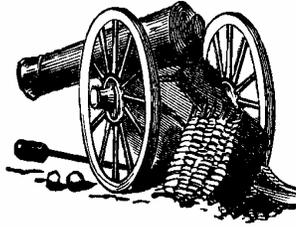


FEBRUARY 2009

EDITION ONE HUNDRED & THIRTEEN

SCOTTSDALE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, INC
A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION



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.Meets @ Civic Center Library

.3839 N Drinkwater Blvd Scottsdale

.on the 3rd Tuesday of the month

6:45 PM—8:45 PM

.September thru May

.\$35 Annual Dues (Due every Sept)

.\$45 Annual Dues for families

.Everyone Welcome

New Lincoln 42¢ stamps



....available Feb. 9th



CRAIG SYMONDS

-presents-

LINCOLN AND THE NAVY

February 17, 2009

6:45 PM

Civic Center Library

Dr. Craig L. Symonds is Professor Emeritus at the United States Naval Academy from which he retired in 2005. The first person ever to win both the Naval Academy's "Excellence in Teaching" award (1988) and its "Excellence in Research" award (1998), he also served as History Department chair from 1988 to 1992, and received the Department of the Navy's Superior Civilian Service medal on three occasions. He served as Professor of Strategy at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island (1971-1974) and at the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth, England (1994-1995).

Symonds is the author of eleven books, including prize-winning biographies of Joseph E. Johnston (1992), Patrick Cleburne (1997), and Franklin Buchanan (1999), as well as *The American Heritage History of the Battle of Gettysburg* (2001). *Decision at Sea: Five Naval Battles that Shaped American History* (2005), won the Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt Prize for Naval History. His most recent book is *Lincoln and His Admirals: Abraham Lincoln, the U.S. Navy, and the Civil War*, published by Oxford University Press.

FROM WES' DEN...What a great start for a new year! Ed Bearss' fame preceded him and a crowd of 200 were excited to see him again. This was the top attendance ever and we got some new memberships and over \$100 was donated at the book table. Mike Winjum brought in two big boxes of good Civil War books and we thank him. Watch for some fun souvenirs coming your way as we approach the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. Four stamps and a silver dollar plus four new pennies will be in our hands shortly. I hope you picked up the Gettysburg CW Museum Gift Catalogue at the meeting. It will again be available at the coming meetings and is fun just to look at. If you buy something, you will get a 5% discount if you include "SCWRT" on your order. Scottsdale Civil War Round Table will also get 5% from them. I want to thank all the visitors who came to our January meeting and urge you to come again. We have four accomplished speakers coming before our summer vacation begins in June. We are a non-profit organization and your dues are tax deductible and allow us to fly these speakers in.



I remain your most obedient servant....*Wes Schmidt*

Book Reviews
by
Don Swanson
(SCWRT Member)



This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War by Drew Gilpin Faust.

Published by Alfred A. Knopf. Notes, illustrations, index. 2008. 346 pp. \$27.95

In her book **This Republic of Suffering** Harvard President Drew Gilpin Faust says that death in the Civil War transformed the nation and the thousands of individuals directly affected by the loss creating “a veritable republic of suffering.” Each chapter, including those of “dying”, “killing”, and “burying,” focuses on different aspects: how Civil War soldiers wanted to be seen during the process of their dying, how soldiers became adept at slaughtering other soldiers and how the dead were interred on the battlefield or transported home. Other chapters examine the impact of Civil War death among the soldiers who were witnesses to it and the impact on those civilians both close to the battlefield and those hundreds of miles away.

This is a serious book that takes a somber, but interesting look at the process of dying in the Civil War. It is a book for the reader wanting to learn something beyond battle narratives and biographical sketches of the famous and, instead, discover how the loss of 620,000 lives fundamentally affected the nation. Recommended.

BOOKS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED

(older books about the Civil War that I think might be worth your time)

Fighting for the Confederacy: The Personal Recollections of General Porter Alexander

edited by Gary W. Gallagher. 1989. 692 pages. Available in trade paperback for \$26.00.

As an artillery officer Porter Alexander was involved in almost all of the significant battles of the Civil War’s Eastern Theater including Gettysburg, for which he has become a prominent character in Civil War history due to the movie of that name and Michael Shaara’s book **Killer Angels**. Alexander later wrote **Military Memoirs of a Confederate** for the public, but this book - intended for family and friends - is less guarded in his discussions of Lee, Longstreet and Jackson and more revealing in its personal anecdotes. Highly recommended.

Don Swanson, SCWRT Member

During the Second Battle of Manassas, the Confederates captured 58,000 pounds of bacon.

DIGGING THROUGH THE ARCHIVES

The National Archives and Records Administration is a government agency charged with preserving historical records. What you might not realize is that their records are available to the public and you can view many of the records online:

digitalvaults.org

Start by clicking on a record...You’ll also see related records which are pictures and documents. History buffs are going to love this website. You’ll be clicking away for hours !

BROWSE THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world. It houses more than 138 million items. Of course the entire library isn’t on line but a lot of it is. You’ll be able to see maps, photos and documents as well as special Webcasts.

This Library of Congress’ site is a must for teachers and students but anyone will appreciate the wealth of information at your fingertips.

www.loc.gov

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

FEBRUARY 1861-THE CONFEDERACY CREATES A CONSTITUTION AND ELECTS JEFFERSON DAVIS AS ITS PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT.

FEBRUARY 1862-JULYSSES S. GRANT ENGINEERS TWIN VICTORIES AT FORTS HENRY AND DONELSON, TENNESSEE.

FEBRUARY 1863-PRESIDENT LINCOLN SIGNS LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING A NATIONAL BANKING AND A NATIONAL CURRENCY SYSTEM.

FEBRUARY 1864-THE CONFEDERATE SUBMARINE HUNLEY SINKS THE U.S.S. HOUSATONIC IN CHARLESTON HARBOR, MARKING THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL ATTACK OF AN UNDERWATER VESSEL IN WARTIME.

Lincoln Quotes

- It’s my experience that folks who have no vices have generally very few virtues.
- Allow the President to invade a neighboring nation whenever he deems it necessary...and you allow him to make war at pleasure.
- The better part of one’s life consists of his friendships.



UPCOMING ROUND TABLES

03/17... **Dave Hinze** - *Artillery Hell: A Study of Artillery at the Battle of Antietam*

04/21... **Gail Stephens** - *The Shadow of Shiloh: General Lew Wallace and The Civil War*

05/19... **Richard McMurry** - *The General In the Jar: Joseph E. Johnston In Defense of Atlanta*