



# NEWS

## Issue 28: August 2022

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### MEMBER PROFILE OF THE MONTH

#### TOM HUTCHINSON



Since I was a boy in the 1960's, I have always been fascinated with the American Civil War. Although I did not realize it at the time, in 1961 – 1965 the Centennial of the Civil War was being celebrated. My exposure to it was the Civil War

toy soldiers sets for sale in the Sears Christmas catalog! I never did get that set, but one of my neighborhood friends did; we spent countless hours maneuvering the blue and grey soldiers across imaginary battlefields.

That interest was dormant for some years, until it was rekindled by the famous Ken Burns Civil War documentary series in 1990. After that, I began reading Civil War novels and non-fiction accounts alike. I did not realize Civil War round tables existed until in the early 2000's when I joined the St. Croix Valley group. From there I joined our Twin Cities chapter in 2009.

I have been fortunate to visit many battlefields with members of our round table group. Probably my favorite two are Antietam and Chickamauga. The fact that both battlefields are in rural locations, and therefore are largely intact, is the biggest draw for me. Examining the terrain of the battlefields brings those battle accounts to life for me.



*First Minnesota Monument at Gettysburg*

I have three ancestors that were union soldiers in the Civil War, all brothers born in Ireland. My great-great-grandfather was a private in the 60<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry and participated in the Peninsula Campaign. He later came down with scarlet fever and served the rest of the war in the Veteran Reserve Corps in Washington D.C. His unit, however, the 60<sup>th</sup> New York, was at Gettysburg and was one of the pivotal units in the defense of Culp's Hill. In addition to my grandfather, his two brothers were enlisted a year later in the New York 142<sup>nd</sup> regiment. Both were killed in action in the trenches of Petersburg, tragically near the end of the war in the Spring of 1865. On one trip to Virginia I was able to locate the grave of one of them.

My personal profile is unexciting. I retired this last year after over 40 years practicing civil law in the Twin Cities. I have a lovely wife, Becky, four adult children and nine grandchildren. The two oldest grandchildren are showing interest in the Civil War and I hope to pass on my enthusiasm to them as they grow older. My prized possession is my grandfather's discharge papers or "walking papers" dated 1864 after his 3 year enlistment expired.

I am pleased to have made the acquaintance of so many fine amateur historians who are in our round table group. I look forward to many more enjoyable sessions both formal and informal studying the Civil War both within our round table and elsewhere. I am pleased to be serving as the new Vice President for the club this coming year.

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

What was a common day's march for Civil War soldiers?

**(See last page for the answer)**

### **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 –AUGUST**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 1861 – Ballonist John LaMountain ascends from the steam tug “Fanny” to observe Confederate positions near the James River in Virginia.
- 5<sup>th</sup> 1864 – Battle of Mobile Bay, Alabama.
- 9<sup>th</sup> 1862 – Battle of Cedar Mountain, Virginia
- 12<sup>th</sup> 1861 – Mescalero Apaches ambush Confederate forces in Big Bend County south of Fort Davis, Texas.
- 14<sup>th</sup> 1861 – Members of the 79<sup>th</sup> New York Regiment mutiny at Camp Ewen near Washington D.C..
- 17<sup>th</sup> 1862 – Four Dakota hunters kill five white settlers near Acton Township Minnesota.
- 29<sup>th</sup> 1861 – Union forces capture Forts Hatteras and Clark, North Carolina Outer Banks.
- 31<sup>st</sup> 1864 – The Democrats nominate Gen Goerge B. McClellan for President.

## **CIVIL WAR BIRTHDAYS – AUGUST**

- 5<sup>th</sup> 1844 – Ensign Philip Henry Cooper U.S. Navy
- 8<sup>th</sup> 1822 – Major General George Stoneman U.S.
- 19<sup>th</sup> 1815 – Major General John P. McCowan C.S.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 1812 – Captain James W. Cooke C.S. Navy

## **TCCWRT MEMBERS WITH AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- 8/4 James Mewborn  
8/8 Michael Eckman  
8/18 Bill Huntzicker  
8/23 Steven Olson  
8/27 Melodie Cooper  
8/28 Betsy Pitschka

8/31 Mitch Rubinstein

8/31 William Smith

## **TCCWRT 2ND ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC**

The Round Table held its second Annual Summer Picnic at the Wabun picnic area, at Minnehaha Regional Park in Minneapolis, on August 19, 2022. The highlight of the picnic was Tara Harl's Civil War Trivia Contest won by James Mewborn. Second place went to Ken Flies. Steve Cook and Joe Fitzharris tied for third place. The picnickers enjoyed lots of great food, fine weather and plenty of good conversation.

## **TARA HARL'S SUMMER PICNIC CIVIL WAR TRIVIA CONTEST QUESTIONS**

Answers can be found starting on page seven.

1. When asked if President Lincoln had a hobby, Mrs. Lincoln was known to have answered what?
2. Which former President's house was guarded by Union Soldiers, while the family flew the Union flag they also hid Confederate sympathizer neighbors' valuables within its walls?
3. Which Federal Army catastrophe is documented to have had White, Black, and Female Union soldiers trapped and dying together?
4. What food, previously considered only for children was adopted for soft diets in Civil War hospitals?
5. Every southern state that seceded had at least one county that remained loyal to the Union and sent men to the Union Army, except one, which state was that?
6. Summer 1864 along the James River across from City Point Virginia, Clara Barton worked in what we might call a MASH hospital today as the cots/tents and supplies were organized to be quickly folded and packed to follow the Union Army. What was the hospital called?
7. Which Minnesota town's mayor owned slaves on his farm at the outbreak of the Civil War?
8. Francis Clayton is one of the more famous female Union soldiers of the Civil War. Which battlefield did she come upon another wounded woman soldier, stayed with until she died, and buried her to hide all identity?
9. Which famous Confederate cavalry general, whose son had been named for his father-in-law, renamed the boy at the beginning of the war because the father-in-law stayed loyal to the union?
10. Which two southern cities' regions had the largest concentration of free black land and slave owners before the Civil War?
11. Which scientific research facility did President Lincoln establish in 1863, and why?
12. Which Confederate Cabinet member has been scorned by some historians for supporting slavery even though his own ancestors had been enslaved?

13. Which men's clothing haberdashery, still in existence today, was one of the first to sign a contract to make Union uniforms and also made the suit President Lincoln wore the night he was assassinated?
14. When Mrs. Robert E. Lee had to depart Arlington House at the start of the war, who were the keys to the property handed to and kept by during the war?
15. Which southern General operating in the Middle Tennessee arena promoted a soldier in full awareness that the soldier was a woman?
16. Which West Point class had a book written about it, fought in three wars, produced 20 generals and perhaps challenged more friendships across divided lines during the CW not only for the men but also their wives?
17. What was one of the most popular guns an 1860s woman might carry because it was easy to conceal in the folds of dresses, reticules, pockets, garter belts and boots?
18. More than half of the CW dead from both sides perished within 150 miles of what town?
19. Florence "Poncho" Barnes the famous 1930's woman aviator, had a grandfather who was appointed by President Lincoln in 1861 to be what?
20. Who did the first ladies, Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Davis, both visit during the Civil War and for which Mrs. Davis was highly criticized?
21. Which Act did President Lincoln sign that was the first law to name women "heads of households" thus allowing them to obtain, own and control land in their personal name?
22. Which southern-made gun incorporated the revolver and the shotgun, only 2900 were made, Generals Stuart and Bragg carried one, and General Beauregard's is in the Museum of the CW in Richmond VA?
23. Which famous confederate General's sister remained loyal to the Union, disowned him, never spoke to him again, and did not attend his funeral?
24. What new product did the USP office offer in 1864, probably due to demands by Union soldiers?
25. A widow in the 1860s was expected to be in mourning nearly three years across four stages: First, Second, Ordinary, and Half Mourning. A widower was expected to do what?
26. When medicines became scarce in the south during the war, which garden plant was often used as a natural bandage, had mild blood clotting abilities, and antiseptic use?
27. What was America's most popular tourist attraction during the Civil War?
28. Which southern state's eastern half tried to secede from the Confederacy and join the Union similar to what the western half of Virginia had done?
29. Girl Scouting founder, Juliette Gordon Lowe, whose father was a Confederate Colonel, sat on which famous Union General's lap at the age of five when he came through Savannah as he was an old family friend of her Chicago grandfather?
30. What modern medical procedure was perfected by Thomas Holmes, commissioned in the Union Medical Corps, during the CW war due to demand from loved ones of Union Soldiers?
31. Which seceding southern state was not part of the official "reconstruction" program for the south and why?
32. Which Protestant demonization sent more Chaplains to both the Union and Confederate armies, and lost more Chaplains to death during the war?
33. Which Southern maritime vessel's name-sake later had a U.S. Naval vessel named for him in 1961?
34. Most CW battles really involved little to no bayonet fighting. however, the battle of \_\_\_\_\_ combined some of grisliest features of a frontal assault penetration and bayonet fighting in a general hand-to-hand slaughter?
35. In 2011 which Midwest state built a memorial site and erected a monument to the five Black Littleton brothers, who all perished as Union Soldiers during the Civil War?



TCCWRT 2ND ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Right: President Brett Johnson welcomes the picnickers. Left: Tara Harl reads a Trivia question.



The pavilion.

The food line.

## TARA HARL'S SUMMER PICNIC CIVIL WAR TRIVIA CONTEST ANSWERS

- 1. Cats** (Supposedly, he liked to have cats on his lap while reading or thinking—seemed to help him focus and stay calm.)
- 2. Mrs. Polk, Nashville, TN.** (The home was in downtown Nashville, separate from the large estate they owned in Columbia TN. It was torn down in the 1970s for the movement called “urban renewal”.)
- 3. The Crater, Petersburg Battlefield**
- 4. Oatmeal** (Queen Victoria, who loved all things Scottish, took to oatmeal and made it a popular adult breakfast food.)
- 5. South Carolina**
- 6. A Flying Hospital**
- 7. St. Cloud, Sylvanus Lowry** (Slavery has been documented as active in MN and all other Midwest states during the Civil War as none were impacted by the Emancipation Proclamation.)
- 8. Antietam**
- 9. J.E.B. Stuart** (JEB Stuart met and married his wife Flora at Fort Riley, Ks. in the 1850s when her father was the fort’s commandant—the same father-in-law who later chased the confederate cavalry up and down the Shenandoah Valley.)
- 10. Charleston and New Orleans.** (The caterer of choice in Charleston before the war was a free Black woman.)
- 11. National Academies of Science (Still in existence in DC).** (Lincoln became very frustrated with the lack of “scientific” data to address challenges of the war-- he set up the NAS to obtain scientific advice instead of just “opinions”.)
- 12. Judah Benjamin-Secretary of State.** (He was of Jewish heritage.)
- 13. Brookes Brothers**
- 14. Her Black housekeeper Selena Gray.** (Selena went across the river to General Scott’s office and told him union soldiers were rummaging through and destroying many items that belonged to George and Martha Washington--- his campaign tent and many other items were threatened with destruction if Gen Scott didn’t save them. Lee’s wife had inherited the largest collection of Washington items in the country at the time—being a granddaughter to Martha Washington.)
- 15. Braxton Bragg**
- 16. 1846**
- 17. The Derringer**
- 18. Richmond VA**
- 19. Chief Aeronaut of the Union Army Balloon Corps**
- 20. Union wounded** (Mrs. Lincoln often went to the D.C. hospitals to visit wounded and the press rarely knew about it—Mrs. Davis also visited union wounded in Richmond for which she was highly criticized---remember she was educated in the north and had many relatives in the union army.)
- 21. 1862 Homestead Act** (Sidenote: between 1863-1889 2400 single Minnesota women applied and qualified under this program.)
- 22. The LeMat**
- 23. Stonewall Jackson** (Stonewall was born in what is now West Virginia and most of his family remained loyal to the Union.)
- 24. Postal Money Orders**
- 25. Wear a Black Suit with Black tie and arm band for three months.** (The long mourning period actually protected women of money and property from men attempting to marry just for access to it----“good Christian men” were expected to mourn 6 months then quickly remarry so that their children had a mother. )
- 26. Lambs Ear**

**27. Niagara Falls** (The second was Brooklyn’s parklike Green-Wood Cemetery, which drew 500,000 visitors a year.)

**28. Tennessee**

**29. Sherman**

**30. Mortuary Science/Embalming**

**31. Tennessee.** (President Johnson was from east Tennessee, which had tried to remain loyal to the Union sending a lot of men to the Union Army---thus he insured the whole of Tennessee escaped “reconstruction”.)

**32. Methodist**

**33. HL Hunley---USS Hunley** (The H.L. Hunley was never called CSS Hunley, though many label it as such—Tara Harl’s father served on the USS Hunley, a nuclear submarine tender, once in Scotland and once in Charleston, S.C.)

**34. Franklin TN** (Tara Harl had an Indiana grandfather at Franklin and her daughter had an Illinois grandfather wounded near the Cotton Gin.)

**35. Iowa** (Tara Harl’s aunt in Wapello Ia. was a member of the Louisa County Historical society that discovered the story, located the homesite, possible gravesites of parents, and insured a memorial and monument was erected to the men. The Littleton parents died before the war; their two sisters married away. The historical society is still searching for descendants that might be in the area but as with knowledge of many non-famous Blacks, the family has been lost to history. Unlike the 6 Sullivan brothers of Cedar Rapids, Iowa fame who all died on same ship in WWII.)

### **STEVEN SCHIER’S TRIVIA QUESTION ANSWER:**

Most Civil War soldiers marched 15 to 20 miles a day.

### **CONTACT US:**

#### **Twin Cities Civil War Round Table**

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**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](mailto:earlofbuce@hotmail.com)**