



# MINIE BALL GAZETTE

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

## Presidents Message (December 2015)

Dear Civil War Enthusiasts,

Happy Thanksgiving! Soon, we are faced with the wonderful and daunting task of an all day eating extravaganza.

What a terrific three-day adventure we had in incredible weather on the smooth as glass waters of Port Royal Sound - like the actual battle on November 7, 1861, early in the War. We had a wonderful presentation by Civil War historians Michael Coker and Dr. Stephen Wise, learning about every aspect of the military strategy in the Battle of Port Royal with bottlenose dolphins acting as sentries for our voyage. Coker and Wise made the battle of Union Flag Officer Samuel F. DuPont on the flagship, Wabash with it's 44-gun battery and Confederate Commander Josiah Tattnall protecting the Confederate forts with his "Mosquito Fleet." It was interesting to learn about brother against brother and the divided loyalties, of Confederate Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton and his younger brother, Union Captain Percival Drayton. For me, the best part was meeting new members and getting to know many of our gung-ho members better.

I want to thank our amazing Executive Team for their efforts. John Kemp returned from vacation and worked tirelessly to keep the Battle of Port Royal program on schedule. George Loud's knowledge of Port Royal Plantation was incredibly necessary for the bus trip, and Richard Thomas managed the cruise on *The Holiday* flawlessly. The efforts of many others helped keep things running smoothly.

We are now looking forward to the "Big Three" of our world-class speakers this winter – Dr. Bud Robertson, Jack Davis, and Ed Bearss. Consistently, these famous men offer us the best of the best of Civil War stories and knowledge. If you have missed the special meetings thus far, you still can renew your membership for the best of 2016. It is very easy. If you don't have time to complete the renewal application and send the check, just come to the January meeting with a check. Remember if you have paid the first year's dues, you only have to go to three meetings to break even. Think about it, for 25 bucks you receive the Minie Ball Gazette and nine wonderful presentations by the most distinguished speakers on the Civil War. Our speaker in July is Fox News military analyst and *New York Times* bestselling Civil War historical novelist, Lt. Col. Ralph Peters.

I think everyone was pleased with our new side entrance location at the Bluffton High School. It was especially, appreciated by our less ambulatory members. Be patient and we'll correct the minor issues by the next meeting.

See you in January. We have fantastic experiences in store for everyone in 2016!

Robert Waite  
President, LCWRT, Inc.

## The Lincoln Family Christmas

by Caroline Wallace Kennedy

Christmas was celebrated as a traditional festival in the U.S. during the Civil War, although not yet a holiday. The War saw the first introductions to the modern image of a jolly and portly Father Christmas (Aka Santa Claus) in 1862 through the drawings of Thomas Nast, a German immigrant from Landau, Germany. Nast considered the “Father of American Cartoons,” drew Santa Claus for the 1862 Christmas season *Harper’s Weekly*. During the darkest, earliest days of the War, the illustration cover and centerfold memorialize the family sacrifices. Nast’s drawing of Santa as a kindly figure representing the spirit of Christmas. When Nast created his image of Santa, he was drawing on the German tradition of Saint Nicholas, a 4<sup>th</sup>-century bishop known for his kindness and generosity. (An editorial cartoonist, Nast drew the political symbol of the elephant for the Republican Party.) Nast created Lincoln’s 1860 election posters. When Lincoln saw Nast’s Civil War battle scenes, he said he is “our best recruiting sergeant. His emblematic cartoons have never failed to arouse enthusiasm and patriotism.”

Christmas literature of the period included “’Twas the Night Before Christmas,” written by Clement Moore in 1822 and Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol,” a novella, first published in London on Dec. 18, 1843, and soon in America. Moore never intended his poem to be published, but a family friend copied it into her album and then submitted it to the editor of the *Troy (New York) Sentinel* who printed it on Dec. 23, 1823. The rest is history. One hundred ninety-two years later, it is still the most-published, most-read, book in all of Christmas literature. “A Christmas Carol” brought Ebenezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim, Bob Cratchit, and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future, a special holiday experience in the hearts of Northern or Southern Victorians. Who can forget the famous words? “Merry Christmas, everyone! “Bah!” said Scrooge. “Humbug!”

Christmas carols of the Lincoln era included “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear,” written in 1849 by Edmund Sears. Also, “We Three Kings of Orient Are,” written in 1857 by John Henry Hopkins, Jr. Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Williamsport, Pa. Rector wrote the song for a Christmas pageant in New York City.

*Godey’s Lady’s Magazine*, a popular woman’s magazine, first ran an illustration of a Christmas tree in 1850. The drawing was an Americanized version of Queen Victoria and her family from the *Illustrated London News*. Removed were Victoria’s tiara and Albert’s sash and mustache along with boxes of German biscuits under the tree. The caption read: “The Christmas Tree.” Godey transformed the tree into an all-American Christmas Tree. Queen Victoria had German blood in her veins and celebrated German traditions in the royal palaces. She married Prince Albert, a German monarch who encouraged her to decorate Windsor Castle according to his boyhood Christmas customs. The tree featured six uniformly spaced tiers of boughs, and did not look real! Decorations included ornaments formed with wax, paper cornucopias, filled with sweets, fruit, nuts, and popcorn garlands hung on many trees. Glass balls made their appearance on American trees in the 1860s in the homes of German immigrants. America loved everything Queen Victoria did, including having a Christmas tree inside the home. Victoria was a trendsetter in England — as well as in America.

At the Lincoln home in Springfield, Ill., minimal decorations were used, after the children had gone to bed on Christmas Eve. Fresh garlands of holly and evergreen boughs covered the mantels, chandeliers, and every nook and cranny along with a sprig of mistletoe in a doorway to kiss their sweethearts. The poinsettia became a popular decoration in the U.S. in the 1850s and page two - The Lincoln Family Christmas  
spring bulbs “forced” to bloom were also popular.

Ruth Painter Randall, Lincoln family biographer’s 1955 work “Lincoln’s Sons,” tells of the family hanging Christmas stockings. Robert Lincoln, the eldest son, “was careful not to disturb the illusions of Willie and Tad as to the one who had filled those stockings.” Popular gifts for boys were wooden toy guns, books, popcorn balls, candy, firecrackers, and noisemakers. Favorite gifts for adults were books, special note paper, pens, fancy perfumes, and scented soaps.

The holidays were a time for special foods just as now. A typical menu for a special holiday menu would have included boned turkey, cranberry sauce, raw oysters, venison, chicken salad, biscuits, and bouillon. For desserts, glacé fruit, fruit cake, ice cream, Nesselrode pudding, cakes, candy, and assorted citrus fruit, nuts, preserves, wine, eggnog were presented in elegant ways topped off with hot coffee.

In 1860, as President-elect, Lincoln received callers and dealt with Cabinet issues. He was concerned about the federal forts taken in the South. On December 20<sup>th</sup>, he received the shocking news that South Carolina had seceded from the Union by a vote of 169-0. (Seven southern states formed the Confederate States of America, in the winter of 1861, following the Union surrender at Fort Sumter, S.C. in mid-April, four more defections followed. The Civil War had begun.)

The first Christmas in the White House in 1861, there is no evidence that the Lincolns had a Christmas tree — no extensive decorations — no lighting ceremonies — no holiday programs. Christmas was a normal work day for the President, except for an evening dinner with the family and friends. They may have visited the Christmas tree exhibited at the First Presbyterian Church a few blocks away on New York Ave. where they attended services. Christmas was a sad occasion (son Eddie had died in 1850). Eddie's empty chair in the family circle, together with continuing war worries, dampened holiday spirits in the White House over the next three Christmas seasons. On Christmas morning, he held an important Cabinet meeting but was able to entertain a large number of dinner guests by evening. For her part, the First Lady Mary Ann Todd Lincoln spent every Christmas between 1861 and 1864 caring for the wounded soldiers at Campbell's and Douglas hospitals. She raised a thousand dollars for Christmas dinners and when she heard there was the possibility of scurvy donated a similar amount of oranges and lemons. Not publicized were the gifts of liquor delivered at the White House that Mary sent directly to the hospitals for "medicinal" purposes. They should have publicized this good deal for Mary's spend-thrift reputation needed a boost.

In 1862, President Lincoln was absorbed with military matters, and prepared the final draft of the Emancipation Proclamation. Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln visited Washington hospitals on Christmas Day. On Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, he wrote a letter of condolence to Fanny McCullough, whose father William McCullough former clerk of the McLean County Circuit Court in Bloomington, Ill. (A longtime friend of his, McCullough was a Lt. Col in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ill. Cavalry died in a night battle near Coffeeville, Miss. on Dec. 5th.) Lincoln, still in mourning, after the painful death of his much-loved 11-year-old son Willie, on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1862 of typhoid fever mourned his dear friend McCullough. Christmas 1862 was a bleak time at the White House and for our divided nation.

## The 2015-2016 Lecture Series (for December Gazette)

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

Dr. James “Bud” Robertson, Jr.; Virginia Tech;

*After the Civil War; The Heroes, Villains, Soldiers & Civilians Who Changed America*

**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 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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### **Tad's Turkey**

In the fall of 1863, President Lincoln and his family were bequeathed a live turkey for their Christmas dinner. Thomas “Tad” Lincoln III, the youngest child of Mary and Abe, befriended the bird and named him “Jack” making him a household pet. The day before Christmas, Tad burst into a cabinet meeting and sobbed to his father, “He’s a good turkey, and I don’t want him killed.” the indulgent father-President immediately issued a written reprieve. Jack’s life was spared, making Tad Lincoln’s Christmas a happy one. (Tad’s head was usually large at birth. When Abe saw him he thought he resembled a tadpole and gave him the nickname that stuck with Tad for the rest of his life.) - cwk

## Christmas Bells

The Christmas Carol "Christmas Bells" had its origins 153 years ago  
by Caroline Wallace Kennedy

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" has been a popular Christmas carol since the first musical version appeared in 1872. The carol is based on the 1863 poem "Christmas Bells" by the great American poet and literary scholar Henry Wadsworth Longfellow from Cambridge, Mass. Longfellow was the center of Boston's literary society and an international celebrity. The most popular poet America ever produced wrote "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," "The Village Blacksmith," and "Song of Hiawatha."

During the dark days of Civil War, Charles Appleton Longfellow, Henry's 18-year-old and oldest son ran off and enlisted as a private in Mr. Lincoln's Army. Charley yearning for adventure eventually received a commission as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. In the 1<sup>st</sup> Mass. Cavalry in time to participate in the Chancellorsville campaign. He survived a bout with malaria and what could have been "a mortal wound in his back in the Battle of New Hope Church (in Virginia) during the Mine Run Campaign (Nov. 27 — Dec. 2, 1863.) The inconclusive battle was between Union Gen. George G. Meade and Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. Longfellow couldn't bear the thought of losing his son. His wife, Fanny, died of severe burns after her summer dress caught fire while she was preserving locks of her children's hair with hot sealing wax. Trying to save her, Henry too suffered serious burns and mental anguish and could not attend her funeral. Longfellow received word on Dec. 1, 1863, of Charles serious injury. He'd missed being paralyzed by less than an inch. He left for Washington, D.C. and brought Charley back home. As Longfellow nursed his son and gave thanks for his survival, it inspired him to write "Christmas Bells" on Christmas Day in 1863. The poem captured his anger about the war and his hopelessness but expressed his faith that in the end, good will can prevail.

*"I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old, familiar carols play, and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, goodwill to men!"*

In 1972, five stanzas were slightly rearranged and set to music by English organist, John Baptiste Calkin (without the fourth and fifth antiwar stanzas). The Carol became a favorite in England and the U.S. It is often called, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day."

*"And thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom had rolled along the unbroken song of peace on earth, goodwill to men!"*

American songwriter Johnny Marks, known for his songs "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," "Run Run Rudolph," and "A Holly Jolly Christmas," penned a subsequent musical version in the 1950s. (Although Marks was Jewish, he specialized in Christmas songs like Irving Berlin.) Mark's version has been recorded by dozens of artists including Kate Smith, Frank Sinatra, Sarah McLachlan, The Carpenters, Bing Crosby, Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

*"Then pealed the bells more loud and deep; "God is not dead, nor doth. He sleep; The Wrong shall fail, the Right prevail, With peace on earth, goodwill to men."*

Sources: [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org), Mass. Comm. of the AA Civil War, Friends of the Longfellow House

## Civil War Timeline - December 1861

- Dec. 7, 1861 Gen. Stonewall Jackson destroys the West Virginia side of Dam # 5 on the Potomac River, disrupting the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal and impacting the Unions ability to repair the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.
- Dec. 9, 1861 U.S. Rep. Clement Vallandigham, Ohio (head of the Copperhead faction of Anti-War Democrats) sends a resolution to Abraham Lincoln, asking for “all proclamations, or orders . . . relating to the pending contest.”
- Dec. 10, 1861 Theatre manager John T. Ford leases the First Baptist Church on 10<sup>th</sup> St. in Washington and turns it into a theatre. Built in 1822, the church had been vacant since 1859 when the church merged with the 4th Baptist Church.
- Dec. 13, 1861 Battle of Camp Allegheny in West Virginia.
- In a cabinet meeting, Lincoln and Seward discuss Ohio Rep. Clement Vallandigham.
- Dec. 19, 1861 Great Britain officially complains to the U.S. over the seizure of two Confederate commissioners. (Trent Affair)
- Dec. 20, 1861 The Select Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War is seated.
- Battle of Dranesville. Confederate Gen. J.E.B. Stuart protecting a foraging expedition in the vicinity of Dranesville, Va., against Union Brig. Gen. E.O.C. Ord. Result - Union Victory.
- Dec. 21, 1861 Lincoln signs a bill creating the Navy Medal of Honor, America’s first medal. It is to be presented to sailors or marines who “... distinguish themselves by their gallantry and other seamanlike qualities...”
- Dec. 23, 1861 At a Cabinet meeting Lincoln and Sec. Of State Wm. Seward present their response to the British note protesting the “Trent Affair.”
- Dec. 26, 1861 U.S. Sec. Of Sec. Wm. Seward apologizes to Great Britain for the actions of the frigate USS *San Jacinto* in the Bahama Channel. (Trent Affair)

## Southern States Secede from the Union

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| South Carolina - Dec. 20, 1860 | Louisiana - Jan. 26, 1861     |
| Mississippi - Jan. 9, 1861     | Texas - Feb. 1, 1861          |
| Florida - Jan. 10, 1861        | Virginia - April 17, 1861     |
| Alabama - Jan. 11, 1861        | Arkansas - May 6, 1861        |
| Georgia - Jan. 19, 1861        | North Carolina - May 20, 1861 |
| Tennessee - June 8, 1861       |                               |

## **This 'n That!**

This year we celebrate our 16<sup>th</sup> birthday! We have much to be proud of from last year and much to look forward to in 2016. Over the past 16 years, the LCWRT has grown from a small club to a major force in our community. We are excited about the coming year with noted authors, historians, and Civil War enthusiasts on a wide variety of topics. With great speakers and exciting programs, we explore the history of our nation.

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

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

### **We Need Volunteers!**

Please consider volunteering with the LCWRT. We need someone to assist John Kemp and eventually take over as program chairman. 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.lcwrtsquarespace.com](http://www.lcwrtsquarespace.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.lcwrtsquarespace.com](http://www.lcwrtsquarespace.com), and you will be contacted.

### **Check out the New Morris Lowcountry Heritage Center in Ridgeland!**

Starting in 2016 the “Battle of Honey Hill” will be available for touring. The Honey Hill Battlefield Park in Jasper County needs support for development and preservation in conjunction with the efforts of the Town of Ridgeland and the Morris Museum. Check out their website: [www.morrisheritagecenter.org](http://www.morrisheritagecenter.org) and on FACEBOOK. Address: 10782 S. Jacob Blvd., Ridgeland, S.C.

### **Battlefield Preservation — Honey Hill**

The LCWRT is exploring involvement in the battlefield preservation aspect of its mission by starting a charitable organization known as the Friends of Honey Hill (FOHH). The town of Ridgeland has recently acquired the battlefield site from private ownership and intends to develop it as an interpretive site for the public. Many organizations will support the Battlefield. The Friends of Honey Hill will be an important one! The FOHH will function similar to the friends organizations supporting many of the national and state battlefield parks. A committee is being formed within the LCWRT to plan the FOHH structure and recommend financial guidelines to the LCWRT Executive Committee. We need only a few LCWRT members. If you have an interest in being part of the inception of this organization, please submit your name, email address and phone number to [LCWRTSC@gmail.com](mailto:LCWRTSC@gmail.com). You may contact John Kemp at 201.845.4178.

### **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 prolific novelist, an essayist, a former career soldier, and an adventurer. He is the author of a dozen critically acclaimed novels, two influential works on strategy, "Beyond Terror" and "Fighting for the Future: Will American Triumph?" 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 anyone who lives in Sun City!

### **LCWRT Scholarship Fund!**

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 huge success. The LCWRT executive committee has decided to expand the Scholarship Fund. 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!



## Christmas During the Civil War

From [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org)

Civil War soldiers in camp and their families at home drew comfort from the same sorts of traditions that characterize Christmas today. Alfred Bellard of the 5th New Jersey noted, "In order to make it look much like Christmas as possible, a small tree was stuck up in front of our tent, decked off with hard tack and pork, in lieu of cakes and oranges, etc." John Haley, of the 17th Maine, wrote in his diary on Christmas Eve that, "It is rumored that there are sundry boxes and mysterious parcels over at Stoneman's Station directed to us. We retire to sleep with feelings akin to those of children expecting Santa Claus."

In one amusing anecdote, a Confederate prisoner relates how the realities of war intruded on his Christmas celebrations: "A friend had sent me in a package a bottle of old brandy. On Christmas morning, I quietly called several comrades up to my bunk to taste the precious fluid of ... disappointment! The bottle had been opened outside, the brandy taken and replaced with water and sent in. I hope the Yankee, who played that practical joke lived to repent it and was shot before the war ended."

For many, the holiday was a reminder of the profound melancholy that had settled over the entire nation. Southern parents warned their children that Santa might not make it through the blockade, and soldiers in bleak winter quarters were reminded, more acutely than ever, of the domestic bliss they had left behind. Robert Gould Shaw, who would later earn glory as the commander of the 54th Massachusetts, recorded in his diary, "It is Christmas morning, and I hope a happy and merry one for you all though it looks so stormy for our poor country, one can hardly be in merry humor." On the Confederate home front, Sallie Brock Putnam of Richmond echoed Shaw's sentiment: "Never before had so sad a Christmas dawned upon us ... We had neither the heart nor inclination to make the week merry with joyousness when such a sad calamity hovered over us." For the people of Fredericksburg, Virginia, which had been battered only a matter of days before Christmas, or Savannah, Georgia, which General Sherman had presented to President Lincoln as a gift, the holiday season brought the war to their very doorsteps.

Christmas during the Civil War served both as an escape from and a reminder of the awful conflict rending the country in two. Soldiers looked forward to a day of rest and relative relaxation but had their moods tempered by the thought of separation from their loved ones. At home, families did their best to celebrate the holiday but wondered when the vacant chair would again be filled.

**Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Inc.**  
2015-2016 Executive Committee

**Officers**

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**Thomas Nast**  
**“Father of American Cartoon”**

One of Thomas Nast's most famous prints was one called The Union Christmas, which was printed on Dec. 31, 1864, and depicts President Lincoln standing at a door, with him offering the cold and frostbitten Southern soldiers an invitation to rejoin the Union. Another Nast creation from earlier that same month showed the Confederacy's President Jefferson Davis and his problematic predicament. The illustration, entitled Lincoln's Christmas Box to Jeff Davis, showed the choices the South's leader by then had: “More war or peace and union?”

**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**

is published by

The Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

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education and battlefield preservation.

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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.

## Santa's Tips - Top Ten Civil War Books

Instead of a necktie or a gift certificate, tell the kids and grandkids to give your sweetheart a Civil War classic for Christmas. Selected by <http://www.history.net.com>

1. *Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant: All Volumes* by Ulysses S. Grant
2. *The Civil War: a Narrative 3 Volumes* by Shelby Foote
3. *Battle Cry of Freedom: the Civil War Era* by James M. McPherson
4. *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane
5. *R.E. Lee: A Biography, Pulitzer Prize Edition (4 volume set)* by Douglas Southall Freeman
6. *Gettysburg* by Stephen Sears
7. *Military Memoirs of a Confederate: a Critical Narrative* by Edward Porter Alexander
8. *A Stillness at Appomattox(Army of the Potomac) 3 Volumes* by Bruce Catton
9. *Lincoln, the War President: The Gettysburg Lectures (Gettysburg Civil War Institute Books)* edited by Gabor S. Boritt
10. *Decision in the West: The Atlanta Campaign of 1864* by Albert E. Castel

### ***A True Civil War Christmas Story — Full of Joy, Sorrow, Compassion, and Courage.*** by James McIvor

Christmas and war subjects of a book to read during the season of goodwill and glad tidings? Virginian James McIvor takes the reader into the hearts and minds of those soldiers fighting for survival. McIvor recounts Christmas celebrations during the early Civil War and gives us a glimpse into the life of the soldiers fighting in the War. The book begins with the second Christmas of the war in 1862. It's emphasis is on how the holiday united opposing soldiers before one of the most ferocious battles of the War. The **Battle of Stone's River** ( Dec. - Jan. 2, 1863) fought on the outskirts of Murfreesboro, Tenn. pitted Union Maj. Gen. Wm. Rosecrans against Gen. Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee. The book explores the changing attitudes of the soldiers on both sides toward their foes. In the wet, cold and driving rains, with food scarce, and morale bad, the poignant moment of comradery grew between them on the eve of the battle. In Murfreesboro, Union and Confederate troops set up camp within an earshot of one another. After Christmas had passed, many of the battle-weary young soldiers were sad longing for their families and loved ones. Confederate and Union bands performed patriotic songs to raise spirits. Then, something remarkable happened, one of the regimental bands began playing "Home Sweet Home," and thousands of homesick soldiers had started to sing together on the eve of battle before being overcome by emotion. Soon, bands were battling back and forth with their favorite tunes of the period. On the day of the main battle fog and drizzle obscured the field of battle. McIvor takes readers back to the War through the eyes of soldiers' letters from home (Union and Confederate). Christmas poems, favorite song lyrics takes the reader into their hearts and minds of the men. Several accounts of participants foresaw their death and the humane treatment from enemy combatants.

Great to read during the Christmas season! The book is published by Penguin Group (USA) and may be purchased on Amazon — Kindle Edition — \$9.99.