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# General Orders

## *Boisaubin's Brigade*

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2022



**APRIL, 2022 MEETING**  
**Thursday, April 21, 2022**

**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 [bgbrueg@aol.com](mailto:bgbrueg@aol.com) or call 281 480-1130 by 6 pm Monday, April 18, 2022**

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

**There is no cost for dues-paid members.  
\$10.00 charge for visitors.**

### **The HCWRT Presents** **Lorien Foote Speaking on:**

**“Slack Sheet, Free Fights, and  
Bloody Heads: Honor and  
Manhood in the Union Army”**

Internal fissures were rife within the Union army during the Civil War: class divisions, regional antagonisms, ideological differences, and conflicting personalities all distracted the army from quelling the Southern rebellion. These internal battles were fought against the backdrop of manhood. Clashing ideals of manliness produced myriad conflicts, as when educated, refined, and wealthy officers found

themselves commanding a hard-drinking group of fighters – a dynamic that often resulted in violence and even death.

Violent hazing rituals, individual boxing matches, bloody fist fights involving crowds of men, and verbal challenges to fight with weapons were common features of life in the Union army. Dr. Lorien Foote's talk will consider the specific and recognized rituals of violence that northern men used to assert manhood and establish honor, including at least 34 incidents in the Union army that included some element of the dueling ritual.



*Dr. Lorien Foote*

### **About Lorien Foote**

Lorien Foote is the Patricia & Bookman Peters Professor in History at Texas A&M University. She is the author of four books, editor of three volumes, and writer of numerous articles and essays on the cultural, intellectual, and military history of the American Civil War.

Her books include the just-published *Rites of Retaliation: Civilization, Soldiers, and Campaigns in the American Civil War* (2021); *The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners and the Collapse of the Confederacy* (2016), which was a 2017 Choice Outstanding Academic Title; and *The Gentlemen and the Roughs: Manhood, Honor, and Violence in the Union Army* (2010), which was a finalist and Honorable Mention for the 2011 Lincoln Prize. Dr. Foote is the co-editor, with Earl J. Hess, of *The Oxford Handbook of the American Civil War*. She is the creator and principal investigator of a digital humanities project, which is mapping the escape and movement of 3000 Federal prisoners of war. The project includes contributions from undergraduate researchers at four universities. Project information can be explored on-line at [www.ehistory.org/projects/fugitive-federals.html](http://www.ehistory.org/projects/fugitive-federals.html).



## **PRESIDENT'S PRESS**

*By Gene Boisaubin*

The eighth meeting of the HCWRT's Annual Campaign was held on Thursday evening, March 17, 2022, with 29 attendees gathering to hear Timothy Smith, Civil War historian, lecturer and author, present "The Real Horse Soldiers," the story of Benjamin Grierson's epic Union cavalry raid through Mississippi in 1863. Jim is a consummate story teller and his presentation was both extremely informative and entertaining. During his re-creation of the route of the raid for his book, his easy-going nature and ability to engage others enabled him to gain

insight into local affairs in rural Mississippi during and after that time that other historians could not have attained. An enthusiastic question and answer period followed his presentation. The evening was also highlighted by the presentation to Tim of the 2022 Frank E. Vandiver Award of Merit for excellence in both Civil War scholarship and preservation. Tim was sincerely moved by the award and the congratulatory comments that followed.

Our speaker for April 21 will be Lorien Foote, who will present "Slack Sheet, Free Fights, and Bloody Heads: Honor and Manhood in the Union Army." Dr. Foote is a professor of history at Texas A&M University and a very popular speaker who has presented a broad variety of Civil War topics to our membership in the past several years. Lorien's formal background and accomplishments are more extensively addressed in the preceding article. She will bring copies of her books "*Yankee Plague*" and "*Rites of Retaliation*" for sale and autographing. As a tradition, we will also feature our popular quiz and book raffle. Additionally, we have reduced the level of safety for COVID required for the meeting by making personal masking optional. Hopefully we can continue that practice, at least in the foreseeable future. Finally, **please let Barry Brueggeman know of your attendance for the next meeting by 6 pm Monday, April 18.**



**2022 Vandiver Award recipient  
Timothy Smith at last month's meeting**

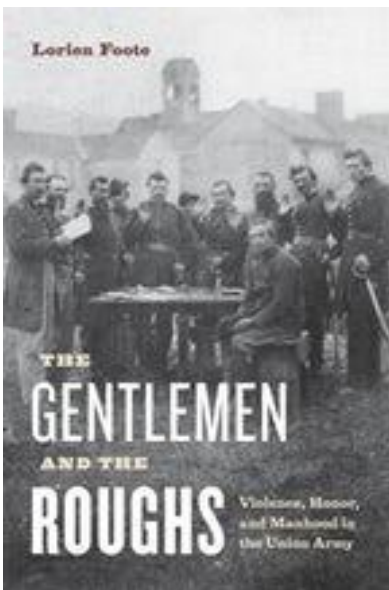
## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*By Walker Agnew*

It's not too late to have a friend join our Round Table this campaign year. Our numbers keep growing each month, thanks to you! Please let me know if you would like to have a new name badge. These are great when introducing yourself to others in the group! We are still having incredible presentations each month, which are the main focus of our meetings. The book raffles give everyone a chance to add to our personal libraries with books covering various Civil War topics.

Membership forms are normally on page 5 of the newsletter and can also be downloaded from the website.

A personal invitation is still the best way to get the word out. Let me know of any ideas you may have for the membership committee. My email address is [walkeragnew@comcast.net](mailto:walkeragnew@comcast.net).



## BOOK RAFFLE

*By Donnie Stowe*

It was really great having everyone come out and enjoy a good meal and a great speaker at our March meeting. Time, however, rolls on and for our April raffle we begin with **BEEFSTEAK RAID** by Edward Boykin. In September, 1864 the most acute need for the defenders of

Richmond and Petersburg was food and this book covers General Wade Hampton's raid to alleviate that issue. The second book this month is from past president John Barnes: **CIVIL WAR ALMANAC** by John C. Fredriksen. This almanac covers day-by-day events of the Civil War and includes an A-to-Z



dictionary which gives biographical profiles of leading military and political figures in the conflict. Our third selection is **THE PAPERS OF JEFFERSON DAVIS, Volume 11 September 1864 - May 1865** and whose

lead editor is our own Lynda L. Crist. The fourth book this month is **TWO YEARS OF GRIM WAR – The Photographic History of the Civil War – Volume 2** by Francis T. Miller (Editor in Chief). This is the second volume in a ten-volume series with photographs by Mathew Brady. Book number five in this month's raffle is **LEE** by Douglas Southall Freeman. This is an abridgment by Richard Harwell of the Pulitzer Prize-winning four-volume biography of Lee and is a donation from another past president, Jim Godlove.

I'm completing this month's raffle with a sixth book, **THE BROKEN CIRCLE** by David P. Bridges. This was donated to the raffle by Neil Weaver and, though it is a novel, it is full of historically accurate battle scenes and its characters are based on historical figures.





## APRIL QUIZ *By Jim Godlove*

Q: The Civil War started in April, 1861 when Ft. Sumter surrendered to Confederate forces. Who was the Confederate general in command of Charleston?



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT *By Mike Harrington*

The HCWRT bylaws provide for a nominating committee of three members to nominate a slate of Officers and Directors for the next campaign. However, our board decided last year to waive this particular rule after an informal poll indicated that the incumbent officers and directors were willing to serve an additional campaign term. Again this year, each current officer and director has indicated his willingness to continue in office for another term.

The nominees for our 2022 – 2023 campaign are as follows:

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

The general membership will be asked to vote on these nominees at our May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

## THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR HISTORY

**April 3, 1865** - Richmond and Petersburg occupied by Federals

**April 5, 1862** - Siege of Yorktown, Virginia begins

**April 6/7, 1862** - Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee begins

**April 8, 1864** - Battle of Mansfield, Louisiana (Red River Expedition)

**April 9, 1865** - Lee surrenders to Grant at Appomattox Court House

**April 12, 1861** - The Confederates in Charleston bombard Ft. Sumter

**April 14, 1865** - Abraham Lincoln is shot at Ford's Theater

**April 15, 1865** - Abraham Lincoln dies; Andrew Johnson sworn in as President of the United States

**April 19, 1861** - President Lincoln declares a blockade of Southern ports

**April 22, 1861** - Robert E. Lee accepts command of Virginia forces

**April 30, 1863** - Battle of Chancellorsville begins near Fredericksburg, Virginia



## 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

## 2021 – 2022 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

Apr. 21, 2022      Lorien Foote: *“Slack Sheet, Free Flights, and Bloody Heads: Honor and Manhood in the Union Army”*

May 19, 2022      Mike Movius: *“Civil War Round Tables – Past, Present, and Future”*

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