



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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Chicago, Illinois

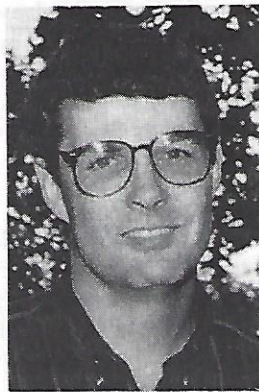
November 1992

## John Hennessey on "Return to Bull Run: Seeds of Command Controversy"

by Barbara Hughett

The Second Battle of Bull Run (or Manassas, as the Confederates called it), waged on August 28-30, 1862, ended in a cloud of recriminations for the North. Union General John Pope's mismanagement had resulted in a Confederate victory—the second Southern victory on the same battleground. It was in this Virginia area, twenty-six miles southwest of Washington, that the first major action of the war had taken place on July 21 of the previous year.

Their second defeat at Manassas Junction and Pope's retreat over Bull Run Creek left Union soldiers bitter and discouraged with leadership that seemed dwarfed by the brilliance of Confederate generals. The Second Manassas Campaign is a telling case study for both North and South. On the plains of Manassas the great triumvirate of the high command of the Army of Northern Virginia—Generals Robert E. Lee, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, and James Longstreet—fully emerged. At the same time, Second Manassas bared the soft underbelly of the Union war effort: politics.

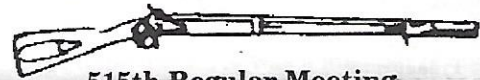


John Hennessey

"Return to Bull Run: Seeds of Command Controversy" will be the topic of John Hennessey when he addresses The Civil War Round Table on November 13. Hennessey will look at this long-neglected campaign from the perspective of four of its main characters: Pope, Jackson, Longstreet, and Union General George B. McClellan.

John Hennessey, a graduate of the State University of New York at Albany, served as historian at Manassas National Battlefield for five years. During this period, he completed a 580-page, sixteen-map troop movement study of the Second Battle of Manassas which was published by the National Park Service in 1985 and reprinted by H. E. Howard in 1990. He worked for nearly five years for the New York State Office of Historic Preservation before returning to the National Park Service where, for the past year, he has been an exhibit planner at Harpers Ferry.

He has written many reviews and articles on the Civil War and historic preservation for numerous periodicals and *An End to Innocence: The First Battle of Manassas* (H. E. Howard, 1989). He contributed to the Conservation



### 515th Regular Meeting

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John Hennessey on "Return to Bull Run: Seeds of Command Controversy"

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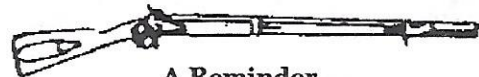
Friday, November 13

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Holiday Inn Mart Plaza  
350 North Orleans Street  
Buttons—15th floor

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
\$20.00 per person

Entree: Turkey Medallions with Lobster Sauce,  
Orange Roughy, or Fruit Plate



### A Reminder

Please make your reservation by Wednesday, November 11. Mail the enclosed postcard or call the book shop at (312) 944-3085.

If you are driving and coming from the south, turn left into the Mart Plaza lot just after crossing the river on Orleans. From the north, turn right from Orleans on Hubbard, left on Kingsbury, right on Kinzie, and left into the Mart Plaza lot. Parking is free.

Fund's *Civil War Battlefield Guide* (1990), the upcoming *Encyclopedia of the Confederacy* (Simon & Schuster), and the new *American National Biography* (Oxford).

Hennessey, who serves on the board of directors of the Save Historic Antietam Foundation, received the Jefferson Davis Medal from the United Daughters of the Confederacy this past July. Last month, the Greater Boston Civil War Round Table honored him with its annual Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. Award.

John Hennessey's new book, *Return to Bull Run: The Campaign and Battle of Second Manassas* was released by Simon & Schuster last month and is currently available in local bookstores.



## THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Founded December 3, 1940  
357 West Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60610  
Phone: (312) 944-3085

### Officers

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Picnic .....	Paul Kleckner

The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Dan Weinberg, 357 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60610.



### Special Raffle

In appreciation for The Round Table's generous contribution last spring to the Save Historic Antietam Foundation in its Grove Farm fundraising effort, SHAF has sent us a Don Troiani print entitled "Until Sundown: Sunken Road, Battle of Antietam, September 17th, 1862." It will be raffled off at the November meeting, with the proceeds going to our battlefield preservation fund.

## BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION

### ☆ UPDATE ☆

by David Richert

The U.S. Department of the Interior in mid-September reversed its determination that the Brandy Station Battlefield is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service determined in February 1991 that the battlefield was eligible, and reviewed and reaffirmed that decision this past April.

Designation for the 14,500 acres was opposed by the Culpepper County Board of Supervisors and developer Lee Sammis who plans a corporate office park in the heart of the battlefield. There is speculation that the withdrawal of eligibility was a political tradeoff between Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan and Wyoming Senator Malcolm Wallop, a supporter of private property rights, in order to save the Civil War Battlefield Commemorative Coin Act (see story below).

Tersh Boasberg, an attorney for the Brandy Station Foundation, said that federal protections still apply to Brandy Station because the National Historic Preservation Act states that any project involving federal funds or licensing requires a review of the impact on local historic resources.

Lujan's withdrawal noted that the designation was placed "unilaterally" by the Interior Department. Usually, National Register designations are nominated, then reviewed by state historic preservation offices. Boasberg said the Brandy Station Foundation will prepare a nomination of the battlefield for the National Register.

**The Civil War Battlefield Commemorative Coin Act of 1992**, which will raise as much as \$21.5 million to save land at endangered Civil War Battlefields, was signed into law by President George Bush on October 5 (P.L. 102-379). The Act was one of the first initiatives of the private, nonprofit Civil War Trust, which is mounting a nationwide fundraising campaign to preserve historically important battlefield acreage threatened by development. The Trust was initiated in 1991 by Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan Jr.

The law authorizes the U.S. Mint to strike three coins for sale to the public in 1995 — a \$5 gold, \$1 silver, and 50 cent clad coin. The money for battlefield preservation will come from surcharges on each coin; it will be dispersed according to a priority list being drafted by the Trust's evaluation and acquisition committee.

**The Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS)** is working with the Pamplin Foundation of Portland, Oregon to create Pamplin Park Civil War Site, a 103-acre historic area seven miles southwest of Petersburg, Virginia. The property, known as the Boisseau Plantation during the war, contains some of the finest earthen entrenchments in the country.

The Pamplin family is descended from the Boisseaus and is dedicated to preserving the site of their ancestral home. The Pamplin Foundation purchased the land and requested that the APCWS develop and manage, completely at Foundation expense, a first-class historic site. The Foundation provided funds for an APCWS Lands Manager to oversee Pamplin Park as well as other APCWS properties. Linda Leazer of Remington, Virginia, has been hired to fill that position.



☞ OCTOBER MEETING ☞

by Barbara Hughett

The nineteenth annual Nevins-Freeman Award of The Civil War Round Table was conferred on Shelby Foote at The Round Table's 514th regular meeting on October 9, before 470 members and guests. The award was established in 1974 to honor individuals for their contributions to the preservation of our nation's heritage and to our understanding of the past, especially the years 1861-1865.

In his introduction of Foote, Round Table founder Ralph G. Newman, chairman of the 1992 Nevins-Freeman Award Committee, said: "Shelby Foote is living proof that history is too interesting to be left in the hands of the historians. He is a talented, skilled, superb writer who, like several of his own heroes—Bruce Catton, Douglas Southall Freeman, and Allan Nevins—has rescued the Civil War from the dull clutches of those pedagogues who feel that an interesting sentence is to be avoided as much as a one hundred-word footnote is to be cherished."

"The Nevins-Freeman Award," Newman noted, "is named for two gentle and talented scholars whose writing experience was founded on their work in the world of newspapers. Patient and generous to their colleagues, their personality and skill epitomized all of the great talents we of The Round Table have come to admire.... It is interesting to note that Douglas Freeman and Allan Nevins are two of our honored guest's heroes. They would have heartily approved of his choice as the recipient of the Nevins-Freeman Award."

The author of the monumental and highly-acclaimed three-volume *The Civil War: A Narrative* (1958-1974), Shelby Foote became known to millions of Americans in the autumn of 1990 when he appeared as a commentator on the very successful public television documentary, "The Civil War," produced by Ken Burns. His vast store of knowledge and seemingly endless anecdotes about the war charmed viewers and helped create a new surge of interest in the American Civil War. Foote, who considers himself to be primarily a novelist, has written several successful novels, most of which are set in his native Mississippi Delta.

Instead of speaking on his originally-announced topic, "The Novelist as Historian," for his acceptance address, Foote read from the Epilogue to his three-volume history of the Civil War. The Epilogue concludes with some reflections on the occasion of the funeral of former Confederate President Jefferson Davis, held on December 11, 1889, in New Orleans.

"Much else was said in the way of praise across the land that day, and still more would be said four years later, when his body would be removed to its permanent resting place in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, to join his son Joe and others who had died nearby in Virginia during the war. Lincoln by now had been a full generation in his Springfield tomb, and all he had said or written would be cherished as an imperishable legacy to the nation, including the words he had spoken in response to a White House serenade on the occasion of his reelection: 'What has occurred in this case must ever recur in similar cases. Human nature will not change. In any future great national trial, compared with the men of this, we shall have as weak and as strong, as silly and as wise, as bad and as good. Let us therefore study the incidents of this, as philosophy to learn wisdom from, and none of them as wrongs to be revenged.'

"Davis could never match that music, or perhaps even catch its tone. His was a different style, though it too had its beauty and its uses: as in his response to a recent Beauvoir visitor, a reporter who hoped to leave with something that would help explain to readers the underlying motivation of those crucial years of bloodshed and division. Davis pondered briefly, then replied.

"Tell them—" He paused as if to sort the words. "Tell the world that I only loved America," he said.

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**Richard Edwin Clark**  
(1913-1992)

by Ralph Geoffrey Newman

Dick Clark became a member of The Civil War Round Table in the same year that he came to work for the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop—1952. He was a member of our organization for forty years. Born in Oak Park, Illinois, he was educated in local schools and then graduated from the University of Chicago. During World War II he was a language specialist in the United States Army, mainly in Japanese, though he was proficient in several languages. When he returned to civilian life, he taught French at the University of Michigan.

For many years he was the editor of "The New Books" column in our newsletter. He, along with Margaret April and Frieda Weisbach, kept the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop on an even keel, while its owner was constantly involved in political, literary, and semi-nefarious activities.

The term "scholar and gentleman" described him perfectly. He enjoyed the affection of our members and merited our respect. His first task when he joined the book shop staff was to read proof on the first printing of Adlai E. Stevenson's 1952 convention acceptance address, "The Stark Reality of Responsibility," which was published by Americana House, the publishing entity of the book shop. To him was due much of the credit for the selection of the book by the leaders in the world of graphic arts as one of the "Fifty Books of the Year."

After leaving the employ of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop several years ago, he divided his time between his Chicago apartment and his "retreat home" in LaPorte, Indiana. He continued to attend our meetings after his retirement and was always welcomed by his fellow members, many of whom had bought their first Civil War book from him. He was a friend, companion, mentor, and teacher. We are privileged to have had the benefit of a forty-year association with him. He died in Chicago on September 24.

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**Former President Jerry Warshaw** presented "A Civil War Film Night" to the South Suburban Civil War Round Table on October 15.

**John Y. Simon**, 1985 Nevins-Freeman Award recipient, recently addressed the Colorado Civil War Round Table in Boulder and the Puget Sound Civil War Round Table in Seattle, Washington. His topic on both occasions was "The Forge of Generalship."



## The New Books

Compiled by C. Robert Douglas



- Baumgartner, Richard A. and Larry M., eds. *Yankee Tigers—Through the Civil War With the 125th Ohio* by Ralsa C. Rice. Blue Acorn Press, P.O. Box 2684, Huntington, WV 25726. 1992. \$20.00.
- Blackerby, Hubert C. *Blacks in Blue and Gray. Afro-American Service in the Civil War*. Portals Press, P.O. Box 1048, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403. 1979. \$10.00.
- Bragg, Charles, ed. *Cogley's Seventh Indiana Cavalry*. Morningside Bookshop. 1992. \$24.95. Original of 1876.
- Casdorph, Paul D. *Lee and Jackson: Confederate Chieftains*. Paragon House. 1992. \$24.95.
- Cozzens, Peter. *This Terrible Sound: The Battle of Chickamauga*. U. of Illinois Press. 1992. \$39.95.
- Current, Richard N. *Lincoln's Loyalists: Union Soldiers From the Confederacy*. Northeastern U. Press. 1992. \$21.95.
- Dowdey, Clifford. *Lee*. Stan Clark Military Books. 1992. \$37.50; pbk. \$22.50. Original of 1965.
- Dufour, Charles L. *The Night the War Was Lost*. Elliotts Book Shop Press. 1992. \$30.00. Original of 1960.
- Estaville, Lawrence E., Jr. *Confederate Neckties: Louisiana Railroads in the Civil War*. McGinty Publications, P.O. Box 3038, Ruston, LA 71272-0001. 1989. \$16.95.
- Westwood, Howard C. *Black Troops, White Commanders and Freedmen During the Civil War*. Foreword by John Y. Simon. Southern Illinois University Press. 1991. \$24.95.
- Wheeler, Richard. *Voices of the Civil War*. Penguin Books. 1990. Pbk. \$14.95.
- White, Russell C., ed. *The Civil War Diary of Wyman S. White, 1st Sgt. of Company F, 2nd U.S. Sharpshooters, 1861-1865*. Butternut and Blue. 1992. \$30.00.



**Growing Up With Southern Illinois: The Pioneer Memoirs of Daniel H. Brush** has recently been published by Crossfire Press (P.O. Box 365, Herrin, Illinois). The book features a chapter written by John Y. Simon: "The Civil War Years of Colonel Daniel H. Brush, 18th Illinois Infantry."

The history of The Round Table, *The Round Table: Fifty Years of Scholarship and Fellowship*, by Barbara Hughett, is available for \$30 per copy. You may purchase the book at the monthly meeting or order it from Morningside Bookshop, 260 Oak Street, Dayton, Ohio 45401 (1-800-648-9710). Add \$2.50 for postage and handling.

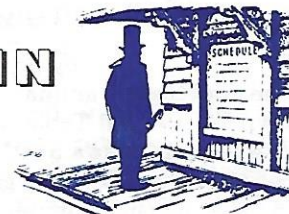
### Schimmelfennig Boutique

In addition to The Round Table history, the following items are available at each monthly meeting:

- Lapel pins \$3.00 each, two for \$5.00
- Mugs \$2.00 each, two for \$3.00
- Meeting tapes \$7.00 each
- Civil War Buff posters \$10.00 each

Proceeds from the sale of these items go to support the programs of The Civil War Round Table.

## BULLETIN BOARD



### FUTURE MEETINGS

- Regular meetings are held at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, 350 North Orleans Street (Buttons, 15th Floor), the second Friday in each month, except as noted.
- November 13:** John Hennessy on "Return to Bull Run: Seeds of Command Controversy"
- December 11:** Peter Cozzens on "The Real Rock of Chickamauga: The Twenty-first Ohio on Horseshoe Ridge."
- January 8:** Brooks Davis on "Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln as Commanders in Chief."
- February 12:** Brian Pohanka on "Digging into Custer's Last Stand: New Perspectives on the Little Big Horn."
- March 12:** Frank Byrne on "Civil War Prisons: Myths and Realities."
- April 16:** Frances Kennedy on "Community Benefits of Battlefield Preservation" (Please note: this is the **third** Friday of the month.)
- May 6-9:** Annual Battlefield Tour—Vicksburg.
- May 14:** William Piston on "Clio and the General: James Longstreet and the Writing of Southern History."
- June 11:** Carol Reardon on "The Image of Pickett's Charge in American History."

### New Members

- Anthony Abboreno, 500 Somerset Court, Algonquin, IL 60102, (708) 658-9529
- John P. Higginson, 3750 N. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60613, (312) 477-4166
- Nancy Jacobs, 16602 Thornton Ave., South Holland, IL 60473, (708) 596-7314
- Robert G. McBride, Jr., 129 W. Park Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187, (708) 682-5914

### Changes of Address

- Tom Kane, W 4141 Southland Road, Lake Geneva, WI 53147
- A. Bingham Seibold, III, 1360 N. Lake Shore Drive #808, Chicago, IL 60610-2151



**Round Table Treasurer Carole Cierniak** reminds members that their 1991-1992 dues must be paid by November 1. Persons who have not paid by that date will be dropped from the membership rolls.

**The Executive Committee**, at its summer meeting, voted to confer an Honorary Life membership on longtime friend of The Round Table, Walter Trohan. Former chief of the Washington bureau of the *Chicago Tribune*, Trohan hosted a special Round Table meeting in July 1947 on the eve of the opening of the Robert Todd Lincoln Papers by the Library of Congress. He has served as president of the National Press Club and chief of the White House Press Corps. The Honorary Life membership award was presented to Trohan recently at his home near Washington, D.C.