



MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE

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

January 2009
Issue 78

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

- Next meeting is January 14, 2009 at Bluffton High School: Dinner, 5:30pm; Featured Speaker, 6:45 pm
- Reservations required for dinner, due January 12
- Morning after, 10am, January 15 at Palmetto Electric.

The Role of Women



To start out the New Year, our January 14th meeting will feature our good friend Dr. Bud Robertson who will discuss the important role on the home front that Southern women had during the war. Bud will elaborate about the sacrifices and anxieties which they faced alone with their families while their men served. Many women worked to manufacture arms, ammunition, uniforms, and other supplies for the soldiers. At left, top, are Northern women working in a cartridge factory. Prior to its destruction, women in the Fayetteville arsenal made some 900,000 rounds of small arms munitions in 1864. Both North and South, people were grateful for the contributions of women in the war, and newspapers reported their accomplishments. Although women are not now critical in the manufacture of weapons as in the Civil War, in terms of holding the military family unit together, their role is as significant today as it was over 100 years ago.

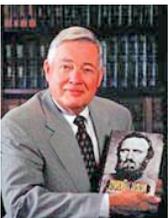


At left is a family group with what looks like two generations of women providing mutual comfort outside the home where C.S.A. General Charles S. Winder died. Cedar Mountain, Virginia, 1862. This was probably a typical scene as the war progressed and casualties increased.

For those who would like to explore more about this subject, please visit:

<http://americancivilwar.com/women/women.html>

Dr. James 'Bud' Robertson



A great grandson of a Confederate soldier, Dr. Robertson has had a lifelong interest in the Civil War. Today his Civil War Era class, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University History Department, with approximately 250 students each semester, is the largest of its kind in the nation.

He is a native of Danville, Virginia, and the recipient of every major award given in the field of Civil War History. He is the author of such award-winning books as **General A.P. Hill, Soldiers Blue and Gray**, and **Civil War! America Becomes One Nation**. He appears regularly in Civil War programs on the Arts & Entertainment Network, the History Channel, and public television; he also does a weekly broadcast carried by eleven public radio stations.

His latest book, **Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend**, was a main selection of two major book clubs and has won eight national awards; movie rights for the book have been sold.

He is presently an Alumni Distinguished Professor at Virginia Tech (one of eight selected from the University's 2,200 faculty).

Educational Background:

B.A., Randolph-Macon College, 1955
M.A., Emory University, 1956
Ph.D., Emory University, 1959
Litt.D., Randolph Macon College, 1980

You can visit his web site at:

<http://www.history.vt.edu/Robertson/>

The Dinner Menu for WEDNESDAY, January 14, 2009

Pulled Pork, Louisiana-style Fish, Fried Chicken
Green Beans, Carrots, Red Skin Potatoes
Cherry Pie, Coconut Bar, Cookie Tray, Fruit
Garden Salad & Dressings
Sweet & Unsweetened Tea, Lemonade, Decaf Coffee
Served on Dinner Plates with Silverware and Glasses

Catered by Golden Corral, Bluffton, SC

**Reservations are required ONLY for Dinner
And MUST be Received BY
MONDAY January 12, 2009**

Clip & Submit with your check.

DINNER RESERVATIONS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009

Total Number of Dinners Ordered: _____ @ \$14 each = _____ Member Phone #: _____

Member # 1 Name _____

Member # 2 Name _____

Guest: _____

Guest: _____

List Guests on additional paper if necessary.
Make Check Payable to: **LCWRT Inc.** and deliver together with this form to:

Wendell Turner
145 Robert E. Lee Lane
Bluffton, SC 29909

There will be a *Morning After* presentation at 10:00 AM on following Thursday

Palmetto Electric
US 278 across from USCB South Campus

**We thank Palmetto Electric and Honey Horn
for use of their facilities for our Morning After.**

The Minié Ball Gazette is the Official Publication

of the

The Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc

WWW.LOWCOUNTRYCWRRT.COM

Founded in 2000

Dedicated to Civil War historic

Preservation and Education

A Not-for-Profit, Charitable Organization

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

**Feedback for the Program
Committee**

The Program Committee is desirous of any member comments, positive or negative, about the program presentations at the LCWRT monthly meetings and is soliciting feedback. Your anonymity will be assured.

Please provide any comments to:

Mike Vezeau
MFANDBAV@hargray.com
705-5847.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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The next matter is a little delicate in nature. I'd like to ask your cooperation in remaining seated until the actual conclusion of our meetings. It is very embarrassing to be conducting the closing activities as dozens and dozens make their exit through the back doors. I am requesting your courteous attention for what is usually no more than another five minutes. It is, after all, the well-mannered, respectful thing to do.

Lastly, I'd like to bring your attention to the fact that there is a **change in the contact for dinner reservations for both January and February: Wendell Turner**. You will find the new name and address on the reservation form.

Wishing you health and happiness in the New Year,

Johanna Verwer

jbm@hargray.com

President's Message

Happy New Year everyone! It's hard to believe that yet another year has flown by. The January program will mark the halfway point of our program year and the start of our half-year membership campaign. Now is the time to invite your friends to join the LCWRT starting with the February program presented by William C. "Jack" Davis. Should they choose to do so, they will pay the one-time initiation fee and only one half the membership fee. Should they come to the January meeting, their \$5 guest fee will be applied to the half membership fee. It's a win-win situation!

I am pleased to announce that Craig Symonds, our November speaker, has been awarded the Benjamin Barondess Award for his book, *Lincoln and His Admirals*. The annual award presented by the Civil War Round Table of New York at their February meeting recognizes the best contribution toward the "greater appreciation of the life and works of Abraham Lincoln as decided upon by the reward committee". We learned of the award only a day or two after Craig's presentation. You might be interested to know that our February speaker, Jack Davis, received the award, in the copy of a bust of Lincoln, in 2000. We really do attract premier speakers!

Editor's Notes

I wish you all a very happy and rewarding New Year. Starting with this issue of the *Minié Ball Gazette*, I will be your new newsletter editor. You will notice that the newsletter is now shorter and the format has been changed. My goal is to keep you informed and updated on all LCWRT news in a maximum of four pages. For those looking for more details, I will include references as needed.

To date, the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table has achieved **52%** E-mail ONLY participation for the Bulletin. E-mail not only saves us money, it allows you to get our latest information on a timely basis and provides you with links to additional information on the subject.

I welcome any and all comments as well as articles for inclusion.

Walter Hartung

whartung@hargray.com

Upcomming Programs

February 11, 2009

The Escape and Capture of Jefferson Davis. We are all pleased to welcome back **Dr. Jack Davis** who will enlighten us on this significant event in the last episode of the Civil War. Why is Davis on the run, Jefferson that is? Does he intend to save his dying government or is he intent on establishing a government in exile?

March 11, 2009

Surrender at Appomattox. We are again honored to have as our speaker **Ed Bears** who will describe for us in his unique style the concluding events of the Siege of Richmond and the surrender of the Army of Virginia to General Grant.. Did Lee have any other options? How did Grant accomplish this end game?

April 8, 2009

Vital Rails – The Charleston and Savannah Railroad. **Dr. David Stone, Jr.** of Florence, SC will tell us about this vital link between the two Confederate port cities that unbelievably lasted for most of the war. Why could the Union not sever this vital link until the fall of Savannah?

May 13, 2009

Confederate Navel Hero, Raphael Semmes. Our concluding program for the 2008-2009 season will be a talk by **Dr. Jeffery Seymour** on the Confederate navel hero Raphael Semmes and his vital role in the war. We will learn about the epic voyage of the CSS *Alabama* and its battle with the USS *Kearsarge* off the coast of France in June, 1864.

This will also be the **Annual Meeting for LCWRT, Inc.** members at which time **elections** will be held for a new slate of officers for next year.

REMEMBER, SUMMERTIME IS RE-ENLISTMENT TIME!

Contact Membership 645-4160



Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

Johanna Verwer, President
16 Trescot Lane Bluffton, SC 29909



MEMBER MAILING
LABEL