



General Orders

Harrington's Brigade

Vol. 30
No. 2
Sept.
2018

www.houstoncivilwar.com

SEPTEMBER 20, 2018 MEETING
Thursday, September 20, 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,
September 17, 2018
Dinner \$32; Lecture Only \$10

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

The HCWRT Presents Dr. Danny Sessums Speaking On:

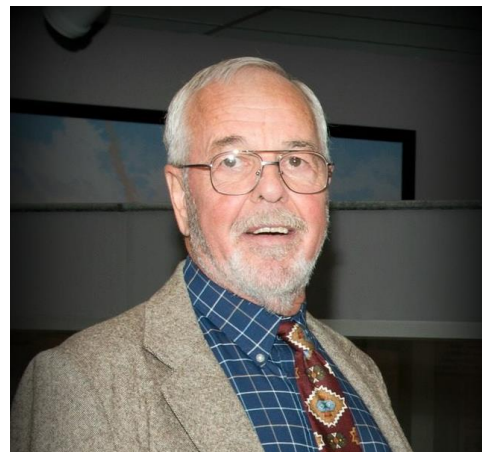
"Hiram Granbury's Texas Brigade at the Battle of Franklin"

On an Indian summer afternoon, November 30, 1864, the once-vaunted Confederate Army of Tennessee stood poised atop the Winstead Hills overlooking Franklin, Tennessee, awaiting the final word to advance. On the pike itself, the famed Texas Brigade known simply as "Granbury's" had its left affixed on the roadbed, its distinctive blue and white Hardee's flags whipping in the breeze. In a gloaming sunset, the "finest brigade in the best division" of John Bell Hood's army would shortly experience a

debacle virtually unique among Rebel troops: Nearly all would be killed, wounded, or captured in the coming attack.

About Dr. Danny Sessums

A native of the Texas Panhandle town of Borger, Danny Sessums received an undergraduate degree in anthropology from Texas Tech University. Sessums did graduate work in U.S. history at U.T. Arlington in 1981-84, and during 1983-87 he studied antebellum history at LSU, where he received his Ph.D. Sessums' postdoctoral career combined museum work with teaching U.S. history at the following: Port Hudson Commemorative Area, 1983-86; Old Fort Museum & Western-Arkansas Community College, 1986-90; and Museum of the Gulf Coast and Assistant Professor, Lamar University – Port Arthur, 1990-98. Subsequently he served as: Associate Professor at Arkansas State University, 1998-2001; Director, George Ranch History Park, Fort Bend County, 2001-2002; and Director, Museum of the Gulf Coast/Houston Baptist University, 2002-2009.



Danny Sessums

After his retirement from HBU, Sessums and his wife Candace relocated to the Tyler area. Last year, Sessums published volume I of *A Force To Be Reckoned With (A History of Granbury's Texas Infantry Brigade 1861-65)*, a culmination of his research into this illustrious brigade that began with his doctoral dissertation more than 30 years ago. He is currently preparing the concluding volume II for publication. Sessums has also taken an active role in multiple Civil War re-enactments, and was a historical advisor to the director of the Civil War film "Glory."



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *By Mike Harrington*

I bid you a warm welcome to the 2018-2019 Campaign of the Houston Civil War Round Table. The mission of our organization remains the same as the one proclaimed in our charter, way back in the mid-1950s: The study and discussion of the history, battles, personalities and other significant events of the Civil War era. If we require a reminder of the importance of a better understanding of these events, we need only look to the spate of recent desecrations of Confederate monuments in places like Chapel Hill, North Carolina and College Station.

We have an exciting roster of speakers lined up for this Campaign, beginning with my old friend, Dr. Danny Sessums. The full list of

upcoming speakers and their topics is on the back of this newsletter.

For the September meeting only, Don Zuckero will be taking reservations. Please be sure to make your reservations with Don by **Monday, September 17** for either the dinner and lecture or for the lecture only. After this meeting, Barry Brueggeman will be handling reservations.

If you have not yet paid your dues, please do so promptly by mailing a check to Barry Brueggeman at the address indicated in this newsletter. Our organization does not have an endowment, so we are financially dependent upon your dues.

The Book Raffle is a staple of each of our meetings. It's also a fun way to help support our Round Table as well as add to your Civil War library. So please consider purchasing raffle tickets. We owe a big round of thanks to Donnie Stowe for his continued willingness to administer this important task.

See you on the 20th. And bring a friend if you can!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT *By Scott Wilkey*

The Membership Committee is proud to welcome three new members who have joined the HCWRT for the 2018-2019 "Campaign": Jason Guilbeau, Scott Jeansonne, and Steve Shuster.

When you see these members at our meetings, please introduce yourself and make them feel welcome! It is always great to see new faces join us. We're excited to "catch up" with all our returning members during the September meeting – welcome back!

Your membership committee has been working this summer to find ways to attract new members, and also exploring beneficial services for our existing members. As always, we would love your feedback and ideas! You can also assist us by bringing a friend, family member or co-worker the next time you attend. Additionally, please encourage others to "like" our [Facebook](#) page and visit our [website](#). "Word

of mouth” is our best recruitment tool We’ll have updated membership brochures available at next month’s meeting. If you are able to help us distribute them in locales (history appropriate) you frequent, we would greatly appreciate the extra help.

A Friendly Reminder: If you have not yet sent in your 2018-2019 dues, please mail your check (or bring it to the September meeting) to Treasurer Barry Brueggeman as soon as possible (the mailing address can be found on the return address page in this newsletter). Your dues are vital in helping the HCWRT continue to bring you quality speakers year after year!

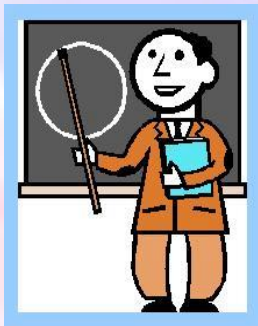


Outgoing President Jim Godlove (on left) presenting the 2018 Vandiver Award to Dave Roth at our May meeting

SEPTEMBER QUIZ

By Jim Godlove

Hiram B. Granbury was so highly respected by his Texans that they always used his name when referring to their brigade. Granbury was colonel of the 7th Texas Infantry when he assumed command of that brigade upon the wounding of Gen. James A. Smith.



What was the name of the battle in which Gen. Smith was wounded?

UPDATE ON GARY GALLAGHER

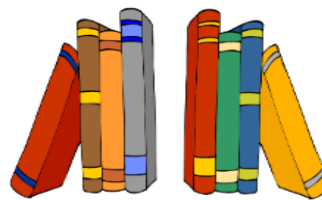
We recently learned that our 2017 Vandiver Award winner, Dr. Gary Gallagher, has retired from teaching at the University of Virginia and is now a fellow at the Huntington Library in California. Dr. Gallagher is currently working on a book tentatively entitled “*How Scholars and the Public Understand the Great American Crisis.*”

BOOK RAFFLE

By Donnie Stowe

Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer vacation and welcome back to a new campaign. We start this month’s raffle with **THE CIVIL WAR MEMORIES of ELIZABETH BACON CUSTER** by Arlene Reynolds. This volume is reconstructed from her diaries and notes. Next in our lineup is **GETTYSBURG** by Stephen W. Sears. This book is from Joseph “Doc” Goulding’s collection. The third book this month is **JOHN RANSOM’S DIARY** by Ransom (of course) and with an Introduction by Bruce Catton. The original diary was destroyed by fire some years after the conflict but its contents had been printed in a series of letters to the Jackson,

(Michigan) Citizen newspaper. The fourth selection is **GRAY GHOSTS and REBEL RAIDERS – The Daring Exploits of the**



Confederate Guerillas by Virgil Carrington Jones. The final book this month is of special interest. It is a 1960, First Edition **JUBAL’S RAID** by none other than Frank E. Vandiver.

Members are encouraged, as always, to donate some of your well read books or a small monetary donation for purchase of books to continue a valuable support to our raffle.

THE HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

2018 - 2019 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

- Sept. 20, 2018 Danny Sessums: *“Hiram Granbury’s Texas Brigade at the Battle of Franklin”*
- Oct. 18, 2018 Peter Carmichael: *“War for the Common Soldier”*
- Nov. 15, 2018 Stephen Davis: *“General John B. Hood’s Efforts to Defend Atlanta, July 18 – Sept. 2, 1864”*
- Dec. 13, 2018 Kevin Weddle: *“Samuel Francis Dupont – Lincoln’s Tragic Admiral”*
- Jan. 17, 2019 Edwin C. Bearss: *“Brice’s Crossroads and Tupelo – Summer 1864”*
- Feb. 21, 2019 Catherine Clinton: *“Stepdaughters of History: Southern Women and the Civil War”*
- Mar. 21, 2019 Lorien Foote: *“The Sternest Feature of War: Retaliation in the Trans-Mississippi”*
- Apr. 18, 2019 John Fazio: *“Intrepid Mariners”*
- May 16, 2019 To Be Determined - holding for 2019 Vandiver Award Recipient

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

