



THE PHOEBE NEEDLES CENTER

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ROBERT E. LEE: THEN AND NOW

April 10th, 2018



Dr. Holt Merchant, Emeritus will present “Robert E. Lee: Then and Now.” The talk will consist of an account of Lee’s life and career with an emphasis on religion, an aspect of his life that is less known than his military career. His fall in the estimation of Americans who blame him for failing to live up to their contemporary religious and political standards will be considered from the perspective of a professional historian, now retired.

Dr. Merchant is from Manassas, Virginia. He graduated from Washington and Lee University in 1961. Afterward, he served six years in the Army, from 1961 until 1967. He studied American history in graduate school and completed his Ph.D. in 1976. In 1970, he joined the faculty at Washington & Lee Univeristy and taught there until he retired in 2015. Throughout his career as a professor, Merchant taught American history and specialized in the history of the Early Republic, Sectionalism, the Civil War and Reconstruction, the antebellum South and the South since Reconstruction. He served as the Department Chair for ten years and Martial of the University for nine years. In 2012, he published one book, entitled “South Carolina Fire-Eater: The Life of Laurence Massilon Keitt, 1824-1864.” Since his retirement, he has served as president of United Way Rockbridge and worked for the food pantry run by the Rockbridge Area Relief Association (RARA) and the Community Table. He has worked more extensively with Grace Church in Lexington, serving as Vestryman, lay reader and usher, and leading an adult Sunday School, “Christ and Culture.” He also participates in Education for Ministry (EFM), now in its second year.

PLEASE
REMEMBER TO
REGISTER AND
PAY IN
ADVANCE!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A GREAT PROGRAM, FELLOWSHIP, AND LUNCH (AND BRING A FRIEND)!

“ROBERT E. LEE: THEN AND NOW”

April 10th

To register, please complete this form and return it with the registration fee to the Center by April 6th.

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____
(Please include the Rev., Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Daytime Telephone Number _____ Email Address _____

Any special dietary accommodations? _____

Please make your check payable to The Phoebe Needles Center, Inc.

Unless otherwise informed, The Phoebe Needles Center will consider your registration as permission to use your photograph if it appears in video or still photos including our web site unless otherwise requested.

INFORMATION AT A GLANCE...

You are welcome to arrive at 9:30 a.m. for social time and coffee. The program will begin promptly in McCauley Hall at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will follow immediately after the program. Special parking for handicapped and those with difficulty climbing steps can be found behind the McCauley Hall. To make a reservation, please return the form at the bottom of the page or call the office at 540-483-1518. Please make your reservations the Friday before the event. **The fee for non-members is \$18.00 and \$10.00 for members.** The fee includes the program and a lunch. Fee is not refundable after the reservation deadline. Although we will try, we are not able to accommodate all needs relating to diet. Vegetarian entrees are available by request with advance notice. Pets are not permitted. Dress is casual. For more information, contact the Center. All buildings, rooms and porch areas are smoke-free.

As a new option for payment, you may pay in advance using Paypal on our website: www.PhoebeNeedles.org



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RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING THIS MONTH!!