



General Orders

Jennings' Brigade

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May
2015

www.houstoncivilwar.com



May 2015 MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 2015

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 May 18, 2015
Dinner \$30; Lecture Only \$10

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

The HCWRT Presents
Eric Jacobson

Speaking on:
Baptism of Fire - in the Federal
Lines at Franklin

The Houston Civil War Round Table has had presentations in past years about the terrible Battle of Franklin, Tennessee in November of 1864 - particularly featuring Confederate Generals John Bell Hood, Patrick Cleburne, Hiram Granbury, and Granbury's Texas Brigade. Our speaker, Eric Jacobson, will take us to the other side of the entrenchments and into the heart of the Federal battle lines at Franklin.

Eric Jacobson will cover the stories of three Federal regiments that found themselves caught up in the center of the maelstrom at the Battle of Franklin. These regiments - the 44th Missouri, 175th Ohio, and 183rd Ohio - which had never before been in combat, ended up fighting side by side and played a crucial part in determining the

outcome of the battle. Their roles, which have never before been understood or even studied in any sort of in depth way, offer a fresh perspective on what truly happened at Franklin as the outcome of the battle hung in the balance. For generations it has been generally accepted that Col. Emerson Opdycke's Brigade saved the Federal army at Franklin. In truth, it was the 44th Missouri, 175th Ohio, and 183rd Ohio which did as much as anyone that terrible day to stem the Confederate breakthrough. Unfortunately, their valiant efforts, and heavy losses, were obscured by time until they were almost universally forgotten.

How and why these units were raised in late 1864, and how they played into the events of November 30, 1864, will be covered during the talk and leave everyone with a whole new perspective on the fateful and decisive Battle of Franklin.

SILENT AUCTION

Thursday: May 21, 2015
From the collection of
Harry Bonds...

There will be a silent auction at the meeting this month! Two framed prints from Harry Bonds will be on the block.

1. A print entitled "The Gettysburg Battlefield" (38 1/2" by 26 1/2")
2. A signed & numbered print entitled "Death of Corporal Rihl - 1863" - by Mark Twain Noe, #189 of 500 (22 1/2" x 18 1/2")

Bring your checkbooks! Bid early and often!

About Eric Jacobson



Mr. Eric Jacobson

Eric A. Jacobson has been studying the American Civil War for nearly 25 years. He is currently the Chief Executive Officer and Historian for the Battle of Franklin Trust, which manages the Carter House and Carnton. A Minnesota native, Eric lived in Arizona for over a decade. While there he, along with two other principals, started and ran a small business, which grew to over 150 employees by 2003. Eric left Arizona to pursue other interests and relocated to Middle Tennessee in 2005

He is the author of ***For Cause & For Country: A Study of the Affair at Spring Hill and the Battle of Franklin***, a project which encompassed nearly 10 years. The book was published in March 2006 and is considered by some to be one of the most important books ever written about the 1864 Tennessee Campaign. Eric's second book, ***The McGavock Confederate Cemetery***, was published in April 2007. His third book, entitled ***Baptism of Fire***, which details the roles of three Federal regiments at the Battle of Franklin, was released in September 2011. He is currently working on his fourth book.

Eric has worked with preservation organizations such as the Civil War Trust, Franklin's Charge, and Save The Franklin Battlefield for nearly a decade to reclaim and preserve important sections of the Spring Hill and Franklin battlefields. He has also been one

of the driving forces behind the installation of dozens of Civil Wars Trail markers across Middle Tennessee. He lives in Spring Hill, Tennessee, not far from the battlefield.

James McPherson 2015 Vandiver Award Recipient *By Gary Chandler*

The Houston Civil War Round Table is honored to announce that the 2015 Frank E. Vandiver Award of Merit will be presented to James M. McPherson. Since 1982, the HCWRT has presented its prestigious Frank E. Vandiver Award of Merit annually in recognition of an individual or an organization making a substantial contribution to the preservation of our Civil War heritage. The Vandiver Award is named for the late Civil War historian and former President of Texas A&M University, the University of North Texas, and Rice University, who also was a member of the HCWRT.



Dr. James M. McPherson

James M. McPherson was born in North Dakota and grew up in Minnesota, where he graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1958. After graduate study at Johns Hopkins University, from which he received a Ph.D. in 1963, he taught at Princeton University for forty-two years until his retirement in 2004. His books

on the Civil War era have won several prizes, including the Pulitzer Prize in History (1989) for ***Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era***, and two Lincoln Prizes (1998 and 2009) for ***For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War*** and ***Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief***. He has also won the Pritzker Prize for lifetime achievement in military writing (2007) and the Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. Prize of the Society of American Historians for literary distinction in historical writing (2014). He is a member of several professional associations, including the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and has served as president of the Society of American Historians (1999-2000) and the American Historical Association (2003-04). He has been active in Civil War battlefield preservation and is a member of the board of the Gettysburg Foundation and of the advisory board of the Civil War Trust. His most recent book is ***The War That Forged a Nation: Why the Civil War Still Matters*** (2015).

volumes to share with us each meeting. Please keep the HCWRT in mind when you do some of your Spring-cleaning and donate a well-read book or magazine for our raffles.

MAY QUIZ By Jim Godlove

At the Battle of Franklin (Nov. 30, 1864) Hood's Army of the Tennessee launched a desperate charge against Union works. The attack resulted in over 6200 Confederate casualties including several generals.



Can you name the two Confederate generals killed at Franklin who had Texas towns named for them?

MAY BOOK RAFFLE By Donnie Stowe



I hope this last raffle before our summer break will be one of our best. I start it off with ***The STORY of the CONFEDERACY*** written by

Robert Selph Henry and a forward by Douglas Southall Freeman. This volume comes to us from the estate of our late member Lee Adams. The second book is ***The WAR FOR THE UNION: The Organized War to Victory 1864-1865*** by Allan Nevins and is a donation from Jim Godlove. Next up is ***SOLDIERS BLUE AND GRAY*** by James I. Robertson, Jr. This book comes with a personalized inscription by the author to a Mary Louise. A fourth book for this end of campaign raffle is ***WHILE IN THE HANDS OF THE ENEMY-Military Prisons of the Civil War*** by Charles W. Sanders, Jr. The last selection is a Civil War Trust Special Preservation Edition titled: ***COMMANDING THE STORM*** - by John Richard Stephens.

I wish to continue my thanks and praise to all you members bringing in these marvelous

OFFICER AND BOARD NOMINATIONS FOR 2015-16

President	Gary Chandler
Vice-President	Danny Huckabee
Secretary	Ben Ramsey
Treasurer	Mitchell Tomlinson
Past President	Nate Jennings

Directors	Roland Bienvenu
	Barry Brueggeman
	Marsha Franty
	Mike Harrington

The committee chairs remain the same:

Quizmaster	Jim Godlove
Field Trip Chair	Barry Brueggeman
Book Raffle Chair	Donnie Stowe
Membership Chair	Brad York
Reservations	Don Zuckero
Newsletter Editor	Philip Brown

These nominations were made at the April meeting and will be voted on by the membership at the May 21 meeting.

2015 Fall Field Trip **“On to Atlanta!”** ***By Barry Brueggeman***

Our Fall Field Trip this year will be to Georgia to investigate the Atlanta Campaign. Dr. Brian Steel Wills gave us a very informative lecture in September on the campaign, and we will be fortunate to have him as our tour guide this fall. Dr. Wills is Director of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era and Professor of History at Kennesaw State University.

The Field Trip will begin with a flight at 9:15 am from Houston’s Bush Intercontinental Airport on Thursday, October 29, with arrival back in Houston at 6:05 pm on Monday, November 2.

Upon arrival in Atlanta we are planning to visit the Atlanta Cyclorama and Civil War Museum and then proceed to our hotel in Kennesaw. Dr. Wills will present an overview of the campaign that evening. The next day we will start the campaign in Dalton or Resaca and follow the campaign south back toward the hotel.

The second day of touring will cover the sites around Kennesaw such as the Battle of

Kennesaw Mountain and on the third day we will be touring around Atlanta. The Atlanta Campaign covers a huge area, but we hope to visit as many of the battlefields as possible as well as two or three museums.

We are still negotiating with the hotel and bus company so we do not have a firm price, yet. As a data point, last year’s four-day trip to Gettysburg was \$1100 for a double room and \$1300 for a single - that cost including airfare, hotel, bus, tour guide, and admission fees. This year’s trip will be a bit higher since it covers five days instead of four. I will forward you more information when we have the cost and itinerary firmed up in June.

Reserve your place on the trip by forwarding a \$300 deposit per person (made out to HCWRT) to Barry Brueggeman, 3706 Lonnie Wood Drive, Houston, TX 77059. Deposits are fully refundable until we have to pay for the nonrefundable airline tickets in August.

If you have questions, you can contact Barry at (281) 480-1130 or bqbrueg@aol.com or Fieldtrips@HoustonCivilWar.com.

HCWRT at The 2015 University of Virginia Civil War Signature Conference



(L to R): Rick Eiserman (Nov. 2015 HCWRT Speaker), Bruce Ruisard, Marsha Franty, and Gary Chandler

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.)

- \$45 – Individual
 \$50 – Family
 \$20 - Student or Out-of-State

Joining between Jan. 1 AND APR. 30

- \$23 – Individual - Joining in Jan – Apr
 \$25 – Family - Joining in Jan – Apr
 \$15 – Student or Out-of-State - Joining in Jan – Apr

ADDRESS / INFORMATION UPDATE ONLY

Name: _____
(FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

Month and Year of Birth: _____, Male, Female

Address: _____

City: _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

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)

Month and Year of Birth: _____, Male, Female

Relationship to Applicant: _____

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 to inquire.

Mail your completed application to: **Houston Civil War Round Table**
P. O. Box 4215
Houston, TX 77210-4215

**THE HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
2015 - 2016 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB
PRELIMINARY—AS OF MAY 12, 2015**

Sep. 17, 2015 - Richard Sommers:

“Decision at Darbytown: The Final Full Fight of Lee’s Texas Brigade”

Oct. 15, 2015 - Richard McCaslin:

“Lost Cause Legacy: Rip Ford and the Rio Grande Expeditionary Force”

Nov. 19, 2015 - Rick Eiserman: *“Will the Real Private Joe Joskins Please Step Forward?”*

Dec. 10, 2015 - Andrew Hall: *“Civil War Blockade Running on the Texas Coast”*

Jan. 21, 2016 - Ed Bearss: *“The Kentucky Campaign and the Battle of Perryville”*

Feb. 18, 2016 - Charles Gear: *“In Defense of My Native State—Why Texans Fought”*

Mar. 17, 2016 - Gary Joiner: *“Naval Operations in the Red River Campaign”*

Apr. 21, 2016 - Caroline Janney:

“Remembering the Civil War: Reunion and the Limits of Reconciliation”

May 19, 2016 - To Be Determined (May be 2016 Vandiver Award winner or other speaker)



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Houston, TX 77210-4215**

