



Kalamazoo Civil War Round Table Newsletter

March 2023

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Website : www.kcwrt.com

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This Month's Program

The Kalamazoo Civil War Roundtable is proud to announce that Erica 'Marie LaPres' Emelander will present a program about Civilian's in the Civil War. The program will be held on Friday, March 17th. 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.

You've heard of Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant, but have you heard of Mary Virginia Wade, Catherine Corbin or Suzie King Taylor? American civilians during the Civil War had their entire worlds turned upside down. They were left to care for homes, businesses and more. Learn all about these civilians and more

Erica 'Marie LaPres' Emelander is a middle school social studies/theology teacher who lives in Grand Rapids. Erica has always enjoyed reading and writing, and with her love of history and God, she has incorporated all four loves into her writing. Erica has written 10 historical fiction novels, including the Civil War 'Turner Daughters' series and the 'Key to Mackinac' time-travel series. When not working on and researching her books, Erica can be found coaching middle and high school sports, being a youth minister, and spending time with her friends and family, especially her beloved nieces and nephews.

You can meet the speaker prior to the meeting at 5:30 pm at Texas Corral on Main St in Kalamazoo. Please let Dave Jordan know if you would like to attend so he can make reservations. Dave's email and phone is listed above.



Erica 'Marie LaPres' Emelander

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. 100% of 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 are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Tickets will be sold until May 2023. Winner will not need to be present to win. So far only 15 tickets have been sold so you have a great chance to get a beautiful painting!



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.

Past Programs

We thank Mark Longstroth who spoke in February about the events in Missouri leading up to the Wilson's Creek battle. As usual, Mark had great maps and gave a really good overview of Missouri early in the war as well as the battle.

There were 25 people in attendance. There were \$15 in book sales to help support monthly expenses and \$23 for the raffle to support preservation projects. \$83 was also raised for Loaves and Fishes. We thank Jim and Roxanne Frey for providing delicious cakes and pies as well as other treats.

Sultana Museum Project

The KCWRT was approached about donating to a new museum in Marion, Arkansas dedicated to the memory of the soldiers who were involved in the Sultana Steamboat explosion in 1865. This was the deadliest maritime disaster in US history. Request was to purchase a \$250 brick in memory of a Michigan soldier killed in the disaster.

Speaker Podium

At the February meeting the members voted to purchase a new speaker podium.



New Podium

Vintage Baseball

There is a vintage baseball club right here in Kalamazoo called the Continentals that will be hosting a festival at Ramona Park in Portage on July 15. Come out and watch for a good time! They are also in need of umpires, especially anyone who could dress in period clothes. From the club: The good thing about vintage baseball - there was very little the umpire actually had to do in a game! There are usually only two things an umpire would need to call, so we could work with anyone who would be interested regardless of baseball knowledge. For more information contact Chris at: www.kalamazoocontinentals.org

<http://www.facebook.com/continentalbbc>

New Short File on Lincoln at Kalamazoo

The new short film "Return to Kalamazoo" was recently released. The film includes images of the Lincoln statue destined for Bronson Park being sculpted by William Wolfe. It was produced by Mike Mort of Equity Studios and narrated by Tim Brown of Easy On Hold.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVuB3SY1n5E>

Civil War and History Programs Around the State

Grand Rapids Civil War Round Table – Wednesday Mar 15th

The GRCWRT will present Geoff Gillis who will speak on Capt John Shellenberger (64th Ohio) account of the Tennessee campaign in 1864. 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, Mar 13th

The AACWRT will present Kevin Love who will talk about Robert Gould Shaw. 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 Mar 14th

The CWRTSWM will present Robert Girardi who will speak on "Abraham Lincoln and the Common Soldier". 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 – Tuesday, Apr 4th

The Pritchard Camp will have their next meeting at 7:00 pm in the Ransom Library, 180 S. Sherwood Ave, Plainwell, 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



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