



CWRT CONGRESS

"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



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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.



The first CWRT Congress conference attended by representatives from 38 CWRTs and other organizations.



York (PA) CWRT meeting in the York County History Center in 2017. The History Center generously sponsors and provides the round table's marketing. The speaker is Scott Mingus.

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

Michael K. Shaffer	<i>In Memory of Self and Comrades: Thomas Wallace Colley's Recollections The Atlanta Campaign</i>
Michael Kirschner	<i>The Union Mobilizes for War</i>
Paul Kahan	<i>The Presidency of U. S. Grant Amiable Scoundrel - Simon Cameron</i>
Peter Carmichael	<i>The War for the Common Soldier</i>
Robert May	<i>Slavery, Christmas & the Downfall of the Confederacy</i>
Scott Mingus	<i>Flames Beyond Gettysburg JEB Stuart's Cavalry Ride Through York County, Pennsylvania</i>
Theresa Kaminski	<i>Dr. Mary Walker's Civil War</i>
Thomas Flagel	<i>War, Memory & the 1913 Gettysburg Reunion</i>

INTERVIEW ORGANIZATION

Bob Zeller	<i>The Center for Civil War Photography</i>
Chris Mackowski	<i>Emerging Civil War</i>
Drew Gruber	<i>Civil War Trails</i>
Len Riedel	<i>The Blue and Gray Education Society</i>
Susan Youhn	<i>Society for Women in the Civil War</i>
Ted Savas	<i>Savas Beatie</i>
Tom Van Winkle	<i>Central Virginia Battlefield Trust</i>

The contact information for the above is located at <https://www.cwrtcongress.org/speaker-registry.php>



TEAM WORK

Photography by Nancy Harder



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

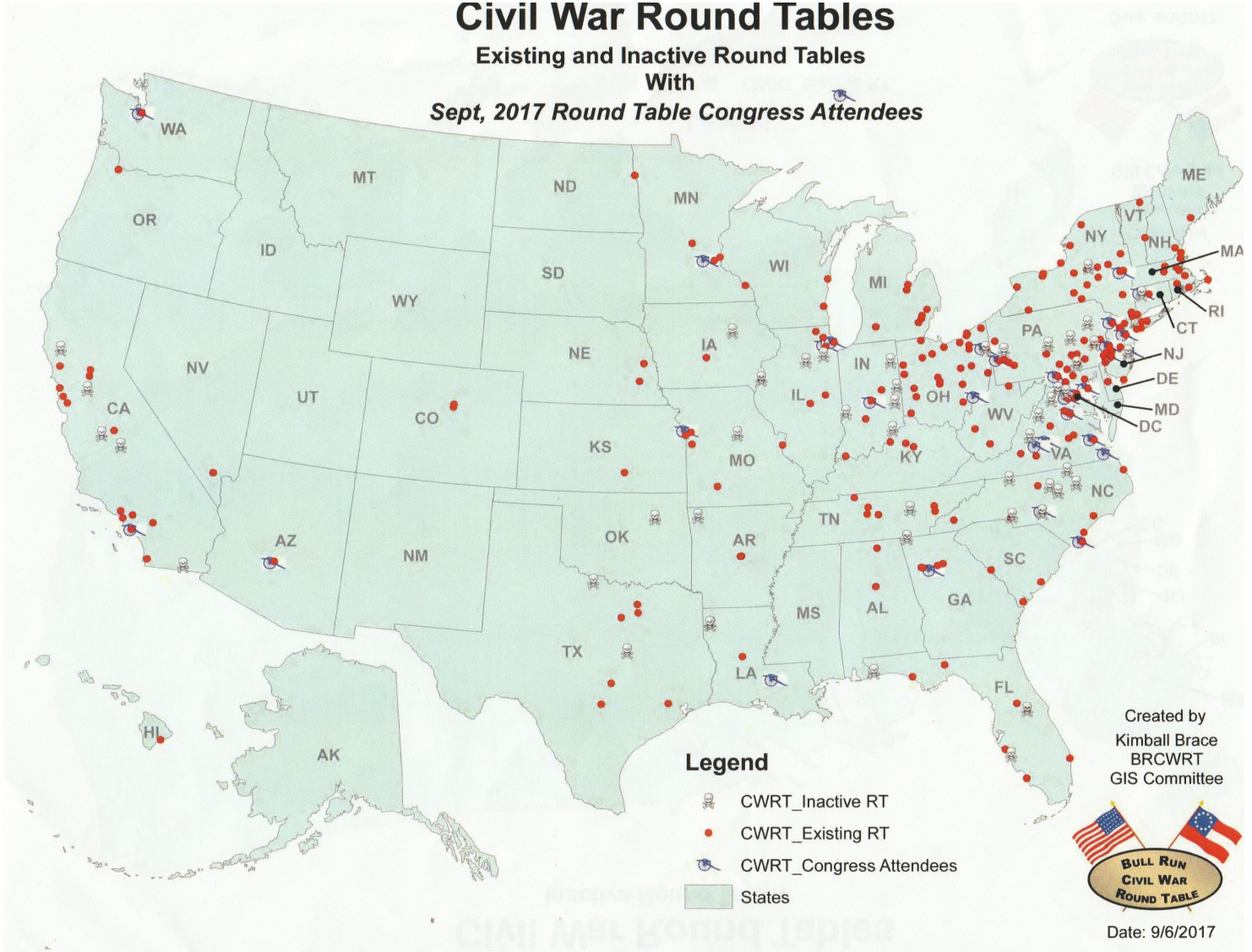
Theodore P. Savas

Managing Director, Savas Beatie

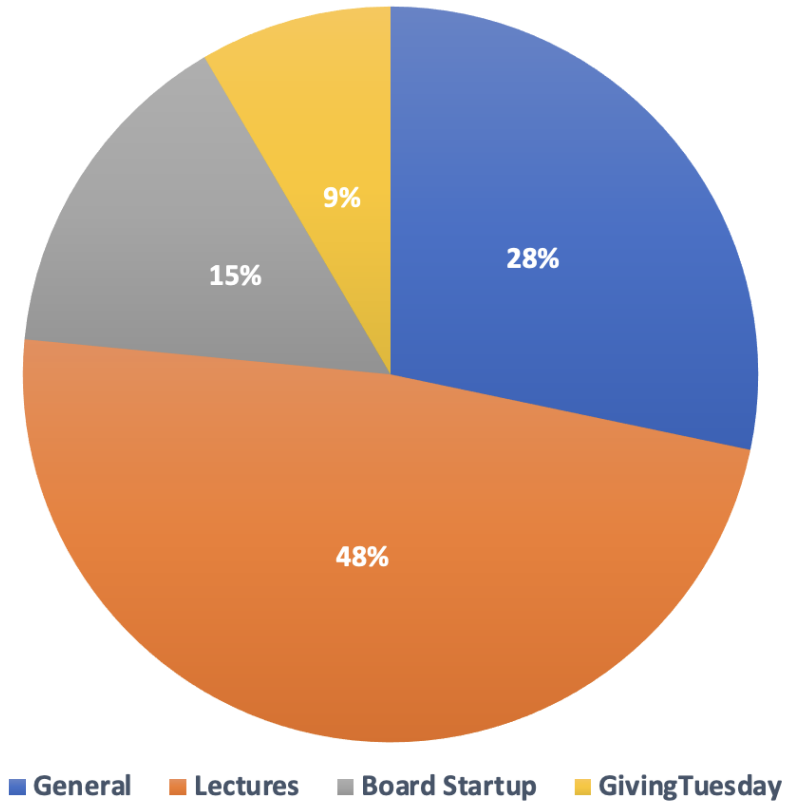
Civil War Round Tables

Existing and Inactive Round Tables
With

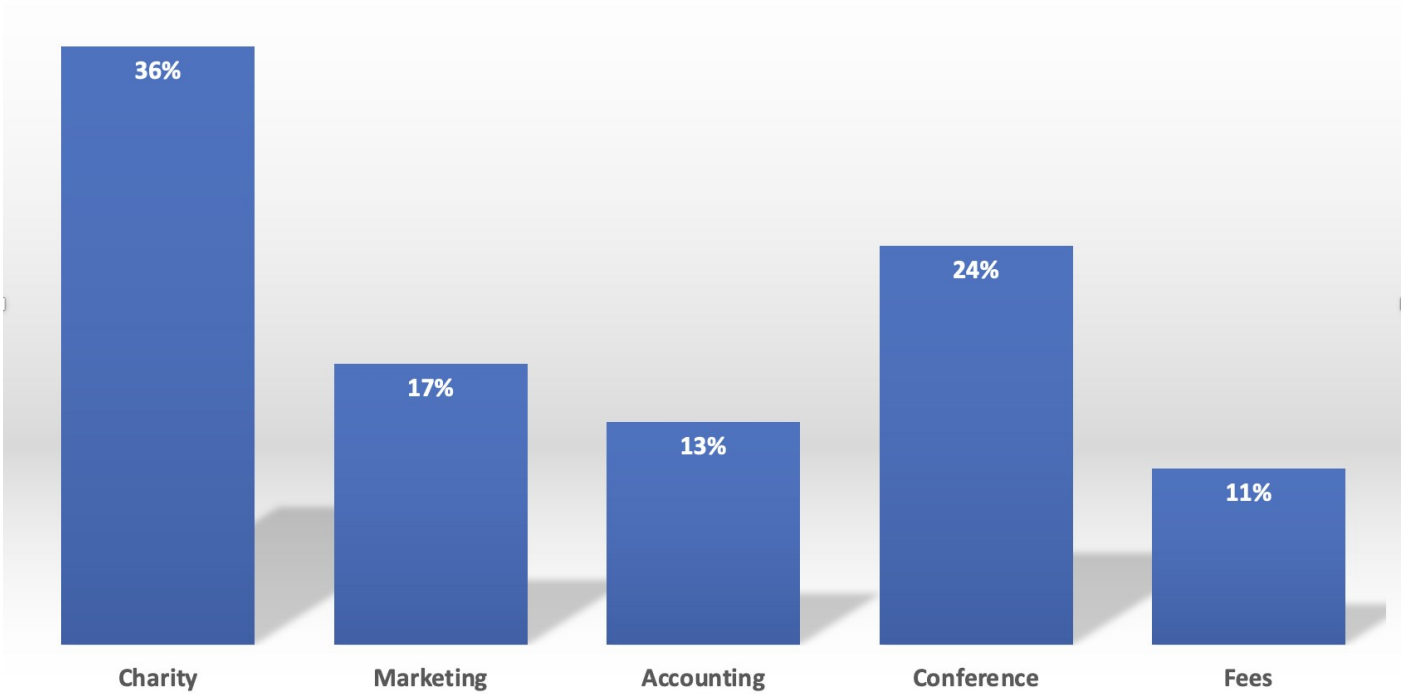
Sept, 2017 Round Table Congress Attendees



REVENUE



EXPENSES



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

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\$250 to \$499

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Less than \$50

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Ronald Zanoni
Robert Zanoni





Every sunset brings the promise of
a new dawn.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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