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General Orders

Harrington's Brigade

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2019

NOVEMBER, 2019 MEETING
Thursday, November 21, 2019

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

E-mail reservations are preferred. Please E-mail Don Zuckero at drzuckero@sbcglobal.net or call 281 479-1232 by 6 pm Monday, November 18, 2019

Dinner \$32.00, Lecture only \$10.00

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

The HCWRT Presents

Steve Davis Speaking on:

“George Barnard: Photographer of Civil War Atlanta”

Matthew Brady, Alexander Gardner, and Timothy O’Sullivan are famous for having made iconic photographs in the Civil War’s eastern theater. George Barnard deserves to be ranked in this top tier for his photographic work in the war’s western theater.

Born into a farming family in Coventry, Connecticut in 1819, Barnard grew up with relatives in a nearby town and apprenticed at various jobs in family-owned businesses. After marrying in 1843, Barnard moved to Oswego, New York where he was briefly in the hotel business before turning to photography.

Barnard was one of the first in the U. S. to use daguerreotype, the first commercially available form of photography. In 1864, he was hired by General William T. Sherman’s chief engineer to take photographs of fortifications around Atlanta. Barnard took several hundred of them in and around the city.

Steve Davis is the author of a new book, *100 Significant Civil War Photographs – Atlanta Campaign*, which features Barnard’s work. The book (128 pages, \$20.00 paperback) will be available for purchase at our meeting.

Steve will share with our membership a selection of some of the photos from this book, using a PowerPoint presentation. He will explain why he regards these photos as “significant.” Steve can also be counted on to point out some of the subtleties or obscure aspects of the photos that have been overlooked by earlier Civil War scholars but contribute to our understanding of the subject of each photo.



Steve Davis

About Steve Davis

We are privileged to welcome back to HCWRT our speaker for November, Dr. Stephen Davis.

A Civil War enthusiast since elementary school, Steve attended Emory University in Atlanta as an undergraduate. After earning a Master's degree in American History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Steve taught high school for a few years. He then returned to Emory for his Ph.D., where he studied under the renowned Civil War historian Bell Wiley and concentrated on the theme of the Civil War in Southern literature.

Steve served as Book Review Editor for *Blue & Gray* Magazine from 1984 to 2005, and in recent years he has served in the same role for *The Civil War News*. Steve also writes a regular column, "Critic's Corner," for *The Civil War News*.

A prolific writer, Steve has authored more than a hundred articles for Civil War magazines and historical journals such as *Civil War Times Illustrated* and the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*.

Steve is also a popular speaker among Civil War Round Tables and historical societies around the country. Some of his talks have been broadcast on C-SPAN. Steve indicates that addressing the annual meeting of the American Civil War Round Table (UK) in London several years ago ranks as the highlight of his many speaking engagements.

Nobody among active Civil War historians knows more about the Atlanta Campaign than Dr. Davis. He is the author of multiple books on this campaign, including: *Atlanta Will Fall: Sherman, Joe Johnston and the Heavy Yankee Battalions* (2001); *What the Yankees Did to Us: Sherman's Bombardment and Wrecking of Atlanta* (2012); *A Long and Bloody Task: The Atlanta Campaign from Dalton through Kennesaw Mountain to the Chattahoochee River, May 5 - July 18, 1864* (2016); *All the Fighting They Want: The Atlanta Campaign from Peachtree Creek to the City's Surrender, July 18 - September 2, 1864* (2017); and *100 Significant Civil War Photographs - Atlanta Campaign* (2019). In December, Mercer

University Press will release Steve's most recent book, the first of a planned two-volume history of General John Bell Hood's War years, entitled *Texas Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta*.

Given his intimate knowledge of the Atlanta Campaign, Steve Davis is uniquely qualified to speak to us on the major photographer of Civil War Atlanta, George Barnard.



COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Mike Harrington

From what I hear, this year's campaign got off to a good start in October, after September's unfortunate rainout. I missed Tom Pressly's presentation at our October meeting due to a long-standing commitment to a family get-together in Richmond, Virginia. However, several of our members have told me that Dr. Pressly's talk was well received.

My prior visit to the Richmond area was limited to the Cold Harbor battlefield on the outskirts of Civil War era Richmond. So I welcomed the opportunity that presented itself a few weeks ago to see much more of what Richmond has to offer the Civil War enthusiast.

I began my visit with a leisurely morning walk down historic Monument Avenue, admiring the majestic 19th century bronze statues of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Jeb Stuart and Jeff Davis as well as the more recent statue of Arthur Ashe, the tennis great and Richmond native.

A two-hour guided tour of Hollywood Cemetery followed. As some of you already

know, Hollywood Cemetery is the final resting place of roughly 18,000 Confederate soldiers, including 26 generals, plus the commander-in-chief, President Jefferson Davis. With its rolling, wooded hills and luxuriant shrubbery, Hollywood Cemetery makes for a very pleasant stroll.

After lunch, I took another guided tour, this one through the early 19th century mansion that the Jeff Davis family occupied during the war. Known as the White House of the Confederacy, this 8,000-square-foot mansion features both original and period furnishings. The docent who conducted my tour really knew his stuff, both with respect to the house itself and the people who resided there during the Civil War. He shared information about several of the African Americans who lived there as well as the Davis family they served.

Next, I toured the Virginia state capitol grounds, which the Confederate government also utilized during the war. I paused to have my photo snapped in front of the majestic monument to the American Revolution, right next to the spot where Jeff Davis was inaugurated as President of the CSA on Washington's Birthday in 1862.

From the capitol grounds, I walked a block to St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Richmond. There I sat in the numbered pews that Davis and Lee had occupied during the war, including the one where Davis was seated when he received word on Sunday, April 2, 1865 that Richmond had to be evacuated.

The next day I spent three hours touring the newly opened American Civil War Museum at Tredegar Landing. If you're not familiar with it, this splendid museum is the successor to the Museum of the Confederacy, which dates to 1896. The permanent exhibit at the museum takes the visitor through each of the war years, 1861 to 1865, with computerized visual aids as well as a dazzling array of memorabilia, including swords wielded by Lee, Jackson and Stuart. If I had to pick out my favorite piece of military hardware on permanent display at the American Civil War Museum, it would be Stuart's LeMat pistol with its leather holster bearing his name.

The rotating exhibit at the museum also captivated my interest. It features an illustrated timeline of American paper currency, centered on the so-called greenbacks that the Lincoln administration issued to help finance the war, the first paper – or fiat – money ever issued by Uncle Sam. The Grant administration proved so eager to redeem the greenbacks for gold, so as to return the U. S. to strictly specie money, that the resultant contraction of the money supply provoked a multi-year recession.

When I began this message, I had not intended to script a travelogue. But if I have encouraged some of you to visit Richmond, so much the better.

May I also encourage you to turn out for our November meeting and help me welcome Steve Davis back to HCWRT.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Keith Altavilla

It was great to see everyone again (finally!), and to meet some of our new members and guests. I am happy to welcome David and Rosemary Shultz to our ranks, and excited to meet so many potential members. This month should be exciting. Stephen Davis is one of the leading experts on the Atlanta Campaign, and it sounds like he'll have some fascinating pictures to show. Images can be a great way to get people's attention, and the Civil War is full of them!

As I mentioned at the last meeting, we are always looking for volunteers to assist with meetings. Many of you bring skills to the table which can help with technology, recruitment, and leadership, all of which are in demand at our and other round tables around the country. Don't forget our website: houstoncivilwar.com, where people can learn more about our organization and get signed up. As always, we are looking for ways to get our membership involved. If you've ever wondered what you can do to help, we'd love to hear from you.

Your participation is great, and so is your recruitment. We love meeting potential new members, and they tend to enjoy meeting us. The best way to make that happen is to keep

bringing friends and family. The membership committee is hard at work putting together other ways to help members publicize the group, but we also rely on you to help us spread the word. New memberships enable us to continue bringing great historians like Steve Davis to Houston, and you just never know who will catch the bug after spending some time with us. For your convenience, a membership application form can be found on the next page of this newsletter.

NOVEMBER QUIZ

By Jim Godlove

The most famous photographer of the American Civil War had studios in Washington, D. C. and New York before the war. Clad in a linen duster and straw hat, he travelled with the Union army to Bull Run. Caught up in the rout, he was able to save the plates he had made.



Who was this near-sighted photographer?

BOOK RAFFLE

By Donnie Stowe

We begin this month's raffle with **SHILOH, 1862** by Winston Groom (author of **VICKSBURG, 1863**). This book comes from my library and I highly recommend it. Our second selection is **WEST POINT: AMERICA'S POWER FRATERNITY** by K. Bruce Galloway and Robert Bowie Johnson, Jr. and is a donation from the Jefferson Davis Association of Rice University c/o Lynda Crist. Next we have **THIS WAS ANDERSONVILLE** by John McElroy and edited with an introduction by Roy

Meredith. This volume came from the collection of Danny Huckabee. Our fourth book is **MAPPING the CIVIL WAR** with text by Christopher Nelson and features rare maps from the Library of Congress.



This volume was donated by Ron Featherston. And last, but not least is **THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CIVIL WAR USAGE** by Webb Garrison and Cheryl Garrison.

This book is an excellent compendium of everyday language and phrases commonly used during the Civil War.

That's it for our November raffle. I look forward to seeing you at the HESS Club once again.

THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY

Nov. 6, 1860 – Abraham Lincoln elected 16th President of the United States

Nov. 1, 1861 – George McClellan replaces Lt. General Winfield Scott as general-in-chief of the U.S. Army

Nov. 28, 1861 – Missouri admitted to the Confederacy despite never officially seceding from the Union.

Nov. 5, 1862 – Lincoln orders that Major General George McClellan be replaced with Ambrose Burnside as commander of the Army of the Potomac

Nov. 7, 1863 – Second Battle of Rappahannock Station, Virginia

Nov. 19, 1863 – President Lincoln delivers the "Gettysburg Address"

Nov. 24, 1863 – Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tennessee

Nov. 25, 1863 – Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tennessee

Nov. 8, 1864 – Abraham Lincoln is re-elected President of the United States

Nov. 15, 1864 – Major General William T. Sherman departs Atlanta on his "March to the Sea", leaving Atlanta in ruins

Nov. 30, 1864 – Battle of Franklin, Tennessee



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

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?

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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

2019 - 2020 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

Nov. 21, 2019	Steve Davis: <i>“George Barnard: Photographer of Civil War Atlanta”</i>
Dec. 12, 2019	Michael Parrish: <i>“The Vital Importance of Texas in the Civil War”</i>
Jan. 16, 2020	Don Frazier: <i>“The Houston Campaign, 1863”</i>
Feb. 20, 2020	Craig Morin: <i>“General Rodes Leads the Way to Pennsylvania”</i>
Mar. 19, 2020	Stephen Kinnaman: <i>“Merrimack: Biography of a Steam Frigate”</i>
Apr. 16, 2020	Lorien Foote: <i>“The Dogs of War”</i>
May 21, 2020	Brian Steel Wills: <i>“Inglorious Passages: Noncombat Deaths in the American Civil War”</i> (rescheduled from September)

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