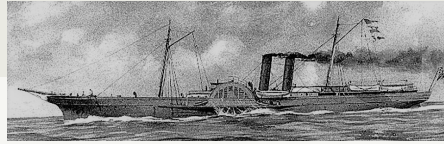




JUNE 2019

THE RUNNER



VOLUME 1 ISSUE 5

June Round Table Discussion A Nearly Forgotten Campaign of 1863

As part of our expanded summer program, the Cape Fear Civil War Round Table will host a true “round table” discussion about the Charleston campaign of 1863.

Charleston, of course, was the “seat of rebellion.” It was the place where Southern radicals initiated the secession movement and South Carolina militia fired the first shots of the conflict.

By 1863, Charleston remained a potent symbol and was also the most important blockade running port in the Confederacy. Its railroads connected the port to the primary Confederate armies in both Virginia and Tennessee.

(Continued on page 2)

CFCWRT July Event - Tour of Oakdale Cemetery

The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table (CFCWRT) July event focuses on Oakdale Cemetery’s military history.

Most Wilmingtonians know Oakdale Cemetery as a peaceful landscape of majestic trees, quiet paths rolling over gentle slopes, flowering bushes and picturesque monuments. Chartered in 1852, it is also a treasure trove of history.

Oakdale is the first “rural cemetery” in the state of North Carolina. During the 19th Century, the Rural Cemetery Movement emerged as an alternative to crowded church graveyards. Oakdale exemplifies this movement. In the spirit of the Romantic era, the rural cemetery was meant for the living as well as departed loved ones—just like Oakdale today.

The CFCWRT will present a special military history tour of Oakdale on Sunday morning, July 14th, beginning at 9:30 am. Learn about Civil War generals buried at Oakdale, the mound memorializing more than 300 unknown soldiers, the bold female spy who perished in the surf during the Civil War and many more.

The tour will focus on Civil War era figures. You will learn about victims of the yellow fever epidemic of 1862 and Union soldiers originally buried on the grounds, as well as many others.

The tour will last for up to two hours, so dress appropriately for the weather and make sure to bring water.

Your experienced guides are members of the CFCWRT steering committee: Past President Bob Cooke, author of *Wild, Wicked Wartime Wilmington*,

(Continued on page 3)

NEXT PRESENTATION

- ◆ Thursday, 06-13-19
RT Discussion - A Nearly Forgotten Campaign of 1863
- ◆ 6:30 Social 7:00 Meeting
- ◆ Harbor UMC
Room 226
4853 Masonboro Loop Rd.
Wilmington



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June Round Table Discussion A Nearly Forgotten Campaign of 1863, cont.

The summer of 1863 seemed, even at the time, the most fateful of the war. Vicksburg fell and “the father of waters once again goes unvexed to the sea,” and the Army of Northern Virginia reached its “high water mark” at Gettysburg, and then receded. What would have happened if Charleston had fallen in that summer?

The distance from Ft. Moultrie to Ft. Sumter is only 1800 yards. On April 7, 1863, Admiral Samuel F. DuPont took a fleet of nine U.S. Navy ironclads, including seven monitors, into that narrow space and attempted to reduce the forts or run through the gauntlet into the harbor. An effective barrier in the channel and the overwhelming volume of accurate fire from the forts stopped the attempt, although more effective planning and joint Army-Navy operations might have led to success.

South of the harbor entrance, lay a thin barrier island called Morris Island. Much of the island has eroded into the ocean since the Civil War but in 1863 it was the scene of fierce fighting in which the Union army eventually occupied Battery Wagner and other Confederate positions, allowing them to virtually close off the main shipping channel, which ran parallel to the island. Firing from Morris Island, the Union battered Ft. Sumter into a pile of rubble. The famous fort was no longer effective as an artillery platform but, as a lightly manned infantry post, it anchored the obstructions that prevented Union warships from steaming into the harbor. Although the Confederates didn’t abandon the fort until 1865, Charleston was no longer the premier blockade running port in the south. That distinction fell to Wilmington.

The monitor attack in April illustrated the limitations of those revolutionary little ships and led to the relief of Admiral DuPont. His replacement was Admiral John Dahlgren of gun invention fame. He was somewhat more cooperative with General Quincy Gillmore, commander of Union ground forces. The grinding summer campaign on Morris Island—with Battery Wagner at its heart—led to more than 2,318 Union casualties and over 1,000 Confederate losses. Those numbers don’t include substantial losses to illness and disease.

“IN EVERY BATTLE
THERE COMES A TIME
WHEN BOTH SIDES
CONSIDER THEM-
SELVES BEATEN,
THEN HE WHO CON-
TINUES THE ATTACK
WINS.”

- Ulysses S. Grant



LAST YEAR’S ROUND
TABLE DISCUSSION

The land campaign evolved into something that presaged the trench warfare of World War I. It featured extensive trenches, and regular relief of both Union and Confederate forces

(Continued on page 3)

June Round Table Discussion A Nearly Forgotten Campaign of 1863, cont.

"WE TALKED THE
MATTER OVER AND
COULD HAVE SET-
TLED THE WAR IN
THIRTY MINUTES
HAD IT BEEN LEFT
TO US."

– Unknown Confeder-
ate Soldier referencing a
meeting he had with a
Union soldier between
the lines.

on the firing line because duty was so dangerous and trying. Technology came into play, too, as the Union developed a "sap roller" used to protect Union soldiers as they dug trenches perpendicular to the Confederate position. Several Requa Batteries, an early version of the machine gun, also made their appearance along with numerous "torpedoes" or mines.

The discussion will focus on the reasons for the Union failure to achieve total victory. Was it political meddling? Was it an overconfident reliance on new technology? Was it the personal-ity conflicts and poor doctrine that made effective Union joint operations impossible? Was it the skill and tenacity of the Confederate defense, led by General P.G.T. Beauregard?

There is a great deal of good information available online and the books **Success Is All That Was Expected** by Robert M. Browning, Jr., and **Gate of Hell** by Stephen R. Wise are excellent volumes.



LAST YEAR'S ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Oakdale Cemetery - CFCWRT July Event, cont.

and Ed Gibson, commander of the Major General Thomas H. Ruger Camp #1 of the Sons of Union Veterans.

The tour is free to CFCWRT members and non-members will be charged \$5 that can be applied toward membership in the Round Table.

Meet at the entrance to Oakdale at 520 N. 15th St.



CFCWRT Upcoming events

SUMMER SERIES

July tour: A weekend tour is being planned of Oakdale Cemetery. Details upcoming.

August Member Forum: Our August meeting will be an opportunity for 3 to 4 of our own Round Table members to share a short (5 to 15 minute) presentation on some aspect of the Civil War that they personally find interesting and that they feel would be of interest to the Round Table. This could be the story of an ancestor, something about a particular soldier or sailor, an event, an incident or anecdote, a little-known fact, or something about uniforms, equipment or technology. It could also be something involving local civil war sites or people.

The presentations should be factual, accurate, and, of general interest. If you elect to use a visual presentation, the usual computer and A/V equipment will be available.

Please contact [Jim Gannon](#) at 910-270 5534 if you would like to make a presentation.

September: John R. Scales - The Battles and Campaigns of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest

"IT WOULD
APPEAR THAT THE
IRONCLADS ARE
NOT FORMIDABLE
MONSTERS AFTER
ALL."

Major David B.
Harris, CSA, Chief
Engineer of the
District of Georgia

Raffle - May Winners



Jane McDonald - Confederate Women
David Jordan - The Long Surrender
David Munnikhuysen - The Confederate Nation
John Moore - Promise of Glory
Joe Hack
Jim Wagner - April 1865
Al Anderson - Judah P. Benjamin

If you have books, prints, or other items that you would like to donate to the raffle, contact Raffle Master [Ed Gibson](#) before our next meeting. The raffle is one of the components which the CFCWRT uses to fund our activities and our speakers. Please take part in

Member News

THE CIVIL WAR MONITOR - SUMMER 2019 ISSUE

This issue features Wilmington in the Travels article. It features a series of questions and the responses of a couple of local “experts.” The local experts were **Bill Jayne, President, Cape Fear Civil War Round Table**, and Christine Divoky, Executive Director of Friends of Fort Fisher. With photographs taken by magazine staff, the article spreads across four pages. In addition to Fort Fisher State Historic Site, the article features Oakdale Cemetery, Fort Anderson State Historic Site, the Wilmington Riverwalk, Airlie Gardens, the NC Aquarium, Fort Fisher State Recreation Area, Jungle Rapids, the Cameron Art Museum (and Forks Road battle site), and, as “Best Book,” Chris Fonvielle’s *The Wilmington Campaign*. Several restaurants and lodging establishments are also noted.

Just before the Travels article is a feature called “Salvo” that presents a fantastic lithograph of the fleet bombardment of Ft. Fisher.

“...CONFUSED AND STUNNED, LIKE A DUCK HIT ON THE HEAD.”

LINCOLN REFERRING TO GENERAL ROSECRANS LOSS AT THE BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA, ROSECRANS WAS RELIEVED OF COMMAND SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

“THE REBEL ARMY IS NOW THE LEGITIMATE PROPERTY OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.”

-JOSEPH HOOKER SPOKE THESE POMPOUS WORDS SHORTLY BEFORE HE WAS SOUNDLY DEFEATED BY ROBERT E. LEE AT CHANCELLORSVILLE.



Keith Ward, Linda Lashley, and Debbie Ward

The Fort Fisher Summer Lecture Series will include CFCWRT Member-at-Large **John Winecoff** (July 6th) and prior CFCWRT president **Dr. Chris Fonvielle** (July 13th). You will find the lecture series schedule on Page 6.

Fort Fisher 2019 Summer Beat the Heat Lecture Series

June 15 - Rick Morrison: The Wilmington Campaign of 1781

June 22 - Michael Hardy, renowned historian and author of North Carolina in the Civil War

June 29 - Mark Grim: The Imprisonment and Trial of the Lincoln Conspirators

July 6 - John Winecoff: North Carolina's Silent Sentinels

July 13 - Dr. Chris Fonvielle: Blockade Running and Wilmington

July 20 - Becky Sawyer: Federal Point Lighthouses

July 27 - Wade Sokolosky: Wilmington's Civil War Hospitals

Aug 3 - Harry Taylor: Timothy O'Sullivan and the photographing of Fort Fisher

Aug 10 - Jim Steele: The Battle of Rivers Bridge

All lectures occur on Saturday at 2:00 pm in the Spencer Theater at Fort Fisher. Please call the site at (910) 251-7340 to reserve a seat.

Fort Fisher State Historic Site
1610 Fort Fisher Blvd South
Kure Beach, NC 28449

<https://historicsites.nc.gov/events>

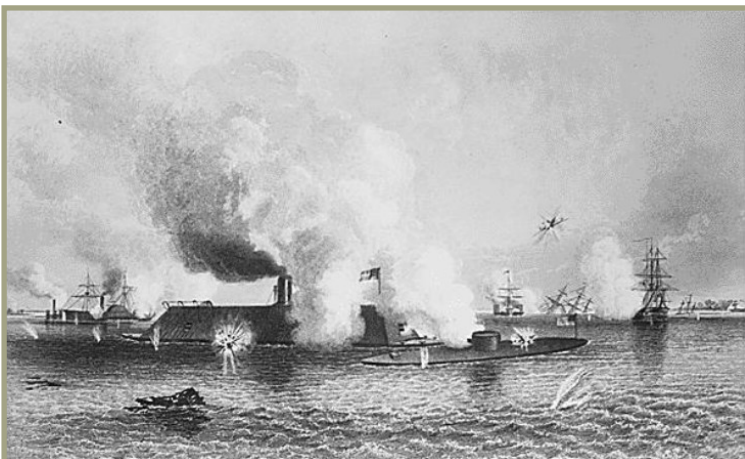
"SENDING ARMIES
TO MCCLELLAN IS
LIKE SHOVELING
FLEAS ACROSS A
BARNYARD, NOT
HALF OF THEM GET
THERE.."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
REFERRING TO
GENERAL GEORGE
MCCLELLAN

Trivia Questions

1. How was the town of Havelock, NC, named?
2. What was the Croatan Line?"?
3. What did the NC regiments who were defeated at New Bern in March 1862 do over the next six months?

Answers on Page 10

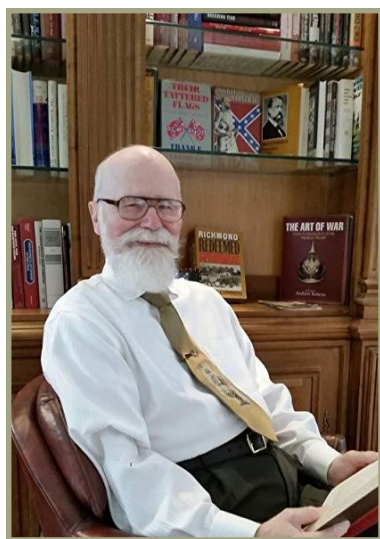


NAVAL ENGAGEMENT IN HAMPTON ROADS.
MERRIMAC AND MONITOR. MARCH 1862.
COPY OF PRINT BY J. DAVIES AFTER C. PAR-
SONS, 1863.

Who Will Lift This Flag

Carrying on Dr. Richard J. Sommers's Legacy

Civil War and Military Historian, Richard J. Sommers, peacefully passed away Tuesday, May 14, 2019. I knew him for 38 years; he was a neighbor, a mentor, and a friend. His love of history influenced countless students of history. He was indirectly or directly involved in much of the Civil War-Military History literature published in the last four decades. While it is true that "America has lost a great historian," as Ted Alexander noted, we recognize that Dick prepared us for this moment.



Much of Dr. Sommers' life was about keeping the memories of our Civil War forefathers and military studies, in general, relevant in our society. It was an up-hill struggle. Many Americans have little interest in, or knowledge of, history. Less and less civilian universities offer Civil War courses, and even less offer military studies (military history, strategy, and strategic leadership). Dick, however, refused to give up. His passion for learning and sharing that knowledge kept him moving forward. Even when he fell ill, he continued to visit battlefields, lecture, publish articles and books, and encourage others to publish their historical works.

As I reminisced about Dick's legacy, I began to think about the scene in the movie *Glory*. Before the final battle, Colonel Robert Gould Shaw stands before the 54th Massachusetts, points to his color-bearer and asks his color-guard, "if this man should fall who will lift the flag and carry on?" I can think of numerous students of history—professional historians and the general public—who will lift the flag and carry on. We will take what he has taught us: emulate his tenacity, his intellectual warrior-ethos, work ethic, and love of history and of Country. We will dedicate ourselves to the unfinished work remaining before us and pass that knowledge on to future generations.

May 20, 2019
JoAnna M. McDonald, Ph.D. History
Wilmington, NC

A more complete obituary is available at this link: [Richard Sommers Obituary](#)

A member of our roundtable, JoAnna McDonald, Ph.D., knew Dr. Sommers well and provides this personal tribute. Thank you JoAnna.

Richard J. "Dick" Sommers, Ph.D., a preeminent Civil War historian, passed away in May at the age of 76. He published over 100 books, articles, chapters, entries, and reviews on the Civil War.

Upcoming Events

Fort Fisher

- ♦ **June 15-16: Confederate Navy Living History Weekend** Living History Program
[Fort Fisher](#)

Southern Pines Civic Club - Rufus Barringer Civil War Round Table

- ♦ **June 20th: Chris Kolakowski, "Grant Take Command,"** an analysis of Grant assuming command of all the Union armies as Lt. General in 1864, Pinehurst, NC

Civil War from Artist's Point of View

By Jim Horton



VETERAN

My first encounter with the Civil War was from a book called *Great Battles of The Civil War* from Life magazine. It was produced in conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of the war. I was probably 7 or 8 years old and had never seen anything like this before. It had paintings of battles and pictures of soldiers in blue or grey uniforms with all of their weapons and accoutrements. These paintings created my interest in the Civil War, an interest that has lasted a lifetime.

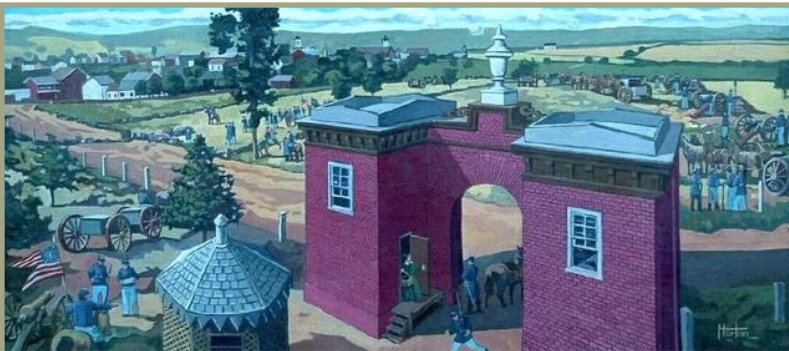
Civil War art began during the war with the battlefield drawings from the publications of Frank Leslie. Artists such as Alfred Waud and Edwin Forbes were eyewitnesses to the carnage and their drawings were published in Leslie's newspapers as well as *Harper's Weekly* and others. Also, famous artists such as Winslow Homer created detailed oil paintings of the Union army in camp and in drill.

Artists of today are continuing this tradition with very detailed paintings of all aspects of the Civil War and have taken it to a new level. Don Troiani's paintings are meticulously researched and beautifully rendered. His details are accurate to the number of buttons on a jacket. His battlefield scenes make one feel that they are standing in the center of the action. Most of his paintings feature a particular event during a battle and one can learn quite a bit about it by studying the painting. They are also outstanding works of art in color and design



VICKSBURG

Mort Kunstler paintings are also historically accurate and extremely detailed. Kunstler, as well, paints battle scenes but also makes many of his paintings of non-battle subjects such as parades, weddings, Confederate balls and the like. They are all quite beautiful as works of art as well as educational in their content. I read that Kunstler was a child prodigy and was a skilled artist by the time he was twelve. Civil War enthusiasts are fortunate that he used his great talent to commemorate The Civil War.



CEMETERY HILL

Troiani and Kunstler are both tremendous artists. Their prints alone sell for many hundreds of dollars.

PAINTINGS BY
JIM HORTON,
CFCWRT MEMBER

Civil War from Artist's Point of View, cont.

By Jim Horton

Other outstanding Civil War artists include Keith Rocco and Dale Gallon, Gallon is a Gettysburg resident and sticks mostly with Gettysburg scenes. One can learn a lot about various battles and regiments from studying their paintings. And just as those paintings that I saw as a child, they bring all of the events from almost 160 years ago to life.

Jim was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pa., and graduated with an Associates Degree from Ivy School of Professional Art. He majored in Illustration and Fine Art. He worked in various fields in graphic arts and technical illustration, which, he says, shaped his "technically oriented style."

<https://hortonart.net/about>

Medical Innovations of the Civil War



The Anesthesia Inhaler

In 1863, Stonewall Jackson's surgeon recommended the removal of his left arm, which had been badly damaged by friendly fire. When a chloroform-soaked cloth was placed over his nose, the Confederate general, in great pain, muttered, "What an infinite blessing," before going limp.

But such blessings were in short supply. The Confederate Army had a tough time securing enough anesthesia because of the Northern blockade. The standard method of soaking a handkerchief with chloroform wasted the liquid as it evaporated. Dr. Julian John Chisolm solved the dilemma by inventing a 2.5-inch inhaler, the first of its type. Chloroform was dripped through a perforated circle on the side onto a sponge in the interior; as the patient inhaled through tubes, the vapors mixed with air. This new method required only one-eighth of an ounce of chloroform, compared to the old 2-ounce dose. So while Union surgeons knocked out their patients 80,000 times during the war, rebels treated nearly as many with a fraction of the supplies.

Water Ways

Paintings and Drawings of Land and Sea
by James Horton

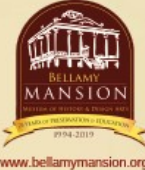
June 10 - July 21

Bellamy Mansion Museum


Artist's Reception

June 28, 2019

6 - 8 pm



www.bellamymansion.org



www.hortonart.net



Trivia Answers

1. Union General Burnside embarked his 11,000 troops around the mouth of Slocum Creek, 12 miles south of New Bern. Today, the area is part of Havelock. The railroad between Morehead City and New Bern needed a stop about half way so the engine could be resupplied with water and fuel, so in 1858 a stop was created and a town grew up around it. The town was named “Havelock” in honor of Sir Henry Havelock-Allan, who received the Victoria Cross for valor during the Indian Mutiny. According to Wikipedia, there are six places named Havelock in the U.S., several in Canada and elsewhere, and an island in the Indian Ocean that looks like a great place to SCUBA dive.
2. Named for the Indian Tribe that lived along the Pamlico and Albemarle Sounds (or the Croatan Sound between Roanoke Island and the mainland), it was a strong defensive line about ten miles below New Bern. The problem was that they didn’t have enough troops to man the line so the defense was moved closer to the city to a line anchored by Ft. Thompson on the Neuse River. Lt. Col. Henry K. Burgwyn of the 26th NC walked the line and determined that they actually needed about 2,000 more men to defend that line.
3. Less than a week after New Bern, the Confederate War Department created the 2nd NC Brigade under command of BG Lawrence O’ Bryan Branch. Branch, the general who had exercised command at New Bern. Four of the regiments at New Bern—the 25th, 28th, 33rd and the 37th—became initial members of the brigade. The 18th NC was in Kinston at the time of the New Bern battle and also became a part of the brigade. The 25th NC was soon transferred to another brigade and the 7th NC, another New Bern unit, was added. So, four of the five regiments in the brigade had fought and been defeated at New Bern while the fifth regiment was nearby in Kinston. In the next six months the brigade became part of Gen. Robert E. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia and fought in several bloody and significant battles—Hanover Court House, Cedar Mountain, 2nd Manassas, Chantilly and Harper’s Ferry. By September 1862, the brigade was a veteran unit that had proven itself on the battlefield.

THE TOWN WAS
NAMED
“HAVELOCK” IN
HONOR OF SIR
HENRY HAVE-
LOCK-ALLAN,
WHO RECEIVED
THE VICTORIA
CROSS FOR VAL-
OR DURING THE
INDIAN MUTINY.

The Other Jefferson Davis

Union General Jefferson Davis shared a name with the Confederate president, a circumstance that didn’t cause as much confusion as might be expected—with one notable exception. During the 1863 Battle of Chickamauga, as darkness fell on Horseshoe Ridge, members of the 21st Ohio saw a swarm of men approaching but couldn’t tell if they were friend or foe. Most assumed they were Union reinforcements, but a few feared they were Confederates. As the troops grew closer, one Union soldier called out, “What troops are you?” The collective reply was “Jeff Davis’s troops.” The Ohio soldiers relaxed, believing they meant the Union general. A few moments later, they were staring down the muzzles and bayonets of the 7th Florida. The Ohioans surrendered. The Confederates won the battle.

Archibald Gracie. *The Truth About Chickamauga*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1911



CAPE FEAR CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

YOU CAN FIND US ON THE WEB! CFCWRT.ORG

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK: [CFCWRT](https://www.facebook.com/CFCWRT)

Links

[American Civil War Story](#)

A site with stories about various aspects of the Civil War.

[Battle Reports from the Official Records](#)

Battle reports from leaders such as Lee, Jackson, Longstreet, McClellan, Burnside and Grant in the Civil War including Shiloh, Gettysburg, Manassas/Bull Run, Fredericksburg and Antietam

[Soldiers and Sailors Database](#)

The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS) is a database containing information about the men who served in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. Other information on the site includes histories of Union and Confederate regiments, and selected lists of prisoner-of-war records and cemetery records. (National Park Service)

Sponsor



THE RUNNER is the official newsletter of the CFCWRT and is published monthly.

If you have member news or news about Civil War events that you think would be of interest to the CFCWRT membership, send an email with the details to the editor, [Sherry Hewitt](#). Thank you.

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CAPE FEAR CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

PO Box 15750

Wilmington, NC 28408

The **Cape Fear Civil War Round Table** is a non-profit organization made up of men and women who have a common interest in the history of the Civil War. The meetings include a speaker each month covering some aspect of the Civil War. This serves our purpose of encouraging education and research into that historical conflict.

Click here for membership information: [Membership Application](#)