



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

# General Orders

## *Walker's Brigade*

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2024



**SEPTEMBER, 2024 MEETING**  
**Thursday, September 19, 2024**

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

**\*\*\* No Reservations Required for this Meeting\*\*\***

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

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

#### **"The Yankee Plague"**

During the last winter of the Civil War, nearly 3,000 Union prisoners escaped from Confederate prisons in the Carolinas and fled toward Union army lines. Their flight created a "Yankee plague," heralding a grim end to the Confederate cause. Black and white southerners fed, hid, and guided the fugitives across hundreds of miles of dangerous terrain.

By this point in the war, the Confederacy was reeling from prison overpopulation, a crumbling military, violence from internal enemies, and the breakdown of slavery. The fugitive Federals moving across the countryside in mass numbers accelerated the collapse as slaves and

deserters decided the presence of these escapees created an opportune moment for escalated resistance.

Lorien Foote will share what the journey of escaped prisoners reveals about Union soldiers' experiences in the final months of the war and the transformation of the home front to a battle front inside the Confederacy. She uses these ragged Federals as a lens with which to assess the dying Confederate states, providing a new window into the South's ultimate defeat.



*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 most recent book is *Rites of Retaliation: Civilization, Soldiers, and Campaigns in the American Civil War* (2021), which won the Organization of American Historians Civil War and Reconstruction Book Award. She 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 3,000 Federal prisoners of war. The project includes contributions from undergraduate researchers at four universities. It can be explored online at: <https://sites.google.com/tamu.edu/fugitive-federals/the-project>.

Dr. Foote received her B.A. from the University of Kansas and her Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma. She is a ballroom dancer and a dog lover. Buzz, her nine-year-old Shih Tzu, is the mascot of the TAMU Study Abroad program and visits the office on campus regularly.

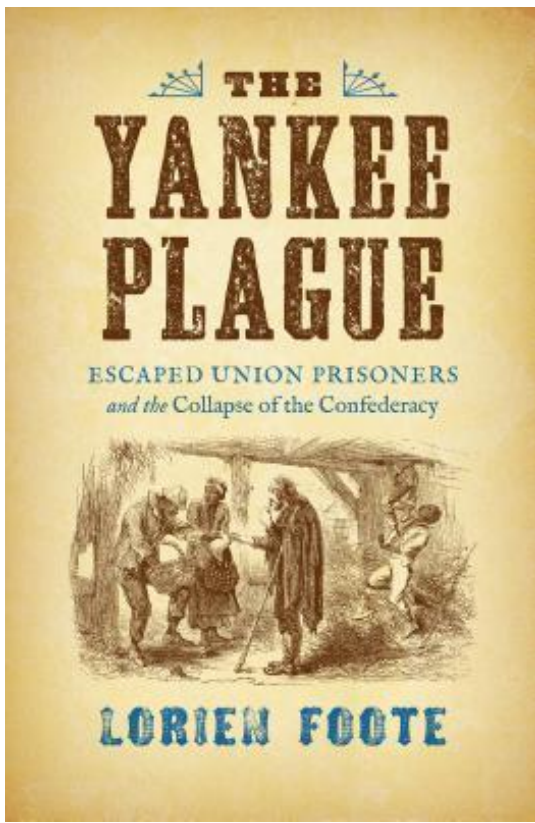


## President's Comments

Hello to everyone and welcome to a brand new campaign year of the Houston Civil War Round Table! We are blessed this year to have several excellent authors and professors lined up to speak to our group on many aspects of the Civil War that happened so many years ago. We will have topics from battles to personalities to events that changed the dynamics of America during this time. Remember, our meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month (except December).

The Houston Civil War Round Table is looking for someone to fill the position of Treasurer for this year. Barry Brueggeman, who has faithfully held this position for many years, is stepping down. The Treasurer's duties include collecting checks/Zelle for membership dues, paying travel expenses for our speakers and attending two board meetings each year. If you are interested in discussing this with me, my phone number is (713) 465-4915 and email is [walkeragnew@comcast.net](mailto:walkeragnew@comcast.net).

For membership payments, we now can accept Zelle at [treasurer@houstoncivilwar.com](mailto:treasurer@houstoncivilwar.com). This is a quick and convenient way to pay for your individual or family membership. If you send your dues via Zelle, be careful to use the correct email address, as any slight deviation may result in your funds going into the wrong account.



## MAY QUIZ *By Jim Godlove*

Since this month's talk will be on an obscure topic (unless you know about a Union officer who had a terrible sense of direction\*), the questions will center on events that happened during September of the war years.

**Q:** The commander of the XII Corps at Antietam had graduated from West Point in 1822. He took command of that corps on September 15<sup>th</sup> just two days before the battle. While maneuvering troops, he was wounded in the East Woods.

**Who was this Connecticut native who died on the 18<sup>th</sup>?**

“Willard Worchester Glazier



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT *By Michael Clennan*

Let's all start the 2024 - 2025 campaign off with a big celebration at Rudi's on Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>! This new campaign has nine great upcoming events scheduled for our

members! Please join old and new friends at 5:30 pm for a hearty German meal or beer in Rudi's dining area. Just before 7:00 pm, we move into our meeting room for a welcoming address by our new President, Walker Agnew, followed by the excellent book raffle and ever-challenging Civil War quiz. Then, one of our favorite speakers, Lorien Foote, speaks to us about "The Yankee Plague."

Remember, any guests you invite may attend free on their first visit, so be sure to ask your friends and associates to come along. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (713) 864-1204. I look forward to seeing everyone on the 16<sup>th</sup>!

## 2024 HTBA-R SCHOLARLY SEMINAR: "HONOR AND DUTY"

The Hood's Texas Brigade Association, Re-Activated will hold its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarly Seminar at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville on Friday and Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Friday afternoon activities include a Special Exhibit and Tour of the John W. Thomason Rare Book Room, a Tour of the Sam Houston Memorial Museum and Republic of Texas Presidential Library, and a "Dutch Treat" Dinner at City Hall Café and Pie Bar.

Saturday's speakers include Dr. Richard McCaslin, Wayne Motts, Fred Adolphus, and Michael Pittmon. Registration for the seminar is \$85.00; student registration is \$40.00. The deadline to register is November 8<sup>th</sup>.

Saturday's program includes speaker book signings, exhibits, raffles, and sales.

For further information, visit HTBAR's website at [hoodstexasbrigade.org](http://hoodstexasbrigade.org). To register, go to [hoodstexasbrigadeassn.square.site](http://hoodstexasbrigadeassn.square.site). You may also contact John Stevens at (713) 885-5288 regarding registration.

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## THIS MONTH IN CIVIL WAR NAVAL HISTORY

*By Stephen Kinnaman*

**September 17, 1861** - Confederate forces evacuated Ship Island, Mississippi, hurried on their way by a landing party from the U.S. armed transport *Massachusetts*. Soon occupied by troops under General Butler, this strategic island became the staging point for Union assaults against New Orleans.

**September 3, 1862** - The Confederate cruiser *Alabama* captured and burned the whaler *Ocmulgee* off the Azores. It would be Raphael Semmes' new command's first 'kill', one of ten in that month alone. During the course of a two-year voyage that took *Alabama* as far as Singapore, her prize list would grow to a record-setting sixty-nine vessels.

**September 1 - 2, 1863:** Admiral Dahlgren led his fleet of ironclads into Charleston harbor in an attempt to subdue the rebel-held Fort Sumter. His flagship, *Weehawken*, was relentlessly hammered for five hours, causing him to break off yet another failed Union assault on the Southern stronghold.

**September 10, 1864** - Commander James Dunwoody Bulloch, Confederate naval agent, wrote Secretary Mallory this day from Liverpool. "I have now the satisfaction to inform you of the purchase of a fine composite ship ...." Soon commissioned as the C.S.S. *Shenandoah*, she circled the globe to destroy New England's Arctic whaling fleet before finally surrendering on the River Mersey in November 1865, the last Confederate flag lowered.

## PERSONALITIES OF THE CIVIL WAR: JOHN CLEM



John Lincoln Clem was born in Newark, Ohio in 1851 and ran away from home at age 9 in hopes of joining the Union army as a drummer boy. At first rejected by an Ohio regiment, he was later adopted as mascot and drummer boy by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan.

Despite the popular legend that Clem, also known as "Johnny Shiloh," served as drummer boy with the 22<sup>nd</sup> during the Battle of Shiloh, historical evidence suggests that the 22<sup>nd</sup> wasn't mustered into service until four months after the battle. However, Clem served as drummer boy during the Battle of Chickamauga. Following this battle, Clem was promoted to sergeant, thus becoming the youngest soldier ever to be a noncommissioned officer in the U. S. Army. He was also twice wounded during the war.

Having completed high school in 1870, Clem continued his military service, which included serving as chief quartermaster at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. Clem retired in 1915 as a brigadier general. He died in 1917 and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



## 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

## 2024 – 2025 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

Sep. 19, 2024	Lorien Foote: "The Yankee Plague"
Oct. 17, 2024	Neil Chatelain: "Treasures and Empire in the Civil War: The Panama Route, the West, and the Campaigns to Control America's Mineral Wealth"
Nov. 21, 2024	Brian Matthew Jordan: "Battle of South Mountain, Maryland"
Dec. 12, 2024	Reserved for Graduate Student Award Recipient, topic TBA
Jan. 16, 2025:	Sean Michael Chick: "Creole General: P. G. T. Beauregard"
Feb. 20, 2025:	Jeff Hunt: "Battle of Palmito Ranch, Texas"
Mar. 20, 2025	Speaker and Topic TBA
Apr.17, 2025:	Andrew Bledsoe: "Decision at Franklin: The Nineteen Critical Decisions That Defined the Battle"
May 15, 2025:	Reserved for 2025 Vandiver Award Recipient, topic TBA

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