



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta

Founded 1949

January 2018

649th Meeting

Leon McElveen, Editor

January Meeting

Reservations Are Required

PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR DINNER
RESERVATION CHECK OF **\$36.00** PER
PERSON TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

David Floyd
4696 Kellogg Drive, SW
Lilburn, GA 30047- 4408

TO REACH DAVID NO LATER THAN NOON
ON THE FRIDAY PRECEDING THE MEETING

Reservations and payment may be made
online at: cwrta.org

Date: Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Time: Cocktails: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 7:00 pm

Place: Capital City Club - Downtown
7 John Portman Blvd.

Price: \$36.00 per person

Program: Susannah Ural

Hood's Texas Brigade

Hood's Texas Brigade

Our speaker in January will be Susannah Ural, author of *Hood's Texas Brigade: The Soldiers and Families of the Confederacy's Most Celebrated Unit*.

One of the most effective units to fight on either side of the Civil War, the Texas Brigade of the Army of Northern Virginia served under Robert E. Lee from the Seven Days Battles in 1862 to the surrender at Appomattox in 1865. Ms. Ural presents a nontraditional unit history that traces the experiences of these soldiers and their families to gauge the war's effect on them and their role in the South's war for independence.

Several factors contributed to the Texas Brigade's extraordinary success: the unit's strong self-identity as Confederates; the respect among the junior officers and their men; a desire to maintain their reputation as the top soldiers in Robert E. Lee's army; and the fact that their families matched the men's determination to fight and win. She feels that the average Texas Brigade volunteer possessed an unusually strong devotion to southern independence: whereas most Texans and Arkansans fought in the West or Trans-Mississippi West, members of the Texas Brigade fought over a thousand miles from home, believing that they would exert the greatest influence on the war's outcome by fighting near the Confederate capital in Richmond.

Susannah challenges key historical arguments about soldier motivation, volunteerism and desertion, home-front morale, and veterans' postwar adjustment. She tells the story of one of the war's most effective brigades and sheds new light on what kept Confederate soldiers fighting throughout the country's most deadly conflict

Be there to hear Susannah in January.

Ed Ayers in December

Our December speaker, Ed Ayers, presented a great program on Reconstruction last month. His focus on that period of our history has given him a wide range of knowledge about that time and how it still affects us today. Our thanks to Ed for spending time with us and sharing his knowledge of Reconstruction.

Our thanks also to Frank Clark who provided a program of period music prior to the meeting.

Upcoming Programs

- February 13, 2018** Dennis Belcher
Cavalry of the Army of the Cumberland
- March 13, 2018** Brooks Simpson
U.S. Grant and the Politics of War and Reconstruction
- April 10, 2018** Don Frazier
Blood on the Bayou: War in the Trans-Mississippi
- May 8, 2018** David Powell
*The Chickamauga Campaign:
Retreat into Chattanooga*
- June 12, 2018** Bo Dubose
*How We Built Our Civil War Collection:
And Why It Matters*

Upcoming Events

- January 6, 2018:** *First Saturday Hike at Pickett's Mill*, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, Pickett's Mill Battlefield State Historic Site, Join rangers for a special two-mile hike of the battlefield and see trench systems and rifle pits dug and used by Confederate and Federal soldiers in May 1864. The hike will finish with a weapons demonstration including cannon firing. Adults \$5.50, Seniors (ages 62+) \$3.50, Youth (ages 6 - 17) \$3.00. 770-443-7850, <http://gastateparks.org/PickettsMillBattlefield>
- January 6, 2018:** *Winter Vistas: Longstreet's Breakthrough*, Saturday, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, Chickamauga National Military Park, A special two-hour driving and hiking tour (approximately 1/2 mile walking distance) will explore the Chickamauga battlefield. Visitors will explore a part of the battlefield not often seen. This tour will focus on one of the most famous parts of the battle, Longstreet's Breakthrough, taking advantage of the lack of foliage to examine the field that played an important role in the events in and around the Brotherton farmstead. FREE admission; meet inside the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center. 706-866-9241, www.nps.gov/chch
- January 20, 2018:** *Robert E. Lee Birthday Celebration*, Saturday, 10:45 am, First Baptist Church, 330 South Liberty Street, Milledgeville GA. speaker there will be Mr. Sam Hood, a descendant of Confederate General John B. Hood. FREE admission. 404-456-3393, timfpilgrim@yahoo.com

Chickamauga Civil War Show in February

Mark your calendars now to attend the Chickamauga Civil War Show, Saturday and Sunday, February 3 - 4, in Dalton.

As is our custom, we will organize to travel up and back as a group on Saturday morning. Details to follow.

In conjunction with the Civil War Show in Dalton, Civil War News www.civilwarnews.com is staging a symposium beginning at 10 a.m. The speaker and topic line-up is:

- Gould Hagler: *My Favorite Confederate Monuments in Georgia and Alabama*
- Sal Cilella *The Graphic War: Collecting Civil War Prints for Fun and Profit*
- Mike Shaffer *Washington County, Virginia, in the Civil War*
- Steve Davis *Hood's Efforts to Defend Atlanta, July 18 – September 1, 1864*

This is one of the best shows in the country with hundreds tables of exhibitors, sutlers and collectors. As always there will be tons of guns, uniforms, accoutrements, and the like. Don't miss a chance to spend a few hours with you kindred souls in the Round Table and to enjoy a great show.

Happy New Year 2018



Officers for the 2017 - 2018 Campaign:

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