

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table
The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

January 6, 2018
Our 203rd Meeting



Volume 18
Number 1

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

January 6 Event Features Ed Bearss Speaking on Battlefield Medicine

Edwin C. Bearss is one of the most respected Civil War scholars alive today and is considered by many to be a national treasure.



Ed served as Chief Historian of the National Park Service and was featured in Ken Burns' PBS series, *The Civil War*, as well as Arts & Entertainment Channel's *Civil War Journal*.

He is an award-winning author, having written or edited more than 20 books in addition to

more than 100 articles. Among his many works are *The Battle at Wilson's Creek*, *Forrest at Brice's Cross Roads*, *Hardluck Ironclad*, and *The Vicksburg Campaign*. Ed also provides the overview in the RCWRT's documentary film on the 1865 events in North Carolina.

In 1983, Ed received the Department of Interior's Distinguished Service Award, its highest honor. Ed also was the first recipient of Civil War Preservation Trust's most prestigious national award, which is now named after him. In November 2005, he was identified in Smithsonian Magazine's cover story, "35 who made a difference."

In 2008, the RCWRT awarded Ed our first T. Harry Gattton Award for "his tireless efforts in support of the preservation of countless Civil War battlefields and the memory of those who fought and died on them."

Ed served in the Pacific theater with the Marine Corps during World War II, and was severely wounded by machine-gun fire. At our January 2018 event, he will speak on battlefield medicine.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Our annual event with Ed Bearss will be held jointly with the NCCWRT at the NC Museum of History in downtown Raleigh.

The event is \$10 per person and will be held on a Saturday at 1 p.m., with doors opening half an hour earlier for socializing.

~ Civil War Medicine ~

Both North and South were medically unprepared for the battle casualties and exposure to elements and disease that their soldiers would face. Twice as many soldiers would die of disease during the Civil War than in combat.



However, many medical and surgical advances would take place during the war, including the safe use of anesthetics, the creation of specialty and large general hospitals, the first plastic surgery, the development of an ambulance system, and certain new disease prevention and surgical techniques.



Wisconsin

The States During the Civil War



The 'Badger State'

Wisconsin entered the Union in 1848, the 30th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. Its nickname of the "Badger State" stemmed from the tunneling of the lead miners working there.

In 1860, Wisconsin had a population of 775,881. The state was an important source of food for the Union cause, and was known during the mid-1860s as the nation's "breadbasket" because of its wheat crops.

Wisconsin was the only state to organize replacements for troops that already had been fielded, and its units primarily served in the Western Theater.



Wisconsin Monument, Vicksburg

1860 Election Results for Wisconsin:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	86,113 (56.6%)
Stephen Douglas (Dem)	65,021 (42.7%)
John Breckenridge (Dem)	888 (0.6%)
John Bell (Union)	161 (0.1%)

1864 Election Results for Wisconsin:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	83,458 (55.9%)
George McClellan (Dem)	65,884 (44.1%)

Wisconsin's Civil War Governors:

Alexander W. Randall (Rep)	Jan. 4, 1858 – Jan. 6, 1862
Louis P. Harvey (Rep)	Jan. 6, 1862 – April 19, 1862
Edward Salomon (Rep)	April 19, 1862 – Jan. 4, 1864
James T. Lewis (Rep)	Jan. 4, 1864 – Jan. 1, 1866

'Black Hats'

More than 91,000 men from Wisconsin served in the Union army during the Civil War. The Badger State provided 53 infantry regiments, 4 cavalry regiments, 13 light artillery batteries, one heavy artillery unit, and a company of sharpshooters to the Union cause.

More than 12,000 men from Wisconsin died during the Civil War. Of the total, 3,802 were killed in action or died of wounds and 8,499 perished from disease, exposure, and other causes.



2nd Wisconsin

Among the notable units from the state were the "Black Hats" of the famed Iron Brigade. That unit, which included the 2nd, 6th, and 7th Wisconsin Regiments, fought in many of the significant battles of the Civil war, including Bull Run, Antietam, and Gettysburg. The brigade's nickname of Black Hats came from their use of 1858 Hardee hats rather than the blue kepis worn by most other units. The Iron Brigade moniker came from the unit's courage under fire. The 2nd Wisconsin suffered a 77 percent casualty rate at Gettysburg.

Another hard-fighting regiment, the 8th Wisconsin, was often accompanied into battle by Old Abe, a bald eagle. Among the other Badger State units of note was the 36th Wisconsin, which lost 69 percent of its men in fighting at Bethesda Church, Va., in May 1864, and the 2nd Wisconsin Cavalry, which fought valiantly in several western battles including Vicksburg.

Among the individuals of note from Wisconsin were Brig. Gen. Oscar Hugh La Grange, and Cordelia Harvey, a nurse and humanitarian.

Ed Bearss' 2018 Carolinas Campaign



Once again, Ed is touring North Carolina giving talks around the state. Below are dates of his events and planned topics for his 2018 campaign:

Weds., Jan. 3, Southport. Reflections

Thurs., Jan. 4, Pinehurst. The Trent Affair

Fri., Jan. 5, Tarboro. Chickamauga

Sat., Jan. 6, Raleigh. Battlefield Medicine

Sun., Jan. 7, New Bern. Civil War Wounds



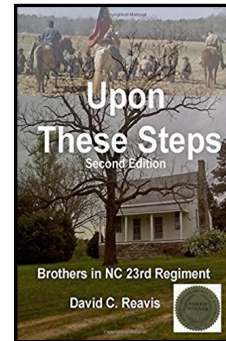
Upcoming Events

January 14. Fort Fisher Historical Site in Kure Beach, N.C., commemorates the 153rd anniversary of the second battle at the fort. Living history event includes Keith Holland speaking on the *Maple Leaf* and Keith Hardison on Jefferson Davis. Cannon fire and re-enactors as well as period music. Free. 9 a.m. to 4. p.m. For more information on the event, go online to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/fisher> or telephone (910) 251-7340.

February 3. Longwood University in Farmville, Va., holds its annual Civil War seminar. Free event includes talks by Gary W. Gallagher on Robert E. Lee, Ralph Peters on Civil War leadership, Ed Bearss on Appomattox, Judith Giesberg on sex in the Civil War, and John W. Mountcastle on the women's war. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. See <http://www.longwood.edu> or call Patrick Schroeder at (434) 352-8987, ext. 232 or David Coles at (434) 395-2220 for details.

'Upon These Steps'

A new version of *Upon These Steps*, a book about the experiences of two brothers in the 23rd North Carolina is now available.

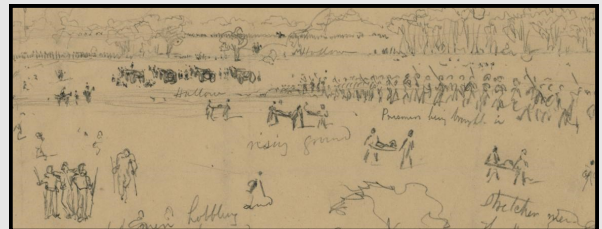


Authored by David C. Reavis, the award-winning work is based on actual characters and events, and follows the boys from the First Battle of Bull Run to the occupation of Raleigh by Union forces under Gen. William T. Sherman. A look at the home life of their Southern family also is provided.

Upon These Steps was originally released in 2012, but a second edition that includes new stories and photographs was released in August 2017. The first edition of the book received the 2013 NC Society of Historians Award for Historical Fiction.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust is seeking to preserve key ground at Cold Harbor in Virginia.



The targeted property includes 55 acres at five tracts associated with fighting on June 1 and June 3, 1864, just outside of the Confederate capital of Richmond.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$1.67 million. Donations are matched at a 3:1 rate!

For details, go to <https://www.civilwar.org/give/save-battlefields/save-cold-harbor>.

News of the RCWRT

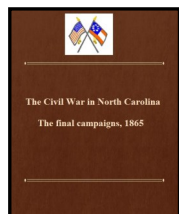


Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

February: Dave Schultz, Gettysburg's 2nd day
March: Frank Ragsdale, the war's impact on Raleigh
April: Gene Schmiel, Union Gen. Jacob D. Cox
May: Scott Mauger, Maj. John Pelham, CSA
June: William H. Brown, NC in Army of Tennessee
July: Michael Hardy, the Branch-Lane Brigade
August: Angela Robbins, NC women post-war
September: Chris Fonvielle, Gen. Braxton Bragg
October: Wade Sokolosky, Confederate hospitals
November: Keith Hardison, first person CS soldier

Documentary Film

In case you missed it, the Raleigh Civil War Round Table is offering a documentary film covering the end of the Civil War in North Carolina.



The film features historians and authors speaking on the major events of 1865 including:

- Ed Bearss (Overview/Monroe's Crossroads)
- Chris Fonvielle (Fort Fisher/Fort Anderson/Wilmington)
- David Waller (Wyse Fork)
- Andrew Duppstadt (CSS Neuse)
- Wade Sokolosky (Averasboro)
- Mark Bradley (Bentonville)
- Chris Hartley (Stoneman's Raid)
- Ernest Dollar (Raleigh/Morrisville)
- Bob Farrell (Logan)
- John Guss (Bennett Place)

The experts were all filmed at the applicable historical sites and re-enactment footage from the sesquicentennial events at Fort Fisher, Fort Anderson, and Bentonville is included.

Music by the Liberty Hall Drum & Fife Corps and the 26th North Carolina Field Music/Carolina Fifes and Drums, artwork by Stephen McCall, Martin Pate, and Darrell Combs, and maps by Mark A. Moore and Hal Jespersen are also in the documentary.

DVD's are available at our monthly meetings for donations of \$10 or more and proceeds will go toward preservation or educational activities. Checks should be made out to the Raleigh CWRT. See <http://www.raleighcwrt.org> for details.



The Knapsack

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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 6:30 pm, at the N.C. Museum of History (located at 5 Edenton Street, across from the State Capitol). The programs begin at 7:00 p.m.

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.