



The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

The *RUNNER*

Newsletter of The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

Editor Bob Cooke

November 2005





November-2005

Newsletter of The Cape Fear Civil War Roundtable

P.O.Box 10535 Wilmington, NC 28404

Editor **Bob Cooke**

Our next meeting will be Thursday, 10 November at the Cape Fear Club

Social Hour 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: Last update - **October 25th 2005**

[Click here for Steering Committee Contact Numbers.](#)

Our speaker for November will be Gordon Rhea. The author of several works including *The Battle of the Wilderness: May 5-6, 1864*; *The Battles for Spotsylvania Court House and The Road to the Yellow Tavern: May 7-12, 1864*; *To the North Anna River: Grant and Lee, May 13-25, 1864* and continuing the Overland Campaign, *Cold Harbor, Grant and Lee, May 26-June 3, 1864* has titled his talk 'The Myths of Cold Harbor.' 'Rhea knows his topic and writes about it in stunning terms!' So said one reviewer of Mr. Rhea's latest work, *Carrying the Flag*. Gordon Rhea lives in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands and Mt. Pleasant, S.C. with his wife and two sons. This is our big meeting of the year, so please try to make it!

Please remember that our meeting will be held at the Cape Fear Club (206 Chestnut, corner of Second & Chestnut Sts.) Dress is business casual and money for this meeting (\$25) can be sent to our PO Box and needs to be in by Monday, 7 November.

Winners of Our Raffle:

Naval Strategies--Ed Gibson; *Ken Burns Civil War*--Charles Watson; *Dahlgren of Natchez*--James MacLaren; *Petticoat Affair*--Palmer Royal; *Diary of a Contraband*--James MacLaren.

Speaker's Schedule: [click HERE](#)

Everything You Wanted To Know About Artillery!

Civil War artillery, that is! Our own Jack Travis enthralled the audience at our last meeting with descriptions of the various types of artillery in use during the Civil War. Smoothbores, rifled guns, 20 pdr. Parrotts, 12 pdr. Napoleons, explosive shells and solid shot, tables of fire, all terms were explained and many types of ammunition were on display to further interest us. It was interesting to realize that at least 25 men were required to keep a gun in action. Carpenters and wheelwrights were among those needed, as well as the men who actually operated the gun. His explanation of the problems of Confederate artillery at the battle of Gettysburg (their guns were fired before the infantry attacked and fired much more quickly than did the Federals—two rounds per minute vs. 1 round every three minutes) went a long way to explain the decimation Pickett's Division. Even E. Porter Alexander, (Longstreet's chief of artillery) said later, that given Federal artillery and Southern infantry, he would be able to "whip the world!"



Fort Anderson Garrison Flag - The Cake Was Delicious!

Although there was extensive flooding (from Orphelia) at Brunswicktown/Fort Anderson, the flag is safe. On a plaque honoring the donors, the CFCWRT was conspicuously noted for its donation. Again, Thanks!

From Bruce Patterson!

Smithsonian Magazine, in honor of their 35th anniversary, has selected 35 individuals who have made a difference over that time period. Selectees include Steven Spielberg, Bill Gates, Wynton Marsalis, Richard Leakey AND our own Ed Bearss. Bruce informs us that the article can be found in the November issue of Smithsonian and that he will bring it to the November meeting. Thanks Bruce!

The Lower Cape Fear Historical Society will be hosting a reenactment of **Alexander's Battalion Field Hospital** at the Latimer House on Saturday (12 November, from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.) and Sunday (13 November) from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Editor

Home



Al Hines - Webmaster

