

The Runner



Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, 12 May 2016** at St. Andrews On-the-Sound Episcopal Church located at 101 Airlie Road. Come early - the meeting starts promptly at 7:30p.m. See cfewrt.org for details.

Please join us at our final meeting of the 2015-2016 Program Year. Visitors are always welcome – ***bring a friend or two***. 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 that historic conflict.

******* May 2016 Program *******

Fort Fisher's Medal of Honor Recipients

John Moseley, Historic Interpreter III at the Fort Fisher Historic Site and Jacksonville, Florida native, will present a history of the Congressional Medal of Honor and especially the 72 men who received the medal for their actions at Fort Fisher during December 1864 & January 1865.

John's summary of his presentation follows:

The Medal of Honor is the highest distinction that can be awarded by the President, in the name of the Congress, to members of the Armed Forces who have distinguished themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their lives above and beyond the call of duty. It was originally created in July 1861 to recognize the acts of bravery by Union enlisted Navy, Marine Corps, and Army personnel during the Civil War. This was the only award

to be created by the United States government during the war.



The struggle for Fort Fisher saw bravery and sacrifice by men on both sides. To Union sailors, soldiers and marines, the fighting was like none they had experienced in their lives. Between June 23, 1864 and January 15, 1865, 72 men presented the Medal of Honor for their actions going above and beyond the call of duty. Thirty-five percent of all Civil War Medals of Honor presented to the United States Marine Corps were earned on the beaches in front of Fort Fisher.

Over the last 150 years, the Medal of Honor had change in its physical appearance, method of awarding and significance to the military community. In 1990, the United States Congress designated March 25 annually as "National Medal of Honor Day" to recognize the sacrifice of the nearly 3500 individuals who have received our Nation's highest military award. The date was chosen specifically because it was on March 25, 1863 that the first Medals of Honor were presented.

Throughout our State's history, 19 North Carolinians have been recognized for their actions with the Medal of Honor. Even more important, the Cape Fear region is no stranger to Medal of Honor recipients. New Hanover County's four recipients span the wars, both large and small, of the 20th century; one from actions in Mexico in 1914, two from World War 2, and one from the Vietnam War.

John Moseley is the Assistant Site Manager at Fort Fisher State Historic Site. He received his undergraduate degree in History from The Citadel in Charleston, SC in 1989. He then spent the next decade and a half working in the for-profit and non-profit business world. During the 1990s, he spent large amounts of time researching North Carolina's role in the American Revolution and 18th century medical and dental history.

In 2003, he was named North Carolina's James Madison Foundation Fellow and spent time in Washington, DC researching and studying the history of the United States Constitution. He returned to college and received his Master's Degree in 2005 from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He moved to this area in 2006 as a seventh and eighth grade history teacher who focused on US and North Carolina History as well as the US Constitution.

He began working at Fort Fisher in 2011 and is currently in charge of the educational programming for the State Historic Site. Since the summer of 2012, he has been the historian with "Tasting History" where he leads a walking tour of Carolina Beach focusing on the history of Federal Point and sampling local restaurants. Currently, he continues working on Fort Fisher's Medal of Honor recipients and the role of Fort Fisher during World War 2.

Editor

******* Trivia Questions for May *******

1 – Who was the general who was awarded a Medal of Honor for being the first to enter Fort Fisher through the stockade and leading assaults on the fort traverses?

2 – Name five Northerners who served the Confederacy?

3 – Name five Southerners who served the Union?

4 - Who was Gutzon Borglum?

5 – What group was responsible for early Confederate and Union memorials?

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

**Raffle Master: Ed Gibson (R)
Assistant Raffle Master: Dale Lear (L)**



If you have books, prints, or other items that you would like to donate to the 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 raffle by contributing items and/or purchasing tickets.

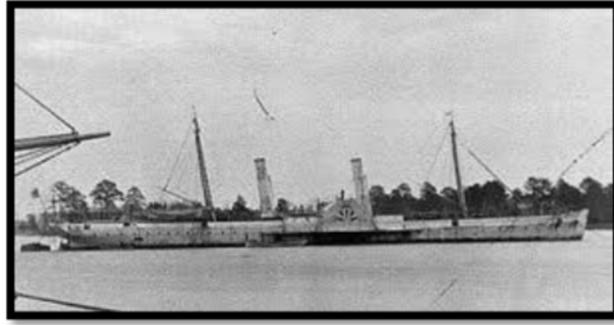


Al Anderson, Jim Gannon, John Monroe, Ed Gibson

Master of War -----
Gettysburg -----
Locust Alley -----
The Barefoot Brigade -----
Generals South/Generals North -----
The Mighty Scourge -----
The Civil War Almanac -----
The Wolf of the Deep -----

John Gill
Jim Vaugh
Linda Lashley
Jim Gannon
Ed Gibson
Linda Lashley
Al Anderson
Al Anderson

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



Blockade Runner the *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. Thank you.

1 – The CFCWRT welcomes several new members to our ranks: **Alfred T. Anderson**, **Michael & Elizabeth D’Attilio**, **John A. Gill**, and **David Mork**.

2- “**Help Wanted**” - We thought we would send out a notice to the area Civil War Roundtables letting you know that we are **seeking volunteers at Fort Fisher**. We are seeking people interested in history to assist us with giving tours of the fort and to help with group tours, as well as those who have experience in retail to help in the museum store. In the spring, we will also be seeking volunteers to work in the garden. Contact Becky Sawyer (becky.sawyer@ncdcr.gov) or John Moseley (john.moseley@ncdcr.gov).

3 - On April 19, 2016 former Arboretum Curator, Bruce Patterson, led 8 members of the CFCWRT and Kathi Lear (our photographer) on a tour of the New Hanover County Arboretum. Bruce provided many details as we walked along. We paused in the north east corner in the area dedicated to the military (Contemplation Garden & Military Memorial) which includes inscribed pavers. The first inscribed paver we gathered around is dedicated to **Bruce and Patsy Patterson**. Bruce, a retired US Army Colonel, was not aware that a paver dedicated to them had been installed.



At this site, the second inscribed paver pointed out is dedicated to the **CFCWRT**. In fact all of the men present are members of the CFCWRT as well as members of the Wilmington Chapter of the NC Military Historical Society.

A special thank-you goes to **Bob Cooke** for his efforts to arrange for the installation of the pavers to honor Bruce, Patsy and our RT.

Dale Lear

4 – The Cape Fear Revolutionary War Round Table (CFRWRT) will meet on June 8, 2016 at St. John's Masonic Lodge (4712 Oriole Drive) at 7:00P.m. The speaker will be **Bob Mullaer**, military historian. Mullaer's presentation will be about the American victory at January 17, 1781 Battle of Cowpens.



Linda Lashley

5 – May Summer Walking Tour at Oakdale Cemetery – May 21, 2016, 10:00AM – 12:00PM. Historical walking tours of North Carolina's oldest rural cemetery will be given by local historian, **Ed Gibson**. Mr. Gibson will take you on a journey through time and delight you with the history and some interesting tales of those who are interred at Oakdale Cemetery. *Tour cancelled in event of inclement weather*
- See more at: <http://www.wilmingtonandbeaches.com/events-calendar/may-summer-walking-tour-at-oakdale-cemetery/#sthash.LBwYnPx.C.dpuf> Call: 910-762-5682.

Ed Gibson

6 - In Willow Dale Cemetery-Goldsboro laid the earthly remains of a young man who died far from home, **Jared K. White** of Co. B 8th Texas Calvary, Terry's Texas Rangers. The 19 year old rode 2,000 miles from Austin County, Texas to defend the South and served for 4 years, dying just 3 weeks before Lee surrendered at Appomattox. Temporarily buried on land near where he was killed, Jared was later reinterred in Goldsboro's Confederate Cemetery by members of his family.

sprinkled Texas soil over the grave, placed the state flower of Texas, the Bluebonnet, and raised the Texas flag in grateful recognition of his sacrifice.



On April 9, 2016, White's descendants from Texas and Alabama arranged for a rededication ceremony. CFCWRT member **Linda Lashley** attended in mourning attire and gave a speech. The descendent sisters

Linda Lashley

7 – The 147th Confederate Memorial Day observance was held at Confederate Mound in Oakdale Cemetery on May 1st. Member **John Munroe III** placed a live wreath of leaves and flags, on behalf of the CFCWRT. Member **Linda Lashley**, reenacting a widow in mourning, and her brother received the Cross of Military Service medal posthumously awarded to their Dad, Cpl. H. C. Lashley, WW2 combat veteran and Purple Heart recipient.

Linda Lashley

***** April 2016 *****

The Silent Sentries: The Civil War

John Winecoff and **Ed Gibson** provided an interesting and thought-provoking study at North Carolina's Civil War memorials. With current controversy about the meaning of these memorials, they gave a look at these monuments, statues, and memorials which honored all North Carolinians who had served during the war. The memorials were located in North Carolina's 100 counties – they honored Confederate, Union, USCT, and militia units and the sacrifices these North Carolinians made for their beliefs.



John Winecoff & Ed Gibson

John travelled many miles to visit these sites. He met many interesting people and heard numerous stories that related too much of North Carolina's military history. Ed's computer skills benefitted "telling of the story" via their presentation.

John and Ed, the CFCWRT extend a big thank-you for your efforts to share your feelings and thoughts about a subject that has gained a renewed importance.

Editor

***** Trivia Questions for May *****

1 – Who was the general who was awarded a Medal of Honor for being the first to enter Fort Fisher through the stockade and leading assaults on the fort traverses? Newton Martin Curtis (1835 – 1910). Curtis published *From Bull Run to Chancellorsville* in 1906. Curtis also served as an assistant inspector general of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

2 – Name five Northerners who served the Confederacy? Josiah Gorgas – Pennsylvania; Bushrod Johnson – Ohio; Samuel Cooper – New York, NOTE: Cooper was highest ranking Confederate General; John Pemberton – Pennsylvania; Daniel Ruggles – Massachusetts.

3 – Name five Southerners who served the Union? Robert Anderson – Kentucky, NOTE: Anderson commanded Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861. Anderson owned slaves; George Thomas – Virginia – NOTE: The Rock of Chickamauga; Winfield Scott – Virginia: Admiral David Farragut – Tennessee; John Gibbon – born in Pennsylvania but raised in North Carolina. Gibbon has three brothers who served in the Confederate Army.

4 - Who was Gutzon Borglum?

Controversial Sculptor (1867-1941) known for Mount Rushmore in South Dakota; the design of a Confederate Memorial at Stone Mountain, Georgia NOTE: Borglum did not complete this project and fell out with the sponsors; bust of Abraham Lincoln found in the rotunda of the Capital Building; General Phil Sheridan equestrian bronze located in Washington, DC and North Carolina's memorial at Gettysburg.



5 – What group was responsible for early Confederate and Union memorials? The Mothers, Wives, Sisters and Daughters were the early mourners.

On the 6th of May 1866, the Ladies' Memorial Association of Petersburg was formed "to devise means to perpetuate their gratitude and admiration for those who died defending homes and loved ones." One of the principal, active members of the Ladies Memorial Association was Miss Nora Fontaine Maury Davidson who had established a school for young women in Petersburg. On June 9, 1865, she took her students with her to Blandford Cemetery and decorated the graves of both Union and Confederate dead with flowers and flags.

******* Thoughts *******

I recently read a book *Those Damn Black Hats: The Iron Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign*. The writer, Lance J. Herdegen, told the story of the men of the 2nd, 6th, 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana, and 24th Michigan and their actions during the battle at Gettysburg in July 1863. Herdegen used copies of letters, diaries, newspaper articles, journals, and faded photographs of soldiers in big black hats to tell the story of the westerners who slowed the Confederate advances on July 1st.

In a chapter entitled, *Glorious Remembrance*, Herdegen told the efforts made by the veterans of the Iron Brigade to honor their comrades who did not survive the war. The reunions and memorials they funded and dedicated were strikingly similar to those funded and dedicated to units in the defeated Confederacy.

What interested me most about this book was how the Iron Brigade veterans reached out to those survivors of the 26th North Carolina that they had fought so sharply at Gettysburg. Charles McConnell of the 24th Michigan wrote to Colonel A. M. Waddell of Wilmington, North Carolina seeking information about the 26th NC. This initial letter led to other veterans being drawn into the correspondence and subsequent meeting between the former foes.



I have a pretty simple view of Civil War memorials, Confederate and Union. I think that all simply honor what those veterans survived during a time of sacrifice. The fact that many memorials were dedicated in the late 1800s and early 1900s was due to the fact that the veterans were growing older and chose to remember their services (and their comrades) as they could still do so.

Editor