



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta

Founded 1949

June 2014

614th Meeting

Leon McElveen, Editor

June Meeting

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

Please mail your reservation check for
\$33.00 per person to:

David Floyd
4696 Kellogg Drive, SW
Lilburn, GA 30047- 4408

To reach David no later than noon on the
Friday preceding the meeting

TO REACH DAVID NO LATER THAN NOON
ON THE FRIDAY PRECEDING THE MEETING

E-mail / telephone reservations not accepted

Date: Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Time: Cocktails:5:30 pm
Dinner:7:00 pm

Place: Capital City Club - Downtown
7 John Portman Blvd.

Price: \$33.00 per person

Program: *The End of the CSS
Alabama*

James Gindlesperger

The End of the CSS Alabama

James Gindlesperger is a chemical engineer and his wife, Suzanne, is a cofounder of Pennwriters, a professional organization for published and aspiring authors. The couple lives in Johnstown, Pennsylvania and are members of the Friends of Gettysburg Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Civil War Preservation Trust.

They have, singly or together, authored, four Civil War books: *So You Think You Know Gettysburg? The Stories behind the Monuments and the Men Who Fought One of America's Most Epic Battles; So You Think You Know Antietam?, The Stories Behind America's Bloodiest Day; Escape from Libby Prison;* and their topic for our June meeting: *Fire on the Water: The USS Kearsarge And the CSS Alabama.*

The *CSS Alabama*, under Captain Raphael Semmes, raided Union merchant ships for nearly two years. The *Alabama* accounted for almost one of every four Union merchant ships lost during the entire Civil War, with more than 60 ships destroyed. The *USS Kearsarge*, captained first by Charles Pickering and later by John Winslow, chased the *Alabama* around the world. Winslow vowed to end the trail of destruction caused by the *Alabama*. The two finally met in an epic battle off the coast of France on June 19, 1864. Our June quests will examine the voyages of the *Alabama* and the *Kearsarge* toward their destiny. Using the words of the participants, they offer a rare look into life at sea during the American Civil War. This tale of raw adventure and extraordinary courage as well as the controversies in after-the-battle studies promise to be an excellent program. Be there.

Brad Quinlin in May

Our thanks to local historian, Brad Quinlin, for his presentation on the Atlanta Campaign at our May meeting. Brad's knowledge and insights into the individual participants of the campaign, gained from his extensive research of the letters they wrote, is truly extraordinary. Our thanks again for a great program.

