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General Orders

Walker's Brigade

Vol. 36
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Oct.
2024



OCTOBER, 2024 MEETING
Thursday, October 17, 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.

Indigenous populations to open the continent to settlement. At sea, Confederate raiders, privateers, and special operators worked to disrupt the sea lanes shipping bullion from California to Panama to New York. United States naval forces countered with convoys, networked intelligence, and unconventional approaches.

Neil Chatelain explores these forgotten theaters of the Civil War and discusses how the far West and Latin America were vital locations sought after by both sides in efforts to expand influence, control territory, and stabilize wartime economies.

The HCWRT Presents **Neil Chatelain speaking on:**

“Treasure and Empire in the Civil War: The Panama Route, the West, and the Campaigns to Control America's Mineral Wealth”

A shadow conflict was fought across the periphery of the U.S. Civil War, both on land and sea, for control over the North American continent and its vast mineral wealth. On land, Confederate armies advanced into the far West seeking new territories and routes to California and its stockpiles of gold. United States armies countered to eject Confederates and battle



Neil Chatelain

About Neil Chatelain

Neil P. Chatelain is assistant professor of history at Lone Star College - North Harris who specializes in researching naval activity of the U.S. Civil War. Having spent nine years in the

US Navy, Neil deployed around the world, earning a surface warfare officer designation. He has also earned a MA in history from the University of Louisiana - Monroe, a MEd in history and social studies curriculum and instruction from the University of Houston, and a BA in history and political science from the University of New Orleans.

Neil is the author of the forthcoming *Treasure and Empire in the Civil War: The Panama Route, the West and the Campaigns to Control America's Mineral Wealth* and has authored the books *Defending the Arteries of Rebellion: Confederate Naval Operations in the Mississippi River Valley, 1861 - 1865* and *Fought Like Devils: The Confederate Gunboat McRae*. He has also written for numerous peer-reviewed journals and popular magazines, and has spoken at history conferences, history organizations, and Civil War round tables.

A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Neil and his wife Brittany live in Humble, Texas. They enjoy travelling across the United States and around the world. More information about Neil's research interests and publications can be found at www.neilpchatelain.com.



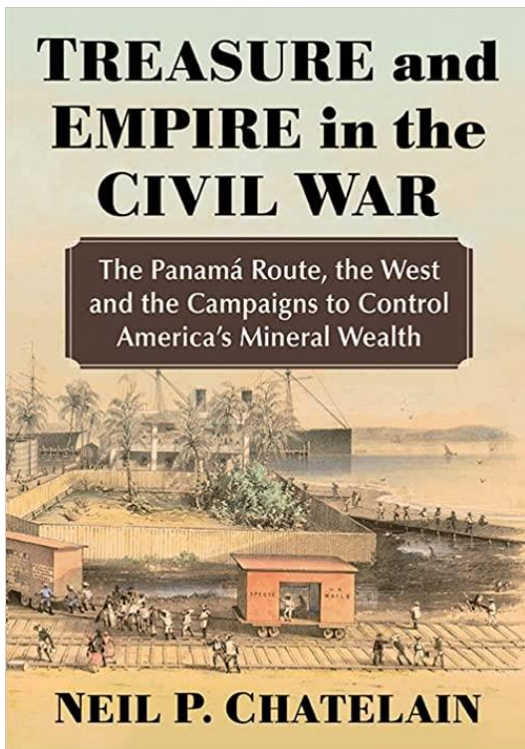
President Walker Agnew with September speaker Lorien Foote

President's Comments

We were so pleased to have Lorien Foote to kick off the new campaign year. Her extensive research brought out many vibrant stories of escaped Union prisoners trying to make it to their own lines. They had to figure out which locals in the South might be able to help them and which ones to avoid. Lorien also shared how the Confederacy was changing as the war was ending. I learned that officers were kept separately from the enlisted soldiers in the prisons. It was a great presentation for us to hear!

I am pleased to announce our new treasurer: Thaddeus Fine. He will be taking over from Barry Brueggeman who has capably filled this position for many years. For those of you that still need to send in dues for this year, you can use Zelle to send the \$50.00 for individuals or \$60.00 for family. You may send payments to treasurer@houstoncivilwar.com. Please be sure to use the correct email address!

Thanks to everyone that makes this organization so wonderful and entertaining!



OCTOBER BOOK RAFFLE

By Rita Campbell

We start out this month's book raffle with **SHROUDS OF GLORY – FROM ATLANTA TO NASHVILLE: THE LAST GREAT CAMPAIGN OF THE CIVIL WAR** by Winston Groom. Next up is **NEVER CALL RETREAT: LEE AND GRANT - THE FINAL VICTORY** (fiction) by William Forstchen and Newt Gingrich. Another good selection being offered is **DAMAGE THEM ALL YOU CAN: ROBERT E. LEE'S ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA** by George Walsh. We're also offering **HISTORICAL TIMES' ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE CIVIL WAR** by Patricia Faust. Rounding out our selections is **OLD ALLEGHANY: THE LIFE AND WARS OF GENERAL ED JOHNSON** by Gregg Clemmer.



If you have any "gently used": books you're willing to donate, please bring them to the next meeting. As always, we appreciate everyone's support of our round table through purchasing these tickets!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Michael Clennan

The new 2024 - 2025 campaign is off to a rousing start! I wish a warm welcome to all guests as well as "old" and new returning members.

Be sure to join us on Thursday, October 17th for Neil Chatelain's lecture. Arrive by 6:00 pm for a hearty German meal and beer. At 7:00, we move into our meeting room for Neil's talk. We will also have our popular book raffle and ever challenging Civil War quiz. Remember, all first-time guests attend the meeting free of charge, as we waive the \$10.00 guest fee. Additionally, if you would like to have a permanent name badge, please let me know.

For questions or assistance, call Mike at (713) 864-1204. See you on October 17th!

OCTOBER QUIZ

By Jim Godlove

Q: In the spring of 1852, the 4th Infantry was ordered to the west coast . Over 700 men and 100 women and children started the trip. When they arrived in Panama, the transportation arranged by the War Department failed and there was a cholera epidemic. The quartermaster of the 4th had to arrange transportation and care for the sick and dying. He was described as "a ministering angel" and as "one the of the coolest men in ... these emergencies."

Who was this quartermaster who would later become a Union Civil War general?



SABINE PASS TOUR

On Saturday, September 7th, Ed Cotham lead a tour of Sabine Pass with nearly 30 people in attendance. The accompanying photos show Ed (in blue shirt) explaining the model fort, the Sabine Pass Light House built in the 1850's, and

the Dick Dowling statue. This tour was held close to the 161st anniversary of the Battle of Sabine Pass, which took place on September 8, 1863.

For detailed information about Ed's books and upcoming talks and tours of Galveston, please visit his website at www.edcotham.com.





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 Thaddeus Fine
3333 Luella Blvd #216
La Porte, TX 77571-3614

2024 – 2025 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN

Oct. 17, 2024	Neil Chatelain: “Treasure 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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