



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta

Founded 1949

October 2014

616th Meeting

Leon McElveen, Editor

October Meeting

Reservations Are Required

PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR DINNER
RESERVATION CHECK OF **\$36.00** 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, October 14, 2014

Time: Cocktails: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 7:00 pm

Place: Capital City Club - Downtown
7 John Portman Blvd.

Price: \$36.00 per person

Program: David F. Bastian

***Grant's Canal: The Attempt
to Bypass Vicksburg***

Grant's Canal: The Attempt to Bypass Vicksburg

Our speaker this month Dave Bastian, the author of *Grant's Canal; the Union's Attempt to Bypass Vicksburg*. Tonight's presentation is based upon his book and is about the two Union campaigns against Vicksburg. It focuses on the efforts to divert the Mississippi River away from Vicksburg by digging a canal across the narrow bend opposite the town. Had the Union succeeded, they would have had immediate and complete control of the river by the summer of 1862 and possibly by the winter of 1863. His presentation explores Vicksburg's geographical importance and the topographical characteristics that made it so defensible.

Many of our programs are a new twist on a battle, campaign or leader. This presentation is about a totally new topic; one that historians have really not understood to date. As a civil engineer who lived in Vicksburg, he understands the river and how close the Union came in succeeding. Had they succeeded, Vicksburg would no longer have been an important target. This was an engineering project - diverting the Mighty Mississippi! - an engineering solution to a military problem.

Dave received his degree in civil engineering from Georgia Tech and a masters from Delft University in the Netherlands. He has recently worked on the post-Katrina levee rebuild in New Orleans.

Dave has presented this subject to over eighty round tables and other groups. Be there in October to learn about a facet of the war not often covered.

Gary Gallagher in September

For those that missed the September meeting, you missed a great program. Gary Gallagher is a truly gifted speakers and a historian of the first rank. His talk on the 1864 Shenandoah Campaign was enlightening, as well as entertaining. Hopefully Gary can come back soon. Don't miss him next time.

Upcoming Programs

- November 11, 2014** Dr. Margaret Humphreys
Medical Treatment During the Civil War
- December 9, 2014**..... David B. Thompson
Confederates Piano Music During the Civil War
- January 13, 2015**Thomas Cartwright
General Patrick Cleburne, A Lesson In Leadership
- February 10, 2015**..... Michael K. Shaffer
Camp McDonald: Turning Georgians Into Soldiers
- March 10, 2015** Dr. Wendy H. Venet
Commerce, Conflict, and Civilian Loyalty in Atlanta
- April 14, 2015**.....COL Kevin J. Weddle
The Life of Admiral Samuel Francis Dupont
- May 12, 2015**..... Garry E. Adelman
Five Final Months of the Civil War in Photographs
- RICHARD BARKSDALE HARWELL BOOK AWARD
- June 19, 2015**.....Dr. Allen Guelzo
Gettysburg

Upcoming Events

- October 4 - 5, 2014:** Living history, "Battle of Allatoona Pass Remembered," camps and demonstrations at the Red Top Mountain State Park, 50 Lodge Road, near Cartersville. 10 am-4 pm each day. Candlelight tour Saturday evening. 770-975-0055.
- October 11, 2014:** Talk, "'Kill Every... One of Them,' The Fight Near Dalton," at the Chickamauga NMP. 10 am. Free. nps.gov/chch
- October 11, 2014:** Walking tour, "The Johnnies Make a Dash: Opening the Cracker Line," begins at the Brown's Ferry Federal Road sign on Moccasin Bend Road in Chattanooga. 1:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/chch
- October 18, 2014:** ACWRT Field Trip, 1864 battlefields of New Hope Church, Pickett's Mill, Dallas, and the approach of the armies to the area. Jim Ogden, Keith Bohannon, and Wayne Willingham will guide.
- October 21, 2014:** Atlanta Medical History Society fall meeting, The topic to be discussed is Civil War Medicine, speakers will be Steve Davis, Dr. Thorne Winter. 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Northside Hospital, 980 Johnson Ferry Road

Only a Few Seats Left

Only a handful of seats remain for the Saturday, October 18th field trip to the 1864 battlefields of New Hope Church, Pickett's Mill, Dallas, and the Federal approaches of the armies to the area. We will be led by the best combination of special tour guides in the country for these battles with Round Table favorite Ranger Jim Ogden, professor Dr. Keith Bohannon, and area historian Wayne Willingham. If you haven't reserved your seat yet, now would be the time. Guests are allowed.

150 Years Ago

- 2 October 1864:** Jefferson Davis gives P. G. T. Beauregard command of the Department of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi
- 5 October 1864:** Battle of Allatoona Pass. French's division attacks the Federal garrison and withdraws, failing to capture it.
- 13 October 1864:** Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby robs train near Harpers Ferry, West Virginia
- 17 October 1864:** General James Longstreet resumes command of his corps after suffering a serious wound at The Wilderness
- 19 October 1864:** Battle of Cedar Creek (Belle Grove), Virginia. Last major engagement in the Shenandoah Valley, Jubal Early [CS] defeats Phillip Sheridan [US] in the first of two engagements. During the second engagement, Sheridan arrived and rallied the federals, who easily repulsed Early.

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