



MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

JANUARY 2015

The February Program

Grant and Lee: The Men That No One Knows

By

William C. "Jack" Davis

During the final months of the war, Grant and Lee both knew the direction it was taking, and that Union victory was virtually inevitable. To make certain of that Grant had to maintain the pressure, while Lee for a time tried a very different tack, and actually was involved for a few weeks in shadowy schemes within the upper echelons of the Confederate government to force President Jefferson Davis to sue for terms of surrender. Even when Grant and Lee met on April 9, both hoped for something larger than the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, something that would end the war entirely at once and everywhere.

In the wake of Appomattox, Grant had high hopes that Lee, as the most influential man in the former Confederacy, might play a leading role in pressing for forbearance and reconciliation. Lee was not nearly so accommodating, however. While he acquiesced in the result of the war, he never assimilated into the new Union. If he discouraged ex-Confederates from exiling themselves or trying to rekindle armed resistance, he also made it clear that reunion was not what he wanted, but was a fact of life in which he and they had no choice. For his part, Grant genuinely wanted the war's passions forgotten as quickly as possible, and the building of a new American sense of unity as a world power. Both sought to avoid controversy or keeping the war's hatreds alive, and both in some measure failed in the endeavor.

Ultimately the peace that America got largely mirrored the differences between these two men--a reunification that was less than a reunion, a peace with no sense of justice or finality, and a future in which the status and prospects of the defeated Confederates remained much in question.

William C. "Jack" Davis has been our most loyal and famous presenter since the Round Table was founded. In addition to his duties as Professor of History at Virginia Tech, Jack Davis is Director for the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies. He was the on-camera consultant for the 52 episodes of the Arts and Entertainment Network/History Channel series "Civil War Journal". Jack Davis is also the author of "Rhett: The Turbulent Life and Times of a FireEater" and the editor of "A Fire-Eater Remembered: The Confederate Memoir of Robert Barnwell Rhett".

THE 2014- 2015 LECTURE SERIES

September 10 @ 6:45 P.M.

Actress Chris Weatherhead; *"Mary Chesnut: The Fall of Richmond and the Escape from Columbia"*

October 8 @ 6:45 P.M.

Dr. Mark Wilson, UNC Charlotte; *"The Business of Civil War in the North"*

November 12 @ 6:45 P.M.

Dr. Stephen R. Wise, Director of the Parris Island Museum; *"The Battle of Honey Hill"*

January 14 @ 6:45 P.M.

Dr. James "Bud" Robertson; *"The Civil War Centennial and Sesquicentennial: Partners or at Odds?"*

February 11 @ 6:45 P.M.

Jack Davis, Professor, Virginia Tech; *"Grant and Lee: The Men That No One Knows"*

March 11 @ 6:45 P.M.

Ed Bearss, Historian Emeritus, National Park Service; *"General William T. Sherman's March Through The Carolinas: January – April 1865"*

April 8 @ 6:45 P.M.

John C. Waugh, Journalist and Civil War author; *"Surviving the Confederacy – The Story of How a High Rolling Confederate Couple Survived the War"*

May 13 @ 6:45 P.M.

Ron Roth, Consultant to the Historic Beaufort Foundation; *"Undaunted Valor: The Beaufort Volunteer Artillery and the Civil War in the Lowcountry"*

NOTE: There is a \$10 Guest/Nonmember fee for any individual lecture. Students and teachers with ID are free.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

New Wednesday Night Format

I was very happy to see that our new format on program night worked so well last month. We had about 120 people stay for Part two of the program. We will use it again for our February 11 speaker, Jack Davis. We will start serving dinner early, at 5:30 PM, and then have a **2 Part Program**.

Part One: After my brief announcements, we will have a 45 minute presentation by Professor Davis: “*Grant and Lee: The Men that No One Knows*”. A brief intermission will be announced to allow those who must leave, or go to the restrooms, to do so.

Part Two: We will have an extended Q&A session where you can ask any questions and are not limited to the topic of the night. Jack Davis is one of the few who can discuss many aspects of the 1860’s with a special focus on the humanistic elements.

Jack Davis now has a second home on Hilton Head Island and has agreed to serve our LCWRT as an “advisor in residence”. I know we will benefit greatly from his advice. Jack will also have his new book, *Crucible of Command: Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee, the War They Fought, the Peace They Forged*, for sale before and after our program.

See you there.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
Joe Roney
President

CARRABBAS DINNER MENU for WEDNESDAY, February 11, 2015
FEBRUARY DINNER AT 5:30 P.M.

Caesar Salad

Spiedino di Mare (shrimp coated with Italian breadcrumbs, wood grilled, lemon butter sauce)

Seasonal Vegetables

Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Bread, Butter, Herbs and Olive Oil

Mini Cannoli

Unsweetened Ice Tea, Decaf Coffee, Water

The Cost for dinner is **\$14.00 per person**, which includes taxes and gratuities.

An Additional guest charge of \$10 per person to attend the lecture is due and payable at the door.

Reservations are required **only** for dinner
and **must** be received **on or before February 4!**

*Don't forget that your reservation must be received by the **WEDNESDAY** preceding the meeting – in this case **February 4, 2015**.
Any reservation received **AFTER** this date will not be accepted!*

----- **Clip & Submit with your check** -----

DINNER RESERVATIONS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2015

Meal service promptly beginning at 5:30 pm in the Bluffton High School Cafeteria

Total Number of Dinners Ordered: _____ @ **\$14.00 each** = _____

Member Phone #: _____

Member # 1 Name _____

Member # 2 Name _____

Guest: _____

Guest: _____

GUESTS ARE WELCOME!

List Guests on additional paper if necessary.

[Please pay guest charges to attend the lecture at the door]

Make check for **dinner only** payable to: **LCWRT, Inc.**

Mail check and this form (or leave in lower mailbox) to:

LCWRT – Bill and Anne Cubley

136 Lazy Daisy Drive

Bluffton, SC 29909

Telephone: 843-705-0912

MUST BE RECEIVED BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4!

----- **Clip & Submit with your check** -----

FEBRUARY BOOK SALE

Members of the Program Committee will be selling copies of Jack Davis’s new book, “*Crucible of Command: Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee, the War They Fought, the Peace They Forged*” for \$30 before and after the February meeting. Please bring cash or a check made out to William C. Davis if you wish to purchase a copy.

OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

The 20th Battle of Aiken (SC) re-enactment takes place on February 21 & 22 in Aiken, SC. This battle was a minor Confederate victory during Sherman’s march through South Carolina. It took place on February 11, 1865 making this the sesquicentennial anniversary of the battle. Please check out the website: **battleofaiken.org** for more information on this “largest outdoor drama in South Carolina”.

-----Please Clip and Return with Check-----

LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, INC

NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 to AUGUST 31, 2015

Please **Print** All Information Below

Last Name First Name Badge Nickname

Additional Household Member Last Name First Name Badge Nickname

Address

City State Zip Code

Phone () E-Mail (We will keep confidential!)

Referred by

Check Yes & help us save money! I want my monthly newsletter E-MAILED to me YES ____ NO ____

New Enlistment:

Single: One-Time Initiation Fee \$25.00 + Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2015): \$30.00 = \$55.00 _____

Household: One-Time Initiation Fee \$35.00 + Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2015): \$45.00 = \$80.00 _____

Reenlistment - - Previous Members Only:

Single: Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2015): \$30.00 _____

Household: Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2015): \$45.00 _____

We always need volunteers to continue making the LCWRT successful. **Please check the area(s) for which you are volunteering:**

____ Program Committee: select topics & speakers ____ Editor of the *Minie Ball* ____ Assist *Minie Ball* Editor

____ Assist on Program Night (Greeter, Collect Dinner Tickets or Guest Fees, Tally Program Attendance)

____ Historian ____ Maintain Membership Roster ____ Work at Sun City Club Fair ____ LCWRT Web Site

Mail to or leave in “lower” box: **Don Welch, 48 Herons Bill Dr., Bluffton, SC 29909**

Make Check Payable to: **LCWRT Inc.** Any questions, please call **Don Welch** at **705-7633**

-----Please Clip and Return with Check-----

LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, INC.

2014-2015 Executive Committee

Officers

President	Joe Roney	Telephone (843) 838-4972 jvrjersey@gmail.com
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Treasurer	Jeff Rugg	Telephone (843) 838-9713 jeflen@embarqmail.com
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The **MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE**

is published by

The Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

located in the greater Hilton Head area of South Carolina.

Founded in 2000 and dedicated to Civil War history,

education, and battlefield preservation.

A Not-for-Profit, Charitable Organization

As qualified under section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code

NOTE: The website address for the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table (LCWRT) is: www.lcwrt.squarespace.com and it can be used to get current and historical LCWRT information.