



Circular Memorandum #488

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April, 2017

Announcing Our 519th Meeting

"The Battle of Resaca"

Will be Presented by Lee White

DATE: Saturday, April 8

Location: Big Spring Country Club

COCKTAILS: 6:00 P.M.

DINNER (\$25.00): 7:00 P.M.

PROGRAM: 8:00 P.M.

Meet Our Speaker - Lee White

William Lee White is a park ranger at the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, where he gives tours and other programs at the Chickamauga and Lookout Mountain Battlefields.

He is the author of *Bushwhacking on a Grand Scale: The Battle of Chickamauga*, part of the Emerging Civil War Series, as well as several articles and essays on topics related to the Western Theater.



He also edited *Great Things Are Expected of Us: The Letters of Colonel C. Irvine Walker, 10th South Carolina Infantry CSA*. Over the years, he has spoken to many roundtables, historical societies, and other history-minded groups.

He has a new book coming out this October, *Let us Die Like Men: the Battle of Franklin*.

Short Summary of the Battle of Resaca

The Battle of Resaca was the largest battle and the bloodiest of the Atlanta Campaign, yet it gets less attention than other battles, it was a learning experience for the soldiers on both sides that define the rest of the campaign.

Following his withdrawal from Rocky Face Ridge, Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston established a strong defensive position protecting the Western & Atlantic Railroad at Resaca, where the railroad crossed the Oostanaula River. On the 13th, Sherman's men tested the Rebel lines to pinpoint their whereabouts. Over the next two days, Sherman launched a series of attacks against Johnston's earthworks, which were largely repulsed. Confederate counterattacks by Hood's corps failed to dislodge the Yankees, who were in full force in front of the Rebel lines. On the 15th, however, a small Federal force crossed the Oostanaula River at Lay's Ferry, effectively flanking Johnston out of his entrenchments and forcing the Confederates to withdraw.

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RESERVATIONS: Call **Doug Krawczyk (502-425-0325)** to place your reservations. If you are making reservations for more than just yourself, please give the names of the others. If you leave your reservation on his answering machine, please spell out your name so he can correctly identify you. You can also make your reservation by e-mail by sending it to **bryanw@macconstruction.com**. Please call or email **no later than Wednesday, April 5**, by noon. If you wish to join us just for the program, please call and make a reservation so that we can provide you with a chair. If you are only coming for the program, you can call Doug anytime up to 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Reminder for Table Reservations: We can reserve tables for parties of **eight** only, and we need you to provide us with the names of all the people in your party when you make the reservation. This will enable us to manage our meeting space in a more efficient manner. Thank you.

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Work Day for Bourbon and BBQ Saturday April 1 No Foolin! Free BBQ Ribs!!

This is not a misprint! If you come to Art Boerner's house (2200 1/2 Utica Pike, Jeffersonville, IN 47130) on Saturday, April 1 at 9:00 and help clear driftwood, you will be treated to a lunch of BBQ ribs prepared by the master of BBQ himself, Art Boerner! Water, soft drinks, and beer are provided. This is hard work but well worth the reward. Wear work clothes and bring your work gloves and rakes. Depending on how many volunteers we get, this job will take between 3 and 4 hours. We need to know if you plan on coming. Email John Davis at john.davis@twc.com or call him at 502-759-1152 if you want to help out. If we get rained out, there will be a makeup day.

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The Sixth Annual Bourbon and BBQ Will be June 24th

The Sixth Annual Bourbon and BBQ will return to the lovely home of Art Boerner on the banks of the Ohio River on June 24. The theme will be Tennessee Whiskey and War! Civil War historian and story teller Tom Cartwright will be our featured presenter. Tom Cartwright is headquartered in Franklin, Tennessee and is a noted historian of the Battle of Franklin and has been a major player in the preservation of the battlefield. He is also a master story teller and humorist and will no doubt entertain us in his own unique way. On the tasting side of the equation we are going to feature George Dickel from Cascade Hollow/Tullahoma, Tennessee. As one of Dickel's marketing tagline states "If you only know Jack you don't know Dickel" or has also been said, "If you don't know George you don't know Jack". This event always sells out and you need to get your paid reservation in early. The cost is \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. After May 15, all tickets are \$60. The only way to reserve your place is to mail your check made out to the LCWRT to **Doug Kremer, 11024 Indian Legends Drive - Apt-203, Louisville, Ky.**



Pre-Field Trip Meeting to be Held Sunday, April 2

There will be a pre-field trip meeting at the home of John Davis on Sunday, April 2 at 4:00. The purpose of the meeting will be to go over final details of the field trip. A detailed itinerary will be handed out and field trip wisdom from veteran field trippers will be shared. Also, you will have an opportunity to make your lunch selections for the 3 box lunches you will have on the trip. Appetizers, drinks and light snacks will be provided. Please email John Davis at johnd.davis@twc.com and let him know you are coming. No need to bring anything unless you want to bring your favorite beverage.

There Are Still Openings! 2017 Spring Field Trip: The Seven Days Battles April 19-23

We only have a few openings left for our Spring Field Trip to Richmond, Virginia to tour the campaign and battles of the Seven Days Battles. The dates are **April 19 -23, 2017**. To sign up you need to send \$380 per person to Harriette Weatherbee at 1028 Sarah Dr., Louisville, Ky. 40219. \$200 of this amount is non-refundable should you cancel for any reason. If you have any questions, you can email John Davis at johnd.davis@twc.com.

The \$380 field trip fee includes transportation to and from Louisville on a Free Enterprise System tour bus (these buses are big and nice!), the 3-day tour, box lunches each day of the tour, Friday night beer and pizza at the hotel, and Saturday night dinner at the Halfway House. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express near the Richmond airport where we get a special rate of \$109 per night. If you have signed up for the trip, you need to make your room reservations as soon as possible. The number is 804-222-1499. We will leave the parking lot located at One Sodrel Drive Jeffersonville, IN 47130, of the Free Enterprise System promptly at 6:00 A.M. on Wednesday, April 19. You will need to arrive no later than 5:45 to allow time to load luggage. You can park near the bus in the Free Enterprise lot which is gated and secure. We will make stops for breakfast and lunch and arrive at our hotel at approximately 5:00. Thursday morning we will board the bus and travel down the Peninsula to explore the first phase of McClellan's campaign to take Richmond. Our tour guide for the first day will be local historian J. Michael Moore who will take us to several significant sites including Fortress Monroe, Yorktown, Williamsburg and other places where important action occurred in this first phase of the Peninsula campaign.

Friday, day two will bring us to the first battles of the Seven Day Battles June 25 - July 1. Richmond Battlefield historian Bob Krick will be our guide for these battles. We will trace the action beginning in Mechanicsville and follow Lee's attack at Beaver Dam Creek and the pursuit to the battlefield at Gaines Mills. This was the largest of all the battles of the Peninsula Campaign. We will follow the retreating Federal army across the Chickahominy River as McClellan decides to "change his base." We will make a brief stop at Savage's Station before retiring to our hotel for Pizza and drinks.

Day three will take us to White Oak Swamp where we will try to understand the inactivity of an exhausted Stonewall Jackson who failed to be his usual aggressive self and allowed the Federals to make good their escape to Glendale. Next we will visit Glendale where much new land has been added by the Civil War Trust and we will tour this site where a very large battle was fought on June 31. Finally, we will end our tour at Malvern Hill where the Federal army finally brought Lee's Confederates to a halt with a bloody repulse that D.H. Hill called "not war, but murder." We finish the night at the Halfway House where we will have a great dinner and our famous "picture quiz." We will arrive back home late Sunday afternoon, tired but glad that we were on another great field trip!

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We Need Your Field Trip Pictures!!

If you have pictures of field trips past that might be useful in our picture quiz, please send those to Bryan Winslow at bryanw@macconstruction.com. They need to have **people** in them not just landscapes!

Study Guides for the Seven Days Battles

There are several good books you can read to prepare for our spring field trip to Virginia to tour the Seven Days Battles and Peninsula Campaign. Maybe the best is still Stephen Sears' "To the Gates of Richmond". This is a well written comprehensive study of the Peninsula Campaign that has stood the test of time and is considered a classic. Of more recent vintage is Brian Burton's "Extraordinary Circumstances: The Seven Days Battles". "a welcome addition to scholarship that should be the standard work on its subject for some time to come" according to the Journal of Military History. He has also written a companion battlefield guide for the campaign. Another classic book on the subject is Clifford Dowdey's "The Seven Days: the Emergence of Lee". As the title indicates, the book focuses on the generalship of Robert E. Lee as he takes over command of the Army of Northern Virginia. Another briefer excellent guide is the Time Life Civil War series book on the "Seven Days Battles". This volume contains excellent maps and illustrations along with a very good narrative of the battles and campaign. A great book of essays is Gary Gallagher's "The Richmond Campaign of 1862: The Peninsula and the Seven Days." Several historians contributed to this book of very informative articles.

2016 - 2017 Schedule

Saturday	April 8	Lee White	"The Battle of Resaca"
Saturday	May 13	Eric Wittenberg	"The East Calvary Field at Gettysburg"
Friday	September 7	Richard McMurry	"TBA"
Friday	October 13	"TBA"	"TBA"
Sunday	November 19	Bud Robertson	"TBA"
Saturday	December 9	James Klotter	"TBA"

March 2017 QUIZ:

- 1. The Petersen House became famous as the house where President Lincoln died. In the 1850's another prominent Civil War general rented rooms in the boarding house. Who was he?

While serving as a U.S. Representative, future U.S. Vice-President, presidential candidate, and Confederate general John C. Breckinridge rented rooms there in 1852 and 1853.

- 2. Which two states have the greatest number of Union Civil War monuments?

They were Pennsylvania and Mississippi.

- 3. What battle was named after two different kinds of trees?

The Battle of Seven Pines, also known as the Battle of Fair Oakes, was fought on May 31 and June 1, 1862, in Virginia.

- 4. Who was the last surviving lieutenant general of the Confederacy?

He was Simon Bolivar Buckner, who later became the 30th Governor of Kentucky.

- 5. What prominent Northern editor was among the first to sign the \$100,000 bail bond for Jefferson Davis?

Horace Greeley was the founder and editor of the New York Tribune.

APRIL 2017 QUIZ:

- 1. Which state sent more men to the Civil War than any other state?
- 2. In reading Civil War diaries, it was discovered that Union soldiers mentioned one thing more often than any other person or thing. What was it?
- 3. Who was the female Confederate spy who received a commission from General Jeb Stuart?
- 4. Of what religion was Confederate General Robert E. Lee?
- 5. Where was the Confederate Navy Yard located after the fall of Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia?

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Attest:
John Davis
Adjutant

By Order of:
David Deatrick
President