

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume LVI, Battlefield Tour Edition

Chicago, Illinois

May 1-5, 1996

## 46th Annual Battlefield Tour: Chickamauga and Chattanooga, May 1-5, 1996

by Robert I. Girardi

This Spring the Civil War Round Table's 46th annual battlefield tour will take us to Chickamauga, "The River of Death," and to Chattanooga, "The Gateway to the South." The tour will take us on a roundabout journey as we follow William S. Rosecrans's Army of the Cumberland as it pushed Braxton Bragg's Confederate Army of Tennessee out of the Volunteer State and into the rugged terrain of north Georgia, to the scene of the fighting at Chickamauga and the rout of the bluecoats back to Chattanooga. We will then tour the significant sites dealing with the lifting of the siege and the battles for Chattanooga.

Campaign headquarters will be the Holiday Inn Southeast on the slopes of Missionary Ridge where U.S. 41 meets with I-75. This central location will minimize the amount of time spent commuting and is also part of the "hallowed ground" we all know and love so well. Please plan to arrive the evening of May 1 to register and receive your tour packet. One shuttle bus will be provided at Nashville airport to bring you to Chattanooga on Wednesday evening. If you plan to use the shuttle, please make arrangements accordingly.

For those participating in the optional pre-tour of the Tullahoma Campaign, please meet at the Days Inn #1, International Plaza (on Briley Parkway) in Nashville at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 1.

Cost of the optional tour is \$40.00 covering transportation and lunch. A bus will return you to Nashville airport on Sunday afternoon.

Transportation will be provided by Choo Choo Express Tours, on air conditioned buses specially designed to handle the steep slopes of Missionary Ridge, Sand Mountain, and Lookout Mountain. Our chief guide will be the esteemed Edwin C. Bearss, who has led our tours for over thirty years. He will be backed up by Jim Ogden, the chief historian at Chickamauga/Chattanooga National Military Park and Keith S. Bohannon, a National Park Service Employee who has devoted intensive study to these campaigns after several years serving under Robert K. Krick in Virginia.

### CHICKAMAUGA CAMPAIGN

In the late fall and summer of 1863, the fortunes of the Confederacy were waning. Still reeling from the effects of



### COST OF TOUR

\$355.00 per person double occupancy.

\$480.00 single occupancy

\$25.00 additional for those using the shuttle to and from Chattanooga. One shuttle will run from Nashville on Wednesday evening and return to Nashville Sunday afternoon.

Please indicate the person with whom you wish to share a room.

**Includes:** Accommodations at the Holiday Inn Southeast (615-892-8100) from Wednesday evening through Sunday afternoon; lunches and dinners Thursday, Friday and Saturday and barbecue lunch on Sunday; daily bus transportation; refreshments on buses; experienced guides; all admission fees; tour kits; badges; group service tips; evening programs.

Breakfasts are on your own.

Cash bar at command posts.

**For Variations:** Portions of tour, joining en route, or individual meetings, or individual nicknames on badges, call or write Carole LeClaire, Tour Registrar, 8417 Johanna, Niles, IL 60714. 847-698-3228 (home) or 847-724-0646 (work).

**Local CWRT groups** and others joining in lunches or dinners, please make reservations through our registrar so that caterers can be notified.

the disastrous twin defeats at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, the Confederates were pushed out of middle Tennessee by a masterful campaign of maneuver by William S. Rosecrans. The Tullahoma Campaign, though virtually bloodless, seemingly dealt the Confederacy a crippling blow as they abandoned Chattanooga to the federals. The way to the deep South lay open.

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Grant

done. Grant then set about lifting the siege and restoring supplies to the Union forces. William T. Sherman and the Army of the Tennessee were also ordered to Chattanooga, as was Joseph Hooker, in command of the 11th and 12th Corps. Grant was determined to lift the siege and hold onto Chattanooga.

#### Battles for Chattanooga

**Brown's Ferry:** When Ulysses S. Grant took command of the Union forces in Chattanooga on October 23rd, he promptly began seeking a way to open a supply route to raise the siege on the beleaguered city. Adopting a plan that was already well-conceived, Union troops from William B. Hazen's brigade of Wood's Division floated down the Tennessee River in pontoon boats in a night attack on October 27. The amphibious assault was launched against Brown's Ferry, where Confederate pickets were taken by surprise. This effort allowed passage on the Tennessee for steamboats and effectively opened "the cracker line."

**Wauhatchie:** On October 28, Hooker's forces marched into Lookout Valley and Geary's Division stopped at Wauhatchie, about four miles below the northern point of Lookout Mountain. On the night of the 28th, Micah Jenkins's Division of Longstreet's Corps launched an attack in an effort to dislodge the federals. A confused firefight ensued, during which the Confederates were driven back, leaving the Union forces in control of Lookout Valley and solidifying their hold on the newly-opened supply route.

**Orchard Knob:** On November 23, acting on a report that some of the Confederate forces were withdrawing, Grant ordered Thomas to assault Orchard Knob, a small promontory that marked the Confederate outpost in front of Missionary Ridge. Thomas attacked and took the hill while Sherman advanced to the slopes of Tunnel Hill and Missionary Ridge.



Thomas

**Lookout Mountain:** On November 24th, Joe Hooker was ordered to make a demonstration against the slopes of Lookout Mountain. Reinforced by Osterhaus's Division, Hooker's men advanced and were met by sharp volleys from the Confederate defenders. Hooker's men drove the Confederates up the slopes of the mountain and taking advantage of the terrain, were able to advance to the summit. The battle took place in a thick fog which shrouded the attackers from Confederate artillery fire and left the outcome of the battle in doubt until the following morning, when the Stars and Stripes were observed flying from the summit.

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## TOUR SCHEDULE

Variations will be announced on the tour.  
All times are approximate.

### Wednesday, May 1, 1996

**Evening:** Assemble at the Holiday Inn Southeast in Chattanooga, headquarters for the entire tour. Tour kits will be distributed in the Garden Room. (Check in time is 3:00 p.m.).

### Thursday, May 2, 1996

**Breakfast buffet on your own on each day of tour.**

- 8:00 a.m. Board Buses. Chickamauga Campaign Tour to Stevenson, AL, Bridgeport, Battle Creek and Sand Mountain.
- 11:30 a.m. Box lunch at Cloudland Canyon State Park
- 12:30 p.m. Resume campaign. Lookout Mountain, McClellan's Cove, Crawfish Springs, Lee & Gordon's Mill, Reed's Bridge, Alexander's Bridge and Jay's Mill.
- 5:00 p.m. Return to Holiday Inn.
- 6:30 p.m. Command Post. Cash bar at Holiday Inn.
- 7:30 p.m. Dinner at Holiday Inn. Speaker: Edwin C. Bearss.

### Friday, May 3, 1996

- 8:00 a.m. Board Buses. Tour Chickamauga Battle field. First day's battle.
- 11:30 a.m. Box lunch. Chickamauga Visitor's Center.
- 12:30 p.m. Chickamauga, second day's battle, breakthrough, Snodgrass Hill and Horseshoe Ridge.
- 5:00 p.m. Return to Holiday Inn
- 6:30 p.m. Command Post. Cash bar at Holiday Inn.
- 7:30 p.m. Dinner at Holiday Inn. Speaker to be announced.

### Saturday, May 4, 1996

- 8:00 a.m. Board Buses. Chickamauga Visitor's Center. Movie and Bookstore.
- 9:00 a.m. Board Buses. Begin Chattanooga Campaign. Rossville, Brown's Ferry, Wauhatchie and Lookout Mountain. Tour Point Park.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch at Mt. Vernon Restaurant.
- 1:30 p.m. Resume Tour. Moccasin Bend, Orchard Knob, National Cemetery, Tunnel Hill and Missionary Ridge.
- 5:00 p.m. Return to Holiday Inn.
- 6:15 p.m. Board Buses to Southern Belle Riverboat "Fun Night" and dinner cruise on the Tennessee River.
- 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Marshall Krolick  
Entertainment by 97th Regimental String Band
- 10:00 p.m. Board Buses. Return to Holiday Inn.

### Sunday, May 5, 1996

- 8:00 a.m. Board Buses. Tour to Missionary Ridge and Ringgold Gap.
- 11:00 a.m. Return to Holiday Inn.
- 11:30 a.m. Optional Barbecue lunch in Beer Garden.
- 1:00 p.m. Shuttle buses leave for Nashville airport.



# Orders and Ammunition

by Marshall Krolick



The literature of these campaigns is so vast that any bibliography must, of necessity, be very selective. Emphasis has been placed on more recent books and those more readily available, as well as on the "classics" of the subject.

Catton, Bruce, *Grant Takes Command*.

Catton, Bruce, *Never Call Retreat*, (Vol. III of *The Centennial History of the Civil War*).

Cist, Henry M., *The Army of the Cumberland* (Vol. VII of Scribner's *Campaigns of the Civil War* series).

Cleaves, Freeman, *Rock of Chickamauga*.

Connelly, Thomas L., *Autumn of Glory*.

Connolly, James A., *Three Years in the Army of the Cumberland*.

Cozzens, Peter, *The Shipwreck of Their Hopes*.

Cozzens, Peter, *This Terrible Sound*.

Downey, Fairfax, *Storming of the Gateway*.

Esposito, Vincent J., *The West Point Atlas of the Civil War*.

Fitch, Michael H., *The Chattanooga Campaign*.

Foote, Shelby, *The Civil War: A Narrative*, Vol. II.

Gracie, Archibald, *The Truth About Chickamauga*.

Grant, Ulysses S., *Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant*.

Hazen, William B., *A Narrative of Military Service*.

Hollister, John J., *Chickamauga and Chattanooga on Your Own*.

Horn, Stanley, *The Army of Tennessee*.

Johnson, Robert U. and Clarence C. Buel, *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, Vol. III.

Lamers, William, *The Edge of Glory*.

Lewis, Lloyd, *Sherman, Fighting Prophet*.

McDonough, James Lee, *Chattanooga*.

McKinney, Francis, *Education in Violence*.

McWhiney, Grady, *Braxton Bragg and Confederate Defeat*, Vol. I.

Miles, Jim, *Paths to Victory*.

O'Connor, Richard, *Thomas, Rock of Chickamauga*.

Parks, Joseph H., *General Leonidas Polk, C.S.A.*

Scaife, William R., *Atlas of Chickamauga and Chattanooga Area Civil War Battles*.

Seltz, Don C., *Braxton Bragg*.

Sherman, William T., *Memoirs of General William T. Sherman*.

Smith, William F., *From Chattanooga to Petersburg*.

Spruill, Matt, *Guide to the Battle of Chickamauga*.

Sullivan, James R., *Chickamauga and Chattanooga Battlefields* (National Park Service Handbook).

Sword, Wiley, *Mountains Touched with Fire*.

Taylor, Benjamin F., *Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain*.

Tucker, Glen, "The Battle of Chickamauga," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, May, 1969 (special issue).

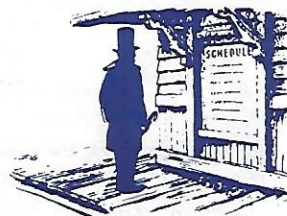
Tucker, Glen, *Chickamauga*.

Turchin, John B., *Battle of Chickamauga*.

VanHorne, Thomas B., *History of the Army of the Cumberland*, Vol. I.

VanHorne, Thomas B., *The Life of Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas*.

## BULLETIN BOARD



**ON THE TOUR:** Please be prompt in boarding the buses at the appropriate times each morning to allow maximum time for touring. A bus marshal will be on each bus to help you. If you plan a side excursion, or for any other reason will not be on the bus, you must notify your bus marshal so that buses are not detained waiting for you.

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**Tunnel Hill and Missionary Ridge:** Grant planned to dislodge Bragg's hold on Chattanooga once and for all. On November 25, Sherman and the Army of the Tennessee were to make a grand assault designed to drive the Confederates from the hills and open the way south. Thomas's Army of the Cumberland was relegated



Sherman

to a supporting role, expected merely to make a demonstration against the rifle pits at the base of the ridge. Sherman's attack bogged down due in part to faulty reconnaissance and the stubborn resistance offered by Pat Cleburne's Division. Sherman, in fact, attacked the wrong position. Impatient at Sherman's lack of progress, Grant ordered Thomas to make a demonstration. The Army of the Cumberland went forward and seized the first line of defenses at the base of Missionary Ridge. Their new position was vulnerable to enemy fire however, and the only choice left them was to advance or retreat. Acting without orders, each unit began to advance, driving the enemy before them up the slopes of Missionary Ridge. Watching in disbelief at the unexpected assault from his position on Orchard Knob, Grant witnessed perhaps the grandest spectacle of the war—the improbable success of a frontal assault against fortified heights. Bragg's army was routed in what was a true disaster for the Confederacy.

**Ringgold Gap:** Following the unprecedented disaster, the Confederate army fought a desperate rearguard action, trying to stave off the pursuing federals. At Ringgold Gap, Cleburne's Division bloodily repulsed the pursuers, buying time for the Army of Tennessee to retreat into Georgia. The action here on November 27 closed the Chattanooga Campaign.

*War of the Rebellion, Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Series I, Vol. XXX for Chickamauga, Vol. XXXI for Chattanooga.  
Williams, Kenneth P., *Lincoln Finds a General*, Vol. V.