



# Battle Lines

*Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta*

Founded 1949

February 2012

590th Meeting

Leon McElveen, Editor

## February Meeting

Reservations Are Required

PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR DINNER  
RESERVATION CHECK OF **\$33.00** 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

E-mail and telephone reservations will  
not be accepted

**Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2012**

**Time:** Cocktails: 6:00 pm  
Dinner: 7:00 pm

**Place:** Ansley Golf Club  
196 Montgomery Ferry Road

**Price: \$33.00 per person**

**Program:** Greg Biggs

*How Johnny Got His Gun - The  
Confederate Supply System*

## How Johnny Got His Gun: The Confederate Supply System

It is a popular notion that the industry rich north fought the agricultural and industry-poor south and because of that industry crushed the southern hopes for independence. While some of that is indeed true, the north was heavily industrialized, the south did not lack for industry. Due to massive industrial growth in the 1850s, in Virginia, Georgia and Tennessee, but also northern Alabama, the Confederacy would outrank some European nations in terms of industrial output and eclipse all of them in terms of railroad mileage.

Our program, presented by Greg Biggs, will examine the four major Confederate supply departments; quartermaster, commissary, ordnance and mining and nitre, and detail how efficient most of them actually were despite shortages and sometimes poor leadership. No Confederate army ever lost a battle due to a shortage of supplies or weapons. One true genius, Chief of Ordnance Josiah Gorgas, was the cream of the leadership in the supply system

Greg Biggs is president of the Clarksville CWRT and program chair of the Nashville CWRT. He has written several articles for Civil War publications and has given lectures across the country. He also leads Civil War tours of the Fort Donelson Campaign, the Tullahoma Campaign and the Atlanta Campaign. He is currently writing *Volunteer Banners: The Civil War Flags of Tennessee* for the Tennessee State Museum and has contributed to several other books on Confederate flags.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn of this facet of the Confederate war effort.

## Dr. John Derden in January

John Derden gave an energetic and informative presentation on the Confederate prison, Camp Lawton. He covered not only the wartime history of the camp, but the recent archeological findings by the Georgia Southern group that was allowed to excavate the area. The talk was well received as evidenced by the number of questions. Our thanks to Dr. Derden for a very fine presentation.

**2011 - 2012 Program Preview**

- March 13, 2012**..... Gail Stephens  
*The Race for Washington, Summer 1864*
- April 10, 2012**..... Jeffrey Wert  
*James Longstreet: The Staff in Lee's Right Hand*
- May 8, 2012** ..... Robert Girardi  
*Railroad Defense in the Atlanta Campaign*
- June 12, 2012**..... Stephen Davis  
*What the Yankees Did to Us*

**Upcoming Events**

- February 4 - 5, 2012:** Dalton Civil War Show, Northwest Georgia Trade Center, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road, Dalton. Fee charged. 706.272.7676.
- February 14 - 18, 2012:** Living history and special tours, "Black in Blue," African Americans in the Civil War navies, at the National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus. [www.portcolumbus.org](http://www.portcolumbus.org)
- February 17 - 19, 2012:** 148th anniversary of Battle of Olustee (Ocean Pond) at Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park. For information, [www.battleofolustee.org](http://www.battleofolustee.org)
- February 24 - 26, 2012:** 147th Anniversary of the Battle of Aiken at Confederate Memorial Park, Aiken. Battles both days, bounties, living history, Saturday night dance and artillery night fire, Sunday church services. For information, [www.thebattleofaiken.com](http://www.thebattleofaiken.com).
- March 23 - 24, 2012:** Symposium, "1862: The Path to Freedom," sponsored by the Civil War Center at Kennesaw State. Reception at Southern Museum Friday evening, lectures begin at 9 am in Building 22, Auditorium 1021. Free. [www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera](http://www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera) for more information.

**Activities Committee**

The Activities Committee is working on an outstanding bus field trip of the heartland of the Confederacy with a tour of historic Macon, Clinton, Griswoldville, and Milledgeville for April. We will cover the Civil War history of these important towns and Sherman's March to the Sea thru these areas. Look for information to come out soon for making reservations.

**Message from the President**

We are halfway through the 2011-12 Campaign Year. Things are going exceptionally well, thanks to the members of the Executive Committee and others who share the work – entertaining our speakers while they are in town; making sure we have door prizes; presenting the trivia questions; selecting the winner of the Harwell Award; arranging field trips; emailing notices and *Battle Lines*; handling the reservations; managing the website; taking the photographs; updating the Facebook page (that's so easy I do it); and, of course, keeping the name badges straight.

So far this year we have learned about Kentucky's role in the war, Reconstruction, the cavalry at Chickamauga, the naval battle at Fort Royal, and the prison at Camp Lawton. Coming up are presentations on Confederate supply, Early's 1864 campaign, Longstreet, the defense of the railroads in the Atlanta Campaign, and Sherman's bombardment of Atlanta.

I regularly get emails from people who see my name on the website. I mostly get two kinds of enquiries: (1) How do I join the Round Table and (2) Can I speak to the Round Table. These enquiries are a testament to all the hard work done over the years by a lot of dedicated people.

Most of all, it is strong attendance at the meetings that makes us successful. Your being there makes the Round Table an attractive venue (notice how common that word became when Atlanta hosted the Olympics?) for first rate speakers. Thank you all for your participation.

Gould Hagler  
President

**Officers for the 2011 -2012 Campaign:**

- President** ..... Gould Hagler
- First Vice President** ..... Jack Melton
- Second Vice President** ..... Art Carey
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