



NEWS

Issue 27: July 2022

2022-2023 BOARD

President: Brett Johnson

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Rod Myers, Heather Paulsen

NEWS Editor: Bruce Cooper

MEMBER PROFILE OF THE MONTH

HEATHER PAULSON



Heather Paulson, who joined the TCCWRT in 2016, was recently voted in as a Director on our Board.

Heather holds a dual membership with both the TCCWRT and St. Croix Valley and “enjoys meeting people who are as interested in

history as I am, plus each Round Table speaker enriches my understanding of the Civil War time period.” She feels “the Civil War was really a pivotal point in American history, heavily influencing everything that came after. It would be hard not to be interested in it.”

“I love to read and have always been interested in history. In junior high, I read [The Red Badge of Courage](#) and was really impacted by it. When I got to college, there was a course on the Civil War & Reconstruction I desperately wanted to take because of that book. The class was only offered to upperclassmen, but I successfully made a case to be allowed to attend as a freshman. I am so thankful, as the professor retired after the next term and the course was not taught again during my time in school. I wish I had been able to let the professor know how influential the class has been on my life.”

Heather’s great-great grandfather fought with the 12th Wisconsin, in Company G. He was at Vicksburg, was



First Minnesota Monument at Gettysburg

wounded during the Atlanta Campaign, took part in Sherman's March to the Sea, and was part of the Grand Review. She's recently found two other Civil War soldiers in her family, though both are pretty indirect relatives, being great, great, grand-uncles. One of the two was in the 3rd Rhode Island Heavy Artillery. The other was in Company D of the 1st Wisconsin Calvary and took part in capturing Jefferson Davis at the end of the war.

While she's visited several battlefields, Heather is holding out on picking a favorite until she's visited Vicksburg and Shiloh. "Vicksburg was the first action my great-great grandfather participated in. His service is something I have long been proud of, so visiting a site where he served will be special. Recently I've learned a large contingent of men from my hometown enlisted in the 18th Wisconsin at the start of the war. Shiloh was their first battle. It was a very harsh experience, leaving a significant number of them wounded, captured or killed, including the deaths of the unit's captain, major and colonel. Knowing these are my hometown boys and having an idea of what they went through has already changed my expectations of what visiting Shiloh will be like."

Heather enjoys traveling with her mother who has also caught the Civil War bug. While she seriously considered enlisting in the military several times but did not do so, she is proud of relatives who have served. She has discovered ancestors who fought in the Mexican War, War of 1812, and one who was a privateer during the Revolutionary War, licensed by the Continental Congress to harass British shipping.

Heather's goal is to visit all 50 states, having gone to 30 so far. She lives in Eagan and has been working in the commercial insurance field for the past 20 years.

STEVEN SCHIER'S CIVIL WAR TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

Which Civil War regiment suffered the greatest losses in a single Civil War battle?

(See last page for the answer)

NEW OFFICERS FOR 2022-2023

Here are the newly elected officers for the 2022-2023 year:

President: Brett Johnson

Vice President: Tom Hutchinson

Secretary/Treasurer Carol VanOrnum

Past President: Bob Svacina

At-Large Board Members (Two-year term ending May 2023): Lana Blumhoefer, Bruce Cooper

At-Large Board Members (Two-year term ending May 2024): Steve Cook, James Mewborn, Rod Myers, Heather Paulsen

2022-2023 ROUND TABLE SPEAKER SCHEDULE

2022

- September 20: “Emancipation During the Civil War” – Amy Murrell Taylor
October 18: “Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery ...” – Richard Bell
November 15: “The Louisiana Tigers” – Scott Mingus
December 20: “Out to Work: Women and the Civil War ...” – Dr. Lisa Marie Rude

2023

- January 17: “The Turning Point: The Wilderness and Spotsylvania” – John C. Fazio
February 21: “The Underground Railroad” – Chris Crutchfield
March 21: “Clara Barton: Civil War Battlefield Nurse” – Leslie Goddard
May 16: “The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners ...” – Lorien Foote

THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY –JULY

- 1st – 3rd 1863 – Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
- 1st 1863 – Union Major General John Reynolds fatally wounded near Gettysburg PA
- 2nd 1863 – Colonel William Colville leads the 1st Minnesota in a suicidal attack against Wilcox’s Alabama Brigade. The attack is successful in slowing the Confederate advance long enough to plug a hole in the Union line on Cemetery Ridge.
- 3rd 1863 – Confederate Brig. General Lewis Armistead fatally wounded during Pickett’s Charge.
- 4th 1863 – Confederate forces under Lt. General John C. Pemberton surrender at Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- 13th-16th 1863 – Battle of Williamsport (a.k.a. Falling Waters), Maryland
- 16th 1862 – Confederate diplomats meet with French Emperor Napoleon III to discuss foreign aid.

- 23rd 1885 – Ulysses S. Grant dies at the age of 63.
- 30th 1875 – Confederate Major General George Pickett dies in Norfolk,
Virginia at age 50.

CIVIL WAR BIRTHDAYS – JULY

- 4th 1838 – Brig. General Rufus Dawes U.S.
- 5th 1801 – Admiral David G. Farragut U.S.
- 12th 1821 – Lt. Gen. Daniel Harvey Hill C.S.
- 13th 1821 – Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest C.S.
- 28th 1840 – Alexander De Soto U.S. Naval Surgeon
- 31st 1816 – Major General George H. Thomas U.S.

TCCWRT SUMMER PICNIC 2022

We had such a great time – Let's do it again!

TCCWRT Annual Picnic

Tuesday, July 19th at 4:00 p.m.

Wabun B, Minnehaha Park (same as last year)

Join us for our Second Annual TCCWRT Picnic

Good food and a trivia contest! Prizes!!

Meat for sandwiches, utensils, and non-alcoholic beverages
will be provided.

We need desserts, salads, other sides (buns, chips, brown beans,
etc.)

For dishes requiring a serving spoon, please bring one.

Please email/call Carol to sign up!

First come, first served.

info@tccwrt.com or (952) 380-6066

RSVP by July 12th

Map to Wabun B:

https://www.minneapolisparks.org/asset/jcyws1/minnehaha_park_picnic_map.pdf

TCCWRT MEMBERS WITH JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/19	Darryl Sannes
7/27	Lana Blumhoefer
7/30	Wendy Osman

TCCWRT MEMBER BARBARA MCCLELLAN DEAD AT AGE 86



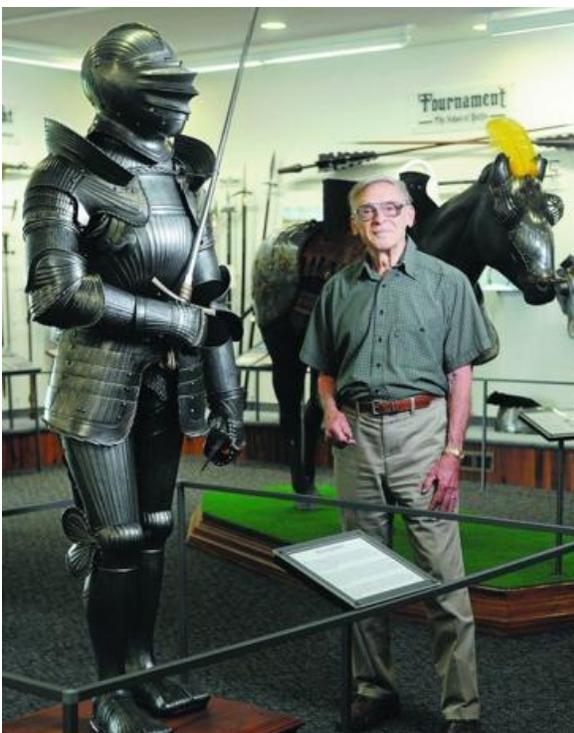
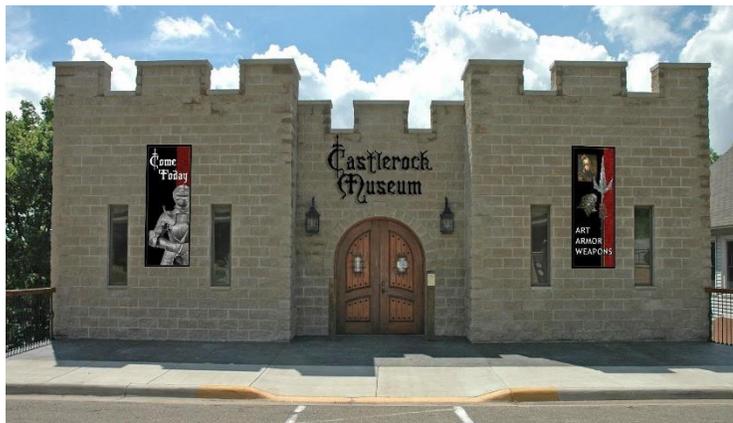
Barbara McClellan, age 86, of Falcon Heights, MN Passed away peacefully on May 16. Survived by her loving husband of 64 years, Tom, and a large family. She and Tom are members of the TCCWRT. A proud graduate of the University of Minnesota, Barbara was passionate about supporting the visually impaired, and volunteered for over 50 years with the State Services for the Blind, including supporting individuals with vision impairment. She also served as church clerk for more than 28 years at Olivet Church. She loved singing, reading, and helping others, but found the most pleasure in spending time with Tom and her family. She will be

remembered for her quick and witty sense of humor, her kindness, thoughtfulness and generous spirit. She made the world better and we are thankful to have known and loved her.

Identifying a Civil War Carbine

Stephen E. Osman

Alma, Wisconsin, on the Mississippi across from Wabasha, hosts a real gem of an attraction. The Castle Rock Museum features world class exhibits of original arms and armor from ancient Greece through the English Civil War. The retired judge who began assembling the collection many decades ago has built a uniquely appealing museum on the bluff above Alma and the Mississippi River. It even looks like a castle on the exterior. The museum is well worth the very pleasant drive down Wisconsin Highway 35, with of course an obligatory ice cream cone at nearby Nelson Creamery. And it's all less than two hours from the Twin Cities. You can learn more here: www.castlerockmuseum.com



The Castle Rock Museum will soon expand its displays to include Colonial, Early American, Mexican War, Civil War and Frontier era weaponry and accessories. My friend, the judge, invited me down to advise.

Gary is an avid collector from youth, having purchased his first Civil War musket at age 10 and firing it using appropriately sized marbles when he couldn't find musket balls. At age 16 he was working as a summer deck hand on the Mississippi River and was laid over in East St. Louis.

Stopping by a local tavern for a meal he noticed a Civil War Burnside cavalry carbine hanging on the wall. He purchased it for a few dollars and brought it back home to Alma where it has been part of his collection for now 75 years.

The serial numbers of some Civil War carbines and revolvers were recorded in regimental and company record books preserved by the National Archives in Washington. Researchers have gleaned those numbers and published them for collectors to attempt to identify which unit, and sometimes which soldier, used a particular weapon. But it is strictly hit and miss, with only a very small percentage of matches.



I offered to look up the Burnside's serial number, but then turned it over and saw a name carved on the stock: FARLING. Now that certainly helps things!

The Burnside carbine was invented by later General Ambrose Burnside and went through several improved



models during the war years. It featured an ice cream cone shaped brass cartridge with a tiny hole in the base.

The fire from a separate percussion cap placed under the hammer ignited the charge. The empty brass case could then easily be removed when the soldier lowered the trigger guard to swivel the breech block vertical. Some 55,000 of these carbines were eventually purchased by the Union Army and they were the third most used of the many types carried by mounted cavalrymen. The Burnside was easy to reload on horseback and relatively reliable.

A quick look at the *US Soldiers and Sailors System* web site operated by the National Park Service was the first research stop and easily accessible from my phone while still at the museum. <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm> There were exactly seven Farlings in the Union Cavalry in units from Indiana, New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. I wrote down the names of each man and unit to be checked as soon as I got home.

Back in 1983 Col. Frederick P. Todd published his massive *American Military Equipage: Volume II, State Forces*. Using information from the Quarterly Ordnance Returns submitted by Civil War unit commanders, Todd and other researchers have identified what companies of what units carried how many of what types of guns, swords and equipment. Todd's book is the quickest way to use those records and I soon checked the five cavalry regiments that were the home to the seven Farlings found on the NPS web site.

Three of the Farlings cavalry regiments carried all or some Burnside's: Obadiah in the 20th Pennsylvania, Joseph in the 25th New York, and George in the 3rd Indiana. But which Farling's carbine ended up on a tavern wall in East St. Louis?

Next stop in the research were the pension files at the National Archives, an index of which is on the internet-based *Fold 3* subscription research service. <https://www.fold3.com> Obadiah died in Philadelphia in the mid-1920s so I crossed him off. It then seemed more logical that an Indiana soldier might end up in Missouri or Illinois, so I next did a search on the very useful *Find a Grave* website with "George W. Farling" and "Indiana" inside quotation marks. www.findagrave.com

To my surprise and pleasure there was George Farling along with a picture of his government Civil War headstone at a St. Joseph Missouri Cemetery! Mission accomplished and I shared the news with Gary who will soon display his childhood acquisition in the expanded museum gallery. But then even more mystery as the headstone clearly reads "2 IND CAV. The Indiana Adjutant General Report with rosters is available online, and no George Farling is shown in Company H of the 2nd. But there he is in the roster of the 3rd, listed as George W. Ferling. The government headstone is incorrect and is a lesson to remember in the future.

The 3rd Cavalry was formed in the fall of 1861 and was unique. Its companies were split into an Eastern or Right Wing of the first six companies, assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and a Western or Left Wing of the last six companies, assigned to the Army of the Ohio and various other commands. Most of Company H was from Clinton County, and that is where I found George W. Ferling, age 17, in the 1860 Census. He was the oldest son of Jacob age 41 and Mary age 37, both born in Pennsylvania. They were farmers with a middle-class personal estate but apparently no land. When teenaged George mustered in 12 September 1861 it certainly removed an important hand on the family farm!



George mustered out in the fall of 1864 and apparently did not reenlist in the veteranized and consolidated unit. During those three years the Western Wing participated in the Battle of Stones River, the Battle of Chickamauga, the Relief of Knoxville and campaigns in East Tennessee, the Battle of Resaca, and operations including the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, the Battle of Jonesboro and the Siege of Savannah. George Farling's Burnside carbine shows considerable wear from many hundreds of miles on horseback and many skirmishes and battles.

George W. Furling (yet another spelling of his last name) shows up on the 1890 Special Census of Veterans as then living in St. James, Missouri. Per the enumerator he had served three years and 17 days in Company H, 3rd Indiana Cavalry, and was currently suffering from nephritis and

chronic diarrhea. By 1900 he had been married for 17 years and was still living in Phelps County, Missouri with his wife and five children, including a 27-year-old from an earlier marriage. He worked as a carpenter and had a mortgage on the house he owned. George was still there when he passed in 1926 in his early 80s. And soon his story will be told at the Castle Rock Museum in Alma, Wisconsin.

STEVEN SCHIER'S TRIVIA QUESTION ANSWER:

The Twenty-Sixth North Carolina Infantry suffered the worst regimental losses in a single battle: 708 of 800 killed, wounded, or missing at Gettysburg.

CONTACT US:

Twin Cities Civil War Round Table

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<https://tccwrt.com/>

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