



MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE

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

May, 31, 2016

Dear Fellow LCWRT Members:

I write this as the new President of the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table. Thank you for the opportunity to serve! A complete listing of new officers and committee chairs can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

I would like to thank Bob Waite, outgoing President, for the excellent job he did during his term. The Roundtable is fortunate that Bob is staying involved by becoming Co-Chair (along with John Kemp) of the Program Committee. I also want to thank Dave McColloch for his many years of service as Membership Chairman. Dave has “retired”, probably to spend more time on the golf course.

At the May meeting, we announced our 2016 Keller Family Scholarship winner. This year’s recipient is Chase Sanders from Hilton Head Island High School. Chase will be attending Clemson University this fall and will major in graphic communications. Congratulations to Chase! Also congratulations to Caroline Kennedy and her committee for managing this year’s scholarship program. Great job!

Don’t forget to get your tickets for the presentation by Lt. Col. Ralph Peters on July 13 at Magnolia Hall in Sun City. This event is open to all, LCWRT members and residents of Sun City, but you must have a ticket. Tickets are free and can be obtained through Eventbrite.com. You can cut and paste this website to get direct access to tickets for this event: www.eventbrite.com/e/lcwrt-and-ralph-peters-presents-1864-our-civil-wars-savage-year-tickets-22509358096?aff=es2

Lastly, please volunteer to serve the LCWRT in some capacity. Volunteers are the lifeblood of any organization and ours is no exception. See any officer or committee chair to volunteer your time and your talents.

Have a great summer! Don’t forget to renew your membership!

Respectfully,
Gary Welsh
President
LCWRT, Inc.

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Ralph Peters to Speak at Magnolia Hall on Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Hosted by the Lowcountry Civil War Roundtable (LCWRT)

“I’m trying to write Civil War novels that dramatize history and that are much more accurate and realistic than books in the past.” — Ralph Peters

The Lowcountry Civil War Roundtable is excited to announce that on **Wed., July 13, 2016**, Lt. Col. Ralph Peters will speak at Magnolia Hall. Ralph Peters is a *New York Times* bestselling author, acclaimed TV military strategist, commentator, retired military officer, and modern-day adventurer. He is the author of 25 books and more than seven hundred columns, articles, essays, and reviews. Uniformed service, personal interests, and research have taken him to 70 countries, first as an enlisted man, then as an officer, retiring shortly after his promotion to lieutenant-colonel to write with greater freedom. He grew up in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, and studied writing at Pennsylvania State University. He lives and writes in the Washington, D.C. area.

As a soldier, Ralph served in Infantry and Military Intelligence units before becoming a Foreign Area Officer (FAO) specializing in Russia and surrounding states. Special assignments took him to Southeast and Central Asia, to the Caucasus, to the Kremlin, to Pakistan and Burma, to the Andean Ridge and Southwest border of the United States and the meanest streets of Los Angeles. He has traveled extensively in the Muslim world, as well as studying India, sub-Saharan Africa, and Indonesia. In addition to assignments to the Pentagon and the Executive Office for the President, he observed and lived in Europe for a total of ten years. He has reported from various conflict zones, including Iraq and the Lebanese border with Israel.

Ralph has published six books on strategy and military affairs: *Wars of Blood and Faith*, *Never Quit the Fight*, *Beyond Baghdad*, *Beyond Terror and Fighting for the Future*, each of which collected his previously-published essays, and articles, and *NEW GLORY: Expanding America’s Global Supremacy*, a partisan critique of our national strategy. His interesting book, *Looking for Trouble: Adventures in a Broken World*, is a memoir of his personal experiences and adventures and misadventures in remote trouble spots while in uniform. The book reads like a travelogue with a bit of danger and humor thrown in. Maj. Gen. Sid Shachnow USA (ret.) said, “A fascinating, compelling, an insightful memoir, wonderfully told. Ralph Peters delivers again. A superb book.” As the U.S. Army’s chosen troubleshooter before he took off his uniform to write, Peters saw the greatest international dramas of our times and the personal tragedies they created from a truly unique perspective, and took advantage of every moment “outside of the wire.”

Also a best-selling novelist, under his own name, he has some bestsellers with international settings. As Owen Parry, he has written a series of page-turning Civil War murder mysteries. He is both historically accurate and a well-practiced storyteller. His love of Shakespeare and The Bible is evident in all of his historical novels. His novel, *The War After Armageddon*, offers realism in the dangerous world around us that only a writer with his life experience could write.

Fascinated by our Civil War since childhood, he has made it a lifelong study. His novels on the subject have won numerous prizes, including the American Library Associations’ Boyd Award (twice), the Herodotus award and the Hammett Prize. He was also the 2015 recipient of the General Goodpaster Award as a distinguished American soldier-scholar.

His latest climactic novel *The Damned of Petersburg* is the fourth volume in his five-book cycle on the war in the eastern theater that began with *Cain at Gettysburg*. The other books in the series are: *Hell or Richmond* and *Valley of the Shadow*

“A profound reflection on the relationship of men and violence. Ralph Peters continues to be the most reliable, insightful and readable historian of our times . . . and he never loses sight of the human beings, great, and small, caught up in war’s vortex.” — Gen. Sid Shachnow, U.S. Army Special Forces (Ret.).

In *The Damned of Petersburg*, Peters takes the readers deep into the heart of the Civil War with his masterfully captured details as warfare changed forever. As Grant pinned Lee to Petersburg and Richmond the Confederacy’s strong-willed Army of Northern Virginia wrestled against a persistent Union big and powerful, with breathtaking courage and sacrifice on both sides. That challenge in the bloody summer and autumn of 1864 shaped the nation that we know today. From the cruelty of The Battle of the Crater (The Horrid Pit), where surprising success broke apart into violent killings, through near-constant battles fought by heat-stricken soldiers is a reminder of the horror of war at its basest level. To the incredibly important election of 1864, *The Damned of Petersburg* brings back to life our Civil War’s horrid situations, as plumes and sabers gave way to miles of trenches. The killing of those resulting acute months brought together widely known leaders — Grant and Lee. The battles turned Winfield Scott Hancock and A.P. Hill into up-and-coming heroes. Confederates “Little Billy” Mahone and Wade Hampton, became last of the Cavaliers. Union warriors remembered were the tragedy-stricken Francis Channing Barlow and the very brave Nelson Miles, who became a general at twenty-four. Nor does Peters forget the men in the ranks, the ordinary soldiers who paid the price for the blunders of leaders, who’d never know their names. In desperate battles, now forgotten, such as Deep Bottom, Globe Tavern and Reams Station, soldiers on both sides, moved forward to the last human limits, fought on as their superiors struggled to master a terrible new age of warfare. *The Damned of Petersburg* revives heroes aplenty — enriching our knowledge of our most terrible war — but, above all, his novel’s a tribute to the endurance and courage of the American soldier, North or South.

“Our Civil War has haunted me for over a half-century. Since childhood, I’ve read about it and visited every battlefield I could. Later, I studied it seriously and taught it to fellow military officers. Then I wrote novels about it. I’m still writing and still learning. The Civil War is inexhaustible, with new sources of information still emerging. Along my pilgrim’s path, I’ve met some surprises and some of my initial beliefs have changed — usually notions based on “common knowledge” that wasn’t very knowledgeable. I hope you enjoy my insights.” — Ralph Peters

Tickets are available on www.eventbrite.com/e/lcwr-t-and-ralph-peters-presents-1864-our-civil-wars-savage-year-tickets-22509358096?aff=es2 You must have a ticket to attend this event! - Caroline Wallace Kennedy

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Civil War Timeline – June 1862

6 June 1862: Battle of Memphis, Tennessee

Naval battle that saw the defeat of the Confederate fleet guarding Memphis and the Union capture of the city.

8-9 June 1862: Battle of Crosskeys (Shenandoah Valley), Virginia

Part of Jackson's army holds off a larger Union force.

9 June 1862: Battle of Port Republic (Shenandoah Valley), Virginia

Jackson marches the rest of his army to join the force at Cross Keys, defeating part of a larger Union force.

25 June-1 July 1862: The Seven Days' Battles, Virginia

Having finally reached the vicinity of Richmond, McClellan found himself the one under attack, as Lee attempted to destroy the Union army, or at least force it away from Richmond. He achieved the second objective.

25 June 1862: Battle of Oak Grove, Virginia

First fighting of the Seven Days, triggered by McClellan's only offensive move, a probing reconnaissance.

26 June 1862: Battle of Mechanicsville, Virginia

Part of the Seven Days' Battles. A Confederate attack launched despite the absence of a large part of the force allocated for it. A clear Union victory.

27 June 1862: Battle of Gaines's Mill, Virginia

Seven Days' Battles. Another Confederate attack that achieved its main aim, but at a high cost.

29 June 1862: Battle of Savage's Station, Virginia

Failed Confederate attack on the Union army withdrawing from Richmond towards the James River.

30 June 1862: Battle of Glendale/ Frayser's Farm/ White Oak Swamp, Virginia

Another unsuccessful confederate attack during the Seven Days' Battle.

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Late June- 26 July 1862:

First Union attack on Vicksburg, the last major obstacle on the Mississippi. Naval forces from New Orleans and Memphis fail to take the city. - www.historyofwar.org

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Wade Hampton III

By Caroline Wallace Kennedy

Wade Hampton III (1818-1902) a Charleston, South Carolina plantation owner was born into one of the most powerful families in the South. His father (Wade Hampton II) had served with distinction in the War of 1812 and had been a U.S. senator. His grandfather had been a Revolutionary War veteran, brigadier general and U.S. senator and congressman. Hampton grew up on a 2,000-acre rice and an indigo plantation tended by many slaves and was schooled at home.

Hampton, the eldest son, graduated from South Carolina College in 1836 and then spent two years studying law before returning home to manage his family's properties in South Carolina and Mississippi. (South Carolina College closed during the War and reopened years later as the University of South Carolina.) In 1838, he married Margaret Buchanan Preston, the niece of Senator William C. Preston. The couple had five children before her death in 1852. The same year, he was elected to the South Carolina General Assembly. After two terms as a representative, he went on to serve as a state senator from 1856 to 1861. In 1858, Hampton married Mary Singleton McDuffie, the daughter of George McDuffie, a governor of S.C. and a U.S. Senator. (Mary was a member of the famous Singleton family from the High Hills of Santee in Sumter County, S.C. The couple had four children. Hampton's father died that same year, making him one of the largest owners of land and slaves in the South.

At the outset of the Civil War, General Wade Hampton used his family fortune to partially organize and outfit the now-legendary "Hampton Legion" a force of more than 1,000 Confederate infantry, cavalry and artillerymen. He personally organized "Hampton's Legion" at the outbreak of the War and played a key role in the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas). Although he had no prior military experience, Hampton proved a natural cavalry officer and eventually rose to the rank of lieutenant general. He participated in the Peninsula Campaign in 1862 and was wounded for the second time at the Battle of Seven Pines. He would return to the field during the Seven Days Battles in June and July 1862.

In July 1862, Hampton's skill as a horseman saw him reassigned to command of a brigade of cavalry under General J.E.B. Stuart. He would go on to play a prominent role in Confederate cavalry actions, including leading the pursuit of retreating Union forces after the Second Battle of Bull Run (Manassas) in August 1862. A month later Hampton joined in Robert E. Lee's invasion of Maryland and was involved in several small skirmishes prior to the Battle of Antietam. He then participated in a daring raid into Pennsylvania that captured the town of Chambersburg and then led another expedition

behind enemy lines in the lead-up to the Battle of Fredericksburg in December 1862. Desperate to defend his home state, Hampton repeatedly petitioned the Confederate high command for transfer to a new unit closer to South Carolina, but his requests were denied.

Later, he served in the early stages of the Gettysburg Campaign in 1863, and led his unit at the Battles of Fredericksburg, Brandy Station and Gettysburg. He later joined Stuart on a controversial raiding campaign that saw the Confederate cavalry advance to the outskirts of Washington, D.C. In July 1863, he was involved in the Battle of Gettysburg, during which he received several saber wounds and was shot during fighting with Union cavalry on the second and third day so the engagement. He was promoted to major general that August, but his wounds kept him away from the field until Nov. 1863.

After Gen. J.E.B. Stuart's death at the Battle of Yellow Tavern in May 1864, Hampton assumed command of the Army of Northern Virginia's cavalry corps. During the Overland Campaign in June 1864, he won a major victory at the Battle of Trevilian Station, in which he repulsed repeated attacks for Union General Philip Sheridan and prevented the destruction of the Virginia Central Railroad.

Where's the Beef?

Hampton would later defend against Union cavalry menacing Richmond and Petersburg, and in Sept. 1864 conducted the so-called "Beefsteak Raid." Military intelligence on Sept. 5th reported that the Federals had gathered a herd of 3,000 cattle at Coggin's Point, a few miles east of City Point, VA. Just two days earlier, Lee had suggested to Wade Hampton that the enemy's rear was "open to attack." Prodded by Lee's hint, and armed with the intelligence report, Hampton suggested a deep penetration cavalry raid to rustle the Yankee beef. His move caught the Union security forces too dispersed to meet such a concentrated strike. So, when the Rebels burst out of the morning gloom on Sept. 16, they were able to corral the cattle and hustle them back the way they had come. There was some Union contact, but on Sept. 17 Hampton proudly reported his achievement to Lee. A total of 2,486 cattle and 300 prisoners had been taken at a cost of ten men killed, 47 wounded, and four missing. The animals soon disappeared into the jaws of the Confederate commissary, and for the next few weeks Federal pickets had to endure a new taunt: "Hello Yanks! Want any fresh beef?" Confederate cavalry corps and was instrumental in protecting Richmond and Petersburg in 1864 and 1865. (The Legion was the last organization to leave Richmond.)

In January 1865 Hampton was sent to South Carolina on a recruiting and supply mission. A month later he was present off the fall of Columbia, S.A., to forces under the command of Gen. William T. Sherman. He received a promotion to lieutenant general in early 1865, and spent the later stages of the war fighting in the Carolinas under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. (Johnston wanted "to arrange the terms of a permanent peace." Johnston agreed to consider an armistice based on political as well as military conditions.) He would surrender with Johnston at Bennett's Place in Durham on April 17, 1865.

"Comrades: . . . I earnestly exhort you to observe faithfully the terms of pacification agreed upon; and to discharge the obligations of a good and peaceful citizens, as well as you have performed the duties of thorough soldiers in the field. By such a course, you will best secure the comfort of your families and kindred, and restore tranquility to our country." - Gen. Joseph E. Johnson, General Order No. 22.

After the War Hampton found most of his plantations burned and his personal wealth significantly depleted. Despite this, he was initially a major figure in encouraging Southern reconciliation with the U.S. government. But with the introduction of Radical Reconstruction policies and Republican control of the South, Hampton's views shifted, and he became a vocal critic of Reconstruction efforts. Along with fellow Confederate Gen. Jubal Early, he would later become a prominent figure in the "Lost Cause," a cultural movement that condemned Reconstruction and attempted to reconcile the Confederate loss in the War.

Hampton returned to politics in 1876 when he ran against Daniel H. Chamberlain for governor of South Carolina. The campaign was punctuated by acts of violence on both sides, and militant Hampton supporters were known as "Red Shirts" were accused of suppressing the black vote in parts of the state. Amid widespread controversy, Hampton was declared the winner of the election in 1877 following a South Carolina Supreme Court Decision. Hampton won reelection two years later but resigned in 1879 after winning a seat in the U.S. Senate. He would serve in Washington until 1891, when he was ousted by Democrats led by Benjamin R. Tillman. Later, he served as the U.S. commissioner of railroads from 1893 to 1897 before retiring. He died in South Carolina in 1902 at the age of 84. Sources: history.com, www.civilwar.org, www.craterroad.com.

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Civil War Generals Buried in Bonaventure Cemetery in Savannah

Bonaventure, a 100-acre Cemetery, set on a bluff overlooking the Wilmington River, a short distance from Savannah's "historic district." Shady lanes are lined with massive live oaks, sculptures and monuments dot the landscape. The river views are stunning. Claudia Catell Mullryne and her husband, Colonel John Mullryne, established their home on the plantation in 1762. He named the place *bonaventure*, which means "good fortune" in French. Spreading out over more than 600 acres. Crops were never cultivated there, but instead the Mullrynes eventually planted Oaks every 15 feet, for a canopy effect. The plantation was the site of Mulryne's daughter Mary's wedding to Josiah Tattnall in 1761. During the Revolutionary War, the property was seized, after Mulryne and Tattnall declared themselves Loyalists and left for England. Tattnall's son returned after the war and purchased the home from James Habersham. After changing hands for several generations, in 1846 Josiah Tattnall III sold the land to Captain Peter Wiltberger, owner of the Pulaski House who planned to convert the plantation into a public cemetery. The city of Savannah purchased the cemetery in 1907.

While each cemetery has its collection of stories to tell, Bonaventure Cemetery has more stories than most. For more than 150 years, citizens of Savannah have buried their loved ones at Bonaventure Cemetery. Among its grounds, monuments bearing the names of such famous people as Johnny Mercer lie alongside markers bearing names of those known only to their family.

CSA Brig. Gen. Robert Houston Anderson (1835-1888). An 1857 graduate of West Point, he graduated 35th in his class, then served at a New York state garrison and at Fort Walla Walla in Washington Territory as a lieutenant of infantry. At the time of the secession crisis, he accepted a commission as a Confederate lieutenant of artillery and was listed as "absent without leave" from the U.S. Army until May 17, 1861, when his resignation was received. Promoted to Major Sept. 1861, he assumed the administrative post of assistant adjutant general to William Henry Talbot Walker, Maj. Gen. of Georgia state troops, commanding on the Georgia coast. In January 1863 he was transferred to line duty but not before finally seeing action in coastal Georgia at Fort McAllister, where he helped repel assaults by Federal ironclads testing the strength of the Confederate works. His transfer came with a promotion to Colonel of the 5th Georgia Cavalry, which was now serving in the Army of Tennessee. A few months later, he was raised to brigade command and made Brig. Gen. on July 26, 1864. He took part in all of the operations in the Atlanta Campaign. During a raid near Franklin, Tenn., Brig. Gen. John H. Kelly, a division commander, was killed and he was temporarily placed in divisional command. Following the fall of Atlanta and his reversion to brigade command, he fought on through the March to the Sea and the Carolinas Campaign and was surrendered with the rest of the army by Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. After the war, he returned to Savannah and was that city's chief of police from 1867 until his death.

CSA Brig. Gen. Henry Rootes Jackson (1820-1898) Rootes was a lawyer, politician, and Confederate General—was born in Athens, GA. His father, Dr. Henry Jackson, was at one-time professor of natural philosophy at Franklin College. The young Jackson was educated at the Franklin College in Athens (predecessor of the University of Georgia) and eventually graduated from Yale University in 1839. He read law for two years. In 1844, Jackson was appointed U.S. District Attorney for Georgia and served on the Georgia Supreme Court from 1849 to 1853.

When the war with Mexico began, Jackson, then at Savannah, raised a company of one hundred men called the "Jaspar Greens" and marched to Columbus to form a regiment. He attained the rank of colonel and went on to serve in Mexico. When he returned from the war, he was appointed Judge of the Superior Court of the Eastern District of Georgia. For five years he served as Resident Minister at Vienna, Austria, appointed to that post in 1853.

During the Civil War, he was a judge of Confederate courts in Georgia and left that position to become a Brig. Gen. in the Western Virginia campaign and at Cheat Mountain. In December 1861 he became Maj. Gen. of Georgia state troops fought in the defense of Savannah. He returned to

Confederate service as Brig. Gen. in the Confederate Army in September 1863 and was with the force that opposed Gen. Sherman at Atlanta. After the loss of Atlanta, Jackson accompanied Hood to Tennessee, where he and his division were captured at Nashville. After the war, Jackson practiced law, served as minister to Mexico (1885-1887), president of the Georgia Historical Society (1875-1898), and became a railroad executive and banker.

CSA Brig. Gen. Alexander R. Lawton (1818-1896). Lawton was born in St. Peter's Parish, Beaufort District, SC. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1839, placing 13th out of 31 in his class. He served as a second lieutenant in the 1st U.S. Artillery until resigning his commission in 1840 to stay law. He attended the Harvard Law School, graduating in 1842. He settled in Savannah, and entered in the fields of law, railroad administration and state politics. Lawton favored Georgia's secession and became colonel of the 1st Georgia Volunteers. He commanded the Savannah troops that seized Fort Pulaski, the first conflict of the war in Georgia. He was commissioned a brigadier general in the Confederate Army on April 13, 1861, and commanded the forces guarding Georgia's seacoast before being reassigned to Virginia. He led his brigade effectively during Stonewall Jackson's Shenandoah Valley Campaign, the Seven Days Battles, and the Second Battle of Bull Run (Second Manassas). His last field service was at the Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg), where he commanded the division of the wounded Maj. Gen. Richard S. Ewell. Lawton was severely wounded early in the morning of Sept. 17, 1862 while defending his portion of the Army of Northern Virginia's line. Initially carried from the field to a temporary hospital, he spent months at home recuperating. In August 1863, Lawton became the Confederacy's next Quartermaster General. Although he brought energy and resourcefulness to the position, he was unable to solve the problem of material shortages and poorly-regulated railroads. In the years after the War, Lawton becomes increasingly important as a political figure in Georgia, serving in various administrative posts. He lost the 1880 election for the U.S. Senate in an election which seemed to represent a victory for the "New South" over the "Old South." He was chosen President of the American Bar Assoc. in 1882. Five years later, he was appointed Minister to Austria-Hungary and left that post in 1889. Lawton died in Clifton Springs, N.Y.

CSA Brig. General Hugh Weedon. Mercer (1808-1877). Mercer was born in Fredericksburg, Va., on Nov. 27, 1808. He graduated from West Point in 1828, and served in the U.S. 2nd Artillery, spending much of his service time in Georgia. After an assignment as an aide to Bvt. Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott, he left the army, married a woman from Savannah and settled there. He worked as a bank cashier and was an artillery officer in the local militia. In 1861, he enlisted in the CSA, and was promoted to brigadier general by the end of October. In August of 1862, he played a major role in impressing the first group of slaves and free blacks into service for the Confederacy. By November, however, he lost his authority to impress workers and depended on Gov. Joseph E. Brown and local sheriffs to provide slaves to join the Confederate effort. At the beginning of the Atlanta Campaign, he left Savannah and took command of the Army of Tennessee. Fighting at Dalton, Marietta, Kennesaw Mountain, and the Battle of Atlanta, he became ill during the campaigning in Tennessee. Mercer was relieved of command, and sent to Savannah, serving under Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee. When Hardee retreated in December of 1864, Mercer left the city, returning after the fighting ended. He resumed his work in banking and moved to Baltimore in 1869, where he worked as a commission merchant. Mercer traveled to Baden-Baden, Germany, in order to find a cure for an illness. He died there, on June 9, 1877.

CSA Brig. General Claudius Charles Wilson (1831-1863). Wilson was born in Effingham County, Ga. He was the son of Dr. Josiah Stewart Wilson and the great-grandson of Brig. Gen. Daniel Stewart, a brigadier general in the Georgia Militia who served during the American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Wilson graduated with highest honors from Emory College in Oxford, Ga. In 1851. He became a lawyer at Savannah the following year. In 1859, he was elected U.S. Solicitor General for eastern Georgia but resigned in 1860 to resume his practice in Savannah. In early 1861, he was commissioned Captain in the 25th Georgia Volunteers and promoted to colonel in Sept. He served in actions with the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida Vicksburg Campaign from 1862 to Oct. 1863. He was promoted Brig. General in Nov. 1863, but his promotion as not confirmed by the Confederate Senate and his commission had not been delivered to him before he died of “camp fever,” now recognized as Typhus, on Nov. 7, 1863, at Ringgold, Ga. The Confederate Senate confirmed his appointment posthumously on Feb. 17, 1864.

Commodore Josiah Tattnall (1795-1871). Tattnall was born at Bonaventure Plantation to Harriet Fenwick and Josiah Tattnall, a Georgia senator and governor. Orphaned in 1803, he was sent to live with his paternal grandfather in England for schooling. He returned to Savannah in 1811 and entered the U.S. Navy as a midshipman in 1812. He fought against the British with land-based naval forces in Maryland. He married Harriett F. Jackson and they had several daughters and one son. Tattnall remained in the navy and saw service around the world. After Georgia seceded from the Union on the eve of the Civil War Tattnall, despite his personal aversion to secession, resigned from the U.S. Navy on Feb. 20, 1861. He was subsequently commissioned as a captain of the Confederate navy, with responsibility for the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina. He conducted unsuccessful actions against U.S. Forces at Port Royal, S.C., in 1861. During the battle between the *Monitor* and the *Merrimac* (*CSS Virginia*) at Hampton Roads, Va., on Mar. 9, 1862, Franklin Buchanan, the Confederate commander of VA., was wounded. Tattnall was named to replace him. Months later, in May, Southern forces attempted to retreat from the Norfolk, area, knowing that Union forces would soon arrive. Fearing that the ironclad would be captured by Union troops. Tattnall ordered it destroyed. Subsequently, a board of inquiry censured Tattnall, ruling that blowing up the ship had been unnecessary. He was later exonerated by a court martial. Tattnall returned to his command at Savannah and was there overseeing the destruction of the remaining Confederate vessels, including the ironclad *CSS Savannah*, when the city fell to the Union forces of Gen. William T. Sherman in Dec. 1864. Following a retreat to Augusta, Tattnall was captured there as a prisoner of war and was paroled in May 1865. He moved to Nova Scotia, Canada, in 1866. He lived there for four years before returning penniless to Savannah, where the city created the position of inspector of the port to provide him an income.

“Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil.” by John Berendt

Shots rang out in Savannah's finest mansion in the foggy, early morning hours of May 2, 1981. Was it murder or self-defense? For nearly a decade, the shooting and its consequences echoed throughout this city of moss-hung oaks and quaint squares. John Berendt's suspenseful, and funny narrative reads like an engrossing novel, and yet it is a work of nonfiction. Berendt skillfully intertwined a hugely amusing first-person account of life in this isolated remnant of the Old South with the unpredictable twists and turns of a landmark murder case.

It is a fascinating story with astounding characters: the society ladies of the Married Woman's Card Club; the stormy redneck gigolo; the hapless recluse who owns a bottle of poison so powerful it could kill every man, woman, and child in Savannah; the aging and very funny Southern belle who is the "soul of pampered self-absorption"; the uproariously funny black drag queen; the severe and pretentious antiques dealer; the sweet-talking, piano-playing con artist; young blacks dancing the minuet at the black debutante ball; and Minerva, the voodoo priestess who works her wizardry in the midnight rendezvous in the graveyard. These and other Savannahians reveal the alliances, curiosities, and attitudes that thrive in a town where everyone knows each other. Berendt's book was a hit world-wide, spending 216 weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list in 1994.

In 1997, [Clint Eastwood](#) brought the beauty - and eccentricities - of Savannah to the public with '[Midnight in the Garden of Good Evil.](#)' Berendt adapted his best-selling novel. The film adaptation stars [John Cusack](#) as journalist John Kelso (whom Berendt based on himself) and [Kevin Spacey](#) as Jim Williams, a wealthy art dealer on trial for the murder of local hustler Billy Hanson ([Jude Law](#)). In the film, Jim and John visit the Cemetery (Garden) for a late-night convocation, where Minerva wears sunglasses at night and does her voodoo. She can sense the skepticism of the men during the ceremony, and when she turns to leave, she says "To understand the living, you've got to commune with the dead." The Garden, apparently, is also the venue for unwanted advice, and a whole lot of truth-telling.

These days, Bonaventure is the largest of Savannah's municipal cemeteries, with over 160 acres of land. It's among the city's must-see destinations for tourists eager to get a real-life taste of 'Midnight.'

Sources: findagrave.com, civil-war-generals.findthedata.com, amazon.com

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The 2016-2017 Program Season

July 13 – 6:30 p.m.	Ralph Peters, novelist, essayist, former career soldier who frequently appears as a commentator on TV and radio – 1864: Our Civil War's Savage Year
September 14 – 6:45 p.m.	Carolyn Newton Curry author “Suffer & Grow Strong: The Life of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1834-1907
October 12 – 6:45 p.m.	Phil Leich “Trading With the Enemy: The Covert Economy During the American Civil War”
November 9 – 6:45 p.m.	Lou Benfante “Fort Pulaski” (tour the following day)

2017

- January 11 - 6:45 p.m. Dr. James “Bud” Robertson - best selling author and acclaimed historian
- February 08 – 6:45 p.m. Dr. William C. “Jack” Davis – Davis has been our most loyal and famous presenter since the Round Table was founded. - “Looking for Loreta”
- March 08 - 6:45 p.m. Ed Bearss, historian, author and veteran - “The Battle of Pittsburg Landing (Shiloh)”
- April 12 – 6:45 p.m. Karen Abbott, author - “Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War.”
- May 10 - 6:45 p.m. Dr. Kyle Sinisi, professor at The Citadel, educator, author and historian - “Seeds of Seccession”

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

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This ‘n That!

A small card for a big thank you!

Dear Mrs. Kennedy and the LCWRT,

I just wanted to thank you for the wonderful opportunity you have given me with this Scholarship. It truly means a lot for my future, and I am so thankful to be awarded this scholarship from such an amazing organization. I can't think you enough for your time and care!

Sincerely, Chase Sanders

National Underground Railroad Conference

Into the Light: Striving for Freedom and “an equal chance in the battle of life.”

June 13 – 16, 2016

The 2016 National Underground Railroad Conference will be held at the Westin Hotel on Hilton Head Island. Mitchelville will hold their second Juneteenth celebration in Fish Haul Creek Park on June 18th. Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the U.S. Dating back to 1865, it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers, led by Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, landed at

Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free. (Note that this was two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation – which had become official Jan. 1, 1863.

About 50 historians and researchers are expected to attend when the Mitchelville Preservation Project plays host to the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program at historic Cherry Hill School, 210 Dillon Road. The free workshop runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is open to the public. Attendees will discuss projects related to the railroad, including research strategies, museum exhibits and artifact preservation, according to a news release. Training in maintaining and marketing historic sites also is planned.

"The Underground Railroad is largely based on oral tradition," said Sheri Jackson, southeast regional manager of the National Parks Service, which manages the program. "How do you research that, going beyond the oral tradition? Those are things we'll discuss."

The Underground Railroad was a vast network of people who helped slaves escape the American South to the northern U.S. and to Canada. Both whites and African Americans, most of them abolitionists, maintained secret routes and safe houses.

Mitchelville Preservation Project.

Freedom Park 229 Beach City, Road, HHI, S.C.

Mitchelville, founded in 1862 and home to several thousand former slaves, became part of the program earlier this year. The former village served as a destination for many who used the railroad to escape slavery. Be sure to put the birthplace of African-American freedom on your must-see tour map! Take the family on a leisurely drive down beautiful Beach City Road – the heart of the original Mitchelville settlement – or sign up for one of the many local professional Island tours that include Mitchelville on their routes, and watch this amazing Civil War history lesson come to life right before your eyes. (589 William Hilton Parkway, HHI, S.C. - 843.255.7300 – info@mitchelvillepreservationproject.org.)

Heritage Library – History & Ancestry Research Center on Hilton Head Island

Linda Piekut, executive director of the Heritage Library, has advised us that they have a significant number of donated Civil War books they cannot use. The books will be sold for \$2 in their bookstore area. The Heritage Library Foundation, 852 William Hilton Parkway | 2nd Floor Suite A-2, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29928 – 843.686.6560.

Coming Events at the Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage

The Sinclair Service Station, located on Jacob Smart Boulevard (US Highway 17) in

Ridgeland, South Carolina was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 13, 2015. The former service station, now owned and occupied by the Morris Center For Lowcountry Heritage, is significant as a well-preserved example of a prototypical Sinclair Service Station along a major transportation route catering to the automobile. The property owner sponsored the nomination and a consultant, Sarah Ward with Ward Architecture + Preservation, prepared the nomination materials. The building was rehabilitated to best preserve this historic integrity of the building for use as a history museum and educational center for the region.

The Sinclair Service Station nomination was unanimously approved by the National Register of Historic Places, South Carolina State Board of Review on Friday, July 24, 2015. Mr. Andy Chandler, National Register Co-Coordinator, stated that this was the first individual listing of a Sinclair Service Station in the state, and they were excited to see it get designated. The nomination will be forwarded to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. for final designation.

[Use of Plants by American Indians by Dr. Gail Wagner](#)

Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Visitor's will learn many uses of plants by Indians for food, drink, medicine, fiber, smoking, construction, even poison and is based on both archaeological evidence and historic accounts.

Gail E. Wagner, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Associated Faculty in the Environment and Sustainability Program at the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Co-director of the Wateree Archaeological Research Project in central South Carolina and a specialist in paleoethnobotany, Dr. Wagner researches the life ways and diet of South Carolina Indians who lived between A.D. 800 and 1730.

This program is sponsored by The Humanities Council SC, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

[Horseshoe Crabs: A Living Fossil - Wednesday, June 15 at 2 p.m.](#)

Join us on Wednesday, June 15 at 2 p.m. for an exciting program called Horseshoe Crabs: A Living Fossil presented by Coastal Discovery Museum. With its tough, helmet-like body and long, pointed tail, the horseshoe crab is one of the most intriguing and misunderstood marine invertebrates found in our marine waters. Dive in with us as we explore the horseshoe crab and investigate the life cycle and adaptations of this living fossil. - Free Admission, family-friendly.

[Sea Turtles of Our Coast - Tuesday, June 21 at 3 p.m. To 4 p.m.](#)

Coastal Discovery Museum presents an exciting program about six species of Sea Turtles that are found along our coast. Explore their life cycle and the difficulties they face from hatchling to adulthood. Learn about loggerhead nesting in South Carolina, sea turtle protection projects, and how you can help to protect this incredible marine reptile!

The Morris Center for the Lowcountry Heritage located at 10782 S. Jacob Smart Blvd., Ridgeland, SC 29936 – call 843.284.9227 or visit www.morrisheritagecenter.org for more information.

South Carolina Humanities Festival

Beaufort, SC – June 9-11, 2016

“Be inspired, enriched and engaged with lectures, films, and exhibits.” The South Carolina Humanities graciously supported us with a grant for \$500 which we are using to supplement our tour to the Rivers' Bridge Battlefield. I attended their kick-off campaign on April 20 at the home of Mayor Billy Keyserling in Beaufort. Rather than hosting significant events in South Carolina's two major cities of Columbia and Charleston the SC Humanities is hosting festivals each June in various towns across the state. Their first Humanities Festival is June 9-11, 2016. The kick-off will be Thursday, June 9th at the USCB Center for the Arts, 801 Carteret St., Beaufort with a performance by Beaufort Mass Choir under the direction of Scott Gibbs. On June 10th, Honey Horn will have a guided tour “Honey Horn in the Hunting Club Era and Beyond,” at the Coastal Discovery Museum, also at 10 a.m. a lecture will be held in Beaufort hosted by the USCB History Department “Reconstruction Sesquicentennial Lecture: Part 1.” There are 38 jam-packed programs planned, including “The History of Penn School” at the Penn Center on St. Helena Island, and “The Art of Jacques le Moyne,” at the Santa Elena History Center at 1501 Bay St., Beaufort. For complete information on the Festival, please contact BeaufortHumanitiesFestival.com.

Franklin Civil War Round Table (FCWRT) Battle of Franklin Symposium October 20-22, 2016 – Franklin, Tennessee

Join Eric A. Jacobson, historian, author and Battle of Franklin Trust CEO at the October Symposium presented by the Battle of Franklin Trust (BOFT). Two days of in-depth tours covering the events leading up to the 1864 bloody Battle of Franklin will be included. Also a group dinner at the beautiful Carnton Plantation, the home of Carrie and John McGavock, a cocktail reception at Carter House, and entertaining speakers. (The family of Fountain Branch Carter hid in the basement waiting for the second Battle of Franklin to end. The BOFT manages two of the most iconic Franklin battlefield sites, The Carnton Plantation, used as a field hospital commandeered as by Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, and the Carter House which will be included in this event. The proceeds are designated for the preservation and protection of the Carter House Farm outbuildings. A portion of the \$450 ticket will be tax deductible as a donation to this cause. Panel discussions, tours, and lectures will be a part of the weekend as well as a review of significantly reclaimed areas of the battlefield. Franklin had some of the bloodiest ground of the Civil War and was the climax of Gen. John Bell Hood's failed 1864 Tennessee Campaign. To enroll for this special event, go to www.boft.org and scroll down for “special events.” Space is limited to 55 people.

(Read the *New York Times* bestseller *The Widow of the South* by Robert Hicks. Hicks tells the story

about Widow Carrie McGavock, who knew firsthand the loss of her three of her five beloved children and treated all the dead boys from the battle that raged outside her home as if they were her own. She nursed the wounded and eventually reburied the dead on her plantation. Carnton is now known as the McGavock Confederate Cemetery. Carnton witnessed the “five bloodiest hours” of the Civil War; Nov. 30, 1864's Battle of Franklin. In just five hours, almost 10,000 soldiers were killed, wounded, captured or missing.) - Caroline Wallace Kennedy

* * *

LCWRT Membership Renewal

Your current LCWRT membership runs through August 31, 2016. For the 2016-2017 Program Year (September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017) we will be offering a promotion to increase LCWRT membership.

If you can enroll two new members, we will waive your membership fee for the year.

Membership fees remain unchanged from previous years . . . details and membership forms will be announced in an email blast prior to the special July 13th meeting at Magnolia Hall in Sun City.

Start taking up the LCWRT to your friends and neighbors! Bring them to the July 13th meeting!

* * *

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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.