



Circular Memorandum #510

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October 2019

Announcing Our 545th Meeting

"The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House"

Will be Presented by Robert Lee Hodge

DATE: Friday, October 11

Location: Big Spring Country Club

COCKTAILS: 6:00 P.M.

DINNER (\$28.00): 7:00 P.M.

PROGRAM: 8:00 P.M.

Meet Our Speaker - Robert Lee Hodge

Born on Stonewall Jackson's birthday Robert Lee Hodge has had a keen interest in America's Civil War history since age 4. Over the course of more than 30 years, Hodge has worked on several history-based



films—from dramas like ABC's *North and South* and TNT's *Gettysburg* and *Andersonville*, to many programs on The History Channel, Arts and Entertainment Channel, and the National Geographic Channel, to his own Civil War documentaries, which have won 5 Telly awards and a regional Emmy in 2007. Hodge has been featured on National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation* and *Soundscapes*, NBC's *Late, Late Show*, *The New Yorker*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the PBS program *Going Places*, and C-SPAN II's Book TV. Robert has also written for *The Nashville Tennessean*, *Civil War Times*, *America's Civil War* magazine, *The Washington Post*, and *North and South* magazine. He played a major role in, and

appears on the cover of, the *New York Times*' 1999 best-seller *Confederates in the Attic*—hosting Pulitzer Prize-winning author Tony Horwitz on an eclectic and memorable Civil War tour-de-force of historic sites.

Robert has been a historical researcher, primarily at The National Archives and Library of Congress, working with nationally-recognized experts. He also was principle researcher on Time-Life Books 18-volume series *Voices of the Civil War* and *The Illustrated History of the Civil War*. Hodge's interest became preserving historic greenspace when he interned with the National Park Service's Civil War Sites Advisory Commission in 1992. He has organized battlefield preservation fund-raisers that have garnered over \$160,000. He also serves on the board of directors of the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust (the CVBT); an organization that has protected over 1,300 acres at Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, The Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, since 1996. Hodge was featured on the National Geographic Channel and *Time* magazine in

2011, wrote for The Washington Post during the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, and was a researcher for the U.S. Army in 2013.

In 2016 he wrote the script for the film at Andrew Jackson's Hermitage. In 2017 he appeared in The Wall Street Journal and on National Public Radio's Kojo Nnamdi Show and Chinese Central Television about Confederate monuments and Civil War memory. In 2019 Hodge started blogging for the Emerging Civil War. ECW is currently running his "Yellowhammers and Environmentalism" series about Evander Law's Alabama Brigade's route of march to Gettysburg. He's also writing about the loss of historic greenspace.

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Please Renew Your Membership

If you have not renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible. If you decide to become a Patron member, any amount you give above the basic or family membership fee is tax-deductible since the Round Table has tax-exempt status as a 501 (c) (3) organization! **Note: Please send your renewal check made out to LCWRT directly to Louisville Civil War Round Table, 9462 Brownsboro Road - #142, Louisville, Ky., 40241.**

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Please note this is a Friday meeting!

Big Spring has informed us that they are doing another remodeling project that will affect the parking for meetings. This time the back lot will be closed for the next several months. Big Spring has promised us there will be adequate parking available and they will provide a shuttle service from the front lot to the entrance.

Reservations

RESERVATIONS: Please Note!!! If you email Bryan Winslow and **do not** receive a confirmation, you need to call Doug Krawczyk (502-425-0325) and make your reservation. Not receiving a confirmation via email means you do not have a reservation and this is a problem for Big Spring as they need an accurate count of our reservations so they can prepare enough fried chicken for us!

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. If you do not receive a confirmation from Bryan, please call Doug and make your reservation. Please call or email **no later than Thursday, October 9**, 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.

Perryville Preservation Update

Thanks to the support of our membership, the Round Table was able to contribute \$6000 towards the preservation of 128 acres of core battlefield land at Perryville. This donation was dedicated to the memory of Round Table Life Member Kenny Hafendorfer who wrote the definitive history of the battle of Perryville. The American Battlefield Trust through matching grants was able to turn this into **\$35,000!** We received a very nice thank you letter from American Battlefield Trust President James Lighthizer thanking us. Here is the text of the letter he sent us.

Dear Fellow Preservationists,

Thanks you so much for your very generous gift of \$6000.00 received on 8/20/2019, to the American Battlefield Trust's efforts to save 128 acres of the Perryville Battlefield, made in memory of Dr. Kenneth Hafendorfer. I am so sorry for your loss and hope you may find some small comfort in knowing just how much your support means to all of us here at the Trust. Your donation will make a tremendous difference in a cause that was so near and dear to Dr. Hafendorfer's heart.

Thank you for putting your faith in us, and thank you for commemorating your friend and fellow historian in such a thoughtful way. Dr. Hafendorfer's service to the Louisville Civil War Round Table and the years he spent researching and writing about the Battle of Perryville make clear to me that he had a true passion for our nation's history. I don't think there could be a better way of honoring him than by protecting the Perryville Battlefield. We will continue our work saving this critical hallowed ground so that future generations can walk on the land, contemplating the significance and transformational impact that this struggle had on the course of the war and our country's history.

Please know that in saving the Perryville Battlefield you are doing something that will matter forever. This is a remarkable legacy to leave in Dr. Hafendorfer's honor. I thank you once again for celebrating his life and legacy in such a meaningful way. Please let me know if I may do anything for you.

Sincerely and humbly thankful,
Jim Lighthizer
President, American Battlefield Trust

Great Opportunity to Save Battlefield Land at Perryville!

The Civil War Trust, now known as the American Battlefield Trust, is working to save one of the last large parcels of land at Perryville and you can help them do this.

[Perryville Battlefield](#) is already - thanks in large part to generous supporters like you - one of the best-preserved battlefields in America, with more than a thousand acres under protection. However, if we cannot save this land, the tracts may be lost to development, preventing future public access and compromising the rest of the preserved battlefield.

Best of all, thanks to generous matching grants, we only need to raise \$177,761 to achieve this remarkable feat. While the purchase price and closing costs for the land total \$1,040,523, if we can raise 17% of that amount, or \$177,761, we can match a \$462,762 from the federal American Battlefield Protection Program. A

grant from the generous HTR Foundation for another \$400,000 will get us to the finish line to save this critical history forever. This means that every dollar you give to save this land will be turned into \$5.85!

If you can help save this land with a gift of \$64 or more, you will receive a free book that has just been released as part of the "Command Decisions of the Civil War" series published by the University of Tennessee Press. The book, *Decisions of the 1862 Kentucky Campaign: The Twenty-Seven Decisions That Defined the Operation*, is more than just a history of the Kentucky Campaign. Author Larry Peterson focuses on the critical decisions confronting commanders on both sides of the clash to provide a blueprint of the campaign at its tactical core. The book comes with maps and a guided tour and will give you a deeper understanding of the important Kentucky Campaign of 1862.

You can donate by visiting the American Battlefield Trust website at www.battlefields.org and clicking on the Perryville donation page. You can also donate by mail by sending your check made out to the American Battlefield Trust: American Battlefield Trust, 1140 Professional Court, Hagerstown, MD. 21740.

2019 - 2020 Schedule

Friday October 11	Robert Lee Hodge	"The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House"
Sunday November 17	Bud Robertson	"Robert E. Lee and the Quest for Peace"
Saturday December 7	Matthew Borowick	"The Court Martial of Fitz-John Porter"
Saturday January 18	Kent Masterson Brown	"The Civil War: Kentucky's Mercurial Path"
Saturday February 15	Chris Kolakowski	"TBA"
Saturday March 14	Keith Bohannon	"James Longstreet and John Bell Hood"
Saturday April 18	Michael Parrish	"The Importance of Texas in the Civil War"
Saturday May 9	William C. Davis	"TBA"

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Battle of Mill Springs Reenactment

There will be a reenactment of the Battle of Mill Springs in Nancy, Kentucky November 1st thru 3rd. 2019. It will be held on the actual historic Mill Springs Battlefield. There will be daily battles, Civil War encampments, a sutler area, Civil War music, crafts, an evening ball and much more. For more information visit the website WWW.Millsprings2019.com.

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2020 Spring Field Trip: 1865 Carolinas Campaign

Next year's field trip will be to North Carolina where we will study the 1865 Carolinas Campaign. This trip is one we have never done before. The dates for the trip are April 1-5, 2020 and our guide will be Wade Sokolosky. Wade is a retired Colonel and a 25-year veteran of the U.S. Army. He is a leading expert on the 1865 Carolinas Campaign and has led many tours of these historic sites. We will be headquartered in Smithfield, N.C. which is about 30 miles south of Raleigh. From our headquarters in Smithfield we will visit all the major battlefield and historic sites of the 1865 campaign including the battlefields of Wise's Forks, Monroe's Crossroads, Averasboro, and Bentonville. We will also visit several other historic sites and museums in the area including a visit to the C.S.S. Neuse at the Ironclad State Historic Site. There the remains of the Neuse are preserved and there is a full-scale replica of the Neuse. Our Guide, Wade Sokolosky, in addition to leading battlefield tours, has lectured widely on the Carolinas Campaign at historic organizations and roundtables and has co-authored with Mike Smith "No such Army Since the Days of Julius Caesar: Sherman's Carolinas Campaign". He is the author of "Final Roll Call: Confederate Losses in the 1865 Carolinas Campaign". Wade's latest book, also co-authored with Mike Smith, "to Prepare of Sherman's Coming: The Battle of Wise's Forks, March 1865". We are very fortunate to have Wade as our guide and we are looking forward to another great field trip. Mark your calendars for April 1-5, 2020. We will begin signups at the November meeting.

Round Table Member Rose Mary Hambleton Passes Away

Round Table member Rose Mary Hambleton passed away on September 16. Rose Mary and her husband Bill have been members since 1994. She is the sister of Round Table member John Bellucci. Please keep Bill and the Hambleton family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

The Emerging Civil War Website

I urge all of you to subscribe to the Emerging Civil War website! Lots of great articles and news and yes, its free. Just logon to emergingcivilwar.com and enter your email address and you will get timely articles and news. They are beginning a series on "Do We Still Care: The Civil War in a Changing America". This should be a very interesting series and a topic we are all interested in. Here is some info on the series.

Does the Civil War still matter to America in 2019? That's the question *Civil War Times* asks in its latest issue, hitting mailboxes this week. Emerging Civil War is pleased to partner with *Civil War Times* to extend the conversation beyond the magazine and into the blogosphere.

Beginning next week, ECW's historians will tackle the question posed by the cover story of the December 2019 issue of *Civil War Times*: "Do we still care? The Civil War in a Changing America." *Civil War Times* editor Dana Shoaf will join us for the conversation with a post of his own.

Check out the hard-copy of the magazine to hear from twenty historians, including our own Lee White and our good friends Drew Gruber and Steve Phan, as well as such luminaries as Jim Lighthizer, William C. "Jack" Davis, Megan Kate Nelson, and Gary Gallagher—twenty great voices in all.

SEPTEMBER 2019 QUIZ:

1. On June 28, 1863, Major General George Gordon Meade assumed command of what Union Army?
President Lincoln placed him in command of the Army of the Potomac, and he remained in command for the rest of the Civil War.
2. Who commanded the Confederate Light Division?
That was General Ambrose Powell "A.P." Hill, Jr.
3. Who was the final casualty of the Civil War prison camps?
Captain Henry Wirz, commandant of the Andersonville prison, was tried and convicted of conspiracy and murder relating to his command of the prison. He was hanged on November 10, 1865 at Old Capital Prison in Washington, D.C.
4. Who did the most to keep Europe neutral during the Civil War?
Charles Francis Adams, the United States Minister/Ambassador to England, received much of the credit for keeping Britain and the rest of Europe neutral. He was the son of President John Quincy Adams and the grandson of President John Adams.
5. What was Union General U. S. Grant's first Civil War battle?
The November 7, 1861 Battle of Belmont, Missouri was his first. Initially it was a Union victory, but then the Confederate forces regrouped and were reinforced, and Grant and his troops had to retreat. The Confederates claimed victory since they drove the Union troops from the field.

OCTOBER 2019 QUIZ:

1. What was the birth name of Confederate General Gist?
2. Who was general-in-chief of the U.S. Army at the beginning of the Civil War?
3. Who was known as the Fighting Bishop?
4. What constitutional amendment freed the slaves and on what date did this happen?
5. Which Virginia town changed hands over 70 times during the Civil War?

Attest:

**John Davis
Adjutant**

By Order of:

**Marc Oca
President**