



Monroe County Civil War Round Table

S P O N S O R E D B Y T H E F R I E N D S O F E L L I S

Fort Powell and the Battle for Mobile Bay, August 5, 1864

Upcoming Programs

March 9 – Battle of
Fort Powell, Mobile
Bay

March 23 - Paging
through the Civil
War Book Club

April 6 – From the
Old Curiosity Shop
Part 2

May 11 – Thirteenth
Michigan

May 25 – Paging
through the Civil
War Book Club

July 27 – Paging
through the Civil
War Book Club

September 14 –
Wayne Motts,
National Civil War
Museum

All Round Table
programs begin at 7
pm and are held at
the Ellis Library and
Reference Center,
3700 South Custer,
Monroe, MI

The Battle of Mobile Bay was crucial to the Union war effort. It was the last important port on the Gulf of Mexico remaining in Confederate control. Capture of this port would complete the union blockade and provide an ever-stronger, suffocating hold on the Confederates. Victory in Mobile Bay would also contribute to the re-election of Abraham Lincoln. Please join us as historian Ken Baumann shares his knowledge of this little discussed battle.

Ken Baumann is a native of Chicago and graduated from the University of Illinois. In 1966, he moved to Milan and became the grounds manager of the Federal Prison there. Upon retirement, he is now a gardener of an estate outside of Ann Arbor. His first book, “Arming the Suckers”, received good reviews from the Civil War community. He currently is finishing a book titled, “The Hillsdale Soldier”, which chronicles the life of a soldier who served in the 64th Illinois and the First Alabama Cavalry Unit. He was past president of the Michigan Regimental Civil War Round Table, and currently is president of the Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Mr. Baumann collects artillery, Illinois soldier material and military vehicles. He has been married 52 years and has two children and two grandchildren.

Paging through the Civil War Book Club will meet Thursday, March 23 at 7 pm. This month's book is *The Man Who Would Not Be Washington* by Jonathan Horn. Please contact Charmaine for more information or to reserve a book (734-241-5277 charmaine.wawrzyniec@monroe.lib.mi.us).

It is with great sadness that we sound the last bugle call in honor of Round Table member **Lester Schlump** who went home to the Lord on January 30, 2017.

Check out these books available from the Monroe County Library System.....

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain and the Petersburg Campaign: His Supposed Charge from Fort Hell, His Near-mortal Wounding, and a Civil War Myth Reconsidered by Dennis A. Rasbach. Author Dennis Rasbach provides detailed research that rebukes Chamberlain's later accounts of the battle. Rasbach suggests that varying factors prevented Chamberlain from having a clear picture of the events that unfolded, including his near-fatal wound.

Charleston in History: A Guide to More than 100 Sites in Historical Context by Rodney and Loretta Carlisle. As summer approaches and travel season begins, this new travel guide provides the traveler with clear detail into the historical gem that Charleston, South Carolina is. One chapter is devoted to the Civil War.

Brilliant Affair under Gen. Minty

The following was published in the *Monroe Monitor* on March 11, 1863:

Cincinnati, March 9 – Information has been received from Nashville that a division of cavalry, under Gen. Minty, attacked Russell's rebel cavalry at Unionville, on the 7th and captured 2 wagons, 25 tents, 85 mules, 5 horses, and all their camp equipment; also three lieutenants, two captains and 52 privates. Two Federals were slightly wounded. The rebels lost 50 killed and 100 wounded. The 7th Pennsylvania and 4th Michigan Cavalry did the work.

Second Dispatch - The 17th Pennsylvania and the 4th Michigan Cavalry attacked Russell's rebel cavalry at Unionville, ten miles from Murfreesboro on Saturday, and cut them to pieces. The rebel lost 50 killed and 180 wounded all by sabre strokes – 2 captains, 3 lieutenants and 53 privates were taken prisoners.

The Gazette correspondent says: "Look out for stirring news from this quarter within three days, if the rebels stand their ground."

Monroe County Bicentennial Events

March 4 – Festival of the MI-CAREME – River Raisin National Battlefield

March 16 – Fiber Arts Series – Monroe County Historical Museum

March 18 – Potter Cemetery Cleanup

March 24-16 – The Citizen's Forum of the 1860s – www.citizensforumofthe1860s.com

Michigan Civil War Round Tables

Mar. 14 – Shell...Range 1000 Yards - Civil War Round Table of Southwest Michigan – Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the Month – www.cwrtswmi.org

Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table - Meets 2nd Monday of each month - <http://www.aacwrt.org/>

Kalamazoo Civil War Round Table - Meets the 3rd Friday of every month - <http://www.kcwrt.com/>

Civil War Trivia Question: What was the size of the fleet commanded by David G. Farragut, U.S.N., at Mobile Bay? (Garrison 262)

Answer to January's Trivia: Brig. Gen Edward Augustus Wild formed an African Brigade from former North Carolina slaves and made them part of the force that occupied Richmond

Book Sale! Our Round Table is hosting a monthly book sale. All proceeds will benefit the Antietam Monument Project....Civil War hardcovers-\$3.00 and paperbacks-\$1.00.