



MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

January 30, 2020

***Southern Vital Rails* by David Stone**

Location: Magnolia Hall

Time: 6:45 P.M.

President's Letter

Dear LCWRT Members,

Don't forget our next meeting at Magnolia Hall on Thursday, January 30th. Please note that it is on Thursday instead of the usual Wednesday. The speaker will be Dr. David Stone and his topic is "Southern Vital Rails." Dr Stone will speak about the Charleston & Savannah Railroad from its planning to its role in the Civil War. He will discuss how the political and economic climate affected the railroad and how the railroad affected the Low Country.

Look forward to seeing everyone at Magnolia Hall on January 30th.

John Allen, President LCWRT

January program

Our January program is about a site we are all familiar with. All of you I am sure have driven the back way to Savannah past Hutchinson Island. The Charleston & Savannah Railroad was operated by the Atlantic Coastline Railroad (ACL). It ran south through Lobeco, Coosaw, Pitchard, and Levy and crossed Hutchinson Island into Savannah. The railroad, completed in 1860, spanned more than 100 miles across rice fields, salt marshes, and seven rivers and creeks. Through service ended in 1971 when the left bridge at Savannah was destroyed by a ship collision. All service was stopped in 1977 and tracks were removed by 1982. However, the route can still be traced using Google Earth.

Vital Rails is an excellent study that explains the importance of the Charleston & Savannah Railroad in the Civil War. It was designed to revitalize the economy of South Carolina's low country by linking the key port cities. With the onset of the Civil War, the railroad became an integral part of the Confederacy's military, economic, and communications efforts along the coast and was a frequent military objective of Union assaults. The author, David Stone, is our speaker tonight. He will focus on the people who were involved with the railroad and will also discuss some of the military engagements that involved it. The book is available through both Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

Remaining lectures, locations and dates of the upcoming 2020 lectures

February 26, 2020	Jack David	Civil War Weather	Pinckney Hall
March 25, 2020	Jerry Morris	The Saga of the CSS Nashville	Pinckney Hall
April 30, 2020	20 th Anniversary		Magnolia Hall
May 27, 2020	John Warley	The 11 th Hour Effort to avoid the War	Pinckney Hall
	Summer break		
Sept. 23, 2020	Stephen Wise	Lifeline of the Confederacy: Blockade Running During the Civil War	Pinckney Hall
Oct. 28, 2020	Gene Barr	Civil War Captain and His Lady	Hidden Cypress
Dec. 2, 2020	Ron Roth	How a Confederate Artillery Battery and a Black Union Regiment Defined the Meaning of the War	TBD

This is my first issue of the newsletter as your communications chair. I hope you enjoy it.

And for our civil war travelers, a few possibilities

Beyond Band of Brothers Tours. These are not cheap, but I have heard they are good. And through Jan. 31, there is a 20% discount on all tours.

9-day American Civil War tour War in the West

Available in 2020 and 2021

9-day American Civil War Tour—March to the Sea

Available in 2020 and 2021

9-Day American Civil War Tour—A Nation Tested

Available in 2020 and 2021

For more information: Procom America, LLC, 420 North Ashley Drive, Suite 1010

Tampa, FL 33602, info@bbob.com

And for our cruisers, **American River Cruises** offers some opportunities for you to explore the Civil War on an AQSC River Cruise. You can learn the history, battles, politics, and outcomes as you cruise the Mississippi and Southeast Intercoastal Waterway, where many battles occurred. More information is available from American Queen Steamboat Company, 888-749-5230. At present, you can save up to \$2,000 per stateroom.

And now a more local site. The full article was in the Island Packet, on January 5, 2020

Rivers Bridge State Historic Site

The battleground is located at 325 State Park Rd., Ehrhardt, SC 29081

This free site is open 9 am to 6 pm daily

Getting there: it is located an hour and 15 minutes from Beaufort county.
Take either U.S. 21 or U.S. 321 north to U.S. 601. Then take S.C. 641 north and follow signs.

The site preserves the location of this battle and also provides visitors with an experience in the outdoors that brings history and nature together. When you arrive, you can visit a small cemetery and a monument park, honoring the fallen. Interactive displays and information take you on a self-guided tour along the old Orangeburg road to the Salkehatchie River Swamp. Further along an extensive earthwork trench has been preserved. Rivers Ridge is one of several South Carolina parks that encourages our four-legged family members to also visit. So, take the whole family.

For those who are hooked on Facebook, there are some Civil War E-mail Discussion Groups you might want to explore. Go to Facebook, search for your group. Click join and you should hear back from the moderator accepting your application.

The American Civil War

Private group with 4.4 K members

Site is devoted to exploring the Civil War, its causes and continuing impact on the American society

American Civil War 1861-1865

Created March 31, 2019

212 members

Civil War history focused public group with special attention to the midwestern regiments

Civil War Battlefield Pictures

General group, 3.3K members

This group is for sharing our love of all things Civil War. Feel free to post pics and have discussions on all Civil War topics

Civil War Buffs

General group, 4.4 K members.

For people who love the Civil War, that's 1861-1865.... Union or Confederate

Civil War Photos and History

This is a private group with 2.6 K members. Interest is on posting photos and the history behind them

Friends of the American Civil War 1861-1865

Founded on July 1, 2010, 4,2K followers.

For history buffs, researchers, authors, reenactors or anyone interested in the Civil War

LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, INC.
MEMBERSHIP FORM - 2019/2020
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 to AUGUST 31, 2020

Please **Print** All Information Below

Last Name	First Name	Badge Nickname
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Last Name (Additional Household Member)	First Name	Badge Nickname
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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone () _____

Sun City Residents Only

CAM number _____ CAM number _____

E-Mail _____ E-mail _____
(We will keep this confidential!)

CURRENT MEMBER _____

NEW MEMBER _____

Household: Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2020): \$40.00

We always need volunteers to continue making the LCWRT successful.

Please check the area(s) for which you are willing to volunteer:

- ___ Program Committee: help select topics & speakers
- ___ Assist in Production/Distribution of the *Minie Ball Gazette*
- ___ Assist on Program Night (Greeter, Collect Tickets or Guest Fees, Tally Program Attendance)
- ___ Historian
- ___ Maintain Membership Roster
- ___ Work at Sun City Club Fair
- ___ Web Site Maintenance

Mail to or leave in "lower" box: **Joseph Passiment, 26 Schooner Lane, Bluffton, SC 29909-4305**

Make Check Payable to: **LCWRT Inc.** Any questions, please call **Joseph Passiment** at **732-995-2102**

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The Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

Located in the greater Hilton Head area of South Carolina.

Founded in 2000 and dedicated to Civil War history,
education and battlefield preservation.

**A Not-for-Profit, Charitable Organization as qualified under section
501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.**

Note: The website address is

www.lcwrt.squarespace.com and it can

be used to get current and historical LCWRT information.