



MARCH 2021

THE RUNNER



VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3



The Maps of the Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign

March 11th will bring us a Zoom presentation on the "Maps of the Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign" by Bradley M. Gottfried.

Brad Gottfried is the holder of a Ph.D. in Zoology who capped a successful career in higher education with the post of president of the College of Southern Maryland, a multi-campus community college in the historic Maryland counties south and east of Washington, D.C.

Brad is the author of more than a dozen Civil War history books dating back more than 20 years, including an innovative series of six books based on maps, with two more nearing completion. Brad has focused on the Eastern Theater.



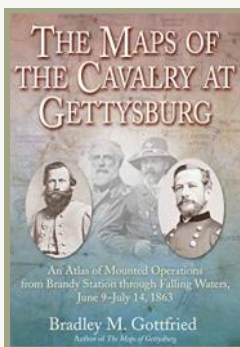
The topic of his presentation on March 11th is the cavalry in the Gettysburg campaign, from the pivotal battle of Brandy Station, the largest cavalry battle ever to occur in North America, on June 9, 1863, to July 14, 1863, with short discussions about the prelude to Brandy Station and the denouement of the Gettysburg campaign once the Army of Northern Virginia regained Confederate territory in Virginia and the Army of the Potomac moved to maintain contact.

In the Gettysburg Campaign, the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac grew to a strength of about 12,000 troopers. Major General J.E.B. Stuart's Cavalry Division of the Army of Northern Virginia numbered about 6,400. These two commands, spent most of that five-week period in the saddle, fighting more than a dozen major battles or engagements, marching well over 200 miles, and incurring thousands of casualties in combat that was often fierce, fast-moving and short-lived.

Was the cavalry important? Stuart successfully fended off the efforts of his counterpart, Brigadier General Alfred Pleasanton, to open up the passes of the Blue Ridge Mountains to learn the movements of Lee's infantry, and the maps and commentary in the book clearly show how well the Union cavalry fought and how poorly their commanders used them, sending in squadrons and regiments piecemeal when a coordinated, massed attack might easily have overwhelmed their opponents.

Finally closing up to the Army of Northern Virginia, Stuart's troopers drove hard to threaten the Union rear but the Union cavalry stopped them and threatened Lee's right flank as well.

This will be an enlightening and interesting presentation. Tune in!



March Meeting

Thursday, March 11, 2021
7:00 P. M.

Zoom Meeting

Email from Bruce Patterson
will be sent prior to Event

Speaker: **Brad Gottfried**
Topic: **Maps of the Cavalry
in the Gettysburg
Campaign**



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April Presentation on Blockade Running

COVID has caused another change to our schedule but the good news is that our April presentation will be “*Lifeline of the Confederacy*” by Stephen R. Wise, the recognized expert on blockade running in the Civil War.

Stephen R. Wise is the director of the Parris Island Museum and the Cultural Resources Manager for the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, S.C. A native of Toledo, Ohio, he received his bachelor’s degree from Wittenberg University, his master’s from Bowling Green State University and his doctorate in history from the University of South Carolina at Columbia. In addition to his duties aboard MCRD Parris Island, he is also an adjunct professor at the University of South Carolina at Beaufort.

He is the author of *Gate of Hell: Campaign for Charleston Harbor 1863*, and *Lifeline of the Confederacy: Blockade Running During the Civil War*. Both scholarly books were published by the University of South Carolina press.

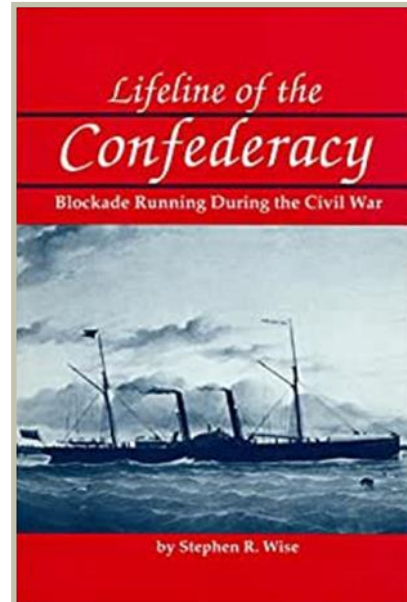
The “Journal of Southern History” wrote of *Lifeline* that “No previous work has offered a comprehensive and analytical look at this topic until now.” The History Book Club said “no overall and encompassing work on this exciting episode in Civil War history has come forth until now.”

Wilmington became the last and most vital link in the supply line that brought ordnance, medical supplies, manufactured war materiel and other necessary items to the Confederate war effort, most notably the Army of Northern Virginia. If you ever had any questions about blockade running, this is your opportunity to learn from the expert.

Tune in on Zoom at 7 p.m. on April 10 to hear Steve Wise on “The Lifeline of the Confederacy.”



Stephen R. Wise



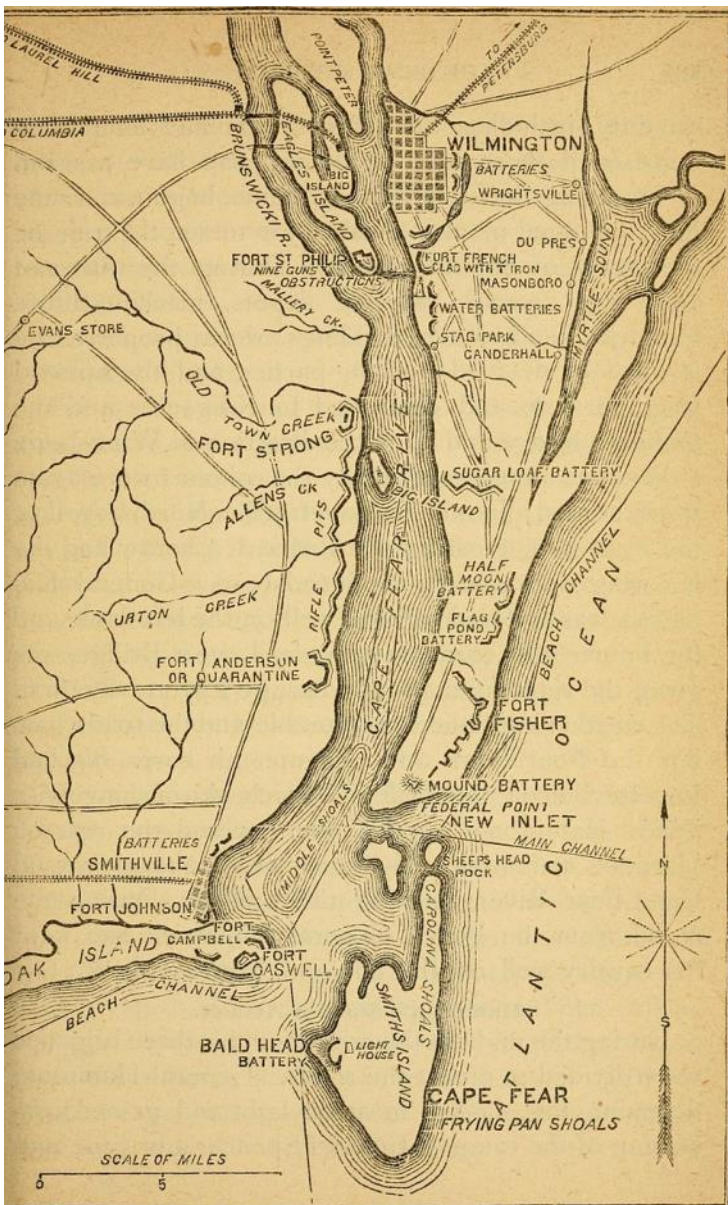
Cape Fear Civil War Round Table Upcoming Events

May 13th **Ray Flowers** (Interpreter Fort Fisher Historical Site), Blockade Runners

North Carolina's principal seaport could not have been better suited for running the blockade. The town was safely out of range of any Federal bombardment from the ocean, and its close proximity to the major transshipment points for incoming European goods was ideal. Nassau in the Bahamas was 570 miles away, while Bermuda was 674 miles due east of Wilmington. Transatlantic merchantmen ferried goods earmarked for the Confederacy to these and other neutral ports. Here the materials were off-loaded onto sleek, shallow draft steamers for the last leg of the journey: the dash through the Federal blockade lines and into the Cape Fear River, under protection of Fort Fisher's formidable defensive works. Having safely delivered their cargoes the runners then returned through the blockade to the transshipment points, usually bearing Southern export items such as cotton, naval stores or lumber.

The Federal blockade consisted of three main lines: farthest line was the cruiser line: whose ships patrolled the ocean with a sharp lookout for incoming vessels headed for Cape Fear, the middle line, followed by a line of "bar tenders" just off the shoal waters of Cape Fear. The navy's lighter vessels ventured in as close to the river inlets as they dared, especially at night. Blockaders close within range of Confederate shore batteries were sure to draw hostile fire. As the war progressed the blockade became more and more effective, but the navy could not meet the challenge of stopping all shipping trade helpful to the Confederate cause. The danger of tackling blockade runners under the guns of Fort Fisher, the largest earthen fort in the Confederacy, was the key to the river defense system below Wilmington.

For more information go to the [CFCWRT website](http://www.cfcwrt.com).



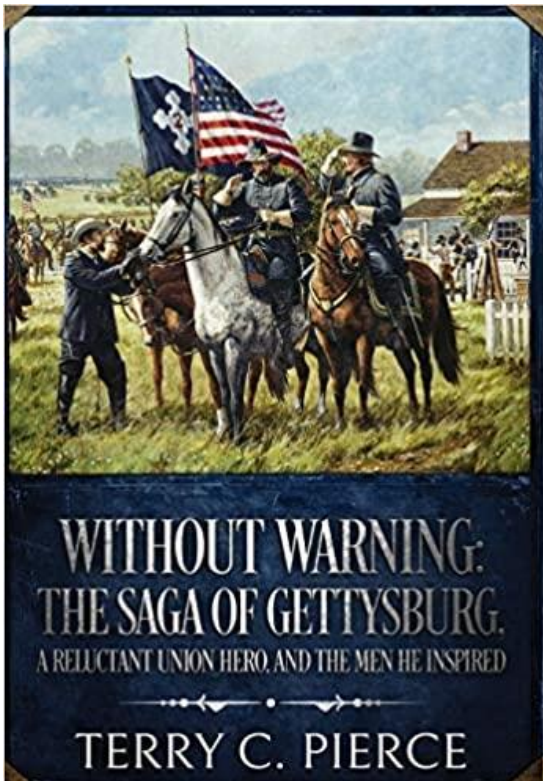
Book Review ~ Without Warning: The Saga of Gettysburg, A Reluctant Union Hero, and the Men He Inspired ~ by Terry C. Pierce

Between plans and their execution rage the winds of war. The winds of chance. The winds of choice. The winds of political ambition and human error--and human schemes.

The winds of war grow dark around General George Meade, appointed to command the Army of the Potomac just three days before a brewing battle against Robert E. Lee, charismatic leader of the Confederate forces. No one--not even the outgoing commander--seems to know where Lee's army is, except that they are somewhere on Northern soil, possibly pushing toward a decisive battle deep in the heart of the Union.

Bound by duty to take a position he did not seek and does not want, Meade reluctantly accepts Lincoln's appointment, and overnight, the fate of nearly 100,000 Union soldiers is in his hands.

Meade is a planner--a quiet, capable engineer whose commitment to modesty and restraint is second only to his commitment to honor, duty, and country. While the winds of war swirl around him, he struggles to concoct a battle plan without even the most basic information, in order to defeat an enemy he cannot find, on ground he has not yet seen. Thwarted by insufficient military intelligence, and betrayed by the machinations of an unscrupulous general with dreams of glory, Meade knows it will take all his skill and the heroism of his troops to best the formidable and hitherto undefeated Lee. The fate of the Republic itself hangs in the balance.



Without Warning is the gripping saga of the Battle of Gettysburg, the Union patriots who fought it, and the man who led them. It scrutinizes the role character plays in leadership and the challenge of the unexpected. Built firmly upon the annals of history, this epic historical novel brings to vivid life seven unforgettable days in the lives and trials of a Union general and his men as they brave the winds of war to save the United States of America.



History of Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table (CFCWRT) was established in 1994 and first met at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington (UNCW). In October 1994, the first speaker was Chris Fonvielle, who later joined the faculty of UNCW. Professor Fonvielle, now retired, is the premier historian of the Lower Cape Fear from Colonial times through the Civil War. Our first president was George Slaton who led the organization until the year 2000.



Chris Fonvielle speaks at dedication of Joseph Ryder Lewis Park in Carolina Beach.

Following George Slaton, Professor Fonvielle led the CFCWRT from 2000 through 2006. The meeting site changed from UNCW to St. John's Episcopal Church and then to St. Andrew's on the Sound Episcopal Church. Under the leadership of David Norris (2006-10) and Bob Cooke (2010 to 2018), the organization grew steadily and many nationally known speakers and authors spoke to the group as well as accomplished local historians.

From 1997 through 2005 the organization featured tours to locations such as Richmond and its vicinity, Sharpsburg, Md., and Spotsylvania County, Va. From 2006 through 2011 tours were shortened to locations in North Carolina that could be reached within a day rather than requiring overnight travel. Tours were discontinued in 2012 because of a lack of sufficient interest.

The CFCWRT is actively involved in supporting Fort Fisher and Fort Anderson, the NC Historical Sites in the area, as well as the NC Maritime Museum in Southport. We provided a substantial donation in 2020 that facilitated the establishment of the Joseph Ryder Lewis, Jr. historical park in Carolina Beach. The park preserves a portion of the "Sugar Loaf Line," a defensive fortification that ran from an arm of Masonboro Sound to the Sugar Loaf dune on the Cape Fear River.



David Norris leads round table discussion

In addition to nationally known speakers, the round table regularly features speakers from local state historical sites and the Latimer House, the museum of the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society, in Wilmington.

Beginning in 2018, the Round Table has presented a summer program featuring a seminar-style round table discussion on a specific topic such as the failure of Confederate forces to attack the Union landing force before its assault on Fort Fisher. We have also featured tours of local sites for the general public and a members

(Continued on page 6)

History of Cape Fear Civil War Round Table, cont.

forum in which members present short programs (approximately 15 minutes) on specific topics of their choosing.

The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table (CFCWRT) 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 the conflict.

The CFCWRT meets the second Thursday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. In addition to our monthly newsletter, *The Runner*, we host a website at <http://cfcwrt.org/>, and a Facebook page. The newsletter is also distributed via email.

Bill Jayne
President, Cape Fear Civil War Round Table



Bob Cooke leads tour of Oakdale Cemetery

Online Presentations

CWRT Congress - [All sessions start at 7pm Eastern](#)

March 10th - Michael Gorman: Gaines' Mill, The Most Important Battle You've Never Heard About.

March 11th - Daniel Davis: Hurricane from the Heavens

March 17th - Ronald S. Coddington: Faces of Civil War Nurses

March 24th - Jerry Payn as Enos Foreman: 1863 A Year in Review

March 31st - Kristopher D. White: The Battle of Chancellorsville, Lee's Greatest Victory or Lee's Greatest Defeat?

American Battlefield Trust

[Eyes of War: Modern Combat Photography](#)

Walk Antietam with Documentary Photographer James Nachtwey

After the end of the Civil War whatever happened to...?

Union Brigadier General Joshua L. Chamberlain

After the war, Chamberlain returned to Maine and was elected to four terms as Maine's governor, a post he held until 1870. During his tenure, he encouraged the state to ratify the 14th Amendment (which made all freedmen and women citizens of the United States). He also played a key role in the first years of the Maine College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, which later became the University of Maine in Orono.



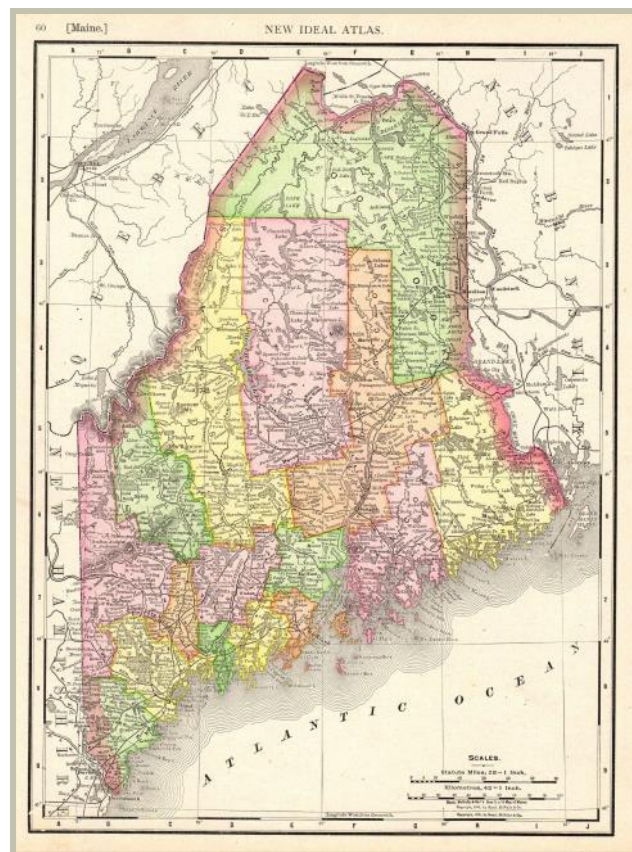
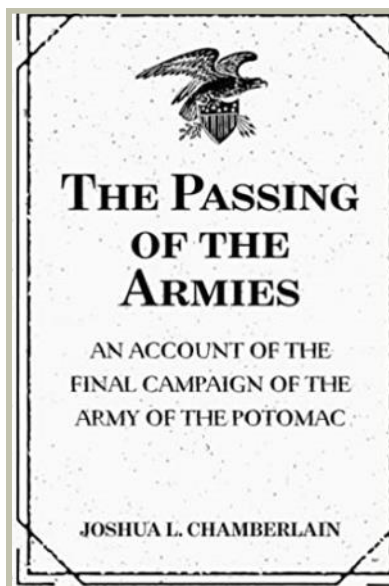
Gov. Joshua Chamberlain

Following his governorship, Chamberlain served as president of Bowdoin College and during his tenure made some controversial changes. He began by adding science and engineering courses to the classical curriculum, but the school reverted to its original program one year later.

Chamberlain left his post at Bowdoin in 1883 and moved to Portland, Maine, where he served as surveyor of the port and began investing in Florida real estate. Chamberlain also began writing about his Civil War experiences, including the posthumously published memoir of *Appomattox: The Passing of the Armies*. His wife, Fanny, died in 1905; Joshua Chamberlain died on February 24, 1914, at the age of 85.



BG Joshua Chamberlain



1892 Map of Maine

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Civil War Phrases

Dictator: A nickname for the heavy thirteen-inch sea-coast mortar mounted on a railroad flatcar and used by the Federals at the siege of Petersburg, Virginia, in 1864. Aka *Petersburg Express*.

Double Note: A piece of paper money with different issues printed on the two sides. Common in the South because of the paper shortage.

Eight-Day Man: A contemptuous term for someone who joined the army for only a brief period.

First-call Men: Men who responded to the initial plea for Union soldiers and volunteered for three years' service in 1861.

Foot Cavalry: Stonewall Jackson's infantrymen. So called because of their legendary swiftness afoot.

From Civil War Wordbook by Darryl Lyman

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CAPE FEAR CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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You can find us on the Web! Cfcwrt.org

Visit us on Facebook: [CFCWRT](#)

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

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](#)

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