

Issue 4: August 2020

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Are you on Facebook? If so, please consider joining our Civil War Round Table - Twin Cities Group. On our Group page you will find posts shared from some of the best Civil War history organizations in the county including the American Battlefield Trust, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Appomattox Court House National History Park, Civil War Chronicles and Emerging Civil War. As a group member you can post and share any Civil War related items (photos, stories, questions) you wish. If you are already on Facebook, make sure you search for our group and ask to be a member.

2020-2021 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

September 15, 2020 – Douglas Waller

“Lincoln’s Spies: Their Secret War to Save the Union”

October 20, 2020 – David Dixon

“Union General August Willich”

November 17, 2020 – Thomas Arliskas

“General U.S. Grant and the Battle of Belmont”

December 15, 2020 – Brian Steele Willis

“General George Henry Thomas”

January 19, 2021 – John Haymond

“The Infamous Dakota War Trials of 1862”

February 16, 2021 - John Fazio

“Decapitating the Union: Jefferson Davis, Judah Benjamin and the Plot to Assassinate Lincoln”



First Minnesota Monument at Gettysburg



Gen. John Pope

2020-2021 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

March 16, 2021 – Leslie Goddard

“Gone With The Wind and the Constuction of Civil War Memory”

May 18, 2021 – Mike Movius

“The State of the Civil War Round Tables”

Contact Us:

Twin Cities Civil War Roundtable

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<https://tccwrt.com/>

The Last of the Titans of that Elder Day

By Bob Svacina

Ep. 6 and 7

It Is Over

**President Lincoln Was Shot April 14, 1865 Washington DC. He Died April 15, 1865 And Was Interned
May 4, 1865 in Springfield, Illinois**

Confederate President Jefferson Davis

Declared Hostiles Over May 9th, 1865

Surrender of Confederate Generals

East

General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant, April 9, 1865, Appomattox Court House, Virginia

Southeast

General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to General William T. Sherman, April 26th, 1865, Bennett Place, North Carolina

General William T. Wofford surrendered to General Henry M. Judah, May 12, 1865, Kingston, Georgia

General Samuel Jones surrendered to General Edward M. McCook, May 10, 1865, Tallahassee, Florida

South

General St. John Richardson Liddell surrendered to General Edward Canby, April 9, 1865, Fort Blakely, Alabama

General Richard Taylor surrendered to General Edward Canby, May 4, 1865, Citronelle, Alabama

General Dabney Herndon Maury surrendered to General Edward Canby, May 5, 1865, Citronelle, Alabama

General Nathan B. Forrest surrendered to General James H. Wilson, May 9, 1865, Gainesville, Alabama

West

General M. Jeff Thompson surrendered to General Grenville M. Dodge, May 11, 1865, Jacksonport, Arkansas

Southwest

General Edmund Kirby Smith surrendered to General Peter J. Osterhaus, June 2, 1865, Galveston, Texas

General Stand Watie (also Chief of the Cherokee Nation) surrendered to Colonel Asa C. Matthews June 23, 1865 at Fort Towson in the Choctaw Nations, Oklahoma

13th Amendment

"Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." This was passed by the Congress on January 31, 1865, and ratified by enough states on December 6, 1865 to amend the Constitution.

Surrender of the CSS Shenandoah

The last sanctioned Confederate flag would not be furled until November 6th, 1865. This surrender was the CSS Shenandoah. She was a full rigged, three mast, cruiser with 200 HP steam power assist.

The Shenandoah was raiding in the Pacific until August 3rd, 1865 when CSA Navy Captain James I. Waddell learned of the multiple army surrenders and the capture of CSA President Jefferson Davis' cabinet.

Captain Waddell took the Shenandoah back to Liverpool, England which had been the Shenandoah's home port as the "Sea King" before being sold to the Confederate States of America and re-christened the CSS Shenandoah. On November 6th Captain Waddell sailed up the River Mersey unfurling and furling the Confederate Flag for the last time as a Confederate States of America combat entity. Captain Waddell surrendered to Captain Paynter of HMS Donegal, Her Majesty Royal Navy. Captain Paynter then conveyed the surrender to the United States Consulate.

During her one year of high seas raiding she claimed 20 prizes of estimated \$1.4 million dollar in 1864 money. She was also the only Confederate ship to circumnavigate the earth.



CSS Shenandoah

The ship was eventually sold to Majid bin Said, the First Sultan of Zanzibar. She was re-christened the El Majidi. Ironically the El Majidi was used in the defense of Islamic Zanzibar's slave business. They were trading about 50,000 slaves a year at that time. Zanzibar abolished slavery in 1897. The last nation in the region to officially abolish slavery was the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in 1981.

The El Majidi was blown ashore in a hurricane on April 15, 1872 and then scrapped.

Major-General Peter J. Osterhaus

By Bob Svacina

From the article "It Is Over" CSA General Edmund Kirby Smith surrendered to General Peter J. Osterhaus on June 2nd, 1865, in Galveston, Texas. Seventeen days later Major-General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston and announced in his General Order Number 3:

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer. "

June 19th, 1865 has been recognized as Juneteenth first in Texas and now other states.

General Grenville Mellon Dodge was the last Civil War commanding general (corps level and up) to die in the United States on January 3rd, 1916 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The last commanding general (again corps level and up) was Peter Joseph Osterhaus on January 2nd, 1917, who died in Duisburg, Germany. He was mustered out of the Army on January 15, 1866 and stayed on as an employee with the United States government as a Consul in Lyons, France. He made his permanent home in Duisburg, Germany. He was buried at Koblenz Jewish Cemetery. Koblenz is about halfway between Köln (Cologne)

Germany and Manheim. In 1915 at 92 years-old he was the oldest army pensioner.

General Osterhaus was born January 4, 1823 in Koblenz, Rhenish Prussia (Rhineland Province of the former Kingdom of Prussia). Osterhaus was educated at the Berlin Military Academy and migrated to the United States in 1848 and settled in the Saint Louis, Missouri area.

Besides being the oldest army pensioner in 1915 and 1916, and the last commanding general of the Civil War to die, he may have fought in more battles than any other commanding officers, starting at Wilson Creek and in nearly every battle in the western theater, then accepting CSA General Smith surrender on June 2nd. Only two more surrenders would take place; General Stand Watie on June 23rd, and the CSS Shenandoah on November 6th, 1865.

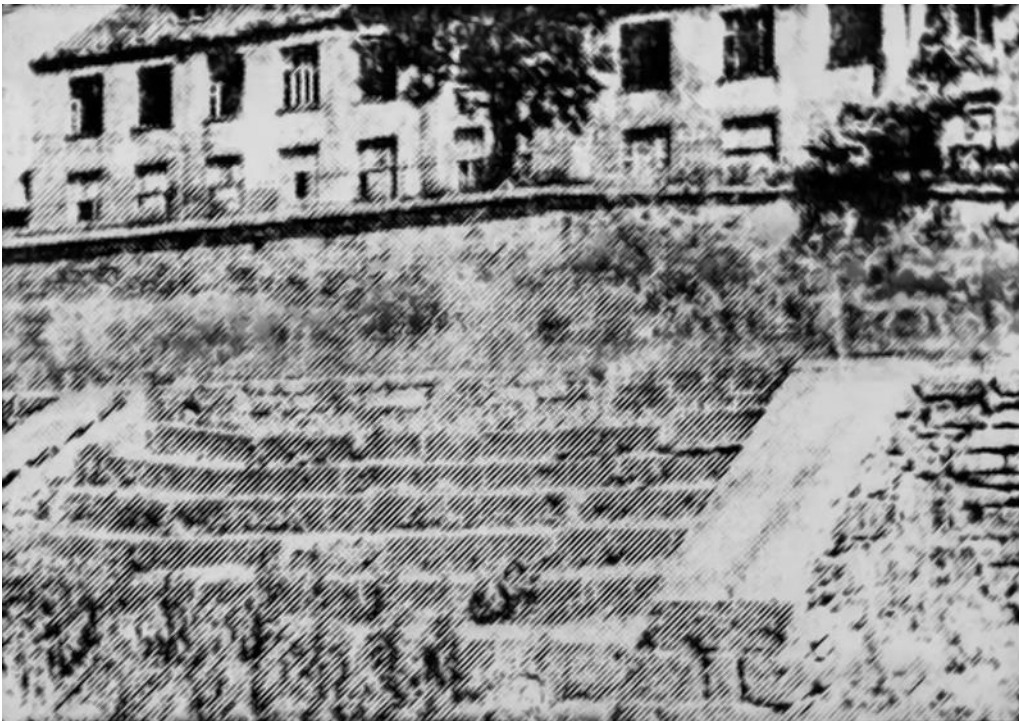
The general's grave was destroyed by Germans during the Nazi era and his headstone used as steps at the Koblenz-Lützel bahnhof (train station). Some of the headstones have been recovered but not the general's.

The general's great-great-granddaughter, Mary Bobbitt Townsend, has written a book about the general, Yankee Warhorse: A Biography of Major General Peter Osterhaus. Ms. Townsend has also written a historical fiction book, based on the diaries of another great-great grandfather, George Wilson, who was a Southerner through and through, son of a Virginia plantation owner. The book is titled Toward a Distant Shore: Civil War Engulfs the Tidewater.

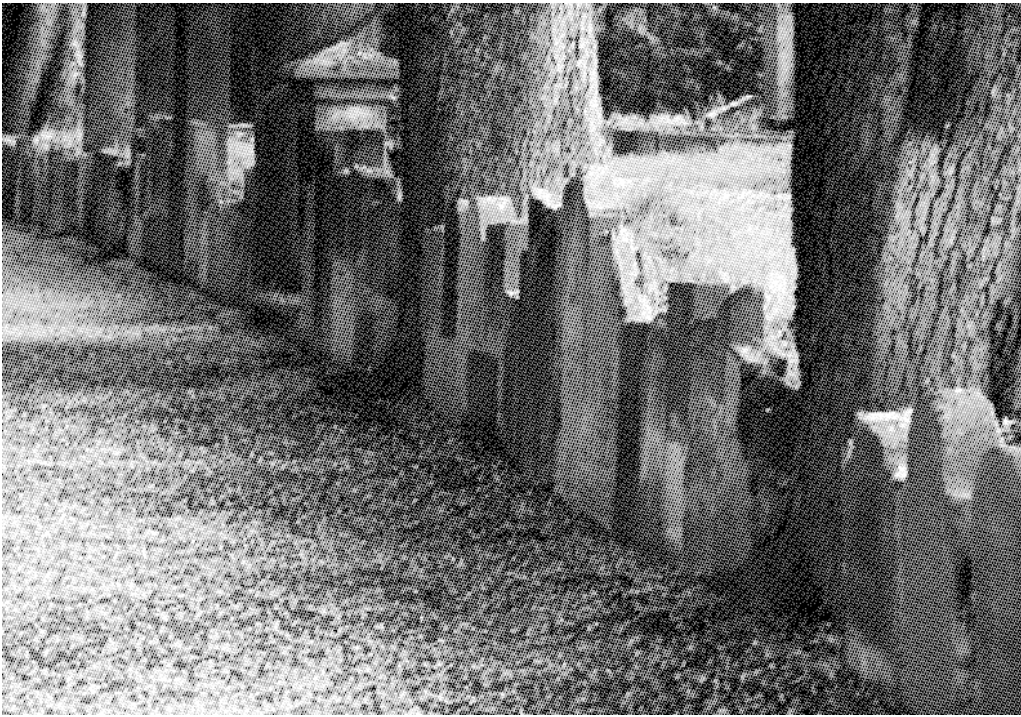
For future reading on General Osterhaus see:

<http://www.thecivilwarmuse.com/index.php?page=peter-j-osterhaus>

<http://pjoesterhaus.com/about.html>



Major-General Peter J. Osterhaus headstone was used as steps at the Koblenz-Lützel bahnhof (train station).



A line headstone retrieved from Koblenz-Lützel bahnhof steps after World War II and returned to Jüdische Kultusgemeinde (Jewish Cemetery). General Osterhause's headstone has not been identified.

THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY – AUGUST

- 5th 1864 – Battle of Mobile Bay, Alabama
- 9th 1862 – Battle of Cedar Mountain, Culpeper County, Virginia
- 10th 1861 – Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri
- 17th 1862 – U.S.-Dakota War begins
- 20-22nd 1862 – Battle of Fort Ridgely, Minnesota (U.S.-Dakota War)
- 28th-29th 1861 – Battle of Hatteras Inlet Batteries, North Carolina Outer Banks
- 29th-30th 1862 – Second Battle of Bull Run, Manassas, Virginia

CIVIL WAR BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH – AUGUST

- 21st 1821 – Gen. William Barksdale C.S.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks again to Lana Blumhoefer for the Civil War calender information with some additions by the editor.

Can you contribute to a future newsletter? Writers are wanted to submit Civil War related articles to this newsletter.

Please submit your drafts to Bruce Cooper: earlofbuce@hotmail.com