



# MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - January 26, 2016

Dear Civil War Enthusiasts,

Most people are entering the doldrums of February; however, we're not. We have five more exciting programs with two field trips ahead of us. Remember to keep Thursday, April 14 and May 12 open for our field trips.

Please be aware that the Communications Chairpersons, Caroline Kennedy, and John Foster are providing lots of added value. There are fascinating articles in every *Minie Ball Gazette*. The LCWRT, Inc. website ([www.lcwrt.squarespace.com](http://www.lcwrt.squarespace.com)) offers links to other interesting sites and other articles on the Civil War.

The scholarship this year is \$1,000. We need your help. Caroline Kennedy and Past President Joe Roney are heading the Scholarship Committee. We have expanded the scholarship to not only Bluffton High School but the 27 high schools in Beaufort and Jasper Counties including public and private. Please consider a donation. All scholarship contributions are tax deductible. Drop a check or some dollars into Joe Roney's Scholarship Box available at every meeting. You can also give or send a donation to any Executive Committee member.

We are still seeking volunteers to serve on various committees. Please consider giving back. If you would like to have input on the direction of our programming, speak to John Kemp or any Executive Committee member about helping out.

Thank you for your support. I want to thank the entire Executive Team for their work as well. Maintaining and improving our programs is challenging.

Regards, Robert Waite  
President, LCWRT, Inc.

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### Box-Office Rivals

What films competed at the box office in 1939 when "Gone With the Wind" premiered? "The Wizard of Oz," "Gunga Din," "The Old Maid," "Golden Boy," "The Women," "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," "Jesse James," and "Drums Along the Mohawk."

## William C. “Jack” Davis

William C. “Jack” Davis is a native of Independence, Missouri and has a master’s degree from Sonoma State in California. He retired in 2013 as Professor of History and Executive Director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech, and the former longtime editor of *Civil War Times Illustrated*. He will speak on *Reluctant Hero: Lee's Last Years*

Davis is the author of *Rhett: The Turbulent Life and Times of a Fire-Eater* and the editor of *A Fire-Eater Remembered: The Confederate Memoir of Robert Barnwell Rhett*.

He served as the principal historical and as the on-camera consultant for the 52 episodes of the *Arts & Entertainment Network/History Channel* series *Civil War Journal*. He is author and editor of more than 50 books and numerous documentary screenplays in the fields of Civil War and Southern history, including *‘A Government of Our Own’: The Making of the Confederacy*; *An Honorable Defeat: The last Days of the Confederate Government* and *Look Away!: A History of the Confederate States of America*.

Davis won the 2014 Jefferson Davis Award for *Crucible of Command: Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee: The War They Fought, The Peace They Forged*. This is his record fourth Jefferson Davis Award and his first since 1994. (The Jefferson Davis Award recognizes outstanding narrative works on the origins, life, and legacies of the Confederacy and the American Civil War.) Davis, one of America’s best Civil War historians, has been our most loyal and famous presenter since the Round Table was founded.

### Reluctant Hero: Lee's Last Years

When Robert E. Lee left his army after the surrender at Appomattox, he faced a future, even more, uncertain than that of the men he had led. He owned no property, had no money, no home of his own, and no longer had a profession. He went to a rented house in Richmond to try to recuperate his health and energy and then faced the nagging question “what next?” Many doors were open to him – insurance companies, railroads, business enterprises, all sought his name as a figurehead president in return for a comfortable salary. But he wanted to *do* something worthwhile with his remaining time, to rebuild himself and take care of his family, and help to rebuild Virginia.

What he did, of course, was accept the presidency of a failing liberal arts college in the Shenandoah Valley. Backed by his experience as superintendent at the United States Military Academy at West Point more than a decade earlier, He began to rebuild the school, and with it himself, and the younger generation of southerners one student at a time. But he did more than that. He quietly but firmly staked out his position non-reconstruction, the relations of white and black after emancipation, and the nature of the Union after the war. In doing so, he revealed some attitudes and feelings that will surprise many. He also hoped to write a memoir of the war, his war, and there, too, his goals were not what we might think they were.

In short, Lee was just as surprising in peace as he had been in war. In the brief five years of life left to him, he helped lay the foundation of Virginia's assimilation back into the nation while at the same time being a full participant in the creation and fostering of the Lost Cause myth. - Jack Davis

# Peace and Unity

## Grant and Lee at Appomattox.

At the conclusion of the Civil War in April 1865, Americans began the long, arduous process of restoring peace and unity to the land. Peace & Unity celebrating American resilience and determination.

In January 1865, the United States Congress approved the Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery throughout the nation. Union troops had made substantial inroads into Southern territories, and the end of the war seemed to be in sight. With both sides exhausted and more than 650,000 casualties after four years of war, the end finally came on April 9, 1865, as Gen. Lee met with Gen. Grant in Appomattox at the home of Wilmer McLean to discuss how to end the conflict. Excerpts from the diaries and letters of those who witnessed the events tell the story eloquently.

Gen. Horace Porter described the scene at the house: “We entered, and found Gen. Grant sitting at a marble-topped table in the center of the room, and Lee sitting beside a small oval table near the front window, in the corner opposite to the door by which we entered, and facing Gen. Grant. We walked in softly and ranged ourselves quietly about the sides of the room, very much as people enter a sick chamber when they expect to find the patient dangerously ill.”

The two generals talked for a while about the past encounters and then moved onto a discussion of the terms of the surrender when Lee asked Grant to commit the terms to paper: “Very well,” replied Gen. Grant, “I will write them out.” And calling for his manifold order-book, he opened it on the table before him and proceeded to write the terms. The leaves had been so prepared that three impressions of the writing were made. He wrote very rapidly, and did not pause until he had finished the sentence ending with ‘officers appointed by me to receive them.’ Then he looked toward Lee, and his eyes seemed to be resting on the handsome sword that hung at that officer’s side. He said afterward that his set him to thinking that it would be an unnecessary humiliation to require officers to surrender their swords, and a great hardship to deprive them of their personal baggage and horses, and after a short pause he wrote the sentence. “This will not embrace the side-arms of the officers, nor their private horses or baggage.” Grant handed the document to Lee. After reviewing it, Lee informed Grant that the Cavalrymen and Artillerymen in the Confederate Army owned their horses and asked that they keep them. Grant agreed, and Lee wrote a letter formally accepting the surrender. Lee then made his exit.

At a little before four o’clock, Gen. Lee shook hands with Gen. Grant bowed to the other officers, and with Col. Marshall left the room. One after another we followed and passed out to the porch. Lee signaled to his orderly to bring up his horse, and while the animal was being bridled the general stood on the lowest step and gazed sadly in the direction of the valley beyond where his army lay — now an army of prisoners. He smote his hands together many times in an absent sort of way; seemed not to see the group of Union officers in the yard who rose respectfully at his approach, and appeared unconscious of everything about him. All appreciate the sadness that overwhelmed him, and he had the personal sympathy of everyone who beheld him at this supreme moment of trial. The approach of his horse seemed to recall him from his reverie, and he at once mounted. Gen. Grant now stepped down from the porch, and, moving toward him, saluted him by raising his hat. He was followed in this act of courtesy by all our officers present; Lee raised his hat respectfully, and rode off to break the sad news to the brave fellows whom he had so long commanded.” — *Surrender at Appomattox, 1865*, “*Eyewitness to History*, [www.eyewitnesstohistory.com](http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com) (1997). - cwk

## Civil War Timeline — February 1862

- Feb. 3 President Lincoln refuses an offer from the King of Siam to send war elephants
- Feb. 6 Victory for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant in Tennessee, capturing Fort Henry, and ten days later Fort Donelson. Grant earns the nickname “Unconditional Surrender” Grant. The loss of this southern fort on the Tennessee River opened the door to Union control of the river.
- Feb. 8 Battle of Roanoke Island, North Carolina. A Confederate defeat, the battle resulted in Union occupation of eastern North Carolina and control of Pamlico Sound, to be used as a Northern base for further operations against the southern coast.
- Feb. 10 Federal forces destroyed the Confederate “Mosquito” fleet at Elizabeth City, N.C.
- Feb. 14 Union ironclad gunboats attack Fort Donelson, Tennessee.
- Feb. 15 All-out Confederate attack at Fort Donelson, Tennessee.
- Feb. 16 Fort Donelson unconditionally surrenders to Ulysses S. Grant. This primary southern fort on the Cumberland River left the river in Union hands.
- Feb. 20 President Lincoln is grief struck as his beloved eleven-year-old son, Willie, dies from fever, probably caused by polluted drinking water in the White House.
- Feb. 21 Battle of Val Verde, New Mexico Territory
- Feb. 22 Jefferson Davis was inaugurated as President of the Confederate States of America.
- Feb. 23 Federal troops occupy Fayetteville, Arkansas.
- Feb. 25 Federal troops occupy Nashville, Tennessee.

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### Fort Donelson

After capturing Fort Henry on Feb. 6, 1862, Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant advanced cross-country to invest Fort Donelson. On Feb. 16, 1862, after the failure of their all-out attack aimed at breaking through Grant’s investment lines, the fort’s 12,000-man garrison commanded by Brig. Gen. John Floyd CSA surrendered unconditionally. This was a major victory for Grant and a catastrophe of the South. It ensured that Kentucky would stay in the Union and opened up Tennessee for a Northern advance along the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers. Tennessee lay wide open to the Yankees. Grant received a promotion to major general for his victory and attained stature in the Western Theatre, earning the *nom de guerre* “Unconditional Surrender.” The war would continue three more years. When Confederate Gen. Albert Sidney Johnson was told that Fort Donelson had surrendered, he deemed the loss “disastrous and almost without remedy.” The next three years would prove him right.

## **“Till Death Do Us Part”**

*A Civil War Love Story* - by Caroline Wallace Kennedy

John Brown Gordon, age twenty-two, and Fanny Haralson were married on her seventeenth birthday, on September 18, 1854. After a month's courtship, they said it was love at first sight. He had left the University of Georgia in his senior year, studied law in Atlanta and admitted to the Bar. To support his family, he moved to Milledgeville, to become a newspaper reporter. In 1856, they moved again to northwestern Georgia to join his father's coal-mining business. He was twenty-eight when the Civil War began and recruited a volunteer company from Northeast Alabama called the “Raccoon Roughs.” Independent and strong willed Fanny left their two boys with relatives to free her up for what she said was a higher duty – to accompany her husband to war. As was the Southern custom, she couldn't be a battlefield nurse, so she stayed in the camps nearby where he fought.

She accompanied her husband-general throughout the war and was credited with saving his life when he was wounded five times at Antietam. Assigned by Gen. Robert E. Lee to hold a prime position during the Battle of Sharpsburg, Gordon's men were tremendously outnumbered. Gordon was wounded and carried to a barn where a surgeon dressed his severe injuries. Awaking that night, Gordon found himself lying on a bed of straw, with Fanny, his beautiful, great wife by his side. She suppressed a scream when she saw his condition. He joking said to her, “I've been to an Irish wedding.”

Fanny cared for him for seven months, dressing his wounds, and feeding him brandy and beef tea since his jaw was wired shut. “His eyes were so black and swollen he could hardly see. Nothing deterred her, as she knelt at his side and managing to get liquid nourishment past his clenched teeth. Thenceforward, for the period in which my life hung in the balance,” he wrote, “She sat at my bedside, trying to supply concentrated nourishment to sustain me against the constant drainage.” When a severe bacterial infection, attacked his left arm, she painted it relentlessly with iodine. With her excellent care, he survived. “Under God's providence, I owe my life to her incessant watchfulness night and day, and to her tender nursing through weary weeks and anxious months.”

Gordon was a tall, lanky man - as straight as a ramrod. His men described him as magnificent, astride his coal-black stallion. A brilliant orator, he used the skill during the War to inspire his men. He was said to have a trumpet-like voice when exhorting his men.

Fanny's husband marveled at her courage when he was with Gen. Jubal Early for the Valley Campaigns of 1864. She kept the pace going to the rear before the battles. Once when her carriage broke down, she was nearly captured. With the help of men under Gen. Robert E. Rodes, she was not molested. During the Third Battle of Winchester, on September 18, 1864, she ran into the street with shells and balls flying around and yelled at the retreating troops, “Go back to the front lines, you cowards! Turn around and fight!” (The following day, Gen. Rhodes was killed.)

Bachelor Lt. Gen. Jubal Early, did not like wives who followed their officer husbands. He was quoted as saying he wished the Yankees would capture Mrs. Gordon because she always seemed to be around. She teased him about the remark during a dinner, and Early replied, “Gen. Gordon is a better soldier when you are close by him than when you are away, and so thereafter, when I issue orders that officers' wives must go to the rear, you may know that you are excepted.” Gordon loved her confidence and strong will. She stayed as near to the general as possible until late in the war when because of impending childbirth; she went behind enemy lines in Virginia.

Gen. Gordon led the last charge of the Army of Northern Virginia into the Battle at the Appomattox Court House. At the surrender at Appomattox, he commanded one-half of the Army of Northern Virginia, under Gen. Lee, and surrendered to Maj. Gen. Chamberlain, for acting Gen. Grant. Lee's biographer, Douglas S. Freeman, said, “He was Lee's principal confidant - as far as any man every enjoyed that status.”

## The 2016 Lecture Series (for February)

**February 10 - 6:45 p.m.**

Jack Davis; Virginia Tech; *Reluctant Hero: Lee's Last Years*

**March 9 - 6:45 p.m.**

Ed Bearss; Chief Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service; *Vicksburg*

**April 13 - 6:45 p.m.**

Barry Sheey; *Urban Slavery in Savannah* (With a walking tour on Thursday)

**May 11 - 6:45 p.m.**

John White; Park Ranger Rivers' Bridge Historic Site; *The Battle of Rivers' Bridge*

(With a tour on Thursday)

**July 13 - 6:45 p.m.** - Ralph Peters, novelist, essayist, former career soldier who appears

frequently as a commentator on TV and radio - 1864: Our Civil War's Savage Year

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

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### **Abraham Lincoln and his Gettysburg Address**

Abraham Lincoln was the second speaker on Nov. 19, 1863, at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg. Lincoln was preceded on the podium by the famed orator Edward Everett, who spoke to the crowd for two hours! Lincoln followed his now immortal Gettysburg Address. On Nov. 20, Everett wrote to Lincoln: "Permit me also to express my great admiration of the thoughts expressed by you, with such eloquent simplicity and appropriateness, at the consecration of the Cemetery. I should be glad, if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central ideas of the occasion, in two hours, as you did in two minutes."

**LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE  
TRIP TO GETTYSBURG, PLUS ANTIETAM AND LEXINGTON  
October 17-20, 2016 (4 days/3 nights)**

**Includes:** Transportation via luxury motor coach, three nights accommodation, three meals, bus driver gratuity, snacks on bus, entrance fees, and guided tours of Gettysburg and Antietam

**Cost:** LCWRT Member (double occupancy) - \$465 per person; Non-member - \$515 (includes LCWRT Membership for 2016-2017). Single occupancy rate: Member - \$690, Non-member - \$740

Limited space available. First come, first served. Full payment reserves space. Minimum deposit of \$300.00 per person due with registration. Cancellation possible with full refund of deposit until February 15, 2016. After this date you may sell your space but no refunds will be possible for any reason. Trip insurance available through AAA in Bluffton or American Express.

Trip details will be provided to participants at a later date along with hotel contact numbers, itinerary, recommended sites to visit on own time, etc ... but, for now, highlights are as follows:

**Day One - Lowcountry to Gettysburg:** Bus transit to and arrival for two-night stay at Gettysburg Hotel (exact time TBD); dinner at historic antebellum Gettysburg Inn; special presentation by a local historian.

**Day Two - Gettysburg:** Breakfast on own; tour Gettysburg battlefield covering events of July 1 and 2, 1863, and visit to Gettysburg Visitor Center and Cyclorama with box lunch provided; dinner and evening on own.

**Day Three - Gettysburg/Antietam/Lexington:** Early breakfast on own; tour of battlefield covering events of July 3, 1863; free time (lunch on own) will follow (approximately 10 AM through 2 PM). Optional activities will include: return to Visitor Center, Seminary Ridge Museum, shop for memorabilia in town, or participate in walking guided tour of Pickett's Charge.

Depart Gettysburg for Lexington via a **driving tour of Antietam battlefield**; dinner and evening on own in Lexington with lodging in historic central district of town.

**Day Four - Lexington and Transit to Lowcountry:** Breakfast at hotel in Lexington; morning on own for optional activities including: Lee Chapel and Museum, Stonewall Jackson home and/or tomb in cemetery named for him, and the Marshall Museum; lunch on own.

Depart Lexington for return trip to Lowcountry.

Lodging all nights will be in historic central Gettysburg and Lexington, within walking distance, or short rides, of main historic sites and attractions. Many dining options are available for breakfasts, lunch and dinners on your own. Military stores, art galleries, and souvenir shops will also be within walking distance of both hotels. Lists of recommended attractions, restaurants and local transportation providers will be provided to participants for use during time on own.

**LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE  
GETTYSBURG TRIP REGISTRATION FORM**

**Make checks payable to LCWRT**

**Please print legibly— all fields required:**

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Roommate Name (If not person named above )** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Requests:**

**Total Registration Fee Paid** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pick Up Locations:**

**I will be picked up at:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Shelter Cove Kroger Parking Lot (Hilton Head) \_\_\_\_\_ Sun City Location TBD

\_\_\_\_\_ Hardeeville Super Walmart Parking Lot (off Hwy 278 directly behind the BP/Kangaroo service station. Park in the

Wal-Mart parking lot behind the service station). **Times and exact pick up locations TBD but bus will leave at**

**appointed time from each location and cannot wait.**

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I (we) named above waive any claim against the Lowcountry Civil War Roundtable and any of its agents or persons under its direction organizing this trip for any damage to or loss of property or injury to or death of persons due to any act of negligence of any bus company, hotel property, restaurant, or any other persons rendering any of the services provided on and during this trip. The trip sponsor (LCWRT), or its agents, shall not be responsible for any delays, substitution of equipment or itinerary, or any act of omission whatsoever by the carrier, agents, services, employees or any other persons providing services on this trip. **Participants and travelers hereby waive any claim(s) arising therefrom.** I acknowledge full payment is needed to reserve space and no refunds will be given after the deadline date unless there is a waiting list and someone will agree to fill your spot(s) on the trip. Space reserved and paid for by you will be transferable to other parties provided they complete this registration form and sign this waiver. In the event the trip is canceled, all monies paid by the participant will be refunded, minus their prorata share of any nonrefundable deposits paid by the trip sponsor.

**Signature(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check and completed registration forms can be mailed to R. Thomas 66 Quartermaster Lane Hilton Head, SC 29928 . Payment will be by check only, made out to LCWRT. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE TRIP CALL RICHARD THOMAS AT 843-422-3842**

**The Battle Bolstered Badly Sagging Union Morale.**

The spirits of a war-weary North had reached a low ebb at the beginning of the summer of 1863. The Union had endured a string of losses, and now Lee had brought the war to their territory. A loss at Gettysburg could have devastated Union morale and pressured the Lincoln administration to negotiate a peace that would have resulted in two nations. Linked with news of the victory at Vicksburg on July 4, however, Gettysburg renewed public support for the war. Davis called Gettysburg the "most eventful struggle of the war" because "by it the drooping spirit of the North was revived." - [www.history.com](http://www.history.com)



# Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Inc.

## 2015-2016 Executive Committee

### Officers

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**The Battle Forever Transformed the Town of Gettysburg.**

Prior to the Civil War, Gettysburg had been a prosperous village that supported two small colleges. After the battle, however, it would forever be seared by the memories of the slaughter. In the battle's immediate aftermath, corpses outnumbered residents of the village of just over 2,000 by four to one. While it took years for the town to recover from the trauma, the first pilgrims arrived just days after the guns fell silent. In his book *Gettysburg: The Last Invasion*, Allen C. Guelzo reports that hundreds of people arrived by wagon just two days after the battle to see the carnage for themselves and that by August 1863 visitors could be found picnicking on Little Round Top amid shallow graves and rotting bodies of dead horses. Striking the balance between battlefield preservation and commercial development remains a constant debate in Gettysburg. - - History.com

**This 'n That!**

**Raffle for Speaker's Books!**

Last month we raffled off an autographed copy of Dr. James "Bud" Robinson's book "After the Civil War: The Heroes, Villains, Soldiers, and Civilians Who Changed America," and made over \$300 for our the Scholarship Fund. This month we will have Jack Davis's book "Crucible of Command: Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee – The War They Fought, the Peace They Forged." The book was a main selection of the History Book Club in 2015. "One of Davis' chief contributions in this accessible, well-written study is to show how thoroughly politicized the war was . . . A fresh look at the sources and a careful eye to leadership and character places this book high atop the list of recent Civil War histories." - Kirkus Reviews, 1/1/15. Be prepared with cash! Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

**Jack Davis Books For Sale!**

Jack Davis will bring a few of his newest book which sells for \$32.50 that he will let the LCWRT buy for \$30. His presentation "The Reluctant Hero: Lee's last Years" will be based partly on this book (see above). Please be prepared if you intend to buy a book and have the correct change in fives, tens, and or twenties. Checks should be made out to William C. Davis.

**Merchandise with the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Logo . . .**

Visit: <http://www.cafepress.com/worldvue/12413135>

**Please Volunteer to Help Your Club!**

Please consider volunteering with the LCWRT. We need someone to assist [John Kemp](#) and eventually take over as program chairperson. John has the programs planned through 2017. Call John at 201.845.4178 or email him at [Norwich68@gmail.com](mailto:Norwich68@gmail.com) for more information. John has done a terrific job but has other fish to fry. **Grant Writer Needed!** We need someone to do Grant Research to help us sustain and grow. Our organization can avail itself of Grants, but we need a knowledgeable member familiar with Grant Research, Grant Writing, Grant Evaluation and technical assistance. Please email [www.lcwrt.squarespace.com](http://www.lcwrt.squarespace.com) with your interest and/or qualifications and someone from the Executive Committee will reply. Also, we need more members to participate with events, meetings, and operations. <mailto:mccollocj@hargray.com> Keep your wonderful club rolling, rolling and rolling.

### **Autographed Posters Make Great Souvenirs!**

John Kemp, our excellent Program Chairman, designs lovely posters to advertising each LCWRT event. Starting with our October meeting with Dr. Mary DeCredico, we are offering one poster autographed by the featured speaker. One poster per meeting will be available by Silent Auction. Starting bids are \$10. This project is a fundraiser for the LCWRT Scholarship Fund. If you are interested — email your name and bid to [www.lcwrt.squarespace.com](http://www.lcwrt.squarespace.com), and you will be contacted.

### **Use Side Door at Bluffton High School !**

Please come to the side door of Bluffton High School. The front doors will be locked! There will be LCWRT members placed along the way to remind you. We will have less walking from now on folks!

### **Renew Your Membership!**

Whether you are just beginning to learn about the Civil War or enjoy a long experience of Civil War study, you will always find something of interest at our meetings. We invite you to explore our website, check out the list of future speakers and to become a member. Tell your history-loving friends about us as we gain new insights into the conflict that defined our nation. Give information and ask your friends and neighbors to join you. We want to share our good fortune with the community. (See Membership Form in this issue.)

### **Ralph Peters — Summer, July 13, 2016, Free Meeting!**

We're excited to announce that on Wednesday, July 13, 2016, Lt. Col. Ralph Peters will speak at Magnolia Hall in Sun City for the LCWRT. Peters is a retired Army lieutenant colonel and former enlisted man, a controversial strategist, and veteran of the intelligence world; a bestselling, prize-winning novelist; a journalist who has covered multiple conflicts and frequently appears in the broadcast media; and a lifelong traveler with experience in over seventy countries on six continents. A widely read columnist, Ralph Peters' journalism has appeared in dozens of newspapers, magazines and web-zines, including *The New York Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, the *Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *Harpers*, and *Armchair General Magazine*. His books include *The Officers' Club*, *The War After Armageddon*, *Endless War*, and *Red Army*. Peters grew up in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, and studied writing at Pennsylvania State University. He lives and writes in the Washington, D.C. Area. He also writes under the pen name "Owen Parry." Check out his wonderful Civil War books: "Cain at Gettysburg," "Hell or Richmond," or my favorite "Valley of the Shadow: A Novel." The best-selling writer also appears frequently as a Fox News Strategic Analyst. The release date for his newest book "The Damned of Petersburg" is July 5, 2016. (The book is ready for pre-order from Amazon.) Peters topic is "1864: Our Civil War's Savage Year," with a concentration on the fighting in Va., the fascinating personalities and his belief that the summer of 1864 marked the birth of modern warfare. Meet Peters, at a meet, greet and book signing in the lobby after the program. Tell your friends, this event is open to all LCWRT members and to anyone who lives in Sun City!

## **LCWRT Scholarship Fund – Name Change!**

The American Civil War was a profound event in our history that still has an effect on our lives today. The LCWRT is a group dedicated to studying the Civil War, the people who fought it, and promoting a broader understand of the conflict and how it has shaped American history. Our first Scholarship last May was a tremendous success. The LCWRT Executive Committee has decided to expand the Scholarship Fund. At the last Executive Committee meeting, it was voted to change the name of the Scholarship to the Keller Family Civil War Scholarship, as a tribute to the Keller family founding members of our club. We will now include not only Bluffton High School for all of the public and private high schools in the Beaufort, Jasper County area. The Scholarship is \$1,000 eligible to a high school senior. Since we are an independent registered nonprofit 501 c (3) organization, memberships and donations are tax-deductible to the full extent as allowable by law. Help us help students in the Lowcountry learn more about the Civil War and enable a local student to further his advanced education. Please send donations to our new Treasurer Charles E. Glassick, 42 Kings Creek Drive, Bluffton, SC 29909. Please mark: For Scholarship Fund!

## **Michael Skinner – The Man of Many Uniforms!**

The Battle of Pocotaligo was held January 23-24, 2016 hosted by the Charles Jones Colcock Camp #2100 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Ridgeland, South Carolina. The Saturday events were canceled, but they rallied on Sunday for a respectable battle according to Skinner. “It was cold and wet. We did an infantry skirmish deep in the woods on Saturday just for the troops. We used an actual gun emplacement and trenches. Sad to say I was slain in battle!” Civil War battle reenactors in South Carolina include more than 16 reenactor units that honor our forefathers. The reenactors drill, march, and battle. They give the general public an understanding of the military event of the War, and have a blast doing it! They pride themselves in offering authentic and diverse battles and living history impressions. The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Va in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-politic organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved. Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. The reenacting group professes no political, religious, or cultural affiliations whatsoever. We are fortunate to have First Lt. Michael Skinner, who appears at our meetings dressed as either a Johnny Reb or a Billy Yank. Thanks, Michael! At our next meeting, have your photo made with a brave Rebel or a Yank.

# LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, INC.

## NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 to AUGUST 31, 2016**

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 this confidential!)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Referred by

**Please 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, 2016): \$30.00 = \$55.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Household: One-Time Initiation Fee \$35.00 + Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2016): \$45.00 = \$80.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Reenlistment - - Previous Members Only:**

Single: Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2016): \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Household: Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2016): \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_

We always need/solicit volunteers to continue making the LCWRT successful.

**Please check the area(s) for which you are volunteering:**

\_\_\_\_ Program Committee: select topics & speakers    \_\_\_\_ Assist in Production of the *Minie Ball Gazette*

\_\_\_\_ Assist on Program Night (Greeter, Collect Tickets or Guest Fees, Tally Program Attendance)

\_\_\_\_ Historian    \_\_\_\_ Maintain Membership Roster    \_\_\_\_ Work at Sun City Club Fair    \_\_\_\_ Web Site Maintenance

Mail to or leave in "lower" box: **David McColloch, 42 Concession Oak Drive, Bluffton, SC 29909**

Make Check Payable to: **LCWRT Inc.** Any questions, please call **Dave McColloch** at **843-705-3060**

**MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE**

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