

Next Meeting Date:

Monday, March 16, 2020
(NOTE: 3rd full week of March)

Time:

6:00 p.m. (Social Hour: 5:15 p.m.)

Place:

The Embassy Suites



RSVP by Wednesday, March 11th at 4 PM:

No RSVP cards will be sent except to those requesting USPS mailing. The electronic receipt of the Newsletter is your reminder to RSVP online, email, or by phone.

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

STEPHEN DAVIS

Speaker for March 16, 2020

Stephen Davis of Atlanta has been a student of the Civil War all his life. He grew up in Atlanta, and at Emory University, he studied under the renowned Civil War historian Bell I. Wiley. After a Master's degree in American history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he earned his Ph.D. at Emory, where he concentrated on the Civil War in Southern literature.

Steve is the author of a two-volume history of the Atlanta Campaign, published by Savas Beatie in 2016 and 2017: *A Long and Bloody Task: The Atlanta Campaign from Dalton through Kennesaw to the Chattahoochee, May 5-July 18, 1864* and *All the Fighting They Want: The Atlanta Campaign from Peachtree Creek to the City's Surrender, July 18-September 2, 1864*.

His book, *What the Yankees Did to Us: Sherman's Bombardment and Wrecking of Atlanta*, was published by Mercer University Press in 2012. He is also the author of *Atlanta Will Fall: Sherman, John Johnston and the Heavy Yankee Battalions* (2001).

In December 2017 Mercer University Press published his book, *John Bell Hood: Texas Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta*, which will recount Hood's rise to commanding general of the Army of Tennessee. The companion volume, *John Bell Hood: Into Tennessee and Failure* is set for publication by Mercer in late 2020.

His presentation for the Kentucky Civil War Round Table, "George N. Barnard: Photographer of Civil War Atlanta," is based on his forthcoming paperback, *100 Significant Photographs—Atlanta Campaign*, to be published later this summer by Historical Publications LLC, of Charleston SC. ■

in memory of
Charles Williamson, Jr.

It's with sadness we report the passing of one of our Members, Charles Williamson, Jr. He passed in late January 2020 at the age of 94 3/4! Many of you may remember that he was a former Vice President and Honorary Member of our Organization. Our prayers are with his family at this time.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope all of you are as excited about the speakers in March and May as I am. I have been fascinated by the battle for Atlanta as long as I can remember. Maybe what triggered that interest many years ago was watching the classic film, *Gone with the Wind* at the Ben Ali Theatre on Main Street in downtown Lexington. I have always loved that movie.

Over the years I learned that the historian for *Gone with the Wind* was Wilbur Kurtz, a wonderful writer and artist who lived in Atlanta, but was born in Illinois and grew up in Indiana. Kurtz prepared the artist renderings for the street scenes of the city of Atlanta for use in the film's production. To do that, he used the photographs of George Barnard, a photographer who followed William T. Sherman's army in the 1864 campaign through Georgia. Our speaker in March will be Steve Davis who will present a slide program on Barnard's magnificent photographs of Atlanta during Sherman's occupation of the city in the late summer and fall of 1864. It will be great!

That will be followed in May by Gordon Jones, the historian/curator of the magnificent Atlanta History Center where many of

Kurtz's paintings are displayed. Gordon was singularly responsible for the transfer, re-hanging, and restoration of the remarkable Cyclorama of the Battle of Atlanta. Fought on July 22, 1864, it was one of the largest engagements of the campaign. Being one of only three cycloramas extant in the western hemisphere, it may be the best. Gordon's slide program will cover the restoration of the great painting, as well as great human interest stories represented in the painting itself. I, personally, can't wait!

So get ready for March and May! Who knows, maybe you will wind up renting *Gone with the Wind* on Amazon or Netflix before this roundtable year is over. ■

Kent Masterson Brown
President



Kent M. Brown
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

To RSVP for the March 16, 2020 meeting, all RSVPs must be received by Wednesday, March 11, 2020 regardless of RSVP method. You can RSVP as follows: online through our website, kycivilwar-roundtable.org, email Susie at kcwrt.susie@gmail.com, phone or text her at (859) 221-7199 or mail in your RSVP card for those that receive them.

If you receive the Newsletter by mail, you will receive the traditional RSVP card. Please note, however, that even if you receive the RSVP card in the mail, it is still preferred that you RSVP through the KYCWRT website at kycivilwar-roundtable.org/membership/#rsvp or by contacting Susie at the email address or number above. Doing so will avoid the possibility that your RSVP card is lost in the mail or not timely received. It will also provide you the comfort of knowing

that your RSVP has, in fact, been timely received.

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MARCH 16, 2020 MEETING, YOU MUST – MUST – GET YOUR RESERVATIONS IN BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020.

We must receive your RSVP By March 11, 2020 at 4 pm. Members and guests will not be seated or presented a meal without a timely made reservation. Please also note the \$31.00 meal charge.

GUESTS: The Guest fee, in addition to the \$31 meal charge, is \$25 per guest for a total of \$56 per guest. Payment is due in advance or at the door. Please remember that each KYCWRT member, or couple member, was given (or will be given) one Guest Pass upon payment of the member's 2020 annual dues. The Guest Pass can be used in lieu of the \$25 guest fee

and is a one-time pass. The guest will still be charged the \$31 meal charge. If you are using the Guest Pass for a guest, you must present the Guest Pass filled out with required information when checking in for the meeting.

CANCELLATIONS: Any RSVP cancellation needs to be received no later than 4:00 pm on the Friday before the meeting (in this case, by March 13, 2020). If you need to cancel, please contact Susie at (859) 221-7199. If you do not timely cancel your reservation or miss the meeting, you will be charged \$31 per person for your reserved meal. ■



A.J. Singleton

TREASURER'S REPORT

We're running into that time of the year of negative cash flow as we continue to incur programming expense with little or no income other than enough to cover our meal costs. We have on our books over \$3,700 in uncollected dues; that in cash would really come in handy these days. If you are one of those who has not paid your 2020 dues, it's not too late. Single memberships are only \$100, couples \$120 and guests \$25. We'd hate to lose a member over such a paltry sum. Our dues are an outstanding value for five great live speaker presentations. Payment can be made by credit card on our website www.kycivilwarroundtable.org or by mail to P.O. Box 1862, Lexington KY 40588-1862. Please remember to pay your dues at or before the March meeting or you will be dropped from membership.

As our dues alone don't cover all the operating expenses of the Roundtable we depend upon your contributions and fund-raising support to break even.

New this year is that all members are to receive a free guest pass. One guest pass per membership or couples membership will be mailed upon the payment of your 2020 dues. The guest pass can be used to cover the guest fee of one guest for one meeting and **MUST BE PRESENTED UPON CHECK-IN AT THE MEETING.** Our membership to date is 306 with the goal of reaching 400. Please consider bringing a guest to an upcoming meeting or recruiting a member to join to help us achieve that goal. ■



Chris Anderson

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT | Susie Morton

Hello, Members! Just a couple of reminders as we look ahead to our next meeting. First, please note that the Meal fee has increased to \$31.00. If you want to save yourself time, feel free to pay for your meal in advance on the website or mail me a check for your meal to the PO Box 1862, Lexington, KY 40588-1862. Several members have started doing this and it really does save them "standing in line" time when they check in at registration.

Second, if you're bringing a Guest and using your Guest Pass, please let me know that when you RSVP. Also, please fill out the Guest Pass and bring it with you to the Meeting. The email address we want on the Guest Pass is your guest's email address so that we can follow up with them after the meeting to see how they enjoyed the meeting and if they're interested in becoming a Member.

Third, if you haven't paid your 2020 dues yet, please do so before the Meet-

ing! The rates are as follows: \$100.00 for Individual Membership and \$120.00 for Couples Membership. Any Member who has not paid their dues by March 31, 2020 will find their Membership Cancelled. And, finally, please RSVP before the deadline of Wednesday, March 11th at 4 PM. I have to turn the final attendance numbers into the Embassy Suites at 5 PM on the 11th! Looking forward to seeing you at the Meeting. ■

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