Harold M. Hyman to receive Nevins-Freeman Award

Each year since 1974, the Civil War Round Table of Chicago has conferred its Nevins-Freeman award upon an individual who has made substantial contributions to the study of this critical period in our nation’s brief history. The award is named for Allan Nevins and Douglas Southall Freeman, the two most prestigious historians in our time whose writings became literary cornerstones in the story of the Civil War. This year, the Awards Committee has selected as the 13th recipient of our highest award Dr. Harold M. Hyman, William P. Hobby Professor of History at Rice University, Houston, Texas. The Round Table takes pride in honoring Dr. Hyman at the first regular meeting of 1986-1987 on September 12, 1986 at the Quality Inn, Halsted and Madison.

This meeting will mark the sixth occasion upon which Harold, as he is known to many of our group, has spoken to our meetings. His first appearance was to address us at our 136th regular meeting on November 19, 1954 on the subject, “The Loyalty Oath in the Civil War.” His most recent appearance occurred on October 13, 1978 at our 374th regular meeting. On that occasion his subject was “Has the Lincoln Murder Conspiracy Theme Been Exhausted?” In his remarks at that meeting, Harold critiqued “The Lincoln Conspiracy,” a book, film and television program prepared by Schick Sun Classics Productions. For his acceptance address, Harold has selected the title, “Lincoln and Other Yuppie Lawyers and the Problem of Abolitionism.”

In remarks about his address, Dr. Hyman states: “Both Allan Nevins and Douglas Southall Freeman contributed greatly to our understanding of the effects of the Civil War and Reconstruction on many aspects of American life. I intend in my presentation to re-examine some of these effects, principally those on the federal system, on civil rights and liberties, and on individuals’ access to the fruits of democracy.”


Midwest Civil War Show

The Fourth Annual Midwest Civil War Collectors Show will be held Saturday, September 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the DuPage County Fair Grounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton. The show will feature over 150 tables with military items from the periods of 1776 to 1898. For information and table reservations, contact Robert Nowak, 3238 N. Central Park, Chicago, IL 60618 (312) 539-8432.
work entitled American Singularity: The 1787 Northwest Ordinance, the 1862 Homestead-Morrill Acts, and the 1944 GI Bill. He is currently conducting research for a biography of Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase, who was appointed to this post after service as Lincoln’s Secretary of the Treasury.


Dr. Hyman’s extensive career as an educator in the field of American history, his published work (only a small portion of which is outlined above) and his frequent participation in historical forums of all types well qualify him as a recipient of our Round Table’s highest award. We are proud to add the name of Dr. Harold M. Hyman to the list of recipients of the Nevins-Freeman award.

Nevins-Freeman Honorees

Bruce Catton, 1974  
Ralph G. Newman, 1975  
T. Harry Williams, 1976  
Lloyd D. Miller, 1977  
Bell I. Wiley, 1978  
E. B. Long, 1979  
Edwin C. Bearss, 1980  
James L. Robertson, Jr., 1981  
Frank E. Vandiver, 1982  
John Hope Franklin, 1983  
Richard B. Harwell, 1984  
John Y. Simon, 1985

The Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association, first formed in 1959, was reorganized in 1983 to help raise funds for the acquisition of privately-owned land within the congressionally authorized boundaries of the Park. In 1984 it was able to purchase the 31-acre tract near Spangler’s Spring. In addition to purchasing land authorized by Congress, the GBPA is attempting to make the public aware of the need to protect the more than 1000 acres not included in the Park boundaries, but nevertheless vitally important. All of East Cavalry Field, for example, could be commercially developed, and much of Herr Ridge is in danger. To assist in its preservation work, the GBPA is seeking tax-deductible contributions (minimum $5). Donors become members of the Gettysburg Preservation Brigade and receive a frameable certificate. Send donations to GBPA, P.O. Box 1863, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325.

The Sixth Annual Midwest Civil War Round Table Conference will be held in Ft. Wayne, Indiana April 24-26, 1987. Although their topics have not yet been announced, the scheduled speakers include Dr. James I. “Bud” Robertson, Jerry Russell, Dennis E. Frye, Ed Bearss, Dr. Mark Neely, and Christopher Calkins. Further information, including costs, will be published when available.
June meeting
On June 6, over 100 members and guests attended the 452nd regular meeting of The Civil War Round Table to hear James I. "Bud" Robertson, Jr. discuss "General A.P. Hill."

Ambrose Powell Hill was born on November 9, 1825 near Culpepper, Virginia. He was the fifth generation of Hills who had lived in that state. In 1842, at the age of 16, he won an appointment to West Point. His roommate was a young Pennsylvanian named George McClellan. Hill was forced to take an eight month leave of absence, due to illness, but he returned to West Point and graduated in the class of 1847.

Hill was commissioned in the 1st Artillery, but he arrived too late to serve in the Mexican War. For the next seven years he served in garrisons in Mexico and Florida. In 1857, while stationed in Washington, D.C., he fell in love with Ellie Marcy. Her father, Captain Randolph Marcy, disapproved because Hill was a southerner. Instead, he preferred Captain George McClellan.

On March 1, 1861, Hill resigned his commission and shortly afterward was appointed as colonel of the 13th Virginia Infantry. During the battle of First Manassas, Hill and his regiment saw no action because they were assigned to guard a supply depot. Hill continued with the organization and training of the 13th until February 1862 when he was appointed a brigadier general and took command of Longstreet's former brigade.

At Williamsburg on May 5, 1862, Hill's brigade fought the advance units of the Army of the Potomac. Hill proved himself a good brigade commander and on May 26 was promoted to major general. He commanded the largest division in Lee's army during the Peninsula Campaign, and it was his division which attacked the Federals at Mechanicsville and Gaines Mill while Jackson was late in supporting him.

After the Peninsula Campaign, Hill and General James Longstreet were involved in a personal dispute. Longstreet placed Hill under arrest and Hill wanted to challenge Longstreet to a duel. Lee responded to this situation by reassigning Hill and his division to Jackson's corps. At this time, Lee considered Hill the best division commander in the Army of Northern Virginia.

During August and September 1862, Hill and his "Light Division" fought at Cedar Mt., Second Manassas, and at Antietam. During the Antietam Campaign, Jackson placed Hill under arrest when Hill questioned one of Jackson's marching orders. However, this lasted for only one week. After Jackson captured Harpers Ferry, Hill was assigned the task of paroling Union prisoners. Then, on the morning of September 17, Hill received orders from Lee to march his division to Sharpsburg, Maryland where Lee's army was concentrating.

Hill led his division on a 17 mile forced march and attacked the left flank of the Union Army's Ninth Corps in the late afternoon. Although half of Hill's division dropped out during the march to Sharpsburg, Hill's attack saved Lee's army. Hill later served in the Fredericksburg and Chancellorville campaigns and continued a personal dispute with Jackson.

In May 1863 Hill was promoted to lieutenant general and given command of the III Corps. It was units from Hill's corps that were the first infantry to fight at Gettysburg. During the Battle of the Wilderness, Hill's corps of 15,000 attacked a Union force of 40,000 on May 5, 1864. On May 7, Hill asked Lee to relieve him of command due to illness. Hill returned on May 21 to command of the III Corps.

During the siege of Petersburg, it was A.P. Hill and his corps who counterattacked every Union move to extend the siege lines. In February and March of 1865, Hill again became ill and was given leave. When he returned, he took command of his old corps, and was killed during the assault on Petersburg April 2, 1865.

Hill was more a fighter than a strategist. He also was a soldier who took a deep interest in his men and their welfare. During a battle, Hill foresaw the trappings of rank, preferring to wear a red wool shirt. At the same time, Hill was a proud Virginian whose feuds with Longstreet and Jackson nearly ended his military career.

The flag of the Jefferson Guards of Pine Bluff, Arkansas came home in May. It was captured by the 15th Illinois Cavalry on the White River in 1864 and has been in the Lincoln National Guard Armory in Springfield, Illinois since. Illinois still claims ownership of the flag; it is on loan to Arkansas for two years, and custody can be extended for a year at a time. After restoration work, the flag will be on display in the Jefferson County Museum in the courthouse.

The Hampton Roads Naval Museum has opened a display entitled, "The Civil War in Hampton Roads," which includes artifacts recovered from the USS Monitor, Tecumseh, Cumberland and CSS Virginia. Also on display are detailed scaled ship models, oil and watercolor prints, and photos of the Civil War period. The museum is located at Norfolk Naval Base.

An excellent article about the Monitor, "Search for the Monitor" by Luis Marden, appears in the July-August issue of Historic Preservation magazine. It traces the Monitor's history, her sinking, the search for the wreck site, and current preservation efforts.

The Mosby Society is nearing completion of a book of John S. Mosby's letters. Included will be previously unpublished photographs and nearly 200 letters to and from the Colonel. Only 500 numbered copies will be printed. Pre-publication orders, at $25 each, should be sent to Mrs. Ralph Mitchell, 216 Garland Driver, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013.

The Sixth Annual Great American Civil War Book Fair will be held in Fairfax, Virginia on Saturday, October 18. For more information, contact C. Batson, Box 143X Centreville, Virginia 22020 (703) 631-0884.

The 1985 Fletcher Pratt Award of the Civil War Round Table of New York has been presented to Joseph T. Glaththaar for his book, The March to the Sea and Beyond: Sherman's Troops in the Savannah and Carolinas Campaigns. The Award has been given annually since 1957 to the author or editor of the year's best non-fiction book about the Civil War. It is presented in honor of Fletcher Pratt, a journalist, author and charter member of the New York Round Table.

And speaking of awards, Jerry Russell, founder of Civil War Round Table Associates, received the Frank E. Vandiver Award of Merit of the Houston Civil War Round Table. He is the Award's fifth recipient.


O'Donnell, William W. *The Civil War Quadrennium: Little Rock During the Civil War Years*. Little Rock: Civil War Round Table of Arkansas. pbk. $10.00.


Rhea, D.L. *How the Colt Navy .36 Revolver was Gunsmithed and Fired in the Field during the Civil War*. Wood River, IL: The author. Ltd. 1000. $22.50.


**Future meetings**

Regular meetings are held at the Quality Inn, Halsted and Madison, the second Friday in each month, except as noted.

- September 12: Nevins-Freeman Award Dinner. Recipient of Award, Dr. Harold M. Hyman.
- October 10: Richard Selcer on "Two Gentlemen of Virginia: The Lee and Pickett Connection."
- November 14: Will Green on "Bloody Angle—Spotsylvania."
- December 12: Alan T. Nolan on "A Northerner's View of Robert E. Lee."
- February 20: Ralph G. Newman on "Robert Todd Lincoln in the Civil War."
- March 13: Howard McManus on "The Battle of Cloyd's Mountain."
- April 10: Mike Chesson on "The Bread Riots in Richmond."
- April 30-May 3: Annual Battlefield Tour—The Trans-Mississippi.
- May 8: Betty Otto on "Maryland Campaign, September 1862."
- June 5: Mark Boatner on "How the Civil War Dictionary Came Into Being."

**New members**

Blair Clifford, 1150 Cass Street, Gary, Indiana 46403 (219) 938-2438.

Edward C. Johnson, 3630 W. George Street, Chicago, Illinois 60618 (312) 472-5051.

Tom Neville, 1008 South Talman, Chicago, Illinois 60655 (312) 445-8811.

Mitchell A. Sim, 28 Monica, Lake Villa, Illinois 60046 (312) 356-6982.

**Changes of address**

Margaret April, 1304 Lunt Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60626.


The 12th Annual Congress of Civil War Round Tables will be held October 2-5, 1986 in North Marietta, Georgia. Among the speakers will be Ed Bearss and Dr. Richard McMurry. The Congress will feature a tour of the Atlanta Campaign. The registration fee is $170 for non-members of Civil War Round Table Associates and $150 for members ($10 discount if paid by September 10). The fee includes all sessions, meals and tours, but not lodging. For further information, contact CWRT Associates, P.O. Box 9759, Little Rock, AK 72217 (501) 225-3996.