

CAPE FEAR CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

September, 2001

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Bob Cooke

Cape Fear Civil War Round Table 2001-2002

September 13 Meeting, University Center at U.N.C.W.
Dinner 7:00 p.m., Program 7:30 p.m.

Our September 13 meeting is a special one which will be shared with the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society, as well as U.N.C.W.'s History Department. Daniel W. Barefoot, our guest speaker, is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of U.N.C. Chapel Hill (A.B. in Political Science) and also of U.N.C.'s School of Law (with a Juris Doctor degree). He is currently a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, elected from the 44th House District (Gaston and Lincoln Counties).

Mr. Barefoot has written several books, including *Touring the Backroads of North Carolina's Lower Coast*, also *General Robert F. Hoke, Lee's Modest Warrior* (which won the History Book Award of the North Carolina Society of Historians in 1997), *Touring North Carolina's Revolutionary War Sites* and *Touring South Carolina's Revolutionary War Sites*. In 1998, Mr. Barefoot was named North Carolina Historian of the Year. He is a member of the Piedmont Civil War Roundtable and we are especially fortunate in having him speak at this meeting. Mr. Barefoot will talk about General Robert F. Hoke. We will meet in Warwick Center Ballroom (behind Trask Coliseum) at the College.

Along with the meeting, there will be a grilled chicken dinner. The cost of the meeting and dinner will be \$15. There are only a limited number of seats available, so please send your check immediately, to Dan Geddie, c/o Cape Fear Round Table, P.O. Box 10535, Wilmington, N.C. 28405.

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We begin yet another Round Table year, this time with over one hundred members! We are still actively seeking new members, so if you or a friend are interested in joining what has become one of the most active in the area, please see Dan Geddie for a membership application. Current members are asked to renew their memberships as soon as possible. Dues may be mailed to the Cape Fear Civil War Round Table, P.O. Box 10535, Wilmington, N.C. 28405.

Program Schedule

September 13	Joint Meeting with the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society/UNCW History Department	Dan Barefoot
October 11	Civil War Generals	Harry Daniel
November 8	TBA	Will Green
December 13	Southern Military Academies	Rod Andrew, Jr.
January 10	<i>C.S.S. Neuse</i>	Andrew Duppstadt
February 14	Gettysburg	John Krohn
March 21-24	Gettysburg Tour	John Krohn
April 11	Civil War Prisons	Lonnie Speer
May 9	TBA	TBA

Coming Up Shortly

The Louise Wells Cameron Museum of Art (Independence Blvd. And S. 17th St.) will soon be completed. Included on the property are nearly 200 yards of Confederate earthworks, thrown up as a last defense of Wilmington, by General Robert Hoke's Division. Nearly lost to history, the earthworks have been preserved (in large part due to the efforts of our current President) and are at present surrounded by protective fencing.

Our Round Table has been chosen as the organization which will maintain the site. The works are to be restored as nearly as possible to February, 1865. To do this, volunteers will be needed (to cut brush and trees, move dirt, etc.). Sorry, no relic hunting, so leave your metal detectors home, but feel free to bring your wheelbarrow, rakes, shovels and chainsaw! There will be more on this project in coming newsletters, so stay tuned!

Included in this month's newsletter is a questionnaire to see "how we're doing." Please take the time to fill it out as your input will help us go in the direction YOU want us to go!

TIDBITS

An illustration of the tremendous force of gunpowder in explosions is afforded in the discovery in Charleston harbor a few days since of a whole broadside of the ironclad *Charleston*, blown up at the evacuation in 1865. A ripple on the water first excited the attention of the wreckers. This was at a distance of four hundred and fifty yards from the scene of the explosion. The Broadside, on being raised, was found to weigh 212,750 pounds. The whole was intact. The wrecker, Mr. Maillfert, is now engaged in looking at the same distance on the other side for the other part of the sunken vessel.

[Wilmington Weekly Star, March 28, 1873]

During the War, the staff of General [Henry] Wise was riding through a rather forlorn part of North Carolina and a young Virginian of the staff concluded to have a little fun at the expense of a long-legged specimen of the genus *homo* who wore a very shabby uniform and bestrode a worm fence at the roadside. Reining in his horse, he accosted him with "How are you North Carolina?" "How are you Virginia?" was the ready response. The staff officer continued, "The blockade on turpentine makes you rather hard up, don't it?" "No sale for tar now?"

"Well-yes-" was the slow response. "We sell all our tar to Jeff Davis now." "The thunder you do! What on earth does the President want of your tar?" North Carolina answered, "He puts it on the heels of Virginians to make them stick on the battlefield." The staff rode on.

[from *Campfire and Battlefield*]

Did you know that nearly 190,000 men were at Gettysburg? On the Union side were 112,735 (95,799 engaged); Confederates 75,000 (69,700 engaged). Over 50,000 men were either killed, wounded or missing (23,000 Union and 28,000 Confederate).

Gettysburg: The High Water Mark of the Confederacy

"First at Bethel, Farthest at Gettysburg and Last at Appomattox" is a well known part of the North Carolina soldier's saga. We are especially fortunate this year to have Dr. John R. Krohn, now a licensed Gettysburg Tour Guide (as well as a member of our Steering Committee) to lead a tour group to that battlefield. Make plans to reserve March 21-24 for the trip, as it promises to be one of the best we've had. See page four for our planned itinerary.

Spring Tour

On **Thursday, March 21, (2002)**, members will arrange for their own transportation to the Holiday Inn in Gettysburg (telephone number 717-334-6211). Allow at least eight hours for the trip. The motel, at 516 Baltimore Street, is located near the Visitor's Center. The cost of the rooms will be \$57 (plus tax), double occupancy and the tour will be limited to 45 persons. There will be a banquet on Thursday evening.

On **Friday** morning we will board a tour bus and Dr. Krohn will give an overview tour of the battlefield in the morning. In the afternoon, we will follow in particular, the movements of the North Carolina regiments engaged in the battle. That evening there will be another banquet dinner.

On **Saturday** we will continue to examine North Carolina regiments, there will be box lunches on both Friday and Saturday. On Saturday evening dinner reservations have been made at the Montford Farm restaurant. The restaurant was a Confederate field hospital during the war. Return on **Sunday**.

There will be free time each day for shopping (there are plenty of stores!) and there will be guest speakers throughout the tour. Don't miss this one! The total cost of the tour will be in our next newsletter. See Dan Geddie to make reservations for this trip!