

# Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

October, 2000

NEWSLETTER

Editor: George Slaton

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## THE LAST GENERATION: LEE'S YOUNG OFFICERS CORPS

An Evening With Peter S. Carmichael

Thursday, October 12

Cape Fear Club

Corner of Second & Chestnut Streets

Dinner 7:00 pm....Program 7:30 pm

**! Paid Dinner Reservations Required By Monday, October 9 !**

Peter S. Carmichael is one of the rising stars among Civil War historians. Awarded his Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University where he studied with Gary Gallagher, Peter is an acknowledged expert on the Army of Northern Virginia. We're fortunate to have him as the speaker for our annual Fall dinner meeting at the Cape Fear Club.

Currently, Peter is an assistant professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He is the author of *Lee's Young Artillerist: William R. J. Pegram* (University of Virginia Press, 1995) and has contributed numerous articles to *Civil War Times Illustrated*, *North and South Magazine*, and the University of North Carolina's *Military Campaigns of the Civil War Series*. He is currently finishing a group biography of young Virginians during the 1850's and the Civil War. Copies of *Lee's Young Artillerist: William R. J. Pegram* will be available (\$25.00) for sale and signing.

Peter's presentation will focus primarily on Virginia men who came of age during the 1850's, the contentious political decade before the Civil War. They were the last white generation to grow up with the institution of slavery. By Fort Sumter, they had a strong sense of being Southern and they consequently wanted their state to leave the Union when others preferred a moderate course. During the war, they became the zealots of the Confederacy, the Young Lions who recklessly fought on the battlefields while never losing faith in the South, even when the cause appeared hopeless. Why these young men saw themselves as crusaders for the Confederacy, the defenders of a Southern nation that they believed was the last bastion of Christendom will be the subject of Peter's talk. Their experience parallels that of many other young men who fought in the Southern ranks. And when appropriate, Peter will make comparisons to North Carolina officers who served in Lee's army.

This dinner meeting will be one of the highlights of the Round Table year. As usual for these events, we're expecting a large crowd. Bring your friends!

**Remember that your paid dinner reservation of \$20.00 must be received by Monday, October 9. Your check is your reservation. Only those members and guests with prior paid reservations can be served dinner, so please don't come for dinner if you have not paid by the Monday deadline.** (Members are welcome to attend the program only). The menu will feature a choice of Barbeque Pork or Chicken with all the usual delicious fixings. So send your check right away to CFCWRT, Box 10535, Wilmington NC 28404 or bring to Hanover Iron Works!

## HEADQUARTER'S STAFF

Chris Fonvielle, President (792-9091)  
Mike Budziszewski, Vice President (458-1370)  
Dan Geddie, Treasurer (799-5338)  
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John Moore (256-6328)  
Karen Budziszewski, Refreshments (458-1370)  
Nancy Fonvielle, Refreshments (792-9091)

## BATTLE REPORT

The first meeting of the 2000-2001 Round Table year attracted one the largest crowds we've ever had! Eighty members and visitors were on hand, and we were pleased to see the many familiar faces of members and particularly many new faces who were attending the RT for the first time. Dan Geddie, our Treasurer, reported that a large number of those in attendance joined the RT or renewed their memberships. President Chris Fonvielle gave a hearty welcome and a good overview of the superb lineup of programs for the coming year, as well as some opportunities for RT members to work with local Civil War projects. The refreshments served by Karen Budziszewski and Nancy Fonvielle were a big hit with everyone who came for the social gathering before the program. Mike Budziszewski's raffle consisted of a Joshua Chamberlain print (donated by Mike), *The Bermuda Hundred Campaign* (donated by Chris Fonvielle), and *More Terrible Than Victory: North Carolina's Bloody Bethel Regiment* (donated by Mary and Palmer Royal). Winners were David English, Ed Gibson, and Richard Long. Speaker Clint Johnson gave a most interesting account of various North and South Carolinians who played some colorful part in the War Between the States.

Members are encouraged to contact Mike with donations for the raffle. And Nancy and Karen will appreciate your offer to help provide refreshments for the programs coming up this year.

## ! MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS/SIGNUPS NOW DUE !

It's time to pay your dues for the coming year. Member dues cover speaker expenses, facility use, fees, newsletter, refreshments, and miscellaneous costs to the RT. We couldn't operate without them. Once again, the annual dues are only \$25.00. Current members are asked to send in their membership renewals as soon as possible (CFCWRT, Box 10535, Wilmington NC 28404) or present to Dan Geddie, Treasurer, at the October 12 meeting. Your promptness in paying your membership dues is much appreciated!