

Raleigh Civil War Round Table Newsletter The Same Rain Falls On Both Friend and Foe.

October 8, 2007 Our 80th Meeting



Volume 7 Number 10

Andrew Duppstadt will discuss the CSS Neuse at our October 8 meeting



Andrew Duppstadt as a naval re-enactor.

Our October speaker, Andrew Duppstadt, is the Assistant Curator of Education and Historic Weapons Program Coordinator for the NC Division of State Historic Sites. Although he is based in Kinston, his duties afford him the opportunity to travel statewide. Although there are no sites that he dislikes, some of his favorites are Historic Edenton, Brunswick Town / Fort Anderson, President James K. Polk State Historic Site, and Governor Zebulon Vance Birthplace.

Andrew also serves as President of the Civil War Round Table of Eastern North Carolina, Secretary of the North Carolina Civil War Tourism Council, President of the living history group Ship's Company of the Roanoke, and sits as an alternate board member for the Navy and Marine Living History Association.

Andrew holds a BA and MA in history from UNC-Wilmington, and served as a teaching assistant to renowned Civil War historian Chris Fonvielle.

Andrew is a long-time friend of the RCWRT and has previously provided a tour of the CSS *Neuse* for our members and has also spoken to the RCWRT last year.

A Bountiful and Delightful Picnic

Members, spouses, and guests who attended the Annual RCWRT Picnic last month were treated to a bountiful array of haute (picnic) cuisine, amidst a most convivial group of participants. Given the weather patterns of the past few months, it is likely that the picnic could have been scheduled on almost any day and rain would not have been a problem, but on this particular Saturday, the attendees were favored with both dry weather and comparatively pleasant temperatures.

Regardless of climate, however, the chief organizers of the affair (Darline Tellier and Gayle Wilson) had ensured that there would be enough food on hand to feed an army (from either side of the Potomac), and a bountiful array of options were on hand to satisfy almost any appetite. "Iron Chef" David Waller displayed his finely honed talent and skill behind the grill as he served up countless hamburgers and hot dogs to an obviously appreciative audience. While David's burgers and dogs would have been enough to satisfy any mid-day appetite, the incredible array of casseroles, side items, and desserts that members had brought from home were a delight to both the eye and the palate (regardless how many times one "checked them out"). No doubt the recipes for many such items as the corn-based casserole, the brownies. cheesecake, and blueberry cobbler could have been auctioned off to help pay off the national debt of some small nation!

Following the meal, Vernon Janke treated the group to a most entertaining and informative discussion on the habits and characteristics of many of the birds that might ordinarily inhabit the park. After the discussion, those who were interested were afforded the opportunity to go on a "bird walk" with Mr. Janke (an obvious expert on the subject of birds), during which an unusual number of species were (or were not) sighted.

Continued on Page 6



David burns a few!



Now he's cookin'!



Chow Time!

Museum of the Confederacy to split; it will divide artifacts among 3 sites; two are Chancellorsville, Appomattox



Museum and White House of the Confederacy, 1201 E. Clay St., downtown Richmond Photo By: Phil Riggan/DiscoverRichmond.com

The Museum of the Confederacy has found a new home for the world's largest collection of Civil War artifacts.

Make that homes.

Three Virginia localities will serve as a museum "system," replacing the single museum that has stood at 12th and East Clay Streets in Richmond since 1976. Officials yesterday announced two of those sites -- the Appomattox Court House National Park and the Chancellorsville Battlefield Visitor Center near Fredericksburg.

The location of the third site is likely to be announced by the end of the month. Other national battlefield sites in the state include Petersburg and Manassas.

The museum headquarters, including the library and research center, collections storage and administration, will remain in Richmond. The White House of the Confederacy, the home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis during the Civil War, will also stay put.

"If our mission is to use our artifacts to educate the public about the Civil War and the Confederacy, man are we going to accomplish that so much better because we are going to have more on view and more visitors," said Waite Rawls, the museum's president and CEO. "We are taking the artifacts back to where they were made famous."

Plans call for the construction of an 8,000square-foot museum at each site, with about 5,000 square feet of exhibit space. That adds up to 15,000 square feet of exhibit space -- more than twice the space the museum has now. Each museum will also house a gift shop, educational rooms and offices.

"The idea of combining artifacts with battlefields will bring new life to both," said Jim Lighthizer, president of the Civil War Preservation Trust. "It will provide visitors a glimpse into the stories of the war, which is the most defining conflict in American history."

The project will cost about \$15 million, Rawls said, or \$5 million per site. The museum will begin a capital campaign, and Rawls is hoping for local, state and federal funding.

"In this case, we will be building one [museum] while raising money for the second," he said. "We will move into them gradually so we can spread it out logistically and financially."

The move won't come until 2011, the beginning of the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War.

"After three years of hard work involving a state study commission, a peer review study and a large number of volunteer experts, the board feels that a system of museum sites is the best way to accomplish our central mission of using artifacts to educate the public about the Civil War and the Confederacy," said Carlton Moffatt Jr., chairman of the museum's board of trustees. "The prospect is very exciting."

The museum is relocating its collection to escape the sprawling medical campus of Virginia Commonwealth University. Visitation has been falling for years, from about 92,000 in the early 1990s to 44,000 in the last budget year.

"We are focused on taking our collection to the visitor, rather than trying to get the visitor to

come to us," Rawls said. "[These sites] hold great war-time significance. They have strong visitation numbers and name recognition."

The May 1-5, 1863, Battle of Chancellorsville is known as Gen. Robert E. Lee's greatest victory. The visitor center there contains exhibits, a 22minute movie and bookstore, walking trails and a 7-mile driving tour.

Chancellorsville, which attracts about 47,000 visitors a year, is one of four Civil War battlefields near Fredericksburg run by the National Park Service. The four battlefields draw about 1.8 million visitors a year.

The Appomattox Court House National Park brings in about 155,000 visitors each year. The Civil War effectively ended at Appomattox on April, 9, 1865, when Lee and Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant signed the surrender terms.

Each site, which will employ 10 to 15 people, will artifacts relevant to that exhibit area. Appomattox, for example, will display Lee's surrender uniform and sword, the clothes Jefferson Davis was wearing at the time of his capture and some of the flags surrendered. The Chancellorsville site will showcase a letter written by a dying soldier, a painting depicting the last meeting between Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson and J.E.B. Stuart's personal effects.

"Our big asset is this unbelievable collection," Rawls said. "The question has been how to get it to work for itself. Well, you get it in front of the people. Now, we will be able to do that."

> By Janet Caggiano Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Interesting CW Websites

The Society of Civil War Historians http://scwh.la.psu.edu

Guide to Civil War Materials ~ Duke University http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/pathfinders/civilwar/

Chronicling America ~ The Library of Congress www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/

MOC Holdings

The Museum of the Confederacy is home to the world's largest collection of Civil War artifacts. Here's a sampling.

Robert E. Lee: The frock coat he wore at the surrender at Appomattox; the presentation sword worn at the surrender; the saddle and bridle used on his war horse Traveller; riding boots and spurs; mess kit used in the field; Colt pistol.

J.E.B. Stuart: Plumed hat; LeMat revolver, French-made cavalry saber; tall riding boots; saddle.

Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson: Forage cap worn at the Battle of First Manassas (Bull Run); sword carried during the war; haversack worn when he was mortally wounded at Chancellorsville, 1863; handkerchief stained with his blood.

Flags: Headquarters flag of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, made in 1861 by Hetty Cary. Flag of CSS Shenandoah, the last Confederate flag surrendered, Nov. 1865, seven months after Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

Gen. John Hunt Morgan: Silver embroidered presentation saddle; frock coat; Colt pistols; gauntlets.

Other artifacts: Constitution of the Confederate States of America; suit worn by President Jefferson Davis when he was captured on May 10, 1865; the White House of the Confederacy, executive mansion of the Confederate States of America from 1861 to 1865 and the official residence of Davis and his family.

> Modern Photos of CW Battlefields www.civilwaralbum.com

> > Kevin Milus

Next Month: CW Map Websites

The Knapsack

www.raleighcwrt.org

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Calendar of Events Bennett Place State Historic Site

The visitor center at the Bennett Place in Durham is open with a museum gallery interpreting the life of the Bennett family and the events of the surrender. The theater presentation "Dawn of Peace," is shown throughout the day, and the museum gift shop is also open with a variety of Civil War related souvenirs and collectibles.

"Life in the Carolinas During the Civil War" October 13-14

Experience what life was like for civilians and soldiers in the Piedmont Carolinas during the time of the American Civil War. Civilians will demonstrate domestic chores such as cooking, gardening, sewing and cleaning, while soldiers share their stories of enlistment, and their life in the Confederate army. Free.

"A Civil War Christmas in the Carolinas" December 15-16

Visit Bennett Place during the holiday season and witness how Christmas was celebrated in the Piedmont Carolinas. The farm will be decorated in a typical Christmas fashion. Music, caroling, and refreshments will be served. Free.

> John Guss, Site Manager Bennett Place State Historic Site

As a courtesy to our speakers, please sit in the first 13 rows.

2007 Oakwood Cemetery Lantern Walk Scheduled for October 27



Lt. Ranson Autry, RCWRT member Darwin Roseman, and Major James Mills, the hospital commanding officer and chief surgeon, prepare for the hospital skit during the 2006 Lantern Walk.

What is it? A Family-oriented event featuring volunteers wearing authentic period clothing presenting historical skits of the War Between the States with emphasis on North Carolina and the Raleigh area.

Groups of visitors are guided to each skit presentation on pathways in the cemetery lighted by numerous candle luminaries. Ladies in period dresses are the hostesses for the tour.

At the end of the journey into history, refreshments of drinks and cookies are served in the grand "House of Memory". The tour usually covers 6 skits and takes about an hour to complete.

When is it? October 27th, 2007 (Saturday evening) from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Parking is available in the cemetery and comfortable walking shoes are recommended.

Where is it? The Confederate Section of the historic Oakwood Cemetery in downtown Raleigh. This section is the resting place of more than 1,400 Confederate soldiers and just

recently discovered, one Federal soldier.

What is the Cost? \$6.00 per person over 11 years of age, \$3.00 per person for ages 6 to 11, and free for all children under 6 years of age

Profits from the ticket sales will be used for the continued restoration work in the Confederate Section.

Darwin Roseman

A Bountiful and Delightful Picnic Continued From Page 2

Whether enjoying the wonderful array of food that was offered, the opportunity for a tranquil stroll though the park, or simply the enjoyable company of a festive group, the annual picnic provided many pleasant memories to all in attendance. A tip of the cap to all who assisted in making the experience once again so delightful!

Jim Brenner

More Picnic Photos



Vernon explains why one should not drink muscadine wine from a mason jar while riding in a boat!



Help yourself!



Finished!



The birds are around here somewhere!



Round Table's Corner News of the RCWRT

Ed Bearss Returns to RCWRT on January 12, 2008!

For the fifth year in a row, world renowned historian, Ed Bearss, will speak to the RCWRT members and friends in January, 2008. Although the format, location, and price have changed, Ed will still entertain and enlighten us about the CW.

For 2008, Ed will speak to us at our usual meeting location, the History Museum which is across the street from the State Capitol. Because we will not be serving a meal, the cost is only \$10 and reservations are not required!

Mark your calendars now and watch for additional details in future **Knapsacks**.

RCWRT Christmas Party Will Be Held in the State Capitol on December 9!

This year our annual Christmas party will be held in the State Capitol. Plan now to attend for great refreshments and a tour of the Capitol. Spouses welcome!

Membership Renewal Time

The fiscal year for the RCWRT begins on September 1st of each year. Accordingly, dues were due September 1. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so promptly.

Annual dues (both individual and family) are

\$30. We currently have 136 members and only 71 members have renewed as of September 27.

Dues should be send to Sandra Pearman, Treasurer, 1016 Jones Wynd, Wake Forest, NC 27587.

Please submit your dues along with the membership renewal form. This form is important because it provides you the opportunity to allow your name and address to be added to our roster which will be distributed only to our members.

The form also allows members to elect to receive our newsletter by e-mail instead of regular mail. Each newsletter mailed costs approximately \$1.25 to print and mail.

From Our Readers

Thanks so much for this newsletter! I always enjoy seeing what you folks are up to and I was thrilled with the picture of Stonewall!!! Thanks so much!!!

> Nora Brooks (a.k.a. Millie Childe Lee)

Knapsack Format Changed Slightly

Regular readers of *The Knapsack* will notice that its format has changed slightly. This was done to conform with postal regulations in order to reduce our mailing expenses.

RCWRT Score Card	
136	
71	
52%	
October 2007 Attendance	
32	
5	
<i>Knapsack</i> Circulation Total Distribution 338	



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Raleigh Civil War Round Table (Founded March 12, 2001)

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table is a 501(c)(3) "tax exempt organization" which meets on the second Monday of each month* at 7:00 pm., at the NC History Museum, located at the corner of Edenton and Wilmington Streets, across from the State Capitol. Members and guests are encouraged to meet for supper at High Park Bar and Grill located at 625 E. Whitaker Mill Road at 5:15; and for further discussion at Napper Tandys, 126 N. West St (diagonally across the street from the 42nd Street Oyster Bar), immediately after the meeting.

* Except special events: January (Ed Bearss Program) and September (picnic) are on Saturdays.

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 2008, dues are \$30; however, payment is not due again until September 1, 2009.

www.raleighcwrt.org is the official website and members are encouraged to submit items of interest (including links to other websites) to the Web Master.

The Knapsack is the official newsletter of the Raleigh CWRT and is published the Wednesday before each meeting. Members and others are encouraged to submit interesting articles and items to the Editor.

In the Campfire's Light is located on the website and each month honors a member's CW ancestor, regiment, re-enactment group, etc. Cost is \$10 per month.

Parting Shots (Photos Taken or Submitted by Our Members and Readers.)



The Farrells & The Lincolns (Phil, Tad, Abe, & Bob) Photo taken by the Editor during RCWRT trip to Tredegar Museum & U.S. Park Service Headquarters, Richmond, VA, June 25, 2005.

Parting Shots

Readers are encouraged to submit either their own photographs of CW sites they have visited or their favorite period photograph or illustration.

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