

THE GRAPESHOT

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.Meets @ Civic Center Library
3839 N Drinkwater Blvd Scottsdale
.on the 3rd Tuesday of the month
6:45 PM—8:45 PM

.September thru May
.\$35 Annual Dues (individual)
.\$45 Annual Dues (family)
.Everyone Welcome



HOWARD STROUSE

-presents-

AMAZING GRACE: CHAMPIONS OF ABOLITION

April 20, 2010 6:45 PM

Civic Center Library

A native of Ohio, born during WWII, Howard has been fascinated with history from boyhood. Throughout his travels in 22 countries and 48 states, he has always been interested in how things evolved and how our country grew and protected itself. His particular favorite is the U.S. in the 19th century, especially the Civil War period, where he has given presentations at universities, civil war round tables, libraries, history seminars and other history events. Member of the General Staff of the Blue and the Grey, he is also a member and past General-in-Chief of the Columbus, Ohio, Civil War Round Table. He is also a participating member of the Lincoln Forum, and serves as historian / tour leader for the Civil War Education Association and the American History Forum.



DID YOU KNOW?

.Black soldiers were paid \$10 per month while serving in the Union army. This was \$3 less than white soldiers.

.The muzzle loading rifle could be loaded at the rate of about three times a minute. Its maximum range was about 1000 yards.

.In the Peninsular campaign in the spring of 1862, as many as 5000 wounded were brought into a hospital where there were only one medical man and five hospital stewards to care for them.

.The chance of surviving a wound in Civil War days was 7 to 1; in the Korean War, 50 to 1.

FROM WES' DEN.....For me, April is a very special birthday month. I am happy to advance as a patriotic embodiment of the spirit of '76. No one can really plan for such an occasion; but I gratefully accept it. I would urge you to always receive a birthday with thanksgiving. April is known as the month of disasters. Burke Davis, has a fascinating book: *To Appomattox: Nine April Days, 1865*. April 1, 1865 went hard for the CSA at Five Forks and reading each day is quite a saga. April 9th also marks the fall of Corregidor in 1942. My captain, while I was in the service, was a survivor of the Bataan Death March. It took incredible fortitude to survive that and four years as a POW. What stories he could tell! He was a truly remarkable man. Still, even at the Olympics some of us cannot put their hand over the heart but slackers are always among us. Be proud of your greatest country in the world. Honor those that "gave" that you might "have".



I remain your most obedient servant.....*Wes Schmidt*



BOOKS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED:

(older books about the Civil War that I think might be worth your time)

reviewed by

Don Swanson, SCWRT Member

Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend by James I. Robertson Jr.; 1997. Available in hardcover, trade paperback editions.

It's difficult to imagine any future biographer of Stonewall Jackson using material that James Robertson did not consult in his exhaustive biography of the South's fascinating, enigmatic general. Robertson writes in his preface that to understand Jackson it's necessary to begin with his childhood loneliness -he lost both his parents as a young child and his only sister was raised by another family. That understanding, coupled with the role that Jackson's religious devotion played in the development of his personality and generalship are underlying themes throughout this compelling book. Along the way Robertson even corrects some of the famous Jackson myths - including the supposed lemon obsession.

Highly Recommended.

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Note: Joan Waugh (whose book **U.S. Grant: American Hero, American Myth** was reviewed in the January issue of The Grapeshot) recently gave a lecture on her book at the Pritzker Military Library. That lecture and many others by noted military authors and historians can be streamed to home computers or downloaded to MP3/ipod devices for free at www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org.



UPCOMING ROUND TABLES

May 18th

Dave Smith

*Quarrel With His Generals:
The Mystery of Braxton Bragg*



*PREVIEW OF SCWRT'S
UPCOMING SEASON
SEPTEMBER 2010 - May 2011*

*We have another fantastic line up
for next year thanks to our great program
Chairman, Mack Stanley.*

Sept 21, 2010...Wilson Greene

Oct 19, 2010...Jack Thompson

Nov 16, 2010...Dale Phillips

Jan 18, 2011...Ed Bearss

Feb 15, 2011...Brad Greenberg

Mar 15, 2011...Lesley Gordon

Apr 19, 2011...Frank O'Reilly

May 17, 2011...Brian Wills

*Mark your calendars as you won't want to
miss a single one.*



UPCOMING ELECTIONS

The slate of officers and board members running for a two year term will be as follows:

President: Wes Schmidt

Vice President: Dean Becraft

Treasurer: Charles Madigan

Secretary: Karen Becraft

Board Member: Mack Stanley

Board Member: John Bamberl

Board Member: Duff McGovern

Elections will be held at the May meeting.

IT'S A "SMALL" CIVIL WAR WORLD

A note of interest...as I was sitting in a Photo Shop Elements class at the Scottsdale Via Linda Senior Center last week...a fellow student came up and introduced herself...Mary Gibson, a SCWRT member who is only here part of the year. She had lots of compliments for our group and enjoys the meetings she is able to attend.



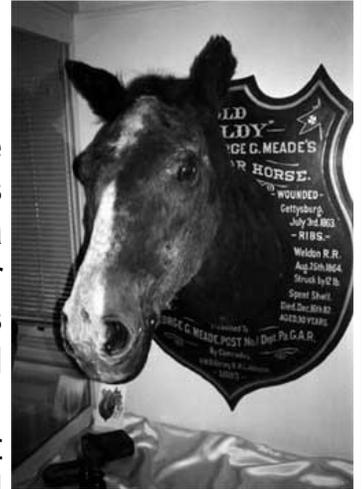
On another recent occasion...the assistant helping me with the printing of our *Grapeshot* at Office Max turns out to be John Bamberl's grandson and is one of our student members. We are everywhere!

A Special Mention from our President:

We have a "club" of over 200, rolling smoothly along, which is a proper testimony to dedicated officers and board members. They deserve your continued support and I am most grateful to all of you. /Wes Schmidt

Old Baldy

General George G. Meade's favorite mount, Old Baldy is considered to be a Union hero after surviving the battles of Antietam and Gettysburg. Research shows that Baldy was wounded

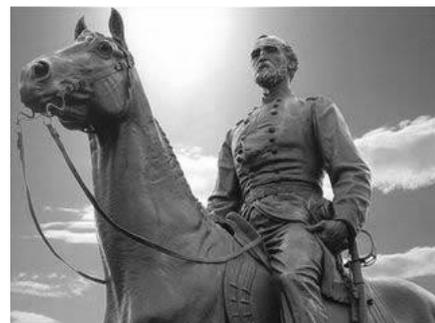


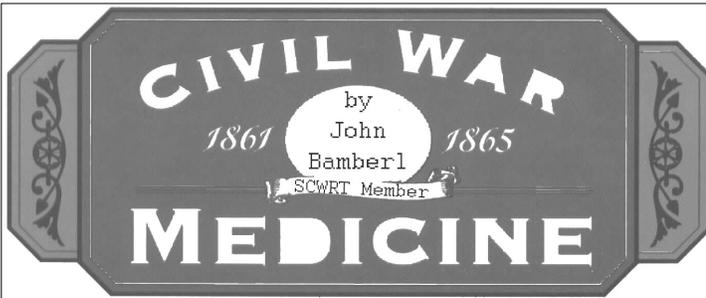
14 times but always made a complete recovery, heroically returning to the battlefield.

At Gettysburg, Old Baldy took a shot in the ribs that missed Meade by an inch. Meade often rode Baldy after the war and when the famous soldier died in 1872, Baldy was the riderless horse at Meade's elaborate funeral.

He lived another ten years after Meade's death and was retired to a farm near Jenkintown, passing away on Christmas Day 1882. According to legend, Old Baldy was buried on the farm but a couple of Meade's veterans quickly dug up the carcass and had his head mounted.

The Grand Army of the Republic Museum and The Civil War Museum, both in Philadelphia, will now share Old Baldy. The warhorse's preserved head was the subject of a battle between the two city museums that both claimed ownership.





To care for his wounded, the surgeon had a barn, a house, or perhaps a church or a school building. His table for operations might be a dining table or a heavy door pulled off its hinges. If he operated at night, it was by candlelight.

Despite the lack of training and lack of medical supplies, Union surgeons treated more than 400,000 wounded men and performed 40,000 operations. The archives of Civil War medicine indicate that chloroform was used as an anesthesia 98% of the time. If a limb was amputated within 24 hours, the mortality rate was 25% and after 24 hours it was 50%. The hospital occasionally came under fire and Union records show that 40 surgeons were killed in battle.

Joseph Jones, an outstanding Confederate medical officer, believed that only 1/4 of the Confederate deaths, or 50,000, were the result of battle and 150,000 were due to disease.

Large numbers of men came from rural areas. Having not been around large groups of people, they had not been exposed to common diseases such as chickenpox and mumps. Consequently, they had no immunity. Poor diets and sanitation combined with exhaustion broke down their immune system. We must remember that these young men often marched twenty miles a day with no shoes, no food, no water and no sleep. The main killers were those that resulted from unsanitary conditions. Drinking from streams occupied by dead horses or human waste and eating uncooked food were the causes of a large number of deaths.

I would like to list the most common diseases and their number of associated deaths. These are only from the Union records.

Measles: 67,763 cases reported and 5,177

deaths. Over 8000 cases of measles were reported in the Army of the Potomac in the first three months of the war.

Typhoid Fever: 75,418 cases reported and 29,336 deaths.

Diarrhea: 35,127

Dysentery: 9,431

Smallpox: 7,058

Pneumonia: between 17,000 & 21,000

Malaria: 34,833 every seven cases of disease reported in Confederate troops each of the Mississippi. Southern practitioners substituted turpentine for quinine after the successful blockade and it was very successful.

Non-death related diseases reported:

Rheumatism: 59,772 (1,842 men discharged)

Scurvy: There were 46,000 cases reported in the Union Army and 771 deaths. Scurvy or Vitamin C deficiency was the most prevalent disease during the Civil War. It begins innocently enough with mild fatigue, bleeding gums and hemorrhagic bruises on the skin. After months of a diet deficient in vegetables or fruit, physical conditions worsened, causing weakened bones, loose teeth, severe joint pain, profuse bleeding, anemia and eventually death.

In addition to the dead and wounded from battle and disease, the Union listed the following:

Deaths in prison: 24,866

Deaths by drowning: 4944

Accidental deaths: 4144

Suicides: 391

Executions: 267

Sunstroke: 391

It must be remembered that the discoveries of Louis Pasteur and Joseph Lister, which completely revolutionized medical and surgical procedures, had not been discovered yet.

(to be continued next month)