

Sumter to Appomattox

The Official Newsletter of the New South Wales Chapter of
The American Civil War Round Table of Australia

No. 3, May 2002

A Message from the Chairman –

The increasing number of family members that are now attending our meetings has led your Executive to extend our annual \$25 membership fee to cover, also, the immediate family of the current member. Such an initiative is considered to be consistent with our attempts to strengthen our membership, will not involve a significant loss in revenue and I trust will be supported by all.

Last month, our Rev David Smith treated us to a most interesting presentation on leadership using the Civil War experiences of a number of leading Confederate generals. We found very early in his presentation that the reference to Hood in the advertised title of his presentation was somewhat of a set-up and that he is an unashamed neo-Confederate and a big fan of Lee. Father Dave quickly moved to categorising various leadership styles amongst Civil War commanders, all Confederates, and identified that to which Hood aspired. His presentation, particularly the added bonus of Bishop “Stonewall” Smith’s memoirs reading and Sandy Gray’s singing, provided a perspective that was somewhat unexpected but most interesting and informative. Well done Father Dave and thank you and your helpers for a great night!

Next month’s presentation is to be given by one of our newer members, David Wilson, a former officer in the Australian Regular Army who now works as a lecturer for the University of Central Queensland (Sydney Campus) in IT. For those who enjoyed the musical interlude at the last meeting, we will have a similar item at our June meeting. Different vocalist, different songs and possibly a Union flavour to some of them.

Finally, I wish to advise members of the Memorial Day Ceremony to be held at Waverley Cemetery on Sunday, May 26, commencing at 1:00pm. This ceremony is held at the gravesite of a number of Civil War veterans and, in previous years, has been attended by a number of our members. This year, I propose to lay a wreath on behalf of the Chapter and hope that we will be well represented.

Paul Kensey

Next Month’s Meeting

For our next scheduled meeting we return to our normal venue at the **Roseville Memorial RSL Club** located on the western side of **Pacific Highway, Roseville**, just south of Roseville railway station.

The meeting will be held on the evening of **Monday, June 3** with the meeting’s proceedings to commence at **7pm**. As has become our custom, members will meet at the Club from 6pm for sandwiches and liquid refreshments.

The presentation planned for this meeting, is to be given by one of our newer members **David Wilson** whose topic will be:

“Tallahassee – The One that Got Away”

Whilst an officer in the Australian Army, David spent two years undertaking a Masters program at Florida State University (Class of ’86) in Tallahassee (the State Capital of Florida) and brings to the presentation much local knowledge acquired during this time.

You may be assured of an interesting, informative and thought provoking presentation that will be followed by a question and answer/comment session.

A written paper for this presentation will be available at the conclusion of the meeting and later, on request. Members living outside the Sydney Metropolitan Area will have the paper mailed to them automatically.

Congratulations to the Smiths...

Father Dave and his wife Angela are celebrating the recent birth of their son **Soren Lee Mordechai Smith**, born on April 20. The naming of their son dispels any doubts as to Father Dave’s Southern allegiances! Our heartiest congratulations are extended to Ange and Dave for this welcome addition to their family.