

The Runner



Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

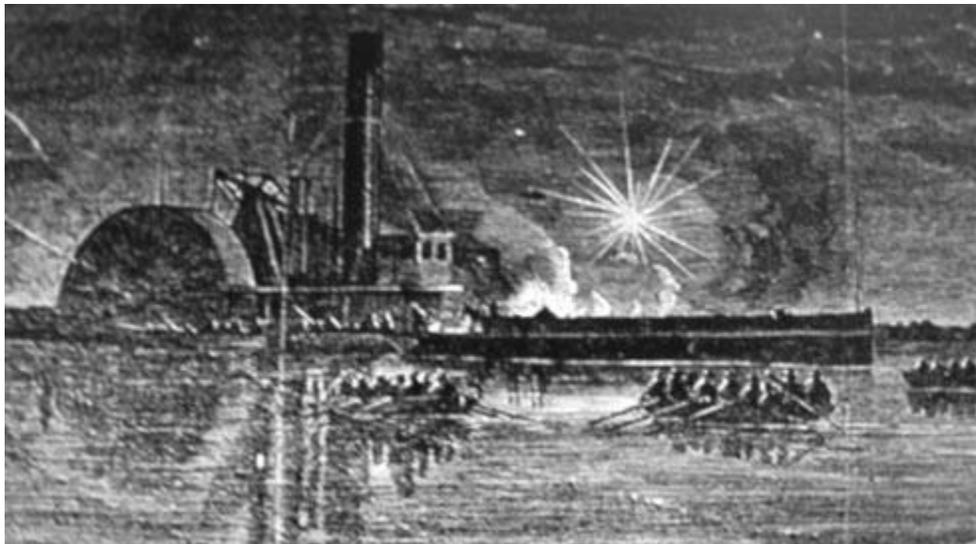
Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, 12 January 2017** at St. Andrews On-the-Sound Episcopal Church located at 101 Airlie Road. Come early - the meeting starts promptly at 7:30p.m. See cfewrt.org for details of future speakers and their subjects.

Please join us at our first meeting of the 2017 Program Year. Visitors are always welcome – ***bring a friend***. 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.

******* January 2017 Program *******

Too Many Contingencies: The Attack on New Bern, 1864

Jeff Bockert will discuss Pickett and Hoke's February 1864 attack on New Bern with emphasis on the reasons for the attack, the battle plans and tactics, and why the attack failed. Jeff will also cover a few details on the USS *Underwriter* cutting out expedition.



USS Underwriter

Jeffrey L. Bockert currently serves as the East Region Supervisor for the North Carolina Division of Historic Sites based in Kinston, NC. He has worked in the historic

site and museum field for over twenty years and prior to arriving in Kinston, he served as the Civil War Specialist for N.C. Department of Natural & Cultural Resources. Jeff's previous work experience includes manager of the President James K. Polk Birthplace, Associate Curator on the Battleship North Carolina and work at the National Archives in Washington, DC. Jeff has also worked in education as an instructor at Brunswick Community College and Wingate University. He is the author of several works on presidential and military history and has been published in works such as White House Studies and Public Historian. Jeff received both his undergraduate degree in American History and his master's degree in European History from UNC-Wilmington.

Editor

******* Trivia Questions for January *******

- 1 – Who proposed the Confederate strike against the Union forces occupying New Berne? Why was February 1864 scheduled for the attack against Union army and navy forces?
- 2 – Who led the Confederate navy's assault on New Bern?
- 3 – While trying to run the blockade on October 1, 1864, Rose O'Neal Greenhow drown when the small boat carrying her and several others capsized in the rough surf off Fort Fisher. Who discovered her body? Who discovered her gold coins?
- 4 – Who built the CSS *Albemarle*?
- 5 – Who sank the CSS *Albemarle*?

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

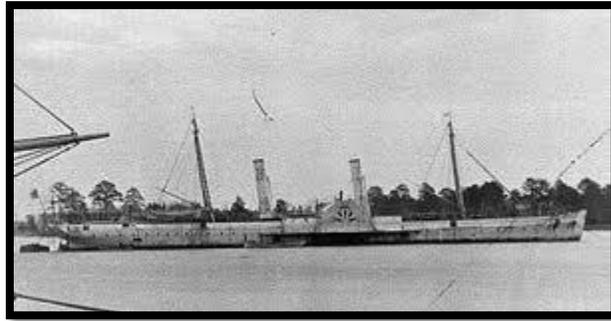
Raffle Master: Ed Gibson

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.



1861 -	Cindy Richards
<i>Look Away</i> -	Ed Gibson
<i>Longest Night</i> -	Joe Henson
<i>Grant and Lee</i> -	Andrew Dupstadt
<i>Shiloh</i> -	John J. Bolger
<i>Gallant Mrs. Stonewall</i> -	Cindy Richards
<i>Strange Tales of the Civil War</i> -	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 – Wishing all members and friends of the CFCWRT a Prosperous and **Happy New Year!**

2 – If you have plans to do some traveling and want to know upcoming Civil War events in that area, check out *civilwar.travel*. This site is for 2016-2017 events. Listed below are some events scheduled to take place in January.

1 SC “First Day Hike,” battlefield tour at Rivers Bridge State Historic Site near Erhardt. 10 am. Free.southcarolinaparks.com/riversbridge

7-8 SC Civil War show and sale at the Omar Shrine Temple, 176 Patriot’s Point Road, Mt. Pleasant, near Charleston. 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-3 pm Sunday. \$10/adult. Americandiggerevents.com

14 NC 152nd Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Fisher: *Desperate bravery and brilliant valor*

26 VA Lecture, “‘My Dancing Days Are Over:’ **The Story of Dorsey Pender,**” at the Museum of the Confederacy in Appomattox. 6:30 pm reception, 7 pm lecture. \$10. www.acwm.org

29 KS Lecture, “Kansas Day 156!” at Constitution Hall in Lecompton. 2 pm.

\$3. kshs.org

3 - On **Saturday, January 14, 2017**, Fort Fisher will host its annual living history program marking the **152nd anniversary of the Second Battle of Fort Fisher**. This year’s theme, “Desperate bravery and brilliant valor,” will focus on the stories of the men who displayed bravery and valor during the afternoon of January 15, 1865.

Throughout the day, re-enactors will bring the fort to life. Harry Taylor, a local photographer, will be using his 1860s wet-plate photography studio to take photographs for visitors. Infantry units will be available to talk with visitors about camp life, garrison duty, conduct the manual of arms and firing demonstrations. Artillery units will conduct drills and firing demonstrations consisting of the Historic Site’s Rifled and Banded 32-pound cannon and the Site’s bronze 12-pound Napoleon cannon.

In the Spencer Theater, two local historians and authors, **Rod Gragg** and **Richard Triebe**, will be presenting stories of the bravery and valor displayed by men at Fort Fisher. Both authors will be on-site during the day to meet the public and sign copies of their books. Period music will be provided by NC favorites the Huckleberry Brothers Band throughout the day.

The Junior Reserves programming will feature a “School of the Soldier” and a “Secret Codes and Encryption Devices” program. The “School” will be outside and will educate visitors about the life of the Civil War soldier. Inside the museum, “Secret Codes” will help visitors learn about making sure the message gets through your enemy’s lines. The program will run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, will be free, and will be open to the public.

All Fort Fisher programming is made possible with the support of New Hanover County, the Town of Carolina Beach, the Town of Kure Beach, and the Friends of Fort Fisher and its sustaining members.

Source: http://www.friendsoffortfisher.com/images/Powder_Magazine_Newsletter--Fall_2016.pdf Accessed November 21, 2016.

4 – Mark your calendar. The **CFCWRT Dinner Meeting** will be held on **9 February, 2017** at the Blockade Runner resort at Wrightsville Beach. **Kelly Hinson** will perform as Confederate spy and diplomat, **Rose O’Neal Greenhow**. **If you saw Kelly as Mrs. Anna “Stonewall” Jackson last February**, you do not want to miss this year’s performance. Dinner, silent auction and theatre will be reasonably priced at \$35 per attendee.



Confederate Rose

5- **Cape Fear Civil War Symposium at Fort Caswell, May 5-7, 2017**. Featuring the following speakers: Dr. Robert M. Browning, Jr., Dr. Stephen Wise, Dr. Chris Fonvielle,

Col. Wade Sokolosky and Jim McKee. If you want to learn about Cape Fear Civil War history as it relates to Blockade Running, this is the symposium for you. See fortcaswell.com for details and registration form.

***** December 2016 *****

CSS *Albemarle* and the Battle of Plymouth

Andrew Duppstadt provided details of the history of the Civil War as it played out in Eastern North Carolina. The April 1864 effort to recapture this resource rich area was commanded by North Carolinian, General Robert F. Hoke. Hoke's attack to recapture Plymouth was supported by approximately 10,000 Confederate soldiers and the iron clad CSS *Albemarle*.



Andrew Duppstadt

The Confederate actions proved to be the most successful joint army/navy expedition of the war. With the aid of the *Albemarle* and much hard fighting, Hoke forced the surrender of Union General Wessells' command on April 20, 1864. The *Albemarle*, commanded by Cmd. James W. Cooke, fought and defeated the Union ships, *Southfield* and *Miami*; hence, the Confederates gained control of the land and waters around Plymouth.

The *Albemarle* was to fight more of the Union fleet in Albemarle Sound on May 5th. The Confederates won a costly victory, but the *Albemarle* was forced to return to Plymouth for extensive repairs. With the damage to the iron clad, Hoke's attempt to retake New Bern was effectively ended.

Andrew continued his story with the final fate of the *Albemarle*.

Editor

***** Trivia Questions for January *****

1 – Who proposed the Confederate strike against the Union forces occupying New Berne? Why was February 1864 scheduled for the attack against Union army and navy forces? Robert E. Lee. The Army of Northern Virginia was short of rations. The Union occupation of Eastern North Carolina deprived the Confederacy of a bountiful breadbasket that could provision the ANV.

The Confederacy was an agricultural nation that could not feed itself. Too many fields were uncultivated. Cotton may have been KING at the beginning of the war, but the general population and the military could not eat cotton.

2 – Who led the Confederate navy's assault on New Bern? My favorite Confederate officer, **John Taylor Wood**, led the navy's assault. Wood was the grandson of former President Zachary Taylor. Was John Taylor Wood the Forrest Gump of his day? Was it mere chance that Wood was at Hampton Roads on March 9, 1862 (CSS *Virginia* vs. USS *Monitor*), at Drewry's Bluff on May 15, 1862, aboard the USS *Satellite* in August 1863, aboard the USS *Underwriter* at New Berne in February 1864, aboard the CSS *Tallahassee* in August 1864, or with Jefferson Davis on the "unfortunate day" in Georgia on May 10, 1865?

Lieutenant George W. Gift wrote of the February 1864 New Berne expedition:

I was with Wood in his late expedition to New Berne, N.C., which resulted in the cutting-out and destruction of the U.S. gunboat *Underwriter*. It was a bold design and well executed, and Wood deserves much credit. All is due to him and Loyall, as the bulk of the work fell upon the two leading boats. *I am all admiration for Wood. He is modesty personified, conceives boldly and executes with skill and courage.*

Modesty personified was a phrase little used to refer to men who risked all in expeditions to strike at their enemies.

Source: <http://www.cfcwrt.org/John%20Taylor%20Wood.pdf>, accessed November 21, 2016.

3 – While trying to run the blockade on October 1, 1864, Rose O'Neal Greenhow drown when the small boat carrying her and several others capsized in the rough surf off Fort Fisher. Who discovered her body? Who discovered her gold coins? Greenhow was a passenger on the blockade runner *Condor* as she was returning from a diplomatic mission to try to influence England and France to the Southern cause. She carried diplomatic dispatches and, importantly to her, 400 gold sovereigns, the royalties for her memoirs that she intended to donate to a Southern Relief Fund. She kept the coins in a bag secured around her neck.

Greenhow had been imprisoned twice previously by the Federal government. When the *Condor* ran aground trying to avoid the beached blockade runner *Night Hawk*, Greenhow feared capture and the return to prison or a fate much worse. Captain Hewitt twice said no to her pleas to be put ashore. After two crewmen volunteered to row ashore, Hewitt relented. Rose was accompanied by her paramour - Lt. Wilson, Judge Holcombe, the *Condor's* pilot with his puppy and the crewman. The boat capsized. The others and the puppy survived by swimming back to the boat and clinging to the keel.

Thomas Taylor, the cargo manager of the wrecked *Night Hawk*, found Greenhow's body on the beach the next morning. Taylor ordered a group of slaves to take Rose's body to Colonel William Lamb's house where Daisy Lamb prepared the body for transport to Wilmington.

J.J. Prosper For Me D. Doctor Duval Connor, a Confederate sentry on duty as dawn broke on October 2nd, found the coin bag that had been around Rose's neck. The three feet eleven inch tall sentry turned the gold in to his superior's when he discovered who had owned the gold coins.

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*

4 – Who built the CSS Albemarle? Gilbert Elliott, a 19 year old soldier. It's a long story.

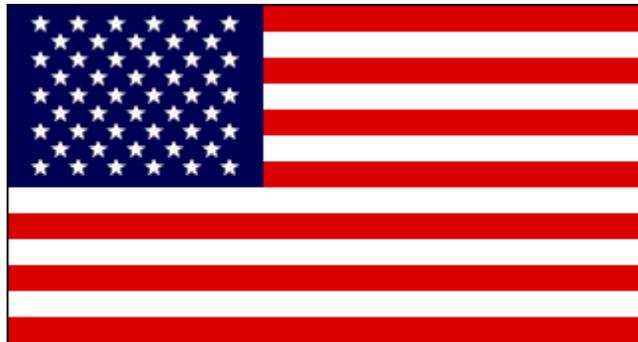
Source: Robert G. Elliott, *Ironclad of the Roanoke: Gilbert Elliott's Albemarle*

5 – Who sank the CSS Albemarle? William Baker Cushing, USN.

Source: Robert G. Elliott, *Ironclad of the Roanoke: Gilbert Elliott's Albemarle*

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

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



Editor