



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Atlanta Civil War Round Table
Founded 1949

September Meeting

Reservations are required

PLEASE MAKE YOUR DINNER
RESERVATION IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$39 PER PERSON ONLINE AT
atlantacwrt.org

Or Mail to the Following Address:

Tim Whalen: P.O. Box 2355

Griffin, GA 30224

**TO REACH TIM: NO LATER THAN
THURSDAY BEFORE THE
MEETING.**

Date: Tuesday, September 10

Time: Cocktails 5:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:45 p.m.

Place: Capital City Club-
Downtown;

7 John Portman Blvd.

Price: **\$39** per person

Program: Steven Woodworth

**Showdown in the
Wilderness: Ulysses S. Grant and
Robert E. Lee, May 1864**

Menu for September Meeting:

Salad: Arugula Salad

Main Course: Seared Salmon

Desert: Georgia Pecan Pie

Grant and Lee-Showdown in the Wilderness: May 1864

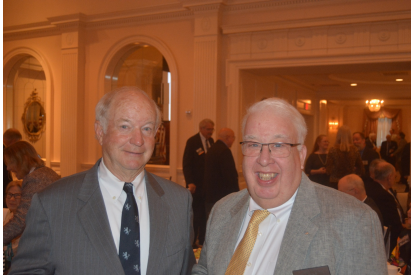
Our speaker for September will be Steven E. Woodworth. Steve is the author, coauthor, or editor of twenty-eight books on the Civil War era. These include *Jefferson Davis and His Generals: The Failure of Confederate Command in the West*, *Davis and Lee at War*, *Six Armies in Tennessee: The Chickamauga and Chattanooga Campaigns*, and *While God Is Marching On: The Religious World of Civil War Soldiers*, *Nothing but Victory: The Army of the Tennessee, 1861-1865*; and *Manifest Destinies: Westward Expansion and the Civil War*. Dr. Woodworth currently teaches history at Texas Christian University. Steve's topic for September will be the Battle of the Wilderness in May 1864. The battle is notable not only for carnage it produced in the dense, tangled woods west of Chancellorsville, but for being the first battle with Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee as opposing commanders. Lee continued to have the ability to anticipate his foe's movements, but Grant began the never retreat strategy that led to Petersburg. The two armies had a combined 24,500 casualties for the two days and ended up essentially where they had started. Including this battle, the Federal army would suffer casualties equal to 50% of all the casualties they had suffered in the war up until that time. Be with us in September to hear Steve's insights into this pivotal battle in the bloody endgame of the American Civil War.

Round Table Celebrates Cyclorama Completion

For the fourth year in a row, the annual Blue & Gray Barbecue was held at the Atlanta History Center to focus on the Cyclorama restoration. Over 160 attended. Past Round Table president Grant Moseley, architect for the Cyclorama's new home, introduced the History Center's Kevin Edmonton who facilitated a tour of the Cyclorama, which is now completely restored. There was no film preface, Edmonton simply answered members' questions. Many remarked that it was rewarding to view the painting quietly and to allow the images themselves to speak.

Greg Biggs, KSU Bus Tour, Speaker Schedule

October speaker Greg Biggs will present: *"Rebel Flags Afloat: The Flags of the Confederate Navy and The "Abermale" Incident*. On October 12, the Civil War Center at Kennesaw will offer guided tours of the National Civil War Naval Museum and the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center in Columbus, GA. The one-day bus tour runs from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$99 General Admission and \$89 for Kennesaw Corps Members. Register at <http://bit.ly/columbusbustour> or (470) 578-2551. Plan ahead: a complete listing of this campaign year's speakers is available at atlantacwrt.org.



Above: Past President J.D. Humphries is pictured with Leon McElveen, right, at the April 2019 CWRT Dinner.

Taps for an Old Friend

Many of you know by now that we lost a dear friend and lynchpin of our Round Table monthly activities, Leon McElveen, on July 30th. He was a Past President, serving the 1998-1999 campaign year. Leon was awarded the "Round Table Distinguished Member award in 2002, and has been the Editor of "Battle Lines" and our Emeritus Director of Communications for many years. He is sorely missed. David Floyd, our Past Secretary/Treasurer, knew him well and wrote a lovely In Memorium for the Summer barbecue on August 4th. This will be separately posted to you in its entirety. Our heartfelt sympathies to Leon's lovely wife Linda and his daughters Erin Lee McElveen and Sarah McElveen Petkus in their loss. Farewell, old friend, as we add your name to the roster of our Honored Departed.

John A. Dietrichs, President

The McElveen Family has suggested that charitable donations in Leon's honor may be made to the Cyclorama through the Atlanta History Center.

Grant Moseley Receives Spirit of '61 President's Award

Past ACWRT President Grant Moseley was recognized at the June meeting for his service to the Round Table with the fifth annual Spirit of '61 Award. Moseley was instrumental in efforts to develop and use 501 (c) (3) status for the ACWRT. President Brian Willis (2018-2019) gave the award to Moseley "in recognition of his dedication and service during the 2018-2019 Campaign Year."

From the President

Coincidentally, I find that I was born the same year as the Atlanta Civil War Round Table – 1949. I was fortunate to have met or known some of the founders and early Presidents. It is a distinct honor for me to follow in their footsteps. I truly appreciate the trust you have put in me this year, and I shall try to live up to it, with your help and support.

We are blessed to have many active members who have served in leadership or simply through active membership, some for more than thirty years, and I thank all of you for maintaining the high standards and goals of the Round Table during our existence. I ask again for your support and continued participation in the coming year.

We now enter our first full Campaign Year as a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization, which will allow us to offer tax incentives to members who make donations. Eventually, we will grow an endowment fund to benefit the members and organization as we move into the future. We face two special challenges, in my view, as we do this; first, we must invite, interest and involve a younger generation in our membership with good programming and activities outside our monthly dinners. This will be the very best legacy we can leave going forward – a strong, growing, energetic crop of new members, joining with the older, committed to exploring and preserving the stories of our American ancestors, North and South. Our second challenge revolves around the current rejection of our history and its memories. History cannot be changed by simply taking away or tearing down a monument (from whatever age or time). History is to be studied and investigated, then understood and used to enlighten and expand our modern life experience. This is what we do in the Atlanta Civil War Round Table. "This desperate and hard fought struggle produced the force necessary to weld America into a powerful nation. This was purely an American war, fought by our ancestors, on our land, for our beliefs. This intimate and personal touch accounts for the interest we all have in the American Civil War." (Beverly M. DuBose, Jr., President 1951- 1958) It is worth studying.

Finally, we are a group of old friends and new friends who enjoy each others' company. I look forward to continuing our fellowship and study of history in the 2019-2020 Campaign Year!

John

Officers for the 2019-2020 Campaign

President	John Dietrichs
First Vice President	Carlton Mullis
Second Vice President	Mary-Elizabeth Ellard
Secretary/Treasurer	Tim Whalen
Executive Committee:	Loran Crabtree; Robert Woodruff; Tom Prior; Bill Dodd
Immediate Past President	Brian Willis
Editor	Vacant as of July 30, 2019