

The *RUNNER*

Newsletter of the Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

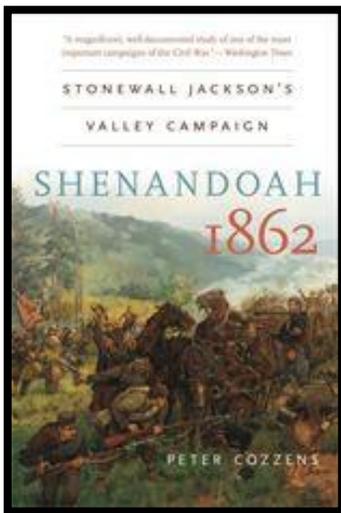
Editor **Tim Winstead**

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, 13 March** at St. Andrew's On-the-Sound Episcopal Church (101 Airlie Road). Social Hour begins at 7:00 p.m. (with light refreshments), meeting at 7:30.

Please make plans to attend our March meeting. Visitors are always welcome – [ask a friend to join you](#). Each of our speakers strives to enlighten, entertain, and add to our knowledge of Civil War history. This serves our mission of encouraging education and research into this seminal event in our nation's past.

***** March Program *****

Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign



Join the CFCWRT as we will welcome **Peter Cozzens** at our March 13th meeting. His presentation will feature the details of Stonewall Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign. This presentation will include interpretations of the campaign that will differ from normally accepted facts about the actions that helped build the legend of Stonewall Jackson. Cozzens will also appraise Union leadership during this action. His appraisals will yield some surprising conclusions about Jackson and Union leadership. (NOTE: Cozzens's *Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign* was a Choice award for "Outstanding Academic Title" for 2009.)

Peter Cozzens is one of the nation's recognized Civil War historians. He has authored sixteen books on the American Civil War and the Indian Wars. Cozzens, a

native of Wheaton, Illinois, also is a retired Foreign Service Officer, U. S. Department of State.

After graduating from Knox College (Illinois) with a degree in International Relations, he served for four years with U.S. Army military intelligence, rising to the rank of Captain, and then entered the U.S. Foreign Service in 1984. He also received an Alumni Achievement award from his alma mater Knox College, from which he graduated summa cum laude. In 2002 Cozzens received the American Foreign Service Association's highest award, given annually to one Foreign Service Officer for exemplary moral courage, integrity, and creative dissent.

Cozzens is a member of the Advisory Council of the Lincoln Prize. He is at work on a narrative history of the Indian Wars of the American West, 1866-1890, to be published by Alfred A. Knopf in 2015.

Editor

******* Raffle Winners *******

Raffle Master: Ed Gibson

If you have books, prints, or other items that you would like to donate to the CFCWRT Raffle, contact Ed Gibson (egibson759@aol.com) before our next meeting. The raffle is one of the components which allow the CFCWRT to fund our activities and our speakers. Please take part in our raffles by contributing items to the raffle or purchasing tickets.

Douglas Grove - Print: *Baptism of Fire*, Brian Kraus

Ed Gibson: *Illustrated Gettysburg Reader*



Rod Gragg with *The Illustrated Gettysburg Reader*

Gehrig Spencer - *Forged in Faith*

Jim Gannon - *Confederate Goliath*

Margorie George - *Confederate Goliath*

Becky Sawyer - Civil War Trust Calendar

Martha Watson - Print: *First Shot*, Brian Kraus

Mike Powell - *Civil War Battlefields 2-DVD Set*

Margarett Gannon - Print: *Ft. Fisher*

******* Trivia Questions for March *******

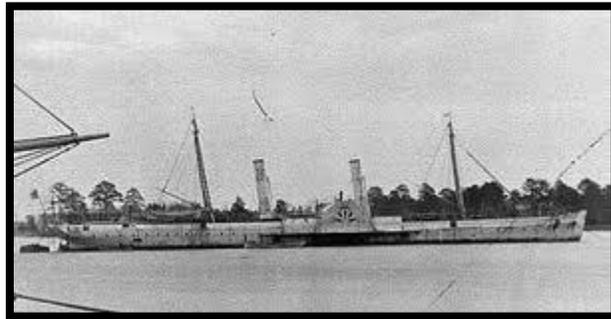
1 – Who was Jackson’s indefatigable chief quartermaster?

2 – What were the goals of Stonewall Jackson and his army during the Shenandoah Valley campaign?

3 – The 1st Minnesota gained lasting honor for their actions on Cemetery Ridge on July 2nd. What were these actions?

4 - Who was instrumental in selecting Joshua Chamberlain to receive the Confederate surrender at Appomattox?

******* Member News & Activities *******



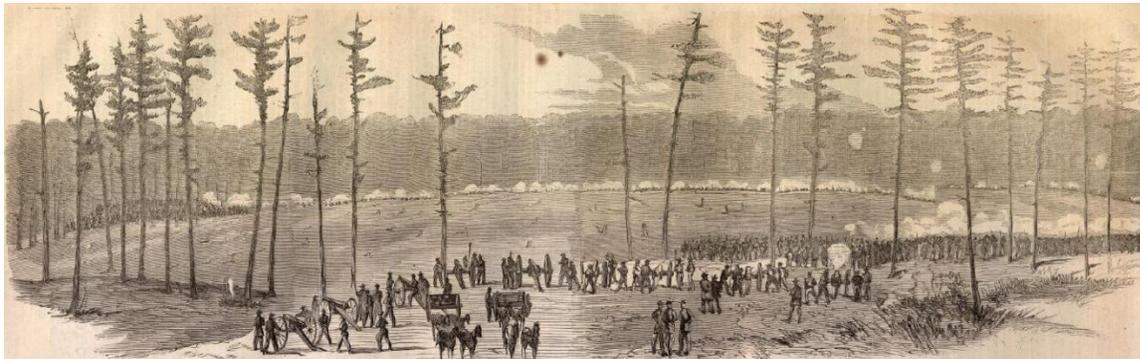
Robert E. Lee

If you have member news or news about Civil War events that you think would be of interest to CFCWRT membership, send me an email with the details. Thanks.

1 - Long-time member **Ann Hertzler** passed away on 6 February 2014. Failing health had kept Ann from attending meetings these past few years but she maintained contact and kept reminding us that she wanted to remain on our “mailing list” as she valued the contact and enjoyed reading of Round Table activities.

Members will remember Ann, who earned her PhD in nutrition from Cornell and taught the subject at Virginia Tech, as one who led a very interesting discussion on Civil

War food and related nutrition (or lack thereof) several years ago. For years, Ann traveled with the Round Table on battlefield tours, always assisting in the distribution of the boxed lunch, related rations and beverage. Ann Hertzler has been and will continue to be missed.



Battle of Bentonville

2 - March 15, 16: 149th Anniversary: "Forced to Fight" - Saturday, Sunday 10 am - 4 pm. Bentonville's 149th Anniversary program will bring the realities of war home to North Carolina. The Civil War is not going well for the Confederacy. The draft has been called out, again. Costumed living historians will portray raw conscripts being trained for war. Artillery and civilian demonstrations will also be on display. Visitors will also be given a chance to learn the period manual of arms that was used by the common infantry soldier.

3 – Medal of Honor Commemoration Program at Fort Fisher March 22, 2014 – Details at of event to be posted at either <http://www.friendsoffortfisher.com/calendar.html> or <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/fisher/>

4 – The Brunswick Civil War Round Table will meet on **Tuesday, March 4th -** registration and refreshments: 6:30pm. Program will begin at 7:00pm. They will meet at the **Trinity Methodist Church, 209 E. Nash Street..**

Craig L. Symonds, Professor Emeritus of History at the U.S. Naval Academy. will speak about **“The Civil War at Sea.”**

******* March 1864 *******

During March 1864, General Sherman finalized his plan to march on Atlanta.

March 1st: The cavalry raid on Richmond started to go badly wrong. Having ridden for 36 hours, both men and horses were exhausted. The Confederate defenders had known about the raid and had prepared accordingly. An experienced cavalry unit from Lee's Army of Northern Virginia was brought in to Richmond and chased the Unionist cavalry force out of the city. By the time the raid formally ended the Unionists had lost 340 men and 500 horses. It was a propaganda coup for the South and should have been a disaster for the

North but the raid was sold as a success as it concentrated on the dilapidated state of the Confederate capital – as witnessed by those on the raid.

March 2nd: Grant was formally promoted to lieutenant general and assumed the title General-in-Chief of the Army of the United States.

March 9th: Grant received his new command in a ceremony attended by the whole Cabinet. Many politicians expected him to work out of Washington. Therefore, there was much surprise when Grant announced that he was going to set up his command in the field with the Army of the Potomac. While a number of politicians in Washington had tried to get Lincoln to dismiss Meade, commander of the Army of the Potomac, Grant expressed his full confidence in his leadership.

March 17th: Grant, observing a request from Halleck, relieved the general of his command and appointed him chief-of-staff. Grant announced that the Union's military headquarters would be with the Army of the Potomac. Grant made the destruction of the Army of Northern Virginia his primary aim.

March 18th: Sherman was given formal command of the Military Division of the Mississippi.

March 27th: Sherman, in Vicksburg, was making hard and fast plans for his campaign against Atlanta. These included calling in Union troops from elsewhere such as A J Smith's corps from Alexandria, Louisiana.

Source: <http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/march-1864-civil-war.htm>
(accessed February 14, 2014).

***** February Program *****

The Illustrated Gettysburg Reader: An Eyewitness History of the Greatest Civil War Battle



“The Angle” – Bill Dowling

Rod Gragg began his discussion of Gettysburg with the actions between Union cavalry and Confederate infantry on the hills west of the town on July 1, 1863. His discussion of the battle ended with the failure of the Pickett-Pettigrew-Trimble grand assault on the center of the

Union line on July 3, 1863. Between that beginning and end, Gragg shared many eyewitness accounts of the grand, but tragic, events that occurred over the three days that determined whether Southern Independence would be gained or the Union would be maintained.

Gragg took readings from his book that followed Lee, Meade, Chamberlain, Oates, and numerous other officers as well as many soldiers who lived through those days. As these eyewitnesses wrote of their experiences, it was evident that there was little romance in war. There was bravery, there were desperate moments that were altered by individual efforts, there was suffering of unimaginable extent, and there was death. These survivors, these eyewitnesses, portrayed events, in many cases years after the war, with a grudging admiration for those enemies that fought at Gettysburg in July 1863.

Rod concluded his presentation with an explanation of what made the American Civil War so very different than civil wars that had forever led to bitterness between winners and losers. His explanation can best be understood by the actions taken by Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain and acknowledged by John Brown Gordon at Appomattox on April 12, 1865. A salute of honor by the victors and a returned acknowledgement by the defeated did not complete reconciliation, but it was a start for a long process that did heal many of the wounds of that conflict.

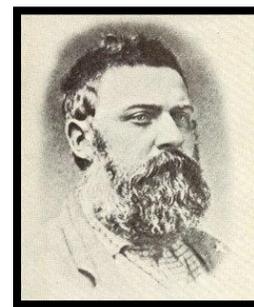


Editor

******* Trivia Questions for March *******

1 – Who was Jackson’s indefatigable chief quartermaster?

Major John Alexander Harman was to gain some renown as Jackson’s quartermaster. Pre-war, Harman was a jack-of-many-trades: a butcher, Texas Ranger, farmer, newspaper editor, and stage line operator. When the war began, Harman was a captain of a Virginia Militia company. He became a member of Jackson’s staff at Harpers Ferry during May 1861.



Jackson was a hard taskmaster. He drove himself and his men to the limits of endurance. His traits both won victories and battlefield failings. At various times, Jackson’s extreme state of exhaustion led to incidents involving many of his officers and men.

During the Valley Campaign, Jackson ordered Harman to collect arms that lay upon the field after an engagement. Harman remarked, after the collection was completed, that many of the weapons appeared to be left by Confederate troops.

..... Jackson flew into a rage and told Harman that he wanted to hear no more talk of Southerners abandoning their arms. Harman stormed from Jackson's tent and returned with a letter of resignation. "Jackson's mysterious ways are unbearable," he told his brother. "He is a hard master to serve and nothing but a mean-spirited man can remain long with him. God be with us all." The next day Jackson apologized, and Harman stayed on.

Possibly the most well known story about Harman came from the recollections of General John Imboden and concerned an incident as the Confederate army crossed the Potomac River during the Sharpsburg Campaign.

I never knew him (Jackson) to let profanity pass without a rebuke but once. The incident was reported to me by the chief actor in it, Major John A. Harman, who was Jackson's chief quartermaster, and a man of extraordinary qualifications. It happened at Edwards Ferry, on the Potomac, when our army was crossing into Maryland in the Antietam campaign. Major-General D. H. Hill's division was crossing, when Jackson rode up, and found the ford completely blocked with Hill's wagon-train. He spoke sharply to Hill (who was his brother-in-law, they having married sisters) for allowing such confusion. General Hill replied that he was not a quartermaster, or something that implied it was no part of his business to get tangled wagons out of the river. Jackson instantly put Hill in arrest, and, turning to Major Harman, ordered him to clear the ford. Harman dashed in among the wagoners, kicking mules, and (the) apparently inextricable mass of wagons, and, in the voice of a stentor, poured out a volume of oaths that would have excited the admiration of the most scientific mule-driver. The effect was electrical. The drivers were frightened and swore as best they could, but far below the Major's standard. The mules caught the inspiration from a chorus of familiar words, and all at once made a break for the Maryland shore, and in five minutes the ford was cleared. Jackson witnessed and heard it all. Harman rode back to join him, expecting a lecture, and, touching his hat, said: 'The ford is clear, General! There's only one language that will make mules understand on a hot day that they must get out of the water.' The General, smiling, said: 'Thank you, Major,' and dashed into the water at the head of his staff.

Sources: Peter Cozzens, *Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign* [Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2008], 511. http://antietam.aotw.org/officers.php?officer_id=1056 (accessed February 20, 2014).

2 – What were the goals of Stonewall Jackson and his army during the Shenandoah Valley campaign? As envisioned by first Joseph Johnston and then by Robert E. Lee, Jackson was to detain Union troops in the valley, keep them occupied and unable to reinforce McClellan on the Peninsula. He was also to prevent McDowell's 40,000 troops at Fredericksburg from moving on Richmond from the north. Jackson succeeded by using his small force, never more than 16,000 men, with superior knowledge of the valley and rapid marches to frustrate Union force that numbered between 30,000 and 70,000.

Sources: Peter Cozzens, *Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign* [Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2008], 1.

3 – The 1st Minnesota gained lasting honor for their actions on Cemetery Ridge on July 2nd.

What were these actions? In a desperate attempt to stop the collapse of the Union line as Sickles's III Corps collapsed under the Confederate attack, Winfield Scott Hancock ordered Colonel William Covill Jr., with the 262 troops of the 1st Minnesota: "Advance, Colonel, and take those colors." Colonel Covill and his 1st Minnesota regiment faced brigades of veteran Confederate troops – their task, buy time until Hancock could receive additional reinforcements from his II Corps.

Hancock needed five minutes; the 1st Minnesota gave him ten. The butcher's bill: of the 262 men who advanced, all but forty-seven were killed or wounded.

The sharp fighting continued and the Confederates (Ambrose Wrights Georgians) broke through the Union line on Cemetery Ridge. Victory was within the Southerners grasp – until Hancock's reinforcements plugged the break.

Source: Rod Gragg, *The Illustrated Gettysburg Reader: An Eyewitness History of the Civil War's Greatest Battle* [Washington, DC: Regency Publishing, Inc., 2013], 217-220.

4 - Who was instrumental in selecting Joshua Chamberlain to receive the Confederate surrender at Appomattox? Chamberlain had received a serious wound while leading his brigade at Petersburg. Army surgeons deemed the wound to be mortal. Gouverneur Warren, Chamberlain's Corps commander, recommended to U.S. Grant that Chamberlain be promoted to brigadier general while on his deathbed.

Chamberlain survived. His brigade was among those that drove Lee to Appomattox. For his services at Gettysburg and throughout the rest of the war, **General Grant** selected Chamberlain to receive the surrender of Lee's army.

Grant set the tone that was to be the pattern for this and future surrenders – respect and reconciliation while offering generous surrender terms and rations to their now former enemies. Chamberlain extended Grant's efforts to welcome the defeated Confederates back into the Union. There were to be "no jeers, no cheers, no drums, no bugles."

"With malice toward none." Those lines were from Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address. At the surrender ceremony on April 12th, the salute that Chamberlain extended to John Brown Gordon added actions to those words.

Source: Rod Gragg, *The Illustrated Gettysburg Reader: An Eyewitness History of the Civil War's Greatest Battle* [Washington, DC: Regency Publishing, Inc., 2013], 406-407.