



General Orders

Barnes' Texas Brigade

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Sept.
2012

www.houstoncivilwar.com

SEPTEMBER 2012 MEETING
Thursday, September 20, 2012

The HESS Club
5430 Westheimer Rd @ Westheimer Way
6:00 Cash Bar
7:00 Dinner & Meeting

E-Mail Reservation is Preferred;
at drzuckero@sbcglobal.net
or call **Don Zuckero at (281) 479-1232**
by 6 PM on Monday Sept. 17, 2012
Dinner \$28; Lecture Only \$10

Note: Reservations are required for Lecture Only!

HCWRT MOVES TO HESS

The HESS Club is our new home.
Dinner Costs Reduced!!!

By David Rains



GOOD NEWS, we are moving our meeting location from The Briar Club to The HESS (Houston Engineering and Scientific Society) Club, which will result in a LOWER dinner cost of \$28.00 from the \$33.00 charged at The Briar Club. The HCWRT

organization has actually been subsidizing about \$1.00 per meal, and The Briar Club proposed a 20% increase for next year, which the board did not consider acceptable.

The HESS Club is also located in the Galleria area between Chimney Rock and Yorktown at 5430 Westheimer Road. The mailing address 5430 Westheimer Road but the club is actually located on the southwest corner of Westheimer Way and

Westheimer Court. Traveling west on Westheimer from Loop 610, turn right on Westheimer Way and the club is located a block north on the left. Covered parking is available by turning left into the underground parking garage about ½ block north of Westheimer.



The HESS Club – Our new meeting location.

At HESS, we had a choice of a sit-down, served dinner or a buffet. The board elected to try the buffet option, which will offer a salad bar, a choice of two entrees, vegetables and a dessert table. If most members prefer the served dinner we can revert back to that option later.

The non-diner charge is a little more at HESS so the board has elected to charge \$10, in part to encourage more dining which will better support our new venue and to also offer the opportunity for more interaction between members.

Our President John Barnes and former Vice-President Donnie Stowe have slated an excellent group of speakers for the new campaign – the September speaker is Brian Steel Wills with the topic to be that very intriguing Confederate Cavalry General, Nathan Bedford Forrest. Please come and join us in our new home!!

For more information about the HESS Club visit them on the web at www.HESSClub.com or go to the HCWRT Meetings web page at: <http://www.HoustonCivilWar.com/meetings.shtml>.

Please see the MAP on the back page....

THE HCWRT PRESENTS

Brian S. Wills, Ph.D.

Speaking on

Cavalryman Nathan Bedford Forrest



The Houston Civil War Round Table is pleased to present Dr. Brian Wills to Houston. He will be sharing his thoughts on Nathan Bedford Forrest's command to "Charge Them Both Ways!" at Parker's Crossroads.

In December 1862, Confederate forces under Brigadier General Nathan Bedford Forrest launched a cavalry raid against Union lines of supply and communication in western Tennessee. Advancing from a river crossing at Clifton, the expedition reached the vicinity of Jackson before turning northward and capturing men and supplies at various points along the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Near Union City, the column shifted southeastward through the Obion River bottoms as the gray-clad cavalymen strove to complete the circuit through the region.

Union troops began to converge on Forrest's 1,800 raiders with the intent of capturing or dispersing them before they could recross the Tennessee River to safety at Clifton, Tennessee. Astride Forrest's path was a command under Union Col. Cyrus L. Dunham, while closing from the rear was another under Col. John W. Fuller. The Confederates encountered Dunham's bluecoats in the area of Parker's Crossroads or Red Mound, on December 30.

Forrest succeeded in driving the Federals before him with well-placed artillery fire and Dunham took up a position behind the crossroads that he anchored largely along a split rail-fence on his front. Except for an ill-advised attack by Lt. Col. T.A. Napier that failed to dislodge the Union troops from their position and cost that officer his life, Forrest's plan to employ his artillery seemed to be unfolding as he expected. Repulsing Union counterattacks and turning the wooden rails into shards that pelted the defenders, Forrest also moved portions of his command so as to threaten the Union supply wagons and surround his antagonists. White flags began to appear in the Union ranks when the Southern horse-holders who had been left in the rear came racing past.

Upon investigating the situation, Forrest learned that the second Union force under Fuller had indeed materialized. With the dramatic injunction, "Charge them both ways," the Confederate commander sought to hold the enemy forces in place while he extracted his men from the trap. Although he avoided becoming squeezed between the opposing commands, Forrest lost some 300 of his dismounted men captured in addition to 60 men killed and wounded. Union losses in the fighting amounted to 237, many of whom had become casualties in the opening phases of the engagement.

The Federals held the field and recaptured some of the equipment and cannon they had lost earlier in the day, but Bedford Forrest never considered Parker's Crossroads a setback or defeat. He had lived to fight another day and in a strategic sense accomplished a great deal. His West Tennessee Raid, coupled with another under Earl Van Dorn against the forward Union supply base at Holly Springs, thwarted Ulysses S. Grant's initial overland effort against the Confederate Mississippi River stronghold of Vicksburg.

HCWRT Annual Dues Increase

Because of increased travel costs associated with our visiting speakers, the board of directors voted to raise annual dues by \$5 – hence your current annual dues to cover the period from September 1, 2012 to September 1, 2013 is \$45.00 for individuals and \$50 for the family membership. The board feels this is a fair assessment, as dues have not been increased since at least 2004.

Renewals and New Members (Joining before Jan. 1, 2013)

Individual	--	\$45.00
Family	--	\$50.00
Student	--	\$20.00

Discounted - New Members (Joining on or after Jan. 1, 2013)

Individual	--	\$23.00
Family	--	\$25.00

Please either give your check to Barry Brueggerman at the meeting or mail your check to:

HCWRT
P.O. Box 4215
Houston, TX 77210-4215

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By John Barnes

Dear HCWRT Members:

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and are ready to embark on a new campaign season in our new home at The HESS Club!

Our former Vice President Donnie Stowe and our new Vice President Nate Jennings have slated an excellent group of speakers for the new campaign. This month, it is Brian Steel Wills addressing the perennially intriguing and enigmatic figure of Confederate Cavalry General Nathan Bedford Forrest.

We will also embark on our first "off-site" meeting in November when we will be meeting at the offices of our Van Diver award winner John Nau to see his fabulous collection of Civil War memorabilia. There will be more details to follow in a future newsletter.

But for now, please come and join us in our new home – The HESS Club!

John Barnes ...

About Our Speaker - Dr. Wills



Brian Steel Wills is the Director of the Civil War Center and Professor of History at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia, after a long tenure at the University of Virginia's College at Wise. He is the author of numerous works relating to the American Civil War, including a new biography - George Henry Thomas: As True

as Steel.

His other titles include: A Battle From the Start: The Life of Nathan Bedford Forrest. (Reprinted as The Confederacy's Greatest Cavalryman: Nathan Bedford Forrest.) This work was chosen as both a History Book Club selection and a Book of the Month Club selection. He also authored, The War in Southeastern Virginia, released in October 2001, and No Ordinary College: A History of The University of Virginia's College at Wise, (2004), both by the University Press of Virginia. Gone with the Glory: The Civil War in Cinema appeared in 2006 with

Rowman and Littlefield. An updated edition of the James I. "Bud" Robertson, Jr., Civil War Sites in Virginia (UVA Press, 2011) has appeared just in time for the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War.

In 2000, Dr. Wills received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the state of Virginia, one of eleven recipients from all faculty members at public and private institutions across the state. He was named Kenneth Asbury Professor of History and won both the Teaching Award and the Research and Publication award from UVA-Wise

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera/staff.shtml>

SEPTEMBER BOOK RAFFLE

By Donnie Stowe



I hope everyone had a wonderful summer break. For our September meeting the HCWRT book raffle begins with **THE BLOODY CRUCIBLE OF COURAGE – Fighting Methods and Combat Experience of the Civil War**, by Brent Nosworthy. Number two in the raffle is **THE CIVIL WAR SOCIETY'S ENCYCLOPEDIA of the CIVIL WAR**. This book gives the reader a complete & comprehensive guide to the American Civil War. In the third spot in this month's raffle is **CIVIL WAR MEDICINE - Challenges and Triumphs** by Alfred Jay Bollet, M.D. and donated by donated by Jim Godlove. The fourth and final selection is **THE CIVIL WAR – Battlefields and Campgrounds in the Art of Winslow Homer** by Julian Grossman.

Members are encouraged to donate some of your well read books or a small monetary donation for purchase of books to continue a valuable support to the HCWRT Raffle.

SEPTEMBER QUIZ

By Jim Godlove

On Feb. 16, 1862, Nathan Bedford Forrest angrily announced to his command: "Boys, these people are talking about surrendering, and I am going out of this place before they do or bust hell wide open."



From what place did Forrest lead his men?

DECEASED MEMBERS

[OUR NEW MEETING LOCATION](#)

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the following members of the Round Table who have passed this year:

- Bruce Greek
- Charles Mitchell
- Grant Woodard
- Harold "Ric" Ricards

The HESS Club

5430 Westheimer Rd @ Westheimer Way
Between Chimney Rock and Yorktown



Houston Civil War Round Table
P. O. Box 4215
Houston, TX 77210-4215

