

# Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

May, 2001

NEWSLETTER

Editor: George Slaton

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## THE TWENTY-SIXTH NORTH CAROLINA REGIMENT

An Evening With  
Rod Gragg ✓

Thursday, May 17 ↙  
St. Andrew's On-The-Sound Episcopal Church  
Social Hour 7:00 pm...Program 7:30 pm

Figuring prominently in the annals of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, the 26th North Carolina Regiment was a superb fighting unit. Especially noteworthy was this regiment's participation in the Battle of Gettysburg where, engaged with the Iron Brigade on the first day and making a valiant assault in the Pickett-Pettigrew Charge on the third day, it sustained unusually high casualties.

Rod Gragg's recent *Covered With Glory: The 26th North Carolina Infantry at the Battle of Gettysburg* (Harper/Collins) has won a wide audience of readers. Rod will bring copies of his book for sale and signing.

Rod lives with his family in Conway SC. He holds an M.A. in American History from the University of South Carolina. Rod's *Confederate Goliath: The Battle of Fort Fisher* was published in 1991. This dramatic narrative won the New York City Civil War Round Table's coveted Fletcher Pratt Award. His *The Confederate Illustrated Reader* won the Douglas Southall Freeman Award for History.

Rod is a popular and engaging speaker who has appeared before numerous Civil War Round Tables around the country. We look forward to his visit!

Special Note: We call upon our members to bring extra cookies and/or dessert items to the meeting!  
A group from Minnesota will be joining us, so we need to provide more than the usual fare.

### BATTLE REPORT April 19 Meeting

We had a great turnout as usual for our monthly meeting when Edward Longacre presented an interesting slide program on Major General William Dorsey Pender, CSA. Raffle winners were Bill Clark (*Confederate Veteran* magazines by David Cameron), John Moore (*Siege of Petersburg* by Rich Triebe), Ed Gibson (*Charleston: The Civil War on Folly Island* by Mary and Palmer Royal), Conway Ficklen (*The Civil War at Charleston* by Mary and Palmer Royal), John Moore (Photo of Fort Fisher Monument Dedication 1932 by R. Lamb) and Bob Cooke (*Battle in the Wilderness* by George Slaton).

## **IN MEMORIAM** **James Campbell Steadman**

The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table extends its deepest condolences to Linda Earle Steadman following the death of her husband, Jim. Both Jim and Linda Earle have been active members in the Round Table, attending regular meetings as frequently as Jim's medical condition would allow.

Jim was deservedly proud of his ancestor, Colonel Reuben P. Campbell, the commander of the 7th North Carolina Regiment. Colonel Campbell, a native of Iredell County NC and a graduate of West Point (Class of 1840) was engaged at the Battle of Gaines Mill in June, 1862 when, "picking up the fallen colors and advancing in front of his men," he was mortally wounded.

Jim researched his ancestor's history and visited the battlefields where he exercised command. On June 12, 1999, he convened a rededication of Colonel Campbell's monument in the cemetery of Snow Creek Methodist Church near Statesville.

In the spirit of his Confederate forebear, Jim Steadman struggled courageously against cancer and maintained an active life in his church and community during his long illness. We will miss his warm presence and his enthusiasm for the Civil War.

## **SABRE STROKES**

Our congratulations to **John Krohn** who has recently become a Licensed Gettysburg Battlefield Guide! John persevered during the long and arduous process of written and oral examinations, and we're proud of his achievement.

**Tonia Smith**, a long time CFCWRT member and Pinehurst resident, founded the Rufus Barringer CWRT last year. The group is named in honor of the Cabarrus County native and CSA brigadier general of cavalry in the ANV. Under Tonia's enthusiastic leadership, the membership has grown rapidly! Tonia also edits the newsletter, *The Barringer Provisional*.

Good news from the **Museum of the Confederacy** in Richmond. Its *R.E. Lee: The Exhibition*, which opened in January, 2000, has been extended to run through 2001. This exhibition presents the largest compilation of Lee's personal effects ever assembled. And, just recently, the MOC has issued an expanded version of its *A Catalog of Uniforms*, first published in 1987 and describing 215 items from its collections. The first edition sold out in three years. Call (804) 649-1861 or visit [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org).

The **Western North Carolina CWRT** is sponsoring *The North Carolina Presence: 1861-1865*, a conference to be held September 7-9, 2001 in Asheville NC. Speakers will include Brian Wills, Mark Bradley, Jeff Crowe and others. WNCCWRT, Box 3709, Cullowhee NC 28273 or [www.wnccwrt.org](http://www.wnccwrt.org).

The well-known **Central Virginia Battlefields Trust** is celebrating its purchase of a significant parcel of property on the Talley Farm at Chancellorsville. The site was the scene of intense action when Stonewall Jackson's troops stormed into the Federal position on May 2, 1863. CVBT is also supporting the National Park Service's recommended restoration of the famous Sunken Road in Fredericksburg. The City of Fredericksburg is being asked to close this short section of the roadway. You may want to contact Mayor William Beck, Box 7447, Fredericksburg VA 22404 to support the NPS request to close the road.

A great travel destination for the summer is the brand new **National Civil War Museum** in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. This \$36 million facility has 11,000 artifacts including Pickett's kepi, Lee's Bible, Stuart's sword, Grant's sword belt and more. The museum's 65,000 square feet makes it the largest Civil War museum in the world. Call (866) 258-4729 or visit [www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org](http://www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org).

The **Civil War Preservation Trust** accomplished much in battlefield preservation during the year 2000. One significant purchase was an additional 245 acre tract at Malvern Hill in the area where Jackson's infantry attacked the Union right flank. The property is partly wooded and mostly open farmland. The Trust has made great strides in protecting our CW battlefields. Contact CWPT at (202) 367-1861 or visit [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org).

See you in September as the Cape Fear Civil War Round Table begins its eighth year!