



# General Orders

## Harrington's Brigade

Vol. 30  
No. 9  
April  
2019

**APRIL, 2019 MEETING**  
**Thursday, April 18, 2019**

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 Barry Brueggeman at [bgbrueg@aol.com](mailto:bgbrueg@aol.com) or  
call (281) 480-1130 by 6 pm Monday, April 15,  
2019

**Dinner \$32; Lecture Only \$10**

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

Winslow pursued his former friend and the *Alabama* for 14 months before cornering him off the coast of Cherbourg, France, where the two ships fought to the death. Their last view of each other and the action taken by Winslow in consequence of it is the stuff of legend. The story is not only history; it is supreme literature.

### About John Fazio

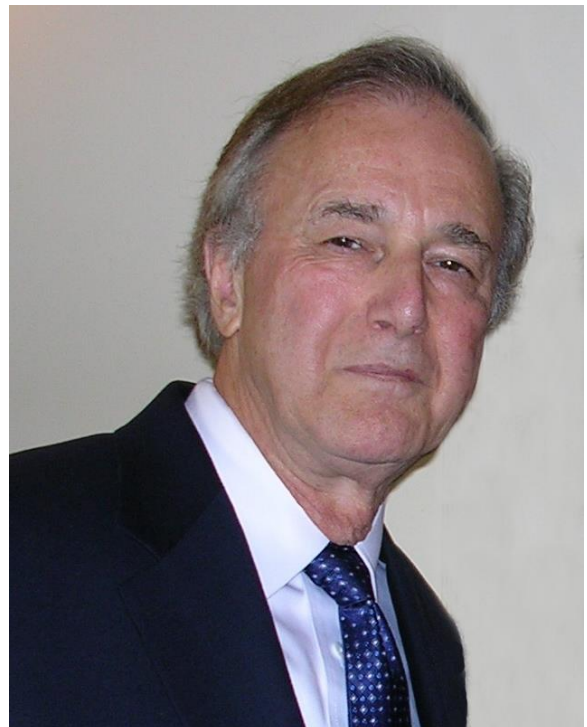
John C. Fazio holds a B.A. and J.D. from Case Western University in Cleveland. He now lives in Fairlawn (an Akron suburb) with his wife, Mary, who is retired after a career in public relations. Between them, they have seven children, all of whom have left the nest. John joined Mary in retirement in 2015 after practicing law for fifty years.

### The HCWRT Presents John Fazio Speaking On:

#### *"Intrepid Mariners"*

John Fazio discusses the saga of the only major battle between ocean-going vessels in the Civil War. John A. Winslow and Raphael Semmes had become best friends while serving together during the Mexican War. During that engagement, these men were friends and comrades-in-arms, serving aboard the *USS Cumberland* and the *USS Rantan*. They were messmates and shared the same stateroom and wardroom.

However, during the Civil War, Semmes captained the *CSS Sumter* and the *CSS Alabama* and became the scourge of Federal commercial shipping, sinking or capturing 85 merchant ships and one Union warship. As Captain of the *USS Kearsarge*,



*John Fazio*

He is a student of history, with an emphasis on European and American history and with an even greater emphasis on the most defining event in American history, the Civil War. Mr. Fazio is a member of the Cleveland Civil War Round Table and has served as its president. He is also a member of the Lincoln Forum, the Surratt Society, the Cleveland Grays and the Western Reserve Historical Society.

Mr. Fazio teaches Civil War history at Chautauqua Institution, frequently speaks on the war and other subjects before Round Tables and other groups, and has written and published numerous articles on the war and other subjects. In addition, he has written *Decapitating the Union: Jefferson Davis, Judah Benjamin and the Plot to Assassinate Lincoln* after five years of research and writing. Copies are available from Amazon.com, from other on-line booksellers, from some bookstores, and certainly from the publisher (Morris Gilbert Publishing Company, P. O. Box 13701, Akron, Ohio, 44333).



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** *By Mike Harrington*

If you were at our March meeting, you heard Dr. Lorien Foote of Texas A&M unpack the military doctrine or protocol of “retaliation,” especially as practiced in the Trans-Mississippi Theater of the war. My sense is that the topic was new to the great bulk of our members. (I, for sure, had little understanding of the protocol or its

significance.) Dr. Foote not only explained the protocol in some detail, she made the explanation interesting. The applause she heard at the conclusion of her talk was genuinely congratulatory and not perfunctory.

At our April meeting, we will hear John Fazio speak about several notable figures in the war on blue water, which is yet another example of the wide variety of topics related to the Civil War that our Round Table works hard to present to our members at our monthly meetings.

As I've said to our members more than once, if there's a Civil War topic that you think we should take up through one of our speakers, please let Gary Chandler or me hear from you. If you miss us at a meeting, you may email us through the Houston Civil War Round Table website.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** *By Scott Wilkey*

With the arrival of spring, and the rapid approach of the familiar Texas sweltering summer months, it seems fitting that the HCWRT gets “back on the water”. I make this poor excuse for a pun because I'm personally excited to once again take a break from land-based battles and highlight some of the lesser known actions of the U.S. and C.S. naval forces.

The American Civil War was fought in hundreds of places and fought by persons who lived in every part of our then-rapidly expanding country. Many are surprised during their research as to just how far abroad Union and Confederate forces met in conflict. This month's speaker, John Fazio, will enlighten us on just one such example when he presents, “Intrepid Mariners”. This is the story of the epic journey of the *CSS Alabama* and her fateful meeting with the *USS Kearsarge*. It is a tale full of drama and irony, and reads like Hollywood fiction if it weren't all too true. I wouldn't want to steal Mr. Fazio's thunder by revealing too much of the story to those who aren't familiar with the details (or spoil possible Jim Godlove quiz questions), but the countries of Great Britain and France have a prominent role in the history of these vessels and how these brave sailors met their fate. The *CSS*

Alabama even has a connection to a place closer to Houston!

On another note, you'll find our membership application included within this newsletter. Please use it to update us on any changes to your mailing address, phone number(s), or e-mail address. We'd LOVE IT if you'd forward the application to your friends, co-workers, and family so that they can also join us for our monthly meetings. It's also never too late to start sending in your dues payment for next year's "campaign". Your membership dues are the ONLY reason we are able to bring such high-quality speakers before you month after month, year after year. Your dues cover travel and lodging expenses, but that is all. Without your generosity, we could not afford this arrangement. It's also one more thing to mark off your busy (and never-ending) "to-do" list. We look forward to seeing you again in April!

## BOOK RAFFLE By Donnie Stowe

We start this month's raffle with **THE CIVIL WAR (COMPACT EDITION) VICKSBURG TO APPOMATTOX** edited by William C. Davis and Bell I. Wiley. This little treasure comes from our former member and quiz champion – Dr. Joe Goulding. Next in our lineup is **A BATTLEFIELD ATLAS OF THE CIVIL WAR** by Craig L. Symonds. Mr. Symonds personalized this edition

for Norm Lewis and we have Norm Lewis's estate to thank for this volume. The third book this month is **THE DEEP WATERS OF THE PROUD – Vol 1 The Imperiled Union: 1861-1865** by William C.

Davis. The fourth selection is **GETTYSBURG – Culp's Hill & Cemetery Hill** by Harry W. Pfanz and is a donation from our quiz master/Past President, James Godlove. The final book this month is **FORGOTTEN VALOR -The Memoirs, Journals, & Civil War Letters of Orlando B. Willcox** edited by Robert Garth Scott.

If any members are conducting some spring-cleaning of their bookshelves, please remember

that the HCWRT raffle is always here to help accept any Civil War books that you may no longer wish to keep.

## APRIL QUIZ By Jim Godlove

Q. One of the most "Intrepid Mariners" of the Civil War was Raphael Semmes. He had served in the U.S. Navy pre-war, but cast his lot with the South when the Civil War began. Semmes became the captain of the first Confederate commerce raider.



What was the name of that ship?

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE By Jim Godlove

On behalf of this year's Nominating Committee, I would like to present the following slate of Officers and Board Members for the 2019-2020 campaign:

President:	Mike Harrington
Vice-President:	Eugene Boisaubin
Secretary:	John Stevens
Treasurer:	Barry Brueggeman
Directors:	Keith Altavilla Roland Bienvenu Scott Wilkey Don Zuckero
Past President:	Jim Godlove

All of the above individuals have been active members of our Round Table. We appreciate their willingness to continue to serve.

Pursuant to the HCWRT bylaws, these names will be formally presented to the membership at this month's meeting. The general membership

will vote on the slate of nominees at the May meeting, at which time nominations may be made from the floor.

## VANDIVER AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

*By Bobby Dover*

Under the Houston Civil War Round Table's Bylaws, the Vandiver Award Selection Committee is comprised of five members. The Vice-President serves as the Committee Chairman and the Secretary is a member of the Committee and conducts the balloting and tabulating procedure. The other three members are chosen by the Committee Chairman.

The members of this year's committee were:

Bobby Dover – Vice President

John Stevens – Secretary

Gary Chandler – At-large committee member

Jim Godlove – At-large committee member

Keith Altavilla – At-large committee member

Each committee member was assigned a candidate for research and prepared a written report for presentation at the second Selection Committee meeting held on January 19, 2019. Each member presented his report on the candidate he was assigned. Following each report, there was a discussion regarding the merits of each candidate. A vote was taken in accordance with the balloting procedure set forth in our Bylaws. After the votes were tallied by Secretary John Stevens and verified by the Chair and Gary Chandler, it was determined that **A. Wilson Greene had been selected as the recipient of the Frank E. Vandiver Award of Merit for the HCWRT 2018 – 2019 Campaign.** Upon being notified of this award by President Harrington and Gary Chandler, Mr. Greene graciously accepted the award, indicating he will be at our May 16, 2019 meeting to personally accept this prestigious award. **Mr. Greene will also address our membership on the topic "Our Work Here Progresses Slowly: Grant's Second Offensive at Petersburg."**

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their diligence and hard work and express my appreciation to the HCWRT for the trust placed in me to serve as Chairman of the

Selection Committee and for the pleasure of serving in this capacity.

## HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE ASSOCIATION, RE-ACTIVATED BATTLEFIELD TOUR

The Hood's Texas Brigade Association, Re-Activated (HTBAR) is sponsoring a battlefield tour on **June 4 – 7, 2019** entitled "**Lee's Campaigns into the North: In the Footsteps of the Brave.**"

The headquarters hotel for this tour will be the Hampton Inn in Chambersburg, PA, where Lee and his Texans camped before turning east toward Gettysburg. A block of rooms is being held for the tour group at the hotel. The cost will be \$595.00, which includes four dinners and three lunches. HTBAR also indicates that special rates are available if you are only available for only one or two days. Attendees will be responsible for travel expenses to the hotel.

HTBAR promises that this tour will not involve as much strenuous walking as previous tours!

A stellar line-up of tour guides/presenters will include:

**Dennis Frye** – Retired Chief Historian at Harper's Ferry

**Ken Masterson Brown** – President of Witnessing History

**Wayne Motts** – CEO of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, PA

**Susannah Ural** – University of Southern Mississippi

**Rick Eiserman** – Historian, HTBAR

Spaces are limited, so act promptly to make your reservations. A \$100.00 deposit to hold your place is due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact HTBAR President Martha Hartzog at either [m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu) or by calling (512) 431-2682.





## HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE 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. For additional copies of this form please go to [www.HoustonCivilWar.com](http://www.HoustonCivilWar.com)

### Membership Type

(CHECK ONE BOX ONLY.)

- \$50 – Individual
- \$60 – Family
- \$25 – Student/Faculty or Out-of-Town
- Existing Member - Address / Information Update Only

**JOINING BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND MAY 31**

**NON-RENEWING** members joining in the months of January through May will automatically be enrolled as members for the current and following year's speaker series ("campaign").

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Cell  Home  Work

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

In which format would you like to receive your newsletter?

- Email (PDF)  U.S. Postal Service (Printed)

How did you learn about us? \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY

Family Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Cell  Home  Work

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** For memberships or subscriptions outside the U.S., extra cost of postage to mail the newsletter may be added. Cost will vary; please write or email to inquire.

Mail your completed application and dues to: **Houston Civil War Round Table**  
C/O Barry G. Brueggeman  
3706 Lonnie Wood Drive  
Houston, TX 77059

## 2018 - 2019 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

Apr. 18, 2019 John Fazio: *“Intrepid Mariners”*  
May 16, 2019 A. Wilson Greene, 2019 Vandiver Award Recipient: *“Our Work Here Progresses Slowly: Grant’s Second Offensive at Petersburg”*

[www.HoustonCivilWar.com](http://www.HoustonCivilWar.com)



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