

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

October 12, 2015
Our 176th Meeting



Volume 15
Number 10

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

‘Lee’s Army and the Dwindling Margin for Error’ Topic of Joseph Glatthaar’s October 12 Talk

Historian and author Dr. Joseph T. Glatthaar will speak at the Raleigh Civil War Round Table’s Oct. 12 meeting on Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia.



Joe is a Stephenson Distinguished Professor at UNC Chapel Hill and teaches courses in the American Civil War and American military history on the undergraduate and graduate levels. He also has taught at the United States Army Command and General Staff College, the U.S.

Army War College, and the U.S. Military Academy. He earned his bachelor’s degree at Ohio Wesleyan University, his master’s at Rice University, and his PhD at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

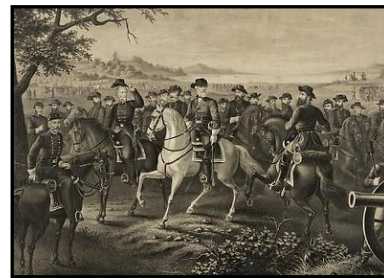
Joe has written many books and articles, including *The March to the Sea and Beyond*, *Sherman’s Troops in the Savannah and Carolinas Campaigns* (1985), *Forged in Battle: The Civil War Alliance of Black Soldiers and Their White Officers* (1989), *Partners in Command: Relationships Between Leaders in the Civil War* (1994), *General Lee’s Army: From Victory To Defeat* (2008), and *Soldiering in the Army of Northern Virginia: A Portrait of the Troops Who Served under Robert E. Lee* (2011).

Joe also is past President of the Society for Military History and recipient of the Samuel Eliot Morrison Award for lifetime achievement in military history. His talk to the RCWRT’s October 2015 meeting will be titled “Lee’s Army and the Dwindling Margin for Error.”

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~ The Army of Northern Virginia ~

The Army of Northern Virginia was the principal fighting force of the Confederates in the Eastern Theater of the Civil War.



Previously led by Gens. P.G.T. Beauregard, Joseph E. Johnston and G.W. Smith, Robert E. Lee became its commander in June 1862. The ANV won victories at Fredericksburg, Second Manassas, Chancellorsville, and Cold Harbor and resisted larger Union forces for years before its surrender at Appomattox in April 1865.



New Jersey

The States During the Civil War



'The Garden State'

New Jersey, one of the original Thirteen Colonies, was the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. It was the only free state in which Abraham Lincoln did not get a majority of the popular vote in both the 1860 and 1864 elections.

In 1860, New Jersey had a population of 672,035. Although it was later nicknamed the "Garden State," it had already begun to shift away from its economic base of agriculture and become more industrial, with its textile mills and other manufacturing facilities supported by immigrant labor that entered through the nearby port at New York City.

More than 88,000 men from New Jersey served in the Union forces and approximately 6,200 of them died during the Civil War, with more than 2,500 of those having been killed in combat. About 2,900 black soldiers and sailors from the state also served in the Union cause. Twenty-six soldiers, six sailors, and two marines were awarded medals of honor.



14th NJ Monument, Monocacy, Md

1860 Election Results:

Stephen Douglas (Dem)	62,869 (51.9%)
Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	58,346 (48.1%)

1864 Election Results:

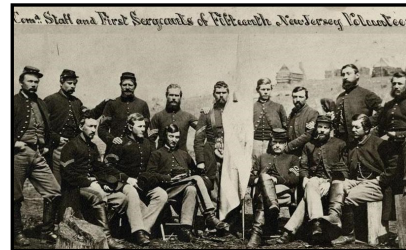
George McClellan (Dem)	68,024 (52.8%)
Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	60,723 (47.2%)

Governors:

Charles Olden (Rep),	Jan. 17, 1860– Jan. 20, 1863
Joel Parker (Dem),	Jan. 20, 1863– Jan. 16, 1866

'Jersey Muskrats'

New Jersey provided 33 regiments of infantry, three cavalry regiments and five batteries of artillery to the Union cause, along with militia units and some 8,000 sailors and marines. Most of the soldiers from the state fought in the Eastern Theater of the war.



NCOs of the 15th New Jersey

Among the notable units from the state was the 9th New Jersey, which became known as the "Jersey Muskrats" after they slogged through water to flank the enemy during the Battle of Roanoke Island in February 1862. Although it was the last of the initial regiments to leave the state in 1861, it was the first to see battle.

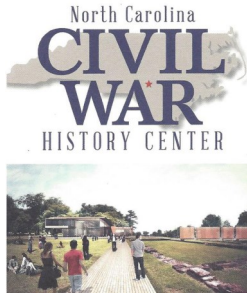
Other New Jersey regiments of note include the 15th, which suffered 62.9 percent casualties at the battle of Spotsylvania and the 11th, which had 55.6 percent of its ranks killed, wounded, or missing at Gettysburg. The 12th New Jersey suffered a high number of casualties at Chancellorsville before it was engaged at Gettysburg. The 14th regiment was prominent in the fight to defend Washington, D.C., at the July 1864 Battle of Monocacy.

No battles were fought in New Jersey during the Civil War. However, a New Jersey man drew the first shots of the war. Captain John McGowan of the *Star of the West* had been tasked with resupplying Fort Sumter by President James Buchanan.

Other notable individuals from New Jersey were Maj. Gens. Judson Kilpatrick, Philip Kearney, and David Hunter and Brig. Gens. William Birney, George Bayard, Charles Harker, Gershom Mott, George W. Taylor, and Alfred Torbert, as well as the U.S. Ambassador to France William Dayton, William Still, abolitionist, and Cornelia Hancock, a volunteer who nursed Union soldiers.

Tell Your Story

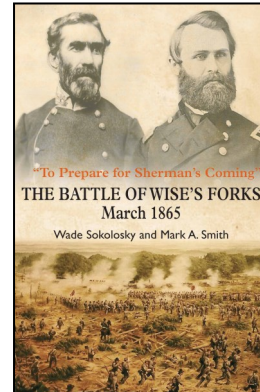
The North Carolina Civil War History Center in Fayetteville, N.C., is collecting family memories, legends, and stories about the war and its aftermath. The center aims to collect 10,000 stories—or 100 from each of North Carolina's counties—as part of its project.



Stories covering Confederate and Union Soldiers, free and enslaved blacks, civilians and Native Americans are all being sought. For details on how to submit your story for the historical project, go online to www.nccivilwarcenter.org/share-a-story or call (910) 491-0602.

Wise's Fork Book Available!

A new book co-authored by the RCWRT's own Wade Sokolosky details the March 1865 battle at Wise's (Wyse) Fork, near Kinston, N.C.



Sokolosky and his co-author Mark Smith, both retired army officers, take a close look at this significant but often overlooked fight in eastern North Carolina. *To Prepare for Sherman's Coming: The Battle of Wise's Forks, March 1865* is available at most book stores and Amazon.com.

Upcoming Events

October 10-11. Bennett Place historical site in Durham, N.C., presents "Reunion & Remembrance," a living history event honoring soldiers from both sides of the conflict. See <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/bennett.htm> or telephone (919) 383-4345 for more.

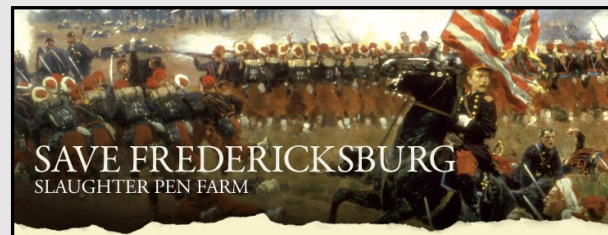
October 17: The CSS *Neuse* Civil War Interpretive Center in Kinston, N.C., holds a program on shipbuilding techniques during the Civil War. Free. For details, go to <http://nchistoricsites.org/neuse/neuse.htm> or call (252) 522-2107.

October 20: The North Carolina Maritime Museum in Southport, N.C., presents a lecture titled "The Wilmington Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1862." 7 p.m. Free. For more, see <http://ncmaritimemuseums.com/southport> or phone (910) 457-0003.

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.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust is seeking donations to meet its commitment to save 208 acres of land on the Slaughter Pen Farm at Fredericksburg, Va.



At stake is critical ground in the Dec. 13, 1862 fight over which Union forces assaulted the southern end of the Confederate line at Prospect Hill. The Federal attackers suffered about 5,000 casualties during the assaults and Union soldiers earned five Medals of Honor. The trust reached a \$12 million deal in June 2006 to secure the property, but needs continuing annual donations to meet its obligations under the 20-year agreement.

For details, go to <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/fredericksburg/fredericksburg-2010>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

November: Gerald Prokopowicz, command & control

December: Holiday Party at State Capitol

January: annual Ed Bearss event

In Memoriam



The Raleigh Civil War Round Table mourns the loss of its program chair, Kevin Milus, who died of cancer on Sept. 28. Kevin joined the RCWRT in 2005, and served as the group's president from September 2008 until September 2010. A huge Penn State fan, he will be buried in Pennsylvania, in accordance with his wishes. A memorial service is planned for Raleigh in the upcoming weeks.

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.

Six New Members!

The RCWRT welcomes our newest members, Sherman Criner, Stuart Phoenix, and Duke Jones, all of Raleigh, as well as Rex Hovey (Mint Hill), Tim Stevens (Garner), and Ed Halloran (Chapel Hill). If you know someone with an interest in the Civil War, bring them to a meeting and encourage them to join!



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RCWRT Score Card

Members 150

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.