

Civil War Roundtable of North Florida



“Where Both Sides Are Heard”
Founded in 2012

Upcoming Meetings

May 9, 2019

Bruce Smith

*Warships on the
Chattahoochee*

June 13, 2019

Phill Greenwalt

Fla Brigade at Gettysburg

July 11, 2019

Thomas Jessee

R. E. Lee Impersonator

September 12, 2019

Walker Blaton

Topic: TBD

October 10, 2019

Eric Jacobson

Battle of Franklin

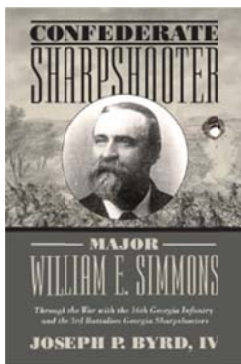
November 14, 2019

Basil Gribbon

*Politics in Europe vis a vis
Civil War*

Please join us for our Next Meeting
6:30 PM Thursday, April 11, 2019

Confederate Sharpshooter Major William E. Simmons
Joe Byrd



Mr. Byrd will present an overview of his book on Major Simmons, including excerpts from his early years, his war record, and his post-war career as a prominent lawyer, legislator, political leader, and, for thirty-two years, Trustee of the University of Georgia



Will Simmons, Emory College,
Class of 1858 (Top Left)

and Georgia Tech.

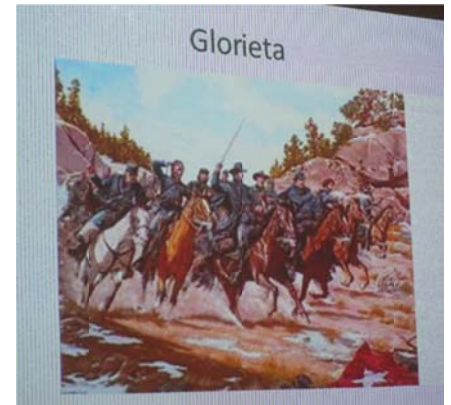
“ . . . this book is not just another book about a relative who fought in the Civil War. It is a gripping narrative of an elite unit from the Army of Northern Virginia and a great biography of one of the forgotten middle managers at war who led the battalion. The book is deeply researched, well written, and contains many insightful references.” Robert Grandchamp, Blue & Gray Magazine.

Trinity United Methodist Church
4000 NW 53rd Avenue, Gainesville, FL

**Last Month's Meeting
March 14, 2019
The War in the Far West
By Noah Gengler**



Noah gave us a great overview of the military activities in the far west during the civil war. He described the California 100 a Cavalry unit that made their way east to join in the battles. The various skirmishes and key players in the army out west.



There was great desires on the part of the Confederates to get gold from Colorado. In addition the

Confederate government felt that the southwest territories

rightfully were part of the Confederacy. Thanks, Noah, for a very informative evening.



DETAILS OF OUR REMAINING 2019 SCHEDULE

May 9, 2019

Warships on the Chattahoochee

Bruce Smith

With the coming of the War in April, 1861, it was obvious that keeping lifelines open from the Confederacy to those who could potentially help from the outside was going to be critical. One of those lifelines was from the Chattahoochee/Flint River system in the deep South which exited into the Gulf of Mexico at Apalachicola, Florida. A major market route for cotton and mill goods from Alabama and Georgia. One blockading ship arrived off Apalachicola in June of 1861 and then two by August. One way to keep all the river ways open



Firing a CSS Jackson Brooke Rifle



CSS Jackson w/Brooke Rifled Cannons

in the South was to create Confederate Navy ships to negate the US Navy efforts from the rivers and bays in the South. A large Navy construction yard was built in Columbus, GA, but the first efforts to defend the Chattahoochee River was the creation of a small Navy Yard in Saffold, GA and begin construction on a wood gunboat. This presentation will go into further detail on all these issues and include images of many of these sites and ships. The



Catesby Jones Jacket, CSS Jackson

efforts to raise from the Chattahoochee River both the wood gunboat, *CSS Chattahoochee*, and the full size ultra-modern ironclad *CSS Jackson* from the Chattahoochee River will also be discussed.

June 13, 2019

Phill Greenwalt

Florida Brigade at Gettysburg



Read William Faulkner’s famous excerpt on Pickett’s Charge at Gettysburg from his 1948 book *Intruder in the Dust*. He mentions Armistead, Kemper, Garnett, and even Wilcox. **No mention of Lang or the Floridians.** Walk the Union line near the now famous Copse of Trees on Cemetery Ridge and you see a dated map on one of the markers. Shows the routes taken by Pickett, Pettigrew, Trimble, and Wilcox. **No mention of Lang or the Floridians.**



It took a century from the conclusion of that disastrous charge of July 3rd for a monument to be dedicated to the Floridians who sacrificed so much on two of the three days of carnage that marked the Battle of Gettysburg. Until then, besides the Perry Brigade markers, no mention of Lang or the Floridians.



Yet, a brigade of Floridians were there, comprising three regiments: 2nd, 5th, and 8th Florida Infantry. All veterans of at least a year of campaigning with the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. All understrength. At Gettysburg they fought valiantly again and loss tremendously, 62% of the 775 infantrymen that came into the engagement. Highest total of any brigade in General Robert E. Lee’s army. Their role in the engagement has been marginalized and distorted. Their heroism and determination in two assaults across open ground questioned and slandered. What these three regiments attempted, with already depleted ranks, was amazing and due for more recognition than the history of the battle has afforded them.

This talk will focus on the Florida Brigade at Gettysburg, discussing their role during the Battle of Gettysburg, the aftermath, and the historical memory.

July 11, 2019

Thomas Jessee
R. E. Lee Impersonator

August –

No Meeting

September 12, 2019

Walter Blanton
Topic – TBD

October 10, 2019

Eric Jacobson
Battle of Franklin

November 14, 2019

Basil Gribbon
Political Climate/Power Struggles Of Europe vis a vis North America and the Civil War

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5-7, 2019. Pellicer Creek Raid, FL. Camps will be open to the public between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM for demonstrations of military camp life in 1864. Battles will take place on Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 PM. 7900 Old Kings Road, Palm Coast, FL. www.floridaagmuseum.org

April 6, 2019. Ft. Clinch, FL Candlelight tour of the Fort Clinch State Park in Fernandina Beach. 6:15-7:15 pm. "Union Garrison," camp and demonstrations at the Fort Clinch State Park in Fernandina Beach. 9 am-noon. Park fee plus \$3. <http://floridastateparks.org/fortclinch>

April 9, 2019, Lady Lake, FL. "*Flags of the Confederacy*", a presentation by Bob Wooley at the SCV Camp #741 Monthly Meeting. A display of nearly 40 flags, some hand sewn by Sue Wooley will be explained. 6:15 PM Lady Lake Community Center (directly behind the main Lady Lake Library), 225 W. Guava St., Lady Lake, FL. All are welcome.

April 27-28, 2019, Camp Milton, FL – Living History – Confederate soldiers will camp and defend the reconstructed earthworks. Federal soldiers will recreate the June 1864 attack on the works. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/345104695572047/> Locations: 1175 Halsema Road North, Jacksonville, FL

April 27-28, 2019, Fort Gaines, Mobile, AL – Thunder on the Bay 2019 – Celebrate the 155th Battle of Mobile Bay. Event at Ft. Gaines Historic Site, 51 Bienville Blvd., Dauphin Island, AL. Battle on Sat at 2:00 PM, Sunday Tactical 1 PM fb.com/fortGaines 251-861-6992

May 3-5, 2019, Federal Garrison at Ft. Clinch, Fernandina Beach, FL - Military activities will include guard duty, drill, firing demonstrations, and mail call.

<http://www.floridastateparks.org/fortclinch>

Location/Directions: 2601 Atlantic Avenue, Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

May 17-19, 2019 Battle of Resaca, GA. Reenactment held on 650 acres of original battle field. Battles both days at 2:00 PM www.georgiadivision.org/bor_eventschedule.html Just off I-75 at Exit 320

INTERESTING FACTS FROM THE CIVIL WAR THE COMPOSITION OF THE FEDERAL ARMY

Strength of the Federal Army						Number of Foreign Born Troops in Federal Army	
Date	Strength	Summary of Federal Enrollments		Occupations of Federal Recruits		Nationality	Number of Troops
1-Jan-61	16,367			Farmers	48%	German	175,000
1-Jul-61	186,751	Command	Number of Troops	Mechanics	24%	Irish	150,000
1-Jan-62	575,917	Volunteers	2,080,193	Laborers	16%	English	50,000
31-Mar-62	637,126	Regulars	67,000	Commercial	5%	Canadian	50,000
1-Jan-63	918,191	Colored Troops	178,675	Professional	3%	Other	75,000
1-Jan-64	860,737	Total	2,325,868	Miscellaneous	4%	Total	500,000
31-Mar-65	980,086						
1-May-65	1,000,516						

Source: The Civil War Book of Lists

Continuing in 2019 - Raffle at the end of each Meeting

In an effort to raise more funds for continued exciting outside speakers the board has decided to hold a raffle at the end of each meeting. A Grand Prize related to the Civil War will be raffled off. In addition, conciliation prizes of books, other Civil War related items and a few fun items will be drawn for. Please see Sue Wooley to get your tickets before the meeting.



Typical of Monthly Raffle Items at each Meeting

INTERESTED IN BEING A BOARD MEMBER?

Contact one of the current board members and we'll introduce you to the excitement of organizing and running a Civil War Round Table.

Advisory Board Members

Terry Huston (352-359-1442, thuston528@msn.com)

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Sid Mayer