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General Orders

Chandler's Texas Brigade

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2015

OCTOBER 2015 MEETING
Thursday, October 15, 2015

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 Oct 12, 2015
Dinner \$30; Lecture Only \$10

*** **Reservations are Required** ***
FOR BOTH DINNER and LECTURE ONLY

The HCWRT Presents
Richard McCaslin
Speaking on:

***Lost Cause Legacy:
Rip Ford and the Rio Grande
Expeditionary Force***

Most Texans who know anything about John S. "Rip" Ford, if they remember him at all, will focus on his victory at Palmito Ranch, the last battle of the Civil War, or perhaps his career as a Texas Ranger. But a closer look at all the phases of his career will reveal a much richer story about him and Texas, especially during the Civil War. During the Republic period, he was a doctor, lawyer, surveyor, soldier, newspaperman, and the Congressman who introduced the resolution to annex Texas to the United States. Before the Civil War he added mayor, explorer, Army officer, and Mexican general to his resume, as well as Texas Ranger. He served as a Confederate colonel and Texas brigadier general during the

war, and afterward was again a Mexican general, mayor of a Texas town, legislator, bureaucrat, and even a historian. Known for his courage and toughness as a military commander, Ford was also a talented strategist, diplomat, and community leader. Few took greater advantage of the opportunities Texas offered in the nineteenth century, and certainly few had a greater impact. The Houston Civil War Round Table welcomes back Dr. Richard McCaslin to paint the full picture of this famous Texan.

About Richard McCaslin



Richard B. McCaslin, chair of the Department of History at the University of North Texas, is the author or editor of sixteen books. *Tainted Breeze: The Great Hanging at Gainesville, Texas, October 1862* earned the Tullis Prize from the Texas State Historical Association (TSHA). *At the Heart of Texas: One Hundred Years of the Texas State Historical Association, 1897-1997* received the Award of Merit from the Texas Philosophical Society. *Lee in the Shadow of Washington* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and won the Laney Prize from the Austin Civil War Round Table and Slatten Award from the Virginia Historical Society. *Portraits of Conflict: A Photographic History of Tennessee during the Civil War* earned the

Freeman Award from the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. Most recently, **Fighting Stock: John S. "Rip" Ford in Texas** won the Pate Award from the Fort Worth Civil War Round Table and the Bates Award from the TSHA. A Fellow of the TSHA and an Admiral in the Texas Navy, he also received a McWhiney Award of Merit from the Dallas Civil War Round Table and a Jefferson Davis Gold Medal from the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

COMMANDER'S CORNER
By Gary Chandler



Dear HCWRT Members:

After our summer break, we embarked on a new campaign season in September with **Dick Sommers'** excellent talk on the rarely-examined but fierce First Battle of Darbytown Road. This kickoff presentation of our campaign took us to the Eastern Theater of the war. For the entire 2015-16 campaign, our lineup continues with an outstanding group of speakers and, taken together, an array of topics covering all theaters of war (Eastern, Western, and Trans-Mississippi), military and socio-cultural themes, army and navy, Confederate and Union, battles and leaders, as well as, combatants and the home front. With the recent conclusion of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, we also want to bridge to the war's aftermath and today's perspectives.

We strive to find Texas connections with our speakers and topics where it makes sense, and I am pleased that we can look forward to four

Texas talks: --now in October, **Rick McCaslin** on Rip Ford and the Lost Cause Legacy; --in November, **Rick Eiserman** with a fascinating story of a Texas soldier named Joe Joskins; --in December, **Andrew Hall** on the Texas naval Blockade; --and jumping ahead to February, **Charles Grear** on why Texans fought for either side. Before that, in January the incomparable **Ed Bearss** will take us to the Western Theater to discuss Perryville and the Kentucky Campaign. In March, focusing on the wider Trans-Mississippi Theater beyond Texas, **Gary Joiner** will examine Union naval operations in the Red River Campaign. We will complete the 2015-16 campaign with two speakers who will examine the Civil War in memory and changing perspectives since the war and to the present: --in April, **Caroline Janney** will explore remembrance of the war, reunion, and reconciliation; --and, in May, **Sam Hood** will navigate the Lost Papers of John Bell Hood. So, we hope you will mark your calendars to join us for these varied, interesting presentations. You'll find a more detailed speakers schedule at the back of this newsletter.

OCTOBER QUIZ
By Jim Godlove



This month's quiz question should be easy for members of the Houston Round Table.

John S. Ford was born in South Carolina and immigrated to Texas in 1836. He had a varied career in Texas as a soldier, physician, legislator, Texas Ranger and a newspaper editor. Answer the following 3 questions:

- A. What was John S. Ford's nickname?**
- B. What did that nickname stand for?**
- C. In what event did he acquire that nickname?**

2015 Field Trip "On to Atlanta" By Barry Brueggeman

There is still room on the Atlanta trip. The purpose of our Fall Field Trip this year will be to investigate the 1864 Atlanta Campaign. Dr. Brian Steel Wills gave us a very informative lecture in September on the campaign, and we will be fortunate to have him as our tour guide this fall. Dr. Wills is Director of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era and Professor of History at Kennesaw State University.

Thursday, Oct. 29: Leave Houston IAH on Mesa (United) Airlines at 9:15 a.m., arriving in Atlanta at 12:19 p.m. We will lunch on the way to Kennesaw before visiting the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History in Kennesaw. After closing the museum, we will have dinner in Kennesaw followed by a lecture by Dr. Wills at the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State University. Our hotel for the entire trip will be the Comfort Inn in Kennesaw.

Friday, Oct. 30: Breakfast for this day and all others is included at the hotel. After leaving the hotel at 8:00 am we will visit Ringgold Gap, Rocky Face Ridge, Dalton and Dug Gap. After lunch we will visit Snake Creek Gap, Resaca, Kingston, Cassville, and Allatoona Pass. We will return to the hotel at 5:00 pm and have dinner in Kennesaw.

Saturday, Oct. 31: We will visit Pickett's Mill and New Hope Church. After lunch we will tour Dallas, Pine Mountain, Gilgal Church, and Kolb's Farm. We will return to the hotel at 4:30 pm and have dinner again in Kennesaw.

Sunday, Nov. 1: We will visit the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield, including Visitor Center, Big Kennesaw, and Pigeon Hill. After lunch we will tour the staging area for Cheatham Hill, the Union attack route, and the Confederate defenses. The latter part of the afternoon will be spent in Marietta where we will also have dinner.

Monday, Nov. 2: We will depart the hotel at 9:45 am and travel to the Atlanta History Center. Our flight is at 4:45 p.m., and we arrive back at Houston IAH at 6:05 p.m.

The basic cost of the trip will be \$1400 per person for double-occupancy and \$1600 for single-occupancy, but additional costs may be incurred due to the imminent nature of the trip. If you make your own travel arrangements, the tour cost will be reduced. Call Barry Brueggeman at 281-480-1130 or email him at bgbrueg@aol.com immediately if you are interested in participating. The final deadline will be the meeting on October 15.

Hood's Texas Brigade Assn. To Sponsor November 13-14 Annual Civil War Symposium

Hood's Texas Brigade Association, Re-activated (HTBAR) will convene its **8th Annual Civil War Symposium** in Huntsville, TX, November 13-14, 2015. The location will be Walker Education Center, Sam Houston Memorial Museum. The theme will be "**Duty Faithfully**

Performed": The Long Road Home. HTBAR will have an exciting line-up of speakers. HTBAR President Martha Hartzog said that the phrase "Duty faithfully performed" comes from Robert E. Lee's General Order No. 9, his farewell address to his troops at Appomattox. Gen. Lee told the men they could return to their homes and would take with them "the satisfaction that proceeds from the consciousness of duty faithfully performed." Hartzog added, "Come and join us as we follow them on their last campaigns and the Long Road Home." Featured speakers include: **Richard McCaslin**, speaking on "The Last Extremity: The Texas Brigade from Petersburg to Appomattox"; **Rick Eiserman**, speaking on "The Long Road Home", showcasing the Diary of A.B. Green and an innovative website on the journeys home of Texans; **Charles Grear**, speaking on "The Enemy's Lines to Break Thru Hood's Texas Brigade at the Battle of Chickamauga"; **Brian Jordan**, discussing the emotional wounds of soldiers returning from the war; and **Ariel "Allie" Kelley**, reporting on a special doctoral research project.

Friday's evening Reception is \$30, and Saturday's seminar, including lunch, is \$60. Send check payable to HTBAR to Charleen Mullenweg, Treasurer, 406 Oat Meadow Drive, Pflugerville, TX 78660 (phone 512-300-7567 for more information).

OCTOBER BOOK RAFFLE

By Donnie Stowe



It was great to see such a good crowd at our first meeting of the new campaign. This month the HCWRT book raffle begins with **LAST CHANCE for VICTORY –**

Robert E. Lee and The Gettysburg Campaign, by Scott Bowden & Bill Ward. This book won the 2001 Douglas Southall Freeman History Award. Number two in the raffle is **JEFFERSON DAVIS** by Clement Eaton and is a First Edition copy. Our third book this month is **AMERICAN SCOUNDREL – The Life of the Notorious Civil War General Dan Sickles** by Thomas Keneally, who some of you may note is the author of Schindler's List. I apologize for not identifying the donors for these books, but my recorded notes are not available. The next volume is **THE WAR FOR THE UNION (Vol. 1)** by Allan Nevins. My last book this month is **THE CIVIL WAR – A Treasury of Art and Literature** Edited by Stephen W. Sears.

I want to thank all members for their support in supplying the books and materials for this raffle.

THE HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE 2015 - 2016 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

- Oct. 15, 2015 - Richard McCaslin – *“Lost Cause Legacy: Rip Ford and the Rio Grande Expeditionary Force”*
- Nov. 19, 2015 - Rick Eiserman – *“Will the Real Private Joe Joskins Please Step Forward?”*
- Dec. 10, 2015 - Andrew Hall – *“Civil War Blockade Running on the Texas Coast”*
- Jan. 21, 2016 - Edwin C. Bearss – *“The Kentucky Campaign and the Battle of Perryville”*
- Feb. 18, 2016 - Charles Grear – *“In Defense of My Native State—Why Texans Fought”*
- Mar. 17, 2016 - Gary Joiner – *“Union Naval Operations in the Red River Campaign”*
- Apr. 21, 2016 - Caroline Janney – *“Remembering the Civil War: Reunion and the Limits of Reconciliation”*
- May 19, 2016 - Stephen M. Sam Hood – *“The Lost Papers of General John Bell Hood”*

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