



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta

A non-profit 501(c) (3), dedicated to Promoting the Serious Study of the American Civil War

February Meeting

Tuesday, February 8

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

6:45 p.m. Dinner

Reservations Required

Register online at
www.atlantacwrt.org

or mail a check (\$50 per ticket)
to Tim Whalen:
P.O. Box 2355
Griffin, GA 30224
Reservations must be made by 8
p.m. Thursday, February 3

Meeting Location

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

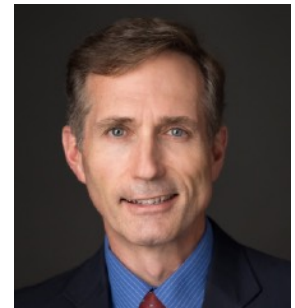
** Masking expected
from the car drop off portico to
the meeting room*

Menu

Salad;
Entrée: breast of quail;
Desert.

The Faith of Civil War Soldiers

Faith and religious practice were profoundly important to the vast majority of Americans and soldiers during the Civil War, but the vital role of religion within the conflict is generally overlooked by scholars and journalists today. Documentary film maker Ken Burns completely ignored the subject in his influential television miniseries, *The Civil War*, in 1990. A popular phenomena, *The Civil War* drew more than 39 million viewers. In its wake, historian Steve Woodworth decided to explore the religious life of the Civil War era. Steve answered Burns' void as far as religion was concerned with *While God Is Marching On: The Religious World of Civil War Soldiers* (2001). For our February meeting, Steve will give witness to this profound motivator for people on both sides of the conflict. At Texas Christian University since 1997, Steve is now a professor of history there. Over the years he has authored, co-authored, or edited more than thirty books, including *While God Is Marching On*, *Manifest Destinies: America's Westward Expansion and the Road to Civil War* (2010), *Nothing but Victory: The Army of the Tennessee, 1861-1865* (2006), and *Jefferson Davis and His Generals: The Failure of Confederate Command in the West* (1990).



Steve Woodworth



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Mary Gay wrote of the Battle of Decatur, subject of one of our upcoming tours, in a memoir.



Silent Auctions for Civil War Art Continue

For our next in-person meeting on Tuesday, February 8, ACWRT will offer another beautifully framed print (30" x 33 1/2," triple matted) for silent auction. Don Troiani's "Thunder on Little Kennesaw," shown above, depicts an Alabama battery defending Kennesaw Mountain. A well-known historical artist, Don went to the actual scene at the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield to take background shots for this carefully researched painting. As a fundraiser for our 501(c)(3) organization, an anonymous benefactor has donated a series of prints depicting Civil War subjects to be auctioned. This is the second Troiani print offered. The remaining prints will be available to the membership through silent auctions prior to our dinner meetings for the 2021-2022 Campaign Year. Please send your bid by e-mail to Treasurer Tim Whalen at whalen315@aol.com. Bids for this print will be taken by Tim through noon on February 8. The proceeds will go into our Round Table coffers. We greatly appreciate this gift from our generous benefactor. Each auctioned print will be on display at the check-in table at the Capitol City Club with the winners' name attached

Atlanta Civil War Round Table Tours

Our exciting round of Battlefield Tours for the 2021-2022 Campaign season continues. A March 5 tour of the Pickett's Mill battlefield in Paulding County is filled but there are some standby slots remaining. Please see our sign up link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084cadab22a31-tour6> for these. Professor Michael Shaffer, Civil War historian, author, newspaper columnist, lecturer, battlefield guide, and instructor at Kennesaw State University and Emory University will lead this free tour of the Pickett's Mill battlefield. We are hosting



Utoy Creek, site of the August 4-7, 1864 Battle: Wikipedia Commons

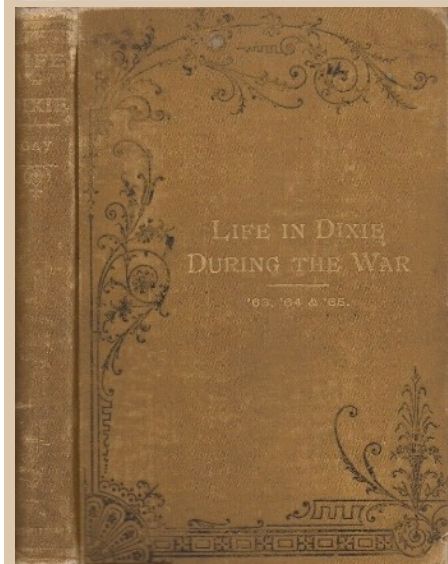
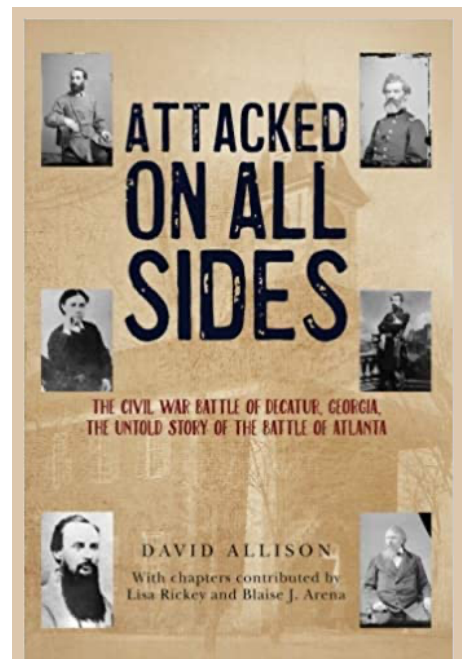
the tour in partnership with the Cobb County Civil War Round Table and the Georgia Battlefields Association. The battle at Pickett's Mill was fought May 27, 1864 as part of General Sherman's attempt to turn the Confederate left flank as Union forces approached the Chattahoochee River.

On April 23 we look forward to joining retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel Perry Bennett for a free tour of the Utoy Creek battlefield. Utoy Creek is located in southwest Atlanta. This bloody battle was fought August 4-7, 1864 as part of General Sherman's attempt to sever the Confederate supply lines at the railroad near current day East Point. This was late in the Atlanta campaign, a month before the decisive Battle of Jonesboro. Registration information will be posted on ACWRT's Facebook page later in February. Please check to sign up: <https://www.facebook.com/Atlanta-Civil-War-Round-Table-107640215948022> Be prepared for walking over uneven terrain and wear appropriate clothing for inclement weather. We will bring our own bag lunches and water to enjoy on the battlefield. There is no cost for the tour but donations to the Georgia Battlefields Association, hosting the tour with us and the CCCWRT, are welcomed.

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Atlanta Civil War Round Table Tours

Six miles west of The Battle of Decatur on July 22, 1864, the more famous battle of Atlanta, later depicted in the Atlanta History Center's Cyclorama, was fought. Perhaps that's why this very significant DeKalb County battle, that launched on what is now the Agnes Scott College campus, has been all but forgotten. We will explore the Decatur battlefield with David Allison, who published the 2018 book *Attacked On All Sides: The Civil War Battle of Decatur, Georgia, the Untold Story of the Battle of Atlanta* for this free tour of the Decatur battlefield, jointly hosted with the Dekalb History Center, the GBA and CCCWRT. On the railroad east of Atlanta, Decatur was important to Sherman's objective of cutting Atlanta off from all rail channels. Georgia writer and Decatur resident Mary Ann Harris Gay (1829-1918) was in town during the battle and wrote about it latter in her book *Life in Dixie During the War*, published in 1892. The book was to prove a significant source for Margaret Mitchell's *Gone With The Wind*, one of the best selling novels of all time. Besides outlining the action of the battle, David will explore the significance of the Battle of Decatur in relation to the combatants who survived and their fates following the war. Many of the Union prisoners wound up at the infamous Andersonville prison. Some of those died later in the Sultana disaster. Be prepared for walking over uneven terrain and wear appropriate clothing for inclement weather. We will enjoy our own bag lunches inside the Old Dekalb County Courthouse. Dekalb History Center Programs Coordinator Marissa Howard will provide a tour of the building and exhibits. Registration information will be posted to the ACWRT Facebook page in late March 2022: <https://www.facebook.com/Atlanta-Civil-War-Round-Table-107640215948022>



We will tour the Decatur Battlefield with David Allison, author of 2018's *Attacked on All Sides*. Earlier, wartime Decatur eye witness Mary Gay wrote *Life in Dixie During the War*.

Civil War Events:

This Weekend: Chickamauga (Dalton) Civil War Show and Sale

Come back! Don't miss the 27th Annual Chickamauga Civil War Show, sponsored by Mike Kent Shows, this weekend—Saturday, January 29 and Sunday, January 30. The show at the Dalton Convention Center will feature 500 tables of authentic Civil War to WWII weapons, memorabilia and artifacts

from the country's top dealers and collectors. On Saturday popular speakers will offer seminars. This is an exciting historical and educational event for the whole family.



Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. Admission for adults is \$10. In Compliance with the Dalton Convention Center and COVID-19 guidelines, the use of masks and social distancing is encouraged. The Dalton Convention Center Address is 2211 Tony Ingle Parkway/ Dalton, GA 30720. For more information visit <http://www.mkshows.com> or call 770-630-7296.

Lectures scheduled for Saturday, January 29:

11 a.m. —Gene Andrews (To be announced)

12 p.m —Brad Butkovich on the topic: “Pickett’s Mill: After the Battle.”

1 p.m. —Col. (Retired) Ed Lowe: “James Longstreet in East Tennessee”

2 p.m. —Greg Biggs: “Red Clay Banners: The Confederate Battle Flags of the Atlanta Campaign.”

Civil War Events:

February 6: The Artillery of Kennesaw Mountain

This free, 30-minute program will take place at the peak of Big Kennesaw Mountain on Sunday, February 6 at 11 a.m. In the summer of 1864, the peak of Kennesaw Mountain was more than just a scenic location. Confederate soldiers used the 1,800 ft vantage point for a light artillery position just before the battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Learn about the men and tactics used at this position and more. This program will be held just below the peak of Kennesaw Mountain, just past stone viewing station. No registration required. See: <https://www.nps.gov/kemo/index.htm>. Park Address: 900 Kennesaw Mountain Dr, Kennesaw, GA 30152.

February 6: Longstreet Society Museum Sunday

Join the Longstreet Society for a rare Sunday open to the public. From noon to 4 p.m., enjoy guided tours or browse the museum on your own. Refreshments and snacks will be offered. This event is free and open to the public. The event will be held at the Longstreet Society: 827 Maple Street/ Gainesville, GA 30501-4435. For more



information call (770) 539-9005 or visit the website <http://www.longstreetsociety.org>.

February 6: Pickett's Mill Battlefield Site Museum Sunday

As part of a statewide promotion of museums throughout the Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites System, The Pickett's Mill Battlefield Historic Site will be open at no charge from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, February 6. For this special event, the museum will feature guest speakers on thematic topics with special exhibits and guided tours. Event telephone: 770-443-7850. Location 4432 Mount Tabor Church Road/ Dallas, GA 30157.

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Civil War Events:

February 13: Kennesaw Park Guided Mountain Top Hike

This one-hour and thirty minute hike will begin at 11 a.m.. Sunday, February 13 at the Visitor Center. The Ranger will take participants up the 1.1-mile trail to the summit of Big Kennesaw. You will be learn about the history of the mountain from before it was known for the Civil War battles that took place there to the present. The climb can be challenging for some so please make sure to bring water and proper footwear. The program is free and open to the public. See: <https://www.nps.gov/kemo/index.htm> Park Address: 900 Kennesaw Mountain Dr, Kennesaw, GA 30152. Telephone: (770) 427-4686

February 27: Kennesaw Park Guided Assault Trail Hike

This one-hour and thirty minute hike will begin at 11 a.m. on Sunday, February 27. Participants will re-trace the footsteps of the Union soldiers who faced fearful odds during the action at Cheatham Hill during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. The ranger will use primary accounts of the battle to get you as close to the attack as possible. This hike will begin at the Activity Area 3 parking lot on Cheatham Hill Rd. and end at the Illinois Monument. This is a moderate - easy 1 mile hike (roundtrip). The program is free and open to the public. See: <https://www.nps.gov/kemo/index.htm> Park Address: 900 Kennesaw Mountain Dr, Kennesaw, GA 30152. Telephone: (770) 427-4686



Illinois Monument at Cheatham Hill

March 19: KSU Civil War Era Symposium

Kennesaw State University's Center for the Study of the Civil War Era will host its 19th Annual Symposium on the topic "History and Memory: A Special Tribute to Bud Robertson and Wiley Sword" on Saturday, March 19 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Featuring historian Brian Wills, former ACWRT President; historian William C. Jack Davis and musician Bobby Horton, the event will be held on campus at the KSU Center/ 3333 Busbee Dr. NW/ Kennesaw, GA 30144. Further information is forthcoming.



The Omicron COVID variant forced us back to Zoom for our meeting last month but we drew an enthusiastic 47 members for a well-paced program analyzing the geographical and logistical factors that enabled Union forces to defeat Atlanta's Confederate defense in 1864. Round Table Board Member Sy Goodman, Regents Professor and Professor of International Affairs and Computing at Georgia Tech, described the overwhelming changes in population that war brought to Georgia and the fledgling city of Atlanta. Union officers, he said, were ultimately wise with their resources and managed to supply and move their troops effectively toward victory.

Florida's Women During the Civil War

We often forget about our neighbor to the south, Florida, and its experience in the War. Tracy Revels hails from the historic town of Madison in the Sunshine State and brings the profound challenges faced on Florida's home front to life in her work. Her 2004 book *Grander in Her Daughters: Florida's Women During the Civil War*,



won the Florida Historical Society's 2005 Rembert Patrick award for the best academic work in Florida history. Currently a professor at of History at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., Tracey also wrote 2016's *Florida's Civil War: Terrible Sacrifices*. Her *Watery Eden: A History of Wakulla Springs*, 2002, looks at the site south of Tallahassee that drew scientific interest as early as 1850. She also wrote 2011's *Sunshine Paradise: A History of Florida Tourism*.

Atlanta Civil War Round Table

Officers and Executive Committee 2021-2022

Mary-Elizabeth Ellard	President
Loran Crabtree	First Vice President
Bill Dodd	Second Vice President
Tim Whalen	Secretary/ Treasurer
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