

**THE WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER**  
**PUGET SOUND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
[HTTP://WWW.PSCWRT.ORG/](http://www.pscwrt.org/)  
**MARCH, 2012**

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 8, 2012**

**China Harbor**, 2040 Westlake Avenue North, Seattle, Washington

**Time:** Social hour at **6 p.m.**; Dinner served at **7 p.m.**; Program at **8 p.m.**

**MENU CHOICES: Mongolian Beef, Chicken or Salmon**

Dinner includes: salad, vegetable delight, General Tao's chicken, fried rice and fresh fruit. **Cost is \$21 for adults and \$10 for those under 18 (student rate), payable at the door, but reservations and meal choices are required.**

To make reservations and meal choices:

Call **Rod Cameron at 206-524-4434** and let him know what entrée you would like and how many will be attending.

**Deadline for reservations is 12 NOON on Tuesday, March 6.**

**NOTE:** *Remember to turn off cell phones before the meeting so there are no distractions for the speaker. Thank you!*

**GERALD PROKOPOWICZ WILL DISCUSS  
HIS BOOK, *DID LINCOLN OWN SLAVES?*  
AND OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED  
QUESTIONS ABOUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.**

No, Lincoln did not own slaves, but that does not stop people from asking about that and about Lincoln's personal life, politics, religion, health, and other topics. The questions asked about Lincoln reflect our society's changing concerns and our consistent interest in our best-known but most enigmatic president. Find out what people have asked, and ask your own questions for an enlightening and interactive evening with Dr. Prokopowicz, former resident historian at The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and now Chair of the Department of History at East Carolina University, also the Host of Civil War Talk Radio and the author of [All for the Regiment: The Army of the Ohio, 1861-1862.](#)

**IMPORTANT DISPATCHES**

**Annual Auction April 12!**

Don't forget to bring your donations, and your wallets, to the annual auction to be held at the April meeting. Civil War related books are always sought after; gift baskets and desserts add fun to the event. If you know of a business that has a charitable bent, ask the manager for donations. Gift cards, dinner coupons, and sports event tickets, are all popular items. Remember that this event is our annual fund-raiser, and we need lots of people to donate auction items, and lots of people to be on hand to BUY in order to make it a profitable event for the Round Table. Bring your spouse, a good friend, neighbor, or co-workers, and help make this a fun and successful evening! If you have questions, contact Dick Miller at [milomiller882@msn.com](mailto:milomiller882@msn.com) or call at (206) 236-5247. And it would be helpful if you send Dick an email with items you are planning to donate.

## **New Members**

Please welcome our newest members **Jorgen Bader** and **Richard Kerr**.

## **PSCWRT BOARD MEETING MINUTES** **Monday, February 20, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Dick Miller, at 1830 hours. Eight members were present.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Jeff Rombauer reported that our bank balance as of 1/31/12 is \$9,967.67. February charges will be approximately \$806.00 which then leaves a projected balance of \$9,167.67.

### **BY-LAWS:**

A copy of the current by-laws with previously approved changes noted was shared with the Board. Following a brief discussion it was decided to also make a change to Article III, Sections 1 and 2, changing the number of board members other than officers elected from seven (7) to five (5). The changes will read as follows:

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers, including Immediate Past President, and five elected members of the organization.

SECTION 2. The five (5) elected members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for a period of two years or until their successors have been elected.

These changes were then approved by the Board.

### **MEMBERSHIP STATUS:**

- It was suggested and approved that John Hinds and Prof. Thomas Pressly be given Emeritus membership status.
- It was also approved to, in the future, give Emeritus status to those who have made significant monetary contributions to the PSCWRT whether a member or not.
- Tom O'Connell was voted an Honorary membership for his past contributions as a speaker.

### **DUES PAYMENT:**

- There was a proposal that we should make a member "inactive" if their dues have not been paid in two years. It was suggested that these members first be contacted to see if they are interested in retaining their membership by paying their dues or if they wish to be considered inactive. There are approximately 16-17 members in this category. There was a consensus of the Board to go ahead with this proposal.

- Mike Movius proposed that members who are delinquent in their due payments not be allowed to access the Members Only portion of our website. This would require an updating of the roster so that the website could then be updated. The Board gave tentative approval to this proposal.
- Mike Movius suggested the Board consider authorizing the use of PayPal for dues payment. The idea was approved for a trial period. Mike will set it up on the website.

**ADDITIONAL WEBSITE OPTIONS:**

Mike Movius indicated that he could set up the website so that members could use AMAZON.com to purchase anything on the site and the PSCWRT would get a small dollar amount back.

There was also a discussion about members being able to use affiliate programs such as Audible.com and ABF Books.com in a similar manner. Once again the PSCWRT would get a small dollar amount on purchases. The Board approved a trial period for both of these additional options. Mike will put the details for using these programs on the website.

**SCHOOL ESSAY/ VIDEO CONTEST FOR CIVIL WAR BICENTENIAL:**

It was reported that there has been no response from Highline School District regarding them being selected as a trial school district for the contest. It appears there has been no teacher interest in promoting it. The deadline for this contest is 3/30/12. Pat Brady and Rick Solomon did offer to be judges if anything is submitted by the deadline. It was suggested that, in the future, we might try offering this idea to Private Schools.

**ANNUAL AUCTION:**

The annual auction will be held at the April 2012 meeting. Ways to improve the amount of money made at the auction were discussed. It was suggested that there be an area earmarked for accepting monetary donations from members who are not interested in purchasing an auction item.

The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Jilbert  
Recording Secretary

**THE WAR'S MISSING ANTI-WAR SENTIMENT**

## **President's Corner, March 2012**

**By Dick Miller**

Writing in my last column about Clement Vallandigham and his defense of Jewish chaplains in the Northern army got me thinking about anti-war sentiment during the Civil War. The Copperheads and their agitation for an immediate peace settlement is the best known political movement in opposition to the war's prosecution. Quakers, Mennonites, and members of other pacifist religious sects objected to the war on conscientious grounds. And the 1863 New York draft riots, occurring just days after the blood bath at Gettysburg, unleashed immigrant fury against not just conscription but also a war fought by poor whites on behalf of blacks.

But none of these examples drew their opposition from simple revulsion to the war's horrifying toll in maimed and dead young men. Some Americans opposed the war for a variety of political, economic, social, and religious reasons, but anti-war sentiment, springing from disgust at the war's human waste, seems not an emotion expressed publicly in speech or song. There were no rallies—like the rallies against the Vietnam or Iraqi wars--demanding that the war's carnage be stopped.

Ironically, it would be the composer of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" who would call on the world's mothers to band together to end wars. Five years after the war's end and during the height of the Franco-Prussian War, Julia Ward Howe issued her famous "Mother's Day Proclamation:"

Arise, then, women of this day!

Arise, all women who have hearts, whether our baptism be of water or of tears!

Say firmly: "We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies. Our husbands will not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause. Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy, and patience. We, the women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs.

From the bosom of the devastated Earth a voice goes up with our own. It says: "Disarm! Disarm! The sword of murder is not the balance of justice." Blood does not wipe out dishonor, nor violence indicate possession. As men have often forsaken the plough and the anvil at the summons of war, let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of counsel.

Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead. Let them solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means whereby the great human family can live in peace, each bearing after his own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar, but of God.

In the name of womanhood and humanity, I earnestly ask that a general congress of women without limit of nationality may be appointed and held at some place deemed most convenient and at the earliest period consistent with its objects. To promote the alliance of the different nationalities, the amicable settlement of international questions,

The great and general interests of peace.

Why had not this cry for peace been sounded during 1861 to 1865? I think about the modern era's peace movements against the nuclear bomb, the Vietnam War and the second Iraqi War and realize that expecting a similar movement during the Civil War is no more than Whig history. That people today oppose war's human costs does not necessarily mean that nineteenth century Americans would see the Civil War in the same light.

But I can't help but believe that the war revolted Americans. Even as popular a poem as Ethel Lynn Beers' "The Picket-Guard," written in November 1861, has an undertone of anti-war sentiment. Beers writes of the sentry on night duty, thinking of his wife and children, when a sniper's bullet ends his life, "The red life-blood is ebbing and plashing." But the picket's life hardly counts; in war "a private or two now and then/Will not count in the news of the battle;/Not an officer lost—only one of the men;/Moaning out, all alone, the death rattle." By morning, nothing really has changed for "All quiet along the Potomac tonight..." Beers' poem, with its sardonic comment about the true cost of war, would become immensely beloved in both the North and the South.

Although I have not been able to find a study of anti-war sentiment during the Civil War, my sense is that the type of outrage expressed by Ethel Lynn Beers was common enough. Writing a history of the expressions of that outrage would be a valuable contribution to our understanding of the Civil War.

## **Civil War Reenacting in Washington State**

By Mark R. Terry

I was recently asked if I would highlight reenacting activities in Washington State. Below is the 2012 calendar of events for the Washington Civil War Association. Except for the April event, which is a ceremony honoring the surrender at Appomattox, this is a list only of their "public battle" events. The WCWA also schedules smaller events that are also open to the public. To see a list of all events, go to: <http://www.wcwa.net/events/>

- April 7** "Honoring Their Memory" Ceremony & General Board Meeting, Snohomish G.A.R. Cemetery, (skirmish), contact [Bruce Smith](#), (425) 483-0351.
- May 26-28** Battle of Deep Creek, Medical Lake WA (near Spokane), sponsored public battle. Contact Bob Davisson, [bob@14thvirginiacavalry.org](mailto:bob@14thvirginiacavalry.org), (509) 995-8619

- June 16-17** Battle at Fulbright Park, Union Gap, Washington, sponsored public battle. Contact Rich Bright, [brightnot66@yahoo.com](mailto:brightnot66@yahoo.com).
- July 21-22** Battle of Chehalis River, Chehalis WA, sponsored public battle. Contact Kevin Saville, [kevin@saville.net](mailto:kevin@saville.net), (360) 292-0966 or Rusty & Bonnie Starr, (425) 743-9851
- August 11-12** Battle at Hovander Farm, Ferndale WA (sponsored public battle). Contact Jerry Shiner, [mailto:shiners10@msn.org](mailto:mailto:shiners10@msn.org).
- September 29-30** Plain Campaign, Plain, Washington (sponsored public battle). Contact Bruce Smith, [babrsmith@peoplepc.com](mailto:babrsmith@peoplepc.com), (425) 483-0351

## **THE “LAST WORD”**

By Mark R. Terry

PSCWRT President Dick Miller’s column this month is an interesting read and thought provoking. Why was there seemingly not an “Anti-War” movement during the American Civil War? While I can’t say I have studied this subject I do have some thoughts and ideas...

When the war began, citizens on both sides felt they had to support the war effort. Not doing so would probably have been looked upon as “unpatriotic”. Obviously as the war went on, some of this feeling started to wane. You might say that the first “war protest” was the decline in volunteer enlistments on both sides when battles like Shiloh and Antietam (Sharpsburg) produced seemingly endless casualties. First the Confederate States, followed within a year by the United States, formulated the Draft to fill the ranks with citizen-soldiers, even if they were unwilling to volunteer. Desertions, too, were a barometer of how the soldiers felt about the war. When things were going well, most soldiers stuck it out, but if not, desertions would become rampant such as what took place in the winter of 1862-63 in the Army of the Potomac after Fredericksburg and the “Mud March”, when Federal soldiers deserted at alarming rates. And of course, as the war was drawing to an end in the winter of 1864-65, Lee’s Army lost as many men to desertion as they did by losses in battle- perhaps more.

One form of protest was not directly against the war, but the effects of the war. In April 1863, some women in Richmond complained about the cost of bread, and when nothing was done they rioted, breaking store windows and looting. Order was only restored when President Davis himself arrived on the scene, threw what money he had on him to the crowd and then threatened to have the militia open fire, which finally caused the protesters to disperse. This occurred in several other cities in the South as well.

Finally, I wonder if our own expectations of an Anti-War protest movement of the 1860’s isn’t misplaced, given how different times were then as compared to today. Protests of one kind or another have always been a part of our Nation’s history

(remember the Boston Tea Party?), but hardly ever have wars been the cause. Typically, wars tended to unite people in support of their cause. It is only since the Vietnam War that war protests have become common. For instance, I can't recall reading about any kind of large protest over America's involvement in World Wars I, II or the Korean War. Only after the protests of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950's and 60's- helped by the new medium of television- did war protests become common.

Given all that, I too wonder if Julia Ward Howe's "Mother's Day Proclamation" quoted by Dick Miller in his column wasn't really more about the recent American Civil War than what was going on in Europe at the time. What else would have motivated Howe to put those emotions on paper, other than having only recently witnessed death and destruction in her own country just five years earlier? It is an interesting idea to ponder and as Dick suggests, perhaps it would be a good subject for a historian to research. **See you at the meeting!**

### **DUES & DONATIONS**

Now that the new season is beginning, here is your third reminder that membership dues are payable either at the meeting or by mail: \$20 per individual, \$25 for a couple. Also, donations are gratefully accepted. These will help secure speakers for our meetings. Please note that all donations are tax deductible as the PSCWRT is a 501(c)3 organization. Contact Treasurer Jeff Rombauer, 425-432-1346, or at: [jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com](mailto:jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com)

**We welcome your article or research submissions for the newsletter, but they may be edited. The deadline for the April, 2012 Washington Volunteer is Wednesday, March 28, 2012. Please have it in Mark Terry's hands via email or snailmail by then. Thank you!**

### **2011-2012 OFFICERS**

#### **Elected:\***

President, Richard Miller, 425-201-3234 or 206-808-8506, [Milomiller882@msn.com](mailto:Milomiller882@msn.com)

Vice-President/Successor: David Palmer, [davidpalmer7@comcast.net](mailto:davidpalmer7@comcast.net)

Immediate Past-President Mark Terry, 425-337-6246, [markimlor@comcast.net](mailto:markimlor@comcast.net)

Vice-President, Programming, Pat Brady, 206-246-1603, [patsbrady@comcast.net](mailto:patsbrady@comcast.net)

Vice-President, Newsletter, Mark Terry (info above)

Treasurer, Jeff Rombauer, 425-432-1346, [jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com](mailto:jeffrombauer@foxinternet.com)

Secretary, Larry Jilbert, 253-891-4022, [ljjclj@comcast.net](mailto:ljjclj@comcast.net)

*\*Except for Immediate Past President, which is an automatic position.*

#### **Elected Board of Directors:**

Jim Dimond, 253-277-3783, [shinodad@gmail.com](mailto:shinodad@gmail.com)

Mike Movius, [webmaster@pscwr.org](mailto:webmaster@pscwr.org)

Rick Solomon, [ricksolo@integraonline.com](mailto:ricksolo@integraonline.com)

#### **Appointed:**

Publicity Chairman, Stephen Pierce, 425-640-8808, [horseless1@juno.com](mailto:horseless1@juno.com)

Assistant Treasurer, **vacant**

Dinner Reservations Coordinator, Rod Cameron, 206-524-4434, [rodcam@comcast.net](mailto:rodcam@comcast.net)

Webmaster, Michael Movius, [webmaster@pscwr.org](mailto:webmaster@pscwr.org)

Official Greeter, Larry Cenotto, [cenottothe5th@yahoo.com](mailto:cenottothe5th@yahoo.com)