MARCH 28, 1987

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 9, 1987, 6:00 p.m. Discussion and refreshments. Dinner at 7:00 p.m., Naval Station, Puget Sound Officers Mess. (Note the Base is undergoing a name change.)

PROGRAM, APRIL 9: Will feature a Civil War film that Dio discovered. Good summary of events and locations as well as action. We previewed it last week and felt it is a must!

Of Major Note: April 9 commemorates the fateful meeting of Lee and Grant at the Appomatax Court House - April 9, 1865.

May 14: Red King - Custer and Stewart at Gettysburg
Our March meeting featuring short presentations was met with requests for a similar program next season. Our outstanding presenters included:

Pat Brady - Books for Beginners
Bob Book - Swords with display
Wanda Nadal - Stonewall Jackson
Mike Malone - Confederate Flags

DOOR PRIZE: Program is going well. If you have books to donate for the drawing be sure to bring them to the meeting.

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

We plan a full schedule of monthly meetings next year - September through April. First, SEPTEMBER 10 -- we hope to open our season with Lou Jones on Gettysburgh. On October 8, Dr. Harold Alford with Cavalry Skirmish at Obion Creek. (A participants account of an action in Western Tennessee in 1863.) Our own Dr. Tom Pressly on November 10; and short presentations by our members to close the year of 1987 on December 12.

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APRIL 9: menu: Petite Filet and Poached Halibut. Be sure to send in your card early with your name(s) and number of reservations: your menu selection: and it any guests - their names and menu selection.

Loren Mann, Editor
Our member Tony Lattin and Steve Peregrine will go to the Battle of Shiloh in April. We look forward to their report.

"WE WHO STUDY MUST ALSO STRIVE TO SAVE"

This motto of the Civil War Round Table Association has meaning in the east and south portion of our country far greater than we in the northwest can appreciate. Only be travelling, reading and visiting battle sites and memorial parks can one gain a full appreciation of the need—not only of preservation—but also restoration.

The Civil War is a major part of our heritage. The symbols of that heritage are all around us; the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial and yes, American Democracy itself. All of these must be preserved including the symbols of the Civil War. We will try to mention in our bulletins a specific item of need in battlefield preservation. We hope that our members will send your editor a paragraph that results from your reading or visiting that touches on this subject.

BOOK REVIEW

THIRTEEN MONTHS IN THE REBEL ARMY by William B. Stevenson (160 pages)
(This is a most unusual book, written in 1862.)

Stevenson, a native of New York State, moved to Arkansas in 1861 and started a saw-mill. Although he hadn't said that he was from the North, he was suspected of being a Northerner and was distrusted by the local people; taken to a kangaroo court at night, and sentenced to death. A compromised decision allowed him to enlist in the Southern forces, to which he agreed. He tried to escape but was caught, and enlisted in Memphis.

His group moved upriver and built Fort Wright, moved to Fort Pillow further upriver. After the first battle at Fort Pillow, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant, caught pneumonia, and was hospitalized in Nashville; after release served with Morgan's cavalry under General Breckenridge at Pittsburgh Landing (Shiloh). He served as courier there, was uninjured and was designated a hospital attendant at Mobile via Corinth.

Since he had not yet been paid he was unable to desert. He travelled to Richmond on a pretext, was given part of his pay, took a train to Chattanooga, deserted there, travelled to Murfreesboro then held by the North and joined the Federal forces there on June 28, 1862.

This book was the first publication of the time that showed the Northern people how serious the war really was, which up until that time had been taken lightly by most.

It is an unusual book, written at an unusual time, from a different perspective than most Civil War books, and is enjoyable even if not wholly believable.

THE BOOKWORM