

The Runner



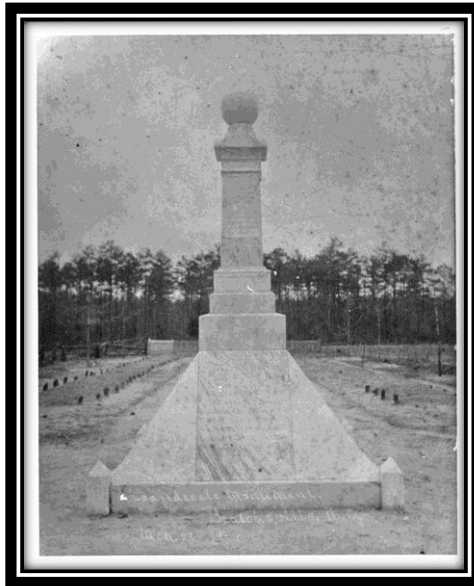
Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, 12 October 2017** at Harbor United Methodist Church located at **4853 Masonboro Loop Road**. Come early – the meeting starts promptly at 7:00p.m. See **cfcwrt.org** for details of future speakers and their subjects

Please join us at our second 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.

******* October 2017 Program *******

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.

A Sneads Ferry, NC native, **Derrick Brown** graduated with a BS in history from Western Carolina University in 2003 and earned his MA in history from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 2010 (studying under Chris Fonvielle). His master’s thesis, “‘Foster Must Build Forts:’ The Failure of Union Offensive Strategy in Eastern North Carolina, 1862-1863,” focused on the Union occupation of New Bern and eastern North Carolina during the first half of the Civil War.

Derrick has worked at Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site in Johnston County since 2006, serving as the Assistant Site Manager since 2009. Before starting at Bentonville, Derrick worked part-time at Fort Fisher State Historic Site in Kure Beach. He currently resides in Teachey, in Duplin County, with his wife Erin and daughter Haleigh.

Editor

******* Trivia Questions for October 2017 *******

- 1 – When was the Battle of Bentonville fought and why was it significant?**
- 2 – When was R.E. Lee’s pardon approved?**
- 3 – Robert E. Lee and Mary Anna Randolph Custis marriage was blessed with seven children: three boys and four daughters. What were their fates?**
- 4 – Why are there no known photos of Anne Carter Lee?**

******* 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.

Age of Lincoln

To Honor these Men

Redemption

The Man Who Would Not be Washington

The Bloody Crucible of Courage

Fighting for the Confederacy

Oliver Acheson

John Bolger

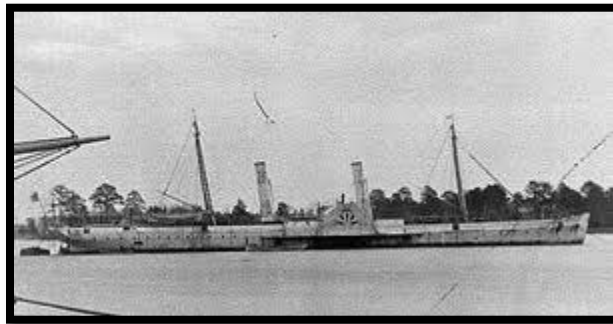
Al Anderson

Mary McLaughlin

Mary McLaughlin

Ed Gibson

***** **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 initial meeting in our new home!!!! The September meeting at **Harbor United Methodist Church, 4853 Masonboro Loop Road** was a great success. Approximately 60 members and guests were treated to a most interesting meeting.

2 – 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.

3 - October 21 - 22: **Port Brunswick Days** Saturday and Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm
Join us at Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site on October 21 and 22, 2017 for Port Brunswick Day! Living historians, dressed in 18th century attire, will demonstrate what life was once like in this early port town on the lower Cape Fear. Visitors will have the opportunity to try their hand at the militia drill, take a turn in the stocks and pillory, dip their own beeswax candle, and much more. Free and fun for all ages!

4- October 28: **Fall Festival and Living History:** Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm
Bring the family and celebrate fall at **Bentonville Battlefield! Activities** include hayrides, carnival games based on 19th century games, corn shucking contest, townball (19th century baseball), and more! Visitors will also learn about 19th century farm life, and the chores that women and children were suddenly responsible to perform. Demonstrations include open hearth cooking, children's games, spinning, sewing, and more.

***** September 2017 *****

Lee's Post-War Visit with his Tar Heels

The Curious Case of Mrs. Fannie White Garlick and Robert E. Lee: The Ring of Truth

Chris Meekins spun an interesting story of Robert E. Lee's visit to North Carolina in the Spring of 1870. Using a newspaper article that appeared in a Weldon paper in the late 1800s as a starting point, Chris painstakingly researched to ascertain whether Mrs. Fannie White Garlick had received a gold ring from General Lee during his visit.



On **October 20, 1862**, Annie Carter Lee, daughter of Robert E. Lee, died in Warren County. She had been ill with typhoid fever while visiting the Jones Springs resort there.

Lee sent both Annie and her sister Agnes to North Carolina in June 1862 when Union troops occupied their home in Arlington, Va. When Annie died it was not possible to take her body back to Arlington, which was then behind enemy lines. The owner of Jones Springs offered to have her body buried in his family cemetery and the Lees accepted.

Zearell Crowder, a Confederate soldier, created the 11-foot tall obelisk that marks her grave to this day. It was dedicated in a ceremony in 1866. The Lee family and the citizens of Warren County paid for the monument, and Robert E. Lee visited the grave in 1870.

In 1994, descendants of the Lee family had Annie's body removed from the Warren County grave and interred with the rest of the family at Washington and Lee Chapel in Virginia.

The obelisk remains in the Jones Family Cemetery located on Annie Lee Road.

Did Chris' research confirm the claims that Fannie recalled from that 1870 Lee visit to his daughter's grave? Had Lee given the two year old Fannie a small gold ring? Not to keep you hanging, but I wish all of you could have heard Chris' story.

Ok, Chris believed that the trail he followed did indeed support Fannie's story.

Source: <https://www.ncdcr.gov/blog/2014/10/20/annie-carter-lee-from-virginia-to-north-carolina-and-back> (accessed September 20, 2017).

Editor

***** Trivia Questions for October *****

1 -When was the Battle of Bentonville fought and why was it significant? The largest Civil War engagement in North Carolina, the Battle of Bentonville took place during *19-21 Mar. 1865* in rural Johnston County. *The encounter was one of the Confederacy's last attempts to defeat the Union army before the South capitulated.* With reports that Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's 60,000-man army was marching toward Goldsboro in two columns, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston concentrated about 21,000 men near the community of Bentonville. His aim was to defeat the Union left wing before it could be reinforced by the right. Johnston thus hoped to prevent or delay Sherman's junction with Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield's Federal forces at Goldsboro.

When word of the battle reached Sherman late on 19 March, he sent the Union right wing under Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard to Slocum's support. Johnston redeployed his lines into a V to prevent being outflanked and to guard his only route of retreat. By 4:00 p.m. on 20 March, most of the Union right wing had reached Bentonville. Johnston was forced to deploy cavalry on his flanks to give the appearance of a strong front. Uncertain of Johnston's strength, Sherman decided against a general attack and instead ordered his subordinates to probe the Confederate defensive line. The Federal commander expected Johnston to retreat under cover of darkness, but dawn the next day revealed that the Confederates still held their entrenchments.

There was more intense skirmishing on 21 March despite the onset of heavy rain. During the afternoon, a Union attack nearly cut off Johnston's line of retreat before being repulsed by a hastily mounted Confederate counterattack. The Rebels thus escaped from Bentonville mainly because Sherman did not launch a general assault. That night the Confederates withdrew, removing as many of the wounded as possible, and returned to Smithfield. Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton's cavalry was ordered to cover the retreat, engaging in lively skirmishing with the Union forces. Total casualties at Bentonville were 1,527 Federals and 2,606 Confederates. After the battle, Sherman resumed the Union march toward Goldsboro, arriving there on 23 March.

Source: <http://www.ncpedia.org/bentonville-battle> (accessed September 20, 2017).

2 – When was R.E. Lee's pardon approved?

On a spring day 140 years ago, Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee met face to face in the parlor of Wilmer McLean's house in Appomattox Court House, Virginia. On that historic occasion, April 9, 1865, the two generals formalized the surrender of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, thus bringing an end to four years of fighting between North and South.

After agreeing upon terms of the surrender, the generals each selected three officers to oversee the surrender and parole of Lee's army. Later that day, Lee and six of his staff signed a document granting their parole.

On May 29, 1865, President Andrew Johnson issued a Proclamation of Amnesty and Pardon to persons who had participated in the rebellion against the United States. There were fourteen excepted classes, though, and members of those classes had to make special application to the President.

Lee sent an application to Grant and wrote to President Johnson on June 13, 1865:

"Being excluded from the provisions of amnesty & pardon contained in the proclamation of the 29th Ulto; I hereby apply for the benefits, & full restoration of all rights & privileges extended to those included in its terms. I graduated at the Mil. Academy at West Point in June 1829. Resigned from the U.S. Army April '61. Was a General in the Confederate Army, & included in the surrender of the Army of N. Va. 9 April '65."

On October 2, 1865, the same day that Lee was inaugurated as president of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia, he signed his Amnesty Oath, thereby complying fully with the provision of Johnson's proclamation. But Lee was not pardoned, nor was his citizenship restored. And the fact that he had submitted an amnesty oath at all was soon lost to history.

More than a hundred years later, in 1970, an archivist at the National Archives discovered Lee's Amnesty Oath among State Department records (reported in *Prologue*, Winter 1970). Apparently Secretary of State William H. Seward had given Lee's application to a friend as a souvenir, and the State Department had pigeonholed the oath.

In 1975, Lee's full rights of citizenship were posthumously restored by a joint congressional resolution effective June 13, 1865.

At the August 5, 1975, signing ceremony, President Gerald R. Ford acknowledged the discovery of Lee's Oath of Allegiance in the National Archives and remarked: "General Lee's character has been an example to succeeding generations, making the restoration of his citizenship an event in which every American can take pride."

Source: <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2005/spring/piece-lee.html> (accessed September 18, 2017).

3 – Robert E. Lee and Mary Anna Randolph Custis marriage was blessed with seven children: three boys and four daughters. What were their fates?

George Washington Custis Lee ("Custis" "Boo") 1832-1913 – CSA General in the Army of Northern Virginia

Mary Custis Lee ("Daughter") 1835-1918

William Henry Fitzhugh Lee ("Rooney") 1837-1891 – CSA General in the ANV.

Anne Carter Lee ("Annie") 1839-1862 – Died of typhoid fever at Jones Springs, NC on October 20, 1862.

Eleanor Agnes Lee ("Wig" "Agnes") **1841-1873**

Robert Edward Lee Jr. (Robertus Sickus") 1843-1914 – Captain in ANV.

Mildred Childe Lee ("Precious Life") 1846-1905

NOTE: Of the four Lee daughters, none ever married.

Source: Mary P. Coulling, *The Lee Girls* [Winston-Salem, NC: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1987], 201-202.

4 – Why are there no known photos of Anne Carter Lee? Annie was borne with a birthmark on her face and as a young child she had an accident when she stuck a scissor point into her eye. She was very self-conscious of how she looked.

Source: Mary P. Coulling, *The Lee Girls* [Winston-Salem, NC: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1987], 11-18.

******* Cogitating *******

Some statements are timeless in application, this one, at this time, seems worthy of reflection:

*“Intoxicated with unbroken success,
we have become too self-sufficient
to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving
grace,
too proud to pray to the God that made us.”*

*Abraham Lincoln
March 30, 1863*

Bruce Patterson

Note: The full text of President Lincoln’s Proclamation appointing a National Fast Day can be found at:

Source: <http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/fast.htm> (Accessed on September 20, 2017).

Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, proclaimed March 27, 1863 as a “Day of fasting, humiliation and prayer.”

Source: nytimes.com (accessed September 20, 2017).