

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

*December 14, 2015
Our 178th Meeting*



*Volume 15
Number 12*

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

December 14 Holiday Party at State Capitol To Feature Southern String Band

December features our annual holiday event at the Old State Capitol. Once again, we will enjoy “old time” music as well as the usual hors d’oeuvres, drinks, and desserts.



The evening’s entertainment will be provided by The Southern String Band, made up of a group of 12 friends from Raleigh who enjoy playing old time string band music together.

The band currently comprises of Kurt Eichenberger (harmonica), Becky McElroy (banjo), Anne Miller (fiddle), Vicky Montague (fiddle), Bob Peter (guitar), Charley Nelson (tenor guitar, tenor banjo, mandolin, and bass), Ron Raxter (bass), Wade Smith (fiddle), and Mike Southern (fiddle). They are often joined by Tim and Brenda Currin (fiddle/guitar) and John Crumpler (banjo).

Join us for some holiday music, fun, and fellowship! Please bring a snack, dessert, or beverage to share.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Our annual holiday event will once again be held at the State Capitol building, across the street from our usual meeting place. The event also will begin earlier than usual, at 6:30. Please bring a dish to share!

~ A Great Holiday Gift ~

Have a family member or friend that’s a Civil War buff? Consider getting them a gift of the RCWRT’s documentary on the 1865 events in North Carolina.



DVDs are available at our meetings for donations to the RCWRT that will be used for educational and preservation activities. The film features historians and authors speaking on the events as well as re-enactment footage and period photographs, music, and maps. See the RCWRT’s website (<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>) for more information.



Connecticut

The States During the Civil War



'The Provision State'

Connecticut, one of the original Thirteen Colonies, was the fifth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. "The Provision State" played a relatively small but important role in the Civil War, providing arms, equipment, supplies, and men to the Union cause.

In 1860, Connecticut had a population of 460,147. Of that total, more than 80,000 were foreign-born, the majority of which had come from Ireland. The state was home to prominent weapon and munition companies and was the primary source of buttons and buckles for Federal uniforms. The shipyards at Mystic also provided ships for the U.S. Navy.

More than 50,000 men from Connecticut served in the Union forces and nearly 5,000 of them were killed or died of disease during the Civil War. One of the first officers killed in the war was Maj. Theodore Winthrop of New Haven, fatally shot at Big Bethel, Va., in June 1861.



Pro Patria Monument, Bridgeport, Conn.

1860 Election Results:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	43,486 (53.9%)
Stephen Douglas (Dem)	17,364 (21.5%)
John C. Breckenridge (Dem)	16,558 (20.5%)
John Bell (Union)	3,337 (4.1%)

1864 Election Results:

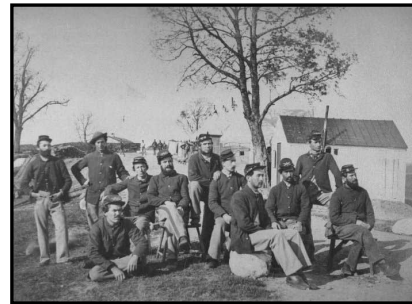
Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	44,693 (51.4%)
George McClellan (Dem)	42,288 (48.6%)

Governor:

Wm. Buckingham (Rep), May 5, 1858–May 2, 1866

The 'Nutmeggers'

Connecticut provided 30 regiments of infantry, two of which were formed with black men, along with a cavalry regiment and five artillery units. Soldiers from the state were nicknamed 'Nutmeggers.'



1st Conn. Heavy Arty Regt

Among the notable units from the state was the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery Regiment (formerly the 4th Conn. Regt. Volunteer Infantry). Companies of the regiment fought in several significant battles in the Eastern Theater including Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Petersburg.

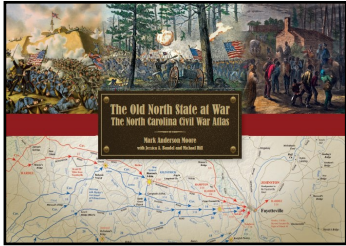
Other Connecticut units of note were the 14th Regt, which played a key role in the Union defense of Cemetery Ridge at Gettysburg, the 19th Regt., which suffered significant casualties in the 1864 Overland Campaign and at Petersburg, and the 9th, which was involved in the capture of New Orleans.

No battles were fought in Connecticut during the Civil War, but the state's hospital at New Haven treated more than 23,000 Union soldiers with only 185 deaths reported.

Notable individuals from Connecticut include Gideon Wells, who served as the Secretary of the Navy from 1861 to 1869 and led the blockade of the Southern ports. Union generals that came from Connecticut included Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Lyon, killed at Wilson's Creek, Mo., Maj. Gen. Joseph K. Mansfield, killed at Antietam, Md., and Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick, killed at Spotsylvania Court House, Va. Another native of the state was Andrew Hull Foote, who led the Western Gunboat Flotilla in the capture of Forts Henry and Donelson and Island No. 10 on the Mississippi River.

North Carolina Atlas

A comprehensive look at the Civil War in North Carolina through dozens of detailed maps is now available through the N.C. office of Archives and History.



Authored by Mark Anderson Moore with Jessica A. Bandel and Michael Hill, *The Old North State at War: The North Carolina Civil War Atlas* also has period photographs and drawings as well as tables and charts to chronologically document the war.

The atlas is available through the archive office's historical publications section online at <http://nc-historical-publications.stores.yahoo.net/4717.html> or by telephone at (919) 733-7442.

Upcoming Events

December 3-31. The Graveyard of Atlantic Museum at Hatteras, N.C., is displaying the silk ensign from the USS *Monticello*, one of only three silk naval flags from the time that are known to exist. The screw steamer was built in 1859 for commercial purposes, but had an impressive Civil War service, including blockading, the participation in the August 1861 capture of Hatteras Inlet, the attacks on Fort Fisher in 1864/65, and the surrender of Fort Caswell in January 1865. Free. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, go to <http://ncmaritimemuseums.com/graveyard-of-the-atlantic> or call (252) 986-2995.

December 12. The Bennett Place historical site in Durham, N.C., offers "Christmas in the Carolinas During the Civil War" a living history event with both soldiers and civilians demonstrating how the holiday was celebrated during the conflict. Free. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Go online to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/bennett.htm> or call (919) 383-4345 for more information.

December 12. The CSS *Neuse* Civil War Interpretive Center in Kinston, N.C., hosts a program on Christmas customs. Regular admission price (\$3-\$5). 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Go online to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/neuse/neuse.htm> or telephone (252) 522-2107 for details.

Meet The Artist!

Ashley's Art Gallery in Fuquay-Varina will be hosting renowned Civil War artist John Paul Strain on Sat., Dec. 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

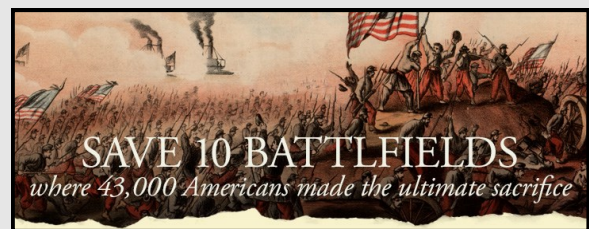


Antietam, Warrenton, Winchester, Gettysburg, and Appomattox are among the historic scenes that are the subject of Strain's paintings. He will be available to autograph prints and embellish recently purchased limited editions at the special event.

For details on the event and the Strain artwork that will be available for purchase at the gallery, go online to <http://ashleyart.com/john-paul-strain> or telephone Rick Mullen, owner, at (919) 552-7533.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust is seeking donations to help save 1,180 acres at ten battlefields in seven states.



The targeted property includes land at Bentonville, N.C., Brandy Station, Va., Cedar Creek, Va., Elkin's Ferry, Ark., Falling Waters, Md., Fort Donelson, Tenn., Glendale, Va., Honey Springs, Okla., Prairie Grove, Ark., and Sand Creek, Colo.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$268,000. Donations are matched at a 10:1 rate!

For details, go to <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/brandystation/10-battlefields-2015>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

January: annual Ed Bearss event
February: Chris Hartley, Stoneman's Raid
March: Wade Sokolosky, Wyse Fork
April: Jim Gaddis, Gen. Richard Gatlin
May: Mary Bandy Daughtry, Rooney Lee
June: Mike Parker, Lee and Jackson's religion
July: Marshall Conyers, Gettysburg poetry
August: Richard McAdoo, CW artillery
September: Susanna Lee, The Sioux uprising
October: Doug Mattox, CSA currency and stamps
November: Fitzhugh Brundage, Frederick Douglass

Have You Renewed?

Annual dues (\$30 individual or family; \$10 for teachers) should have been remitted in September for the next year. If you have not renewed, please either mail your check to:

Griff Bartlett, Treasurer
908 Kinsdale Drive
Raleigh, NC 27615-1117

or, bring your check or cash to the next meeting.

Tax Exempt Donations

As 2015 comes to a close, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the RCWRT or our Gatton Fund. Each year, the Raleigh Civil War Round Table honors an individual who has distinguished themselves through their work or efforts related to the study of the Civil War through its T. Harry Gatton Award. The next award will be presented at our annual event with Ed Bearss in January. Get a DVD on the 1865 events in North Carolina for donations of \$10 or more!

New Members!

The RCWRT would like to welcome our newest member, Gerry Prokopowicz (Greenville, N.C.). If you know someone with an interest in the Civil War, bring them to a meeting and encourage them to join!



The Knapsack

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RCWRT Score Card

Members 165

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 (located at 5 Edenton Street, across from the State Capitol). Members and guests are encouraged to meet for supper at K&W Cafeteria, 511 Woodburn Rd., in Cameron Village before the meeting, at 5:15 pm.

Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$10 for teachers. Students are free. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20.