

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

*April 9, 2012
Our 134th Meeting*



*Volume 12
Number 4*

Susanna Lee to Speak at April 9 Meeting On Native Americans in the Civil War

Susanna Lee, an assistant professor of history at North Carolina State University, will speak at the Raleigh Civil War Round Table's April 9 meeting.

Susanna received her doctorate degree in history from the University of Virginia. At N.C. State, she teaches courses on the history of the Civil War and Reconstruction, as well as the American South.



Susanna also currently is working on manuscripts for two books: one on citizenship in the post-Civil War South, and the second on civilians who lived in central Virginia during the Civil War.

She also is working in digital history, and served as a project manager of "The Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War" at the Virginia Center for Digital History.

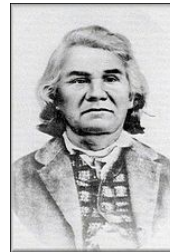


Susanna's presentation at our April 2012 meeting will be on Native Americans during the Civil War.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our own Charles Hawks will be speaking at the Durham Civil War Round Table's April 19 meeting on Confederate Naval Operations (Part I). The group meets at 7 p.m. at the Bennett Place Historical Site.

~ Native American Generals ~

Nearly 29,000 Native Americans fought in the Civil War on both sides.



Watie



Parker

Two of those Native Americans would rise to the rank of Brigadier General.

Cherokee Stand Watie served in the Confederate Army, commanding the First Indian Brigade of the Army of the Trans-Mississippi. He would fight in a number of battles in the western Confederate states and, in June 1865, was the last Confederate general in the field to surrender.

Ely S. Parker, a Seneca Indian, served as an engineer and later an adjutant to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. He helped draft the Appomattox surrender documents.



The Sesquicentennial



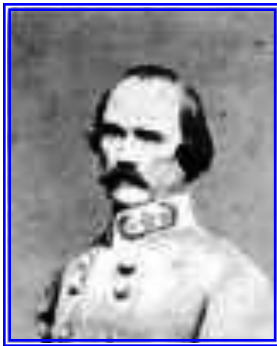
April 1862

A Terrible Toll at Shiloh

On April 6-7, 1862, the bloodiest battle of the Civil War to date was fought in southwestern Tennessee.

Union forces under Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant were camped around Pittsburgh Landing, on the west bank of the Tennessee River, with plans to link up with the Army of the Ohio under Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell.

On April 6, Confederate troops, led by Generals P.G.T. Beauregard and Albert Sidney Johnston, launched a surprise attack on Grant's forces.



Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston

The Confederates pushed the Union defenders back, but suffered the loss of Johnston during their assaults. Buell and other troops arrived during the evening of April 6, and the reinforced Union army launched a massive counterattack the following day.

Union casualties were approximately 1,754 killed, 8,408 wounded, and 2,885 captured or missing. Confederate forces suffered about 1,728 killed, 8,012 wounded, and 959 captured or missing. The bloody battle — 22 percent of the soldiers engaged became casualties — resulted in a Union victory and Federal forces would eventually take control of the Mississippi and cut the Confederacy in two.

Also in April, Fort Pulaski, near Savannah, Ga., would be taken by Union forces, McClellan's army would begin the siege of Yorktown, Va., and the Confederacy would enact its first conscription act.

New Orleans Surrenders!

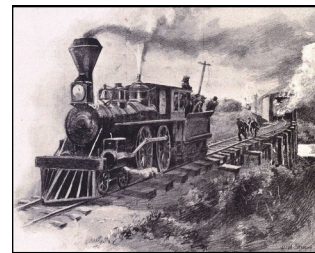
From April 18-28, a Union naval force led by Flag Officer David G. Farragut bombarded and then steamed past Forts Jackson and St. Philip on the Mississippi River.



Union naval forces arrived at New Orleans on April 25 and, after some resistance by armed mobs and defenders, the city surrendered on April 28, closing the mouth of the Mississippi River to Confederate ships.

The Great Locomotive Chase

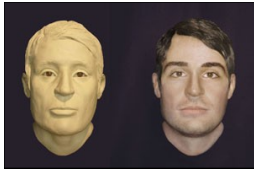
On April 12, Union volunteers led by James J. Andrews, a civilian scout, hijacked a train, the *General*, at Big Shanty, in northern Georgia.



The raiders planned to tear up railroad tracks, burn bridges, and cut telegraph lines before they linked up with federal troops moving toward Chattanooga, Tenn. The daring raid was aimed at preventing Confederates from sending troops to Chattanooga's defense from Atlanta. The raiders were chased by the *General's* conductor and other men and eventually were captured, with some being executed as spies.

Faces of the Monitor Crew

The skeletal remains of two crew members that were found in the turret of the U.S.S. *Monitor* after it was raised now have faces associated with them.



Forensic experts from the University of Louisiana used the men's skulls to recreate their faces in an attempt to identify them, after comparing DNA samples with known descendants of the ironclad's crew failed to provide a match. Both of the men were Caucasian (three African-Americans served on the *Monitor*), with one determined to be between 17 and 24 years of age and the other in his 30s.

Sixteen members of the *Monitor's* crew died when the ironclad sank in a storm on Dec. 31, 1862, off of Cape Hatteras, N.C.

Details on efforts to identify the men are available at <http://monitor.noaa.gov/150th>.

Upcoming Events

April 14: N.C. Maritime Museum in Beaufort hosts a lecture on the siege of Fort Macon. From 3pm - 4 pm. For details, telephone (252) 728-7317 or visit <http://www.ncmaritimemuseums.com/beaufort.html>.

April 17: N.C. Maritime Museum in Southport hosts a free lecture on Civil War ironclads, highlighting the three vessels of the Lower Cape Fear River. 7 pm - 9 pm. (910) 457-0003 or <http://www.ncmaritimemuseums.com>.

April 26: Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras, N.C. presents the unveiling of historical markers for USS *Minnesota* (Atlantic Blockade Squadron flagship) and "Hotel de Afrique" (first safe haven for African American fugitives). 2 p.m. Call (252) 986-2995 or see <http://www.graveyardoftheatlantic.com> for more information.

April 29: N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh presents author/historian James M. McPhearson on failed peace negotiations during the war. Lecture at 2 p.m. \$5 fee. For details, telephone (919) 807-7900 or go to <http://www.ncmuseumofhistory.com>.

May 5: North Carolina State Capitol hosts free living history program and period music. For more information, telephone (919) 733-4994 or go to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/capitol/default.htm>.

Brothers to be Reinterred

The bodies of two brothers who died in 1862, one a Confederate soldier, the other a Civil War hospital worker, were disinterred from an overgrown family cemetery near the RBC center in Raleigh on March 17 for reburial in Oakwood's Confederate section.



Joel and Joseph Holloman, who both died in their 20s, are being moved to make sure their graves are not lost to urban sprawl. They will be honored April 14 with "an authentic Confederate funeral" using flag-draped caskets carried on a horse-drawn period caisson in a solemn march from the N.C. History Museum to Oakwood, accompanied by re-enactors from the Carolina Legion. Members of the RCWRT have been invited to attend the ceremony.

Preservation News

On Feb. 27, the North Carolina Natural Heritage Trust Fund approved a \$355,000 grant to acquire 120 acres that will become part of the Bentonville Battlefield Historic Site in North Carolina.



The Civil War Trust will provide a match to the state funds. The additional property to be purchased, comprised of nine parcels adjacent to previously acquired land, will bring the total number of acres preserved at the site to 1,435!

Additional preservation efforts at Bentonville still are under way. For details on the Trust's effort to save more battlefield land at Bentonville, see <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/bentonville.html>.

News of the RCWRT

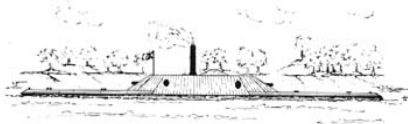


Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

- May:** William Harris, Lincoln and the border states
June: Gerald Prokopowicz, the Chattanooga campaign
July: Blythe Toussaint, the realities of slavery
August: Chris Meekins, Mayor Respass, traitor
September: James Clark, Walt Whitman
October: Josh Howard, new NC casualty estimates
November: Chris Fonvielle, photo history of Ft. Fisher

Kinston/New Bern Trip

The Brunswick Civil War Round Table has invited our members to join them and other groups on a May 26-27 tour of Civil War sites in Kinston and New Bern. The trip will cover the Battle of Kinston and the Battle of Wyse Fork (2nd Battle of Kinston), as well as visits to the CSS Neuse and its replica. Guides will be Horace Mewborn, Lyle Holland, and Lonnie Blizzard. Cost is \$95 for tour and lunch, dinner the 26th; extra for meals on 27th and hotel (reservations must be made by April 27). Contact Mike Powell, vice president of the BCWRT, at (910) 278-3535 or mpowell6@ec.rr.com for details.



The CSS Neuse

Board Meeting

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's Board of Directors met March 15. Among the decisions made were to hold the January 2013 Ed Bearss meeting at Peace University due to uncertainties around the governor's inaugural events downtown, reduced dues for teachers, and an outdoor picnic at the museum in June. An effort to create a new website also was launched.

Two New Members

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table welcomes Ed and Marlene Kearney of Raleigh, members who joined us in December 2011. If you know someone who is interested in the Civil War, please consider bringing them to our next meeting and encourage them to join!



The Knapsack

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RCWRT Score Card

Members	108
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The Raleigh Civil War Round Table was formed on March 12, 2001 and is a 501(c)(3) "tax exempt organization." We meet on the second Monday of most months at 7:00 pm, at the N.C. Museum of History, (5 Edenton St. across from the State Capitol). Members and guests are encouraged to meet for supper at K&W Cafeteria (511 Woodburn Rd, Cameron Village) at 5:15; and for further discussion at The Mellow Mushroom (Glenwood Avenue & Peace Street) immediately after the meeting. Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$15 for students. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20.