



General Orders

Lewis's Texas Brigade

Vol. 21,
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Dec,
2009

www.houstoncivilwar.com

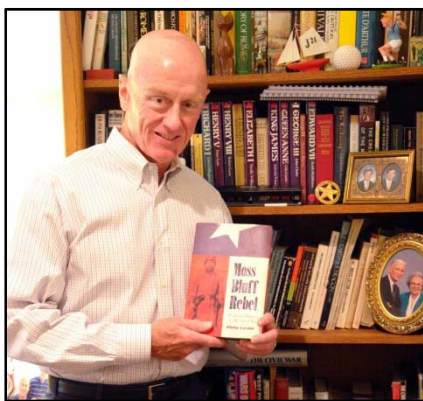
MEETING – THURS, Dec 17, 2009

Briar Club
2603 Timmons Lane @ Westheimer
6:00 Cash Bar
7:00 Dinner & Meeting

E-Mail drzuckero@sbcglobal.net
OR call him at (281) 479-1232 to Reserve
by Monday 6 PM Prior to Dec 17
Dinner \$30; Lecture Only \$5
E-Mail Reservation is Preferred;
You Do Need to Reserve for Lecture Only!

PHILIP CAUDILL PRESENTS: *FRONTIER INTEGRITY AT GRIGSBY'S BLUFF*

*A Snapshot in the Life of Texas Pioneer
Cattleman and Confederate Cavalry Captain
William Berry Duncan*



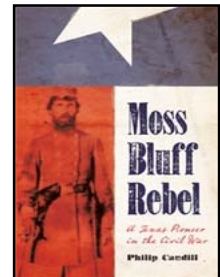
Philip Caudill

Our speaker Philip Caudill's new book, *Moss Bluff Rebel: A Texas Pioneer in the Civil War*, an historical biography, chronicles the life of a previously unknown Texas Cattle drover, sher-

iff, and Civil War Confederate cavalry officer, William Berry Duncan of Liberty County. Caudill's rich account—culled from Duncan's personal and business diaries and letters—paints a picture of everyday life for the Anglo-Texans who settled the Mexican land grants and subsequently became citizens of the proudly independent Texas Republic.

"Phil Caudill paints a vivid portrait of William Berry Duncan's fascinating life," said Gregg Cantrell, the Lowe Chair in Texas History at Texas Christian University. "Moreover, he gives us one of the best glimpses yet of life on the Civil War home front in Texas."

M. Hunter Hayes, general editor of the Sam Rayburn Series on Rural Life, said *Moss Bluff Rebel* "combines meticulous research and an adroit sense of narrative to portray Duncan's life in all its complexity. Philip Caudill's skill as a writer—his astute command of historical detail as well as his gifts for engrossing readers in a compelling narrative—further expand our understanding of this tumultuous period and its impact in and beyond Texas."



Ralph A. Wooster, Distinguished Professor of History at Lamar University and noted Texas Civil War historian, states that "In *Moss Bluff Rebel*, Philip Caudill skillfully traces the life and times of William Berry Duncan, Liberty County clerk, sheriff, cattleman, entrepreneur and Confederate soldier. Fully utilizing primary sources, especially Duncan's diaries, and secondary accounts, Caudill describes Duncan's experiences as a captain in Spaight's battalion in Civil War action in southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana...the author is a diligent researcher, forceful writer—and coincidentally, an entertaining public speaker—and readers will enjoy this

spirited narrative about a reluctant rebel in the Civil War and Reconstruction.”

The book’s abstract, five reviews, the first chapter, and sidebars to each chapter may be found at www.mossbluffrebel.org.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Philip Caudill took a sabbatical in 2002 from an international career in marketing and journalism to study American history. During his post-graduate study, Caudill discovered a collection of diaries and personal papers of a previously unknown Texas pioneer cattleman and wrote a new biography of the Republic of Texas veteran, county sheriff, and reluctant Confederate cavalry officer from Liberty County.

Philip began his career as a radio sports reporter and television news anchor while an undergraduate student at the University of Oklahoma. He joined an Oklahoma City advertising and public relations agency before accepting a position in media relations with Phillips Petroleum Company in 1975. Named director of public affairs in 1978 for Philips Petroleum Company Europe-Africa in London, he returned to the United States in 1985 to lead advertising and business promotion for all business units of Philips Petroleum Company. He joined Price Waterhouse in 1992 as managing director of marketing in its World Energy Group and was recruited in 1998 to Texas Children’s Hospital Integrated Delivery System in Houston as Vice-President, Marketing and Public Affairs. He was in independent business development before returning to graduate school and writing *Moss Bluff Rebel*.

Holding Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Journalism from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Arts degree in History from Sam Houston State University, he was named a Distinguished Alumnus of Oklahoma’s Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communications in 1986 and is a current member of the College’s Board of Visitors. He and his wife live in the Woodlands, north of Houston.

Join us on December 17th as we accompany our speaker in a spirited discussion of life on

the Texas frontier during the Civil War era while we listen, learn, and be entertained by the story of William Berry Duncan. Join us for dinner if you like, or simply reserve seating in the lecture only section for a nominal \$5 fee (see the Announcement Box on Page 1 for details). You are most welcome to join us, and do bring along a guest!

GETTYSBURG FALL FIELD TRIP PHOTOS by NORMAN LEWIS



Past Presidents Marsha Franty & Bill Pannill with Guide Ed Bearss on Cemetery Hill



Texas State Monument, east of Emmitsburg Rd.



Lincoln Monument—National Military Cemetery



Maple Fall Foliage—Evergreen Cemetery



Tony Matt, Field Trip Chair, & Past President Don Zuckero "at the Ready!"



The Dunkelman (Coster Avenue) Mural at the Site of Kuhn's Brickyard, East Cemetery Hill

DECEMBER BOOK RAFFLE by **DONNIE STOWE**

This month, for your reading pleasure, the HCWRT book raffle begins with *Galveston*, by P. G. Nagle (the author of *Glorieta Pass*), followed by *Lincoln's Loyalists—Union Soldiers*

from the Confederacy by Richard Nelson Current, donated by our own Jim Godlove. We also have a novel donation (sorry for the pun), *Jacob's Ladder* by Donald McCaig, donated by Karen Stone (a sequel is now available if you liked this book). As a finish for the regular raffle we offer *Brother Against Brother*, a *Time-Life Books History of the Civil War*, donated by Norman Lewis.

As I promised last month, and just in the nick of time for Christmas, our **special December raffle** offering is Shelby Foote's three volume trilogy of ***The Civil War: A Narrative***, donated by Elsie Ekholm, wife of our deceased member, Edwin L. Ekholm.

Thanks for your continuing support of our book raffle, and a Merry Christmas to all!



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT PETERSBURG AND FIVE FORKS

The Petersburg National Battlefield recently opened a new \$3 million visitors center at the Five Forks Battlefield. This addition will, it is felt, significantly expand the facility's capacity to tell the story of one of the pivotal battles of the Civil War.

The new 2,400 square-foot center, unveiled by the National Park Service on October 3, 2009, offers much more exhibit space than the previous center, as well as a new 8-mile trail system that allows visitors a chance to tour the battlefield by foot, bicycle, or horse.

The facility is the result of a decades-long effort to build a facility of this magnitude, and it required the National Park Service to expend its efforts in this direction over a period of 9 years.

Chris Calkins, former Chief of Interpretation at Petersburg National Battlefield, and now Park Manager of Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park, deserves much of the credit as the

primary force behind the plans to make the new Five Forks Visitors Center a reality.



Battle of Five Forks Visitors Center



A Portion of the 8-mile Nature Trail

The Battle of Five Forks is often referred to as the “Waterloo of the Confederacy” and occurred on April 1, 1865, when Union troops under Gen. Philip Sheridan attacked Confederate soldiers led by Gen. George Pickett. Gen. Robert E. Lee had ordered Pickett to “Hold Five Forks at all hazards.” This pivotal area was all that was left between Union troops and the South Side Railroad, Petersburg’s remaining supply line. Eight days later, Lee surrendered his entire army to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, and the Civil War was over. For Americans today, the Battle of Five Forks symbolizes the end of that long and bitter four-year struggle as Appomattox does the beginning of the push toward peace, reconciliation and recovery.

**HCWRT SPEAKERS
2009 – 2010
CAMPAIGN**

Dec 17	Philip Caudill
Jan 21	Ed Cotham
Feb 18	Dick Sommers
Mar 18	Patrick Falci
Apr 15	Tony Banzhaf
May 20	TBA

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 _____

How did you Hear About us? _____

Email Address _____

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

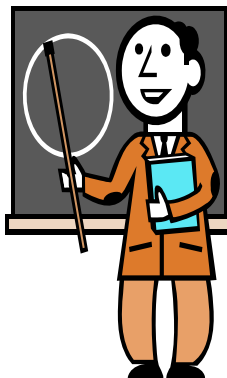
NEW MEMBER

\$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

DECEMBER QUIZ QUESTION by Jim Godlove



The brigade in which Captain Duncan served took part in a battle at Stirling’s Plantation on Sept 29, 1863.

In which state did this fight occur?

CIVIL WAR PHOTO OF THE MONTH by *Karen Stone*

December's recipient of the recognition for this photography falls to Mike Pierce for his snapshot of a solitary reenactor standing guard over a single piece of Gettysburg cannonry. I chose it because of the intriguing contrast between the sharpness of the images mid-range as compared to the muted colors of sky and treeline in the background.

Thank you, Mike!



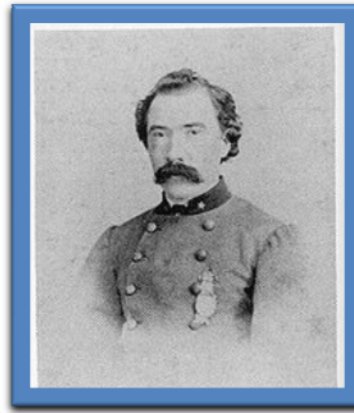
Gettysburg Reenactor and Cannonry

If you have a favorite Civil War period photo to share with your fellow Round Tablers, just email the jpeg file of your selection to your editor, and I will choose one submitted photo for each issue of future newsletters.

FOLLOW-UP ON THE FRIENDS OF SABINE PASS BATTLEGROUND

Ed Cotham has just published his quarterly *Sabine Pass Beacon*, the newsletter of the *Friends of Sabine Pass Battleground*, and we are pleased to share with those of you not yet subscribing members some of the progress made by FSPB in 2009.

For starters, the organization now has some 200 members, and Ed tells us that Charter Membership is still open to those signing on before December 31, 2009 and that those so



doing will be listed in the first issue of the newsletter in 2010. The organization has supported a Park Day event and successfully recruited new workgroups to improve visitor facilities at the battleground.

Unfortunately bad weather forced the cancellation of the Dick Dowling (see above photo) Days event last September, but plans are in full swing for the event to be offered again in 2010, and anticipation is that the commemoration will be fully supported by the FSPB and the general public.

So, do mark your calendars for the planned activities scheduled for September, 2010 to honor Dick Dowling and the SP Battleground. Bring along family and friends to view the newly restored monument to Dowling, the anticipated new interpretive panels, historic markers, and other celebratory events planned for the day.

QUOTATIONS RELATIVE TO THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Abraham Lincoln: "With malice toward none; with charity for all: with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

March 4, 1865

Second Inaugural Address

Col. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain: "In great deeds, something abides. On great fields something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear, but spirits linger, to consecrate ground for the vision-place of souls. And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know

not of, heart-drawn to see where and by whom great things were suffered and done for them, shall come to this deathless field to ponder and dream; And lo! The shadow of a mighty presence shall wrap them in its bosom, and the power of the vision pass into their souls.”

October 3, 1889
Monument to the 20th Maine
Gettysburg, PA

Lt. Gen. Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson: “General,” I remarked, “How is it that you can keep so cool and appear so utterly insensible to danger in such a storm of shell and bullets as rained about you when your hand was hit?” He instantly became grave and reverential in his manner, and answered, in a low tone of great earnestness: ‘Captain, my religious belief teaches me to feel as safe in battle as in bed. God has fixed the time for my death. I do not concern myself about that, but to be always ready, no matter when it may overtake me.’ He added, after a pause, looking me full in the face. ‘That is the way all men should live, and then all would be equally brave.’

Jackson to Capt. John Imboden,
Stonewall Jackson and the

American Civil War, G. F. R.
Henderson, Vol 1, p 163

Frederick Douglass: “Viewing the man from the genuine abolitionist ground, Mr. Lincoln seemed cold, tardy, weak, and unequal to the task. But, viewing him from the sentiments of his people, which as a statesman he was bound to respect, then his actions were swift, bold, radical, and decisive. Taking the man in the whole, balancing the tremendous magnitude of the situation, and the necessary means to ends, Infinite Wisdom has rarely sent a man into the world more perfectly suited to his mission than Abraham Lincoln.”

April 16, 1876, *Life and Times of Frederick Douglas*, p. 485

Gov. Sam Houston: “Let me tell you what is coming. After the sacrifice of countless millions of treasure and hundreds of thousands of lives you may win Southern independence, but I doubt it...when they [northerners]...move in a given direction, they move with the steady momentum and perseverance of a mighty avalanche.”

1860, on Impending Civil War
Unrest and Dissent



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