

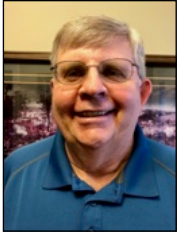


# Call to Arms

## Brunswick Civil War Round Table

November 2026 Volume XVII Issue 3

### The President's Corner **by John Butler**



Our first ever Food Pantry Drive was a rousing success. You, the members, donated 771.5 pounds of food, two large boxes of toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc.), \$40 in cash and a book bag. These items were all sorted, boxed and donated on Thursday, October 8th to Brunswick Family Assistance, Boiling Spring Lakes Food Pantry, and Matthews Ministry. You can see some pictures of the donations in this newsletter. Everyone can feel good about giving something back to the local community to help those who are less fortunate. Those running the pantries and donation sites were very appreciative of everything they received. In fact, at the Boiling Spring Lakes Food Pantry, they took some of the items and immediately placed them on the shelves because they were in such dire need. The head of the Boiling Spring Lakes Food Pantry was very thankful because they had so many needs to fill in September, but the donations had been light. She had heard of the BCWRT doing the food drive and was very thankful to have been included. September had been a slow month for food donations, so your donations came at an opportune time.

I want to thank everyone who gave and especially Leigh and Beverly Rounds (South Brunswick Porch Communities and BCWRT members) and my wife, Ann, who collected all the donations. Per the response of the members at the meeting, we will make this an annual event; details and dates to follow. A great job by everyone involved.

Ed Gantt gave an outstanding presentation on the largest Civil War battle in Florida, the Battle of Olustee. If you missed it, you can always watch it on our YouTube Channel (find it on our website) along with all the other previous presentations since 2022.

Reminder - if you cannot come to the meeting, you can always live stream it at home or on a device that is internet capable. The link is always available on the day of the meeting on our website.

*John*

#### In this Issue

**Page 1**  
**The President's Corner**

**Page 2**  
**Our November 5, Meeting**  
*"D. H. Hill: I am So Unlike Other Folks" by Chris Hartley*

**Page 3**  
**October Meeting Review**  
*"The Battle of Olustee" by Ed Gantt*

**Page 4**  
**Food Pantry Drive**  
*A great success and thank you*

**Page 5**  
**BCWRT Member Travels**  
*Appomattox VA*

**Page 6**  
**BCWRT Member Travels**  
*Lynchburg, VA*

**Page 7**  
**BCWRT Art For Sale**  
*Two prints by Mort Kuntsler:  
A signed and numbered print and a  
framed "special proof"*

**Page 8**  
**Local News**

**Page 9**  
**BCWT News**  
*YouTube and Board Meeting Notes*

**Page 10**  
**Muster Notes**



# BCWRT Upcoming Event

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

## “D.H. Hill: I Am So Unlike Other Folks.”

By Chuck Roedema

Our guest speaker, Chris Hartley, will share his thoughts about “D.H. Hill: I Am So Unlike Other Folks.”

The phrase refers to Major Gen. Daniel Harvey Hill’s extraordinary and contradictory personality. It was, in part, written to his wife, Isabella, shortly after the Maryland Campaign and the Battle of Antietam.

What makes this so intriguing is because of the opposite assessments of Hill by other Confederate generals. Robert E. Lee thought he was difficult and unpredictable. Joseph E. Johnston considered him one of the best corps or division commanders in the Confederate army. James Longstreet considered him courageous and exceptional as did some soldiers, while others thought him to be quarrelsome, impulsive, and difficult to work with.



His “more than eccentric” personality seems to be the key. As descriptions go, he was intensely religious, highly intellectual, fiercely independent, argumentative, and prone to say exactly what he thought.

As background, he was a West Point graduate, a mathematician, and an educator. He was also the brother-in-law of Gen. Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson.

There is so much more to tell about Gen. Hill, so further comments are best left to our guest speaker who wrote the book about him entitled, Confederate General D.H. Hill: A Military Life.

### About the Presenter



Chris Hartley is an award-winning American military historian, author, public speaker to Civil War round tables, historical societies, and museums, and is also a battlefield tour guide. Chris has authored Stoneman’s Raid, 1865 and Stuart’s Tarheels: James B. Gordon and His North Carolina Cavalry. In addition, he contributes articles to publications like America’s Civil War, Blue & Gray Magazine, and Gettysburg Magazine. Overall, he is best known for his deep, detailed research on Civil War high command biographies, cavalry operations, and North Carolina military history.

**See page 9 for Pre-Registering for the Meeting and the link to watch on YouTube.**



# October Meeting Review

## The Battle of Olustee, Florida

By Chuck Roedema



Navy Capt. Ed Gantt (Ret.)

Very few who attended the October 6th meeting were aware of the important battle that took place in February, 1864 in Florida. Revealing the facts with his authoritative voice and knowledge was Navy Capt. Ed Gantt (Ret.). It was the Battle of Olustee, the largest and bloodiest Civil War conflict fought on Florida soil.

The concerns on both sides included fighting taking place in flat, swampy land for the first time; neither side having an accurate assessment of what lie ahead; the Union's need for rations and supplies fighting this far south; and the Confederates goal of protecting their supply routes.



Also, despite losing the battle, how the poorly trained U.S. Colored Troops fought valiantly for the Union army. To this day, the Battle of Olustee is remembered every year on Presidents' Day weekend in Lake City, Florida by a reenactment at the same site as the original battle.



Photos by  
Pat de Barros



# Community Support

## Thank You to All Members for Your Generosity

October 7, 2026

John,

*My sincere thanks to your organization for your generous donation of 771.5 pounds of food, forty dollars in cash, and a backpack! That is an amazing group of individuals you have, and the pantries in Brunswick County along with me are so happy with the generosity of the organization.*

*Christine Cotton, CEO of PORCH, was notified earlier this week about your actions, and I promised to provide her with a total amount. No doubt you will hear from her directly.*

*Extra thanks to the three drivers of the cars who ferried the food to my home on Oak Island.*

*Please let your organization know how proud I am to have received their generous donation!*

Annette Rogers

Oak Island/Southport PORCH



We thank our volunteers who helped receive and deliver the donations. You helped make this possible. At right: Tom Currier, Bruce Jordan, and Leigh Rounds.



Ann Butler and Leigh Rounds



A volunteer at Boiling Springs Food Pantry with donations they received.



## A Visit to Appomattox, VA

Photos by Skip Maxwell

In June this year, Skip Maxwell and his wife, Lee, travelled to Lynchburg and Appomattox, VA, and have shared photos from their travels.



Room in which Lee surrendered his army to Grant



The McLean House (Reproduction)



Clover Hill Tavern where Confederate paroles were printed



Site at Appomattox where the last Confederate artillery fire occurred



Appomattox Court House (Reproduction)



McLean House, with slave quarters and kitchen in back



Monument to NC brigade which fired the last infantry volley



## A Visit to Lynchburg, VA

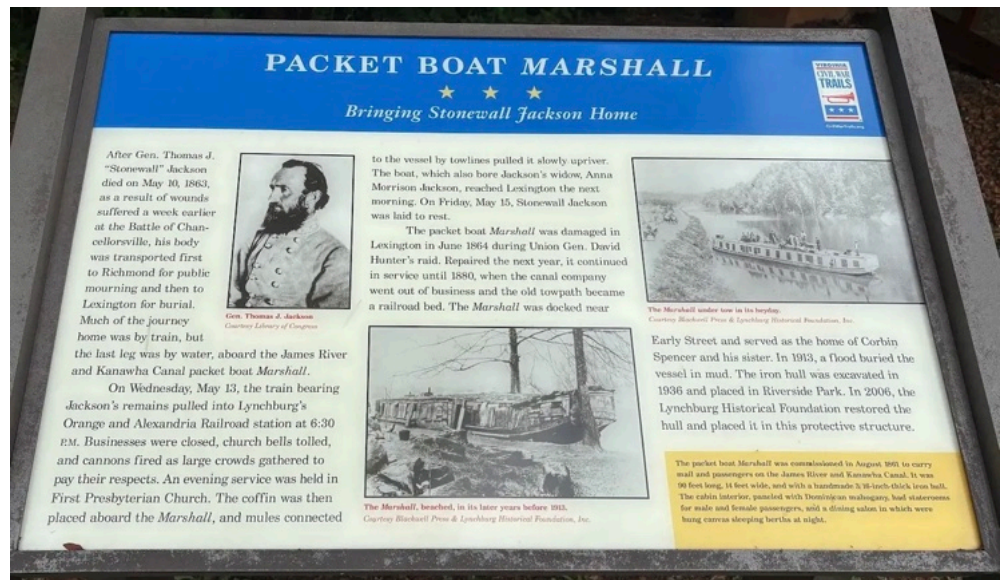
Photos by Skip Maxwell

This interpretive sign, "*Packet Boat Marshall: Bringing Stonewall Jackson Home*," is found in a Lynchburg city park along the James River.

The *Marshall* was a canal packet boat that carried Stonewall Jackson's body from Lynchburg to Lexington in May, 1863.

From the sign: "After Jackson died on May 10, 1863, his body was transported to

Lexington for burial. The last leg of the journey was on the Kanawha Canal aboard the packet boat, *Marshall*. Mules connected to the vessel by ropes pulled it slowly upriver. The boat, which also carried Jackson's widow, Anna Morrison Jackson, reached Lexington the next morning. On Friday, May 15, Stonewall Jackson was laid to rest."



The packet boat continued in service carrying mail and passengers on the James River and Kanawha Canal until 1880 when the canal company went out of business. The *Marshall* was docked and served as a home until 1913 when a flood buried it in mud. Its iron hull was excavated in 1936 and placed in the park.



In 2006 the Lynchburg Historical Foundation restored the hull and placed it in a protective structure.



# BCWRT Fundraiser

## Civil War Art for Sale

Photos by Skip Maxwell

Through the generosity of two members, BCWRT is able to offer for sale two beautiful prints by Mort Kunstler. These will be available for viewing and purchase at our November 3 meeting.



This beautifully framed Mort Kunstler print, **"Confederate Sunset"**, depicts Lee, Jackson, and Longstreet discussing their next steps after a significant victory at Fredericksburg.

Soon, Lee and Jackson would proceed to the Battle of Chancellorsville, which would be Jackson's final engagement.

BCWRT is asking \$125 OBO for this significant piece of Civil War art.

The frame measures 38 1/2" x 30 3/4".

This print is a rare **"Special Proof"** personally signed by Kunstler for the Art League of Long Island, May 8, 1999.

This unframed but matted print is a Mort Kunstler work, **"The Fairfax Raid,"** depicting Mosby's raid on Fairfax Court House and subsequent capture of BG Edwin Stoughton.

This print is dated and autographed by Kunstler.

It is #0926 of 2,750 limited editions and comes with the Certificate of Authenticity.

Print size is 18"x 27 1/2"  
(overall size is 23"x 32 1/2").





## Southport Historical Society Programs

### "Washington Irving - Christmas Traditions"

Tuesday, November 10, 10:00 am

Harper Library 109 W. Moore St., Southport

Historian Desiree Bridge will present *"Washington Irving: The Man Who Popularized Christmas Traditions in America."* Desiree will take a deeper dive into the role Washington Irving's writings played in shaping American Christmas customs and his influence on other writers. *Door prize: two tickets to the 2026 Holiday Tour of Homes on Saturday, December 12.*

*Free. Reservations Required: (910) 457-6237*

### General Membership Meeting

### Southport High School - a New Exhibit

Thursday, November 5, 6:30 pm

Southport Community Bldg, 223 E. Bay St.

Join us for a special evening celebrating the history of Southport High School and the future opening of a new exhibit, "Southport High School: A New Exhibit," at the Fort Johnston Southport Museum — devoted to the school and the generations of students, teachers, and families who were part of its story. *Door prize: two tickets to the 2026 Holiday Tour of Homes on Saturday, December 12.*

*Free. Drop In or Reserve: (910) 457-6237*

### Other Events:

### Tours of Old Brunswick County Jail

Saturday, November 12, 11 am - 5 pm

### Holiday Tour of Homes

Saturday, Dec. 12, 11 pm - 5 pm \$35 pp

Small Group Tours, Friday, Dec. 11, 1 pm - 5 pm  
\$75 pp

*Advance Tickets Only. On Sale Nov. 19, at 10 am  
on website only*

[www.southporthistoricalsociety.org](http://www.southporthistoricalsociety.org).

## Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

### "Battling Mother Nature" - The Opening of the Carolinas Campaign

With Wade Sokolosky

"Battling Mother Nature" refers to Union General William T. Sherman's march through South Carolina in the teeth of an unseasonably cold and wet winter. At the beginning of his Carolinas Campaign, Sherman's chief obstacles were the lowland swamps and rivers of South Carolina abetted by a horrible winter. After resting and refitting his army of 60,000 picked veterans in Savannah, Sherman gave the orders to move north on January 19, 1865, the coldest month in the region during the war. With Sherman's two wings marching on separate paths, the undermanned Confederate forces facing him were unable to mount a defense but hoped the weather would slow the advance. Sherman's pioneers, engineers and regular soldiers, nevertheless, moved ahead inexorably.

Thursday, November 12, 7:00 pm

St John's Episcopal Church  
1219 Forest Hills Dr., Wilmington

## Wilmington Historical Sites

### Burgwin-Wright House

224 Market St, Wilmington, NC  
Monday – Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm  
Call (910) 762-0570

### Bellamy Mansion

503 Market St, Wilmington, NC  
Monday – Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm  
Call (910) 762-0570

### Latimer House

126 South Third St, Wilmington, NC  
Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 3 pm  
Call: (910) 762-0492



## Pre-Register for the November Meeting

Starting Friday, October 16, and lasting until noon on Tuesday, November 3, current members may log into the system - <https://olr.bcwrt-nc.org/> - to print a ticket (one each for yourself and your spouse) showing you've registered.

When you use the online system it will clearly show if you are current (dues paid)...and what to do if you are not up to date. It's that simple!



If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, you will be able to watch it via YouTube Live Streaming by using the following link:

[https://youtube.com/live/ZLh9PBmVj\\_0?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/ZLh9PBmVj_0?feature=share)

*To view at home on your TV: watch on YouTube TV if you have that, or you can "cast" or "mirror" from your phone to your TV. If you are unfamiliar with this, click [here](#) for a link to instructions..*

The **BCWRT YouTube Video Library** is where you will find all of the videos that have been created:

<https://www.youtube.com/@brunswickcivilwarroundtabl4954/videos>

## The Sutler's Table

The Sutler's Table has an assortment of polo and tee shirts for both men and women in different colors and sizes.

You will also find hats, magazines, decals, and free Civil War Trails maps.

Come on up and find something you like. We thank you for your support.

## Notes from the October 2026 Board of Directors Meeting

1. Turnout was very good for our October meeting with Ed Gantt. Our total membership has increased to 1,305, the largest we have ever had.
2. Our Food Pantry Drive turned into an excellent program. There were four carloads of food which weighed 771 lbs.
3. Sixty women have registered for the Ladies' Forum on October 20. There will be two speakers and refreshments.
4. Prices of shirts and hats have increased due to our higher costs. Donations of books will be limited so that we do not have to increase the space used for storage.
5. The date of the tour of Oakdale Cemetery was changed to October 21. A portable device has been purchased for Chris Fonvielle to use to amplify his voice during the tour.
6. Nominations for Officers will be handled by Skip Maxwell and announced at the November meeting.
7. We are investigating software programs for our membership database and registration.

*Our next Board meeting is Tuesday, November 10, 2026. Meetings are held monthly to discuss items that will make our round table more interesting, run better, and keep our membership engaged. President John Butler leads the two-hour meeting that includes interested Advisors and members. The meetings are held at Trinity United Methodist Church in Southport one week following our gathering at Hatch and begin at 10:00 am. If you wish to attend or have suggestions for the Board, please contact John Butler at [jlbutter2007@gmail.com](mailto:jlbutter2007@gmail.com).*



## The Calling Card

**The Monthly E-Newsletter  
of the  
Society for Women and the  
Civil War**



# Muster Notes and Notables

**The November BCWRT meeting is Tuesday, November 3, 2026.**

Hatch Auditorium, NC Baptist Assembly, Fort Caswell, Oak Island, NC.

See page 9 for details to attend via YouTube.

**Registration begins at 6:00 pm and the meeting begins promptly at 7:00 pm.**

**Mail Dues Checks to:** BCWRT, PO Box 10161, Southport, NC. 28461.  
(Please include your current phone number, street address, and email.)

## 2025-2026 Officers, Directors, and Advisors

John Butler: President & Director

Ann Birdsall: VP & Director

Jim Dunn: VP & Director

Jennifer Chapman: Secretary & Director

Tom Kehoe: Treasurer & Director

Bruce Jordan: Director

Chuck Roedema: Director

Gar Dowell: Advisor

Charen Fink: Advisor

Chris Fonvielle: Advisor

Trish Greene: Advisor

Naomi Macey: Advisor

Chris Mackowski: Advisor

Skip Maxwell: Advisor

Jim McKee: Advisor

Wade Sokolosky: Advisor

Robbin Smith: Advisor

Len Trizinski: Advisor

John Wall: Advisor

Angela Zombek: Advisor

## Connect with us



We Welcome Your Suggestions for our Speakers, Website, Meeting Procedures, Membership Retention, etc.

The Brunswick Civil War Round Table does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, creed, ancestry, disability or any other legally protected status in its educational programs, activities, or membership.

BCWRT is a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization,  
co-founded by Tom O'Donnell and Wally Rueckel and organized in May 2010.

**Call to Arms** Editor: Jennifer Chapman ([jennifer.chapman3@icloud.com](mailto:jennifer.chapman3@icloud.com))