



General Orders

Jennings' Brigade

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www.houstoncivilwar.com



DECEMBER 2014 MEETING
Thursday, December 11, 2014

The HESS Club
5430 Westheimer Rd @ Westheimer Way
6:00 Cash Bar
7:00 Dinner & Meeting

E-Mail Reservation is Preferred;
at drzuckero@sbcglobal.net
or call Don Zuckero at (281) 479-1232
by 6 PM on Monday Dec 8, 2014
Dinner \$30; Lecture Only \$10

***** Reservations are Required *****
FOR BOTH DINNER and LECTURE ONLY

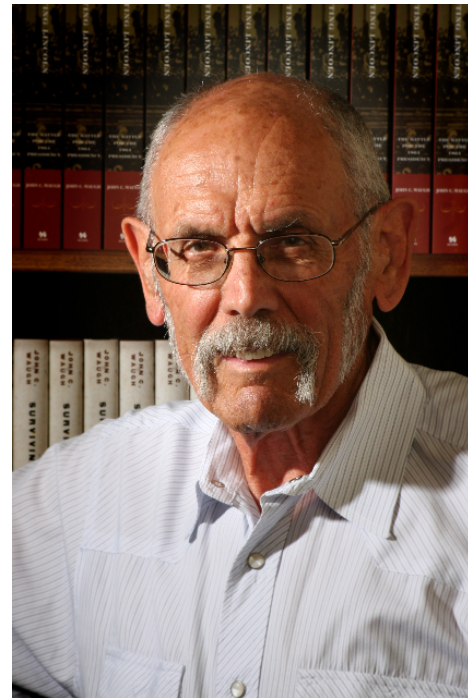
The HCWRT Presents
John C. Waugh
Speaking on:

"The Compromise of 1850"

The Houston Civil War Round Table is pleased to welcome Jack Waugh back to Houston for the third consecutive December. He will be making a presentation on "***The Compromise of 1850***". A synopsis of his presentation follows.

By 1850 the Union once again stood on the brink of disunion. The issue of permitting slavery in the vast new territory acquired from Mexico in the U. S.-Mexican war was again splitting the country North and South. Southerners again were threatening secession if they could not take their slaves into this new territory. Northerners generally, abolitionist in particular, again stood adamantly against it. If the issues involved could not be compromised as they had thirty years before in the Compromise of 1820, Civil War once again loomed. This talk will revisit the drama on the Senate floor through the summer of 1850, as the two sides stove to compromise this lethal issue.

About Mr. Waugh



Mr. Jack Waugh

John C. "Jack" Waugh is a journalist turned historical reporter. For 17 years (1956 to 1973) he was a staff correspondent and bureau chief on The Christian Science Monitor. From 1973 to 1976, he was a media specialist on the staff of Republican Vice President Nelson Rockefeller of New York. For six years, 1983 to 1988, he was press secretary to Democratic U. S. Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico. Between these stints in the newspaper and political worlds, and since, he has contributed to various magazines and periodicals, including Civil War History, American Heritage, Civil War Times Illustrated, Columbiad, The Washington Post Book World, The New York Times, The New Republic, The Nation, The Los Angeles Times Magazine, The Boston Globe, The Boston Herald American, and Country Magazine.

Over the years he has also been a consultant to various establishments and agencies--National Archives and Records Administration, U. S. Department of Energy, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Atlantic Richfield Company,

President's Council on Environmental Quality, Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), and West Virginia Public Radio. In 1972 he won the American Bar Association's Silver Gavel Award for the best national reporting, for a series on American prisons.

He began writing history--books on the Civil War era--in 1989, and has since written and published eleven—six full-size narratives and four shorter works. One of these was a collaboration with two co-authors on a book titled *How Historians Work*. His twelfth book, *Lincoln and the War's End*, is just out, published in October by Southern Illinois University Press.

Waugh believes that covering the past is not unlike covering the present. The only difference is that all his sources are dead. He greatly prefers it that way. It also means he can return to his favorite century, the 19th, on a daily basis.

His first book, *The Class of 1846*, won the New York Civil War Round Table's Fletcher Pratt Literary Award for the best non-fiction book on the Civil War published in 1994. His five other major works are *Reelecting Lincoln* (1997), *Surviving the Confederacy* (2002), *On the Brink of Civil War* (2003), *One Man Great Enough* (2007), and *Lincoln and McClellan* (2010). His shorter works include *Sam Bell Maxey and the Confederate Indians*, (1995), *Last Stand in Mobile*, (2001), *Edwin Cole Bearss: History's Pied Piper* (2003), and *20 Good Reasons to Study the Civil War* (2004).

In 2000 he received the Dallas Civil War Round Table's Grady McWhiney Award of Merit for contributions to the scholarship and preservation of Civil War History. In 2012 the Fort Worth Civil War Round Table awarded him its Pate Distinguished Serviced Award "in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Civil War History." In 2013 the Houston Civil War Round Table presented him its Frank Vandiver Award of Merit. He also holds a History Award Medal from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Waugh was born in California, raised in Arizona, and now lives in Pantego, Texas. He is a product of the Tucson public schools and the University of Arizona (1951--journalism major, history minor). He is married to Kathleen Diane Lively, a social work administrator and a Texan. He and has two grown children: Daniel, a lawyer in Providence, Rhode Island, and Eliza, a teacher in Austin, Texas. He is grandfather to four grandchildren, two boys and two girls.

DECEMBER BOOK RAFFLE

By Donnie Stowe



I'm sure I am not the only one that enjoyed our program with John Michael Priest on November 20th - and we still have a lot of great speakers to come.

For our December book raffle we begin with a book donated by Charlie Mitchell. It is ***THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE*** by Stanley F. Horn. Next up is ***EYE OF THE STORM*** --Written and Illustrated by Private Robert Knox Sneden. Edited by Charles E Bryan, Jr. and Nelson D. Lankford – this volume is from the Estate of Gladys F. Glower. Private Sneden was a union mapmaker and for two years was in a "singular position to see many of the Civil War's greatest campaigns firsthand". Third in the raffle is ***THE ROAD TO DISUNION - Secessionists Triumphant 1854-1861*** by William W. Freehling and donated by our president Nate Jennings. The final book selection this month is ***ROBERT E. LEE - A Biography*** by Emory M. Thomas and donated by Mike Malito.

With Christmas just around the corner, I want to wish everyone a joyous and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And just in case jolly old St. Nick brings you a book or two that you already have, please remember the Raffle.

Without your help with donated books and magazines; this raffle wouldn't be the same.

Membership Committee New Chairman

Dr Brad York has been asked and has agreed to accept the vacant position of Chairman of the Membership Committee for Houston CWRT. He will be assembling this committee in the near future. If you have an interest in helping Dr. York in this endeavor, please contact him via email at byork7@comcast.net or Membership@HoustonCivilWar.com.



JANUARY SILENT AUCTION

There will be a silent auction at the January HCWRT meeting. Items donated by Mrs. Triplett will be for sale. These include around 20 books, tapes of Ken Burn's Civil war series and some bookends of Rebel soldiers. Shelby Foote's 3 volume series on the war, Bud Robertson's bio. Of Stonewall Jackson are among the books. Bring your checkbook!

NOVEMBER QUIZ

By Jim Godlove

The Compromise of 1850 saw speeches by some of the most distinguished senators in our history. Too weak to speak for himself, one prominent senator had his speech opposing the Compromise read by Sen. James Mason of Virginia.



Who was this giant of the Senate who would die on March 31, 1850; and, what state did he represent?

Civil War Bits and Pieces

The "Army Itch". When you're fighting a war, you get used to many inconveniences. Bad food, constant manual labor, wet boots, and, of course, actually having to kill other human beings—all major drawbacks of the life of a wartime soldier. However, the Civil War had one extra horror to throw in the mix.

The "Army Itch" was a dermatological terror that spread through the regiments, getting worse by the month throughout the conflict. It was a mysterious condition that caused men's skin to swell and blister, to the point where they became a mass of sores and painful, pus-oozing lacerations. What's more, their entire skin itched constantly and uncontrollably. Some men's hands swelled so badly that their fingers couldn't touch each other.

The true cause of the itch remained a mystery until 2006, when researchers were able to determine its true cause as epidemic scabies, a particularly hostile mite infection that swept through the armies in the less-than-hygienic conditions of the barracks and battlefields.

POET'S CORNER

This month we are pleased to share a poem with our readers that was written and submitted to the editor by one of the HCWRT members.

THE THIEF

by Marilyn Wilbert

The leaf is deep red, swaying

together with others,

Peacefully, not wishing to witness

the death of brothers.

It is Autumn, snow storms

not yet bold,

There lie the two soldiers,

not yet cold.

To those who love them, their

whereabouts are a mystery,

News received will bring deep

sorrow, as throughout history.

War, the Thief, comes forth

an army to unite,

Of the brothers' sacrifice, we

must never lose sight.

THE HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

2014 - 2015 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

Dec. 11, 2014 - John Waugh – *“The Compromise of 1850”*

Jan. 15, 2015 - Ed Bearss – *“Battle of Five Forks”*

Feb. 19, 2015 - Keith Bohannon – *“Battle of Chickamauga”*

Mar. 19, 2015 - Dr. Sally Anne Schmidt – *“The Nau Civil War Collection”*

Apr. 16, 2015 - Gordon Rhea – *“Grant's Overland Campaign - 1864”*

May 21, 2015 - Eric Jacobson – To Be Determined

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