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General Orders

Boisaubin's Brigade

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Sept.
2021



SEPTEMBER, 2021 MEETING
Thursday, September 16, 2021

Rudi Lechner's Restaurant
2503 South Gessner Road
6:00 (or sooner) Dinner
7:00 Program Begins

E-mail reservations are preferred. Please E-mail Barry Brueggeman at bjbrueg@aol.com or call 281 480-1130 by 6 pm Monday, September 13, 2021

***** Reservations are Required *****

There is no cost for dues-paid members. Our customary \$10.00 charge for visitors will be waived for the September meeting

Prof. Andrew F. Lang will explore the unanticipated but far-reaching challenges of military occupation during the American Civil War and its immediate aftermath. Military occupation proved to be a trying component of the Union's military strategy, exposing fault lines within nineteenth-century American military and political culture. But occupation itself demonstrated a critical and dynamic component of a war to preserve the Union and secure emancipation. Prof. Lang will engage contemporary artistic renditions to demonstrate how the essential but complex nature of Civil War-era military occupation reflects the United States' enduring challenge of waging war in search of a just and lasting peace.



Dr. Andrew Lang

The HCWRT Presents
Dr. Andrew Lang Speaking on:

"In the Wake of War"

Union armies during the American Civil War did not merely engage Confederate forces in open battle, waging the grand, romantic campaigns of national lore. Approximately one-third of Union soldiers also occupied vast regions of the Confederate South, populating scores of garrisons across an antagonistic wartime landscape. There, the uncertain and often confusing dynamics of military occupation exposed United States soldiers to a unique kind of warfare waged far beyond the front lines that few volunteers imagined when they enlisted in the nation's loyal armies.

About Andrew Lang

Andrew F. Lang, who received his PhD in 2013 from Rice University, is an associate professor of history at Mississippi State University. He is the author of *In the Wake of War: Military Occupation, Emancipation, and Civil War America*, published by LSU Press in

2017. The Society of Civil War Historians honored the book with the 2018 Tom Watson Brown Book Award, bestowed each year to “the best book published on the causes, conduct, and effects, broadly defined, of the Civil War.” He is the author most recently of *A Contest of Civilizations: Exposing the Crisis of American Exceptionalism in the Civil War Era*, which is the final installment of the Littlefield History of the Civil War Era, published by the University of North Carolina Press. In addition to co-editing a volume of scholarly essays on Civil War-era military history, Prof. Lang has published pieces in *The Atlantic*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Civil War Monitor*. He is currently writing an intellectual biography of Abraham Lincoln's nationalism, concept of Union, and philosophy of history.



PRESIDENT'S PRESS *By Gene Boisaubin*

I can only embrace the enthusiasm of others such as Scott Wilkey and Walker Agnew who have written columns for this newsletter concerning our new meeting venue and format, beginning in September. And being a physician, I want to reiterate our commitment to your safety and comfort with the arrangements that are being made to ensure those goals. First, I assume that all attendees will have been vaccinated. Second, masks will be required for intervals when food and drink are not being consumed, and of course during the meeting and presentations. Careful arrangements are also being made to ensure that the meeting room allows us to safely distance from each

other. For subsequent meetings, we will consider the impact of COVID upon the Houston community and eventually hope to be able to loosen our current requirements. Ideally at some time in the future, when technically feasible, we would like to also offer a Zoom option for our members who will not always be able to physically attend all of the meetings.

As a new development, Rudi Lechner's has also agreed to allow us to order from their full menu in the general dining area. **Please try to arrive by 6 PM to review the menu and place your order so you will be finished with your meal and beverage by 6:55 at the latest.**

The 2021-22 Speakers Campaign opens with the September meeting, when Professor Andrew Lang will present his topic “In the Wake of War” which will analyze the post-war Reconstruction period and the experiences of the military occupation of the South. This topic is also very timely, as I will continue to encourage future presentation that not only focus upon the generals and battles of the Civil War, but the issues and events before and after that continue to impact America today in profound ways. This meeting will also contain many of the older, traditional elements of our Round Table, including a book signing by the speaker and our book raffle.

I had hoped to announce the annual national meeting of the Civil War Round Table Congress which was scheduled for the weekend of September 17th in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This meeting has been an excellent format for the sharing of ideas and experiences from round tables around the country. Unfortunately, COVID again altered those plans, and the meeting has been postponed indefinitely. I will keep the group updated on future meeting plans.

NEW MEETING VENUE, FORMAT, AND SAFETY MEASURES

By Scott Wilkey, Communications Chair

You can imagine our excitement (no doubt you shared it with us) when we could announce the resumption of in-person meetings at HCWRT speaker engagements. It is wonderful

to imagine starting our 2021-22 campaign under a "normal" set of circumstances. The past few weeks however, have given us all pause as we watch news of the new "delta" COVID variant wreak havoc on our personal and professional lives, along with the strains it's causing to our medical community. With that being said, the HCWRT is notifying you of changes in our meetings that take into account the variety of opinions and concerns that in-person meetings bring. Therefore, everyone who attends meetings (for at least the near future) is asked to be aware of the following:

- All persons attending will wear a mask during the meeting. Please bring your own. A few extra masks will be available at the meeting.
- At our brand-new venue, Rudi Lechner's, dinner will not be served during the course of the meeting, but instead **we ask diners to arrive no later than 6:00 p.m.** to be served in a designated area in the restaurant's main dining room. Be sure to mention you're with the Houston Civil War Round Table when being seated by Rudi's staff.
- Attendees will order from a regular menu, and will have their own tabs, whether for dinner, appetizers, and/or drinks. Tabs need to be closed by 6:55 p.m. in order for attendees to be in their seats in the separate meeting room by 7:00 p.m. (sharp).
- The HCWRT meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and include the recitation of our Pledge of Allegiance, the speaker's presentation, and a post-presentation question / answer session. HCWRT agenda items (e.g., pertinent membership announcements, book raffle, and other limited business items) also are planned.
- Book sales and signings generally are at the discretion of the

speaker. This month's speaker, Andrew Lang, intends to have a small number of books available for sale and signing.

- Meeting attendees will be seated in rows - "classroom" fashion - and in chairs spaced for "social distancing".
- If you feel sick, have a fever, or personally feel you cannot abide by these temporary requirements, we ask that you please stay home. If you cannot attend for any of these reasons, we hope you'll be able to attend future meetings.
- For the time being, this plan is for the September 16 meeting. We will revisit our community COVID status and our meeting plans month by month as long as COVID spiking continues, so please stay tuned for future meeting information in October and beyond.
- As our socially-distanced space in the meeting room is likely limited to some 30 - 35 spaces, **it is imperative that attendees adhere strictly to the RSVP requirements shown in the upper left of newsletter (page 1) in order to ensure that a seat is available.** Those who do not RSVP by the deadline and walk-ins will risk not being able to enter the meeting space due to lack of seating capacity.

It is quite possible that HCWRT may once again resume Zoom format meetings. After all, circumstances may progress to a level beyond our control and public meetings could be once again restricted. While this is certainly not anyone's "ideal" scenario and set of circumstances, this is the best plan for us to return to in-person meetings, while at the same time doing so in a safe manner. We think it offers a proactive and thoughtful approach for all concerned. Also, as President Boisaubin states in his column, we will explore having Zoom

available for the benefit of those who choose not to attend our in-person meetings.

We're looking forward to seeing you in September!



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Walker Agnew

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE! We are all excited about the start of the 2021-22 campaign. Having our meetings with the speaker in the room will be great. We look forward to seeing our group together again at the new location – Rudi Lechner’s Restaurant. If you have not done so, please complete the membership form in the newsletter and mail it along with your check to Barry Brueggeman. If you attend the meeting on September 16th, you may also pay your dues to Barry with either cash or check. This is how we fund our incredible programs each month.

Please note that non-members, whether visitors, a member’s guest, or a member of a member’s family, may now attend a meeting with one free admission. Thereafter, non-members will be charged a \$10.00 admission fee, or they can become a dues-paid member. Paid members will not be charged a fee to attend meetings.

As always, bring a friend (or two) to the meeting to help share the fun. Looking forward to seeing all in person!

BOOK RAFFLE

By Donnie Stowe

I’m very pleased to be contributing an article to the newsletter for a face-to-face meeting once again. And to start, I am putting on the top of the list of books for this month’s raffle a signed copy of Donald S. Frazier’s **TEMPEST OVER TEXAS**. When I purchased my copy of this book, Don was gracious enough to mail me an extra copy for the raffle. Next, we have **HELD**



IN THE HIGHEST ESTEEM BY ALL – The Civil War Letters of William B. Chilvers, 95th Illinois Infantry. This book, co-edited by Gary D. Joiner, was contributed to us by Barry Bruggeman and was

personalized by Thomas A. Pressly, III. Our third selection is **IRONCLAD CAPTAIN – Seth Ledyard Phelps and the U.S. Navy, 1841-1864** by Jay Slagle with forward by Edwin C. Bearss. Our fourth book is **REGULATIONS FOR THE ARMY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES 1863** and is a contribution from James Godlove. The next book is **PLOUGHSHARES INTO SWORDS - Josiah Gorgas and Confederate Ordnance** by Frank E. Vandiver and is from the Jefferson Davis Association, Rice University c/o Lynda Crist. And last, but not least is **IMBODEN’S BRIGADE IN THE GETTYSBURG CAMPAIGN** by Steve French.



John Stevens and Gary Chandler at Camp Ford (CSA) for Union POWs in Tyler, TX after 2021 Jefferson Civil War Symposium



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?

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 Lonniewood Drive
Houston, TX 77059

2021 – 2022 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

Sept. 16, 2021	Andrew Lang: <i>“In the Wake of War”</i>
Oct. 21, 2021	Caleb McDaniel: <i>“Sweet Taste of Liberty”</i>
Nov. 18, 2021	William MacKinnon: <i>“Before Fort Sumter: The Utah War Experiences of Union and Confederate Leaders”</i>
Dec. 16, 2021	Jeffrey Hunt: <i>“Meade and Lee at Bristoe Station”</i> (Note: <u>3rd</u> Thursday of December, not 2nd)
Jan. 20, 2022	Stephen M. (Sam) Hood: <i>“Patriots Twice”</i>
Feb. 17, 2022	James Ogden: <i>“Opening the Cracker Line and the Battle of Wauhatchie”</i>
Mar. 17, 2022	Timothy B. Smith: <i>“The Real Horse Soldiers”</i>
Apr. 21, 2022	Lorien Foote: <i>“Affairs of Honor in the Armies”</i>
May 19, 2022	TBD: <i>Holding for 2022 Vandiver Award Recipient</i>

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c/o Barry G. Brueggeman
3706 Lonnie Wood Drive
Houston, TX 77059

