



President: Jay Ferris

Vice President : Scott Peeler

Treasurer: James "Spike" Speicher

THE TAMPA BAY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE BUGLE CALL



Thoughts from the President

Hello everyone.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter of the Tampa Bay Civil War Round Table.

First, let me thank two of our members for volunteering to fill open positions in our organization. The success of any organization depends on the willingness of its members to do the work necessary for that organization to function.

Jack Bolen, our Founder and past President, has been acting as our Recording Secretary for the past several meetings. Don Clark has volunteered to serve as Sergeant-of-Arms, whose job it is to schedule a conference room for our meetings. Many thanks to Jack and Don.

And, as always, thanks to Jim Weiss for continuing to serve as our newsletter editor. At some point in the future, I will completely shock him and get this column to him in a timely fashion!

In this column, I want to tell you about the trip I made in June to the battlefields of Mill Springs and Perryville, Kentucky. I was driving back to Pittsburgh to visit family and decided to take a few extra days and swing through Kentucky, since I had never been to either battlefield. If you are ever in that area and have never seen the battlefields, I highly recommend a visit.

Mill Springs Battlefield National Historic Landmark does a good job in preserving much of the battlefield. The Visitors Center has a very good museum and a video that covers the campaign and battle. There is a 10-stop driving tour of the area which covers the battlefield and the Confederate approach and retreat. Also, there is a walking trail of about 1 mile that covers the area of the main fighting, the Confederate Cemetery, and the site of Gen. Felix Zollicoffer's death. While the trail is short, there are some steep parts to it. It took me less than 4 hours to see almost everything the battlefield has to offer, but I tend to read every marker and generally take my time to look around. During my time there, I saw only two other visitors.

While at the bookstore, I bought Kenneth A. Hafendorfer's book "Mill Springs: Campaign and Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky". If you do not think it possible to write a 679-page book (including index) on Mill-Springs, Mr. Hafendorfer has proved you wrong.

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(As a comparison, Edwin Coddington's classic "The Gettysburg Campaign: A Study in Command" runs 866 pages). Hafendorfer's book covers the campaign and battle in great detail, mostly at the regimental level. Overall, it is a very good book, although it can be a bit slow in places.

The next stop was Perryville, which I visited over two days. This is not a National Battlefield but a Kentucky State Historic Site. If you ever have the chance, I urge you to go see the battlefield. I think of Perryville as the anti-Gettysburg. There are no crowds (I saw maybe 5 people on the battlefield). There are almost no monuments or statues, just a few scattered around the battlefield. There are, however numerous interpretive tablets at key locations on the battlefield. And at 745 acres, it is much smaller than Gettysburg.

But they do a terrific job with what they have. The area of the battlefield that saw the main fighting on the Union left flank is almost completely preserved. And it looks almost exactly like it did during the battle. The lack of monuments keeps the battlefield looking almost as it did to the soldiers who fought there. But it can make it difficult to see from a distance where troops were stationed. Perryville is a series of ridges, and these ridges blend into one from a distance, with no depth perception. But again, this is what the soldiers saw on Oct. 8, 1862. There were times when the attacking Confederates thought the Union line was on the next ridge, only to discover the line was actually two ridges away.

There is a driving tour that covers the key sites. But by far the best way to see the battlefield, if you are able, is to follow the walking trails. There are 13 trails which cover Perryville. But be forewarned, the trails can be very steep, going up and down ridges, and there is no water. There is a map of the trails at the Visitor's Center.

Many trails will start at a Union position, loop around to where the Confederate attack started, and then follow the route of the attack up and down the steep ridges. It gives a person some appreciation as to how difficult it must have been to charge up these steep slopes.

If you are not very familiar with the battle, as I was not, I suggest you buy the "Battle of Perryville Movement Maps" from the Visitor's Center. This is a very detailed map of the battle at the regimental level. It is indispensable to be able to understand the battle as you take the tour. It also includes an Order of Battle. In addition, by buying the map, you receive 1-year membership in the Friends of Perryville Battlefield. Overall, it is money well spent for an important cause.

The staff of the Visitor's Center is very helpful and knowledgeable. And they were very patient with me while I asked many questions, left for several hours to cover part of the battlefield, and then came back with even more questions.

It has often been stated that a person can read many books about a battle, but not until that person actually walks the ground where the battle was fought can the battle truly be understood. I agree completely with that statement, and look forward to my next opportunity to visit a Civil War battlefield.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting of the Tampa Bay Civil War Round Table.

Past Meeting Review

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Attendance 8. No visitors. President Ferris stated his intention to email Dues Notices to all member. We all agreed that some people simply forget to remit

Treasurer reported a bank balance of \$3,038. He also reported that to date, we have 14 paid members.

John Murphy told us about Captain Francis Irsch, 45th New York Infantry, who died in Tampa in poverty in 1906. His reason for being in Tampa is not known. He is buried here in Woodlawn Cemetery. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism at Gettysburg.

Don Clark told about Confederate veteran, J.E. Hanger, who lost his leg to a cannon ball. Before joining the Army, he had been an engineering student. He designed and built himself an articulated wooden leg. That led to the establishment of the Hanger Artificial Leg Company and the Hanger Artificial Limb Clinics. I found 3 Hanger Clinics located in the Tampa area.

Jack Bolen highly recommended or Treasure's, Colonel Spike, book about a Confederate Artillery Battery. They served in the Army of Northern Virginia under Lee. Jack said he knew very little about artillery and especially liked an Appendix dealing with Artillery units' organization and duties of the soldiers. Col. Spike had an ancestor in the unit. *The Sumter Flying Artillery* is available for \$30 from James L. Speicher, 813-641-6360, colspike@hotmail.com. Note: The "Sumter" name comes from Sumter County, Georgia, not from Fort Sumter, S.C.

Our Program was a group discussion: **What Caused the Civil War?**

Our group listed 4 causes: Loss of political power in the Slave States (11%) Preservation of the Union (11%) Economics/Tariffs (22%) and Slavery (44%). It became clear that these issues are still capable of stirring controversy and emotion today.

Jim Weiss shared quotations from the original Secession Declarations. I compared these 11 documents to our group's opinions. They list: General welfare of their citizens (9%) Lincoln's call for volunteers for invasion (9%) The right to secede (27%) and slavery (55%)

Jack Bolen asked if the only/proper response to secession had to be war?

Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Attendees 8

Treasurer reported a bank balance of \$3,108 with no outstanding debts.

Our program tonight was a group discussion about "The Most Underappreciated General on Each Side"

Past Meeting Review continued

Obviously, this is a highly subjective subject but 7 Generals were selected and discussed:

Union:

George Meade was mentioned by Jim Weiss.

John Gibbon was selected by both Jack Bolen and Jay Ferris.

Confedrate:

James Longstreet was selected by Jim.

Rueben Linsey Walker by Col. Spike.

Robert Rodes by Jack

Robert Taylor by Jay

This was a very interesting discussion about lesser known leaders that did a good job but did not receive the notoriety that perhaps they deserved



Mark your Calendar

Hello everyone. I want to let you know about the upcoming programs for the Tampa Bay Civil War Round Table through January 2020.

There will not be a meeting in August.

September 25, 2019. Jesse Marshall returns as our guest speaker His topic is entitled:” At Dallas We Did Our Share of Fighting...” The Florida Brigade at the Battle of Dallas, Georgia, May 28, 1864.

October 30, 2019. Dr. John Belolavek from the USF History Department will give a presentation on the filibusters of the 1850’s and their attempts to conquer or acquire Cuba and/or parts of Central America. The plan was to then bring these territories into the US as additional slave states.

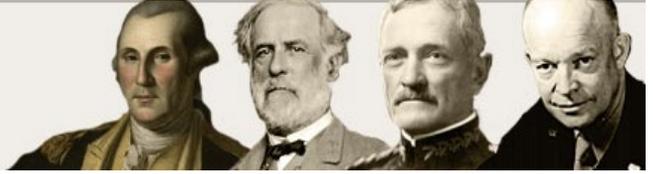
November 20, 2019. Please note that this is a week earlier than normal because of Thanksgiving. I will do a program entitled: “Braxton Bragg Misses an Open Net: The Fiasco at McLemore’s Cove during the Chickamauga Campaign”

We do not meet in December.

January 29, 2020. Phill Greenwalt from the Emerging Civil War returns to do a presentation on the Florida Brigade of the Army on Northern Virginia and its role at the Battle of Gettysburg.

All of our meetings are from 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. at:

**The Children’s Board Building
1002 E. Palm Ave.
Tampa, FL 33605**



The Civil War Home Front

September 10, 2018 by Trevor

During the Civil War more than two million soldiers left their families, homes, farms, and jobs to join the fight. The women were left to maintain the home front. This shift brought increased responsibility and opportunity that would shape the country long after the war ended.

Women were needed to fill critical gaps outside of their typical domestic spheres. In addition to managing homes and families, women worked in factories, mills, and munition plants. They sewed uniforms and bandages. Some served as nurses, such as Carrie Wilkins Pollard, who spent two years caring for the wounded. In 1892, she appealed to Congress and was granted a pension. Although women weren't eligible to enlist as soldiers, as many as 400 did; many under male aliases.

Occasionally, the battlefield and the home front merged into one. Such was the case for Susan M. Alsop. The young widow was in her early 20s and struggling to maintain her farm when in 1864, the Battle of Spotsylvania raged in her front yard. Her property became a burial ground for many. Twenty years later, soldiers visited the Alsop farm, hoping to mark the exact spot where Union Gen. John Sedgwick was killed. One of them presented a \$5 bill to the son of Susan Alsop saying, "On this day twenty years ago I stole a side of bacon from your mother, and I want you to give her this to pay for it." When Alsop sold her farm in 1895, a newspaper article noted that "the Confederate earthworks were still in a good state of preservation."

During the war, many soldiers suffered injuries that resulted in life-long disabilities, including thousands of amputation surgeries. After the war, men and women had to navigate and define new roles and responsibilities. Many women had become accustomed to making decisions, managing finances, and operating farms and businesses. With the men back home, adjustments were required. Some had to adjust to the fact that their men were never coming home. The death of 740,000 Americans left the country stunned and mourning. Typical of mourning practices at the time, many widows donned black dresses to express their grief.

Widows of Union soldiers were entitled to a federal pension. Confederate soldiers and widows weren't eligible and needed to apply to the individual state where they resided to receive a state pension. It wasn't until the 1900s that federal pensions were available to all Civil War soldiers and widows.

Women emerged from the Civil War with a taste of social empowerment that permanently shifted their attitudes. Wartime exposure to responsibilities traditionally managed by men taught women that they were, in fact, capable of filling these roles. This gave a boost to the suffrage movement, and in 1869, the National Woman Suffrage Association formed with the goal of procuring the vote for American women. Search our Civil War archives, including the Civil War Pensions Index and the Civil War Widows Pensions file to learn more about the role women played during the Civil War!



The following is from a group I belong to. We were originally formed by descendants of 5 Georgia Regiments recruited from North Georgia. We are now open to all who share our interest. You do not have to be a member to attend. You can attend either day or both days.

For more information contact me at 813-477-9534 or jbolen@mindspring.com

Jack Bolen, Past President, TBCWRT

19th ANNUAL G.B.S.H.H.A. CONGRESS

CARTERSVILLE, GA

April 2, 2020 – April 5, 2020

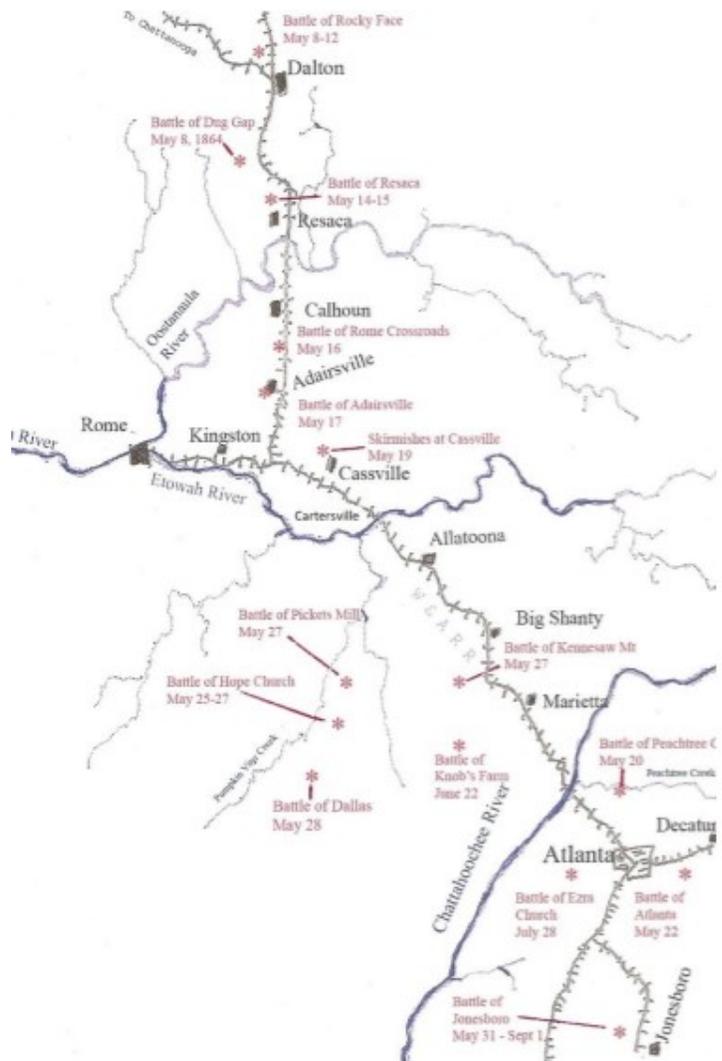
Marriott Fairfield Inn & Suites

20 Canyon Parkway,

Cartersville, Georgia 30120

(I-75 at Exit 288)

On June 1, 1864, Captain L.P. Thomas wrote his wife Jennie that five of his men had been wounded in the previous day's skirmishing along the "Hell Hole," the name given to the ravine next to New Hope Church. The tired officer, who was now commanding the 42nd Georgia, noted that his regiment had sustained nearly 150 casualties since leaving Dalton. The Georgians, he elaborated, had "brought up the rear in all the marches and been in all the fights losing more I have no doubt than any other in killed and wounded." Stovall's Brigade had been complimented "the other day" in Napoleonic style by General Joseph Johnston, "by his calling it the Old Guard." Morale had, "not cooled. We are still confident, and I might say eager for the contest to be settled."



April 2, 2020: Thursday

2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Registration Marriott Fairfield Inn & Suites Meet with other arriving members.

5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Dinner on your own.

7:15 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Welcome/Mixer/Silent Auction Dessert & Silent Auction in the Etowah Room. Old members meet new members. Refreshments & dessert provided. Participate in the Silent Auction.

April 3, 2020: Friday

7:00 to 8:00 - Fairfield Inn has a complimentary hot breakfast. 8:30 A.M. - Travel by charter bus to Cassville (20 minutes) Caseville CSA Cemetery Atlanta Campaign Pavilion #4 Hood's Corps' meets the XX Corps Visit the Confederate ridge line defense 10:00 A.M. - Travel to Kingston (15 minutes) Kingston Confederate Cemetery McCravey-Johnston House Kingston Methodist Church

11:00 A.M. - Travel to Downtown Cartersville (10 Minutes) On your own from 11:15 to 1:30 for lunch and visits to Bartow History Museum, Bartow Genealogical Society, Booth Western Art Museum, Heaven Sent Cupcakes

1:30 P.M. – Charter bus travel to Pickett's Mill, GA (35-minute ride) 2:00 to 3:00 - Battle of Picketts Mill Visitor Center Battlefield Tour 3:15 – 4:00 - Battle of New Hope Church New Hope Battlefield & Cemetery Atlanta Campaign Pavilion #5

4:45 Arrive back at Fairfield Inn

5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. - Dinner on your own

7:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M. Etowah Room - Historic reports; display of historic documents, pictures, letters, and artifacts; and new research by members.

Saturday, April 4, 2020

8:30 A.M. - Travel by charter bus to ruins of the Etowah River RR Bridge (10-minutes) 8:45 to 9:00 A.M. - Stop for photographs and commentary

Historian and Tour Guide Michael Shaffer will join us for the rest of the day 9:00 to 9:30 A.M. – Travel to Marietta Tour Marietta Confederate Cemetery

10:15 to 10:25 Travel to Kolb's Farm Visit Kolb Farm Battlefield 11:00 to 11:10 Travel to Kennesaw Mtn Cheatham Hill

Visitor Center Kennesaw Mtn

12:30 to 12:45 - Pine Mountain 20' stone obelisk marking the spot where General Leonidas Polk fell on June 14, 1864

1:00 – 4:00 P.M. Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History Box Lunches in Theater Presentation by Historian Michael Shaffer Tour of Camp McDonald Wildman's Civil War Surplus

7:00 P.M. – 9:30 P.M. - GBSHHA Annual Banquet Catered Dinner in Etowah Room Our guest speaker is Historian and Author Dr. Stephen Davis Door prizes

Sunday, April 5, 2020

9:00 – 10:00 A.M. - Travel by private car (8 minutes) to Oak Hill Cemetery in Cartersville. Decorate graves.

A



Longer version of our Congress:

Thursday

Please check-in at the Fairfield Inn Thursday afternoon. Dinner is on your own with several well-regarded chain restaurants minutes away: Longhorn Steakhouse, Applebee's, Chick-fil-A, Red Lobster, Cracker Barrel, Panera Bread, etc. In addition, there are more unique restaurant choices ten minutes away in downtown Cartersville.

Save room for dessert, as we will have dessert items in the Etowah Room at the Fairfield Inn. We will start our Silent Auction at 7:15 P.M.

Friday

In the retreat from Resaca in May 1864, Joseph Johnston split his Confederate army at Adairsville. Hardee's Corp headed south down one dirt road to Kingston, while Polk and Hood's Corps' followed another dirt road south to Cassville. Knowing that Sherman had every intention of staying close on the heels of the outnumbered Rebels, Johnston was confident that the Federals would also divide their forces and use both roads. "Old Joe" planned to ambush one wing of his Yankee pursuers at Cassville. We will start our Friday fieldtrip with visits to both Cassville and Kingston.

At Cassville, we will visit the large 1878 obelisk in the Confederate Cemetery. 300 unknown Confederates are buried there as well as General William Wofford, who led T.R.R. Cobb's Legion under General R.E. Lee. We will then stop at the town's small courthouse before following the path of Hood's Corps, as they marched several miles to put themselves in position to spring the trap on Hooker's XX Corps. We will stop and see the spot where the unexpected arrival of Federal cavalry spooked General Hood into calling off the battle. Finally, we will visit the top of the hills that the Georgia Brigade fell back to in depressing confusion.



It's then seven miles over to Kingston. Today, it is a small walkable Georgia village, but, in 1860, it was something of a boom town with 1,400 residents. It was an important stop on the W & A Railroad and the junction point with the railroad to Rome, GA. In the WBTS, it became a hospital center for some 10,000 Confederate soldiers who were either sick or wounded. After the Federals took the village, Sherman used the Hargis House as his headquarters, and it was here that he planned his campaign to capture Atlanta. We will see the town's small Civil War Museum; the McCravey-Johnston House



where, on May 12, 1865, General William Wofford surrendered 4,000 Confederate soldiers (including several men from our Brigade who were cut-off from returning to their unit), the last Southern regulars to lay down their arms east of the Mississippi River; the Methodist Church where former CSA General Clement Anselm Evans preached; and the town's Confederate Cemetery.

With the morning hours behind us, we are going to stop and spend two hours in the historic district of Cartersville. Be sure to see the first "Drink Coca Cola" sign ever painted on a brick storefront. Divide your time between lunch (There are several fun one-of-a-kind restaurants to pick from – my favorite is the Appalachian Grill) and historic sites all within a block or two of each other. The Bartow History Center has Civil War displays featuring artifacts from the local battlefields. The Bartow Genealogical Society will have out, for our scrutiny, their items from the 40th Georgia (3 companies from Stovall's Brigade were drawn from Bartow County). Finally, the Booth Western Art Museum has an impressive permanent Civil War gallery that showcases original art from modern artists Don Troiani, Mort Kunstler, Rick Reeves, and Don Stivers depicting Georgia campaigns and battles. Finish your time in Cartersville with a stop at the Heaven Scent Cupcakes bakery.



At 1:30 P.M., we will depart Cartersville and pick up the trail of Johnston's Army of Tennessee. On May 22, 1864, three Union armies moved out of Cassville and Kingston in a massive movement to the west. Sherman was leaving the safety of the W & A Railroad and hoping to flank Johnston, who had fortified the imposing Allatoona Pass. Johnston once again correctly anticipated Sherman's intentions and he swiftly moved his army west into a defensive line running four miles from Dallas through New Hope Church and then through a small mill community called Pickett's Mill. This was some of the most remote and hard-scrabble land in all of Georgia.



Pickett's Mill State Park and visitor center is considered one of the best-preserved battlefields in America. This engagement, fought two days after New Hope Church, was similar in nature, with Federal infantry pushing through dense woods and considerable underbrush, only to be thrown back by determined Rebel defenders. Sherman lost 1,600 men fighting Patrick Cleburne's Division at Pickett's Mill.

New Hope Church, which is three miles away, will be a tour highlight, as we will walk through the cemetery held by Stovall's Brigade in the May 25th fight. This successful Confederate stand against three Federal lines of attack was one of the finest moments in our Brigade's distinguished history. "Fighting Joe" Hooker lost close to 2,000 men when he assaulted A.P. Stewart's Division that late afternoon.

You are on your own for dinner Friday night. We plan to gather at the Etowah Room at 7:15 P.M. for colorful presentations by our different members and guest historians.

Saturday

We will depart the Fairfield Inn at 8:30 A.M. and make a nearby stop to see the remains of the Etowah River railroad bridge. During the Atlanta Campaign, Stovall's Brigade held this strategic bridge crossing for nearly a week, and then witnessed its dramatic burning.

It will take 30 minutes to reach the Marietta Confederate Cemetery, the final resting place for some 3,000 Southern soldiers. Several members of our brigade are buried here. There are also several monuments in the cemetery.



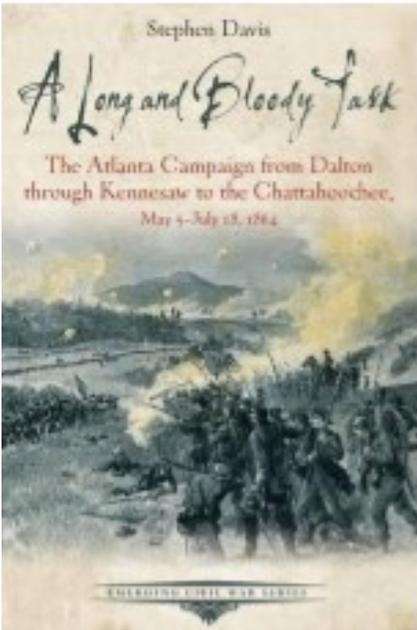
Historian, author, tour guide, and Civil War News columnist Michael Shaffer (www.civilwarhistorian.net) will be joining us for our Saturday adventure. I think we will learn a great deal from his expertise on the Atlanta Campaign. Michael will take us through the highlights of Kennesaw Mountain National Park. We will make a stop at Knob's Farm where Stovall's Brigade was held in reserve as Hood's attack on Hooker's advancing corps went poorly.



It is a 15-minute drive from Kennesaw Mountain Park to the Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History. A box lunch from Hone Bake Ham Catering will be waiting for us in the theater room of the facility. The museum is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institute and is famous for being the home of the "General," used in the dramatic Great Locomotive Chase of 1862. There are several top-drawer displays here that you will enjoy seeing. Back in the theater, Michael Shaffer will give us a power-point presentation

on nearby Camp McDonald. All five of our regiments received their military training here in March 1862. Among his many obligations, Mr. Shaffer is President of The Friends of Camp McDonald. At the conclusion of his presentation, Michael will take us through the Kennesaw Railroad tunnel and onto the former grounds of Camp McDonald. His knowledge of this forgotten Confederate post is unparalleled.

Finally, before boarding our bus home let's be sure to stick our heads into Dent Myer's iconic Wildman's Confederate Store, which is across the street from the museum.



Our annual banquet will be on Saturday night in the Etowah Room. Flavorful Events of Cartersville will be catering the dinner. Flags from the Bell Research Center will decorate the room. Our speaker for the evening is the noted historian Dr. Stephen Davis. He is one of the foremost experts on the Atlanta campaign, and his books on the subject are superb and a pleasure to read. His newest book, which will be published in December, is a fresh biography of General John Bell Hood and is entitled Texas Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta.



Since Stovall's Brigade served in Hood's Corps during the Atlanta campaign, I have asked Stephen to speak on Hood's performance as a Corps commander in Joseph Johnston's Army of Tennessee. I suspect that we will be surprised by some of Dr. Davis' conclusions, and I know we will enjoy his eloquence and enthusiasm for his subject. The banquet will close the night with our tradition of Door Prizes.

Sunday

Near our hotel is Oak Hill Cemetery. We will do a short 9:00 A.M. car-pool over to flag and pay our respects to the fallen. Oak Hill is the final resting place of Colonel Abda Johnson, commander of the 40th GA, as well as seven other members of Stovall's Brigade. Other notables at Oak Hill also include CSA General Pierce Young, Civil War era satirist Bill Arp, evangelist Sam Jones, & Private David Freeman, said to be the youngest combatant in the War Between the States.

Warmest regards,

W. Clifford Roberts Charleston, SC

Here is where we meet.



Mark Your Calendar Now

The September Meeting will be Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Always the last Wednesday of the month.