

# The Knapsack

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

April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Our 242<sup>nd</sup> Issue



Volume 21  
Number 4

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

## April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Event Features Douglas C. Waller, M.A., Speaking on the Topic of His Book *Lincoln's Spies: Their Secret War to Save a Nation*

Our upcoming meeting will be on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, we will **NOT** be meeting at the NC Museum of History in Raleigh. **Instead, we will meet remotely via an online web session using the application Zoom.**

March's meeting will feature a presentation by Douglas C. Waller, M.A., speaking on the topic of his book *Lincoln's Spies: Their Secret War to Save a Nation*.

Raleigh CWRT President, Josie Walker, will email an invitation to you for the Zoom event along with instructions and a link for joining the online meeting. **Please contact Josie at [RaleighCWRT@Yahoo.com](mailto:RaleighCWRT@Yahoo.com) if you do not receive this invitation by April 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Douglas C. Waller is a veteran author, lecturer, and former correspondent for *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines. Doug was born on June 30, 1949 in Norfolk, Virginia, and holds a B.A. in English from Wake Forest University, as well as an M.A. in Urban Administration from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.



As a legislative assistant, Doug specialized in arms control while serving on the staff of Senator William Proxmire. He was a legislative director on the staff of Massachusetts Congressman Edward J. Markey, the House sponsor of the

Nuclear Freeze Resolution. Doug then spent almost two decades as a Washington journalist, covering the Pentagon, Congress, the State Department, the White House, and the CIA.

He joined *Newsweek* in 1988, where he reported on major military conflicts from the Gulf War to Somalia to Haiti. From 1994 to 2007, Waller served in *TIME's* Washington Bureau, first as a correspondent and then as a senior correspondent. At *TIME*, Waller covered foreign affairs

extensively as a diplomatic correspondent, traveling throughout Europe, Asia and the Middle East as well as in the Persian Gulf region. He has reported extensively in the past on Middle East peace negotiations and the wars in Iraq.

Waller has authored eight books and co-authored two others:

- *Lincoln's Spies: Their Secret War to Save a Nation* (Simon & Schuster, 2019); critically acclaimed and most recent.
- *Disciples: The World War II Missions of the CIA Directors Who Fought for Wild Bill Donovan* (Simon & Schuster, 2015); critically acclaimed biography.
- *Wild Bill Donovan: The Spymaster Who Created the OSS and Modern American Espionage* (Free Press, 2011); a biography which became a *New York Times* bestseller, a *Washington Post* Best Book for 2011, and a *Wall Street Journal* Notable Book for 2011.
- *A Question of Loyalty: Gen. Billy Mitchell and the Court-Martial that Grippped the Nation* (HarperCollins, 2004); a critically acclaimed biography, a *Washington Post* Best Book of the Year, a *Chicago Tribune* Best Book of the Year, a *New York Sun* Best Book of the Year, and a *Booklist* Editors' Choice of the Year.
- *BIG RED: The Three-Month Voyage of A Trident Nuclear Submarine* (HarperCollins, 2001); a national bestseller.
- *Air Warriors: The Inside Story of the Making of a Navy Pilot*, (Simon & Schuster, 1998).
- *The Commandos: The Inside Story of America's Secret Soldiers* (Simon & Schuster, 1994); a national bestseller.
- *Congress and the Nuclear Freeze: An Inside Look at the Politics of a Mass Movement* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1987)

Douglas C. Waller, April 2021 Speaker (continued)

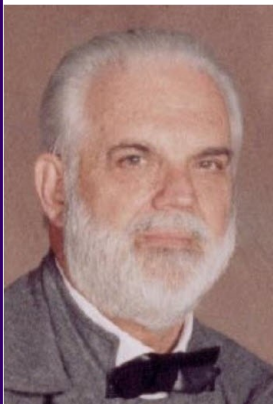
- *The Strategic Defense Initiative: Progress and Challenges: A Guide to Issues and References (Guides to Contemporary Issues)* (Regina Books, 1987); co-authored with James T. Bruce and Douglas M. Cook.
- *Nuclear Peril: The Politics of Proliferation* (Ballinger, 1982); co-authored with Congressman Edward J. Markey.

From 1986 to 2019, Doug has appeared on the C-SPAN network 24 times. These appearances were captured in videos which are available on the C-SPAN Video Library website ([Douglas C. Waller | C-SPAN.org \(c-span.org\)](http://Douglas C. Waller | C-SPAN.org (c-span.org))).

Doug has also served his country, having retired from the Army Reserve after rising to the rank of captain. His website is <http://www.douglascwaller.com> and he resides in Raleigh, NC.

## CHARLES TAYLOR HAWKS 1942 - 2021

We were saddened to learn of the death of Charles Hawks at the age of 78 on March 5, 2021. Charles was born (and lived) in Raleigh most of his life. He graduated from Needham B. Broughton High School in 1961 and received his B.S. from High Point College in Business Administration in 1965. He retired from the Naval Reserve in 1989 as a Commander (Intelligence), and retired from the N.C. Dept. of Revenue in 2000.



Charles became interested in the Civil War when he learned that he had two ancestors who fought for the Confederacy -- one was mortally wounded and one lost his arm. He was a charter member of the Raleigh Civil War Round Table in 2001 and was an active participant from the beginning. He served as The Knapsack newsletter editor for almost eight years and was honored by the RCWRT with the T. Harry Gattton award in 2010, which recognized Charles for his long-standing, valuable, and far-reaching contributions to the understanding of and appreciation for the American Civil War. The award also stated that Charles was instrumental in the creation and growth of the Raleigh Civil War Round Table and was its greatest ambassador, working tirelessly to grow the membership, plan trips and other special events, and graciously hosting members and guests in his home.

During the 1990's, Charles was a leader in two Confederate heritage organizations and was elected NC Division Commander in 2000. He was elected Army of Northern Virginia Commander (with a seat on the national executive council) in 2002. He also served as the editor of the NC Military Order of Stars and Bars newsletter, which was honored as most outstanding state newsletter in 2006.

During the 1990's, Charles was a leader in two Confederate heritage organizations and was elected NC Division Commander in 2000. He was elected Army of Northern Virginia Commander (with a seat on the national executive council) in 2002. He also served as the editor of the NC Military Order of Stars and Bars newsletter, which was honored as most outstanding state newsletter in 2006.

*The Knapsack (Revised)*

Charles studied naval warfare during the Civil War for over 30 years and had over 100 books on the subject. His most memorable Civil War experiences included dedicating the grave marker for his Confederate ancestor, viewing the H.L. Hunley (with the crew members still entombed), and, later, witnessing the burial of her crew in 2004.

His other interests included "the tall (sailing) ships," lighthouses, military history, bird-watching, and "rookie" (minor) league baseball. In 2007, he moved to Burlington to be closer to his daughter, Jennifer, and three grandchildren. Here he helped revitalize the Burlington Bird Club and served as its president. He helped organize, and served as president, of Company Shops Railroad Club and the Front Street UMC Travelers.

Dr. Ted Kunstling, recent former President of the Raleigh CWRT, had this to say:

*"I appreciated Chas as a kind and gracious gentleman with an enthusiastic passion for Civil War history and heritage. He organized and led road trips to significant historical sites, introduced us to knowledgeable people, and contributed greatly to the camaraderie of our Round Table. He was great fun to be with and maintained his connection with Raleigh CWRT even after moving to Burlington. Chas was also a great railroad fan and, after moving to Burlington, a founder of the Company Shops Railroad Club, an organization of train spotters and aficionados. We shall miss his leadership."*

For his official obituary, goto <https://obits.thetimesnews.com/obituaries/thetimesnews/obituary.aspx?n=charles-taylor-hawks&pid=197950141&fhid=17619>.

Charles was laid to rest on Tuesday, March 9 at Warrendale Cemetery, Old Warrenton Road, Norlina, NC.

## Current Status of the Coronavirus Pandemic

As of 03-01-2021, there was a U.S. total of 28,605,652 reported cases and 513,091 reported deaths. As of 04-01-2021, one month later, these figures have increased to 30,467,164 cases (+6.5%) and 552,246 U.S. deaths (+7.6%), respectively. The March reported cases rate is only 2/3 that of February while the reported death rate is less than 1/2 that of February. This effect appears to be due to continued social distancing, mask wearing, and the fact that 20% of the U.S. population (age 16+) have now received at least one vaccine dose.

Compared to the current world-wide reported totals of 129,083,807 cases and 2,819,141 deaths, the U.S. has 23.6% of all reported cases and 19.6% of all reported deaths. These rates are each about 1 percentage point lower than those of the previous month.

The U.S. death rate stands at 1.8% of U.S. cases. This is significantly better than the global death rate which stands at 2.2% of global cases. These rates are identical to those from the previous month.

Please continue to follow medical and governmental guidelines of social distancing, washing hands frequently, wearing a mask, and getting vaccinated when your group is called.

## Fridays with U.S. Grant



The Civil War Round Table Congress proudly presents **Fridays with U. S. Grant** wherein Dr. Curt Fields, the preeminent Grant living historian, tells the Grant story in Grant's own words. To register for a virtual seat, select from the URLs below.

### APRIL REMEMBRANCES

**Apr. 2 at 7:00 pm EST — APPOMATTOX:** Ulysses S. Grant recalls the last days of the campaign, exchanging messages with Robert E. Lee and his many thoughts and concerns. #36;

<http://www.cwrtcongress.org/grant/G36.php>

**Apr. 9 at 7:00 pm EST — APPOMATTOX:**



Painting by Tom Lovell, commissioned by National Geographic for their April 1965, "Centennial" edition.

Ulysses S. Grant recalls April 9, 1865 and the surrender of Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia. #37;

<http://www.cwrtcongress.org/grant/G37.php>

**Apr. 16 at 7:00 pm EST — THE WAR YEARS:** Ulysses S. Grant will answer all your questions about the war years of 1861-1865. **This will be a live event.** #38;

<http://www.cwrtcongress.org/grant/G38.php>

**Apr. 23 at 7:00 pm EST — BEHIND THE CURTAIN - A MAN OUT OF CHARACTER:** Dr. Curt Fields will answer all your questions about being a living historian including his research, mindset, costumes, staying in character, etc. **This will be a live event.** #39;

<http://www.cwrtcongress.org/grant/G39.php>

## Civil War-Related Website Links

By Bob Graesser, Editor and Webmaster

You may be unaware that the Raleigh CWRT's website (<http://www.raleighcwr.org>) contains a useful research resource, a webpage entitled **Civil War-Related Website Links**. This web page can be accessed from the Navigation menu on the left side of the website's front page (<http://www.raleighcwr.org/civil-war-related-links/>).

On this webpage, I have created an index (reproduced below) linking to about forty websites and organized under six main topics. If you are viewing this page as a .pdf file, clicking on a link will take you to that spot on the RCWRT website's webpage.

- **Civil War and American Art**

[A New Look on How Artists Recorded the Civil War](#)  
[An Interview with Eleanor J. Harvey, Sr. Curator at the Smithsonian American Art Museum](#)  
[Ashley's Art Gallery](#)  
[Metropolitan Museum of Art Exhibition: The Civil War and American Art](#)  
[Smithsonian American Art Museum](#)

- **Civil War Medicine**

[Historical Nurses: All About Clara Barton](#)  
[Medicine in the Civil War](#)

- **Civil War Photography**

[Civil War Glass Negatives and Related Prints](#)  
[Civil War Photographs, 1861-1865 \(Library of Congress\)](#)  
[Civil War Photo Sleuth — Resources](#)  
[Colorized History](#)  
[National Archives: Military Records — Civil War Photos](#)  
[The Center For Civil War Photography — Guide to Finding Civil War Photographs](#)

- **Geneology**

[Ancestry.com](#)  
[Olivia Rainey Local History Library](#)

- **Museums**

[The American Civil War Museum](#)  
[Appomattox](#)  
[Historic Tredegar](#)  
[White House of the Confederacy](#)  
[The Mariners' Museum and Park — Newport News, VA](#)  
[National Civil War Museum — Harrisburg, PA](#)  
[North Carolina Civil War & Reconstruction History Center — Fayetteville, NC](#)  
[North Carolina Museum of History — Raleigh, NC](#)

- **Other Civil War Web Sites of Interest**

[American Battlefield Trust \(Formerly Civil War Trust\)](#)  
[CivilWar.com](#)  
[Civil War Archive](#)  
[Civil War Round Table Congress](#)  
[Civil War Traveler — 2020 Calendar of Events](#)  
[National Park Service — American Battlefield Protection Program — The Civil War — 1861-1865](#)  
[NC Department of Natural & Cultural Resources — Office of Archives and History](#)  
[NC Department of Natural & Cultural Resources — Things to Do](#)  
[North Carolina Historic Sites](#)  
[Bennett Place](#)  
[Bentonville Battlefield](#)  
[Brunswick Town / Fort Anderson](#)  
[CSS Neuse](#)  
[Fort Fisher](#)  
[Historic Stagville](#)  
[Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace](#)  
[Our State \(NC\) Magazine article by Philip Gerard](#)

## *Lincoln's Spies: Their Secret War to Save a Nation*

A Review Summary by Bob Graesser

The following is my summary of a review by Jerry D. Lenaburg of Douglas Waller's book *Lincoln's Spies: Their Secret War to Save a Nation*. Lenaburg is a Project Manager and Military Analyst with 30 years experience in government and industry. A 1987 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, he served as a Naval Flight Officer from 1987–1998 and has published in the Journal of Military History. He deemed *Lincoln's Spies* to be "a fascinating account of spies and counter-spies during the Civil War".

At the start of the Civil War, neither the North nor the South had much experience with espionage, counter-intelligence or secret operations. Since there was an urgent need to ascertain the opponent's strengths and intentions, the North was soon bombarded with a mixed bag of amateurs and opportunists seeking to help the Union cause.

In *Lincoln's Spies*, Douglas Waller examines the role of spies and secret agents in the Eastern Theater, focusing on the exploits of four key participants: Allan J. Pinkerton, Lafayette C. Baker, Col. George H. Sharpe, and Elizabeth Van Lew. Each played a key role in the Union war effort but with varying degrees of professionalism and ethics.



Allan J. Pinkerton had made a name for himself running a Chicago detective agency whose main client was the Illinois Central Railroad. Pinkerton's business insignia was a wide open eye with the caption "We never sleep." In the 1850s, he confirmed that it's a small world when he attended secret abolitionist meetings in Chicago with John Brown and Frederick Douglass. He was also an acquaintance of Abe Lincoln, then the

attorney for the Illinois Central Railroad.

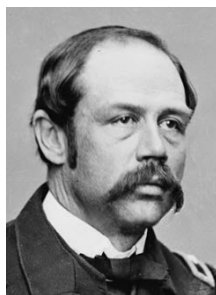
Once the Civil War began, Pinkerton and Baker both came to Washington, DC and offered their services. Both stood out more as colorful characters than did Sharpe or Van Lew. Although both Pinkerton and Baker were patriotic, they both exhibited some deep personal flaws. While both were good in rooting out Southern sympathizers and corrupt officials, they were less successful in leading intelligence operations.

Pinkerton quickly became a devotee of George McClellan and was appointed his intelligence chief. Pinkerton's personal flaw was that he often grossly overestimated Confederate troop strengths. This fed the hesitation and insecurities of the naturally cautious General McClellan which eventually led to both their dismissals in the fall of 1862.

Lafayette C. Baker became a solid counterespionage leader but was flawed by corruption, which included questionable confiscation of private property and using his position to line his own pockets. His only enduring claim to fame was his role in capturing John Wilkes Booth, to which he made a major contribution. However, this feat degenerated into a bitter argument with the Union government over the large bounty put on Booth.



After the war, both Pinkerton and Baker promoted themselves, greatly exaggerating their service and success. As a result, they are better known in the annals of history than George Sharpe or Elizabeth Van Lew, each of whom were significantly more effective at their intelligence efforts, made enduring contributions throughout the entire war, and were more modest after the war in self-promotion.



Colonel George H. Sharpe is credited with creating the U.S. Army's first genuine all-source intelligence analysis group. After McClellan was canned by Lincoln, General Joe Hooker was given command of the Army of the Potomac, and hired Sharpe to take control over all of the Army of the Potomac's intelligence efforts. Sharp quickly built an efficient machine that combined reports from deserters, runaway slaves, friendly civilians, and cavalry scouts.

This allowed Sharpe's Bureau of Military Information to create a remarkably accurate order-of-battle of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia down to the regimental level. This detail provided a major advantage to General Meade during the final day of the Battle of Gettysburg when Sharpe was able to state with confidence that all of Lee's army had already been engaged in combat except for Pickett's Division. This, in turn, gave General Meade and his commanders the confidence that they could withstand Lee's final assault.

Elizabeth Van Lew was a Union sympathizer who built the most effective Union spy ring operating in the Confederate capital of Richmond. Intelligent, resourceful, and determined, Van Lew ran a prolific and productive spy network while constantly outwitting increasingly suspicious Confederate authorities. Not only was she able to pass a steady stream of information north, she also aided escaped Union prisoners and runaway slaves, hiding them in her house at tremendous personal risk.



During the final months of the war, as both armies occupied siege lines around the city, Van Lew and Sharpe were able to effectively work across the static front, providing critical information on the collapsing Confederate government and the deterioration of Lee's army.

Unfortunately, once the fighting ended, all four of these contributors to Union victory fell on hard times. Van Lew died nearly destitute while both Baker and Pinkerton enjoyed some brief notoriety before fading away. Despite his contributions, Sharpe never received all the thanks or recognition he felt was due. Nonetheless, steadfast to the Union case, he took a series of government positions before dying in 1900.

This book is available in hardcover and paperback at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh, NC, as well as at other bookstores. It is available in hardcover, paperback and Kindle ebook format at Amazon.com.

Publisher: Simon & Schuster (August 5, 2019)

ISBN-10: 1501126849

ISBN-13: 978-1501126840



The American Battlefield Trust has announced three new opportunities to save hallowed ground. The first is a 36-acre tract within The Wilderness in Virginia. The second is a 39-acre tract at First Deep Bottom just outside of Richmond, VA, which also saw action in the 1862 Battle of Glendale, doubling the importance of saving this hallowed ground. The third is a 20-acre tract at Mansfield, LA, aka Sabine's Crossroads, north of New Orleans.

Each of these three battlefields witnessed a consequential 1864 battle and played a role in General U.S. Grant's grand strategy for the final, full year of the war.

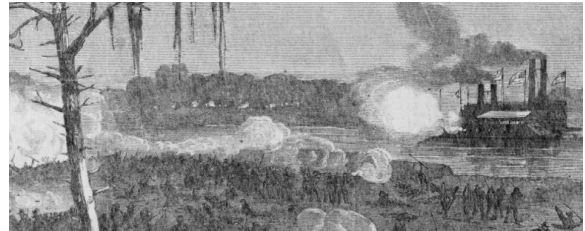
- Fighting in the Wilderness tract unfolded on the first day's battle on May 5, 1864. From this parcel, the Confederates launched part of their counterattack that stymied the Union advance along the Orange Turnpike.



- During the 1862 Battle of Glendale, units led by James Longstreet and A.P. Hill passed over this land as Confederate forces attacked the Union army in motion during the Seven Days Battles. It also marks the vicinity where Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis came within range of Union artillery, forcing them to relocate for safety!

This land also played a role in the Petersburg Campaign in the summer of 1864. In late July, General Winfield Scott Hancock's Second Corps, along with two divisions of General Philip Sheridan's cavalry, crossed the James River at a bend known to locals as Deep Bottom. Their aim was to threaten Richmond and pressure Lee to dispatch a sizeable number of his Petersburg defenders to stop this advance. The tract to be saved is located alongside the Gravel Hill Church and includes a large portion of the actions from July 28 that helped set the stage for the Battle of the Crater on July 30. Preserving this land will also simultaneously protect the history of Gravel Hill, a unique and historically significant community in its own right.

- In the spring of 1864, Union forces launched an offensive known as the Red River Campaign. Its objective was to capture Louisiana's Confederate capital at Shreveport and then open the gateway for Federal troops to enter Texas. Union forces under General Nathaniel P. Banks made their way north from New Orleans, arriving at Mansfield, also called Sabine's Crossroads. However, between Banks' army and the Union target was a Confederate force of about half the size, led by General Richard Taylor. In the ensuing battle, the Federals had trouble bringing reinforcements forward and Taylor's Confederates prevailed, ultimately reversing the course of the entire Red River Campaign.



For those most heavily engaged on both sides of the Battle of Mansfield, the casualties were staggering — in General Alfred Mouton's Confederate brigade, nearly every regimental commander was killed. One Union Thirteenth Corps division lost 43 percent of its men, killed, wounded and captured.

### Save These Three 1864 Battlefields

Each of these battles is a piece in the puzzle of the larger strategies that characterized the final year of the war. But if action isn't taken swiftly, these 95 acres of hallowed ground could be lost forever!

The American Battlefield Trust expects that, if this land is not saved, it would be sold for residential development, which still poses a constant threat to far too many battlefields across our country.

Please make a gift today to help raise the \$144,671 needed to save these 95 vital acres at the Wilderness and First Deep Bottom in Virginia and at Mansfield, Louisiana.

Your donation will be matched \$8.90-to-\$1, increasing the power of your donation dollar nine-fold!

Mail the check to:

American Battlefield Trust  
PO Box 79535  
Baltimore, MD 21279-0535

Otherwise, to donate for the preservation of all three tracts, you can do so online at <https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/preserve-95-acres-three-1864-civil-war-battlefields>

Or call 1 (888) 606-1400 to pay with a credit card by phone.

The American Battlefield Trust's non profit tax ID is #54-1426643.

# News of the RCWRT



## Upcoming 2021 RCWRT Meetings

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, RCWRT meetings will be held remotely via Zoom software until further notice.

Date	Speaker	Topic
Apr. 12, 2021	Douglas Waller, M.A.	Lincoln's Spies: Their Secret War to Save a Nation
May 10, 2021	Dr. Gene Schmiel, Ph.D.	The Civil War in West Virginia and the Role of Jacob Cox
June 14, 2021	Wade Sokolosky, U.S. Army Col. (retired)	Success and Failure in the Saddle: Confederate and Union Cavalry Operations during the 1865 Carolinas Campaign
July 12, 2021	Jeff Hunt, M.A.	Meade and Lee After Gettysburg: The Forgotten Final Stage of the Gettysburg Campaign from Falling Waters to Culpeper Court House, July 14-31, 1863

### Did You Know?

- Two percent of the U.S. population (North and South) were killed during the Civil War. To put that into perspective, consider the following analogy. A little over 0.5 million Americans have died of Covid-19 to date. If two percent of the U.S. population were to die of Covid-19, the death toll would be 6.6 million Americans. This is about equal to the current population of the state of Indiana.
- There was at least one military engagement on every single day of the four years of the Civil War, resulting in 10,455 distinct military events.
- Before the start of the war in 1860, Mississippi and South Carolina had more slaves in their populations than free citizens.
- The railroad system in the northern states of the United States at the start of the US Civil War was the largest railroad system in the world. Because of its sheer size, the railroad system supported its own iron mills and three major locomotive manufacturers. Compared to the Union, the Confederacy had one-third of the freight cars, one-fifth of the locomotives, one-eighth of rail production, one-tenth of the telegraph stations and one-twenty-fourth of locomotive production. The process of using telegraph communication to run busier and tighter schedules was already started in the northern states. Finally, the northern railroads were able to run so many more trains, at least in part, because large sections of their right-of-way were double-tracked.



## The Knapsack

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

(March 2021 Circulation: 317)

### Staff

Bob Graesser, Editor

### Contributors

Griff Bartlett, Ted Kunstling

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

## RCWRT Board of Directors (2020-22)

Name	Position
Josie Walker	President / Program Committee
Ted Kunstling	Past President
Johnny Wood	Vice President / Program Committee
Griff Bartlett	Secretary / Treasurer
Pattie Smith	Program Committee
Bob Graesser	Knapsack Editor / Webmaster
Wayne Shore	Member
Lloyd Townsend	Member

Paying Memberships / Total Members: 124 / 156

### We Welcomed the Following New Members During March:

Jack Nelson, student, Mooresville, NC  
Tony Clark, Matthews, NC

### We Also Welcomed Two Returnees Following a Three-Year Sabbatical:

Lynda Turbeville, Sanford, NC  
Her son Jeremy Strickland, Raleigh, NC

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 each month. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, we have been meeting via Zoom, starting at 7:00 p.m. Check the RCWRT website (<http://www.raleighcwr.org>) for program dates and access information.

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 **September 15** each year.