



Battle Lines

Newsletter of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta

Founded 1949

March 2012

591st Meeting

Leon McElveen, Editor

March Meeting

Reservations Are Required

PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR DINNER
RESERVATION CHECK OF **\$33.00** PER
PERSON TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

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

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

E-mail and telephone reservations will
not be accepted

Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2012

Time: Cocktails: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 7:00 pm

Place: Ansley Golf Club
196 Montgomery Ferry Road

Price: \$33.00 per person

Program: Gail Stephens

The Race for Washington
Summer 1864

The Race for Washington: Summer 1864

Our March speaker will be Gail Stephens. Gail has a BS in International Politics from George Washington University and post graduate work at Johns Hopkins and Harvard Universities. She worked for the Department of Defense for 26 years. Upon retirement, she began to study the American Civil War. She volunteers at Monocacy National Battlefield near Frederick, Maryland. In 2002, she won the National Park Service's E.W. Peterkin award for her contributions to public understanding of Civil War history. Her book, *Shadow of Shiloh; Major General Lew Wallace in the Civil War*, was released in October 2010 by the Indiana Historical Society Press.

In the fourth summer of the Civil War, a small Confederate army came close to carrying off the improbable – the seizure of Washington, DC. In June 1864, Jubal Early slipped away from the works around Richmond, and moved rapidly through the Shenandoah Valley into Maryland with an army of 16,000. Lee's orders to Early - take Washington, which had been stripped of troops to reinforce Grant. The Federal leaders in Washington refused to believe the reports of Early's advance and took no action. The Federal commander in Baltimore, Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace, was convinced, and mustered a small force near Frederick, Maryland. On July 9, in the Battle of Monocacy, Wallace's force managed to hold Early's army an entire day, though outnumbered two to one. Warned by Wallace, Grant put a corps onto steamships to reinforce the defenses of Washington. The race was on. Though the Confederates did not succeed, this little known campaign is one of the most exciting and potentially most momentous of the Civil War.

Greg Biggs in February

Greg Biggs gave those assembled at our February meeting a top-notch review of the Confederate supply system. He gave his us the benefit of his considerable insight into its successes and failures and how its challenges and shortcomings affected the outcome of the war. If you missed it you missed a good one. Our thanks to Greg.

2011 - 2012 Program Preview

- April 10, 2012** Jeffrey Wert
James Longstreet: The Staff in Lee's Right Hand
- May 8, 2012** Robert Girardi
Railroad Defense in the Atlanta Campaign
- June 12, 2012** Stephen Davis
What the Yankees Did to Us

Upcoming Events

- March 23 - 24, 2012:** Symposium, "1862: The Path to Freedom," sponsored by the Civil War Center at Kennesaw State. Reception at Southern Museum Friday evening, lectures begin at 9 am in Building 22, Auditorium 1021. Free. www.kennesaw.edu/civilwar_era for more information.
- March 23 - 25, 2012:** Conference, annual event sponsored by the Society of Civil War Surgeons in Columbus. www.civilwarsurgeons.org
- March 30 - 31, 2012:** *Chattanooga: An Insiders Field and Walking Tour.* Brown's Ferry, Wauhatchie, Lookout Mountain, Orchard Knob, Missionary Ridge and Ringgold Gap. Led by Norman Dasinger, Jr. 800-298-1861 or CWEA.net for more information.
- March 31, 2012:** Civil War Trust Park Day at Kennesaw Mountain - Saturday, March 31, probably about 8:30 or 9:00 to 1:00 pm or so to help provide light-weight maintenance at the park.
- April 1 & 15, 2012:** *Artillery Demonstrations. Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.* All cannon firings take place at the Visitor Center, unless otherwise stated. Firing times are 11, 12, 2, and 3 o'clock. These programs are free and open to the public.
- April 21, 2012:** *ACWRT Heartland Of The Confederacy, Macon To Milledgeville Field Trip* Charter bus, tour of Macon including the Cannonball House & Fort Hawkins, tour of Old Clinton, the Griswoldville Battlefield, tour of Milledgeville including the Old Georgia Capital & Governor's Mansion, all led by prominent author Dr. William "Bill" Bragg. Reservations should be made as soon as possible with Chuck Carter at saluda26@bellsouth.net or 404.906.4336.

Message from the President

The Activities Committee had over 30 members meet for breakfast and carpool together up to the Chickamauga Civil War Show in Dalton on Sat. February 4th plus other members were in attendance that were exhibiting. Many also attended the Russ Bonds, Richard McMurray, Keith Bohannon and other lectures that were held in conjunction with the show as well as the Bobby Horton Concert and dinner Saturday night.

Make your reservations now for the *Heartland Of The Confederacy Field Trip* [see Upcoming Events]. As of press time our field trip was already quickly filling up and is expected like all of our other past field trips to sell out. Come join your fellow members for a great field trip!

150 Years Ago

- 6 March 1862:** Battle of Pea Ridge [US]
- 8 March 1862:** Battle of Elkhorn Tavern [CS]
- 8 March 1862:** The Merrimac (CSS Virginia) battles the USS Congress and the USS Cumberland, destroying both frigates.
- 9 March 1862:** The duel of the ironclads, The Monitor and The Merrimac (CSS Virginia). First use of a turreted gun.
- 13 March 1862:** Jefferson Davis orders Robert E. Lee to "...conduct military operations of the armies of the Confederacy."
- 23 March 1862:** Battle of Kernstown The first battle of the Shenandoah Campaign, Major General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson [CS].

Officers for the 2011 -2012 Campaign:

- President** Gould Hagler
- First Vice President** Jack Melton
- Second Vice President** Art Carey
- Secretary / Treasurer** David Floyd
- Executive Committee** 2012:..... Gary Barnes
2012:..... David Beale
2013:..... Vicky Conn
2013..... Stevan Crew
- Past President** J.D. Humphries
- Battle Lines Editor** Leon McElveen