

# *The Runner*



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

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, 9 February 2017** at the **Blockade Runner Resort's Nighthawk Room** located at 275 Waynick Blvd, Wrightsville Beach. Come early - the dinner meeting starts promptly at 7:00p.m. See [cfcwrt.org](http://cfcwrt.org) for details of future speakers and their subjects.

Please join us at our second 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.

### **\*\*\*\*\* February Program \*\*\*\*\***

#### **An Evening with Rose O'Neal Greenhow: Confederate Spy**

**Rose O'Neal Greenhow** was born in Maryland in 1813, 1814 or 1817. As a teenager, Rose moved from rural Maryland to live in her aunt's Washington D.C. boardinghouse. Rose was thrilled with the interactions with the many notables who called the fashionable boardinghouse their home while Congress was in session.

In 1835, Rose married Dr. Robert Greenhow, a physician and academic who had served in the State Department for over 20 years. Greenhow had served through the administrations of seven presidents. Rose's marriage to Dr. Greenhow gave her the opportunity to become Washington's "hostess with the mostest." She had earlier known John C. Calhoun, former Vice President and Secretary of State, and ardent supporter of the slave-plantation system. Through Greenhow's circle of friends, Rose became acquainted with men such as Martin Van Buren, James Buchanan and Jefferson Davis.

After Dr. Greenhow's accidental death in San Francisco during February 1854, Rose sought to keep and expand her circle of friends among Washington's elite and "want-to-be-elites." These friendships became the basis for Rose's evolution into a source of Union activities after the Civil War began in early 1861. Rose's strong belief in the slave-plantation system that existed in the Southern states influenced her decisions to do all in her power to aid the Southern cause.

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liars, Temptress, Soldiers, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*  
**Editor**

**\*\*\*\*\* Trivia Questions for February \*\*\*\*\***

- 1 – How many children did Rose have during her 19 year marriage to Dr. Greenhow?
- 2 – Who did Rose consider to be her mentor and guide to the issue of slavery during the pre-war period?
- 3 – Who did Rose send an encrypted message to that alerted the Confederates of the march of Union troops out of Washington to attack the rebel forces in Northern Virginia?
- 4 – Who was Major E.J. Allen and what was his connect to Rose O’Neal Greenhow?
- 5- Who was 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Joseph D. Wilson?
- 6- Where is Rose O’Neal Greenhow buried?

**\*\*\*\*\* The Rose – Femme Fatale \*\*\***



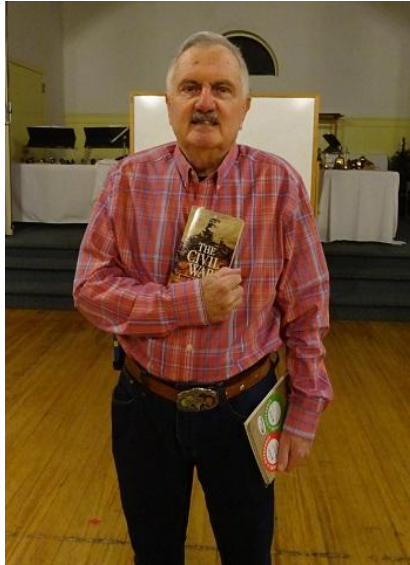
Rose attracted men like bees to a hive. Her admirers included Senators, soldiers – Unionists, Southern sympathizers – abolitionists, Pro-slavery proponents. Rose gathered information that she would use in future events. Abolitionist Republican Senator Henry D. Wilson, chairman of the Military Affairs Committee and future Vice President, was supposedly smitten in spite of Rose’s secessionist proclivities Union Colonel Erasmus Keys described Rose as “one of the most persuasive women that was ever known in Washington.” Senator Stephen Mallory, future Confederate Secretary of the Navy, remarked that Rose “hunted man with that resistless zeal and unflinching instinct . . . . she had a shaft in her quiver for every defense which game might attempt.”

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liars, Temptress, Soldiers, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*

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

**Raffle Master: Ed Gibson**

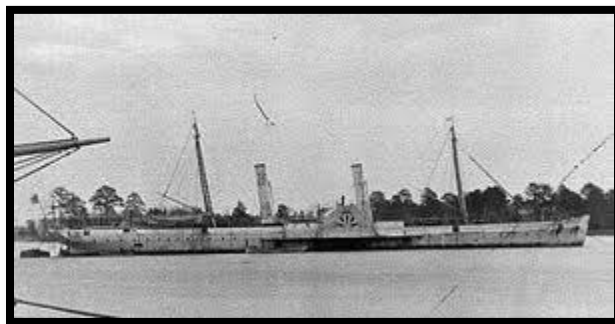
If you have books, prints, or other items that you would like to donate to the raffle, contact Ed Gibson ([egibson759@aol.com](mailto:egibson759@aol.com)) before our next meeting. *The raffle is one of the components which allow the CFCWRT to fund our activities and our speakers.* Please take part in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



"Everyone was so excited about the books they won, they hurried home to start reading, but we caught the last winner, John Munroe." Linda Lashley

Lee Takes Command - Ed Gibson  
Civil War Soldiers - John Bolger  
Shiloh/Stars in Their Courses - Thomas Newber  
Fields of Fury - Bob Cooke  
Lee & Longstreet at Gettysburg-Walt Bullard  
The Civil War-John Bolger  
Cry Heart -Jim Gannon  
Civil War, A History-John Munroe

**\*\*\*\*\* 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 **Happy Valentine's Day!**

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 2017 events. Listed below are some events scheduled to take place in February.

4 **VA** Lecture, “Unsung Heroes of Civil War Medicine: African American Surgeons,” at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 2:30 pm. Free with admission. [civilwarmed.org](http://civilwarmed.org)

4 **SC** Tour and lecture at the Rivers Bridge State Historic Site near Erhardt. Battlefield tour begins 1:30 pm followed by lecture. \$5. [southcarolinaparks.com/products/10004334](http://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10004334)

9 **DC** Book talk, *Troubled Refuge: Struggling for Freedom in the Civil War*, at the Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum in Washington. 6 pm. Free. [clarabartonmuseum.org](http://clarabartonmuseum.org). [[Buy book](#)]

9 **VA** Book discussion, *Two Roads to Sumter*, at the Museum of the Confederacy in Appomattox. Noon. Discussion free. [acwm.org](http://acwm.org). [[Buy book](#)]

11 **MD** Lecture, “Resurrecting Our Heritage: Alexandria’s Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial,” at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 4 pm. Free. [surrattmuseum.org](http://surrattmuseum.org)

11 **VA** Panel discussion, “Not Your Grandfather’s Civil War,” at Unison Methodist Church, 21148 Unison Road, Middleburg. 2-4 pm. \$15. [mosbyheritagearea.org/events](http://mosbyheritagearea.org/events)

11 **VA** Lecture, “So How Much of the USS *Monitor* Do You Actually Have?” at the Mariners’ Museum in Newport News. 2:30 pm. Free with admission. [marinersmuseum.org](http://marinersmuseum.org)

13 **VA** Talk, “From Yankee Doodle to Dixie: The Importance of Music in Early Virginia,” at the Capital Ale House, 623 E Main St, Richmond. 6:30 pm. Free. [acwm.org](http://acwm.org)

18 DC “Women of Color in the Civil War,” special program at the Nature Center, 5200 Glover Road NW, Rock Creek Park in Washington. Noon. Free. [nps.gov/rocr](https://www.nps.gov/rocr)

18 VA Family Day, “Seizing Freedom,” African Americans in the Civil War, at the Museum of the Confederacy in Appomattox. 11 am-3 pm. Free with admission. [acwm.org](https://www.acwm.org)

18 VA Tour, “This Tide of Wounded,” the Lee-Fendall House as a Civil War hospital. Tour of the house and grounds, 614 Oronoco St, Alexandria, begins 10 am. \$10 at door, \$8 advance. [leefendallhouse.org](https://www.leefendallhouse.org)

18 VA Seminar, annual event at Longwood University in Farmville, featuring talks by notable historians. Free. [nps.gov/apco](https://www.nps.gov/apco)

23 VA “Mark Twain and the Civil War,” a “Civil War conversation” at the Museum of the Confederacy in Appomattox. 6:30 pm reception, 7 pm talk. \$10/adult. [acwm.org](https://www.acwm.org)

25 VA Symposium, “Lightning Rods for Controversy: Civil War Monuments,” at the Library of Virginia, 800 E Broad St, Richmond. 9:30 am-4 pm. \$60/adult. [acwm.org](https://www.acwm.org)

3 - On **Saturday, January 14, 2017**, Fort Fisher hosted a living history program marking the **152nd anniversary of the Second Battle of Fort Fisher**. The CFCWRT had a table to interest attendees of the Fort Fisher event to join us at future RT meetings.



R- Bill Jayne, C- Bob Cooke and L- Tim Winstead greet visitors

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 at 7:00p.m., silent auction and theatre will be reasonably priced at \$35 per attendee. Make it a Valentine’s Day celebration.



**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.

**\*\*\*\*\* January 2017 \*\*\*\*\***

### **Too Many Contingencies: The Attack on New Bern, 1864**



By early 1862, Union control of eastern North Carolina was centered in New Bern. General John G. Foster had built a system of forts and blockhouses to provide defenses for the area.

Robert E. Lee wanted to retake eastern North Carolina to protect the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad and to secure food for the Army of Northern Virginia. Lee was to release troops for the retaking of New Bern in January 1864. George Pickett, of Gettysburg fame, was to be in command of the four pronged attack. The Confederate Army forces were split into three separate columns: Robert Hoke, Seth Barton and James Dearing commanded these attacking forces. John Taylor Wood commanded naval forces that were to capture a Union gunboat to provide support for the combined attack.

Hoke was to attack from the west, Barton from the south, and Dearing was to attack Fort Anderson on the north side of the Neuse River. Barton and Dearing deemed their area of attack to be too strongly defended to be successfully attacked. Hoke attacked and had some success. Without support from Barton and Dearing, Hoke could not take the town. Wood boarded and took control of the USS *Underwriter*; however, the ship's boiler were out. Wood had to abandon and burn the *Underwriter*.

Pickett did not aggressively push Barton or Dearing to attack their objectives. Pickett saw too many contingencies for further attacks and canceled the last campaign to recapture New Bern..

**Editor**

**\*\*\*\*\* Trivia Questions for February \*\*\*\*\***

**1 – How many children did Rose have during her 19 year marriage to Dr. Greenhow?** Eight children came of their union. By the start of the Civil War, five of these children and their father had passed. Three daughters survived – only eight year old “Little Rose” was still living at home.

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liars, Temptress, Soldiers, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*

**2 – Who did Rose consider to be her mentor and guide to the issue of slavery during the pre-war period?** South Carolinian **John C. Calhoun**. Calhoun, along with Henry Clay, Daniel Webster and Andrew Jackson, dominated the American political scene from 1815 until 1850.

Calhoun was responsible for many of the strong beliefs that Rose held dear to her core.

Source: <http://www.history.com/topics/john-c-calhoun>, accessed February 3, 2017.

**3 – Who did Rose send an encrypted message to that alerted the Confederates of the march of Union troops out of Washington to attack the rebel forces in Northern Virginia?**

**General P.G.T. Beauregard** at Manassas received advance notice that Union General Irvin McDowell, with 55,000 troops, was headed toward Beauregard's positions.

Rose's message gave time for the reinforcement of Beauregard's army by Joseph E. Johnston's troops then stationed in the Shenandoah Valley. Rose's timely actions helped the Confederates turn a hard fought Battle of Manassas into a victory for the Southern cause.

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liars, Temptress, Soldiers, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*

**4 – Who was Major E.J. Allen and what was his connect to Rose O'Neal Greenhow?** E.J. Allen was the name **Allan Pinkerton** used as head of General George McClellan's private detective service. Famous for his investigations of railroad robberies, Allan Pinkerton, had offered his services to the Lincoln administration to secure knowledge of Confederate movements and their spy networks. Rose O'Neal Greenhow was among his first assignments. Pinkerton's efforts led to Rose's constant surveillance and finally to her imprisonment.

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liars, Temptress, Soldiers, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*

**5- Who was 3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Joseph D. Wilson? Joseph “Fighting Joe” Wilson** served under the command of Raphael Semmes, captain of the *CSS Alabama*, during the famous naval engagement off Cherbourg, France. Wilson had been taken prisoner when the *Alabama* had been sunk during the fight with the *USS Kearsarge*.

James Mason, Confederate diplomat in Britain, suggested to Semmes that if anyone could secure Lt. Wilson’s release, it would be Rose Greenhow.

Rose, who had been sent to Europe at the request of Jefferson Davis, accepted Semmes’ challenge and hurried to the United States Embassy to call upon Charles Francis Adams, U.S. Minister to the Court of S. James. Rose used Semmes’ previous release of 250 Union prisoners as the basis of her request for humane treatment for the Lt. Within four days of her visit to Adams, Wilson was granted his release.

The twenty-two year old Wilson was grateful to his rescuer. Joseph and Rose became companions during Rose’s last days in Britain. Wilson was with Rose aboard the blockade runner *Condor* and in the row boat that tossed Rose to her death in the surf off Fort Fisher in October 1864.

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liars, Temptress, Soldiers, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*

**6- Where is Rose O’Neal Greenhow buried?** After a wake in the chapel of Hospital No.4 and a service in St. Thomas of the Apostle church, Rose was laid to rest in Wilmington’s Oakdale Cemetery.

Source: Karen Abbott, *Liars, Temptress, Soldiers, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War*