



General Orders

Harrington's Brigade

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Nov.
2018

www.houstoncivilwar.com

NOVEMBER 15, 2018 MEETING
Thursday, November 15, 2018

The HESS Club
5430 Westheimer Rd @ Westheimer Way
6:00 Cash Bar
6:45 Dinner & Meeting
7:30 Program Begins

E-mail Reservation is Preferred;
E-mail Don Zuckero at drzuckero@sbcglobal.net,
or call (281) 479-1232 by 6 pm Monday, November
12, 2018
Dinner \$32; Lecture Only \$10

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

Hood accomplished both of these tasks in the month and a half he spent defending the city. At our November meeting, Dr. Davis will argue this is more than Johnston would have done, had he remained in command.

In the end, Hood had to abandon Atlanta when Sherman with 60,000 troops swept far to the south of the city and cut the last railroad supplying Hood's army -- a fate that similarly forced Robert E. Lee to abandon Richmond seven months later.

True enough, Hood gave up Atlanta. However, as Dr. Davis will explain, he believes that Hood did his utmost to save Atlanta, and that Hood therefore deserves more credit for this performance than traditional Civil War history has accorded him.

The HCWRT Presents

Stephen Davis

Speaking On:

***“General John B. Hood’s Efforts to
Defend Atlanta, July 18 – September
2, 1864”***

Lt. Gen. John Bell Hood was appointed commander of the Army of Tennessee on July 17, 1864, replacing Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, who had allowed General Sherman's armies to get within five miles of Atlanta. Confederate Secretary of War James Seddon charged Hood with two tasks: to seek advantageous opportunity for battle with the enemy, and to send his cavalry raiding into the enemy's rear in hopes of obstructing his railroad supply lines.



Dr. Stephen Davis

About Stephen Davis

Steve has been a Civil War buff since the 4th grade. He attended Emory University, and studied under the renowned Civil War historian Bell Wiley. After earning a Master's degree in American History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he taught high school for a few years, then earned his Ph.D. at Emory, where he concentrated on the theme of the Civil War in Southern literature.

He served as Book Review Editor for *Blue & Gray Magazine* from 1984 to 2005, and is the author of more than a hundred articles in such scholarly and popular publications as *Civil War Times Illustrated* and the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*.

Steve is the author of several books on the Atlanta Campaign: *Atlanta Will Fall: Sherman, Joe Johnston and the Heavy Yankee Battalions* (2001), and *What the Yankees Did to Us: Sherman's Bombardment and Wrecking of Atlanta* (2012). In May 2016, Savas Beatie published his paperback, *A Long and Bloody Task: The Atlanta Campaign from Dalton through Kennesaw Mountain to the Chattahoochee, May 5 - July 18, 1864*. His companion volume is being released this spring: *All the Fighting They Want: The Atlanta Campaign from Peach Tree Creek to the Surrender of the City, July 18 - September 2, 1864*.

In 2015, Dr. Davis served as a speaker and consultant for the television documentary, "When Georgia Howled: Sherman on the March," a joint production of the Atlanta History Center and Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Steve is also a popular speaker among Civil War Round Tables and historical societies around the country. His favorite event was when he was invited to speak to the annual meeting of the American Civil War Round Table (UK) in London. His talks around the country have sometimes been broadcast on C-SPAN.

Steve's next book, tentatively titled *Spurs Without Greatness: A Study of John B. Hood's Generalship in 1864*, will be published by Savas Beatie.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Mike Harrington

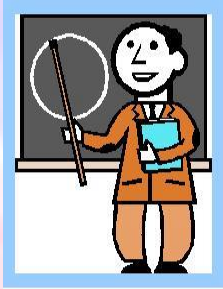
We are off to a good start this campaign. At our October meeting, Professor Peter Carmichael of Gettysburg College presented a lively overview of the Civil War experience of the so-called common soldier, Johnny Reb and Billy Yank – an overview that challenges traditional interpretations of why and how men fought in the war. At our November meeting, we'll hear from Steve Davis on General John Bell Hood's efforts during the summer of 1864 to save Atlanta from General Sherman's invading armies. Steve is a published expert on the fight for Atlanta. Also, those of you who read *The Civil War News* will recognize Steve as the author of a peppy regular column on Civil War books and related topics. Steve is a gifted writer, and he also has the reputation of being an engaging speaker, so you'll not want to miss his presentation.

As a "gentle reminder", our November meeting will take place on Thursday the 15th, a week earlier than we usually gather.



NOVEMBER QUIZ

By Jim Godlove



Who did John Bell Hood replace in July, 1864 and what command did he assume?

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Scott Wilkey

The Membership Committee is proud to welcome two of our newest members **Gary Henderson** and **David LaCook**, who have joined the HCWRT for the 2018 - 2019 "Campaign". When you see them at our meetings, please introduce yourself - we enjoy meeting new friends who have the same appreciation of history!

This year's campaign features a large number of speakers whose topics will focus on the Western and Trans-Mississippi theater of the war. This will be pleasing to many of our members as there has been quite a bit of feedback over the years asking our Programs Committee to focus on this "overshadowed" area in Civil War history. Our speaker this month, Stephen Davis, is sure to be a hit with our members. As you read in our feature, his topic will concentrate on General John Bell Hood's defense of Atlanta. I first had the opportunity to hear Dr. Davis speak while attending an out of town seminar. In fact, while I do not travel very often, I find myself looking to see if my travel plans might allow me to attend a Civil War Round Table discussion while I'm away. This has allowed me to listen to a variety of speakers and meet many interesting people along the way. No doubt many of you have done the same. Our [Facebook](#) page is a great forum to keep up

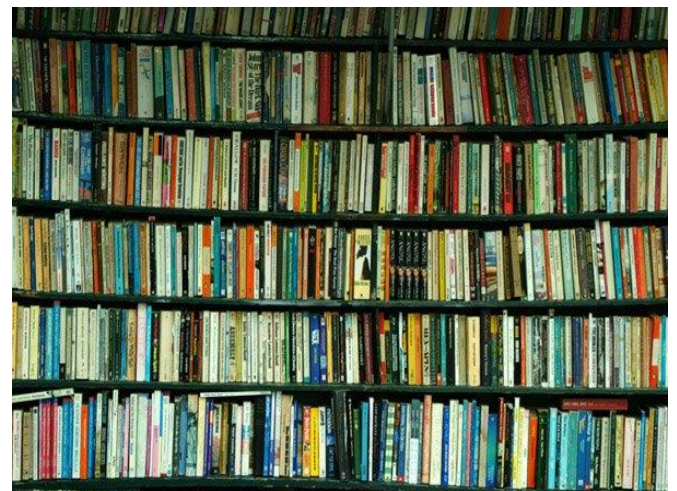
with local Round Tables and get updates on past and upcoming speakers.

If your journeys do happen to allow for the opportunity to attend a seminar or round table meeting you found interesting, please share it with us on social media – we'd love to hear about it! We'll see you in November!

BOOK RAFFLE

By Donnie Stowe

Hope everyone is recovering from the Astros loss, but I bet we'll be back! Now on to this Month's raffle. I'm starting off with another beautiful selection from the library of Norm Lewis and it is **The CIVIL WAR and AMERICAN ART** by Eleanor Jones Harvey who was the senior curator at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. The second selection is **CHANCELLORSVILLE** by Stephen W. Sears. The third book comes from my own collection and is **MIGHTY STONEWALL** by Frank E. Vandiver (where have I heard that name before?). The fourth selection is also from Norm Lewis and it is **QUEEN of the CONFEDERACY – The Innocent Deceits of Lucy Holcombe Pickens** by Elizabeth Wittenmyer Lewis. For this month's final raffle item I am offering a group of various Civil War magazines.



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

THE HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

2018 - 2019 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

- Nov. 15, 2018 Stephen Davis: *“General John B. Hood’s Efforts to Defend Atlanta, July 18 – Sept. 2, 1864”*
- Dec. 13, 2018 Kevin Weddle: *“Samuel Francis Dupont – Lincoln’s Tragic Admiral”*
- Jan. 17, 2019 Edwin C. Bearss: *“Brice’s Crossroads and Tupelo – Summer 1864”*
- Feb. 21, 2019 Catherine Clinton: *“Stepdaughters of History: Southern Women and the Civil War”*
- Mar. 21, 2019 Lorien Foote: *“The Sternest Feature of War: Retaliation in the Trans-Mississippi”*
- Apr. 18, 2019 John Fazio: *“Intrepid Mariners”*
- May 16, 2019 To Be Determined - holding for 2019 Vandiver Award Recipient

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Houston Civil War Round Table
c/o Barry G. Brueggeman
3706 Lonnie Wood Drive
Houston, TX 77059

