The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table
The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

April 11, 2011 Our 122nd Meeting

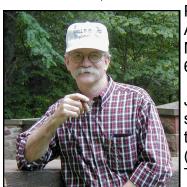


Volume 11 Number 4

Jim Morgan to Speak at April 11 Meeting On Civil War Veterans in Egypt

James A. Morgan III, has been a lifelong Civil War enthusiast. He was born in New Orleans, where his family had moved after the war from the destroyed Morganza Plantation, some 40 miles upriver from Baton Rouge, La.

Jim grew up in Pensacola, Fla., and now lives in Lovettsville, Va. His forefathers served in the



Pointe Couppe (La.) Artillery, the 41st Miss. Infantry, and the 6th La. Battery.

Jim has previously served as president of the Loudoun County (Va.) Civil War Round Table, and currently is on the Loudoun

County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee, works as a volunteer guide at Ball's Bluff for the Northern Virginia Park Authority, and is belongs to the Mosby Heritage Area Association.

As a re-enactor, he has done both Union and Confederate artillery and infantry impressions with several different units. Some years ago, he wrote a brief artillery unit history titled Always Ready, Always Willing: A History of Battery M, Second United States Artillery, From Its Organization Through the Civil War. His tactical study of Ball's Bluff, A Little Short of Boats: the Fights at Ball's Bluff and Edwards Ferry, October 21-22, 1861, was published in 2004 and has been called "the definitive account of Ball's Bluff."

His accounts of Ball's Bluff appear on several websites and he has written for *Civil War Times*, *America's Civil War*, *Blue and Grey*, and *The Artilleryman*, among other publications.

Jim holds master's degrees from the University of West Florida and Florida State University. He works as the acquisitions librarian for the State Department's Office of International Information Programs in Washington, D.C.

His presentation to the RCWRT will be on Civil War veterans who later served in Egypt.

~ Maj. Gen. William Loring ~

Among the Civil War veterans who later fought in Egypt was Maj. Gen. William W. Loring.



Loring was born in 1818 in Wilmington, N.C. During the Civil War, he earned the nickname "Old Blizzards" after his battle cry. Following the Civil War, Loring served for nine years in the army of Isma'il Pasha, the Khedive of Egypt. He died in 1886 and is buried in St. Augustine, Fla.



The Sesquicentennial



April 1861

'War is Inaugurated'

On April 12, 1861, at about 4:30 a.m., batteries of Sullivan's Island, Morris Island, and other locations opened fire on the federal garrison at Fort Sumter, in the Charleston, S.C., harbor.

As the article in *The New York Times* read the next day, "The ball has opened. War is inaugurated."



Fort Sumter is Fired Upon April 1861

Fort Sumter had a federal garrison of 84 soldiers under the command of Major Robert Anderson, who was from Kentucky. Commanding the Confederate forces was Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard.

Prior to shelling the fort, Beauregard had demanded its surrender, but Anderson refused. After some 34 hours of artillery fire began to take its toll, the major capitulated.

Neither side suffered a single fatality during the bombardment. However, during a salute to the U.S. flag, a cannon exploded and killed Pvt. Daniel Hough, a federal soldier, and wounded five others.

On April 15, Lincoln would issue a call for 75,000 volunteers for three months service to put down the insurrection.

Following these events, a Virginia convention that had rejected secession on April 4 would approve an ordinance April 17 for consideration by its citizens.

Riots in Baltimore

As the Civil War unfolded, Maryland was a divided state. The tobacco counties in the southern and eastern portion of the state were mainly prosecessionist, while the northern and western graingrowing counties were generally unionist.

Federal units headed south were passing through Baltimore. There were several city blocks between the major rail lines, and troops were forced to march to their transfer point.

On April 18, an artillery battery and an unarmed Pennsylvania militia were jeered by a pro-southern mob. The next day, a mob attacked the 6th Mass. Regt., and were fired upon. Four soldiers and a dozen civilians were killed, with many more injured.

Maryland, My Maryland

The Baltimore riots would spur James Ryder Randall to pen a nine-stanza poem urging the state to secede from the Union. The first stanza of his poem read:

"The despot's heel is on thy shore, Maryland!
His torch is at thy temple door, Maryland!
Avenge the patriotic gore
That flecked the streets of Baltimore,
And be the battle queen of yore,
Maryland! My Maryland!"



In April 1939, "Maryland, My Maryland" would become the official state song.

~ Quakers During the Civil War ~

The subject of our March event was the Religious Society of Friends, or Quakers as they also are called, a Christian sect known for pacifism. They also were strongly anti-slavery.



During the Civil War, Quaker leaders often sought exemptions from conscription for their men of draft age. However, whether it was for patriotism or personal reasons, some did fight. The 1956 movie, "Friendly Persuasion," with Gary Cooper, explores such individual struggles within a Quaker family in Indiana.

Upcoming Events

April 1: The N.C. Dept. of Cultural Resources begins its observance of the sesquicentennial with a photography exhibit, "Freedom, Sacrifice, Memory," in Fayetteville, N.C. The exhibit will travel around the state through Spring 2013. Details at http://www.nccivilwar150.com.

April 8-10: Salisbury, N.C.'s 14th annual Confederate Prison symposium, sponsored by the UDC. Lectures, tour of prison, book, music, displays, and banquet included. Cost is \$65. Contact Sue Curtis at (704) 637-6411 or email her at southpaws@salisbury.net.

April 8-12: Barter Theatre in Charleston, S.C., presents "Civil War Voices", a presentation about "true stories and real words, the people and music that shaped America." For details, call (276) 628-3991 or visit their website at http://www.bartertheatre.com/tours/civilwarvoices.php.

April 12: N.C. Military History Round Table presents an exhibition in Wayne County on "The Civil War—Special Focus on Women and Children." Event, with music, starts at 7 pm. Contact wahotyger@embarqmail.com.

April 16: A lecture titled "Women's Place was in the Home: Learning about Life Through Civil War Letters" will be held in Bath, N.C. at 10 am. For details, call (252) 923 -3971 or see http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bath.

April 21: The Durham Civil War Roundtable will present "Women of North Carolina During the War." Event begins at 7 pm. For more information, email Janet Eno at Jceno7play@embarqmail.com.

Was War Necessary?

In his latest book, "America Aflame: How the Civil War Created a Nation," UNC-Charlotte professor David Goldfield questions whether the loss of more than 620,000 men really was necessary.

According to Goldfield, in terms of money, the \$6.2 billion spent on the war could have freed the South's four million slaves, paid off their owners, and provided every former slave with repatriation payments and 40 acres of land, without such loss of life.



Preservation News

The Civil War Trust has launched a new campaign aimed at preserving additional tracts of land at the Gettysburg battlefield.

Most of the land involves the ground upon which the 26th North Carolina and 24th Michigan clashed on July 1, 1863. The two units suffered more casualties than any other regiments in their respective armies. Among those killed was the "boy colonel" of the 26th, Henry Burgwyn.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$234,000. Donations will be matched 10.5 to 1.



For more information on the Civil War Trust's new Gettysburg campaign, see http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/gettysburg/gettysburg-2011.

News of the RCWRT



Bylaw Amendment Approved

At our March 14 meeting, the membership approved a change to our bylaws that will add the immediate past president as a non-elected board member.

Notes From the President

President Steve Savia is seeking additional volunteers for the program and membership committees. If you can help, please contact Steve (see contact information, right column). Members also are reminded that donations to the Gatton Fund are tax deductible. Please note "Gatton Fund" on check subject line when making such donations and mail to: David June, Treasurer, 3912 White Chapel Way, Raleigh, NC 27615.

Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

May: David Zonderman, commerce, labor during the War June: David Thompson on Maj. Gen. Oliver Otis Howard July: Jeff Toalson, the CW letters of Richard Watkins August: Jack Travis on E. Porter Alexander, rebel gunner September: Betty Vaughn, a first person presentation

Soldiers' Info Sought

Skip Riddle is working on the compilation of an "Honor Roll" of Tar Heels that served in the Civil War. Skip is seeking help in determining the units of certain men: in particular, those wounded at the battle of New Bern in March 1862. Contact him at riddlegv@suddenlink.net.

Editor's Note on CSA Flag

The Prussian Nicholas Marschall, as noted in last month's *Knapsack* (Vol. 11, No. 3, p. 2), is widely considered to be the designer of the Confederacy's first national flag. A monument that credits Marschall stands on the grounds of the first capitol of the Confederacy in Montgomery, Ala. However, some historians believe the flag was created by a legislative committee, rather than from a specific design submitted by one person. Other historians give credit to Orren Randolph Smith, a native of North Carolina.



The Knapsack

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RCWRT Score Card

Members 123

March 2011 Attendance

Meeting 50

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table was formed on March 12, 2001 and is a 501(c)(3) "tax exempt organization." We meet on the second Monday of most months at 7:00 pm, at the N.C. Museum of History, (5 Edenton St. across from the State Capitol). Members and guests are encouraged to meet for supper at K&W Cafeteria (511 Woodburn Rd, Cameron Village) at 5:15; and for further discussion at The Mellow Mushroom (Glenwood Avenue & Peace Street) immediately after the meeting. Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$15 for students. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20.