



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta

Founded 1949

April 2014

612th Meeting

Leon McElveen, Editor

April Meeting

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

Please mail your reservation check for
\$33.00 per person to:

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

To reach David no later than noon on the
Friday preceding the meeting

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

E-mail / telephone reservations not accepted

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2014
Time: Cocktails:5:30 pm
Dinner:7:00 pm
Place: Capital City Club - Downtown
7 John Portman Blvd.
Price: \$33.00 per person
Program: *The Overland Campaign*
Edward Bonekemper, III

Ed Bearss in March

The one and only Ed Bearss, as expected, played to a packed house at our March Meeting. It was one of the most attended Round Table meeting in our history.

Ed's program on the Myths of Gettysburg highlighted his knowledge of the subject, his amazing memory and his unique presentation style and skill. Thanks Ed.

The Overland Campaign

The Overland Campaign, also known as "Grant's Overland Campaign" and the "Wilderness Campaign", was a series of bloody battles fought in Virginia during May and June 1864. Although Grant suffered severe losses during the campaign, it was a strategic Union victory. It inflicted proportionately higher losses on Lee's army and maneuvered it into a siege at Richmond and Petersburg, Virginia, in just over eight weeks.

Our speaker for April, Ed Bonekemper, is the author of *Ulysses S. Grant: A Victor, Not a Butcher*. In this work Ed which he traces the leadership decisions and of Grant and Lee during the Overland Campaign. Using narrative and statistical analysis, Ed presents the case for Grant being the greatest general of the Civil War and Lee being an general who was more aggressive than the South needed or could afford and who was a Virginian first and a Confederate second.

Ed was an adjunct lecturer in military history at his original alma mater, Muhlenberg College, in Allentown, PA. from 2003 to 2010, where he taught military history on the Civil War, World War II and American Military History. Ed also has an MA from Old Dominion University and a JD from Yale Law School. Since early 2010, Ed has served as the Book Review Editor of the *Civil War News*. He has also written the following books: *McClellan And Failure: A Study Of Civil War Fear, Incompetence And Worse*; *Lincoln And Grant: The Westerners Who Won The Civil War* and *Lincoln And Grant's Teamwork: Keys To Their Civil War Success*.

Be there in April.

Upcoming Programs

May 13, 2014Brad Quinlin
The Atlanta Campaign

June 10, 2014..... James Gindlesperger
The End of the CSS Alabama

Upcoming Events

March 31, 2014: "*Yankee Armorers and the Union War Machine: A Technological Perspective on the American Civil War*", MIT Professor Merritt Roe Smith, Georgia Tech Library, Monday, March 31, 4:00 pm. Open to the public in the Ferst Room on the library's 7th floor. Parking is available. For info contact John Miller at canoe4ever@gmail.com.

April 11 - 13, 2014: Kennesaw State Civil War Center Tour. Corinth and Brice's Crossroads. www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera/

April 12, 2014: Georgia Tech Civil War Symposium - www.hts.gatech.edu/civilwar for information contact John Miller for information canoe4ever@gmail.com No cost for this symposium, but please register.

April 19, 2014: "Trading Space for Time: General Joseph E. Johnston and the Atlanta Campaign". Bandy Heritage Center at Dalton State College battlefield tour on Johnston's inability to halt the Federal advance toward Atlanta. Led by Richard McMurry. For more info.: Brian Hilliard at bhilliar@daltonstate.edu or 706-272-4452.

May 8, 2014: Dr. Adam Mendelsohn, Professor at College of Charleston, *How Jews played an important role in outfitting both Union and Confederate forces*. 2 pm, 1440 Spring Street NW, \$12 admission, (678) 222 - 3700

May 8, 2014: ACWRT Sam Watkins 150th Anniversary Tour of The North Georgia Campaign. led by Tom Cartwright and Ranger Lee White.

May 25, 2014: *Meet the Veterans: Honoring Those Who Served*. Concourse Athletic Club, Sunday, 25 May 2014, from 1 to 5 PM, sponsored by the Atlanta World War II Round Table, in cooperation with various veterans groups and supporters.

Harwell Award

The book committee has chosen *Gettysburg* by Allen Guelzo to be the recipient of the 2014 Richard Barksdale Harwell Award. By all accounts, Allen Guelzo has written a wonderful book and will be our speaker in June of 2015.

Annual Spring Bus Field Trip

Our Spring bus field trip on Saturday, May 3 with Tom Cartwright and Lee White is almost sold out. Only a few seats remain. Price of \$79 includes chartered bus, two guides, maps, lunch, snacks, plus a complimentary copy of Jim Miles' tour book, *Fields Of Glory*. This tour will be for members only. To sign up, send a separate check made out to: CWRT Atlanta for \$79 to David Floyd (address on page 1).

150 Years Ago

9 April 1864: Gen. Grant issues campaign orders to Gen. Meade, "Wherever Lee goes, you will go there." Similar orders are issued to William Tecumseh Sherman

12 April 1864: Battle of Fort Pillow. Nathan Bedford Forrest defeats Federal forces. Following the defeat, Forrest's men kill most of the black occupants of the fort.

17 April 1864: Ulysses S. Grant ends prisoner exchanges with the South. He felt the practice was "...prolonging the conflict"

17 April 1864: Bread riots break out in Savannah, Georgia.

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