

November 2022

THE FLAGBEARER

This issue of the Flagbearer

...David A. Kelly Jr. set to be speaker in November

...Note 6:00 pm meeting start time

...Holiday dinner party is Dec 6. Tickets are on sale. Send in your reservation soon.

...Reminder to pay your membership dues for 2022-2023

...New NB Civil War Round Table Logo. Polo shirts for sale

...Future Round Table meeting dates

...Essay by Round Table member Jack Richer

...Books for you to consider

THE GREATER NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Tuesday November 29, 2022 6:00 p.m.

******* Note the earlier start time *******

We meet at the Low Tide Yacht Club building, 1000 So. Rodney French Blvd, New Bedford, MA located inside Fort Taber Park, open to the public, no charge, ample parking

Our November 29, 2022

Speaker

David A. Kelly Jr. J.D

Associate Professor, Joint Maritime Operations

Program Manager, Graduate Degree Program

College of Distance Education

U.S. Naval War College

Newport, R.I.



David A. Kelly Jr., J.D.

David's presentation to the Round Table will focus on the trial defense of Henry Wirz, Commander of the Prisoner of War Camp at Andersonville, Georgia, and the legal team from the law firm Hughes, Denver, and Peck. Would they break new ground and use the "Nuremberg" defense? This defense is based on the idea that a defendant should not be punished if illegal acts committed were the result of orders received from superiors. David's research will focus on these issues.

David has been with us before and has the reputation of being thorough and thought provoking. We hope you will consider attending and please bring a friend.

******* REMINDER*******

Please purchase your Holiday Dinner Tickets soon

The dinner date is December 6. We will need to commit to a final attendee list before Dec 6.

Please see the reservation form on the next page of the Flagbearer

2022-2023 Executive Board

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Peter Rioux- Vice President

Martin Flinn-Treasurer

Larry Monastesse-Speaker Programming

Don Brown-Digital Outreach

Peter Rioux-Langlois Book Award

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Jack Richer-Board of Directors

Bob Randall-Board of Directors

Facebook Page-David Prentiss

Bruce Baggarly-Board of Directors Emeritus

Bob Macfarlane-Board of Directors Emeritus

Website by Following Sea Design

Bob Lytle-Flagbearer

Cell # 508-542-7630

bobbylee76@comcast.net



**THE NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
PRESENTS THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER**

When? Tuesday December 6, 2022

Time? 6:00 p.m. Start time. Food promptly served at 6:30

Where? Century House

107 South Main Street

Acushnet, MA 02743 (508) 995-3221



Tickets and reservations needed? Yes. \$37.00 per person

May I bring a guest? More than one? Yes and Yes

Buffet menu to include baked scrod, boneless chicken, steak tips, vegetables, rice pilaf, salad, rolls, ice cream, coffee and tea. A cash bar will be available.

Please note, this is the same location as last year.

Century House will provide special meals by request.

***** ✂

To purchase tickets, make your check payable to the NB Civil War Round Table and mail to Bob Lytle, 76 Shipyard Lane, So. Dartmouth, MA 02748

Name (s)

Address:

Phone:

.... News From the Round Table

Please note the start time for our November 29 meeting. It is 6:00 p.m.



Also, we will start promptly at 6:00 p.m. Please arrive at 5:30 for coffee and social time.



PAY YOUR DUES

The New Bedford Civil War Round Table reminder, - Have you sent in your 2022-2023 Membership renewal?



A big Thank you to our Secretary, Will Hunter, for supplying General Lee pie, ice cream, and coffee for our September meeting. The "Social Hour (30mins) " is a very nice addition to our meetings.

... additional Round Table updates

Annual Holiday Dinner will again be at the Century House in Acushnet.



[Tuesday December 6, 2022 6:00 p.m.](#)
[Ticket information will be in this Flag-bearer.](#)



Peter Rioux is already working on his Civil War Trivial Pursuit

2023 meeting dates for the New Bedford Civil War Round Table are set

Mark your calendar with future meeting dates of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table. Each year we apply for meeting space at the Low Tide Yacht Club, and reserve our dates with the approval of the City of New Bedford Parks and Recreation Board. These dates have been approved:

Jan 24, 2023 (this will be a Zoom meeting)

Feb 28, 2023

Mar 28, 2023

Apr 25, 2023

May 23, 2023

June 27, 2023 (annual picnic)

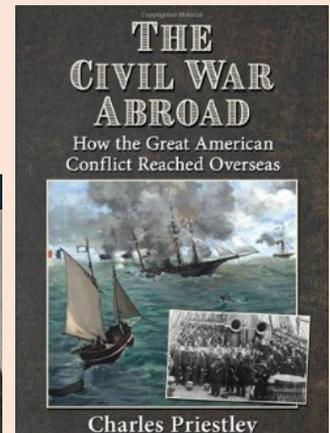
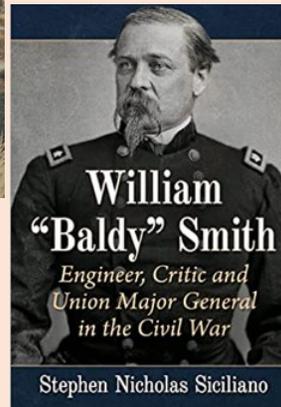
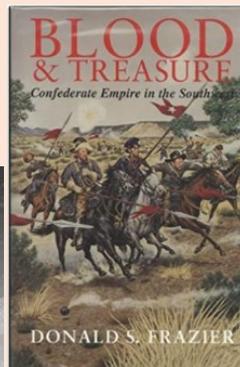
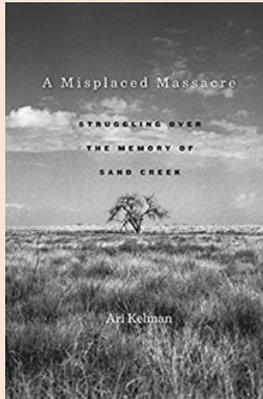
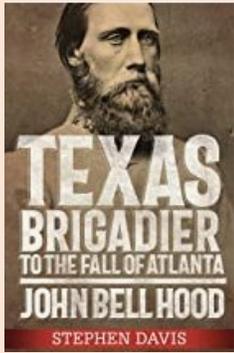
Sept 26, 2023

Oct 24, 2023

Nov 28, 2023

Dec 5, 2023 (Century House Holiday Dinner)

....**Books to consider**



The month of November in the Civil War, 1861–1864 was a busy time of the year. Here are a few highlights.

1861

...McClellan replaces Lt. Winfield Scott. Maj. Gen'l John C. Fremont is fired. Missouri is an active battle area. "Stonewall" Jackson assumes command of the Shenandoah Valley District. Gen'l Lee assumes command of the Dept of So. Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida. His reputation had taken a hit by fruitless campaigning in West Virginia. Jefferson Davis is elected President of the Confederate States of America. The "Trent Affair" occurs with the seizure of Mason and Slidell. Halleck takes over the Department of Missouri. There is plenty of action in the area around Port Royal S.C. McClellan snubs Lincoln at his home by going to bed without greeting Lincoln.

1862

...Mrs. Lincoln is shopping in New York City. The President replaces McClellan with Burnside. Lincoln places the ram fleet on the Mississippi under Navy control. Sec. of War Stanton releases all political prisoners. The armies begin to move toward Fredericksburg, Va. Lincoln visits Burnside at Belle Plain. Many of us have toured Belle Plain.

1863

...Grant opens the supply line at Chattanooga. Lincoln receives an invitation to say a few appropriate words at the National Cemetery in Gettysburg. On the Rio Grande Gen'l Banks expeditionary force gains a toehold in Texas at Brazos Island. Meade pushes across the Rappahannock at Kelly's Ford. Gen'l Ben Butler returns to active field command. Lincoln attends a production at Ford's Theater starring John Wilkes Booth. Who can email me the name of the play?

1864

...The election of 1864 occupied most news in Nov 1864, Action is occurring in Rome Georgia, the Shenandoah, Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Sherman on the move into the deep south. John Bell Hood advances but to little success. The Sand Creek Massacre, Colorado Territory occurs.

CASSIUS MARCELLUS CLAY

'THE LION OF WHITEHALL'

Essay by Jack Richer

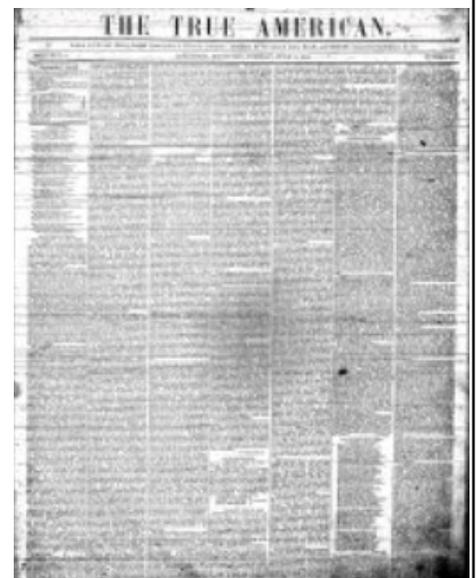
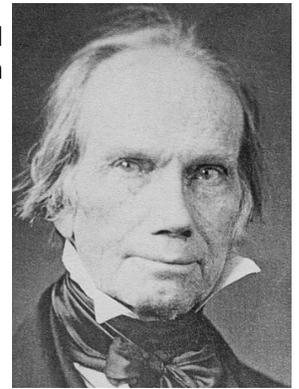
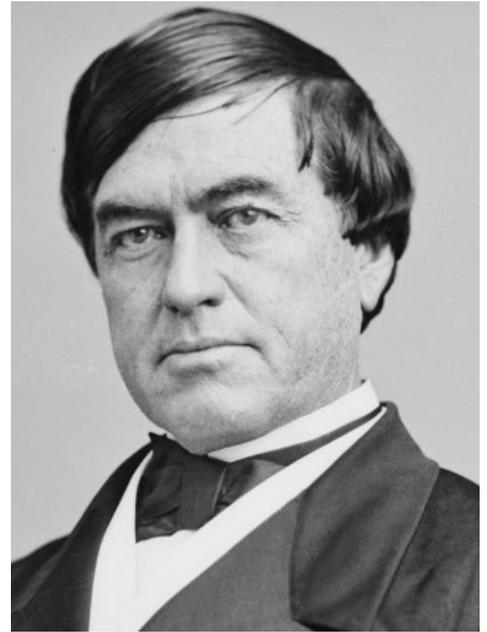
Cassius Marcellus Clay was born in 1810 in Kentucky to a wealthy family of revolutionary war heroes and slaveholders. He was very well educated and continued his studies at Transylvania University in Lexington Kentucky. While he was at Transylvania University there was a fire in his dormitory and he ended up moving to the home of Robert Todd, who was the father of Mary Todd, the future Mrs. Abraham Lincoln with whom he retained a lifelong close relationship.

Cassius, who was nicknamed "Cash", transferred to Yale College, and went to a speech on abolition by William Lloyd Garrison. After listening to Garrison, Cash became an ardent proponent for abolition and upon graduation in 1832 from Yale he returned to slaveholding Kentucky with the intent to abolish slavery forever. Clay returned home as a proponent of gradual abolition of slavery

whereas Garrison wished for immediate abolition of slavery. In 1833, Clay married Mary Jane Warfield and fathered 10 children, 6 of whom lived to adulthood. In spite of his views on slavery in a slave state, he was elected to 3 terms in the Kentucky House of Representatives but he lost support among Kentuckian voters as he promoted abolition. He ended up with many enemies who attempted on multiple occasions to assassinate him. In 1843, he survived an assassination attempt by Samuel Brown. Brown fired a shot into the chest of Clay but the bullet struck the scabbard of a Bowie knife that Cash carried under his coat for protection. Clay continued to defend himself and cut off Sam's ear, nose, gouged out one of his eyes and practically scalped him. Ironically enough at a trial that Clay faced for "mayhem" the key defense witness for him was Sam Brown who was angered by the men who had hired him and did not come to assist him. Also helping Clay's case was having his cousin Henry Clay, "The Great Compromiser", as his attorney who had never lost a case in

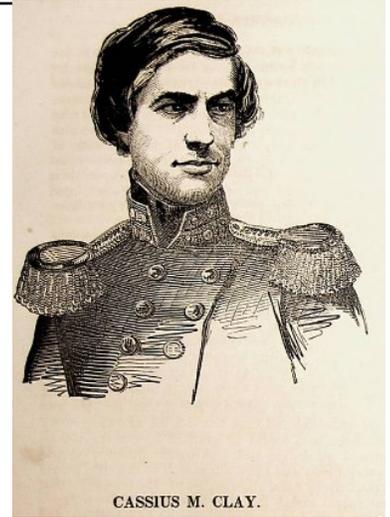
court.

In 1845, Clay published a newspaper called the "True American" an anti-slavery newspaper and received more death threats. He knew that he had to protect himself and his workers so he put heavy metal plates on the doors and windows of his office and continued his newspaper on a 2nd floor and armed the building with 2 cannons and barrels of gunpowder in the basement. If the building were attacked, he and his employees would escape through a hatch that he had installed in the ceiling and after firing the cannons he would set a fuse and blow up the building and any of his pursuers. Unfortunately for Clay, while he was out ill, approximately 60 men broke into his publishing office and seized his printing equipment. Clay then set up in Cincinnati, Ohio which was a free state but he continued to live in Kentucky.

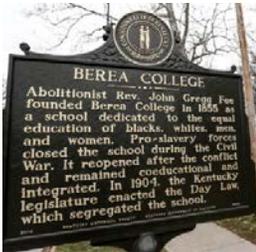


In 1846 to 1847 Clay served in the Mexican American War as a captain of the 1st Kentucky cavalry. Clay was captured and was going to be executed along with his men but he told his captors to kill him and let his men go. Apparently, his captors were befuddled by such a request that they released all of them. While in Mexico, he opposed the annexation of Texas as Southerners wished to expand slavery into the new territories.

In 1849, while making an anti-slavery speech, he was attacked by the Turner brothers who beat and stabbed him and tried to shoot him but the resilient Clay was able to fend them off with his trusty Bowie knife and track down and killed the eldest brother, Cyrus Turner. How he fended off the 6 brothers I have not been able to discover yet.



In 1853, Clay gave 10 acres of land to a John G. Fee, a fellow abolitionist, who founded the town of Berea, Kentucky and Fee started Berea College in 1855. Berea was opened as the 1st Southern university to be coeducational and racially integrated and still exists to this day. No one is charged tuition but you need to be a first-generation member of your family going to college and again there is no tuition! What a great way to go to college today.



Having been a member of the Whig party, Clay was a founder of the Republican Party in Kentucky and had a great association with the future 16th Pres. of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. Clay had been a candidate for the Vice Presidency but lost out to Hannibal Hamlin of Maine. When Lincoln was handing out positions in his cabinet many of his cabinet members were former suitors of the presidency themselves. Due to Clay's abolitionist feelings and his friendship with Lincoln, Lincoln appointed Clay to be the Minister to Russia in the court of Alexander II at St. Petersburg, on March 28, 1861. Before Clay departed the Civil War had begun and Washington D.C. had no troops to defend it so Cash assembled 300 men to protect the President and Washington D.C.



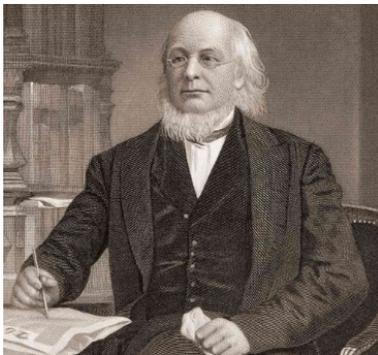
Once federal troops arrived to protect Washington and the President, Clay left with his family to assume the duties as Minister to Russia. While Clay was there in 1861, Alexander II emancipated 23 million serfs in Russia, if Russia could free 23 million serfs why could Lincoln not free 4 million slaves, another reason for Clay to push for the abolition of slavery in the United States. In 1862, Clay was recalled to the United States by Abraham Lincoln who wished to give him a commission in the Union Army as a Major General. Clay refused to accept it unless Lincoln would agree to emancipate enslaved people under Confederate control. After discussing emancipation with Lincoln, Clay went to Kentucky and to the border states to assess the mood for emancipation of slaves. If you recall, the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation came 5 days after the Battle of Antietam on September 22, 1862. Was this a coincidence or should credit be given in some or whole part to Clay for influencing Lincoln's decision to proclaim the Emancipation of slaves under Confederate control? Clay then resigned his General's commission in March 1863 and returned to serve as minister to Russia until 1869.



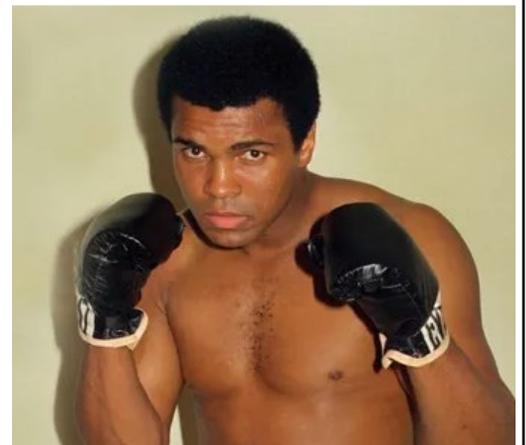
Remember, Alexander II was the Emperor of Russia, King of Poland and grand Duke of Finland. Russia had been in the Crimean War from October 1853 to February 1856 and fought against the Ottoman Empire, France, United Kingdom and Piedmont - Sardinia. The United States had helped Russia during the Crimean war and since the arch enemies of Russia were France and England, the Russians, through the aid of Cassius Clay, sent a fleet of ships to New York Harbor and San Francisco harbor in 1863 to show their support for the Union and to hopefully keep England and France from siding with the Confederacy, which up until the time of the Battle of Antietam seemed possible. So perhaps, the Civil War could have turned into a World War if England or France had joined in fighting for the Confederacy and Russia fought with the Union! These friendly relations continued with Russia and with the help of Cassius Marcellus Clay who helped us with the future purchase of Russian America in 1867, which we call Alaska. William H. Seward would never give any credit to Clay, as the records were reportedly destroyed and Seward received the credit for "Seward's ice box" also known as "Seward's Folly".



When Clay returned to the United States in 1869 he remained involved in politics and he left the Republican Party in 1869 after his disapproval of the Republicans Reconstruction policies. Clay was instrumental in securing the nomination of Horace Greeley for the Presidency of the United States and in 1876 in 1880 he supported the Democratic Party candidates. However, he rejoined the Republican Party in 1884. In 1890, Clay served as a member of the Kentucky Constitutional Convention at the ripe old age of 80. Clay died at his home of Whitehall on July 22, 1903 at the age of 92. You can visit Whitehall which is in Richmond, Kentucky and it is run by the Whitehall State Historic Shrine.



I am sure by now that you have asked yourself many times if the World Boxing Champion Cassius Clay Jr. was named after Cassius Marcellus Clay the abolitionist, newspaper publisher, politician, Union Major General, Bowie knife fighter, fought duels with pistols and was Minister to Russia. Yes he was. To differentiate between the 2 I will refer to him as Muhammad Ali. Ali's grand father Herman Heaton Clay was a descendent of slaves and named his own son Cassius Marcellus Clay in reverence to the abolitionist, who in turn, named his son Cassius Marcellus Clay Junior whom we know today as Muhammad Ali, who changed his name from Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr. when he converted to Islam.

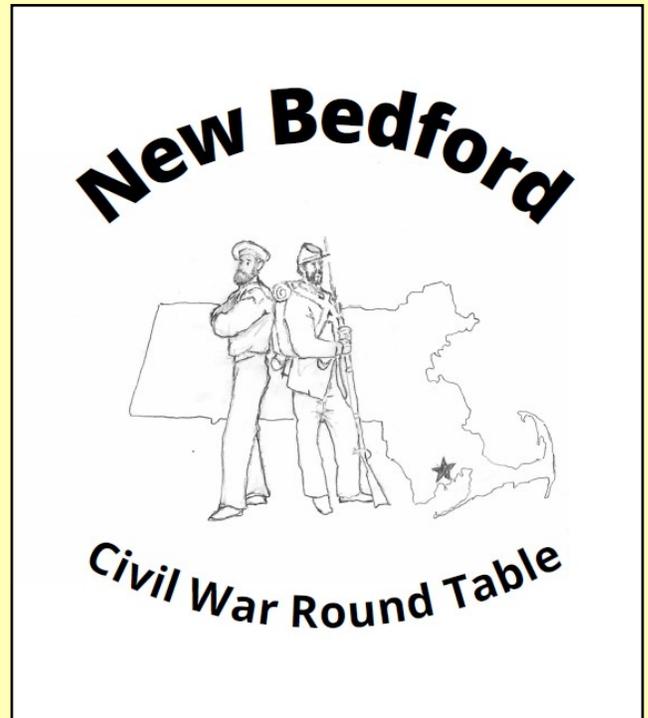


**By Jack Richer,
Member,
New Bedford Civil War Round Table**

Check out the New Bedford Civil War Round Table new logo !!!!

Product branding is vital to our growth as an organization, and Don Brown, Digital Outreach, has developed a new logo for the Round Table. It gives us a professional look. It will be used on our membership cards, banners, flags, posters, t-shirts, polo shirts, coffee cups, announcements, and so on.

Ready to purchase a polo shirt? Look for an order form in your email soon, - sizes, colors, pricing.



THE NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

2022-2023 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Program Year is July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Please fill out this form and make check payable to "New Bedford CWRT"

Mail to: New Bedford Civil War Round Table, C/O Martin Flinn, Treas 39 Little Oak Road, New Bedford MA 02745

Name _____

Type of Membership _____ Individual (\$25.00) _____ Family (\$30.00)

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell or Home phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Date: _____