SE IA CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE EST.1988

BURLINGTON, IOWA 52601

MEETING AND NOTES

Ray Wilson, President

Dan Gillett, 1st Vice President

Haven Noble, 2nd Vice President

Cheryl Lotz, Secretary/Treasurer

Deb Kolz Olson & Stasia Bath, Members at large

President Emeritus, Al Ourth

Historian/Archivist, Deb Kolz Olson

OCTOBER 2026: THE NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8 AT 6 P.M. AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 321 N. 5TH ST, BURLINGTON, IOWA

September 10, 2026 was our last meeting. Present: Ray Wilson, Dan Gillett, Gary Kupferschmid, Glenda Campbell, Haven Noble, Stasia Bath, Dan Haughey, Deb Bowen and Cheryl Lotz.

September Meeting Highlights

The presentation was watching the first half of a video titled "Struggle for Vicksburg" provided by Gary. After the video, Ray called the meeting to order. He gave an update on the Kossuth Yellow Spring Civil War monument rededication on Saturday, September 26. Stasia and Nancy will be there in period dress and read off the names on the monument. Numerous community and civic groups will be participating. A press release will be sent to all the area newspapers.

Ray gave an update on Dessa's presentation. She has tentatively booked U.S. Grant portrayer Larry Werline at the Raritan Opera House on Wednesday, November 11, 2026 at 6 P.M. Motion to support Dessa in her presentation and forgo a November meeting was seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Dan G. reported on Galesburg Heritage Days. All of the participants thought it went well. The sponsors were pleased with how it turned out. Stasia visited with people from several different states including Wyoming, Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin. Even the reenactors liked our displays. Many families attended. The group expressed interest in attending next year.

Dan Haughey led a discussion on the progress of the Aspen Grove Cemetery Walk. It is scheduled for Saturday, September 18, 2027 at 2 PM with rain date September 19. The list of people to portray has been narrowed down to 12 people. It is still a list in progress, December 7 will be the final vote on who to include. The group is planning to attend other area cemetery walks for the purpose of research. The next meeting is November 16, 2026, 4:30 PM at the Burlington Public Library.

Reminder: Join our Facebook page. Have any of you contributed posts yet?
https://www.facebook.com/groups/281863344426040/ We now have 97 members!

NEW NEWS..... The next regular business meeting will be Thursday, October 8, 2026 at First Presbyterian Church 321 N. 5th St. in Burlington at 6 PM; for those who wish, we will meet at Napoli's at 4:30 for supper. Since we had to change our meeting place this month, we will not be able to watch the second half of the video "Struggle for Vicksburg".

Here is a link to the presentation that Ray gave a couple of weeks ago in Mount Pleasant, Iowa on Andersonville Prison. https://www.youtube.com/@HCHT-Iowa

Here is the article from the Mediapolis News about the Kossuth Yellow Spring Civil War Monument rededication.

Yellow Spring Civil War Monument Rededicated By Duane Nollen

"Area Civil War buffs gathered at the Mediapolis Fire Station Saturday afternoon to rededicate the Yellow Spring Civil War Memorial, located in the southwest corner of Kossuth Cemetery. The Yellow Spring Civil War Monument was originally dedicated on July 4, 1866, and is the oldest Civil War memorial west of the Mississippi River. Members of several area groups, such as the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the American Legion, Scouting America Troop 53, Silver Singers, the Southeast Iowa Civil War Roundtable, Great River Nurse's Honor Guard, and the Mediapolis Fire and Ambulance Service rededicated the memorial with a ceremony in the Mediapolis Fire Station. Many participants dressed in Civil War uniforms or appeared in period dress. The Civil War monument has the names of 73 area soldiers who gave their lives to defend the Union against the Confederacy. Ray Wilson, President of the Southeast Iowa Civil War Roundtable and commander of the Robert Mitchell Camp 206 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, said his organizations thanked the large crowd that gathered at the fire station for the ceremony. "The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War represents the soldiers and sailors of the Civil War and thanks you for attending. This memorial assures that their memory is still alive." Scouts of Troop 53 placed the colors to start the ceremony, and the Silver Singers sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War Iowa Department Commander John Pregler, of Dubuque, presided over the ceremony, which included a wreath laying by the Great River Nurses Honor Guard. Civil War re-enactors placed several objects in front of an improvised monument set up at the fire station, which included a musket with fixed bayonet, a canteen and rucksack, a knap sack, and an American Flag. Nancy Chu and Stasia Bath, of the Southeast Iowa Civil War Roundtable read the names of all 73 soldiers who have their names engraved on the Yellow Spring Civil War Monument in Kossuth. The Mediapolis American Legion Honor Guard fired a 21-gun salute outside the fire station and a bugler played "Taps" to close out the ceremony. Pregler said he was pleased with the crowd that attended the ceremony. "I've done a lot of these. It's always great to see a community come out in large numbers to remember the boys who saved the Union," he said. The Mediapolis American Legion Auxiliary served refreshments afterwards."

-- Treasurer's report: Beginning Balance 8/25/2026: $861.81; no activity; Ending Balance 9/28/2026: $861.81.

Dates to remember … Mark your calendars …

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 6 PM: Dessa's program; Larry Werline, Grant interpreter at the Raritan, Illinois Opera House.

Thursday, December 10, 2026 5 PM – 7 PM: Downtown Burlington Living Windows.

Civil War Reenactment Dates for 2026

Shadows of the Blue & Gray: October 10-11 2026, Princeton, Illinois
https://www.shadowsbluegray.com/

Anyone is welcome to contribute articles to this newsletter. Email them to cheryllotz@hotmail.com before the end of the month, to be included in the following month's newsletter.

TIP FOR YOU ALL: Finding Civil War soldiers and more. http://www.civilwardata.com Personnel Directory and American Civil War Research. $10.00 for a 7 day pass, $25.00 for an annual subscription.

* Facebook - look it up and join our very own Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/groups/2818633444260 40/

Cheryl Lotz, Secretary/Treasurer (cheryllotz@hotmail.com ph. 319-850-1093).

Here are some photos from the Kossuth Yellow Spring Civil War Monument Rededication



Here are most of the participants in the ceremony – Great River Nurses Honor Guard, Mediapolis Fire Department, Scouting America Troop 53, Mediapolis American Legion Honor Guard, Hamilton-Walters Detachment 616 Marine Corps League, Robert Mitchell Camp #206 SUVCW, and the Southeast Iowa Civil War Roundtable. Not pictured: Mediapolis American Legion Auxiliary and the Silver Singers.



Ray Wilson, John Pregler, Dennis Geesaman, Dan Rittel and Matt Schwalm of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Robert Mitchell Camp #206



Nancy Chu and Stasia Bath SEICWRT