

Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

January, 1996

NEWSLETTER

Editor: George Slaton

THE REGIMENT BAND of the 11th NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS

IN CONCERT AT THE UNIVERSITY CENTER, UNCW
Saturday, January 27
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table is presenting this period band in concert for the enjoyment of RT members and the general public on January 27!

The band of the 11th N.C. Regiment was re-activated in 1982 and took the field for the first time this century at a reenactment of the Battle of Bentonville. Since that time, the band has been in demand for other reenactments, balls, period church services, parades, formal concerts and numerous events consistent with their impression of a Confederate band of music from a NC Regiment. Concerts have been presented at Manassas, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, and Petersburg. The band has been involved in three movies, the most recent the TNT production, *Ironclads*. Other appearances have included the Confederate White House in Richmond VA and the morning service at the National Cathedral in Washington D.C.

The group dresses in replicas of uniforms known to have been worn by NC soldiers during the war and plays a mixture of original and replicated instruments of the period. It has one of the largest repertoires of period band music available and includes music both North and South.

Mark Bradley, author of the recently published *Last Stand in the Carolinas: The Battle of Bentonville*, will be present with copies of his book for sale and signing. (If you already have a copy, Mark will be happy to sign for you). Coffee, punch, and dessert will be served.

Tickets are \$8.00 each or two for \$15.00. Tickets can be purchased at Hanover Iron Works, 1851 Dawson Street, or by mail at CFCWRT, Box 10535, Wilmington NC 28405. (If you are certain that you will attend you can call and reserve tickets to be held at the door, but remember that we're financially obligated for a per-person count before the event).

We hope that every RT member will come and bring family members. Plan to sell tickets to friends and to anyone who's interested in attending.

LAST CALL FOR SPRING BUS TOUR TO VIRGINIA

Hurry and send in your check for our March 8-10 bus tour to the Battle of Petersburg and Lee's Retreat to Appomattox! We've now reserved a 23 passenger bus, and there are only seven seats remaining. Your check for \$150.00 is your reservation. Sign-up deadline is Monday, February 5.

Tommy King has enjoyed this tour with Chris Calkins, historian at Petersburg and Appomattox, and he tells me that, in addition to all the major battle sites described in previous newsletters, we'll be visiting little-known sites like a house where Lee & Longstreet had breakfast, where CSA Gen. James Dearing was killed, a hotel from which USA Gen. Ulysses Grant waded to his troops, the site of Willie Pegram's artillery at Five Forks where Pegram was killed, the woods where NC cavalry were surrounded and fought their way out, the spot where USA Gen. Joshua Chamberlain stood at the McLean house and another house where he spent the night at Five Forks. Wow! Don't miss this super tour.

TOM PRISK DESIGNATES EXPENSE CHECK FOR BENTONVILLE Contribution for Battlefield Preservation

Our fellow RT member and featured speaker on the Battle of Gettysburg during October and November, **Tom Prisk**, asked that the RT reimbursement for his expenses in traveling to Wilmington from his home in Chapel Hill be given to the Bentonville Battlefield Historical Association (BBHA). So our check for \$165.00 was recently mailed to BBHA where it elicited a delighted response from the Association's secretary, **Lauren Burgess** who, with husband, **Fred**, has recently joined the CFCWRT.

Since moving to NC, Tom has met **Mark Bradley**, Bentonville historian, and has visited Bentonville and studied the battle closely. He's very aware of the battlefield's critical importance. The Civil War Sites Commission has designated the field at Bentonville 6th in importance out of the 300 unprotected battlefields it has listed. Tom's generosity reflects his commitment to Civil War history and to battlefield preservation.

You can join BBHA, Box 432, Newton Grove NC 28366 by sending a check for \$20.00 for membership which also purchases one-square foot of land. Contributions to BBHA for battlefield interpretation and preservation are tax-deductible. Organizations like this always need your help!

CAPITOL OF THE CONFEDERACY CIVIL WAR COLLECTORS SHOW

During the weekend of November 18-19, I attended the 16th annual Capitol of the Confederacy Civil War Show in Richmond, Virginia sponsored by the Central Virginia Relic Hunters Association and the Museum of the Confederacy. This show, held at the state fairgrounds in two large halls, has become through the years one of the largest and best quality shows in the country. It's an event of great interest to CW collectors, students, and general browsers.

Displayed on 400 dealer tables is an astounding array of material from the Civil War period and before. You see guns and swords, excavated relics from camp and battle sites, non-excavated relics from trunks and attics, buttons and buckles, books and manuscript material, period clothing, the list goes on and on.

Tom Broadfoot, member of our RT from Broadfoot Publishing Company has thousands of books on four tables, including sets like the *Official Records* and *Confederate Veteran*, which Tom has reprinted in recent years. **Henry Mintz'** table features the recently published photographic history of NC soldiers for which Henry supplied a third of the images. Henry told me that the first printing by *Archives & History* of 2000 copies has already been sold out. **Chris Fonvielle** is scouting tables for material on Fort Fisher and Wilmington. The author of the new biography on CSA artilleryman, **Willie Pegram**, sits at one table inscribing copies of his book for buyers. At another table, I have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the extremely rare autograph of CSA Brigadier General **Hiram C. Granbury** which is trading hands at the show. Granbury was killed at the Battle of Franklin, and only five or six of his autographs are known to collectors. Another dealer shows a photograph of a rare North Carolina Civil War button which was recently picked up for \$4.00 in a Connecticut flea market; the dealer has recently been offered \$8500.00 for this piece! The Museum of the Confederacy has a display from its rich collection and sponsors seminars throughout the day for show attendees.

Whether you're a casual CW buff ambling through the aisles of tables or a collector feverishly searching for another addition to a growing collection, a visit to a Civil War show adds to your knowledge of the arms and equipment and other material history of the war and fuels your enthusiasm for deeper study and understanding of your particular CW interests.