

# ***The Knapsack***

***Raleigh Civil War Round Table***

***The same rain falls on both friend and foe.***

***October 8, 2012  
Our 140th Meeting***



***Volume 12  
Number 10***

## **Josh Howard to Speak at October 8 Meeting On North Carolina's Soldiers and Casualties**

Josh Howard, a researcher with the North Carolina Office of Archives and History, is the speaker at the Raleigh Civil War Round Table's October 2012 meeting.

Josh earned his bachelor's degree in history from Appalachian State University and a master's degree in maritime history from East Carolina University.



Josh has co-authored two books about the American Revolution: *"Fortitude and Forbearance: The North Carolina Continental Line in the American Revolution, 1775-1783"* and *Long, Obstinate, and Bloody: The Battle of Guilford Courthouse*, and the latter work was awarded the 2010 Army Historical Foundation's Distinguished Writing Award.

Josh has co-edited the forthcoming North Carolina Civil War Atlas, a sesquicentennial commemoration project, and is analyzing the number of casualties suffered by Tar Heel soldiers. His research indicates the number of deaths, traditionally said to be about 40,000, to be more likely between 33,000 and 35,000 (see *The Knapsack*, Vm. 10, No. 10, p. 2).

At the Round Table's October meeting, Josh will discuss his investigations into casualties suffered by North Carolinians and present personal stories he has uncovered in his research.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE!**

Due to the state's observance of the Veterans Day holiday, our November meeting will be held a week later than usual. The meeting will be held on Monday, November 19. As always, visitors and guests are welcome!

### **~ North Carolina's Contribution ~**

North Carolina was one of the last Confederate states to secede from the Union. Despite its initial reluctance to leave the United States, the Tar Heel State provided the most troops to the Confederate cause, a total estimated at about 125,000.



**Gettysburg Monument**

North Carolina troops participated in most of the major battles of the war, engaged from Big Bethel to Appomattox. The state also suffered the greatest number of Confederate casualties during the Civil War, with deaths estimated to exceed 31,000.



# The Sesquicentennial



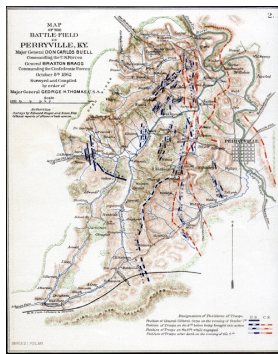
October 1862

## A Big Fight In Kentucky!

On Oct. 8, the largest battle fought in the state of Kentucky took place near Perryville. Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg had invaded the state and reached the outskirts of Louisville and Cincinnati, Ohio, but had been forced to withdraw and regroup.

At the Battle of Perryville, also known as the Battle of Chaplin Hills, about 16,000 Confederates under Bragg would clash with more than 20,000 Union troops led by Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell.

Fighting would begin around Peters Hill and, at noon, a Confederate division would hit the Union left flank, forcing it to fall back.



The Battle of Perryville

More Confederate divisions would join the assault, which would be met by a Union counterattack. The Federal troops would push the Confederates into the streets of Perryville, where skirmishing would continue until dark.

The Battle of Perryville resulted in a strategic Union victory, as Bragg would withdraw and Kentucky would remain in Federal control for the remainder of the war. About 4,220 Union soldiers would be killed, wounded, or captured, and Confederate casualties would number 3,401.

Also in October 1862, the Battle of Corinth, Miss., would end with a Confederate withdrawal from that important road and rail center.

## Black Unit Sees Combat

For the first time during the Civil War, on Oct. 29, an African-American unit saw combat. The 1st Kansas Colored Volunteers was primarily comprised of black fugitives from Arkansas and Missouri and had been mustered into service the previous August.



Battle of Island Mound

About 225 men from the 1st Kansas Colored were sent to break up a band of bushwackers over the border in Missouri. The unit clashed with some 350 Confederate guerrillas and Missouri State Guard recruits in the Battle of Island Mound. The regiment would be redesignated as the 79th U.S. Colored Troops in December 1864.

## Massacre at Palmyra

On Oct. 18, ten Confederate prisoners of war were executed in Palmyra, Missouri. The killings were carried out in response to the abduction of Andrew Allsman, a local Union supporter.



Firing Squad at Palmyra, Mo.

Allsman had been taken prisoner by Col. Joseph C. Porter after a raid that captured Palmyra in September. Porter had set Allsman free, but the Union sympathizer was never seen again and was presumed to have been murdered. Union Col. John McNeil executed 10 prisoners after his demand that Allsman be turned over was not met. None of those killed were connected with Allsman's disappearance.

## Fort Fisher Cannon in Raleigh

On Sept. 18, the North Carolina Museum of History unveiled a symbol of our state's history that will be displayed near its entrance.



The relic is a cannon that was used by Confederate forces at Fort Fisher to protect commerce vessels from the Union Navy. The rifled 4-inch, 18-pounder cannon was manufactured in England in 1862.

Known as a Blakely cannon, the gun was taken by Union forces in August 1863 after it's battery was overrun while defending the *Hebe*, a Confederate blockade runner. The cannon later was sent to Washington, D.C., as a trophy, where it sat in a U.S. Navy shipyard for decades.

## Upcoming Events

**Oct. 7:** The N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh will host David Sachsmann, a communications professor with the University of Tennessee, who will give a presentation on "The Civil War in Fiction and Film." Free. 2 p.m. Call (919) 807-7943 or visit <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org>.

**Oct 20:** Bentonville Battlefield near Four Oaks, N.C., will provide a free living history program centered on the home front and 19th century entertainment. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details, telephone (910) 594-0789 or visit <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi/bentonvi.htm>.

**Oct. 25:** Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh will host Bland Simpson, author of *Two Captains from Carolina: Moses Grandy, John Newland Maffitt, and the Coming of the Civil War*. Free. 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (919) 828-1588 or see <http://www.quailridgebooks.com/event/bland-simpson-two-captains-carolina>.

**Nov. 3-4:** Fort Branch, near Hamilton, N.C. will hold its 26th annual reenactment of a battle at the earthen fort. For more, go to <http://www.fortbranchcivilwar.com>.

**Nov. 4:** The N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh will host James Robertson Jr., famous author and historian, who will present "The Untold Civil War: Exploring the Human Side of War." \$8 in advance, \$10 at door. 2 p.m. Call (919) 807-7835 or visit <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org>.

## Gettysburg's Electric Map

The iconic electric map that used lights to depict the battle of Gettysburg recently was sold for \$14,000.

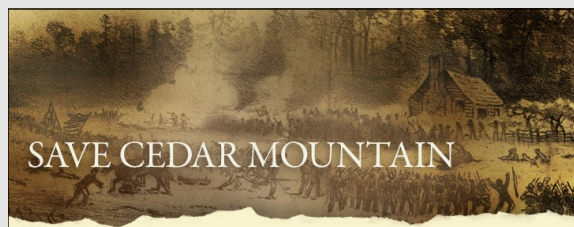


Joseph Rosensteel, a local whose family founded the battlefield's original museum, created the map. The electric map, built in 1963, helped millions of visitors to understand the pivotal battle through the use of some 625 blinking lights. It measured 30 square feet, weighed 12 tons, and was built at a scale of approximately three feet per actual mile.

When the Gettysburg National Military Park opened a new visitor's center in 2008, the old map became obsolete. Information on the buyer and any plans for the map's display have not yet been released.

## Preservation News

The Civil War Trust seeks to preserve 10 important acres at the Cedar Mountain battlefield in Virginia.



On Aug. 9, 1862, about 22,000 Confederate troops under Maj. Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson came close to being defeated by approximately 12,000 Union soldiers under Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks. The targeted property includes Crittenden's Gate, where Jackson came close to being killed or captured.

The Civil War Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$24,000. Donations are matched 5 to 1.

For details on this preservation effort, visit <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/cedarmountain/cedarmountain-2012>.

# News of the RCWRT



## Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

**November:** Chris Fonvielle, photo history of Ft. Fisher

**December:** Christmas party at State Capitol

**January:** Annual event with Ed Bearss

**February:** LeRae Umfleet, Wilmington race riots

**March:** Ernie Dollar, PTSD and war's end in NC

## 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, historian, 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), and Leslie Rivers (2012). Members wishing to nominate someone for this honor should send the name and an explanation of 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](mailto:trkunstling@aol.com). Award nominations are due by Nov. 30. The Gatton Award will be presented at our Ed Bearss event in January 2013.

## Have You Renewed?

Annual dues (\$30, individual or family; \$15, students) should have been remitted in September for the next year. If you have not renewed, please either mail your check to:

David June, Treasurer  
3912 White Chapel Way  
Raleigh, NC 27615

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

## Two New Members

The RCWRT welcomes our two newest members, Wayne Shore and George McKellar, both of Raleigh. If you know someone with an interest in the Civil War, please bring them to a meeting and encourage them to join!



## The Knapsack

*is the official newsletter of the RCWRT and is published on Wednesday before each meeting.*

*(October 2012 Circulation: 247)*

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### RCWRT Score Card

Members	115
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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.