

# *The Runner*



## **Cape Fear Civil War Round Table**

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, 9 November 2017** at Harbor United Methodist Church located at **4853 Masonboro Loop Road**. Come early – the meeting starts promptly at 7:00p.m. See **[cfwrt.org](http://cfwrt.org)** for details of future speakers and their subjects

Please join us at our third meeting of the 2017-2018 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.

**\*\*\*\*\* November 2017 Program \*\*\*\*\***

### **Confederate Conscription: An Introduction**

**William “Bill” Brown** will discuss the three Conscription Acts and their impact in the Wilmington area. This meeting will likely result in questions about the Confederacy and its legislative agenda to provide maximum resources to achieve independence.

April 16, 1862 - The Confederate Congress passes the first Conscription Act, making all white males between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five eligible to be drafted into military service. (This is the first such draft in U.S. history.)

September 22, 1862 - President Abraham Lincoln issues the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

October 11, 1862 - The Confederate Congress passes the Twenty-Slave Law, creating an exemption to military conscription for the owners of twenty or more slaves.

May 1, 1863 - The Confederate Congress amends the Twenty-Slave Law to apply only to overseers on plantations belonging solely to "a minor, a person of unsound mind, a femme sole [single woman], or a person absent from home in the military or naval service of the Confederacy."

February 17, 1864 - The Confederate Congress changes the requirement of the Twenty-Slave Law to fifteen able-bodied slaves and requires planters with exempted overseers to deliver one

hundred pounds of bacon or its equivalent for every slave to the government and to sell his or her surplus to the government or to soldiers' families at government price



**William Harris Brown** is a native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. His education includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from High Point College in 1984 and a Masters Degree in History from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1987. He has served in the N.C. Office of Archives and History for twenty-six years. His current position is Registrar of the State Archives of North Carolina responsible for accessioning incoming records to the State Archives

Source: [https://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Twenty-Slave\\_Law#start\\_entry](https://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Twenty-Slave_Law#start_entry), (accessed Novemeber1, 2017.)

**Editor**

**\*\*\*\*\* Trivia Questions for November 2017 \*\*\*\*\***

**1 – What was a substitute?**

**2 – What were valid exemptions to conscription?**

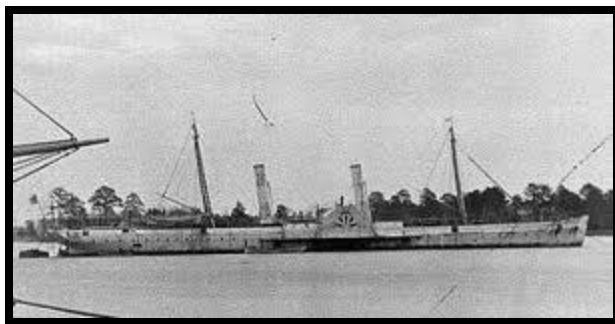
**\*\*\*\*\* Raffle Winners \*\*\*\*\***

**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](mailto: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.

<i>History of the Confederate States Navy</i>	Ed Gibson
<i>Lamson of the Gettysburg: The Civil War Letters</i>	Al Anderson
<i>Battle of Wise's Fork</i>	Bill Jayne
<i>Fighting for the Confederacy</i>	Al Anderson
<i>Seward</i>	Joe Hack
<i>Stonewall in the Valley</i>	Tim Barton

**\*\*\*\*\* 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** – If you have plans to do some traveling and want to know about upcoming Civil War events in that area, check out *civilwar.travel*. This site is for 2017 events.

**2 – November 18, 2017**

Free Civil War Saturday

Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm

Location: **Gov. Richard Caswell Memorial**

2612 W. Vernon Avenue, Kinston

The CSS Neuse Civil War Interpretive Center will be providing the public with demonstrations of the many aspects of naval, military and civilian life. Some of which will include: navigation techniques, small arms, artillery, steam engines, rope and knot work, cooking, spinning, weaving, dyeing, Civil War medicine, and 19th century toys and games.

**3 – Two Weeks of Fury – Wise’s Fork, Monroe’s Crossroads, Averasboro, Benntonville  
September 28-30, 2018**

The Two Weeks of Fury Symposium will begin with an optional half-day on Friday, Sept. 28, in Kinston. Friday evening will include a key-note lecture at The Barn at [Broadslab](#). Saturday's tours begin with a rare trip to Monroe's Crossroads battlefield and a guided tour of Civil War Fayetteville and Averasboro. Saturday will wrap with an intimate meet and greet at Bentonville Battlefield featuring heavy hors d'oeuvre and drinks. Sunday will conclude with a guided tour of Bentonville Battlefield.

Only 100 tickets will be sold, with a limit of 25 being sold for the optional Friday, half-day. Tickets include two meals, snacks, water, soda, and Saturday evening hors d'oeuvre and drinks. Your price includes venue admissions and a copy of Mark Moore's *Historical Guide to Bentonville*, an excellent map guidebook of the Carolinas Campaign. The price for the event will be \$350 or \$395 if you include the Kinston trip on Friday afternoon.

Contact (910) 594-0789 [amanda.brantley@ncdcr.gov](mailto:amanda.brantley@ncdcr.gov)

I attended a similar symposium some years ago with many of the same speakers. I highly recommend this event.

**Editor**

\*\*\*\*\* October 2017 \*\*\*\*\*

## A Monumental Mystery: Bentonville Battlefield's Lost Confederate Soldiers

The March 1865 battle of Bentonville resulted in 4,200 casualties. Hundreds were killed while others were taken to field hospitals such as the John Harper home which was commandeered by the U.S. army. Although a Union hospital, fifty-four Confederate soldiers were treated by Federal surgeons in the home. The wounded Confederates were paroled by the Federals and left in the Harper's care after the battle. Twenty-three would die before the last wounded soldier was able to leave. Three of these soldiers were sent home for burial but the graves and even the identities of the twenty remaining soldiers who died in the house had become lost over the years. Confederates that died outright on the battlefield were buried in unmarked graves but it was assumed that the remains of the ones that died in the home received better care. Their exact fates however have been lost to time.



In 1895, a local militia company placed a monument on Harper property to 360 soldiers buried "here." This inscription on the monument has led to the assumption that there is a mass grave near the memorial. In 2007, in conjunction with the History Channel, archaeologists used ground penetrating radar to search for a mass grave. No mass grave was ever found, but approximately twenty individual graves were discovered. This number corresponds with the Harper account, and a recently discovered 1895 photograph showing individual grave markers in the area. In 2011, tombstones were erected in the area for the twenty unknown Confederate soldiers that died in the home. A mass grave has yet to be found, and in all likelihood does not exist.

**Derrick Brown** shared his extensive knowledge of Bentonville battlefield with our membership. Hopefully, a Derrick led tour can be arraigned in the future.

**Editor**

### \*\*\*\*\* Trivia Questions for November \*\*\*\*\*

**1 – What was a substitute?** The April 16, 1862 law allowed an individual subject to conscription to hire a "replacement" – someone who was not normally subject service. This practice led to charges of "a rich man's war, a poor man's fight."

**2 – What were valid exemptions to conscription?** Controversy surrounded what were valid exemptions and what experience what required to claim one. Examples of exemptions included:

national and state government employees, druggists, teachers, ministers, mine workers, industrial workers, and communication/transportation workers.

Source: <https://blogs.loc.gov/law/2012/11/civil-war-conscription-laws/> (accessed November 1, 2017).

**\*\*\*\*\* Thoughts \*\*\*\*\***

Civil War history has received much attention in the last year. News stories have discussed monuments, “The Lost Cause”, treason, honorable men, etc.

I am glad that the CFCWRT tries to secure speakers who provide us with the history as it unfolded.