

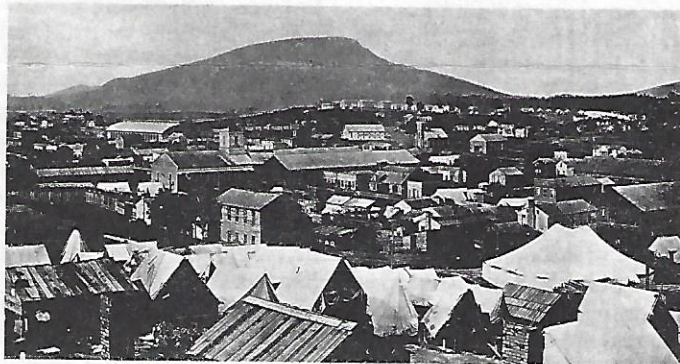
THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXXIV, Battlefield Tour Number

Chicago, Illinois

April, 1974

24TH ANNUAL BATTLEFIELD TOUR TO CHATTANOOGA AND CHICKAMAUGA, MAY 2-5, 1974



Chattanooga in 1863, from Sixth and Cherry Streets.

By Warren A. Reeder, Jr.

To Chattanooga in '74!

This is our fourth trip to this important Civil War area but the very first time that our sole attention has concentrated on this region. It was in June of 1951 that 32 members of the C.W.R.T. of Chicago came in from an overnight train ride from Nashville and breezed through in a quick five hour tour. In 1956 we spent one whole day there and in October, 1965—now increased in numbers to 75—we stayed 1½ days. But this time it is for 3½ days.

As usual, we urge everyone to register early on May 2nd, 1974, as our Delta Flight #775 leaves at 10:35 A.M. from O'Hare Airport. Margaret April would like to see everyone there not later than 9:15 A.M. Arrival at Chattanooga Airport will be at 1:32 P.M. After luncheon on the plane. We will board our buses immediately and tour the Confederate and Union Cemeteries, affording plenty of time for inspection of each.

Our headquarters will be the Chattanooga "Choo-Choo" Hilton Inn. This is an incredible place, actually being the newly renovated Southern Railway Depot. You may reserve a room in the Inn or stay at one of the fleet of Pullman cars, the latter complete with private bath and large four-poster brass beds. There are 1900-period shops along the old train sheds, an old-fashioned trolley ride and a restored 1880 engine with a wood tender. In the tradition of the Glenn Miller song of the World War II era—the engine is called "Chattanooga Choo-Choo".

Command Post and Dinner will be in one of the private dining rooms off the huge Depot waiting room, now a king-sized restaurant. Thursday night Dr. James Livingood will speak to us on "The Battles Around Chattanooga".

Breakfast at the Inn is "on your own" on Friday morning. Our buses will leave at staggered times to enable us all to comfortably view the "Confederama" at the base of Lookout

COST OF TOUR

*\$265, two to a room, \$275, single.

*Added feature: if you desire to sleep in a Pullman car equipped with four poster brass beds and modern private bath the charge is \$15 extra per person.

INCLUDES: Round trip air fare, all bus transportation, lodging at "Choo Choo", all meals except breakfasts, Command Post, group service tips, tour literature and side tour costs, including a boat trip around Moccasin Bend.

NOTE: Those who desire to make special arrangements such as meeting us in Chattanooga, please contact Margaret April, our Registrar, 18 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611 (312) WH 4-3085.

Mountain, an electric map display of the battles for Chattanooga. Then up the cable car to the breathtaking view at the top of Lookout Mountain where we will be allowed time to explore the National Park, take pictures, have a lecture on the "Battle Above the Clouds" and even do some souvenir shopping. After luncheon we will tour Orchard Knob, Ft. Wood and Missionary Ridge, returning in the late afternoon for the Command Post and dinner. Our speaker in the evening will be Ed Tinney, Chickamauga Park historian, on "The Battle We Fight Tomorrow".

On Saturday we will have breakfast at the Inn and commence on an all-day tour at 8:45 A.M. This will encompass the Wauhatchie area west of Lookout Mountain and the route of the Federal troops as they came in to the battle area around Chickamauga Creek. At noon we will have a box luncheon at the National Park Headquarters, view the Park's fabulous gun collection, and listen to film on the battle. The rest of the afternoon will be taken up with the resumption of the tour on the battlefield itself with Park Guides. The traditional "Fun Night" that evening will feature the motion picture "The General", either the original Buster Keaton production or the later Walt Disney issue.

Sunday is open until 11 A.M. At that time we will embark on a 2 hour boat tour on the Tennessee River from downtown Chattanooga, past Moccasin Bend, viewing Williams Island and return, all aboard the SS "Lake Queen". Luncheon will follow. Our windup of the tour will be a visit to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum and a trip on an authentic old steam train ride for a 7 mile tour through the Old Missionary Ridge Tunnel, so prominent in the battle of that area. At 5:05 P.M. we depart from the Airport on Delta Flight #658. Dinner will be on the plane, with arrival at O'Hare at 6:15 P.M.

Chattanooga is an exciting town and the downtown area has undergone tremendous renovation since we first visited it. Come with us and see all this in an action packed 3½ days, May 2, 3, 4 and 5, 1974!

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: WHitehall 4-3085

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THE BATTLES

By Warren A. Reeder, Jr.

The warfare around Chattanooga did not involve the Battle of Chickamauga alone but was an extended series of skirmishes and serious conflicts that extended from early September of 1863 to the latter part of November.

The prize for the contenders was the small town of Chattanooga, a railroad and water travel center, the key to the supply lines that fed the Southern troops to the north of it. Its population in 1860 was 2,545 including 457 Negroes. The name was derived from an Indian Creek word "Chado-na-ugsa" meaning "rock that comes to a point", which admirably describes the magnificent Lookout Mountain that hovers over it.

On September 8, 1863 Confederate General Braxton Bragg came to the realization that the Union forces pressing in from the West were forcing him to evacuate Chattanooga and he abruptly terminated his control. On the next day, Federal troops under the command of General William Rosecrans occupied the town. General Bragg re-grouped his forces in Northern Georgia just south of Chattanooga, keeping open the railroad supply line from Atlanta. An unusual addition to his army was two divisions brought West by General James Longstreet of the Army of Northern Virginia. Longstreet had suggested that General Robert E. Lee be sent but the latter commander did not feel he could leave the East. Rosecrans stumbled onto the Confederates about 15 miles from downtown Chattanooga and by September 18th a large battle had commenced.

This was the battle of Chickamauga, famous for the gap in the Federal lines, through which Longstreet's Confederates poured, and the subsequent defense of the last Federal line on

*from the
Editor's pen*



1974 TOUR COMMITTEE

Co-Chairman—Warren A. Reeder, Jr. and Gerald M. Edelstein
 Registrar—Margaret April
 Chief Marshal—Al Meyer
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Snodgrass Hill by General Thomas. Henceforth he would be known as "The Rock of Chickamauga". By nightfall of the 20th the battle was over. It turned out to be a rout for the Union Army and a victory of a devastating nature was within the grasp of the Confederates. Not too unpredictably, however, General Bragg suddenly froze on his lines and did not press his advantage over the panic stricken Federals fleeing to the safety of the environs of Chattanooga. General Longstreet was bitterly frustrated and the able cavalry leader, General Forrest, audaciously dressed Bragg down to his face. But Bragg had a friendship with Jefferson Davis that reached back to the Mexican War. He did not budge and precious time was lost forever.

In Chattanooga Generals Ulysses Grant and William Sherman now assumed general charge of the Federal forces, enduring an almost catastrophic period of starvation as the Confederates began to close in on them. Troops were placed on quarter rations, the mules and horses simply died from lack of food.

Now came the battle for Chattanooga. The siege was first broken by an amphibious night attack. Union troops silently floated down the Tennessee River on October 25th to open the "Cracker Line", a tenuous supply line which provided bread, meat and other provisions for the starved troops. On November 23rd Federal troops took possession of a slight hill in the valley between Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge called Orchard Knob. On the next day, fighting broke out on Lookout Mountain as "Fighting Joe" Hooker surged up its lofty heights and redeemed himself from the Chancellorsville disaster. The swirling mists engulfed him from the sight of the anxious Union soldiers watching from the valley below. This was the famous "Battle Above the Clouds" and when the fog cleared the Stars and Stripes were floating at the crest of the mountain.

The 25th saw the Union troops turning their attention east to their last barrier, Missionary Ridge. It began when General Sherman started a fruitless drive against the north end of the ridge but was beaten back by General Cleburne with one division of Confederates. The successful attack came from the center of the Ridge, starting at Orchard Knob. General Thomas ordered his men to take the Confederate outposts at the base of Missionary Ridge. The men took them, simply did not stop and swept up the steep slope to victory at the top. The Southern armies started on their retreat for Atlanta and as D. H. Hill said, "Chattanooga sealed the fate of the Confederacy".

* * *

Chickamauga means "Dwelling Place of the War Chief" in the Creek language. White men changed this to "River of Death" and it was just that during the battle.

* * *

At Chickamauga the Union was outnumbered. Rosecrans had 64,500 under arms and 170 pieces of artillery. Bragg had 71,500 men, 200 pieces of artillery. The heavy undergrowth rendered the artillery ineffective for the Confederates, how-

ever. The Union had superiority in the quality of arms, particularly those in Wilder's Brigade. However, as never before in the West, the Confederates had the overall best of the situation.

Question: would General Lee have done better than General Bragg?

* * *

Why did General Wood pull out of the line just at the critical time? He certainly must have realized Longstreet's Confederates were in front of him. A few days prior, at Wauhatchie, as the Union troops were marching east, he failed to occupy a position there, protesting "it would have been blind obedience to orders". Rosecrans had dressed him down about it and when he got the fateful order to pull over to his right and support the right flank of Reynolds it must have flashed into his mind that "as fast as possible" meant just that. Thus a supposed gap on Reynolds right was now a real enough big gap.

* * *

There was a total eclipse of the moon just before the "Battle Above the Clouds" for Lookout Mountain. Federal troops thought it an ill omen for a battle soon to ensue but then consoled themselves with the idea that Confederate General Bragg would be the recipient of the bad luck. Wasn't he stuck up high on the mountaintop somewhat nearer to the moon than they were?

* * *

Burnside up in Knoxville, could have come to Rosecrans aid if he had been faster. He had moved six miles in fifty-two hours in the Cumberland Gap affair and Rosecrans was only 114 miles distant. But he wandered off in the opposite direction and telegraphed the War Department he was moving on Jonesboro. When Lincoln heard it he was provoked into exclaiming, "Damn Jonesboro!" It was one of the few times anyone heard him swear.

* * *

Colonel King, brigade commander under Union General Reynolds, was begged by his men not to expose himself on his horse. He finally dismounted and was promptly shot in the head and killed.

* * *

The famous Johnny Clem, now 12 years old and sporting a cut-down musket, ignored a shout of "Surrender, you damned little Yankee!" and shot a Confederate colonel out of his saddle. Wounded, he played dead and lived to get shot again at Atlanta. In 1871 he was 5 feet tall, weighted 105 pounds and President Grant commissioned him a lieutenant in the 24th Infantry. He retired a major-general in 1916. Johnny had enlisted as a drummer boy with Company C, 22nd Michigan at age 10. Dubbed "The Drummer Boy of Shiloh", a shell fragmented his drum there and he grabbed a gun in self-defense, stating he did not like to stand around and be shot at without shooting back.

* * *

Two distinguished future authors were at Chickamauga. Ambrose Bierce was still going strong at age 71 when he disappeared on a mysterious jaunt into Mexico. He was an officer of the 9th Indiana, having been born in that state.

Maurice Thompson was also a native Hoosier, but was raised in Georgia and fought with the Confederates. After the War he went North (carpetbagging works both ways) and became a lawyer at Crawfordsville, Indiana, hob-nobbing with another attorney named Lew Wallace who also did some writing. Thompson's best novel, *Alice of Old Vincennes*, centered around another war.

* * *

Glenn Tucker pays unusual tribute to Confederate General Bushrod Johnson, a name with Virginian ties in spite of his Ohio birthplace. "The main difference between his attack on

(Continued on Page 4)

TOUR SCHEDULE

(All times local daylight saving)

(Variations will be announced at lunch or dinner)

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1974

- 9:15 a.m. — Report to Registrar Margaret April, Delta Airlines, O'Hare Field.
- 10:35 a.m. — Delta Plane Flight #775 departs. Snack en-route.
- 1:32 p.m. — Arrive Chattanooga Airport.
- 2:00 p.m. — Board buses for special tour of Confederate and Union Cemeteries.
- 5:00 p.m. — Check-in, Chattanooga "Choo-Choo" (Hilton Inn).
- 6:30 p.m. — Command Post.
- 7:30 p.m. — Dinner, featuring Dr. James Livinggood on "The Battles Around Chattanooga".

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1974

- Breakfast on your own at "Choo-Choo"
- 8:30 a.m. — First bus leaves) — Visit the "Confederama"
- 8:50 a.m. — Next bus leaves) electric map at the base
- 9:10 a.m. — Final bus leaves) of Lookout Mountain—
our staggered schedule
accommodates all comfortably
- 9:00 a.m. to — Staggered schedule to take all up Lookout
- 9:45 a.m. — Mountain via cable car.
- 10:30 a.m. — Lecture at Point Lookout.
- 11:15 a.m. — Buses leave for Wauhatchie Valley—"The Mule
Brigade"
- 12:45 p.m. — Noon luncheon.
- 1:45 p.m. — Afternoon tour: Orchard Knob, Ft. Wood,
Missionary Ridge.
- 5:30 p.m. — Return to "Choo-Choo".
- 6:30 p.m. — Command Post.
- 7:15 p.m. — Dinner featuring Ed Tinney, Chickamauga
Park historian on "The Battle We Fight
Tomorrow".

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1974

- Breakfast on your own.
- 8:45 a.m. — Buses depart for all-day battlefield tour.
- 12 Noon — Box lunch at Chickamauga Park Head-
quarters.
- 1:00 p.m. — Resume tour under charge of National Park
Guides.
- 5:00 p.m. — Return to "Choo-Choo".
- 6:30 p.m. — Command Post.
- 7:15 p.m. — Dinner, special awards
- 8:30 p.m. — Fun Night. Film "The General" (This famous
engine housed at the old L & N depot on our
first trip in '51).

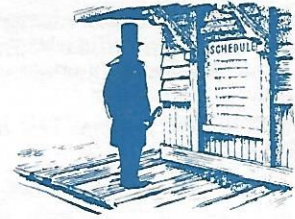
SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1974

- Breakfast on your own—attend the church of
your choice. Those who desire may wish to go
on further battlefield investigations and miss
the morning tour.
- 11 a.m. — Buses depart for two hour boat tour on
Tennessee River, past Moccasin Bend, viewing
Williams Island and return, aboard S.S. "Lake
Queen".
- 1:30 p.m. — Luncheon at "Choo-Choo".
- 2:30 p.m. — Windup afternoon tour to Tennessee Valley
Railroad Museum and steam locomotive train
ride on a 7-mile tour through Missionary
Ridge Tunnel.
- 5:05 p.m. — Depart from Chattanooga Airport, Delta
Flight #658. Dinner on plane.
- 6:15 p.m. — Arrive O'Hare Terminal Chicago.



ORDERS AND AMMUNITION

BULLETIN BOARD



ARMCHAIR GENERALSHIP

Compiled by E. B. "Pete" Long

The literature for the Chickamauga—Chattanooga areas is quite vast. However, as always, the visitor to these areas will be fore-armed if he peruses at least some of the following selected volumes:

Anderson, Archer, "Campaign and Battle of Chickamauga," *Southern Historical Society Papers*, Vol. IX.

Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, Vol. III is very useful.

Beatty, John, *Memoirs of a Volunteer*.

Boynton, H. V., *Dedication of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park*.

Buck, Irving S., *Cleburne and His Men*.

Catton, Bruce, *Never Call Retreat and Grant Takes Command*.

Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Commission, *The Campaign for Chattanooga*.

Cist, Henry, M., *The Army of the Cumberland*, Vol. VII, *The Campaigns of the Civil War*.

Cleaves, Freeman, Rock of Chickamauga, *The Life of General George H. Thomas*.

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

Connelly, Thomas L., *Autumn of Glory, The Army of Tennessee 1862-1865*.

Davidson, Donald, *The Tennessee, The New River, Civil War to TVA*.

Downey, Fairfax, D., *Storming of the Gateway*.

Eckenrode, H. J., and Bryan Conrad, *James Longstreet*.

Espósito, Vincent J., *The West Point Atlas of American Wars*, Vol. I.

Fitch, John, *Annals of the Army of the Cumberland*.

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

Govan, Gilbert E., *The Chattanooga Country 1540-1951*.

Gracie, Archibald, *The Truth About Chickamauga*.

Grant, U.S., *Memoirs*.

Horn, Stanley, *The Army of Tennessee*.

Lamers, William, *The Edge of Glory*, biography of Rosecrans.

Longstreet, James, *From Manassas to Appomattox*.

McKinney, Francis, *Education in Violence, the Life of George H. Thomas*.

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

The Mississippi Valley, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Papers of the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts, Vol. VIII.

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

Seltz, Don C., *Braxton Bragg*.

Smith, William F., *Military Operations Around Chattanooga*.

Sheridan, P. H., *Personal Memoirs*.

Steele, Matthew, F., *American Campaigns*.

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

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

Tucker, Glen, "The Battles for Chattanooga," and "The Battle of Chickamauga," in *Civil War Times Illustrated*, Aug., 1971, and May 1969.

Tucker, Glenn, *Chickamauga*.

Turchin, John B., *Chickamauga*.

CHECK-IN TIME: 9:15 a.m. (CDT), Thursday, May 2nd, at Delta Airlines Terminal, O'Hare Airport. Registrar Margaret April will receive you at a special counter to expedite your luggage. Tour packets will be passed out containing full instructions on the tour and special brochures.

DEPARTURE: 10:35 a.m. (CDT) Delta Flight #775. Snack only on the plane. Arrive Chattanooga Airport at 1:32 p.m. (EDT)

TOUR ORDERS: Please be prompt when so requested, as our schedule is not always in our own control on public transportation. Select your bus and stick to it. Ask your bus marshal for guidance and instructions when in doubt. Notify him if you leave the tour or take a trip on the side. Listen for special announcements at our luncheons and dinners regarding tour plans or changes.

RETURN: Sunday, May 5th, from Chattanooga Airport on Delta Flight #658 at 5:05 p.m. (EDT). Arrive at O'Hare Airport at 6:15 p.m. (CDT). Dinner enroute.



Van Horne, Thomas B., *History of the Army of the Cumberland and Life of Major General George H. Thomas*.

Walker, Robert S., *Lookout; the Story of a Mountain*.

War of the Rebellion Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, particularly Series I, Vol. XXX for Chickamauga, Vol. XXXI for Chattanooga.

Williams, Kenneth P., *Lincoln Finds a General*, Vol. V.

(Continued from Page 3)

the Union center at Chickamauga and that of Pickett at Gettysburg is that his was successful. The rate of casualties appears to have been about the same." Johnson was an unsuccessful Illinois farmer after the War, located near Miles Station, northeast of Brighton in Macoupin County.

* * *

General Forrest continued to run up the score of horses shot out from under him during the War—29 all told. At Chickamauga he thrust his finger in the neck of his horse where arterial blood was spurting out and plugged the break. When he had ridden to his destination and withdrew his finger, the horse fell dead.

* * *

The 3rd Indiana Cavalry was in the opening skirmish of Chickamauga, just as they had been at Gettysburg. The 17th Indiana gave the first test to their new Spencer repeating rifles in the preliminary affair at Alexander's Bridge. Col. John T. Wilder had financed the purchase through the bank at Greensburg, Indiana. They proved their worth as illustrated in Confederate General Liddell's report: "I can only account for my heavy loss of 105 men killed and wounded from the efficiency of this new weapon".

* * *

The Brotherton family's four cows stood calmly by through a terrible hail of bullets as the lines surged back and forth around them. Not even a Federal forager touched them, a rare event.