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

SEPTEMBER 2026: THE NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 AT 6 P.M. AT BURLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 210 COURT ST. BURLINGTON, IA

August 13th, 2026 was our last meeting. Present: Ray Wilson, Dan Gillett, Gary Kupferschmid, Glenda Campbell, Haven Noble, Steve Berry, Dan Haughey and Cheryl Lotz.

August Meeting Highlights

The presentation was watching Russ Fry's video "Des Moines County in the Civil War". 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. Other Roundtable members will help with passing out programs and acting as ushers, and helping with the reception afterwards.

Since Dessa was not present to present her idea for a potential presentation, Dan G. discussed it. She is suggesting hosting a Grant interpreter at the Raritan Opera House. She is working on a schedule and will let us know when she has the details worked out.

Dan Haughey led a discussion on the progress of the Aspen Grove Cemetery Walk. They have selected the ten subjects to feature on the walk: John Crall, GAR; Henry Cowden, GAR; John P. Gingrich, GAR; Rachel Bundy thought to be the first slave freed in Iowa territory; Gen. John M. Corse; Amanda & Mary Shelton, sisters who were both nurses during the Civil War; Charles Starker; John De Laubenfels; Silas Hudson; and Emily Forstell. They have also selected alternates: Eva Bystrom, and two other females yet to be named. The next meeting will be Monday, November 16 at 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, September 10, 2026 at the Burlington Public Library at 6 PM; for those who wish, we will meet at Napoli's at 4:30 for supper. The presentation is being provided by Gary with his video "Struggle for Vicksburg."

-- Treasurer's report: Beginning Balance 7/28/2026: $811.81; 8/24/2026 deposit of $50; Ending Balance 8/24/2026: $861.81.

Julie Nickell from the Hawk Eye wrote the following in her Area News Bits Column in the August 22 Hawk Eye.

“KOSSUTH CEMETERY Ray Wilson will be the 2026 Mediapolis Lions Club Citizen of the Year in the Mediapolis Town and Country Days Largest Small-Town Parade at 10 a.m. Aug. 28. Wilson is the president of the Southeast Iowa Civil War Roundtable and a member of the Des Moines County Pioneer Cemetery Commission, and other historic organizations. He has several Civil War ancestors and relatives. According to Wilson, 2026 is the Yellow Spring Township Civil War Monument’s 160th anniversary of the original dedication of the monument, as well as the 250th anniversary of the adoption of America’s Declaration of Independence. With these anniversaries in mind, a rededication of the first Civil War monument west of the Mississippi River will take place at 1 p.m. Sept. 26. The monument is located in Kossuth Cemetery, a site that is home to the graves of 87 Civil War veterans. At the ceremony, Wilson will be dressed as a member of the 2nd Iowa Cavalry. The John Wayne movie “The Horse Soldiers” is a fictionalized version of the Grierson’s Raid of which the 2nd Iowa Cavalry participated. In the movie, Wayne’s character mentions the regiment. The 2nd Iowa Cavalry Company K has 11 names of soldiers who died during the war listed on the Kossuth Yellow Springs monument, according to Wilson.”

Dates to remember … Mark your calendars …

Saturday, September 12, 2026 2 PM: Free presentation, “Andersonville, Infamous War Prison” with Ray Wilson at the Henry County Heritage Trust, 403 West Madison St., Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Saturday, September 26, 2026 1 PM: Rededication of the Yellow Spring Civil War Monument in Kossuth Cemetery near Mediapolis, Iowa.

Civil War Reenactment Dates for 2026

Muster on the Maquoketa – Saturday September 12 and Sunday September 13, 2026, Jackson County Iowa Fairgrounds, 1212 East Quarry Street, Maquoketa, Iowa. Friday September 11th will be living history day for area school districts to come and visit. For more information, go to https://www.musteronthemaquoketa.com/

The Mason City Civil War Council presents The Seven Days Battle, Virginia – September 18-20, 2026 at East Park in Mason City, Iowa. Infantry and Artillery Drills on Saturday and Sunday, Battle Demonstration Saturday and Sunday at PM, followed by Medical demonstrations, Period Ball on Saturday at 7 PM. For more information, go to their Facebook page, Mason City Civil War Council.

Clayville, IL Historic Site Fall Festival – September 19 & 20, 2026, 9 AM – 4 PM 12828 State Route 125, Pleasant Plains, IL. For more details go to their Facebook page, Clayville Historic Site or their website, https://clayville.org/

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/281863344426040/

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

The following are photographs from Galesburg Heritage Days in August.

Left: Dan Gillett

Right: Nancy Chu & Stasia Bath







L-R: Haven Noble, Nancy Chu, Stasia Bath



Our displays set up in Galesburg