"Every sunset is a journey, a journey to remember the memories of the past."

Mehmet Murat Ildan

Annual Report 2020
Friends,

The promise that 2020 held was quickly dashed away by the pandemic that reared its ugly head in the first quarter. As you know, we rescheduled our 2020 conference to 2021 early on. Our greatest fear was that Civil War Round Tables might lose their momentum and be forced to close their doors for good.

And yet, that didn’t happen. Yes, there was at least one that folded, but for the most part, round tables, relying on one another, found new ways to deliver programs, stay connected and keep the spirit alive.

It was gratifying for CWRT Congress to be in a position to mentor some enterprising CWRTs when they decided to hold online meetings. And, it was encouraging having attended several of those meetings to discover how rich their meetings were and how members adapted and even thrived.

Our own series of lectures, interviews and living historian presentations was something we brought forward to assist. They were well attended throughout the year. Based on the comments and questions during the Q&A sessions, participants were well engaged and purchased presenter’s books. And we all owe a debt of gratitude to the historians who saw the need and stepped into the gap.

We also sought to assist some members of the Civil War community such as Civil War Trails, the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust and the Blue & Gray Education Society as they grappled with fundraising in a less-than-optimal environment. With travel restrictions and other impingements many struggled mightily to make their budgets. Some cut staff or staff hours in an effort to remain in the black. But in spite of the financial pall, it was gratifying getting to know some of those passionate individuals behind their logos.

On another note, CWRT Congress registered as a nonprofit with the state of Washington and became an official 501(c)3 with the IRS. We also were able to recruit members to our “working” board of directors. All of them have a deep interest and dedication to preserving Civil War history. We also established an Advisory Council whose role is to assist our board as we seek the many different ways to help CWRTs become sustainable.

We are deeply indebted to each of you and your organizations for your support and participation in round tables around the world. We look forward to thanking you in person during 2021, perhaps at our conference in the Philadelphia area.

Mike Movius
President
CWRT Congress
TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Core Values</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authors / Historians / Lecturers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWRT Congress Committees</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA Civil War Round Tables</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue and Expenses</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Honor Roll</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time.

Abraham Lincoln
OUR CORE VALUES

Mission
To educate and stimulate Civil War Round Tables (CWRT) to become sustainable entities.

Vision
CWRTs are flourishing, in meaningful partnerships with community organizations and are attractive to the next generation of members.

We believe in...

- Inspiring leaders to animate CWRTs to grow and abound
- The power of public history
- Networking maximizes CWRT effectiveness
- Fostering critical reflection of Civil War-era history
- Expanding the skills and tools of CWRT leaders
- The independence of CWRTs
- Decisions made through the discovery and analysis of data
AUTHORS / HISTORIANS / LECTURERS

The CWRT Congress is grateful for the donation of their time and talents to the lecture series we hosted during the Coronavirus pandemic. They tirelessly provided needed diversion from the lockdown. You can watch their lectures on our YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/c/cwrtcongress

HISTORIAN LECTURE TOPIC

Alex Rossino  Six Days in September
Bret Schweinfurth  The U. S. Invalid Corps
Bruce Mowday  Three Views of Gettysburg
Cheryl Gooch  Hinsonville’s Heroes: Black Civil War Soldiers of Chester County, Pennsylvania
Chris Kolakowski  The Grand Army of the Republic
Chuck Veit  African Americans in the Union Navy
            On the Verge of the Great War
            Sea Miner
Cory Pfarr  Longstreet at Gettysburg
Curt Fields  Fridays With Grant: A Series of Recollections by U. S. Grant
David Dixon  Self-Liberation or Survival: The Black Experience in Civil War Georgia
            Radical Warrior: August Willich’s Journey from German Revolutionary to Union General
David Keller  The Story of Camp Douglas
David Silkenat  Raising the White Flag: How Surrender Defined the American Civil War
Ed Lowe  Atlanta & the 1864 Election
            Longstreet’s East Tennessee Campaign
Eric Wittenberg  Sherman’s Carolinas Campaign
Garry Adelman  Civil War Photo Extravaganza
Gene Thorp  The Tale Untwisted: General McClellan and the Discovery of Lee’s Lost Orders, September 18, 1862
Graham Peck  Stephen A. Douglas and the Fate of American Democracy
James Gindlesperger  Bullets & Bandages: Aid Stations & Field Hospitals at Gettysburg
James Knights  Canadians in the Civil War
            Distaff Soldiers in the Civil War
James Remsen  Embattled Freedom: Chronicle of a Fugitive-Slave Haven in the Wary North
Janet Croon  The War Outside My Window: The Civil War Diary of Leroy Wiley Gresham 1861-1865
John Fazio  Francis & Arabella; John & Fanny: Love & War
            The Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln
John Quarstein  Last Days of the Monitor
            The Battle of Drewry’s Bluff
John Scales  Did Nathan Bedford Forrest Make a Difference?
Ken Rutherford  America’s Buried History: Landmines in the Civil War
Lisa Samia  John Wilkes Booth: Son, Brother, Uncle & Actor
            So Runs the World Away
Michael K. Shaffer  
*In Memory of Self and Comrades: Thomas Wallace Colley’s Recollections*
*The Atlanta Campaign*

Michael Kirschner  
*The Union Mobilizes for War*

Paul Kahan  
*The Presidency of U. S. Grant*
*Amiable Scoundrel - Simon Cameron*

Peter Carmichael  
*The War for the Common Soldier*

Robert May  
*Slavery, Christmas & the Downfall of the Confederacy*

Scott Mingus  
*Flames Beyond Gettysburg*
*JEB Stuart’s Cavalry Ride Through York County, Pennsylvania*

Theresa Kaminski  
*Dr. Mary Walker’s Civil War*

Thomas Flagel  
*War, Memory & the 1913 Gettysburg Reunion*

**INTERVIEW ORGANIZATION**

Bob Zeller  
The Center for Civil War Photography

Chris Mackowski  
Emerging Civil War

Drew Gruber  
Civil War Trails

Len Riedel  
The Blue and Gray Education Society

Susan Youhn  
Society for Women in the Civil War

Ted Savas  
Savas Beatie

Tom Van Winkle  
Central Virginia Battlefield Trust

The contact information for the above is located at [https://www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker-registry.php](https://www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker-registry.php)
Our Team, Our Committees, Our Focus

Database Development: Kim Brace

This Committee was established to help coordinate various lists that have developed over time. These lists have included a master list of all Civil War Round Tables, a separate list of closed round tables, a third list of contacts, and several other lists. The goal of the Committee is to incorporate them all into a master database format that will then be able to be accessed by the Board and member round tables via our website.

Outreach: Dennis Doyle

The Outreach Committee provides networking and volunteer opportunities between round tables and organizations which will promote both groups’ institutional goals and objectives. The Committee Outreach director provides the leadership to allow this process to take place.
**Ambassadors: Rich Jankowski**

The Ambassador Team started the year off visiting round tables to learn about their operations, meet their officers/members and share services of the Congress. After the pandemic hit, the team switched to phone and email-based, contacting groups across the nation to learn how they were dealing with the crisis, plans for summer and fall, and status of their group. Key individuals in certain regions volunteered to connect with round tables in their areas. Held three Zoom Summit sessions for round tables to speak up, learn what other groups were doing and address their concerns. Next year, team will continue to reach out to round tables to inquire, share and encourage attendance at Symposium.

**Advisory Council: Michael Kirschner**

The Advisory Council to the CWRT Congress Board was formed this year. The following persons graciously agreed to serve: Peter S. Carmichael, David T. Dixon, Robert Ford, Cheryl Renee Gooch, Mary Koik, Ed Lowe, and Theodore P. Savas. These distinguished Council members provide the Board with a deep reservoir of skills, experience, and diversity to assist the mission of the CWRT Congress.

**Communications: Carol VanOrnum**

The Communications Committee produces our newsletter, The Light Post, providing the CWRT community with uplifting and informative articles, highlighting successful round tables and those with unique situations. It also produces the Annual Report for the CWRT Congress and provides outside publications with event information. The Committee is grateful for the ideas and information from the CWRT community, especially Bill Jayne and Sherry Hewitt, Carlton Mullis, Stephen Smith, Esly Caldwell II, Greg Biggs, Steven Garrett and Ed Lowe.

**Advisory Council**

**Peter S. Carmichael**  
Robert C. Fluhrer Professor of Civil War Studies, Director of the Civil War Institute, Gettysburg College

**David T. Dixon**  
Independent Scholar, Author and Historian

**Robert L. Ford**  
President, Baltimore Civil War Round Table, Reenactor, 54th Mass. Co. B

**Cheryl Renee Gooch, Ph.D**  
Historian, Museum Educator and Author

**Mary Koik**  
Director of Communications & Editor of Hallowed Ground, American Battlefield Trust

**Ed Lowe**  
President, Chickamauga & Chattanooga Civil War Round Table

**Theodore P. Savas**  
Managing Director, Savas Beatie
Civil War Round Tables
Existing and Inactive Round Tables
With
Sept, 2017 Round Table Congress Attendees

Legend
- CWRT_Inactive RT
- CWRT_Existing RT
- CWRT_Congress Attendees
- States

Created by
Kimball Brace
BRCWRT
GIS Committee

Date: 9/6/2017
TOTAL REVENUE: $21,399
TOTAL EXPENSES: $4,526
NET REVENUE: $16,872
Donor Honor Roll

The CWRT Congress is proud to recognize the philanthropic investments made by individuals, CWRTs, and foundations received between January 1, 2020-December 31, 2020.

$500+

Michael Kirschner
William Miller
Mike Movius
Scottsdale CWRT
Gerald Snyder
Carol VanOrnum

$250 to $499

John Bamberl
Robert Flood
Suzanne Hahn
Steve Jaren
John (Jay) Jorgensen
William Lowe
Rosemary Nichols
Leonard Riedel
Williamsburg CWRT

$50 to $249

Sherwood Barefoot, Jr.
George Bennett
Christopher Berry
Fazil Bhimani
Rich Bogdanovich
Eugene Boisaubin
Kim Brace
Barbara Carter
Central Delaware CWRT
Gary Chandler
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Kathy Clark
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Franklin Crawford
Nicholas DiCarlo
Mike DiCerbo
Dennis Doyle
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Carol VanOrnum
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Every sunset brings the promise of a new dawn.

Ralph Waldo Emerson