

# Civil War Roundtable of North Florida



*"Where Both Sides Are Heard"*  
Founded in 2012

## Upcoming Meetings

### No Meeting

September 12, 2019

**Walker Blanton**  
*Student Who Challenged Jackson to a Duel at VMI & Later was Commander of the Stonewall Brigade*

October 10, 2019

**Eric Jacobson**  
*Battle of Franklin*

November 14, 2019

**Basil Gribbon**  
*Politics in Europe vis a vis Civil War*

December 12, 2019

**Christmas Party**

January 9, 2020

**R. Thomas Campbell** (noted Civil War Navy Author)  
Topic - TBD

February 13, 2020

**Dwight Hughes**  
Topic – TBD

March 12, 2020

**Dan Wiles**  
*The Sultana Disaster*

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

**Robert E. Lee & His Family**

**By: Thomas Jessee**

For many people when they think of Robert E Lee they only consider the 4 years of the war. 1861 to 1865. Usually the rest of his life is overlooked, and unknown.



Robert E Lee was born in 1807. He was 53 at the beginning of the war in 1861. In that time he had graduated from the West Point and married the Great Grand Daughter of George and Martha Washington in 1831.

In the years following he established a career as an officer in the US Army Corps of Engineers and served with bravery and distinction in the War with Mexico. He was appointed Superintendent of the West Point. Then joined the new 2nd Cavalry Regiment and traveled to the Western territories. And was in Texas when the crisis broke in 1861.

Of course there was his private life that is most overlooked . He had seven children. Three sons and four daughters: George Washington Parke Custis Lee, Mary Custis Lee, William Henry Lee Fitzhugh Lee, Annie Carter Lee, Eleanor Agnes Lee, Robert E Lee Jr, and Mildred Childe Lee.



Of his sons, Custis attended the Military Academy, Fitzhugh, called Rooney went to Harvard and Robert Jr the University of Virginia. All three served in the war. Custis and Rooney were Major Generals and Robert a Captain at the end of the conflict. Of his seven children only Rooney and Robert married and had children.



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

Check us out on the web: [www.cwrnf.org](http://www.cwrnf.org)



## Last Month's Meeting Phill Greenwalt Florida Brigade at Gettysburg



The group was in for a treat at our most recent meeting with an energetic and passionate description of the brave Florida Brigade at Gettysburg. Colonel Lang led the brigade at Gettysburg after General Perry had taken ill. A story that has been overlooked and minimized, but they made were a heroic bunch that took hellish casualties during the battle.



They were engaged on July 2 and July 3. Unfortunately their story was distorted for much of history. This had a lot to do with Wilcox's Brigade who was on the right of the Floridians when Wilcox told his story of his poor performance against the 1<sup>st</sup> Minnesota. However, when the 1<sup>st</sup> Minn pushed the Wilcox's Alabamians back, the 1<sup>st</sup> Minn reported being flanked from their right. Who was on their right, but the Floridians, after the Alabamians left! So I doesn't appear the

Floridians weren't the Confederates to run. The Floridians never wrote a unit history, thus Wilcox's story went unchallenged. The Floridian Brigade was only 700 strong and took great casualties on this day, July 2.

With July 3<sup>rd</sup> came "Pickett's Charge". The Floridians were assigned to protect the right flank of the charge. Due to the smoke and general difficulty in understanding exactly where those making the charge were, they got out of alignment and when some Vermont troops did flank the charge, the Floridians took an additional hit. Of the 700 that walked to Gettysburg, nearly 450 ended up as casualties!



Phill also brought several the books he has written or co-written for sale. He gave us a break on the price over Amazon! Great reads all.

Phill is working on a book about the Florida Brigade at Gettysburg. I, for one, can't wait until it comes out.

## **DETAILS OF OUR UPCOMING SPEAKERS**

### **August – No Meeting**

**September 12, 2019**

Walter Blanton

*The Student Who Challenged T J Jackson to a Duel at VMI. James Alexander Walker, Later Commander of the Stonewall Brigade*

**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*

**January 9, 2020**

R. Thomas Campbell (Author of over 20 books related to the Confederate Navy)

*Topic – TBD re: Confederate Navy*

**February 13, 2020**

Dwight Hughes

*Topic TBD*

**March 12, 2020**

Dan Wiles

*The Sultana Disaster*

**April 9, 2020**

John Weaver (Author of “A Legacy in Brick and Stone: American Coast Defense Forts of the Third System, 1816-1867”)

*A Legacy in Brick and Stone*

**September 10, 2020**

Paul Brueske

*Battle of Mobile, The Last Siege*





## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 5 GA Living history, “Civil War Music,” at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Kennesaw. 9 am-1 pm. Free. [www.nps.gov/kemo](http://www.nps.gov/kemo)

July 6 GA Independence Day celebration at Fort McAllister State Park near Richmond Hill. Living history demonstrations and more. 10 am-4 pm. Free with park admission  
<http://explore.gastateparks.org/events?p=24>

July 6 FL Living history, “Union Garrison,” camp and demonstrations at the Fort Clinch State Park in Fernandina Beach. 9 am-noon. Free with admission. [www.floridastateparks.org/fortclinch](http://www.floridastateparks.org/fortclinch)

July 13 GA Living history, infantry camp and demonstrations at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Kennesaw. Free. [www.nps.gov/kemo](http://www.nps.gov/kemo)

July 20 GA Living history, artillery camp and demonstrations at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Kennesaw. Free. [www.nps.gov/kemo](http://www.nps.gov/kemo)

August 3 GA Living history, “Hardee Guard Battalion,” at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Kennesaw. 10 am-3 pm. Free. [www.nps.gov/kemo](http://www.nps.gov/kemo)

August 3 FL Living history, “Union Garrison,” camp and demonstrations at the Fort Clinch State Park in Fernandina Beach. 9 am-noon. Free with admission.  
<http://floridastateparks.org/fortclinch>

### **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.



## **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*)

**Bill Zettler**

**Eric Starnes**

**Bob Wooley** (352-325-0722, *wooleyj@gmail.com*)

**Sid Mayer**