

# The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

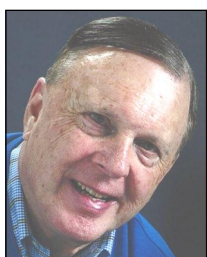
February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Our 264<sup>th</sup> Issue



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## February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Meeting Features Michael Briggs Speaking on the Topic *Guilford County-Made Confederate Rifles*



**Michael Briggs**

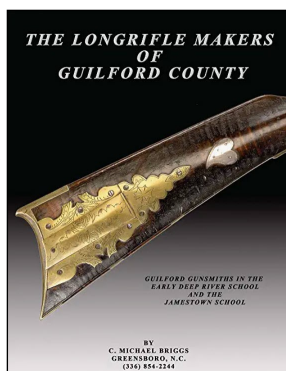
The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in person/simultaneous Zoom meeting will feature Michael Briggs speaking on the topic *Guilford County-Made Confederate Rifles*.

The meeting will be held at the NC Museum of History's Daniels Auditorium. Entrance is available from Edenton St., across from the State Capitol building. The wearing of a mask is optional.

Please join us at 6:30 p.m. EST for refreshments. The program starts at 7:00 p.m. This event will also be live-streamed on Zoom for those unable to attend in person. A video recording will be made available on <http://www.raleighcwrt.org>, our Raleigh Civil War Round Table website, following the event.

You should have already received an emailed invitation, including instructions and a link for joining online if you are unable to attend in person. Please send an email request to [RaleighCWRT@Yahoo.com](mailto:RaleighCWRT@Yahoo.com) if you have not yet received an invitation.

Michael's topic, *Guilford County-Made Confederate Rifles*, is based on his book *The Longrifle Makers of Guilford County: Guilford Gunsmiths in the Early Deep River School and the Jamestown School*. Available at Amazon.com and other book sellers, it is published by NCRIFLEBOOKS (July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016). ISBN-10: 0986182621; ISBN-13: 978-0986182624.



A native of Greensboro, North Carolina, Michael Briggs was educated at Ben L. Smith High School and Rockingham Community College. He is the President & C.E.O. of Call Coverage, Inc, a 46-year-old business that specializes in unified communications technology.

Briggs has been interested in history since he was fourteen years old and is the founder of two local historical organizations, The Col. John Sloan Camp, 1290, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Sitting Bull Society. He is the former president of the North Carolina Civil War Round Table.

Michael is a member of the Historical Arms Collectors of the Southeast, the Kentucky Rifle Association, and the American Society of Arms Collectors. He has been a collector and student of Piedmont North Carolina Decorative Arts, including longrifles, powder horns, furniture, North Carolina-made Civil War items and local history for over 40 years. He has given programs on these subjects for the National Park Service, the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, Greensboro Historical Museum, High Point Museum, Rowan Museum, Davidson County Historical Museum and the Charlotte Museum of History. He resides in Greensboro with his wife Nancy.

Michael is the author of seven books. In addition to *The Longrifle Makers of Guilford County*, he has written about four other longrifle schools in North Carolina:

- *The Longrifle Makers of the Mecklenburg School*. NCRIFLES.COM (1<sup>st</sup> ed., Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016). ISBN-10: 0986182605; ISBN-13: 978-0986182600.
- *The Longrifle Makers of the Rowan School*. NCRIFLES.COM (Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016). ISBN-10: 0986182613; ISBN-13: 978-0986182617.
- *The Longrifle Makers of the Salem School*. NCRIFLES.COM (Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020). ISBN-10: 0986182672; ISBN-13: 978-0986182679.
- *The Longrifle Makers of the Davidson School*. NCRIFLES.COM (Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021). ISBN-10: 0986182656; ISBN-13: 978-0986182655.

In addition to the *Longrifle* series, Briggs has written two related books:

- *Guilford Under the Stars and Bars*. NCRIFLES.COM (1<sup>st</sup> ed., Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015). ISBN-10: 098618263X; ISBN-13: 978-0986182631. **(Continued→)**

- [Piedmont North Carolina Banded Powder Horns - Hunting Bags - Bullet Molds](#). NCRIFLES.COM (1<sup>st</sup> ed., Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016). ISBN-10: 0986182605; ISBN-13: 978-0986182648.

All of these books can be ordered from Amazon.com by clicking on the desired book's title above. They are available from other booksellers as well and may also be purchased from Michael Briggs in person or by mail order at 103 Battle Road Greensboro, N.C. 27410.

### ORDER FORM

1. The Longrifle Makers of Guilford County	\$40.00, plus \$4 postage if mailed
2. Piedmont North Carolina Banded Powder Horns	\$40.00, plus \$4 postage if mailed
3. The Longrifle Makers of the Mecklenburg School	\$40.00, plus \$4 postage if mailed
4. The Longrifle Makers of the Rowan School	\$40.00, plus \$4 postage if mailed
5. The Longrifle Makers of the Salem School	\$80.00 hardcover, plus \$6 postage, \$60 softcover, plus \$5 postage if mailed
6. The Longrifle Makes of the Davidson School	\$60.00, plus \$5 postage if mailed
7. Guilford Under the Stars and Bars	\$44.95, plus \$5 postage if mailed
Customer Name _____	Amount Enclosed _____
Address _____	
City, State, Zip _____	


Finally, Michael Briggs has produced the following poster showing Guilford County's gun manufacturing contributions to the Confederate war effort:

## GUILFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA


### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CONFEDERATE WAR EFFORT

Over the 100-year period of the Eighteenth Century, Guilford County was home to 87 master gunsmiths, more than any other county in the Southern United States. At the start of the Civil War in 1861, the County had 41 master gunsmiths making Jamestown Longrifles. These men would form seven companies that contracted with the State of North Carolina and the Confederate Government to produce over 6,000 pistols, rifles, and breech loading carbines during the Civil War.


**1. Mendenhall, Jones & Gardner**  
**Jamestown, N.C.** The company produced 2,239 rifles under four contracts with the State of North Carolina, between 1861 and 1863. The firm was owned by Cyrus Mendenhall, Ezekiel P. Jones, and Grafton Gardner.




**High Point, N.C.** The company produced 676 rifles under contracts with the State of North Carolina and the Confederate Government. The company was owned by Dr. L.M. Gillam and James Miller.




**7. Tarpley, Garrett & Company**  
**Greensboro, N.C.** The company produced 425 breech-loading carbines and unknown number of pistols between 1861 and 1864. Jere A. Tarpley received a patent from the Confederate Government in 1863.




**2. Clapp, Gates & Company**  
**Whitsett, N.C.** The company produced 1,189 rifles under four contracts with the State of North Carolina between 1861 and 1863. The firm was owned by Jacob Clapp and Carol Gates.




**5. Searcy & Moore**  
**Madison, N.C.** The company produced 105 rifles of three models under contract with the State of North Carolina. The company was owned by Alexander M. Searcy and Dr. J. S. Moore.



**3. H.C. Lamb & Company**  
**Jamestown, N.C.** The company produced 1,140 rifles under three contracts with the state of North Carolina. The firm was owned by Henry Clarkson Lamb, Jesse G. Lamb, their father William Lamb and uncle Anderson Lamb.



**6. N.C. Armory at Florence**  
**Florence, N.C.** The armory was commanded by Captain Zimri S. Coffin. It was founded in the fall of 1861. They converted 450 "country" rifles to military use and then assembled 800 military rifles from parts. When they were burned by the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry on April 11, 1865, the armory contained 800 completed rifles and 2500 partially assembled.



**4. Gillam & Miller**

**Twenty-fourth Annual Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and Longwood University Free Civil War Seminar: *Old Battlefields, New Parks***



The twenty-fourth annual Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and Longwood University free Civil War seminar will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in Jarman Auditorium (Bldg. 14), 201 High Street, Farmville, VA. The theme is *Old Battlefields, New Parks*. The following speakers and topics are featured:

**9:10 a.m.:** John Quarstein on *The First Battle: Big Bethel*

**10:15 a.m.:** Greg Mertz on *"Jackson Is With You!" Confederates Turn the Tide at Cedar Mountain*

**11:30 a.m.:** Daniel Davis on *"The Hottest Fire I Was Ever In: The Battle of Brandy Station"*

**12:30 p.m.:** Lunch

**1:45 p.m.:** Caroline Janney on *An End or Beginning: Lee's Army after Appomattox*

**2:45 p.m.:** Patrick A. Schroeder on *Forgotten Friday: April 7, 1865, Actions in Cumberland County, VA*

No reservations necessary. Signs will be posted on the Longwood University Campus. For directions to the campus, click [here](http://www.longwood.edu) (<http://www.longwood.edu>). For more information contact Dr. David Coles at 434-395-2220 or Patrick Schroeder at 434-352-8987, ext. 232.

Parking is available on Longwood University campus except in 24 hour reserved spaces, handicapped, or tow-away zones. Lunch is available at the Longwood University Dining Hall.

Longwood University requires masks to be worn in all public spaces on campus. This includes Jarman Auditorium and the dining hall.

Links to a map showing the location of Jarman Auditorium and to an information flyer on this event detailing the speakers' resumes and topics can be accessed from the related article on the Raleigh CWRT website, <http://www.raleighcwrt.org/>.

**Chambersburg Civil War Seminars & Tours *Insights into the Overland Campaign of 1864***  
**Saturday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. EST via Zoom**



Join us via Zoom for a one-day virtual seminar moderated by Eric Wittenberg. The following speakers & talks are scheduled:

- **9:30 a.m.:** John Hennessy: *"War to Utter Submission..." The Overland Campaign and the Transformation of a Nation*
- **10:30 a.m.:** Steward T. Henderson: *The United States Colored Troops in the Overland Campaign*
- **11:30 a.m.:** Kristopher White: *The Ides of May: Confederate Command Crisis in May of 1864*
- **12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.:** Break
- **1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.:** Meet & Greet in Breakout Sessions led by Logistics (cameras on please!)
- **2:00 p.m.:** Dan Davis: *Hurricane from the Heavens: The Battle of Cold Harbor*
- **3:00 p.m.:** Greg Mertz: *A New Way of Fighting: Upton's May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864 Assault at Spotsylvania*
- **4:00 p.m.:** Chris Mackowski: *Strike Them a Blow: Missed Opportunities Along the North Anna*

Registered guests will receive the Zoom link and the digital map packet the week of Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. Speakers will be available LIVE to give their presentations and answer questions. The conference will be recorded and available to view afterward for those registered for the conference.

Cost is \$75 for members, \$80 for non-members. We will donate \$10 from every registration to Battlefield Preservation. To become a member of Chambersburg Civil War Seminars & Tours, you simply need to attend an event once and you're a member for life.

To view the itinerary or register, click [here](https://www.civilwarseminars.org/overland) (<https://www.civilwarseminars.org/overland>).

Fifty-seven podcasts (April 2018 - Dec. 2022) from noted Civil War lecturer Freddie Kiger can be accessed on the Raleigh CWRT website by clicking [here](https://raleighcwrt.squarespace.com/freddie-kigers-cw-podcast/) (<https://raleighcwrt.squarespace.com/freddie-kigers-cw-podcast/>).



# News of the RCWRT



## Upcoming 2023 RCWRT Meetings

The wearing of masks continues to be optional in the NC Museum of History, our monthly-meeting venue.

Date	Speaker(s)	Topic
Feb. 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Michael Briggs	Guilford County-Made Confederate Rifles
Mar. 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Jim McKey	TBD
April 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Earl Ijames, B.A.	TBD
May 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Tonia Smith	Orton Williams
June 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Andrew Dupstadt, M.A.	Francis Lyell Hoge (CSS Neuse)
Jul. 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Harry Smeltzer, M.B.A.	The Battle of 1 <sup>st</sup> Manassas
Aug. 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Kevin Shroyer, B.S.	Virginians in Blue
Sept. 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	Rob Orrison, M.A.	The Battle of Bristoe Station



## The Knapsack

is the official newsletter of the RCWRT and is published around the 1st of each month.

(January 2023 Circulation: 392)

### Staff

Bob Graesser, Editor

### Contributors

Griff Bartlett

Readers are encouraged to submit photos, events, & articles for publication to Bob Graesser, Editor (RaleighCWRT@yahoo.com; 919-244-9041)

## RCWRT Board of Directors (2022-24)

Name	Position
Charlie Knight	President / Program Committee
Griff Bartlett	Secretary / Treasurer
Bob Graesser	Knapsack Newsletter Editor / Webmaster
Ted Kunstling	Member / President Emeritus
Jessica Hoover	Member
Lynda Turbeville	Member

Paying Memberships / Total Members: 99 / 119

We welcome two new members who joined the RCWRT in Jan. 2023: Chuck Harr of Raleigh, NC and Vanessa Johnson of Zebulon, NC

## Battles Whose Names Differed North vs. South

Date	Southern Name	Northern Name
Jul. 21, 1861	First Manassas	First Bull Run
Aug. 10, 1861	Oak Hills	Wilson's Creek
Oct. 21, 1861	Leesburg	Ball's Bluff
Jan. 19, 1862	Mill Spring	Logan's Cross Roads
Mar. 7-8, 1862	Elkhorn Tavern	Pea Ridge
April 6-7, 1862	Shiloh	Pittsburg Landing
May 31 - June 1, 1862	Seven Pines	Fair Oaks
June 26, 1862	Mechanicsville	Beaver Dam Creek
June 27, 1862	Gaines's Mill	Chickahominy River
Aug. 29-30, 1862	Second Manassas	Second Bull Run
Sept. 1, 1862	Ox Hill	Chantilly
Sept. 14, 1862	Boonsboro	South Mountain
Sept. 14, 1862	Burkittsville	Crampton's Gap
Sept. 17, 1862	Sharpsburg	Antietam
Oct. 8, 1862	Perryville	Chaplin Hills
Dec. 31, 1862 - Jan. 2, 1863	Murfreesboro	Stones River
April 8, 1864	Mansfield	Sabine Cross Roads
Sept. 19, 1864	Winchester	Opequon

## Why Some Civil War Battles Have Two Names

Northern soldiers, far more likely to hail from cities or urbanized areas, are believed to have been impressed with the geography of the south, including its mountains, valleys and abundant rivers and streams. In unfamiliar territory, they named many of their battles after these natural features.

For Confederate troops, familiar with the rural, natural terrain, towns and buildings were more memorable, and in the south many of the same battles were referred to after the man-made structures nearby.

Eighteen such dual-named battles are listed to the left.

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table was formed on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2001 and is a 501(c)(3) "tax exempt organization."

We meet on the second Monday of each month. Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$10 for teachers. Student membership is free. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20. Dues should be submitted to Griff Bartlett, Treasurer, 908 Kinsdale Drive, Raleigh, NC 27615-1117 by **Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>** each year.