



# General Orders

## Harrington's Brigade

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[www.houstoncivilwar.com](http://www.houstoncivilwar.com)

**FEBRUARY, 2019 MEETING**  
**Thursday, February 21, 2019**

**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 Barry Brueggeman at [bgbrueg@aol.com](mailto:bgbrueg@aol.com),**  
**or call (281) 480-1130 by 6 pm Monday, February**  
**18, 2019**

**Dinner \$32; Lecture Only \$10**

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

### **The HCWRT Presents** **Catherine Clinton Speaking on:**

#### ***“Stepdaughters of History: Southern Women and the Civil War”***

According to this month's speaker, "we must not hold women to standards which keep them in the sidebars and footnotes, and only those achieving status within a man's world." Dr. Catherine Clinton discusses the roles of women as historical actors within the field of Civil War studies and examines the ways in which historians have redefined female wartime participation. She contends that despite the recent attention, white and black women's contributions remain shrouded in myth and sidelined in traditional historical narratives. Her talk will tackle some of these well-worn assumptions, dismantling prevailing attitudes that consign women to the footnotes of Civil War texts.

Dr. Clinton will highlight some of the debates, led by emerging and established Civil War scholars, which seek to demolish demeaning and limiting stereotypes of southern women as simpering belles, stoic Mammies, Rebel spitfires, or sultry spies. Such caricatures mask the more concrete and compelling struggles within the Confederacy, and in Professor Clinton's analysis, a far more balanced and vivid understanding of women's roles within the wartime South emerges. New historical evidence has given rise to fresh insights, including important revisionist literature on women's overt and covert participation in activities designed to challenge the rebellion and on white women's roles in reshaping the war's legacy in postwar narratives. Increasingly, Civil War scholarship integrates those women who defied gender conventions to assume men's roles—including those few who gained notoriety as spies, scouts, or soldiers during the war.

Through a fuller appreciation of the dynamics of sex and race, this topic promises a broader conversation in our century, inviting us to continue to confront the conundrums of the American Civil War.



**Catherine Clinton**

## About Catherine Clinton

Dr. Catherine Clinton is Professor Emerita at Queen's University Belfast in the United Kingdom where she taught for over a decade before she returned to the U.S. in 2014 to assume the Denman Chair of American History at the University of Texas in San Antonio (UTSA). She earned her undergraduate degree from Harvard, her master's degree from the University of Sussex, and her Ph.D. from Princeton, where HCWRT Vandiver awardee Dr. James McPherson supervised her dissertation.

Dr. Clinton is the author and editor, co-author and co-editor of more than two dozen books, including *The Plantation Mistress: Woman's World in the Old South*, published in 1982. Her most recent book, *Stepdaughters of History: Southern Women and the American Civil War* (2016) was based on the Fleming Lectures she delivered at Louisiana State University in 2012. In 2019, the University of Georgia Press will publish her edited volume *Confederate Statues and Memorialization*.

Professor Clinton serves on advisory councils for *Civil War History*, Ford's Theatre, the *Civil War Times*, and is an elected member of the Society of American Historians. She is a frequent speaker at the Lincoln Forum, has served on Pulitzer Prize juries twice, the Lincoln Prize jury once, and in 2019, she chaired the jury for the Frederick Douglass Prize. Following publication of her *Mrs. Lincoln: A Life* (2009), Dr. Clinton was an advisor for Steven Spielberg's film *Lincoln* (2012). During 2016, she served as the 82nd President of the Southern Historical Association and was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to pursue her research on Union soldiers and insanity during the Civil War era.

## BATON ROUGE SYMPOSIUM

The Baton Rouge Civil War Round Table is sponsoring its third annual symposium. This year's symposium is entitled "Fifty Shades of Blue and Gray" and will be held **April 5 – 7** in Baton Rouge. For additional information, visit [brcwrt.com/2019-symposium.html](http://brcwrt.com/2019-symposium.html) or call John Potts, Program Director, at (225) 937-2782.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *By Mike Harrington*

I hope you took the opportunity to attend our January meeting. Although I was unavoidably absent, I've heard that the talk on Brice's Crossroads by our guest speaker, the inimitable Ed Bearss, was well received. Col. Bearss is a true treasure of the Civil War community, and I stand in awe of the energy and enthusiasm that he retains in his mid-nineties. As I've said before about Ed, "Long may he grow!"

At our February meeting, we will digress from the military side of the Civil War to a presentation about the war on the home front and its effects on Southern womanhood in particular. Our presenter, Dr. Catherine Clinton, holds a chair in American history at UTSA. She has written and spoken widely on the social and cultural aspects of the war, something most of us know too little about.

When we were working up the speakers schedule for the current campaign, my wife shared with me her view that Professor Clinton's topic is the highlight of the entire schedule. Jody will be with me at the meeting, and, without being sexist, I would urge those married men in our Round Table to consider bringing their wives or daughters to the meeting with them.

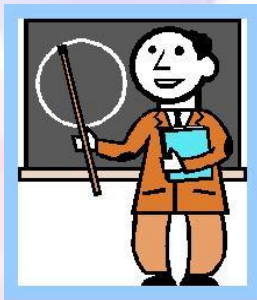
If you've not heard, I have some exciting news for you: **A. Wilson Greene is the winner of this year's Frank E. Vandiver Award of Merit.** We will present the award to Will at our

May meeting, and he has agreed to serve as our speaker at that meeting. We'll have additional information about Will Greene and the Vandiver Award in upcoming editions of the Newsletter.

## FEBRUARY QUIZ

*By Jim Godlove*

Q: One of the most important women of the Civil War was married to a South Carolina senator. Her husband resigned his seat after Lincoln's election. He later became an aide to Jefferson Davis and she began keeping a diary.



*Who was this South Carolinian lady?*

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*By Scott Wilkey*

The Membership Committee is proud to welcome new members **Steve Kinnaman** and **Joe Owen**, who have joined the HCWRT for the second half of the 2018-2019 "Campaign". When you see our newest members at meetings, please introduce yourself and make them feel welcome!

Once again, our January meeting was a huge success – it is always a pleasant way to start off the new year with a visit from Mr. Ed Bearss! This year's "Harrington Campaign" features much emphasis on the Civil War's Western Theater, a subject some of you have mentioned that you feel is neglected by some historians. In keeping with this theme, our February meeting features another subject that does not get enough attention but had a significant impact on both the Northern and Southern war effort: the "home front". Noted scholar Catherine Clinton will be joining us to present "Stepdaughters of History: Southern

Women and the Civil War". Dr. Clinton is certainly an expert on this topic, having been the author and editor of over 25 books. We are truly excited to welcome Dr. Clinton and take a small detour from our usual analysis of battlefields, generals and tactics. We will be posting more about Catherine Clinton and her fascinating topic on our Facebook page (yes, you can see this content even if you do not have a Facebook account) and we look forward to seeing you on the 21<sup>st</sup>!

## BOOK RAFFLE

*By Donnie Stowe*

We start this month's raffle with *ANTIETAM - The Photographic Legacy of America's Bloodiest Day* by William A. Frassanito. The author recreates the battle scene by documenting the dates and camera locations for each view. Next in our lineup is *CAMPAIGNING WITH GRANT* by General Horace Porter. The third book this month is *THE MILITARY MEMOIRS of GENERAL JOHN POPE* Edited



by Peter Cozzens and Robert I. Girardi. This book is from the Library of our quiz master/past president James Godlove. The fourth selection is *THE NORTH REPORTS THE CIVIL WAR* by J. Cutler

Andrews. This is a very readable and comprehensive narrative of the war correspondents on the Northern side of the conflict. The final book this month is *VOICES OF THE CIVIL WAR – An Eyewitness History of the War Between the States* by Richard Wheeler.



# THE HOUSTON CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

## 2018 - 2019 SPEAKERS CAMPAIGN – THE HESS CLUB

- 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 A. Wilson Greene, 2019 Vandiver Award Recipient: *“Our Work Here Progresses Slowly: Grant’s Second Offensive at Petersburg”*

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