

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

November 9, 2015
Our 177th Meeting

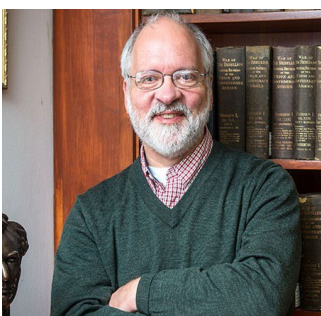


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Gerald Prokopowicz to Speak November 9 On Command and Control in the Civil War

Historian and author Dr. Gerald J. Prokopowicz will speak at the Raleigh Civil War Round Table's Nov. 9 meeting on "Command and Control in the Civil War."



Gerry is a native of Detroit and grew up in Highland Park, Michigan. He was a history buff at an early age and a history major at the University of Michigan prior to attending the university's law school. He practiced law for several years in Chicago before earning his

Ph.D. in history from Harvard University, where he was introduced to Abraham Lincoln studies by famed historian and Pulitzer-winning biographer, David Herbert Donald.

In 1993, he became the Lincoln Scholar and director of public programs at the Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana. While there, he helped to create the award-winning exhibit, "Abraham Lincoln and the American Experiment." In 2003, Gerry joined the history department at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C., where he teaches Civil War and public history.

Among the publications that Gerry has authored are *All for the Regiment: The Army of the Ohio, 1861-1862* (2001) and, most recently, *Did Lincoln Own Slaves? and Other Frequently Asked Questions about Abraham Lincoln* (2008). He serves as a member of the advisory board to the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois.

Gerry also hosts the long-running "Civil War Talk Radio" podcast at <http://www.voiceamerica.com/show/2205/civil-war-talk-radio>. His presentation to the RCWRT at our November 2015 meeting will be on "Command and Control in the Civil War."

~o~

~ Command and Control ~

The regiment was the primary fighting unit of both the Union and Confederate armies.



A regiment was usually composed of men from the same region of a state and, when first formed, comprised of about 1,000 officers and enlisted men, with a colonel in command. Between two and six regiments made up a Civil War brigade and a division contained between three and five brigades, commanded by a major general. Between two and four divisions made up an army corps.



Georgia

The States During the Civil War



'The Peach State'

Georgia, one of the original Thirteen Colonies, was the fourth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. It was the fifth Southern state to secede, doing so on Jan. 19, 1861. Georgia was the last Confederate state to re-enter the Union, being re-admitted on June 15, 1870.

In 1860, Georgia had a population of 1,082,757. Of that total, 462,230 were slaves. Although it wasn't until after the Civil War that it was nicknamed the "Peach State," its agricultural output was critical to the Confederacy. The state also was an important industrial and transportation center in the South.

An estimated 120,000 men from Georgia served in the Confederate forces and about 18,200 of them died during the Civil War. Several hundred white and about 3,500 black men from the state also served in the Union cause. Some argue that the Civil War's outcome was decided in Georgia with the fall of Atlanta in September 1864 and Lincoln's subsequent re-election.



Georgia Monument, Chickamauga

1860 Election Results:

John Breckenridge (Dem)	52,176 (48.9%)
John Bell (Union)	42,960 (40.3%)
Stephen Douglas (Dem)	11,581 (10.9%)

Secession Vote (delegates):

For	208 (70.0%)
Against	89 (30.0%)

Governor:

Joseph Brown (Dem), Nov. 6, 1857– June 17, 1865

The 'Pound Cake Regiment'

Georgia provided some 70 regiments of infantry and several other units to the Confederate cause, along with a few dozen cavalry and artillery units, with most serving in the Eastern Theater of the war.



Co. A, 5th Georgia (Clinch Rifles)

Among the notable units from the state was the 5th Georgia Volunteers, which was known as the "Pound Cake Regiment" because no two companies were dressed alike. The regiment lost 37 percent of its men at Murfreesboro, Tenn., and suffered 61 percent casualties at Chickamauga.

Other Georgia regiments of note include the 21st, which lost 76 percent of its unit at the Second Battle of Manassas and the 44th Georgia, which had a 65.1 percent casualty rate at Mechanicsville. Cobb's Legion was an integrated command that initially had seven infantry companies, four cavalry companies and an artillery battery, all from the Peach State.

More than 500 battles and skirmishes were fought in Georgia during the Civil War, most of which were during the final two years of the conflict. The first significant battle in the state was Chickamauga in September 1863, the last major Confederate victory in the Western Theater of the War. Georgia saw a series of major battles during 1864, when Union forces under William T. Sherman invaded the state and captured Atlanta and then Savannah, bringing "hard war" to its citizens. Georgia also was home to the infamous prisoner of war camp, Andersonville.

Notable individuals from Georgia include Alexander Stephens, Vice President of the Confederacy, and Confederate generals James Longstreet, John B. Gordon, William Hardee, and Robert Toombs.

Was He There?

The Appomattox Court House National Historic Park is looking for soldiers who were there in 1865 to display on the Visitor Center wall.



If you had an ancestor who was at Appomattox, you can submit to the park a period photograph of him in uniform, 5x7, black and white. Provide the soldier's name, rank, and unit affiliation and proof that he was at Appomattox in April 1865 through a parole document or military service record.

Send the photograph and supporting documentation to: Appomattox Court House National Historic Park, Attention: Curator, Highway 24, P.O. Box 218, Appomattox, VA 24522.

Upcoming Events

November 7-8: Fort Branch near Hamilton, N.C., holds its 29th annual battle re-enactment. Ladies fashion show, period music, night fire of artillery, period dance. Modest parking fee. Event opens 9 a.m. both days. See http://fortbranchcivilwar.com/event_schedules.aspx or telephone (252) 792-6605.

December 5. Bentonville Battlefield historical site in Four Oaks, N.C., presents "A Civil War Christmas." Living history event including talks about how common soldiers spent their time on furlough with friends and family. Cider, cookies, and period music provided. Free. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details, go to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi/bentonvi.htm> or call (910) 594-0789.

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.

Capturing a Tragedy

A unique painting of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, long in storage is being restored and will be exhibited at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C.



Carl Bersch painted "Lincoln Borne by Loving Hands" in 1865. The painting, thought to be the only image of the assassination made by an eyewitness, shows the mortally wounded president being carried across 10th Street, N.W., into the boarding house where he died, and the shock of the soldiers and civilians as they learned of the tragedy.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust is seeking donations to help save 86 acres of land at two sites in Virginia where four battles were fought.



The land targeted for preservation is 73 acres at Kernstown, Va., and 13 acres at the heart of the Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor, Va., battlefields, both sites of heavy fighting in 1862 and 1864.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$177,475. Donations are matched at a 10:12:1 rate!

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

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

- December:** Holiday Party at State Capitol
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

Gatton Award Nominations Sought

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 person may be an author, scholar, artist, speaker, or anyone whom the RCWRT's Board of Directors believes should receive this honor.

Prior winners are: Ed Bearss (2008), Nora Brooks (2009), Charles Hawks (2010), Mark Bradley (2011), Leslie Rivers (2012), David Waller (2013), Tom Kearney (2014), and Philip Gerard (2015). Members wishing to nominate someone for this honor should send the name of their nominee and why they believe that person should be considered to President Ted Kunstling, 500 Spring Valley Dr., Raleigh NC 27609 or via email to trkunstling@aol.com. Nominations are due Nov. 30. The Gatton Award will be presented at our Ed Bearss event in January 2016.

Volunteers Wanted!

Recently appointed Program Chair David Waller is seeking members to assist him in scheduling and working with speakers. If you are interested, call him at (919) 602-8152 or email him at djcwaller@earthlink.net.

Four New Members!

The RCWRT welcomes our newest members, Tom Hay (St. Pauls), Jeff Schmitt (Apex), Mike Chappell (Wake Forest), and Joseph Glatthaar (Chapel Hill). 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 156

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.