



GENERAL ORDERS

Zuckero's Texas Brigade

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Mar 2007

www.houstoncivilwar.com

MEETING – THURS MAR 15, 2007

Briar Park Club
2603 Timmons Lane @ Westheimer

6:00 Cash Bar –
7:00 Dinner & Meeting

CALL: 713-956-8302 or
713-305-5510 by Mon prior
Dinner \$25; lecture only \$3

Make your reservations!

OUR SPEAKER: JERRY DON THOMPSON



Jerry Don Thompson

Jerry Thompson has published over twenty books and monographs on the

Civil War and the history of the Southwest, as well as twenty-eight articles, five book introductions, twenty-three encyclopedia articles, and over one hundred book reviews. His books and publications have received the Barry Goldwater Award from the Arizona Historical Society, the Gaspar Perez de Villagra Award from the Historical Society of New Mexico, the La Bahia Award from the Sons of the Republic of Texas, a Citation from the San Antonio Conservation Society, the A. M. Pate, Jr. Award from the Fort Worth Civil War Round Table, the T. R. Fehrenback Award from the Texas Historical Association, and the Earl Davis Award from Hill College.

Jerry served six years as Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at Texas A&M International University and in 2001 was named Regents Professor by the Texas A&M University System. He received his Bachelors Degree in History from Western New Mexico University, his MA in History from the University of New Mexico and his Doctorate in History from Carnegie Mellon University. His recently published *Civil War to the Bloody End: The Life and Times of Major General Samuel Peter Heintzelman* (Texas A&M University Press, 2006) has been nominated for the Lincoln Prize. His biography of Juan Cortina--*Cortina: Defending the Mexican Name in Texas*--is due out from Texas A&M University Press in 2007.

Thompson is presently working on a book on the Civil War in New Mexico Territory, as well as editing the Civil War letters of Capt.

Manuel Yturri and Capt. Joseph de la Garza.

Jerry's topic will address the biography of General Heintzelman but specifically will focus on Union failures in the 1862 Peninsula Campaign.

PETERSBURG FIELD TRIP ITINERARY from Tony Matt

Thursday, October 25, 2007 – Depart by air to Virginia, check into our hotel, and enjoy dinner.

Friday, October 26, 2007 – Leave hotel at 8 AM for Visitors' Center; travel to City Point; explore Battery #5 (Union attack of 06/15/1864).

Stop for Lunch; tour Ft. Stedman (the last Confederate offensive), Colquitt Salient, Battle of the Crater, Battle of Weldon Railroad, Ft. Wadsworth, and Blandford Church.

Saturday, October 27, 2007 – Depart hotel by 8 AM to cover the action of March 29, 1864 – April 2, 1865; focus on Grant's final campaign, the fall of Petersburg; include the Battle of Lewis Farm, the Battle of White Oak Road, Pamplin Park Visitors Center (such a peaceful and picturesque setting!), the Union breakthrough, the Battle of Five Forks, the action at Ft. Gregg, and the Battle of Sutherland Station.

Sunday, October 28, 2007 – Vacate hotel by 8 AM; explore the Civil War north of the James, the naval attack on Drewry's Bluff, the operations of the Bermuda 100; the Battle of New Market Heights, and the action at Ft. Harrison; conclude at approximately 1 PM for return flight to Houston.

We welcome each of you who want to join us. Be sure to make your \$250 deposit as soon as possible. If you need additional information before signing up, please feel

free to contact me, Tony Matt, at (281) 277-0203 or T94matt@aol.com. My address for your deposit is 15811 Spruce River Ct, Sugar Land, TX 77478.

BOOK RAFFLE by Mike Pierce

Books to be raffled in March are: *Drawn with the Sword* by James M. McPherson, *Ulysses S. Grant* by Josiah Bunting III, and *Brink of Destruction* edited by Randall Bedwell, all three of which are being donated by Jim Godlove; *Portraits of the Civil War* by William C. Davis, donor anonymous; *JEB Stuart* by John Thomason, donated by Karen Stone; *The Traitor President: Jefferson Davis* (VHS format) and *Zouaves!* (VHS format), both from the History Channel and both donated by Bruce Greek; and four (4) assorted Civil War Magazines, donated by Karen Stone.

Raffle tickets are an amazing 50 cents each or eight for only \$3.00. Odds of winning a selection of your choice are quite high, so please participate and help your Round Table's funding requirements!

QUIZ QUESTION by Jim Godlove

In March, 1862, President Lincoln issued "President's General War Order Number 2," which appointed various corps commanders to Gen. George B. McClellan's Army of the Potomac. General Samuel P. Heintzelman was appointed commander of which corps?

TWIGGS SURRENDER RE-ENACTING EVENT by Mike Pierce

Approximately one hundred re-enactors from all over Texas congregated at the Alamo on February 10, 2007 to re-create

the 146th anniversary of this little-known historical event.

Prior to the outbreak of the American Civil War, the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas was the location of a command post for the US Army and a major storehouse for military supplies for the Texas frontier. In February, 1861, Colonel Ben McCulloch (soon promoted to General), who was responsible for an eventual one thousand men of the Texas militia, surrounded this Federal garrison at the Alamo complex and demanded the surrender of its personnel and equipment. After weeks of delaying tactics, the US Army General Twiggs eventually negotiated a surrender of his overwhelmingly outnumbered garrison of 163 men, who were allowed to evacuate Texas without bloodshed. However, all of the military supplies and equipment were turned over intact to the new and still peaceful Texas government. The bombardment of Ft. Sumter commenced just a few short weeks later in April, 1861, ushering in the “shootin’ phase” of the war.

The ever-fascinating aspect of this relatively minor confrontation is that had General Twiggs resisted, the “shootin’ phase” of the war would have begun two months earlier than it actually did. In that case, we would all have had yet another reason to “Remember the Alamo!” Twiggs’s surrender is commemorated during most years in February at the Alamo.



Twiggs’s Surrender Re-Enactors

Mike would like to credit Edward Jablonski, Civil War historian and re-enactor, with contributing this article to enrich our knowledge of this engagement.

MADISONVILLE RE-ENACTOR NEWS by *Mike Pierce*

On February 11 Civil War re-enactors gathered for the event in Madisonville, Texas. The occasion was marked by infantry, cannon, and gunnery at Lake Madison Park. The Civil War engagement was deemed the battle for El Camino Real and came to life within just feet of an excited crowd. And though there was not actually a battle of El Camino Real in the Civil War, the re-enactors of this event prided themselves on providing a “period-correct” battle that day, all the way down to the uniforms and munitions of the period.



Civil War Re-Enactors in Action

An Update on the Museum of the Confederacy by *Lynda Crist*

The Museum of the Confederacy has undergone a detailed study over the past several years in regard to declining visitation and decreased financial revenues. The results from the analysis were released last fall and are available on the Museum’s website at @ www.moc.org.

The Museum's trustees determined that the White House of the Confederacy would retain its current location and the Museum's collections would be relocated. At present, the Museum is in the midst of discussions regarding several potential sites wherein its various collections could be relocated.

The possibility exists that the museum will be renamed. As of this point in time, there has not been a decision to rename the museum. Any decision that is made will be dependent on the new location.

RECENT DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ROUND TABLE by *Mike Pierce* and/FUND RAISING IDEAS by *Charlie Mitchell*

Mike Pierce would like fellow Round Tablers to know that our group is the recent recipient of extraordinary largesse by MaryJo Carter, widow of Joseph D. Carter, of three boxes full of Civil War books, magazines, and pamphlets.

We are very grateful to MaryJo for her thoughtful gift to our membership, and we encourage all of our members to follow her example in making donations to provide learning opportunities for current and future followers of the history of this period.

Mike and his wife Linda and Charlie Mitchell have expressed the desire to know if our Round Tablers have an interest in establishing a Civil War book and souvenir store or in lieu of this perhaps a raffle sell-off of as many as 500 civil war magazines in Charlie's possession at the present time.

Is there interest in supporting a Civil War Bookstore or Raffle? You tell us! Feel free to contact Mike, mpierce1@houston.rr.com and Charlie, cdmoggie@sbcglobal.net with

your ideas and or contributions to the project.

HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE – 34TH ANNUAL TEXAS HERITAGE MUSEUM, HILL COLLEGE SYMPOSIUM by *Karen Stone*

Attention all Round Tablers!

The 34th Annual Texas Heritage Museum Symposium is scheduled for **Saturday, March 31, 2007**. Keynote speaker is Dr. Thomas Cutrer.

The program commences at 8:00 AM and dismissal is anticipated at approximately 3:45 PM. A total of four speakers will present topics dealing with the Hood Texas Brigade theme during the day's events.

Cost for the seminar is \$25 plus \$5 for lunch in the college cafeteria. Both must be paid for at the time of registration. The museum will be open during this time. A book show and exhibits by other vendors will be available for your enjoyment and enrichment.

Mail your registration information to: Texas Heritage Museum, Hill College, Re: THM Symposium, P. O. Box 619, Hillsboro, TX 76645. For more information, kindly call the Texas Heritage Museum at (245) 582-2555, Ext. 391.

CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST RESCUES 1,300 ACRES OF HALLOWED GROUND IN 2006 by *Karen Stone*

The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), with 70,000 members, is the largest

nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission, to preserve our country's remaining Civil War battlefields, has resulted in the saving of more than 23,500 acres of hallowed ground nationwide.

In 2006, the organization permanently protected 1,329 acres of hallowed ground at sixteen different Civil War battlefields in nine states. Overall, the CWPT has protected 26,652 acres of core battlefield at ninety-six sites in eighteen states. Membership information regarding the CWPT is available on their website at www.civilwar.org.

Topping the list of 2006 accomplishments for the organization is the two hundred and eight acre **Slaughter Pen Farm in Spotsylvania County, VA.** With a \$12 million price tag, the property associated with the December 13, 1862 Battle of Fredericksburg is the single most expensive battlefield preservation effort in American history.

According to the President of the CWPT, Jim Lighthizer, Slaughterhouse Pen Farm is considered to be the spot where the Battle of Fredericksburg was won and lost. He has stated that five Medals of Honor were awarded for valor shown on this property.

Second in importance of 2006 contributions by the CWPT is the clearing of the way to acquire the remaining **seventy-six acres of the Chancellorsville First Day Battlefield.** In 2004, the organization was able to acquire one hundred forty acres of the First Day Battlefield east of historic Lick Run.

Thirdly, the CWPT saw the achievement of its efforts, along with those of other national and regional preservation groups, toward the **defeat of the proposed five thousand slots casino near East Cavalry Field at Gettysburg.**

And finally, the organization achieved fruition of its conservation efforts during the year of the following sites: 6.5 acres at Mine Creek in Kansas, 1 acre at Munfordville and 54 acres at Perryville in Kentucky, 58 acres at Champion Hill in Mississippi, 70 acres at Wilson's Creek in Missouri, 299 acres at Bentonville in North Carolina, 105 acres at Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, 8 acres at Fort Donelson in Tennessee, and, in Virginia, 8 acres at Brandy Station; 74 acres at Chancellorsville; 208 acres at Fredericksburg; 1 acre at the John Meigs death site in Rockingham County; 200 acres at Port Republic; 6 acres at Second Deep Bottom; and 170 acres at Trevilian Station, followed by 59 acres at Shepherdstown in West Virginia. **WOW!**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Houston Civil War Round Table is dedicated to the study of the civilian, military, and cultural aspects of United States history during the period of 1861 – 1865 and to the preservation of historical sites and artifacts.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone No _____

Email Address _____

Mail To: **Houston Civil War Round Table**
P. O. Box 4215
Houston, TX 77210-4215

NEW MEMBER

\$40 – Individual joining in Apr – Dec
\$20 – Individual Joining in Jan – Mar
\$45 – Family joining in Apr – Dec
\$22 – Family joining in Jan – Mar
\$15 – Student or Out-of-State

RENEWAL

\$40 – Individual
\$45 – Family
\$15 – Student or Out-of-State

**The very First Festival of
Ozark Civil War Heritage
Reunion: Battle of Pea Ridge
(Elkhorn Tavern) is Scheduled
for June 6 – 10, 2007 in Pea
Ridge, Arkansas!**

This upcoming event is sponsored by the Pea Ridge National Military Park Foundation and will feature various noteworthy events during the festivities. Among these are genealogical research workshops, presentations by noted


historians, a starlight symphony concert, arts and crafts bazaars, a heritage banquet, and other celebratory events.

Email for more information at PRNMPfestival@yahoo.com or call Gary Morris at (479) 636-7301. The cost to participate is nominal.

**HCWRT SPEAKERS
2006 – 2007 CAMPAIGN**

**Apr 19
May 17**

**Jamie Gillium
Anne Bailey**



**HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
P. O. Box 4215
Houston, TX 77210-4215**