

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

March 8, 2010
Our 109th Meeting



Volume 10
Number 3

The Wounding and Death ~ (Fifty Years Later) ~ of Joshua Chamberlain

(June 1864) Five days ago, Joshua L. Chamberlain was mortally wounded while leading an unsuccessful charge against a heavily fortified Confederate position southeast of Petersburg. Although he underwent more than ten hours of surgery, the pelvic wound was fatal.

Chamberlain was a famous Union general who was lost to history after his death in 1914. However, writer Michael Shaara discovered the story of this officer when he was doing research for his novel, ***Killer Angels***. The manuscript was rejected by the first fifteen publishers because it dealt with war during the anti-war atmosphere in the U.S. in 1974. Finally a small, independent publisher released the novel, but then was bought out by Random House. Despite the very limited availability of the novel, it won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1975. Shaara died in 1988. Movie director, Ron Maxwell, read the novel and bought the rights to make a film. The movie, ***Gettysburg***, was released over 16 years ago and brings Chamberlain into the public limelight. The novel was reissued and went to the top of the New York Times Best Seller list for 18 weeks.

However, Chamberlain's exploits at Little Round Top mark the beginning of our March 8th program. He was seriously wounded at Petersburg in 1864, and it is this wound that stayed with Chamberlain the rest of his life. Although he suffered six wounds during the war, it was the Petersburg wound that defined his character.

Chamberlain is the classic citizen-soldier. He did not have a military education, but learned the art of war when enlisted.

Matt Farina, M.D.

General Joseph E Johnston Statue By RCWRT Member To Be Dedicated At Bentonville



*RCWRT members Carl Regutti (sculptor)
and Dr. John Booker (project chairman)
display a small model of the statue.*

On March 20, at 10:00 a.m. (during the re-enactment honoring the 145th anniversary of the battle), a statue of Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston will be unveiled at a site adjacent to the Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site.

This will be only the second statue erected to honor the memory of General Johnston in the United States, and will be the only Confederate general's statue to be erected in North Carolina.

RCWRT member and renowned artist and sculptor Carl Regutti was commissioned to sculpt the statue.

With the guidance of Statue Committee Chairman Dr. John M. Booker, Carl set out to capture every true detail of the "Soldier's General" Joseph E. Johnston in the 20 percent larger than life statue.

Carl Regutti's works-of-art are of international scope and are collected in North America, Europe, and Asia.

He is an extremely versatile sculptor with talents ranging from ultra-realism to abstract. His prize winning sculptures range widely: wildlife, western & rodeo, equestrian, human portraiture, and corporate images.

Carl is especially known for realistic action scenes, such as his masterpiece sculpture *Speed & Power Unleashed*, a cougar leaping through the air chasing a whitetail deer; or *River Frolic*, an underwater scene of a mother river otter and her young chasing a brook trout. His *Saving Life* bronze is an artistic close-up of a cardiovascular surgeon's hands working on critical open heart surgery.

Carl's famous equine life-size bronze of *Aristides* (winner of the first Kentucky Derby in 1875) is the centerpiece at historic Churchill Downs. His dramatic and unique *Heroism & Sacrifice*, a life-size bronze, granite/concrete monumental art honoring North Carolina's fallen firefighters, is a dynamic action scene of three firefighters working under severe stress in a hazardous collapsed building fire, saving a fallen comrade.

Carl's talents evolved from a family background of artists in Europe and America. Blending his earlier scientific career in environmental microbiology, chemistry, engineering, and international business management, his creativity is not only in art but in technology as well.

Mr. Regutti was awarded patents in germ-killing paper products, in wood-rot control, and in pollution control of steel mill hydrocarbon emissions. This very unique combination of skills accelerated Carl's successful career of the past twenty five years as a full-time professional sculptor, dedicating much of his time to our world's wildlife heritage.

A successful example of Carl's blending of art and science to benefit wildlife was his project with The Franklin Mint. The first time the Mint decided to combine porcelain and bronze in an art sculpture, they commissioned Carl to sculpt and engineer an innovative *Japanese Crane* for worldwide marketing. This led Carl to create a life-size, six foot high Japanese red crown crane (similar to the endangered whooping crane) bronze sculpture called *Bird of Happiness*.

Carl has been commissioned by prestigious companies and organizations including: Walt Disney, Santa Anita Park, the Franklin Mint, the U.S. Air Force, the Cleveland Zoo, American Airlines, NationsBank, Seagram & Sons, Pillsbury, Glaxo, John Deere, Burroughs Wellcome, Duke University, the NC College of Veterinary Medicine, DeBartolo, the Town of Cary, Rotary International, and more. Mr. Regutti has been a frequent exhibitor at the world's

largest wildlife festival ~ the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition in Charleston, South Carolina.

President George H. W. Bush owns Regutti's *American Pride & Power*. In 2002 each of the families who lost a firefighter in 9/11 along with Mayor Rudy Giuliani and other notable dignitaries were presented one of Mr. Regutti's *Heroism & Sacrifice* bas-relief sculptures as a special honor from North Carolina's firefighters.

Regutti art is in permanent museum collections including:

- The Franklin Mint Museum, Franklin, PA
- NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh, NC
- Kentucky Derby Museum, Louisville, KY
- The Horse Park Museum, Lexington, KY
- Bahlsen Museum, Hannover, Germany

www.josephejohnston.com

Matt Farina, Our March 8th Speaker



Matt Farina is a retired pediatric cardiologist and Professor of Pediatrics at Albany Medical College in Albany, New York.

He now winters in Southern Pines, where he is a member of the Rufus Barringer CWRT and is editor of their newsletter.

In Albany he is a member of the Capital District CWRT and has served four years as treasurer, four years as

president, and has been the editor for more than nine years.

Matt has been an author of approximately forty articles and abstracts about cardiology. He has won a number of teaching awards at the medical college. Matt was a major in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1971-73 at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco.

In presentations, Matt has contrasted Chamberlain and Jackson. Both were professors, both were wounded, and both had profound effects on their armies as a result of their wounds.

If you have not yet read *Killer Angels*, Matt recommends that you do so before our March meeting. (At least, re-watch the DVD *Gettysburg*.) His presentation begins after the Battle of Gettysburg.

Jeb's Most Ardent Supporter

Although not particularly attractive, she was indeed highly disciplined, very "straight laced", an expert shooter, and quite skilled in handling a horse. It was this latter attribute that caused Lt. James Ewell Brown Stuart to fall hopelessly in love with the "army brat", Flora Cooke, while on post at Leavenworth, Kansas in 1856.

With great anticipation, young officers awaited the arrival of the daughter of their commanding officer, Lt. Colonel Phillip St. George Cooke of the 2nd U.S. Dragoons, who was moving his family west while he was on assignment to keep peace in "Bleeding Kansas". Women in this frontier outpost were still somewhat novel, and Lt. Stuart was indeed anxious to view and meet young Flora Cooke. He got his chance a few days following her arrival. While on parade, Flora's horse became frightened and bolted. Jeb saw this as an opportunity to save the damsel in distress, but before he could come to her rescue Flora was able to settle the steed and bring him back into formation. From that moment, Stuart was completely smitten and vowed to make Flora Cooke his wife, which he did after a brief courtship.

While members of the RCWRT often have the opportunity to learn of famous Civil War personalities such J.E.B. Stuart, seldom do they get the chance to hear much about their families or loved ones. Thanks to writer and freelance researcher, Teej Smith, almost 70 members and guests of the RCWRT received a most fascinating account of Flora Cooke Stuart's life, particularly during the years following the death of her husband in 1864.

Teej captivated her audience for a full hour with stories and accounts of Flora after the war; detailing her struggles trying to raise her daughter, Virginia, and particularly her son, James Ewell Brown Stuart Jr., whom she was bent on seeing secure an appointment to West Point. A dream she never realized! Fortunately, Flora discovered when settling her husband's estate a full year after his death, that he had deposited \$5,000 in a St. Louis bank ~ money he had intended to use to purchase a home for Flora when she became jealous of the attention Stuart was attracting from ladies during his war escapades. The discovery of these funds helped Flora immensely and enabled her to eventually move to Staunton, VA, where she supported herself as the headmistress of the Virginia Female Institute.

According to Teej however, Flora's biggest challenge ~ one in which she devoted much of her life to, was defending her husband following published remarks made in 1878 by Gen. Harry Heth, who sought to shift the blame of losing Gettysburg and ultimately the war, to Lt. Gen. Stuart. Others such as Jubal Early and James Longstreet, picked up this "blame game" since a scapegoat was needed to attribute the loss, and of course no one would suggest that Robert E. Lee had any fault whatsoever. Flora was partially successful in her defense, aided by John Mosby and George Pickett, who when asked said "the Yankees had a little something to do with the results at Gettysburg".

Thanks once again to Teej Smith for an outstanding presentation and entertaining account of the life of Flora Cooke Stuart. Teej has a knack for digging out the details of her topic and bringing them to life, and based on the comments received following her presentation, it is highly likely that we will invite her for a return performance to provide an account of some other obscure CW personality.

Dave Downing, Program Chair

Upcoming CW Events

March 13: *The Role of New Bern During the CW* sponsored by The Pettigrew Historical Society. Symposium only \$10; with lunch \$20. 11 a.m. ~ 4 p.m., Bill Gurkin Scout Building (behind Faith United Methodist Church), 4143 MLK Jr. Blvd, New Bern. For details, contact RCWRT member Mike May at mmay1213@aol.com.

March 15: *Our Irish & Scots-Irish Ancestors* sponsored by NC Genealogical Society. \$20. 1:30-5:00 p.m. See www.ncgenealogy.org, insert, and article on Page 4.

March 20-21: *145th Anniversary Battle of Bentonville*. \$8 each day; rain or shine; must be able to walk 1/2 mile to battlefield. Battles at 3 p.m. Saturday and 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Speakers include Mark Bradley and Chris Fonvielle. 9-5 Saturday; 8:30-5:00 Sunday. See www.bentonville145.com.

March 20: *Unveiling of General Joseph E. Johnston Statue*. Free. 10:00 a.m. 5244 Harper House Rd, Four Oaks. (The state's visitors center is 2 miles east of U.S. 701 on the left; continue 1/3 mile east and the statue is on the left.) www.josephejohnston.com.

March 26-28: *The Cavalry ~ Liberty University 14th Annual CW Seminar*. \$60. Lynchburg, VA. See www.liberty.edu/civilwar and February *Knapsack*.

2010 ~ The Start of Another Great Year for the RCWRT

2010 has started as another great year for the RCWRT! On February 1, 2010, our total number of members was 144; whereas, on that same date in 2008, our members totaled 121. Attendance continues to increase as shown below:

<u>Month</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
January	118	109	110
February	56	63	67
March	63	56	
April	53	47	
May	44	73	
June	66	76	
July	54	65	
August	69	50	
September	26	115	
October	43	45	
November	86	57	
December	71	85	

In addition to our usual monthly meetings, we hope to schedule at least one field trip (possibly to Appomattox Court House), another "hot dogs on the mall", and another wonderful Christmas party.

Ten members attended the Longwood University Seminar in Farmville, VA, on February 27th.

Also, see the enclosed flyer announcing our fund-raiser on May 1, to help preserve the last remaining remnants of Big Bethel Battlefield!

Irish-Americans in CW

Some 150,000 Irish-American immigrants served in the Union Army, most of them from Boston, New York, and Chicago. About 40,000 fought in the Confederate Army.

Many notable CW soldiers on both sides were of Ulster-Scots origin including, Thomas 'Stonewall' Jackson, J.E.B. Stuart, Jubal Early, Ulysses Grant, George McClellan, and Philip Sheridan. In the Carolinas, it is estimated that 40 percent of Confederate soldiers were of Scots-Irish lineage.

See insert for information concerning an upcoming Irish and Scots-Irish genealogy seminar. This is a very rare opportunity for those interested in Irish and Scots-Irish history. Both of these two gentlemen have international reputations.

Kevin Milus, President



The Knapsack

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**Readers are encouraged to submit
photos, events, & articles for publication.**

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RCWRT Score Card

Total Members	144
February 2010 Attendance	
Supper	15
Meeting	67
Fellowship	9
Longwood Seminar	10

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* at 7:00 pm., at the NC History Museum, (5 Edenton St. across from the State Capitol). Members and guests are encouraged to meet for supper at High Park Bar & Grill (625 E. Whitaker Mill Road) at 5:15; and for further discussion at The Mellow Mushroom (Glenwood Avenue & Peace Street) immediately after the meeting. *Except our Ed Bearss Special Event in January.

Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$15 for students. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20. For new members joining in June, July, or August 2010, dues are \$30; however, payment is not due until September 1, 2011.