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CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF NEW ORLEANS, INC.

MEETING NOTICE – NOVEMBER, 2015

Join us this month to enjoy another talk on an interesting subject. Please welcome John M. Baldwin.

DATE: Wednesday, November 18, 2015
PLACE: Smilie's Restaurant - 5725 Jefferson Highway Harahan, LA
SPEAKER: John M. Baldwin
SUBJECT: C.S.S. Shenandoah
TIME: 6:30 p.m. Social 7:00 p.m. Dinner (\$25.00) (Optional)

OUR SPEAKER: This month's speaker is John M. Baldwin, co-author of Last Flag Down – The Epic Journey of the Last Confederate Warship. John's co – author is Ron Powers. Their book appeared in 2007 and was published by Crown Publishing Group. John is a collateral descendant of Lieutenant Conway Whittle, who was the Executive Officer on the CSS Shenandoah.

THE SUBJECT: Most Civil War enthusiasts know that Lee's surrender at Appamattox in April, 1865 was actually the first of several surrenders before the official end of the War. Although Lee's surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia was the most important, other surrenders had their own respective drama and stories that have passed from history into legend.

One of the final surrenders was by the C.S.S. Shenandoah, the last Rebel commerce destroyer to operate on the high seas. The ship had been built in Scotland and later was converted to a heavily armed cruiser under the command of Lt. James I. Waddell. The C.S.S. Shenandoah began its voyage in late 1864, and did not surrender until November, 1865, and even then the ship's officers turned the ship over to the British authorities. The Confederate cruiser ravaged the United States merchant fleet, especially in the North Pacific, Bering Sea and the Arctic Ocean. The New England whaling fleet became a special target of the C.S.S. Shenandoah.

Our speaker will talk at length on this unique ship, its officers and crew, and of its many adventures.

LAST MEETING: Glen Vinet addressed about 35 members and guests at last month's meeting. This writer wishes he could have been there but a long planned vacation had priority. Daniel Marshall handled the meeting and all reports indicate that Glen's talk was well received. Special thanks to Daniel for his efforts in October and for Glenn's willingness to share his knowledge.

BOOK RAFFLE: One of the books in this month's raffle is a First Edition copy of Last Flag Down – The Epic Journey of the Last Confederate Warship. Buy a few tickets and try to win the book.

THANKS: To Bill Myers for his donation of a box of books for our raffle.

WILEY SWORD: Wiley Sword, our speaker for May, 2016, died unexpectedly on Monday, November 9th. Wiley was 77.

Wiley was born in Mexico, Missouri and moved with his family to Tennessee. He graduated from the University of Michigan and lived for many years in West Bloomfield, Michigan. Wiley collected firearms and soldier's letters from the Civil War. Later he wrote many books, including: **Shiloh: Bloody April; Sharpshooter:** Hiram Berdan, his Famous Sharpshooters and their Sharps Rifles; Embrace An Angry Wind – The Confederacy's Last Hurrah: Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville; Mountains Touched with Fire – Chattanooga Besieged, 1863; and Southern Invincibility – A History of the Confederate Heart. He had been nominated once for a Pulitzer Prize.

He had spoken to our Round Table in March, 1996 and May, 2001. Wiley will be missed throughout the Civil War community.

A copy of one of Wiley's books will be in this month's Book raffle as well.

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be on Wednesday December 9, 2015. Remember this date is the SECOND WEDNESDAY. The speaker will be Dr. Lawrence L. Hewitt. His topic will be "Civil War Myths".