I am writing a 3,500 word biography of Sergeant Major William Hunter Sharrow (born York, England, 1845 – although he invariably claimed to be older and also to be born “at sea!”), 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, who is said to have died alongside Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer at the Battle of the Little Big Horn, June 25, 1876. The finished paper will be submitted to the Custer Battlefield Historical and Museum Association for possible inclusion in the 2009 Symposium, which is being held in Billings, Montana, in June next year.

Sharrow enlisted in the 2nd U.S. Cavalry Regiment (and assigned to Company C) in New York City, on March 21, 1865, for which he received a local bounty of \$600, which suggests he was an experienced soldier even though he was barely 20 years of age.

My question: Is the Private William H Sharrow of the 1st Regiment D of C Infantry and Custer’s Sgt. Maj. one and the same man? If so, he must have been remarkably mature-looking for his age. If not, who was he?

Any help that you are able to give would be very much appreciated.

Whilst writing, I would like congratulate you on producing such an attractive and interesting *News Letter*, particularly the November 2008 issue which contains a well-written article about GAC at East Cavalry Field, a place I had the privilege of visiting a few years ago.

Peter Russell
Chairman & Editor (Literary) of **The Crow’s Nest** – the biannual journal of the Custer Association of Great Britain.
Email: pgr.cagb@btinternet.com

Help Stop the Wilderness Wal-Mart

Walmart is planning on building a 141,000 sq. ft. Superstore next to the Wilderness and Chancellorsville Battlefields. Do you want to see the historical significance of both of these battlefields marred forever by more pavement, more traffic and more development that a Wal-Mart Supercenter will bring in its wake?

You can take steps to help prevent the building of a Wal-Mart superstore by the battlefield. Send your concerns to the Orange County Supervisors at the Civil War Preservation website:

<http://www.civilwar.org/walmart08/>

The CWRT Of New York 52nd Annual Battlefield Tour

The 52nd Annual Battlefield Tour will take place May 14 -17, 2009. The destination will be Gettysburg, Pa. Their tour guide is Gary Kross. Tour participants will depart by bus from the Armory at 66th Street and Park Avenue early Thursday morning, May 14th. To reserve your place, a deposit of \$100 made out to CWRT/NY should be mailed to their treasurer, George Hornburg at 527 West 238th Street, Bronx, NY 10463. For more information, please contact John J. Sheehan at 646-227-5024 or visit www.cwrtnyc.org

The Good Fight That Didn't End

Edited by Calvin Goddard Zon

The University of South Carolina Press

From the letters, journals, and newspaper writings of Henry Perkins Goddard (1842-1916) of Norwich, Connecticut, we gain firsthand details about the passions and principles of a divided nation during the Civil War and Reconstruction as witnessed by a scrupulous soldier and scribe. Edited by his great grandson, **The Good Fight That Didn't End** includes Goddard's accounts of combat at

Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, his travels across the war-torn South after the war, and his encounters and friendships with well-known historical and literary figures of the era, including Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, George McClellan, Ambrose Burnside, Joseph Hooker, George Armstrong Custer, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Mark Twain.

Goddard served in the Union cavalry, infantry, general staff, and artillery, all the while also acting as war correspondent for the *Norwich Bulletin*. He distinguished himself as a skilled journalist, even in the throes of combat, and he vividly recorded the prevailing attitudes and motivations in the ranks of the Army of the Potomac as well as the bloody realities of war. In the decades following the war, Goddard's newspaper accounts from Connecticut, Maryland, and his travels across the South chronicle the open wounds on American society and unresolved issues of race relations in particular. In his writings and actions, Goddard shows himself to be a staunch advocate for the civil rights of freed African Americans, and he consistently defends their just and fair treatment. In his friendships with prominent former Confederates and high ranking officials in both the North and the South, Goddard places himself at a nexus of efforts toward national reconciliation, carefully recording the temper of the changing times.

Calvin Goddard Zon, great-grandson of Henry P. Goddard, is a journalist and historian in Washington, D.C.

The Good Fight that Didn't End (376 pp., 37 illus., \$44.95 hardcover) will be published on January 16, 2009. For more information, visit www.thegoodfight.us.

There will be a Booksigning on Sunday, January 18, at 5:00 p.m. at the Politics And Prose Bookstore, 5015 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, D.C., 202-364-1919.

25 Years Ago

Dr. Thomas B. Worsley, long-time Round Table member and former president, gave his fourth presentation to the Round Table on January 10, 1984. His topic was “It Happened At Willard’s.” Dr. Worsley described the history of the Willard and how it became the social center of Washington at the time of the Civil War.

50 Years Ago

On January 13, 1959, Brig. Gen. Carl A. Baehr (USA, Ret.) spoke to the Round Table about “The Artillery at Gettysburg.” This was a much requested repeat of the presentation he gave six years earlier. General Baehr was an authority on artillery, as he commanded the artillery at the Anzio beachhead in World War II and took his forces through Rome to the Siegfried Line in Germany.

**The H. L. Hunley
The Secret Hope of the Confederacy**
by Tom Chaffin

On the evening of February 17, 1864, the Confederacy’s H. L. Hunley sank the

USS Housatonic and became the first submarine in world history to sink an enemy ship. But also perishing that moonlit night was the Hunley and her entire crew of eight. For generations, searchers prowled Charleston’s harbor, looking for the Hunley.

Now, in a tour de force of document-sleuthing and insights gleaned from the excavation of this remarkable vessel, Civil War era historian Tom Chaffin presents the most thorough telling of the Hunley’s story possible. Of panoramic breadth, this Civil War saga begins long before the submarine was even assembled and follows the tale into the boat’s final hours and through its recovery in 2000. Beyond his thorough survey of period documents relating to the submarine, Chaffin also conducted extensive interviews with Maria Jacobsen, senior archaeologist at Clemson University’s Warren Lasch Conservation Center, where the Hunley is now being excavated, to complete his portrait of this technological wonder. What emerges is a narrative that casts compelling doubts on many long-held assumptions, particularly those concerning the boat’s final hours. Thoroughly engaging and utterly new, **The H. L. Hunley** provides the definitive account of a storied craft.

Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, January 13, 2009.

The deadline for reservations is Monday, January 12, 2009.

The cost is \$29.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member’s Name: _____ Number of people: _____

Guest’s Name(s): _____ Cost of dinners: \$_____

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$_____
(Please see the description on the opposite side of this form.)

Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____
(Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled .)

Total enclosed: \$_____

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall
3324 Glenmore Dr.
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Lincoln and the South

McPherson Will Keynote March 2009
Conference

As the nation commemorates the 200th birthday of President Abraham Lincoln in 2009, The American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar, in partnership with the University of Richmond's Jepson School for Leadership Studies, will host **Lincoln and the South**, a two-day conference on March 12-14, 2009. Featuring a keynote address by Pulitzer Prize-winning author and historian, Dr. James McPherson, the conference will include nearly a dozen historians, a special session for educators, and a twilight reception at the Center.

Internationally recognized scholars from across the country will convene in Richmond to discuss the genesis of the region's antipathy for the "rail splitter," the evolution of his policy of the Emancipation Proclamation, his characterization by the South over the course of the war, and, perhaps most important, how Southerners have wrestled with Lincoln's legacy since his assassination.

For updates on the conference lineup and activities, please join the Center's mailing list at www.tredegar.org or call (804) 780-1865 x18.

The CWRT of Greater Boston 4 Days In May Tour

The Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston will once again visit the DC area for their "4 Days In May" tour on May 14-17. On May 15 they will visit the WW2, Vietnam, Korean, Iwo Jima, 9/11 Memorials, along with a "Special Tour of The National Archives", and, time permitting, will do some other "special" sites. May 16, they will visit the Battle of Antietam with South Mountain, Turner's Gap, and Fox Gap.

They have invited members of our Round Table, or other interested parties, to join them on this tour. As usual, they will price out to our members only for their direct costs of meals, rooms, and whatever is prorated. They will hold a room in Maryland if anyone is going to do the two days and wants to stay with them. If anyone just wants to meet them at the site visits and say hello or whatever, then there probably will be minimal or no costs that they can foresee.

Details are on their web site at www.cwrtgb.com or you may contact David L. Smith, 3 Waverly Oaks Rd. Apt. #202, Waltham, MA 02452-6274, email him at cwrtmass@comcast.net or call (781) 647-3332.

Get Serious about Preservation!

This past June, the DC Round Table awarded its annual Ed Bearss Preservation Award to the Friends of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. The award, totaling \$1000, was given to the group at the request of the man himself – Ed Bearss. As all of you know, this is something the Round Table does every year to honor Ed and to repay him, in some small way, for speaking to us and leading our field trip for free – yes, without compensation.

We're not alone. Ed donates his time to many groups in order to spark interest in the Civil War and to build momentum to preserve the Civil War landscape. This is an important time, because more of that landscape is disappearing every year. Therefore, now is the time to save it.

Your dinner reservation form has a spot to make a contribution. In addition, the Bearss' Bear, to collect money for the same purpose, is on the table at every meeting. Think what five or ten dollars from each of you every month would add up to at the end of the year. Added to the monies that we manage to set aside from book raffles, etc., we could contribute more than \$1000 to battlefield preservation.

There are many deserving Civil War preservation efforts out there, some large like the Civil War Preservation Trust, and some small like the Friends of Chickamauga and Chattanooga. Ed manages every year to choose those who are most deserving, so let's help him out and help out a good cause. Literally, we are the people who can help save history.