

# ***The Knapsack***

***Raleigh Civil War Round Table***

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

***August 12, 2019***  
***Our 222nd Meeting***



***Volume 19***  
***Number 8***

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

## **August 12 Event Features Philip Gerard, M.F.A., Speaking on His Book *The Last Battleground—The Civil War Comes to North Carolina***

Our upcoming meeting will be on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm in Daniels Auditorium at the NC Museum of History in Raleigh and will feature Philip Gerard, M.F.A. in Creative Writing, speaking on his book [\*\*\*The Last Battleground—The Civil War Comes to North Carolina\*\*\*](#). This will be preceded at 6:30 pm by a social "half-hour".

Philip Gerard was born in 1955 and grew up in Newark, Delaware. He attended St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Delaware. At the University of Delaware, he studied with fiction writer Thomas Molyneux, poet Gibbons Ruark, and nonfiction writer and editor Kevin Kerrane and earned a B.A. in English and Anthropology, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. After college he lived in Burlington, Vermont, tending bar and writing freelance articles, before returning to newspaper work in Delaware and then going west to study fiction writing at the Arizona writers workshop with Robert Houston, Vance Bourjaily, Richard Shelton, and others.

He earned his M.F.A. in Creative Writing in 1981 and almost immediately joined the faculty at Arizona State University as a Visiting Assistant Professor and later as Writer in Residence. He remained at ASU until 1986, then taught for a brief time at Lake Forest College in Illinois before migrating to coastal North Carolina, where he had spent many happy summers during his teenage years roaming the Outer Banks of Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands.

He teaches in the BFA and MFA Programs of the Department of Creative Writing at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. He has won the Faculty Scholarship Award, the College of Arts & Science Teaching Award, the Chancellor's Medal for Excellence in Teaching, the Graduate Mentor Award, the Board of Trustees Teaching Award, and a Distinguished Teaching Professorship. The Philip Gerard Fellowship, endowed by benefactor Charles

F. Green III to honor Gerard's work in establishing and directing the MFA program, is awarded annually to an MFA student on the basis of literary merit.

Philip was also awarded the T. Harry Gattton Award in 2015. This award, presented annually since 2008 by the Raleigh Civil War Round Table, recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the understanding of and appreciation for the American Civil War.

He is the author of two historical novels set in North Carolina, [\*\*\*Hatteras Light\*\*\*](#) and [\*\*\*Cape Fear Rising\*\*\*](#) as well as a recent work featuring Paul Revere and several non-fiction works. His most recent work is [\*\*\*The Last Battleground—The Civil War Comes to North Carolina\*\*\*](#), which was published March 1, 2019 and is the subject of his August 12th presentation.

Philip has written a series of articles describing life and events during the Civil War in North Carolina that have been published monthly in *Our State* magazine. Philip's tales of Tarheels during the Civil War may be read at <https://www.ourstate.com/civil-war-philip-gerard/>.

In keeping with his conviction that writers should give something back to their profession, he has served on the Board of Trustees of the North Carolina Writers Network and from 1995 until 1998 on the Board of Directors of the Associated Writing Programs, for two of those years as President. He has been appointed to a second three-year term on the North Carolina Arts Council. He is the 2012 recipient of the Sam Talmadge Ragan Award for Contributions to the Fine Arts of North Carolina.

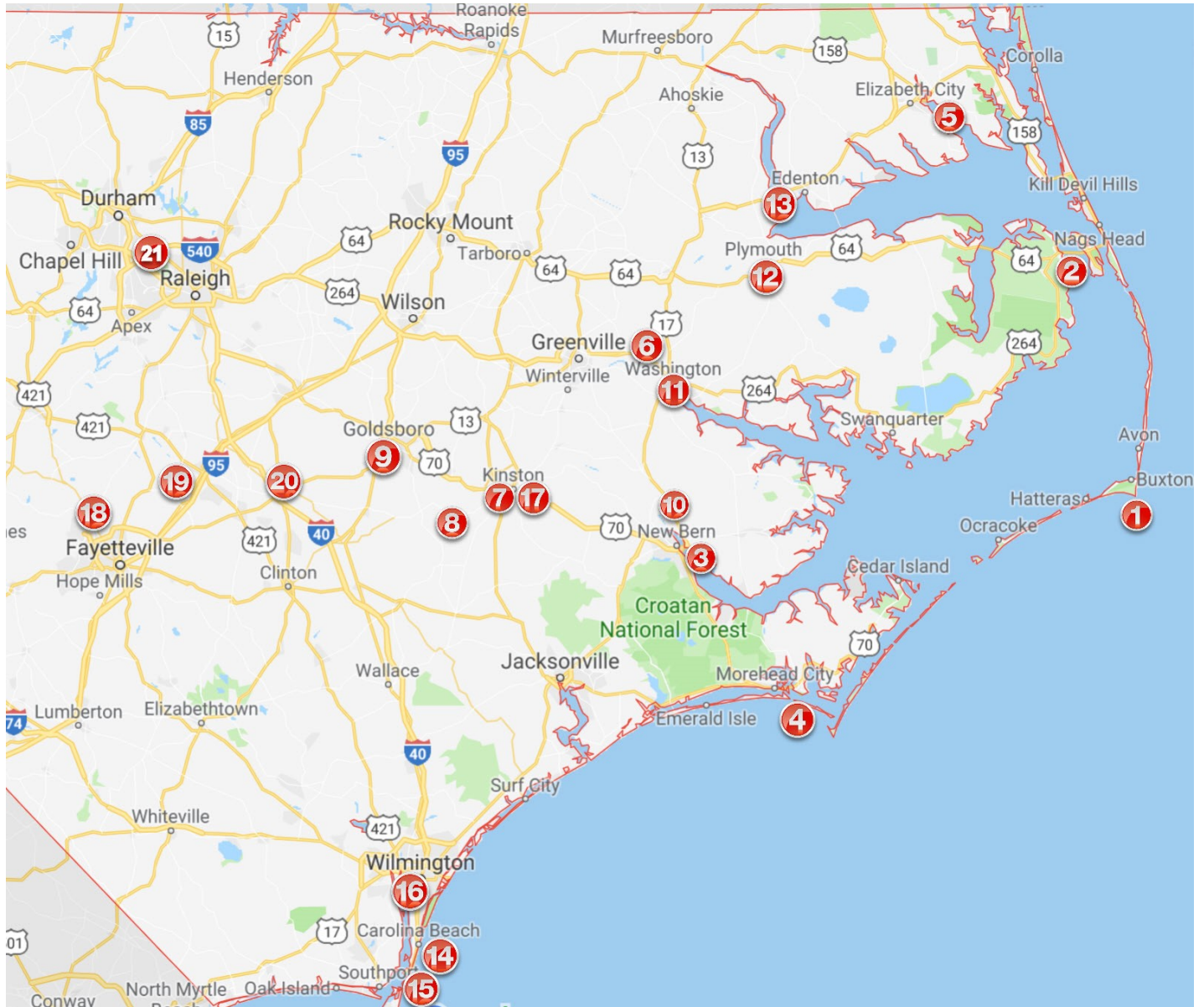
Philip is co-editor with his wife, Jill Gerard, of [\*\*\*Chautauqua\*\*\*](#), the literary journal of the Chautauqua Institution, and serves on the faculty of Goucher College's summer residency MFA program in Creative Nonfiction.

Gerard, an avid musician, incorporates bluegrass, folk, country, and original compositions into his readings, playing six and twelve-string guitar, dobro, banjo, and pedal steel guitar. He and Jill live in Wilmington, NC on Whiskey Creek near the Intracoastal Waterway.

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# Civil War Battles in North Carolina

By Bob Graesser, Raleigh CWRT Newsletter Editor and Webmaster



As a companion piece to this month's meeting topic, [The Last Battleground—The Civil War Comes to North Carolina](#), I thought I'd investigate the number and location of the significant battles occurring in North Carolina during the Civil War.

The image above depicts a modern map of the eastern half of North Carolina on which I have superimposed numbered tags associated with each of the twenty-one significant battles which occurred there during the Civil War. Note that none of the battles took place west of Chapel Hill, thus the elimination of the western portion of North Carolina on the displayed map.

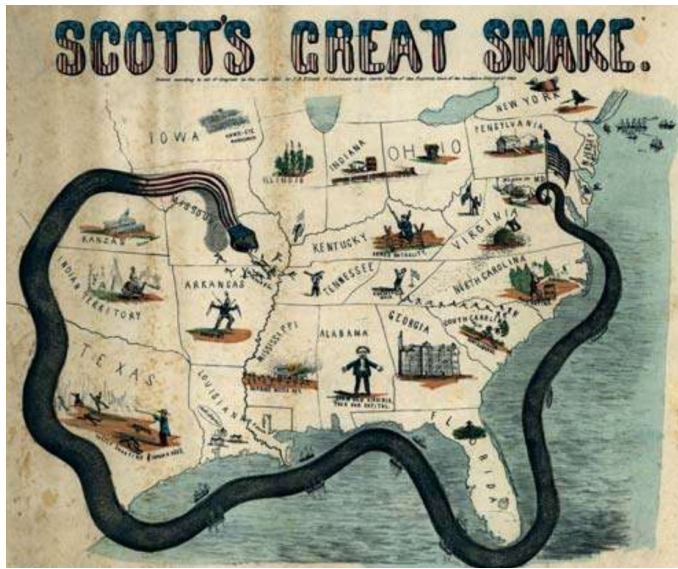
I originally considered using an 1861 vintage map of North Carolina that I found on the Library of Congress website. However, it had too much detail and got somewhat blurry when I attempted to scale it to a larger size.

The current road system depicted on the map also provides a good way of orienting yourself as to the relative location of these battle sites.

On the next six pages, I provide a summary of each of the twenty-one battles. Note that the battles are numbered in the chronological order in which they occurred.

## Civil War Battles in North Carolina (cont.)

During the course of the Civil War, the Union conducted eight military campaigns against North Carolina. To one degree or another, they all supported the North's Grand Strategy, laid out by General-in-Chief Winfield Scott at the beginning of the War in April and May 1861. This was Scott's major contribution to the war effort before his retirement in late 1861. Named the Anaconda Plan, Scott envisioned strangling the South's economy by means of an unbroken navel blockade along the entire Confederate coastline.



The eight campaigns, in chronological order, were:

Campaign	Dates	Battles
Blockade of the Carolina Coast	Aug.-Dec. 1861	1
Burnside's North Carolina Expedition	Jan.-Jul. 1862	5
Goldsborough Expedition	Dec. 1862	3
Longstreet's Tidewater Operations	Feb.-May 1863	2
Operations against Plymouth	Apr.-May 1864	2
Expedition against Fort Fisher	Dec. 1864	1
Operations against Fort Fisher and Wilmington	Jan.-Feb. 1865	2
Campaign of the Carolinas	Feb.-Apr. 1865	5
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>21</b>

**Note:** In the following discussion of Civil War battles taking place in North Carolina, I have identified each battle by an ID as specified by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program's Civil War Sites Advisory Commission. In that nomenclature, a battle is specified by the 2-letter U.S. Postal Code for the state followed by a three-digit sequential number based upon

the chronological order in which the battle occurred. For example, the first battle which occurred in North Carolina was the Battle of Hatteras Inlet Batteries which took place on Aug. 28, 1861 and has the ID **NC001**. In the map on page 2, these IDs are abbreviated with just the non-leading zero part of the sequence number. Thus battle **NC001** is indicated on the map as **1**

### Blockade of the Carolina Coast (Aug.-Dec. 1861)

The Union's goal of the first campaign, **Blockade of the Carolina Coast**, was to seal off the Outer Banks, especially at the inlets. The campaign resulted in a single battle, the **Battle of Hatteras Inlet Batteries (NC001)**. This naval operation was a successful preliminary step in reducing the number of Confederate blockade runners making it to or from port.

#### Battle of Hatteras Inlet Batteries (NC001)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Dare	Aug. 28-29, 1861	Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler [US]; Col. William F. Martin [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
9th and 20th New York regiments (est. 2,000) [US]; Hatteras Island Garrison (900) [CS]		773 total (US 3; CS 770)	Union victory

### Burnside's North Carolina Expedition (Jan.-Jul. 1862)

The second campaign, **Burnside's North Carolina Expedition**, was a Union amphibious operation to land troops and seize Confederate forts and ports engaged in blockade running. **Roanoke Island (NC002)**, which guarded Albemarle Sound, was taken first.

#### Battle of Roanoke Island (NC002)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Dare	Feb. 7-8, 1862	Brig. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside [US]; Brig. Gen. Henry Wise [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
10,500 total (US 7,500; CS 3,000)		2,907 total (US 37K/214W/13M; CS 23K/58W/62M/2,500 captured)	Union victory

*K = killed; W = wounded; M = missing*

## Civil War Battles in North Carolina (cont.)

**New Bern (NC003)**, situated on the Neuse River and near the line of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad, both of which were supply routes to the interior, was taken second.

### Battle of New Bern (NC003)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Craven	Mar. 14, 1862	Brig. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside [US]; Brig. Gen. Lawrence O'B. Branch [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Expeditionary Force and Foster's, Reno's, and Parke's Brigades [US]; 5 regiments, militia [CS]		1,080 total	Union victory

Next to fall was **Fort Macon (NC004)**, which guarded Beaufort along the southern end of Pamlico Sound as well as Morehead City, the terminus of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad and another route to the interior.

### Siege of Fort Macon (NC004)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Carteret	Mar. 23-Apr. 26, 1862	Brig. Gen. John G. Parke [US]; Lt. Col. Moses J. White [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Parke's Division of Department of North Carolina, 3rd Division [US]; Fort Macon Garrison [CS]		490 total (US 10; CS 480)	Union victory

Learning that the Confederates were building ironclads in Norfolk, Burnside sent an expedition to destroy the locks of the southern terminus of the Dismal Swamp Canal at **South Mills (NC005)**, near Elizabeth City. This was to prevent the transfer of ironclads into the Albemarle from Norfolk. This attempt to destroy the locks failed.

### Battle of South Mills (NC005)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Camden	Apr. 19, 1862	Brig. Gen. Jesse Lee Reno [US]; Col. Ambrose Wright [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
21st Massachusetts and 51st Pennsylvania [US]; 3rd Georgia [CS]		150 total	Inconclusive (Federals withdrew)

Finally, Col. Robert Potter, Union commander of the captured garrison at Washington at the junction of the Pamlico and Tar Rivers, attempted a reconnaissance northwest toward Greenville. His troops were stopped cold at a bridge over **Tranter's Creek (NC006)** and returned to Washington.

### Battle of Tranter's Creek (NC006)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Pitt	Jun. 5, 1862	Lt. Col. F.A. Osborne [US]; Col. George Singletary [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Regiments		40 total	Union victory

At this point, Burnside and his troops were recalled to Virginia to help General McClellan extricate his army from the Virginia Peninsula after his failed attempt to capture Richmond.

### The Goldsborough Expedition (Dec. 1862)

The third campaign, **The Goldsborough Expedition**, was taken on by Burnside's successor, Union Maj. Gen. John G. Foster. His goal was the destruction of the railroad bridge at Goldsborough. This bridge was on the important Wilmington and Weldon Railroad line, along which essential supplies received at Wilmington from blockade runners were moved up to Virginia to provide food, clothing, and munitions to Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia. On their way, Foster's force was blocked at the Neuse River bridge at **Kinston (NC007)** by a Confederate delaying force. Foster won this engagement and pressed on.

### Battle of Kinston (NC007)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Lenoir	Dec. 14, 1862	Brig. Gen. John G. Foster [US]; Brig. Gen. Nathan Evans [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Department of North Carolina, 1st Division [US]; Evans's Brigade [CS]		685 total	Union victory

Foster then found his way blocked again at a bridge over the Neuse River at **White Hall (NC008)**.

## Civil War Battles in North Carolina (cont.)

### Battle of White Hall (NC008)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Wayne	Dec. 16, 1862	Brig. Gen. John G. Foster [US]; Brig. Gen. Beverly Robertson [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Amory's and Stevenson's Brigades [US]; Robertson's Brigade [CS]		150 total	Inconclusive

Although their artillery heavily damaged the CSS Neuse being built on the north side of the Neuse River, Foster's force gave up their attempt to cross the Neuse at White Hall and, instead, crossed several miles upstream between Mount Olive and White Hall. Continuing onward, Foster completed his campaign by successfully destroying the **Goldsborough Bridge (NC009)**.

### Battle of Goldsborough Bridge (NC009)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Wayne	Dec. 17, 1862	Brig. Gen. John G. Foster [US]; Brig. Gen. Thomas Clingman [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Department of North Carolina, 1st Division [US]; Clingman's Brigade [CS]		220 total	Union victory

Unfortunately for the Federals, the Confederates quickly rebuilt the bridge after the Union force returned to their base at New Bern.

### Longstreet's Tidewater Operations (Feb.-May 1863)

The fourth campaign, **Longstreet's Tidewater Operations**, served a number of purposes. By moving Longstreet south, Lee removed some of the pressure caused by the lack of food and forage reserves in northern Virginia that was negatively impacting his army. Lee ordered Longstreet to attempt to take back some of the North Carolina port cities and restore better logistics in moving supplies from the coast to the interior. A final objective was to seek to gather all the provisions and volunteer soldiers possible.

First, Longstreet directed Maj. Gen. D.H. Hill, commander of the North Carolina District, to advance on the Union stronghold of New Bern with about 12,000 men. However, Confederate Maj. Gen. William H.T. Whiting, who commanded the Wilmington garrison, refused to cooperate with this plan. Despite this, Hill set off and gained initial success at Deep Gully on March 13. On March 14

and 15, Hill attacked the well-entrenched Federals at **Fort Anderson (NC010)**, which lay on the east side of the Neuse River across from New Bern.

### Battle of Fort Anderson (NC010)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Craven	Mar. 13-15, 1863	Lt. Col. Hiram Anderson [US]; Maj. Gen. D.H. Hill [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
1st Division, XVIII Corps [US]; Hill's Division [CS]		7 total	Union victory

After the timely arrival of Union gunboats, Hill was forced to retire. New Bern's garrison was then heavily reinforced, and Hill withdrew. Turning his attention to **Washington (NC011)** at the strategic junction of the Tar and Pamlico Rivers, Hill laid siege.

### Battle of Washington (NC011)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Beaufort	Mar. 30-Apr. 20, 1863	Brig. Gen. John G. Foster [US]; Maj. Gen. D.H. Hill [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
6 regiments and artillery units [US]; Hill's Division [CS]		100 total	Inconclusive (Confed. withdrew)

After three weeks, Hill decided to withdraw. Prompting his decision was the completion of his foraging efforts. In addition, the siege had failed because the Federal gunboat USS Escort had brought in supplies and reinforcements on April 13th. Finally, Hill had received a message from Longstreet requesting reinforcements for an assault on Suffolk. Hill broke off the siege on April 15 and headed north with his troops.

### Daniel Harvey Hill (Sr. and Jr.)

Contrary to what you may have imagined, D.H. Hill Library on the campus of NC State University in Raleigh is not named for Maj. Gen. Daniel Harvey Hill of Civil War fame. Rather, it is named for his son, Daniel Harvey Hill, Jr. (1859-1924), who had served as President of NC State College (now NC State University) from 1909-1916. Hill Jr. was born in 1859 in Davidson, NC where his father, Hill Sr., was a faculty member at Davidson College. Hill Jr. received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Davidson College in 1880 and 1886, respectively. Hill Sr. is buried in Davidson College Cemetery.

## Civil War Battles in North Carolina (cont.)

### Operations against Plymouth (Apr.-May 1864)

The fifth campaign, **Operations against Plymouth**, was initiated by the Confederates to take back **Plymouth** from the Federals (NC012). Troops under Gen. Robert Hoke, aided by a simultaneous attack from the iron ram CSS Albemarle, were successful in this endeavor.

#### Battle of Plymouth (NC012)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Washington	Apr. 17-20, 1864	Col. Henry W. Wessells [US]; Maj. Gen. R.F. Hoke [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Plymouth Garrison (4 infantry and artillery units) [US]; Hoke's Division [CS]		2,834 total	Confed. victory

Hoke followed up this success with an attempt to retake New Bern, again with the support of the CSS Albemarle. However, his three warships were intercepted by a Union fleet of nine gunboats in **Albemarle Sound** (NC013).

#### Battle of Albemarle Sound (NC013)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Chowan and Washington	May 5, 1864	Capt. Melancton Smith [US]; Cdr. J.W. Cooke [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
9 gunboats [US]; Confederate ram [CS]		88 total	Inconclusive

One Confederate wooden ship was hulled and surrendered and the other retreated back up the Roanoke River. Although outnumbered and alone, the Albemarle withstood hits from over 500 shells, resulting in a stand-off. With the arrival of darkness, the Albemarle returned back to base in Plymouth for several months of repairs. Not waiting, Hoke continued with his attempt to retake New Bern without Albemarle. This led nowhere, and Hoke was recalled to Virginia to help in the defense of Petersburg and Richmond.

### Expedition Against Fort Fisher (Dec. 1864)

The sixth campaign, **Expedition Against Fort Fisher**, occurred in December 1864. By then, the only remaining major Atlantic port still under control of the Confederates was Wilmington, NC. And the only obstacle standing between it and the Federal fleet was **Fort Fisher** (NC014), known as the "Gibraltar of the South". Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler was placed in overall command of an expedition to take the Fort. A fleet of the Union navy, under Rear Admiral David D. Porter, first tried to blow up

the Fort's wall with a powder-laden ship. This failed. The navy then tried a two-day bombardment of the Fort. This also failed. Finally, Butler ordered an amphibious marine assault to lay siege to the Fort. Shortly thereafter, learning that the Confederates were sending in reinforcements, and with deteriorating weather conditions, Butler called off the siege and withdrew.

#### Battle of Fort Fisher I (NC014)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
New Hanover	Dec. 7-27, 1864	Rear Adm. David D. Porter and Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler [US]; Maj. Gen. Robert Hoke [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Expeditionary Corps, Army of the James [US]; Hoke's Division and Fort Fisher Garrison [CS]		320 total	Confed. victory

Not surprisingly, Butler was relieved of command by General-in-Chief U.S. Grant two weeks later and was replaced by Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry.

### Operations Against Fort Fisher and Wilmington (Jan.-Feb. 1865)

The seventh campaign, **Operations Against Fort Fisher and Wilmington**, began one week after Terry took over. The first phase, **Fort Fisher II** (NC015), was a second attempt take the Fort. In it, Terry coordinated closely with Rear Admiral Porter. A naval bombardment was followed by a marine assault which successfully took the Fort on Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>, 1865, despite Butler's previous claim that the Fort was "impregnable".

#### Battle of Fort Fisher II (NC015)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
New Hanover	Jan. 13-15, 1865	Rear Adm. David D. Porter and Maj. Gen. Alfred Terry [US]; Gen. Braxton Bragg, Maj. Gen. Robert Hoke, and Col. Charles Lamb [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Expeditionary Corps, Army of the James [US]; Hoke's Division and Fort Fisher Garrison [CS]		2,000 total	Union victory

The loss of Fort Fisher sealed the fate of Wilmington, the Confederacy's last remaining sea port. It also ended any remaining hope of European intervention. And with that, one could also say the fate of the Confederacy, itself, was sealed.

## Civil War Battles in North Carolina (cont.)

After the capture of Fort Fisher, the second phase of the campaign was the capture of **Wilmington**, itself. In February 1865, the Union XXIII Corps arrived to reinforce Terry's Expeditionary Force. Maj. Gen. John Schofield took command of the combined force and started moving against Wilmington in mid-February. After winning three small engagements along the Cape Fear River, mostly outside Wilmington, itself, the city was captured.

### Battle of Wilmington (NC016)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
New Hanover	Feb. 12-22, 1865	Maj. Gen. John Schofield [US]; Gen. Braxton Bragg [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Cox's, Ames's, and Paine's Divisions (12,000) [US]; Hoke's Division, Hagood's Brigade (6,600) [CS]		1,150 total	Union victory

With the port of Wilmington now closed, the Union blockade was complete. Bragg's troops from Wilmington retreated towards Goldsboro, North Carolina, where they united with other Confederate forces commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston. Schofield's troops were reorganized into the Army of the Ohio and from Wilmington he marched inland to join with Sherman's army near Fayetteville.

### Campaign of the Carolinas (Feb.-Apr. 1865)

The eighth, and final, campaign, **Campaign of the Carolinas**, involved Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's march northward through the Carolinas as his troops further undermined the Confederacy's ability to continue fighting by destroying large amounts of supplies and demoralizing the Southern people. His goal was to ultimately link up with U.S. Grant and his forces in the besieging trenches before Petersburg and Richmond.

A total of five significant battles were fought in North Carolina during this final campaign of the Civil War. Initially, three Union Armies consolidated at Goldsboro, NC. Then, over the next two weeks four battles were fought on an east-west line running from Kinston to Fayetteville. The first battle, **Wyse Fork**, pitted Union Maj. Gen. John Schofield against Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg. The action centered around a vital cross road and the New Bern-Goldsboro Railroad. Outnumbered and unable to turn the Federal left flank, Bragg was forced to fall back.

### Battle of Wyse Fork (NC017)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Lenoir	Mar. 7-10, 1865	Maj. Gen. John Schofield [US]; Gen. Braxton Bragg [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
20,500 total (US 12,000; CS 8,500)		2,601 total (US 1,101; CS 1,500)	Union victory

The second battle, **Monroe's Crossroads**, occurred on the grounds of what is now Fort Bragg Military Reservation. Involving about 4,500 men, it pitted mounted Confederate cavalry against dismounted Union cavalry and was one of the last all-cavalry battles of the Civil War. The fighting was inconclusive and simply delayed by several hours the Federal cavalry's movement toward Fayetteville.

### Battle of Monroe's Crossroads (NC018)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Hoke	Mar. 10, 1865	Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick [US]; Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler and Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Kilpatrick's Cavalry Division (1,850) [US]; Wheeler's and Hampton's Cavalry Division (3,000) [CS]		269 total (US 183; CS 86)	Inconclusive

The third battle, **Averasborough**, was a prelude to the climactic Battle of Bentonville, which began three days later. On March 16th, Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman was moving his army north towards Goldsboro in two columns, the right column (Army of the Tennessee) under Maj. Gen. Oliver Howard, and the left column (Army of Georgia) under Maj. Gen. Henry Slocum. Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston sent Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee's corps to pounce on Slocum's left wing near Averasborough while it was separated from the rest of Sherman's forces.

### Battle of Averasborough (NC019)

County	Date(s)	Commanders	
Harnett and Cumberland	Mar. 16, 1865	Maj. Gen. Henry Slocum [US]; Lt. Gen. William Hardee [CS]	
Forces Engaged		Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
XX Corps and XIV Corps (25,992) [US]; Hardee's Corps (5,400) [CS]		1,419 total	Inconclusive

## Civil War Battles in North Carolina (cont.)

Fending off the Confederate assault, Union reinforcements arrived and, in a counterattack, pushed back the Confederates. In danger of being flanked, Hardee's troops withdrew.

The fourth, and penultimate, battle, **Bentonville**, occurred over a three day period from March 19-21, 1865. It represented the Confederacy's last, desperate attempt to stop the Union forces. In the end, as a result of the overwhelming Union strength and the heavy casualties his army suffered in the battle, Gen. Johnston withdrew from the field. This was the final infantry battle of the Civil War between Sherman's and Johnston's armies.

### Battle of Bentonville (NC020)

County	Date(s)	Commanders
Johnston	Mar. 19-21, 1865	Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman and Maj. Gen. Henry Slocum [US]; Gen. Joseph E. Johnston [CS]
Forces Engaged	Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Sherman's Right Wing (XX and XIV Corps) [US]; Johnston's Army [CS]	4,738 total (US 1,646; CS 3,092)	Union victory

Over the following three weeks, Sherman's forces marched north to Raleigh, accepted the surrender of the Capital city, and settled into a period of rest and resupply while maintaining marshal law over the city's populace.

The fifth, and final, battle of the **Campaign of the Carolinas** was an all-cavalry affair in and around **Morrisville**, west of Raleigh, and represents the final battle of any kind between Sherman's and Johnston's armies. Occurring April 13-15, 1865, it involved the Confederate cavalry's attempt to escort their wagon trains of supplies and injured soldiers west to Greensboro. The Union cavalry harried them to such an extent that Gen. Johnston saw the futility of their actions and set in motion the meeting at Bennett Place in Durham on April 17th to negotiate the terms of the surrender to Sherman of all the forces under Johnston's command.

### Battle of Morrisville (NC021)

County	Date(s)	Commanders
Wake	Apr. 13-15, 1865	Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick [US]; Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler and Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton [CS]
Forces Engaged	Estimated Casualties	Result(s)
Kilpatrick's Cavalry Division (1,850) [US]; Wheeler's and Hampton's Cavalry Division (3,000) [CS]	Unknown	Union victory

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## Upcoming Events

**August 24, 2019: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Life on Campaign: Summer Living History at Bentonville Battlefield**

Bentonville Battlefield, 5466 Harper House Rd, Four Oaks, NC 27524.

Hear the roar of cannon fire! Learn how artillery regiments loaded and fired during the Civil War. Infantry displays by the 27<sup>th</sup> NC Co. D will showcase a common soldier's daily life. Demonstrations will occur throughout the day. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Amanda Brantley at (910) 594-0789 or email her at [amanda.brantley@ncdcr.gov](mailto:amanda.brantley@ncdcr.gov).

**October 18-20, 2019: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. 23rd Annual Civil War Symposium**

Pamplin Historical Park, 6125 Boydton Plank Road, Petersburg, VA 23803

Hear from some of the nation's greatest Civil War scholars as they talk about *Small Battles, Big Results*.

The authors and topics are as follows:

- Mr. Peter Cozzens – Battle of Iuka
- Mr. Jerry Desmond – Battle of Ringgold
- Mr. Rod Gragg – Battle of Fort Fisher
- Mr. Jeff Hunt – Battle of Mine Run
- Mr. James Morgan – Battle of Ball's Bluff
- Dr. Timothy Smith – Champion Hill
- Dr. Brian Steel Wills – Battle of Fort Pillow

The Symposium begins on Friday night with a reception at the Park where attendees and speakers can meet and enjoy refreshments. Saturday is filled with lectures and opportunities to purchase published works by the speakers for autographs and participation in a silent auction. Sunday will feature additional speakers and a panel discussion. Symposium pricing is \$339.00 per attendee.

Call (804) 861-2408 or visit <http://www.pamplinpark.org> for more information and to register today. Space is limited so register now. See and print the registration form at <https://pamplinpark.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/symp19-flyerfinal2full.pdf>.

**October 24-27, 2019: Forging the Path to Gettysburg**

Discover the little-known action of spring/summer 1863 leading up to the pivotal Battle of Gettysburg! Tours led by area historian and Camp Curtin Historical Society President Jim Schmick and award-winning author and historian Scott Mingus. Presented by Civil War Seminars ([www.CivilWarSeminars.org](http://www.CivilWarSeminars.org)). Bus tour and Seminar.

Home base is Hampton Inn, 955 Leshner Road, Chambersburg, PA, 17201, (717) 261-9185, [www.hamptoninn.com](http://www.hamptoninn.com).



# News of the RCWRT



## Upcoming 2019 RCWRT Meetings

Date	Speaker	Topic
Aug. 12	Philip Gerard, M.F.A. in Creative Writing	The Last Battleground — The Civil War Comes to NC
Sep. 9	Amy Bauer	135th Infantry Regiment U.S. Colored Troops
Oct. 14	Wade Sokolosky, U.S. Army Col. (ret.)	NC Confederate Hospitals in 1865
Nov. 4	Ron Roth, M.T. in Museum Studies	Desperate Hours: Understanding the Battle of Gettysburg Through the Art of its Battlefield Monuments
Dec. 9	Holiday Party	Location and entertainment to be announced



The American Battlefield Trust asks for your help in saving 185 acres of irreplaceable Civil War history on parts of three Civil War battlefields: The Wilderness (36 acres), Cold Harbor (5 acres), and Bentonville (144 acres). The goal is to raise \$161,375. Donations are matched at a ratio of \$10.43-to-\$1.

For more information, go to <https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/save-three-civil-war-battlefields>.

### Did You Know?

CNN's Anderson Cooper is not only the son of the late fashion maven Gloria Vanderbilt, he is also the great, great grandson of the U.S. Cavalry General Judson "Kill-Cavalry" Kilpatrick. Kilpatrick was the first regular Union officer wounded in the war, struck in the thigh at Big Bethel, June 10, 1861. He obtained his nickname for his willingness to exhaust men and horses and to order suicidal mounted cavalry charges. In the battle of Monroe's Crossroads (described on p. 7), Kilpatrick was caught in a surprise early morning Confederate attack wearing only his nightshirt and had to flee on horseback so dressed. This event became known as Kilpatrick's "Shirt-Tail Skedaddle".

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 6:30 pm, at the N.C. Museum of History (located at 5 Edenton Street, across from the State Capitol). The programs begin at 7:00 p.m. Check the RCWRT website (<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>) for program dates and timing.

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 the Treasurer by **September 15** each year.



## The Knapsack

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Readers are encouraged to submit photos, events, & articles for publication to Bob Graesser, Editor ([bob.graesser@gmail.com](mailto:bob.graesser@gmail.com); 919-244-9041)

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Paying Memberships / Total Members: 134 / 214

New member: Welcome, Al Bredenberg of Raleigh

## Donated Civil War-Related Books Now on Sale

A collection of 456 Civil War-related books from the library of our late member Jim Brenner was recently generously donated to the Raleigh CWRT and is up for sale. The proceeds will seed a new pool for funding future educational and preservation activities related to North Carolina and the Civil War.

Dr. Ted Kunstling is currently curating the collection. Each book can be found listed on the Raleigh CWRT's website under the front page link [Civil War Book Collection Sale](http://raleighcwrt.squarespace.com/civil-war-book-collection-sale/) (<http://raleighcwrt.squarespace.com/civil-war-book-collection-sale/>).

Prices will be \$5 per hardcover book and \$2 per paperback book. Buy three books and get a fourth free regardless of type. Contact Ted at [trkunstling@aol.com](mailto:trkunstling@aol.com) or (919) 787-5282 to place your order.

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