

Civil War
ROUNDTABLE
Of
Arkansas

P.O. Box 7281 • LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72217



Our 44rd Year

FOR THE MEETING TUESDAY, February 26, 2008

Meets Fourth Tuesday; January-November

Founded March 1964

Second Presbyterian Church

600 Pleasant Valley Drive

Little Rock

Program at 7 p.m.

Online: www.civilwarbuff.org

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Dues \$15 Per Year

VISITORS WELCOME!

VISIT THE BATTLEFIELDS WHEN YOU CAN...

WHILE YOU CAN

The Action At The Bald Hill Atlanta Campaign

By
Tom Ezell

The large-scale troop movements is not the retreat of the Army of Tennessee, but the movement of Hardee's Corps on a 15-mile circuitous route to attack the Federal left flank in East Atlanta.

Before the battle of Peach Tree Creek, north of the city of Atlanta, General William Tecumseh Sherman ordered his men to advance towards Atlanta. Formed in a semi-circle around the north and east of the Georgia city, they began pressure young John Bell Hood, new commander of the Army of Tennessee.

Moving towards Atlanta from the east, General Francis Blair spotted a high ridge known as "Bald

Hill" and ordered Mortimer Leggett to take the hill. A charge on July 20, 1864 failed to move Patrick Cleburne's crack troops.

The following day, however, Manning Force's brigade successfully gained control of the ridge and immediately dug in, moving artillery to the top of hill. Although artillery shot had reached Atlanta earlier, from this position the Union forces could fire into the town center. Sherman and much of his staff believed that the battle for Atlanta was over.

Tom Ezell is a long time member and has a well-earned reputation as a historian.

AFTER ACTION REPORT

At the January meeting, President Meadows' reported on a brochure that he is developing for the Roundtable and will have a full proposal at the February meeting after the Executive Council has had a chance to review it.

Meadows' announced the membership of the committee to include himself, Vice President Jan Sarna, Secretary C. O. Durnett, Treasurer Brian Brown, At-Large-member Don Hamilton, and immediate Past President Ron Kelly.

He also mentioned that annual dues were now due and a discussion ensued about raising the dues. The discussion was deferred to the February meeting.

The Executive Committee met February 11 and discussed a number of items including increasing dues and our responsibility to the upkeep of the civil war panels around the city. A number of other items were reviewed by the EC and will be presented to the general membership as they are developed.

Speaking of dues, we show the following have paid their dues for the 2008 fiscal year.

Carl Baskin
Brian Bown
Richard Brannon
Edward T. (Tom) Bridgers
Don Curdie
Kay & Charles Durnett
Dennis Fitzgerald
David Gruenewald
Karl T Kimball
Stewart Long
Rick Meadows
Jack Perciful
Pam Ray
Henry Rogers
Alice Anne Russell
Jan Sarna
Norman Savers
Lonnie Spikes
Frank & Cindy Somervell
Robert Trammell
Mikah&Lisa Wisner

DUES REPORT FROM OTHER ROUND TABLES

The Clarksville CWRT Annual dues are as follows:

Single membership - \$20

Family - \$30

Military – active duty and veterans - \$15

Military family - active duty and veterans - \$25

Student - \$10

Middle Tennessee CWRT

Individual \$10

Family \$15

Austin CWRT

Member \$50, \$10 Spouse

Student \$25

Trans-Mississippi CWRT

Individual \$25

Couple \$30

Oklahoma City CWRT

Member \$12 Yankee Currency

Northeast Georgia CWRT

Individual \$20

Family \$25

The Hartford CWRT

Member \$25

Central Delaware CWRT

Individual \$15

Family \$25

CWRT of the District Of Columbia

Member \$15 + Dinner

\$5 without dinner

Tennessee Valley CWRT

Individual \$15

Family \$18

St. Louis CWRT

Adults \$35

Students \$25

Baton Rouge CWRT

Member \$40 plus dinner



DID YOU KNOW?

U.S.Code, Title 36, Chapter 10, §171.

During rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed there.



PRESERVATION TRUST TO SAVE HALLOWED GROUND

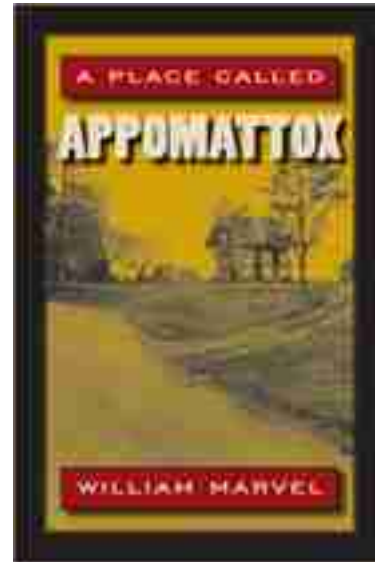
The Civil War Preservation Trust has voted to purchase a ten-acre tract at Devil's Backbone battlefield that includes the area in which Cabell's troops advanced in retrograde through the holding pen for the deserters who happily joined them prior to joining the Union army three days later.

Also CWPT, the nation's largest nonprofit battlefield preservation group, announced earlier this month its first land acquisition campaign of 2008, the protection of 88 acres of hallowed ground at Parker's Cross Roads, Tenn., site of one of the war's most daring cavalry actions.

A Place Called Appomattox

By William Marvel

Available February 2008



Revealing the class and cultural issues that shaped the Civil War through the town where it ended

In *A Place Called Appomattox*, William Marvel turns his extensive Civil War scholarship toward Appomattox County, Virginia, and the village of Appomattox Court

House, which became synonymous with the end of the Civil War when Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant there in 1865. Marvel presents a formidably researched and elegantly written analysis of the county from 1848 to 1877, using it as a microcosm of Southern attitudes, class issues, and shifting cultural mores that shaped the Civil War and its denouement.

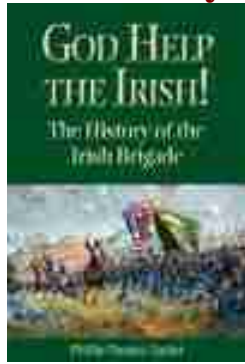
With an eye toward correcting cultural myths and enriching the historical record, Marvel analyzes the rise and fall of the village and county from 1848 to 1877, detailing the domestic economic and social vicissitudes of the village, and setting the stage for the flight of Lee's Army toward Appomattox and the climactic surrender that still resonates today.

Now available for the first time in paperback, *A Place Called Appomattox* reveals a new view of the Civil War, tackling some of the thorniest issues often overlooked by the nostalgic exaggerations and historical misconceptions that surround Lee's surrender.



God Help the Irish!

The History of the Irish Brigade



Phillip Thomas Tucker

THE CIVIL WAR
CONTINUES TO
FASCINATE HISTORIANS
AND GENERAL READERS.

Contemporary Civil War scholarship has brought to light the important roles certain ethnic groups played during that tumultuous time in our nation's history. Two new books, focusing on the participation of Irish immigrants in both the Union and Confederate armies, add to this growing area of knowledge.

While the famed fighting prowess of the Irish Brigade at Antietam and Gettysburg is well known, in *God Help the Irish!* historian Phillip T. Tucker emphasizes the lives and experiences of the individual Irish soldiers fighting in the ranks of the Brigade, supplying a better understanding of the Irish Brigade and why it became one of the elite combat units of the Civil War.

The axiom that the winners of wars write the histories is especially valid in regard to the story of the Irish who fought for the Confederacy from 1861–1865. Throughout the course of the Civil War, Irish Confederates made invaluable contributions to all aspects of the war effort. Yet, the Irish have largely been the forgotten soldiers of the South. In *Irish Confederates: The Civil War's Forgotten Soldiers*, Tucker illuminates these overlooked participants.

Together, the two books provide a full picture of the roles Irish soldiers played in the Civil War.

PHILLIP THOMAS TUCKER, winner of the Douglas Southall Freeman Award in 1993, has written fifteen books on Civil War, Irish, and African American history including *Irish Confederates: The Civil War's Forgotten Soldiers* (McWhiney Foundation Press, 2007). He is an historian for the United States Air Force in Washington, D.C., and lives in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

THE LONG ROAD TO RICHMOND: How Colossal Miscalculations and Audacious Generals Lengthened the Civil War

*The College of William and Mary,
Williamsburg, VA*

April 20-25, 2008

Gain a detailed understanding of the battles and consequences of the crucial Civil War campaigns on the Virginia Peninsula in 1861-62. Lectures will be on Fort Monroe, the 1862 Yorktown Campaign, the Monitor and the Merrimack, and the Seven Days Campaign.

Tours will include Fort Monroe, the site of Big Bethel, Dam No. 1, Civil War entrenchments at Yorktown, the incredible new USS Monitor Center at the Mariners Museum, portions of the battlefield of Williamsburg, and National Park Service guided tours of Gaines's Mill and Malvern Hill, as well as a special trip to Berkeley Plantation, where "Taps" was composed.

Witness the war's impact on towns caught in the middle, women left behind, and slaves hungry for freedom. Investigate how events on a narrow Virginia peninsula tremendously impacted the politics, strategies, and even the length of the Civil War.

Tuition: \$695 per person, double occupancy. Tuition includes all meals (5B, 5L, 5 D), accommodations, and entrance fees. Commuter rate \$395 (does not include breakfasts or lodging). Single room supplement \$160.

For additional information or to register for this week long program, call the William and Mary Elderhostel Office directly at 757-221-3649 or email elderh@wm.edu. Please note that this program is sponsored solely by William and Mary and is not an Elderhostel program. Adults of all ages are welcome.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

February 26 – Tom Ezell
The Action At The Bald Hill

March 25 – George Davis
Battle of Franklin

April 22 --Miss Ellie
The Wound Has Never Healed

May 27 – Cal Collier
TBA

June 24 – Mark Christ
Recruiting Black Regiments

July 22 -- Brig. Gen. Parker Hills (ret) of
Clinton, Mississippi.
Battle of Raymond

August 26 – Dr. Michael B. Dougan
Christian missionaries and Indians -- slavery
and related themes

September 23 -- Dr. Ruth Hawkins
Restoration of the Lakeport Plantation near
Lake Village

October 28 --

November 25

**We Who Study
Must Also Strive To Save!**



The Battle of Dragoon Springs, Arizona Territory

On or about the 5th of May, 1862, Captain Sherod Hunter, commanding Company A, Arizona Rangers, in Tucson, sent a detachment east to round up stray cattle, horses and mules to supply the garrison. The detachment camped near the ruins of the Butterfield Stage Station at Dragoon Springs, approximately 70 miles east of Tucson. The station had been abandoned a few years earlier after a “labor dispute” between Mexican hostlers and the station manager. The dispute resulted in the murder of one Butterfield employee and the attempted murder of the manager. The station is near a source of water from a free flowing spring. A few miles to the south through a pass in the Dragoon Mountains lay the Cochise Stronghold, the home village of the Chiricahua Apache.

The temptation of a herd of 30 some horses and mules along with a quantity of cattle proved too much for Cochise’s warriors. They attacked, killing four troopers and making off with the herd. Those who fell were Captain John Donaldson, Sergeant Sam Ford, Private “Ricardo”, a Hispanic recruit and an unknown Son of the South. The survivors of the attack quickly buried the fallen near the stage station. A Yankee POW who was with the detachment carved two headstones—one for Sergeant Ford and one for Private Ricardo, misspelling his name as “Richardo”. The remaining troopers returned to Tucson. We do not know the number of casualties the Chiricahua suffered.

On the 9th inst., Captain Hunter sent out a patrol to recover the lost livestock. Led by Lieutenant Robert Swope, the patrol ran across several Apaches with the herd and killed five of them, recovering the animals. Private Thomas Farrell wrote this account. *Swope ordered a charge, leading it himself at least three horse-lengths ahead of his men. The Indians dashed for a gulch. Bob Swope shot one Indian who was fixing an arrow to shoot and before the redskin could fall from his horse, Bob had him scalped.*

By now, the so-called California Column, under the command of Colonel Carleton, was nearing Tucson. Facing a superior force and without logistical support, Captain Hunter determined to abandon Tucson. Company A marched eastward on 14 May

1862, returning to La Mesilla and then on to El Paso where the unit rejoined the Arizona Brigade.



Ranch Road until you come to a sign post on your left indicating the direction to the stage station ruins. Turn left and follow this road about 1.5 miles to a parking area. The station ruins and the graves are approximately 200 meters from the parking area. Please note that the final stretch of road is the old Butterfield Road and is not maintained. High clearance vehicles (or very careful driving in sedans) are recommended.



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GROUPS list contacts for today's information
PEOPLE of history

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SEE YOU TUESDAY NIGHT

for Tom Ezell

GOD BLESS AMERICA

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Civil War Round Table Associates

Arizona troopers fought throughout Texas and Louisiana for the remainder of the war. Some Confederate troops did remain in Tucson after Hunter's departure. Lt. James H. Tevis recalled...*I was left in Tucson with a few men as a picket. Union troops surprised us by entering town from the north via Canada del Oro rather than over the main road. They got too close for my health and I left.* The lonely graves at Dragoon Springs remained undisturbed for over 100 years.

The property formerly belonging to the Butterfield Stage Line is now part of the Coronado National Forest and is administered by the US Forest Service. The site is remote and because of that remains much as it did in 1862. The USFS granted care of the graves to the Arizona Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in 1997. The Division installed an interpretive marker and a Cross of Honor at the site. Each year on the Saturday closest to May 5th, the Division holds a memorial ceremony at the grave sites.

To reach Dragoon Springs, take Interstate 10 east from Tucson (or west from the New Mexico line). Exit from Interstate 10 at Dragoon Road (exit 318) in Texas Canyon. Take Dragoon Road south to the present day town of Dragoon. Cross the railroad tracks and turn right on Old Ranch Road, the first road across the tracks. Drive southwest on Old