

*Civil War Roundtable of North Florida*



**CWRTNF**

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*The Courier*

*Founded 2012*

*Newsletter of the Civil War Roundtable of North Florida*

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*Gainesville, FL 32635*

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Vol. I, No. 7

Thursday, November 7, 2013

Gainesville, Florida

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**MISSION STATEMENT/PURPOSE**

**The Civil War Roundtable of North Florida (CWRTNF)** is dedicated to the study, preservation and discussion of the events and people that were part of the War Between the States. Membership is open to all who have an interest in the American Civil War (1861-1865).

**MONTHLY MEETING**

The Civil War Round Table of North Florida (CWRTNF) meets the first Thursday of each month (except holidays). The meeting is open to the public.

Location: Alachua County Library  
Millhopper Branch - Meeting Room B  
3145 NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Gainesville, FL 32606  
(352) 334-1272

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

## **MODERATOR**

John Walsh

### **THIS MONTH'S ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Topic: The "Battle of Chattanooga"

Facilitator: Terry Houston

The Chattanooga Campaign was a series of maneuvers and battles in October and November 1863, during the American Civil War. Following the defeat of Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans Union Army of the Cumberland at the Battle of Chickamauga in September, the Confederate Army of Tennessee under Gen. Braxton Bragg besieged Rosecrans and his men by occupying key high terrain around Chattanooga, Tennessee. Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant was given command of Union forces in the West and significant reinforcements began to arrive with him in Chattanooga from Mississippi and the Eastern Theater.

Major engagements of the Battle of Chattanooga included Orchard Knob, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Rossville Gap.

Portions of the Chattanooga battlefields, including 3,000 acres at Lookout Mountain, are preserved by the National Park Service as part of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

## **AGENDA**

- Welcome new attendees
  - Introductions
  
- Administrative
  - Membership initiative
  - Financial report
  - Holiday Dinner details
  - St. Augustine field trip
  
- Round Table Discussions
  - "Battle of Chattanooga" (Terry)
  - "Who's in Command?" Generals Howard and Hancock at Cemetery Hill Gettysburg, Pa, July 1863. (John/Terry)
  - The 150th anniversary of the "Gettysburg Address", November 19, 1863. Copies of a 1908 reproduction of one of the most famous speeches in American history will be passed out. (Diane)
  
- Open Discussion/Suggestions
  - Recommendations / ideas for future meeting topics and discussions

## NEWS OF THE CWRTNF

### NOTICE

Instead of our regularly scheduled Civil War Roundtable on Dec. 5, the meeting will be turned into a "Holiday Dinner". There will be no December CWRTNF meeting at the library. See below for additional information.

Attendance Last Meeting: 13

We now have a USPS mailbox. Please send correspondence, including membership applications to: Civil War Roundtable of North Florida, P.O. Box 357771, Gainesville, Fl 32635

Many thank to Diane Fischler for procuring and distributing copies of the "Florida Civil War Heritage" booklet. Copies will again be available at this month's meeting. Diane also provided the drinks and snacks at last month's meeting.

'Welcome Aboard" to new attendees:

- Larry Schwandes
- Lorraine McKenna
- Edward McCallister

Upcoming CWRTNF Events:

- First CWRTNF "Holiday Dinner"  
When: Thursday, December 5, 2013  
Where: Napolitano's Restaurant  
606 NW 75th Street  
Gainesville, Fl  
Diane will hand out flyer and discuss details at the November meeting

Upcoming Outside Events:

- Possible Field Trip to St. Augustine:  
The CWRTNF is tentatively planning a day trip sometime early in 2014 to visit Civil War sites in St. Augustine with a guide. Diane will ask at November's meeting how many members would be interested in going on such a trip. The names of the Civil War sites were obtained from the "Florida Civil War Heritage Trail" booklet which each of you received at the last meeting. If you'd like to provide input as to what you would like to tour among these sites, please check out the detailed information on each of these places in the Heritage Trail booklet (see pages 50 - 53).
- Annual Reenactment of the "Battle of Olustee"  
150th Battle Anniversary  
When: February 14-16, 2014  
Where: Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park  
5815 Battlefield Trail Road  
Olustee, FL 32072

## **“WHAT CWRTNF IS READING”**

- “Into The Wilderness with The Army of the Potomac” by Robert Garth Scott (1992)
- “The Man Who Saved The Union” by H. W. Brands (2013)
- “Retreat To Victory?: Confederate Strategy Reconsidered ” by Robert G. Tanner (2002)
- “Fog of Gettysburg: The Myth and Mysteries of a Battle” by Kenneth L. Allers Jr. (2008)

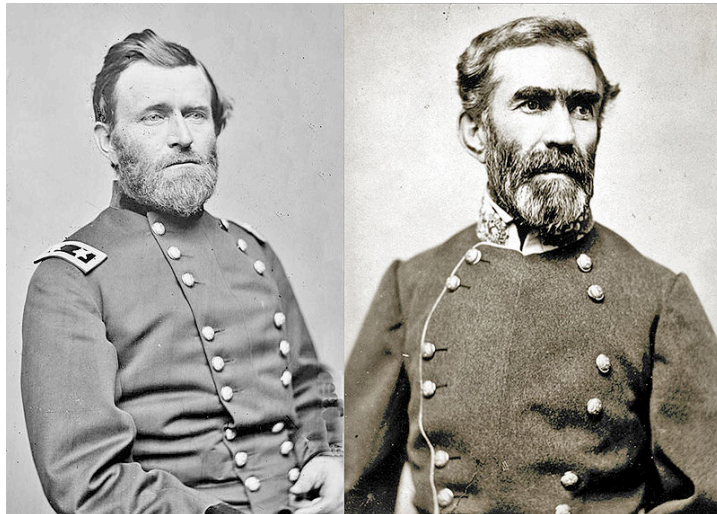
## **“THIS MONTH 150 YEARS AGO”**

### ***EAST***

November 19, 1863 - At the dedication of the National Cemetery in Gettysburg President Lincoln delivers a two-minute speech. Immediately following the speech he calls it a "flat failure." The speech is known today as the Gettysburg Address.

### ***WEST***

November 25, 1863 - Three Union armies attacked the Army of Tennessee atop Missionary Ridge, east of downtown Chattanooga. Patrick Cleburne stopped William Tecumseh Sherman from the north, although outnumbered 10 to 1. Joe Hooker was seriously delayed by burnt bridges and failed to hit the southern end of Bragg's line near Rossville, Georgia. Thomas' Army of the Cumberland struck the center, breaking Bragg's line and forcing a retreat. Sheridan, ordered to pursue, was stopped dead in his tracks by William Hardee's rear guard action.



Maj. General Ulysses S. Grant      General Braxton Bragg  
(Images Public Domain)

## *CIVIL WAR FACT*

An estimated 400 women from both the North and the South disguised themselves as men and fought in the ranks.

Readings: - "She Went to the Field: Women Soldiers of the Civil War" by Bonnie Tsui (2007)

- "An Uncommon Soldier: The Civil War Letters of Sarah Rosetta Wakeman, alias Pvt. Lyons Wakeman, 153rd Regiment, New York State Volunteers, 1862-1864" by Sarah Rosetta Wakeman (1996)