



## CALL TO ARMS

### Brunswick Civil War Round Table

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September 7, 2010  
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**Date:** Tuesday, September 7, 2010 @ 7:00P.M.  
**Location:** Trinity U.M. Church (Murrow Hall), 209 E. Nash St., Southport, NC  
**Speaker:** Mark Bradley  
**Topic:** “Sherman in North Carolina: Fierce Warrior and Compassionate Peacemaker.”

This month’s speaker has a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Mark is particularly well-suited to discuss this topic, having written a book on the Battle of Bentonville and another on Johnston’s surrender to Sherman at the Bennett Place. He is employed at the Army Research Center in Washington, D.C.

Our first meeting in May featured Col. Black Jack Travis, author, historian and professional Civil War re-enactor. He spoke on the guns of Gettysburg, which is included in his third soon-to-be published book titled “The Guns of Gettysburg, Legends of Artillery.”

Our June speaker, Dr. Chris Fonvielle, currently teaches Civil War history at UNCW and spoke on the “Confederate Command Structure in the Wilmington Campaign.” He not only informed the Round Table but also let them walk away with a far better understanding of what went right and wrong with the Confederate Command Structure of the Wilmington Campaign during 1861-1865. Salted throughout his presentation were many “could have, should have, would have” situations. From North Carolina Governor John W. Ellis’ wise choice of Brig. General Whiting to protect 300 miles of N.C. coastline (an almost impossible task) to the efforts of Major General Hoke to somehow hold onto Wilmington 45 days before the ultimate fall of the Confederacy, we were treated to a dose of reality thinking.

**Dr. Fonvielle** and our first speaker, **Jack Travis**, were given Charter Lifetime Memberships to BCWRT.



Dr. Chris Fonvielle

**Susannah Ural** was presented a Charter Membership for her contribution to the formation of the Round Table. This was presented by Tom O'Donnell, president of the BCWRT.



Susannah Ural



President, Tom O'Donnell

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### **Battles with Dual Names**

The South generally named battles after some handiwork of man (a town, a building, etc.) while the North gave names based on something, such as a river, mountain, etc.

#### **Confederate Names**

First Manassas  
Leesburg  
Mill Springs  
Elkhorn Tavern  
Shiloh  
Gaines Mill  
Second Manassas  
Ox Hill  
Boonsboro  
Sharpsburg  
Perryville  
Murfreesboro  
Mansfield  
Winchester  
Seven Pines

#### **Federal Name**

Bull Run  
Balls Bluff  
Logan's Cross Roads  
Pea Ridge  
Pittsburg Landing  
Chickahominy  
Second Bull Run  
Chantilly  
South Mountain  
Antietam  
Chaplin Hills  
Stones River  
Sabine Cross Roads  
Opequon Creek  
Battle of Fair Oaks

One Virginia battle had seven names: White Oak Swamp, Frayser's Farm, Glendale, Charles City Cross Roads, Nelson's Farm, Turkey Bend, and New Market Cross Roads.

Prepared by Col. Black Jack Travis from the *Rebel Yell*.

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**War Between the States Trivia** *answers on page five (5)*

1. How old was Robert E. Lee when the war began?
  2. How tall was "Little" Phil Sheridan?
  3. What did A.P. Hill insist on wearing before every battle?
  4. What one-armed general rode with the reins between his teeth?
  5. The Merrimac had another name. What was it when she battled the Monitor?
  6. What was spread on Union ship decks to prevent slipping on blood in battle?
  7. What were the Gray Ghosts of the water?
  8. What was the standard caliber of the Springfield Civil War musket?
  9. How many horses were assigned to each piece of field artillery?
  10. What was the favorite cannon of the Civil War?
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***The Ladies' Department***

**Food**—Tomatoes were the most common home garden produce and by the time of the Civil War there were more than a thousand varieties. They included: Abraham Lincoln, Mortgage Lifter, and Great White Beefsteak. Most were not smooth and round like the modern varieties.

Some manufactured foods familiar to people today were also eaten during the Civil War era. These included: Underwood Deviled Ham (1822), Borden's Condensed Milk (1856), Van Camp's Pork and Beans (1861), and Lea and Perrins Worcestershire Sauce (1835).

| <b>Food Costs—In the South in 1861</b> |     | <b>1865</b>     |
|--|-----|-----------------|
| Flour per barrel                       | \$6 | \$325 to \$1000 |
| Butter per pound                       | \$2 | \$15 to \$20    |

**Receipt**—Soda Biscuits

Stir into one quart of flour two teaspoonsful of cream of tartar, and one teaspoon of salt; dissolve in three gills (equals 4 fluid ounces) of new milk and one teaspoon of soda; stir it into the flour quickly; pour all on the board and roll out and cut into little cakes. Bake them in a quick oven (approx. 400 degrees). Taken from *Savory Suppers and Fashionable Feasts* by Susan Williams, 1966.

**Receipt from 1861**—Baked Custard Pie

Mix a quart of new milk with eight well-beaten eggs, strain the mixture through a fine sieve, and sweeten it with from five to eight ounces of sugar, according to taste; add a small pinch of salt, and pour the custard into a deep dish with or without a lining or rim of paste, grate nutmeg or lemon rind over the top, and bake it in a very slow oven.

**Inventions**—In the U.S., by 1860, there were 2,529 the sewing machines manufactured by 72 companies in twelve states. The Singer, Wheeler & Wilson, and Grover & Baker were the most popular. Walter Hunt invented a machine in 1832 but Singer introduced the installment plan, \$5.00 down and payments of \$5.00 per month. The average cost ranged from \$50 to \$125. In 1845, Elias Howe introduced the home sewing machine. The 1861 edition of "Eighty Years of Progress in the United States" revealed a table to compare time spent sewing:

| <b>Garment</b>    | <b>Machine</b>     | <b>By Hand</b>       |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Gentleman's shirt | 1 hour, 16 minutes | 14 hours, 26 minutes |
| Silk Dress        | 1 hour, 13 minutes | 10 hours, 22 minutes |
| Drawers           | 28 minutes         | 4 hours, 1 minute    |

The number of stitches sewn by hand per minute for fine silk was 30, by machine 560.



D) Trips. I just returned from a three day trip to Gettysburg, a place I have visited many times, yet I learned so much more from the nationally known Ed Bearss. I also learned a lot of practicable do's and don'ts for planning a trip for when we will have trip opportunities available to the Round Table.

E) Volunteers. Several people have volunteered and we will use them Bob Benedict, Norm Praet and Charen Fink all have done a yeoman's job and will in some form or fashion require assistance as we go forward. We encourage those who have not contacted us to consider volunteer opportunities.

I want to personally thank Wally Rueckel for all his hard work and perseverance.

New people bring new ideas and change. Since change is the only way we grow, improvement and growth through change will be our objective for the 2010/2011 season of BCWRT.

I look forward to seeing you at the meetings and on the trails. *Tom*

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**Answers to War Between the States Trivia Quiz**

- 1) 54 2) 5'3" 3) A red shirt that matched his beard 4) Philip Kearny 5) CSS Virginia
  - 6) Ashes 7) Confederate blockade runners who used smokeless powder and feathered paddles
  - 8) The standard Union-issued Springfield was a .577 caliber. 9) 6 10) The smoothbore Napoleon
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**Brunswick Civil War Round Table Meetings Schedule For 2010-2011**

September 7<sup>th</sup> begins the upcoming series of monthly Round Table meetings featuring an impressive array of prominent Civil War historians, authors, college professors and Civil War re-enactors presenting and discussing a variety of subjects relating to this important period in our country's history.

Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>: "**Sherman in North Carolina: Fierce Warrior and Compassionate Peacemaker.**" Our guest speaker is Mark L. Bradley, award winning author and a leading authority on the Carolinas Campaign of the Civil War.

Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>: "**Confederate Raider John Moseby: His Men and Their Methods.**" Presented by Horace Mewborn, U.S. Army veteran, whose specialty is the Confederate cavalry in northern Virginia.

Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>: "**Confederate Commander-in-Chief: The Military Background of Jefferson Davis.**" Keith Hardison, Director of Historic Sites in North Carolina will be our guest. He managed the Jefferson Davis house for thirteen years, and is a long time Round Table presenter.

Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>: "**The Early Days of the Civil War in New Mexico.**" Presented by Jim McKee, BCWRT Vice President and senior staff member at the Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historical Site. This topic is especially close to Jim since the Confederates in New Mexico captured an ancestor, a physician in the U.S. Army.

Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>: “**Civil War Medicine.**” Presented by Don Johnson, physician turned-historian and instructor at UNCW. His interest is in the history of medicine, especially for the many thousands needing medical attention during the Civil War.

Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>: “**Civil War Women: Spies, Nurses and Homemakers.**” Charen Fink, former nurse, Director of our BCWRT and past president of the Mahoning Valley Civil War Round Table, has been involved in a variety of Civil War-related activities, including presentations as a Living History interpreter for the past nineteen years...”in period dress.”

Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>: “**Abraham Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief.**” Our guest presenter is Richard Starnes, head of the History Department, Western Carolina University. He has published two books, including articles on the Civil War era concerning historic memory and the resurgent “Rebels” in North Carolina during Reconstruction.

Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>: “**King Cotton Diplomacy: Dreams and Realities.**” Presenting is Dr. Max Williams, Professor Emeritus, Western Carolina University and a founding Director of our BCWRT. He is a member of the N.C. Historical Commission. Among his many publications are four volumes of “The Papers of William Alexander Graham,” as well as numerous articles and reviews.

Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>: “**President Jefferson Davis and Governor Zebulon Vance: Quarrelsome Partners in the Confederate War Effort.**” Our presenter is Joe A. Mobley who was in the Publication Section, North Carolina Office of Archives and History for many years before retiring to do his own research and writing.

Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>: “**The Texas Brigade at Gettysburg.**” Presented by Susannah Ural, BCWRT Charter Member and Assoc. Professor of History, the University of Southern Mississippi. Her interests range from social to military subjects relating to the Civil War.

All monthly meetings are held at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 209 E. Nash St., Southport, across from the Southport Post Office. Registration begins at 6:30pm, and programs begin at 7:00pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

For additional information about the Brunswick Civil War Round Table or the upcoming series of monthly meetings, please contact Tom O’Donnell at (910) 253-3249, or Wally Rueckel at (910) 253-7382.

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### **Volunteer Opportunities**

The following positions are open to people who want to become a part of a growing organization with the purpose of learning more about the War Between the States.

- 1) Someone to work with the editor (Charen Fink) on the newsletter
- 2) A webmaster who would be willing to set up a website and maintain it
- 3) Volunteers to work on the finance committee with committee chair and treasurer, Bob Benedict
- 4) Volunteers to periodically host small group meetings for 5-10 members the week following our monthly meeting to discuss the topic of that meeting
- 5) People to help set up before and clean-up after each monthly meeting
- 6) Serve as an officer or director of the Round Table

**CIVIL WAR 101**

Presented by Jim McKee, Vice President and BCWRT Director

Jim McKee, December 7<sup>th</sup> speaker, is a senior staff member at the Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historical Site. He has agreed to set aside time to conduct small group sessions of 5-10 members (Civil War 101) some time following each month's Round Table presentation. It is designed to help interested parties to better understand the nuances of each month's Civil War topic. The following is an example of one such meeting held at Fort Anderson on Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 2010. Extremely informative handouts were given out to those present. Jim is very knowledgeable about his subject and is most willing to answer any questions. Listed here are some of the highlights of that meeting.

- ✓ Many books written appear to be somewhat biased about the War except for James McPherson's "Battle Cry of Freedom."
- ✓ 1793: Eli Whitney perfects the cotton gin in Georgia and it becomes the root of all the problems.
- ✓ By 1858 cotton is king.
- ✓ In 1857 there was an economic crisis but the South was relatively unaffected.
- ✓ Did the South have the right to secede? Who wrote the Constitution? Since the States wrote the Constitution, yes, they did have the right to secede proclaiming state's rights.
- ✓ NC gave the most troops and lost the most.
- ✓ Sherman stopped any burning in NC.
- ✓ Most Northern soldiers' diaries stated they were fighting to preserve the Union.
- ✓ Disease-wise, the largest killer was dysentery, otherwise known as the "quick step".
- ✓ The best Union generals were in the West; those in the East were too political.
- ✓ The best Confederate generals were usually in the East to protect Virginia.
- ✓ The War produced numerous Civil War firsts and breakthroughs in technology.
- ✓ In NC, the largest battle was the Battle of Bentonville.
- ✓ Other topics included ordnance, Lincoln's 1864 election, generals, and the Cape Fear area.

A sign-up sheet is available at the meeting to attend a small group session.