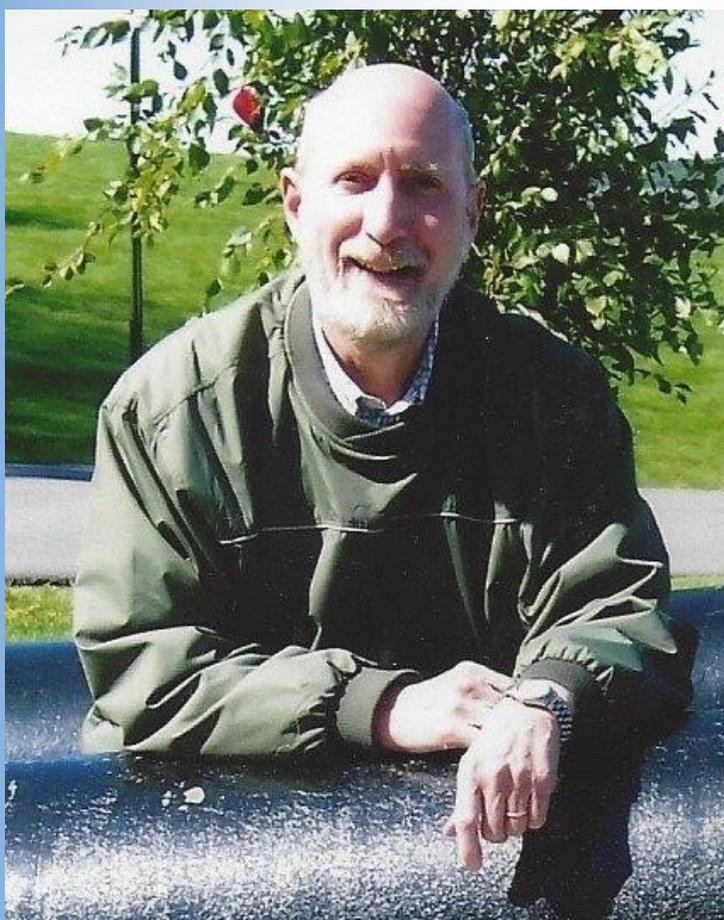
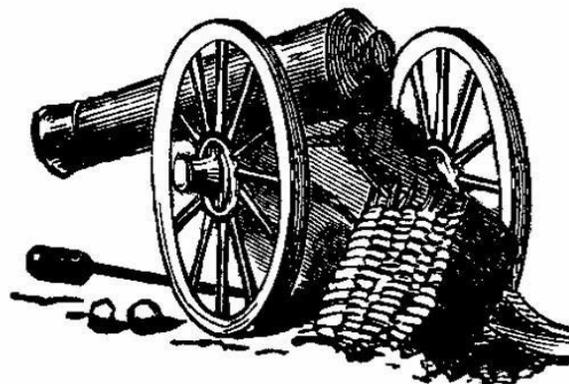


The Grapeshot

March 2019



Follow us on [Facebook](#)

This month's guest speaker:

Mr. Howard Strouse

Please join us as we welcome Howard Strouse as he presents his talk "Civil War Atrocities."

Scottsdale Civic Library

Auditorium 6:00 p.m.

March 19, 2019

About Our Speaker

The March 19 meeting of the Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable will feature Howard Strouse speaking on Civil War Atrocities. Though there were many heroic acts and notes of grace during our Civil War there was also a dark side to that terrible conflict, reflected in General Sherman's comment that "War is all hell." Mr. Strouse's talk will cover atrocities committed before and during that conflict touching on among others, John Brown, the Cook County Vigilance Committee, George Pickett, Nathan Forrest, and John Pope.

A native of Ohio, Howard Strouse has spoken to the Scottsdale Roundtable on several occasions. A long-time student of 19th Century America, with advanced degrees in American History and Government, he has spoken at roundtables and forums across the United States.

Mr. Strouse is past General-in-Chief of the Columbus Ohio Roundtable and serves as historian and tour leader with the Civil War Education Association and The American History Forum. He is retired after a thirty-five-year career as a Federal Special Agent with the Department of Defense.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium from 5:40 to 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month Sept. thru May.



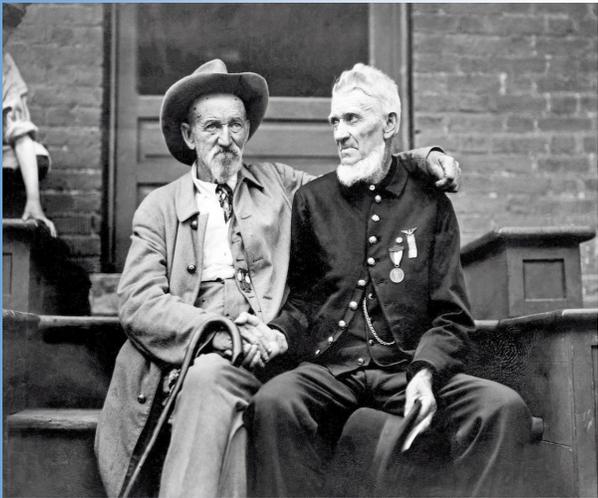
March 19 Howard Strouse, *Civil War Atrocities*

April 16 Frank O'Reilly, *Battle in the Balance: The Union Breakthrough at Fredericksburg*

May 21 Greg Biggs, *How Johnny Got His Gun: The Confederate Supply System*

History Discussion Groups

Didn't get enough Civil War at our speaker meetings? Here is the schedule for our History Discussion Group for this season. We encourage you to join us. Our meetings are casual and engaging with a lot of information. Not to mention it's a blast. The discussion group meets in the Gold Room at the Scottsdale Civic Center Library from 6 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.



March 28: Howard Strouse leads a discussion of *Civil War Atrocities*

April 26: *Battle of Fredericksburg*, presented by John Bamberl

From Around the Campfire...A Message from Our President John Bamberl



The Guidon Bookstore which has been a landmark fixture in Old Scottsdale is closing. Guidon Books has been in Scottsdale since Shelly Dudley's parents, Ruth and Aaron Cohen moved here from Southern California and opened a bookstore with an extensive collection of new and out of print books on the Civil War and Western Americana.

Shelly's father was always interested in Custer

and the Battle of Little Big Horn and Shelly's mother focused her attention on the Civil War. Shelly's father was President of the Southern California Civil War Roundtable in 1963.

They combined their love of history and collecting and opened up Guidon Books in 1964. The name came from Libbie Custer's book, "Following the Guidon". From them both Shelly inherited her love of history and graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in History. After her father's death in 2010 Shelly took over the bookstore with the help of her husband Gordon.

Through history both Shelly and Gordon have discovered the joy of Genealogy and have decided to retire from the book business and travel more. About 5 years ago Shelly started the Civil War discussion group which met at the store until it moved about one year ago. Shelly has been Vice President of the Roundtable for about three years and just recently resigned and was elected to the board for two years.

The store is closing in June and the books are all on sale at 20% off. Their website is www.guidon.com.

Please contact Shelly at the bookstore if you would like to carry on the legacy of Guidon Books.

James Conroy gave us an excellent presentation on "The Hampton Roads Conference" at our February speaker meeting. If you were unable to attend, a recording of Mr. Conroy's talk is available. If you would like a recording of the talk please contact me. Cox Cable no longer will permit me to send it as a mass mailing.

John Bamberl

jbamberl@aol.com

Officers, Staff, and Meetings

OFFICERS/BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Dr. John Bamberl 480-699-5844

VICE PRESIDENT: Shelly Dudley

SECRETARY: Hal Bliss

TREASURER: Michael Harris

GRAPESHOT: Brad Cox, Jim Fritsch

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN: Mark Stoler

BOARD MEMBERS (thru 5/2020): Don Swanson, Richard Cox, Mark Stoler, Mary Jane Baetz

BOARD MEMBERS (thru 5/2019): Paul Knouse, Cal Thompson and Brad Cox

COMMITTEES

Book Table: Cal Thompson

Bylaws: Richard Cox, Mark Stoler, Hal Bliss

Editorial: Brad Cox, Jim Fritsch, and John Bamberl

Finance: Paul Knouse

Genealogy: Brad Cox, Cal Thompson, Jim Davis

Greeters: John Bamberl, Michael Harris

Membership: John Bamberl

Public Relations: John Bamberl

History: Richard Cox

Program: Mark Stoler, Gordon Dudley, George Bennet, Jim Fritsch

Social Media: John Bamberl, Twana Parker

Marketing: Mary Jane Baetz, Jim Henderson

Webmaster: Mark Echeveste, Brad Cox

Meetings @

Scottsdale Civic Center Library (Auditorium)

3839 N Drinkwater Blvd

Scottsdale AZ

3rd Tuesday of the month

September thru May

5:40 PM - 7:30 PM \$35 Annual Dues (individual)

\$45 Annual Dues (family)

On the 7th of February my wife and I headed down to Tucson to meet with our member George Bennett. We met at the Museum of the Horse Soldier. There we were introduced to Rae Whitley who is the director of the museum. We also had the pleasure of meeting John and Peggy Sanders. Rae gave us a wonderful tour of the museum. This museum is a gem and I highly recommend a visit if you haven't done so. After our tour we stopped at Zinburgers for a bite to eat and then ventured over to John and Peggy's house. There we were greeted with a garage full of books, 20 boxes to be exact, with an estimated 150 books. All of these boxes were packed full of civil war books and I was informed that they wanted to donate them to the Roundtable. We loaded the bed of my truck and headed back to the valley. Upon arrival at my house I started to dig into the boxes and soon realized these were quality books, most of them all hardbacks. This is a real treasure trove for our book sales and allows us to provide our members a fine selection to choose from.

The donations that we get from our book sales goes towards our goal of helping in the preservation of battlefields across the nation. A hearty thank you goes out not only to John and Peggy, but to all of those that have been so generous to donate and help us with our inventory—*Submitted by Brad Cox.*

More To Do Than Fight This Awful War (SCWRT-Article 50)

By Gary Alan Dorris

All Presidents face numerous challenges during their term in office, but, historically, most are remembered for, and identified with, only one or two significant issues they faced and whether or not their efforts succeeded

Abraham Lincoln is now most identified with the Civil War, which began with five weeks of his inauguration, and for his efforts to end slavery. (Unfortunately, also for his assassination.) But, President Lincoln, as all Presidents, served as the Chief Executive of a vast nation whose citizens had numerous and varied interests. While the devastating civil war consumed most of his time, there were also international and domestic issues which required his attention.

In his Report to Congress in December 1863, referred to today as a State of the Union Address, Lincoln first presented a report from the Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, which detailed progress against the Confederacy and concluded that the Union forces would have control over most of the Southern region within the next year.

But as the President went through the rest of his remarks, it became clear that there were other matters which, taken collectively, would seem to have been enough to occupy a President, even without a Civil War.

Lincoln mentioned the following diplomatic issues:

- Reached a treaty with Great Britain to formalize a permanent end to the African Slave Trade and to create a cooperative effort to combat violators.

- Made progress with Great Britain over border issues between Canada and the territories in the Northwest; which paved the way for Washington, Idaho and Montana to become states a few years later.

- Announced the successful arbitration of disputes with Chile and Peru over the seizure of American assets.

- A travel agreement was reached with Nicaragua for U.S. troops to cross through that country from Atlantic to Pacific (fifty years before the Panama Canal was built).

- Organized an international postal treaty which would be accepted by all signing nations to permit the unrestricted flow of mail using the postage mark of the originating country.

- He explained an internal Japanese conflict challenging the authority of the Emperor, and made clear that the United States would not choose sides.

- Completed an agreement with Russia to allow a telegraph line to connect the eastern coast of that country with the western coast of the United States. (The actual telegraph line would take another twenty years).

- Perhaps most important, Secretary of State William Seward managed to assure that England, France and Spain would remain neutral during the Civil War and not give official recognition to the Confederate States of America.

The first seven diplomatic successes had to overcome interference from the Confederate government, which hoped to cause international distractions and/or incidents for the Union. However, it was the eighth objective which certainly affected the outcome of the Civil War. The

However, it was the eighth objective which certainly affected the outcome of the Civil War. The Confederate government had kept up a relentless diplomatic effort to become recognized by European Capitals as a sovereign nation and to receive financial support. If Secretary Seward and his Ambassadors were unable to thwart those efforts, the progress of the Civil War would have been problematic.

In addition to diplomatic issues, President Lincoln, and his cabinet, faced significant domestic matters on the home front.

Although the first telegraph line laid across the Atlantic in 1856 had failed, Lincoln proposed that Congress authorize another attempt and add underwater lines along the Atlantic coast. He discussed the ongoing Indian disputes; some of which had proven deadly to both settlers and the local Indian tribes. He called for steps that would increase immigration westward, including the Homestead Act which would give parcels of federal land to those who chose to move west. He called for a national immigration policy for Europeans to increase workers available for specific labor pools such as coal and mineral miners, agricultural workers, and people to work in foundries. He urged completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, which was underway.

And, he added the following issues to the report from the Secretaries of War and Navy:

He called for the building of major Naval ship yards along the Atlantic coast, not just as war-time need, but also to assure the United States could protect shipping lanes and participate fully in ocean trade after the War was over.

He announced that the Military academies, which had fallen short of new cadets in 1862 because the seceded states sent no candidates, were again filled by increasing the quotas for states that remained in the Union.

Then, to address a matter on the mind of almost every person in 1863, whether they were in the north or south, he also discussed the perplexing questions that had arisen since the Emancipation Proclamation had become effective a year earlier. He expressed concern that the Proclamation would be ruled a war-time measure and feared there would be attempts to re-instate slavery in some states. He declared that he would work with Congress to remedy that issue through Constitutional amendments. (In 1864, the Senate passed the proposed 13th Amendment to the Constitution which would make slavery illegal, the House of Representatives passed the proposal in February 1865, and the necessary number of states ratified the Amendment in November 1865.)

His concluding remarks are not often quoted, but ring true today.

“Our chief care must still be directed to the Army and Navy, who have thus far borne their harder part so nobly and well; ...we do also honorably recognize the gallant men, from commander to sentinel, who compose them, and to whom more than others the world must stand indebted for the home of freedom ... regenerated, enlarged, and perpetuated.”

Abraham Lincoln was leading the nation through a destructive and deadly war between Americans, but was also looking to the future and planning for the time when the “Awful Civil War” was no more.

This is an abbreviated version of blog #50. This and other articles by Mr. Dorris may be found at www.alincolnbygadorris.com or contact the author at gadorris2@gmail.com

Scottsdale Civil War Round Table

Membership

Please Join Us!

Your membership enables SCWRT to help with battlefield preservation and attract the best Civil War experts from around the country as keynote speakers at our meetings, September thru May! Please fill out this form and return it with your check payable to Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable. Mail to this address:

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

#274 7349 N. Via Paseo Del Sur Ste 515 Scottsdale, AZ 85258-3749

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, & Zip _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Student Membership (no charge) _____

Active Duty Military (complimentary) _____

Individual Membership \$35 \$ _____

Family Membership \$45 \$ _____

Additional contribution of \$ _____

100% of your contribution (minus expenses) goes to battlefield preservation.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*Our monthly newsletter "The Grapeshot" will be emailed to you.

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable is approved by the IRS as a 501 c (3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible for federal and state income tax returns. Check with your tax consultant.

www.scottsdalecwrt.org

Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable

480/699-5844