



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta

A non-profit 501c3, dedicated to Promoting the Serious Study of the American Civil War

November Meeting

Tuesday, November 9

5:30- 6:45 p.m. Cocktails

6:45 p.m. Dinner

Reservations Required

Register online at
www.atlantacwrt.org

or mail a check (\$39 per ticket)
to Tim Whalen:
P.O. Box 2355
Griffin, GA 30224
Reservations must be made by
8 p.m. Thursday, November 4

Meeting Location

Capital City Club-Downtown
7 John Portman Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 523-8221

** Masking expected
from the car drop off portico
to the meeting room*

Menu

Autumn Salad;
Turkey Tetrazzini;
Festive Desert.

Two Daring, Foredoomed Attacks

Our 2021 Richard Barksdale Harwell Book Award winner, Atlanta Historian Stephen Davis will join us on November 9 for an analysis of

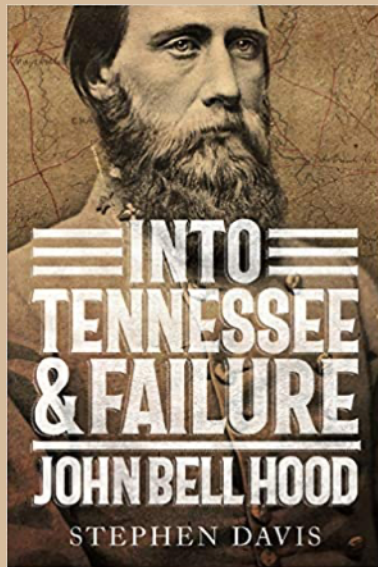
two “magnificent” charges: General Robert E. Lee’s bold advance at Gettysburg and John Bell Hood’s frontal assaults at Franklin. Both attacks are analyzed in his acclaimed two-book series: the 2021 Harwell winner, *Into Tennessee and Failure: John Bell Hood*, and 2019’s *Texas*

Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta: John

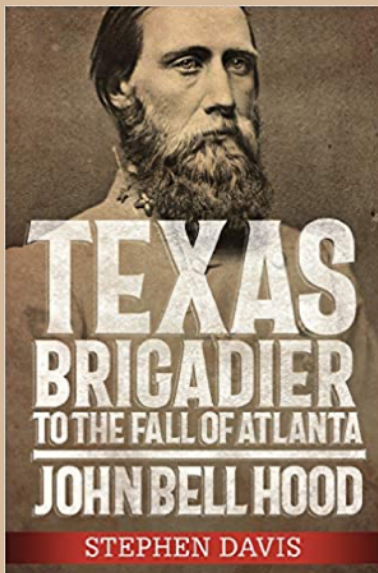
Bell Hood. An authority on the Atlanta Campaign, Steve has focused on Hood’s generalship for the past few years and has shared insights from his study with us previously. In February 2017, he delivered the talk “Neither Great Nor Genius: John Bell Hood” and in January of 2021, via Zoom, he outlined the topics covered in *Texas Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta: John Bell Hood*, his first book of the two volume series. Steve also contributed the article “Far Better in the Present Emergency: John Bell Hood Replaces Joseph E. Johnston” in Chris Mackowski and Kristopher D. White, eds., *Turning Points of the American Civil War*, 2017. For our November meeting, expect fresh perspectives on Hood’s strategy at Franklin and its great potential for success.



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Our program will explore two famous Confederate charges that took place at the battles of Gettysburg in July of 1863 and Franklin in November of 1864. At Gettysburg, General Robert E. Lee ordered Pickett's Charge, named for Maj. General George Pickett, one of the assault leaders. Hood, who led a division at Gettysburg, later ordered similarly bold frontal attacks at Franklin.



Two Daring, Foredoomed Attacks (Continued)

Steve, a native Atlantan, serves as book review editor for Emerging Civil War. He has also contributed to The Georgia Historical Quarterly and many other popular and scholarly publications, including the Civil War News. From 1985 to 2006, Steve served as book review editor for Blue & Gray Magazine. He is the author of hundreds of articles and of many books. Most recently, *Into Tennessee & Failure:*

John Bell Hood with *Texas*

Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta:

John Bell Hood received the Fletcher Pratt Award from the Civil War Roundtable of New York and the Douglas Southall Freeman award. A long-time friend of the Atlanta Civil War Round Table, Steve knew founder Richard Barksdale Harwell, namesake for our annual award, and at Emory he studied with acclaimed historian and author Bell Irvin Wiley, our

President for the campaign year 1959-1960. After earning a bachelor of arts from Emory, Steve obtained a master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and taught high school for a few years before returning to Emory for a Ph.D., exploring the theme of the Civil War in Southern Literature. Steve recently retired to Cumming and is looking forward to returning to our Round Table with his wife Billie and other family members in tow.



Monument to Hood's Texas Brigade at Gettysburg: <https://gettyburg.stonesentinels.com/confederate-monuments/confederate-unit-monuments/texas-brigade/>



Spirit of '61: Tim Whalen, Carol Willey Recognized

At our October meeting, Immediate Past President Carlton Mullis recognized Secretary/Treasurer Tim Whalen and *Battle Lines* Editor Carol Willey with the Atlanta Civil War Round Table's Spirit of '61 Award. Initiated in 2014, the honor, traditionally awarded annually, recognizes essential service to the Round Table. Carlton thanked Tim and Carol for their work which helped to keep the Round Table operating through the months of the pandemic. Both were recognized for their service for two campaign years, 2020-2022.

Implementing a New YouTube Option

All,

As your **First Vice President**, I want to inform you of a new initiative we are working to implement. Thanks to Past President Carlton Mullis, we were able to get through last year's campaign season by going virtual and using Zoom to safely meet during the pandemic. We understand that was a convenient way for many of our members to attend the meetings. As such, we have weighed the options and decided to offer all ACWRT meetings virtually via a private link to our new YouTube channel.

It will work this way: if you are a current, dues paying member, pay and physically attend a meeting, you will be emailed a private link to a recording of the meeting, free of charge. This will be sent out a few days after the meeting.

If you are a dues paying member, and do not attend the meeting in person, there will be a charge of \$15 to have the recording emailed to you.

The new ACWRT YouTube channel will be private and the link and videos will only be accessible to our members. That way, random people can not search and then view our meetings.

We still encourage everyone to attend in person to get the full experience of our meetings, but are excited to offer them virtually.

Thanks for being members and helping further the serious study of the American Civil War.

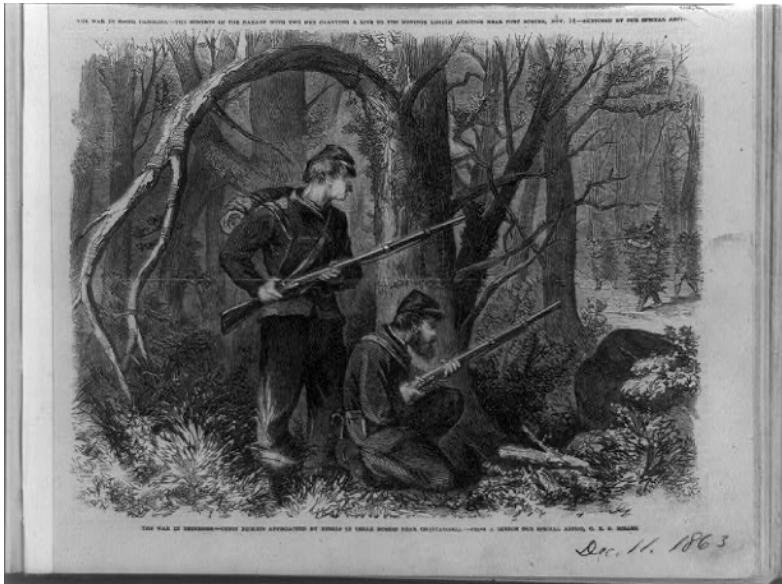
Loran F. Crabtree, First Vice President ACWRT



Round Table First V.P. Loran Crabtree and Immediate Past President Carlton Mullis attend our October meeting.

Anniversary of the Battles for Chattanooga Tour

On Saturday November 20 at 10 a.m. we will rejoin the National Park Service's Jim Ogden for another tour. ACWRT has a long relationship with Jim, who has for many years served as Historian of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park & Moccasin



The War in Tennessee—Union pickets approached by Rebels in cedar bushes near Chattanooga, Artist CEF Hillen. From Frank Leslie's illustrated newspaper, December 12, 1863, page 177, bottom. Library of Congress.

Bend National

Archeological District.

ACWRT will facilitate a carpool trip to participate in some of the programming presented in observance of the 158th Anniversary of the Battles for Chattanooga (November 23-25, 1863) by the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. These include two 2-hour walking tours of parts of the Chattanooga Battlefields with Jim. I suggest signing up now because whenever

Jim Ogden leads a tour, it proves popular and fills up fast. Please use this link to signup now:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAB22A31-tour5>

Here is the agenda for our November 20, 2021 Tour:

10 a.m. - *"...the bridge broke repeatedly...." Sherman, Brown's Ferry, and Grant's November Offensive*

Location: Moccasin Bend Road just north of Hamm Road; take Manufactures Road west from US 27 and follow the National Park Service "Special Event" signs. The street address "700 Moccasin Bend Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee" will get you to the immediate area

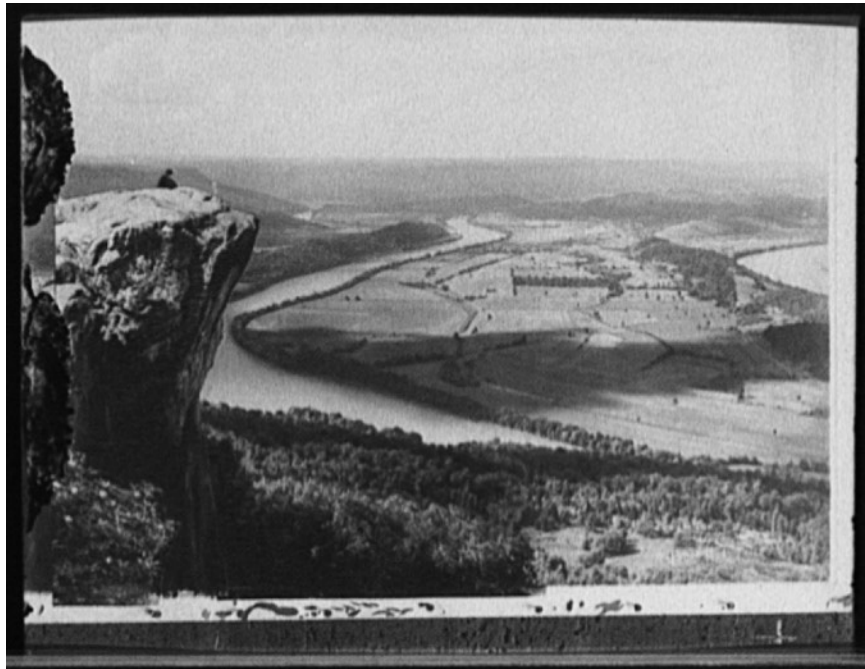
The end of the third week of November, 1863, finally saw the head of William T. Sherman's long awaited column reach Chattanooga. To be in position however for their role in Ulysses S. Grant's planned offensive, they would have to cross the Tennessee River yet again, this time at vital Brown's Ferry.

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Anniversary of the Battles for Chattanooga (From Page 4)

In this two-hour, 1.2 mile round trip walking tour, National Military Park Historian Jim Ogden will address the crossing of Sherman's Army of the Tennessee detachment at Brown's Ferry and how that critical crossing did much to shape what would unfold in the days just before the "day of Thanksgiving and Praise" Abraham Lincoln had called for for November 26, 1863. Comfortable, supportive, wet-weather outdoor footwear (it is likely to be muddy in places) and clothing appropriate for the weather are strongly recommended.

2 p.m. - "Trained to sweep the slope of the mountain." The Moccasin Battery & the Battles for Chattanooga



Moccasin Bend, circa 1880-1910. Detroit Publishing Company. Library of Congress.

Location: Moccasin Bend

Road (approximately 201 Moccasin Bend Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee) just north of the Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute; National Park Service "Special Event" signs beginning along Manufacturers Road just west of US 27 will lead you to the parking area.

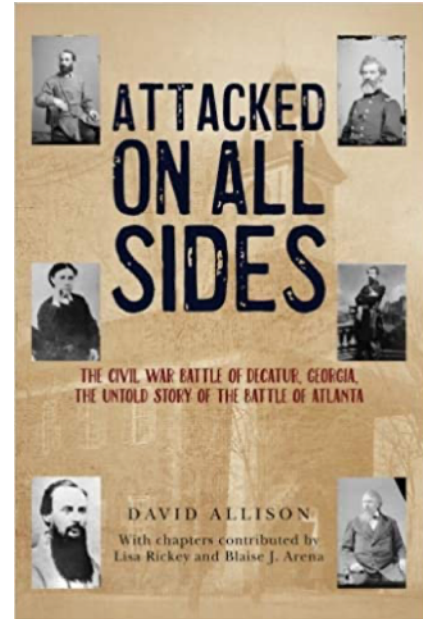
Since late September, 1863, the Union cannon on Stringer's Ridge had helped to keep the Confederates outside Chattanooga at bay. In late October they had helped open the "Cracker Line" into Chattanooga. Now, as Ulysses S. Grant made his plans to attack and drive the Confederates away from the "Gateway to the Deep South," the Federal batteries on Moccasin Bend were tapped to play a role too even though Grant's plan didn't initially include an assault on Lookout Mountain itself. On this near-eve of Grant's offensive, join National Military Park Historian Jim Ogden for a two hour, two mile round trip walk through the Union artillery earthworks on Moccasin Bend to learn what Grant had planned and what the guns contributed. Comfortable, supportive, wet-weather outdoor footwear (it is likely to be muddy in places) and clothing appropriate for the weather are strongly recommended for this up hill and down walk over trails of limited improvement.

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Anniversary of the Battles for Chattanooga (From Page 5)

Join our tour (See Pages 4-5) or schedule a visit to take in the tours and events offered this month for the 158th anniversary of the Battles for Chattanooga. The Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park & Moccasin Bend National Archeological District has many programs planned. They are listed here: <https://www.nps.gov/chch/158thbattlesforchattanooga.htm> and in September's *Battle Lines*, Pages 8-12: <http://www.civilwarroundtableofatlanta.org/2014newsletters/blines202109.pdf>

We will host several tours in the north Georgia area next spring. These will include a tour of Utoy Creek with retired Lt. Col. Perry Bennett, US Army, and of the Decatur battlefield with local author David Allison. The Decatur tour will be co-hosted by the Dekalb History Center. We also hope to add Picketts Mill. So keep watch for news of these tours in forthcoming issues of *Battle Lines*. And if you have a tour in mind or know of an especially talented tour guide you would like to recommend, please contact John Miller at canoe4ever@gmail.com.



John Miller, At Large Executive Committee Second Year

Local Events: Redtop Mountain and Our December Meeting

At Redtop Mountain State Park in Acworth, historians with the Georgia Division Re-enactors Association will set up camp in the vicinity of the Vaughn Cabin on November 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drills and weapons demonstrations will be featured throughout the day and an Iron Pour is scheduled at 5 p.m. The event is included with an Annual or Daily Georgia State Park Pass (\$5 admission per vehicle). The park is located at 50 Lodge Road SE/ Acworth, GA 30102. Call 770-975-0055 for information or visit the website: <https://gastateparks.org/redtopmountain/>

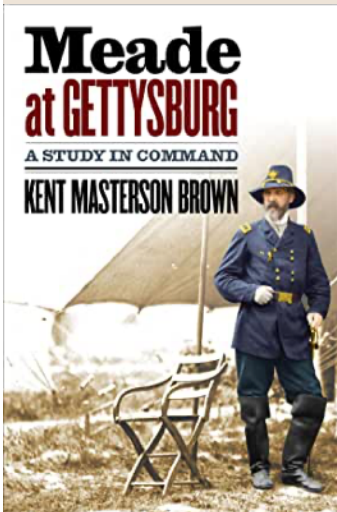
Join us December 14 at the Capital City Club downtown to learn about gunboats on the Hooch and the brown water navy. Our speaker Jeffery Seymour, Director of History and Collections at the National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, has worked as an archivist there since 2004 and he has been the museum historian and curator since 2006. Originally from LaGrange, Georgia, Jeffery also teaches as an adjunct at Columbus State University. Jeffery is a noted speaker. He has delivered videos and talks on C-Span and Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Reading About Meade

Most books about George Gordon Meade evaluate his role at Gettysburg as does Kent Masterson Brown's new *Meade at Gettysburg: A Study in Command*, Chapel Hill, NC, University of North Carolina Press, June 2021. Yet Gettysburg, his most important victory, was

but one of many battles in a long career. Meade produced a book of his own, *The Life and Letters of George Gordon Meade: Major General United States Army, Vol. 1 and 2*, New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1913. Several studies have

followed. Here's a sampling in no particular order: Cleaves, Freeman. *Meade of Gettysburg*, Norman, OK, University of Oklahoma Press, March, 1991; Selby, John G. *Meade: The Price of Command, 1863-1865*. Kent, OH, Kent State University Press. October 16, 2018; *Searching for George Gordon Meade : The Forgotten Victor of Gettysburg*, Mechanicsburg, PA. Stackpole Books. February 1, 2013; *Meade's Headquarters, 1863-1865: Letters of Colonel Theodore Lyman From the Wilderness to Appomattox, Selected and Edited by George R. Agassiz*, Boston, MA, Atlantic Monthly Press, 1922; and the biography *George Gordon Meade and the War in the East*, Abilene, TX. McWhiney Foundation Press, 2003.



Kent Masterson Brown and Vince Dooley at our October Meeting

Meade's Challenges at Gettysburg

Our October speaker Kent Masterson Brown's compelling talk addressed the many challenges faced by Union General George Gordon Meade and his Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg. "Meade inherited an army in terrible shape" and he faced the Confederates with "limited Army intelligence" and maps that were only residential, said Kent. Another problem was an unreliable supply line, which limited food for the men and forage for the horses. Though Meade won the battle, he was unable to "destroy the enemy" as Lincoln hoped he would. Lee's forces successfully retreated.

Atlanta Civil War Round Table

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Carlton Mullis	Immediate Past President

At Large Executive Committee Second Year:

John Miller; Robert Fugate

At Large Executive Committee First Year:

John Ottley; Sy Goodman