



Kalamazoo Civil War Round Table Newsletter

November 2022

Club Officers and Contact Information

Dave Jordan – President

Mark Longstroth - Treasurer

Mack Gill –Secretary

Sandy George – Assistant Secretary

Jim Frey – Albert Castel Book Award Chairman

Jonathan Wildes – Webmaster and Technical Support

Garr Gast – Newsletter Editor /Book Sales and Raffle –

323-3757 davejordan262@gmail.com

873-8983 mark.longstroth@att.net

341-5764 amgilljr@gmail.com

sandyknitwit@hotmail.com

372-5780 jamesmfrey@chartermi.net

kcwrtwebmaster@outlook.com

903-2911 garr.gast@parker.com

Please visit our Facebook and Website Sites

Website : www.kcwrt.com

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/kcwrt

This Month's Program

The Kalamazoo Civil War Roundtable is proud to announce that Dr. Fred Johnson III will present a program titled General Robert E. Lee's War Upon Northern Railroads to be held on Friday, November 18. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. with the usual social period. The program will begin at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the Westwood United Methodist Church, 538 Nichols Road, Kalamazoo, MI.

Dr. Fred L. Johnson III earned his BS degree in History & Teacher Education from Bowie State College and his MS and PhD at Kent State. He also earned a Masters of Divinity degree from Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI. Dr. Johnson served in the US Marine Corps and Marine Corps Reserve. Dr. Johnson is currently a history professor at Hope College where he has earned numerous awards including the Favorite Professor Award (twice), the Outstanding Professor Educator [H.O.P.E] award, and the Ruth and John Reed Faculty Achievement Award. In 2008 and 2010, Dr. Johnson ran for the United States House of Representatives as the Democratic nominee for Michigan's 2nd Congressional District. He is an enthusiastic participant in the international Toastmasters organization.

Dr. Johnson has authored three novels: *Bittersweet*, *A Man Finds His Way*, and *Other Men's Wives*. He is also the co-author of *Tupac Shakur: The Life and Times of an American Icon*.

In 2019, the Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), awarded Dr. Johnson with the Medal of Honor which is the most prestigious award that the DAR presents.

Past Member

We regret to inform you of the passing of Jim Platt. After graduating Kalamazoo Central High School in 1950, Jim enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served as Corporal in the 2nd Division in Korea. For over 50 years, Jim was a member of the NSSA (North South Skirmish Association) and the 19th Michigan Volunteer Infantry, where he participated in competition shooting and was awarded many trophies and medals for being a marksman. Jim LOVED the civil war and loved sharing his knowledge of it with everyone. His family were the beneficiaries of numerous camping trips to locations near and far which many times included visits to civil war battlefields and historic sites. There were many opportunities to take part in displaying authentic costumes that he, his wife, Sallie, and daughter, Mary, handmade. Jim inspired many people to share in his love of history and competition shooting, including his daughter, son, grandchildren and many other family members and co-workers from Bell Telephone. For many years, he was a member of The Civil War Round Table and occasionally was a speaker, as well as a member of the NRA, VFW and American Legion.

Raffle

The KCWRT is raffling the Don Troiani print *Fire on Caroline Street* by depicting the 20th Massachusetts (Harvard Regiment) at the Battle of Fredericksburg. The winner will be selected in May 2023. All funds raised will be given to preservation. This print was originally raffled by KCWRT about 20 years ago. The winner, Connie Larson framed it and displayed it. She recently gave the print to Jeannine Trybus who donated the print back to the KCWRT. Tickets will be sold until May 2023. Winner will not need to be present to win.



Speaker Podium

The KCWRT is looking to purchase a new speaker podium or at least a new sign. Please contact one of the officers (names and contact info on first page) if anyone is interested in making a new podium, or at least a more modern sign with our logo. Interested people should submit a dimensioned sketch showing their design and a cost estimate.



Current Podium



Example of a New Podium

Past Programs

We thank Steven Knowlton who spoke about his new book: *Thirteen Months in Dixie, or, the Adventures of a Federal Prisoner in Texas* which describes the experiences of Oscar Federhen as he served in a Massachusetts Battery. His service in the war was interesting, but how he repeatedly escaped, was captured, how long he eluded pursuers and how this escape and capture was repeated was fascinating.

There were 42 people in attendance. There were \$50 in books to help support monthly expenses and \$28 for the raffle to support preservation projects. \$72 was also raised for Loaves and Fishes.

We thank Jim and Roxanne Frey for providing delicious cakes and pies as well as other treats.

2022-2023 Dues

Dues of \$20 per family are now due for the 2022-2023 Roundtable. The dues are used to help pay speaker expenses and to pay for use of the room for our meetings.

Civil War and History Programs Around the State

Grand Rapids Civil War Round Table – Wednesday Nov 16th

The GWCRT will present Steve Soper who will speak on "More Stories of the Old Third Michigan Volunteers". The GRCWRT meets at 6:30 pm (presentation at 7:00 pm) in the Chapel in the Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary 2965 Leonard Street NE Grand Rapids, Michigan. For more information contact Coordinator Dan Dunn at (616) 887-9828 or check www.grcwrt.com.

Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table – Monday, November 14th

The AACWRT will present Prof. Brian Jordan who will talk about “A Thousand May Fall: An Immigrant Regiment's Civil War”. The AACWRT meets at 7:00 p.m in the Administration Building Exhibition Room of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 5305 Elliott Drive (go to Lot "P"), Ann Arbor, Michigan. For more information call Program Director Ken Baumann at 734-439-7657 or email kb64bau@sbcglobal.net. You can also check aacwrt.org.

Michigan Regimental Round Table - TBD

The next Michigan Regimental Round Table speaker is not yet posted. The MRRT meets the last Monday of the month at the Farmington Library, Lower Level at 6:30 pm. For more information contact: <http://www.farmlib.org/mrrt/>.

Civil War Round Table of Southwest Michigan – Tuesday, Nov 15th

CWRTSWM will present Tim Hodge who will talk about “Robert Smalls and the Daring Escape with the Steamship Planter.” The Southwest Michigan Round Table meets at 6:00 pm (presentation at 6:30) in Fellowship Hall (lower level) of the First Congregational Church at 2001 Niles Ave., St. Joseph, MI. For more information go to <http://www.cwrtswmi.org>.

Sons of Union Civil War Veterans – Saturday, Jan 21st

The Pritchard Camp will have their January Thaw Luncheon at the Club Car Grill at 6225 D Ave., Alamo, MI. For more info contact: Len Sheaffer at gator0205@yahoo.com

Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall –

The museum is open 10 am – 5 pm on Wednesdays. The GAR Hall is located at 224 S. Main Street Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. For details visit: <https://www.facebook.com/GARBrainerdPost111MemorialHallAndMuseum> or garmuseum.com or call 517 922-6427



Kalamazoo Civil War Round Table
820 Ellendale Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006-5482