Larry Stephens tells the harrowing true story of a Confederate soldier who apparently went off the rails after sneaking away from his army camp to visit his family, only to discover that both his mother and sister had been killed by Federal soldiers. Gatewood subsequently made it his mission to search for and slaughter anyone he perceived as a Yankee supporter. And the killings were merciless and vicious. John Gatewood didn’t start as a bushwhacker in the region. The son of Pemberton and Nancy Gatewood, one of the largest land owner families in the Wolf River Valley in Tennessee, he joined the Confederate army when he was just a teenager. Having already seen intense action, he returned home for a brief visit home near Fentress County in north, central Tennessee south of the Kentucky border, and soon learned about the loss of his mother and sister.

Larry, a native of Cobb County and author of John P. Gatewood: Confederate Bushwhacker, serves as the assistant librarian at Georgia Highlands College.