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General Orders

Godlove's Brigade

Vol. 29
No. 8
March
2018



MARCH, 2018 MEETING
Thursday, March 15, 2018

The HESS Club
5430 Westheimer Rd @ Westheimer Way
6:00 Cash Bar
6:45 Dinner & Meeting
7:30 Program Begins

E-mail Reservation is Preferred;
E-mail Don Zuckero at drzuckero@sbcglobal.net,
or call (281) 479-1232 by 6 pm Monday, March 12,
2018
Dinner \$32; Lecture Only \$10

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

The HCWRT Presents

Gordon Rhea Speaking on:

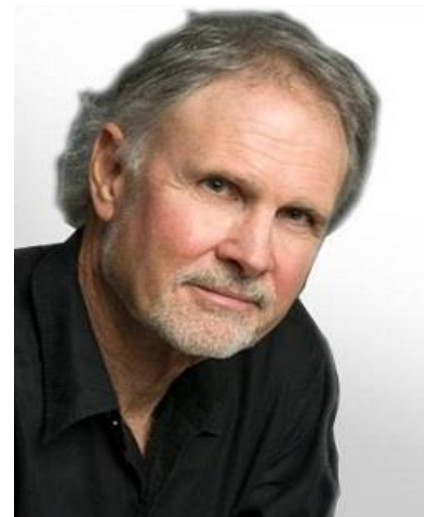
***“On to Petersburg: Grant and Lee,
June 4 – 15, 1864”***

Gordon Rhea will speak to our Round Table on the general subject of his latest (and concluding) book on the Overland Campaign: ***On to Petersburg***.

Rhea's talk will focus on events that occurred in Virginia during a 12-day period, June 4 -15, 1864, beginning with the immediate aftermath of U.S. Grant's disastrous attack on Confederate troops at Cold Harbor, continuing with the movement of Grant's forces across the James River and concluding with the Union's initial assault on Petersburg and the Confederate response. In Rhea's view, this failed assault on June 15 marks the true end of the Overland Campaign.

Rhea's talk with touch on what he views as Grant's primary goal -- to destroy Lee's army by closing off its retreat routes and disrupting its supply chains – and the principal reasons Grant fell short of realizing that goal by June 15.

Rhea will also assess the performance of Robert E. Lee and the Confederates during this critical 12-day period.



Gordon Rhea

About Gordon Rhea

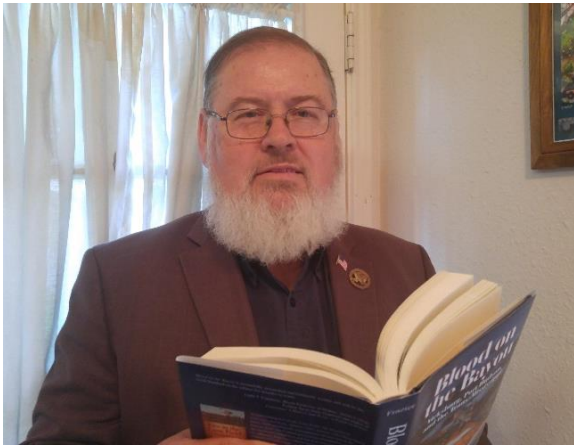
Having spoken to our Round Table several times over the past decade, Gordon C. Rhea needs little introduction to many of our members.

Rhea is undoubtedly one of our most popular speakers. You won't want to miss his presentation at our March 15 meeting!

A native southerner, Rhea holds history degrees from Indiana University and Harvard plus a law degree from Stanford. A resident of Charleston, SC, Rhea juggles the practice of law with Civil War historiography. He has authored several award-winning books about

the Overland Campaign, and his most recent book on this subject, *On to Petersburg*, is already drawing praise from the Civil War community.

A popular tour guide of Overland Campaign sites in Virginia, Rhea has also lectured throughout the country on Civil War military history. Rhea has appeared on the History, A&E, and Discovery networks and, in addition to his full-length books, he has written numerous articles in scholarly and popular publications. In 2014, our Round Table bestowed on Rhea our annual Frank E. Vandiver Award of Merit. Rhea has received a similar recognition, the Laney Prize, from the Austin Civil War Round Table.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *By Jim Godlove*

We had a most dynamic speaker for our February meeting. In addition to a fine discussion on the Camden Expedition, Mark Christ reminded us of the importance of battlefield preservation. He told us about the Civil War Trust and local efforts to preserve the Arkansas Civil War sites of Elkin's Ferry and Prairie D'Ane. Mark is a recipient of the Civil War Trust's State Preservation Leadership Award.

If you are not a supporter of the Civil War Trust (CWT), please consider becoming one. CWT is dedicated to the preservation of America's battlefields. Although its efforts are largely devoted to saving Civil War battlefields, it also helps to preserve battlefields of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

Several years ago, I became a CWT supporter when Frank O'Reilly spoke about the importance of the Slaughter Pen at Fredericksburg. CWT led the preservation of that hallowed ground. Check out the CWT website for information on its many programs and efforts to save battlefields.

While visiting the CWT website, please sign your support for a Congressional Gold Medal for Ed Bearss. There is no one more deserving of a medal than Ed – a WW II vet, historian, battlefield guide and preservationist!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT *By Scott Wilkey*

Once again, we are fortunate to have Mr. Gordon Rhea speaking at this month's meeting. As most of you already know, Gordon is the author of perhaps the finest history that has been written regarding the 1864 Overland Campaign.

Throughout our past few campaigns, the HCWRT has been fortunate to have secured a veritable "Who's Who" of Civil War historians, authors, and preservationists. Names such as: Bearss, Gallagher, Wills, Jordan, Frazier, Janney, Rhea, Motts, Sommers, Wittenberg, Greene, Ural, Hall, Bonekemper, Jacobson, Cotham, Hood, Varon, Priest and Schmutz, along with a host of other fascinating speakers too numerous to name. Their contributions to the study of the American Civil War could stretch for miles across our bookshelves (as many of us already know too well!)

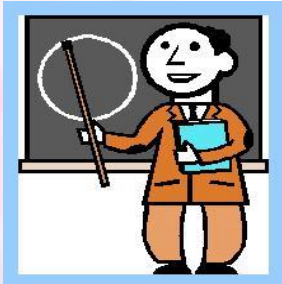
The ONLY reason we are able to bring such high-quality talent before you month after month, year after year, is expressly because of the dues you pay as HCWRT members. Unlike many other Round Tables across the country, the HCWRT does not pay "honorariums" or speaker fees to presenters. Your dues cover travel and lodging expenses, but that is all. Without your generosity, we could not afford this arrangement. We sincerely thank you for continuing your annual membership. And if you are contemplating renewing your membership or encouraging a friend, family member, or colleague to join, the beginning of the year is a great time to do so – membership dues through

May are *half-price* (check out our web site for details).

Your funds go much further than you might think. Please help us to continue bringing the foremost experts in this field of study by sending in your dues and joining today!

MARCH QUIZ by Jim Godlove

Q. After the Battle of Cold Harbor, U. S. Grant left R. E. Lee in the dark by one of the most impressive military maneuvers of the war. Union troops crossed the James River and threatened Petersburg. If Petersburg had fallen, the Civil War may have ended in the Summer of 1864. However, due to Union blunders and the impressive actions of the Confederate commander of the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, this did not happen.



Who was this Louisiana full general who saved Petersburg in June 1864?

MANSFIELD BATTLE SITE PRESENTATION

The Mansfield (LA) State Historic Site is conducting a "Profiles in Command" presentation by the park historian on Saturday, March 10th at 2 pm. They invite visitors to come and learn about the commanders who led the armies involved in the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill and how well (or poorly) they performed.

For additional information, call (318) 872-1474 or (888) 677-6267 or visit www.LaStateParks.com.

BOOK RAFFLE By Donnie Stowe

We begin this month's raffle with ***THE WORLD of MATHEW BRADY – Portraits of the Civil War Period*** by Roy Meredith. This book comes from the library of our dearly beloved member Norm Lewis who passed away in 2017. Our second selection is ***LAST TRAIN from ATLANTA*** by A.A. Hoehling and is a donation from C.R. Featherston. As the title indicates, this book gives us a glimpse into the thoughts and actions



of participants in the Atlanta campaign. Next we have ***HORSE SOLDIERS***, a novel of the Civil War by Caleb Glass. This volume came from the collection of Lee Adams. Our fourth book is ***MYTHS & REALITIES of AMERICAN SLAVERY – The True History of Slavery in America*** by John C. Perry. This book came to us from the collection of Dr. Joe Goulding. And last, but not least is ***THE VACANT CHAIR-The Northern Soldier Leaves Home*** by Reid Mitchell.

That's it for our March raffle. Look forward to seeing you at the HESS Club once again!

BATON ROUGE SYMPOSIUM

The Baton Rouge Civil War Round Table is holding its second annual symposium, entitled "Civil War Life: Sex, Lies, and Tintypes." It is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 27th and 28th, and includes a Friday evening speakers' reception.

Speakers will include Terry L. Jones, Stephen Davis, Samuel C. Hyde, Jr., and Bill Gurley.

The symposium will feature book and relic vendors, live music, artifacts, and interactive displays.

For full information, go to www.brcwrt.com or call (225) 937-2782.

THE HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

2017 - 2018 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

Mar 15, 2018 Gordon Rhea: *“On to Petersburg: Grant and Lee, June 4 - 15, 1864”*

Apr. 19, 2018 Lesley J. Gordon: *“The 2nd Texas at Shiloh”*

May 17, 2018 To Be Determined – *Holding for 2018 Vandiver Award recipient*

www.HoustonCivilWar.com



Houston Civil War Round Table
c/o Barry G. Brueggeman
3706 Lonnie Wood Drive
Houston, TX 77059

