

# *The Knapsack*

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

*August 14, 2017*  
*Our 198th Meeting*

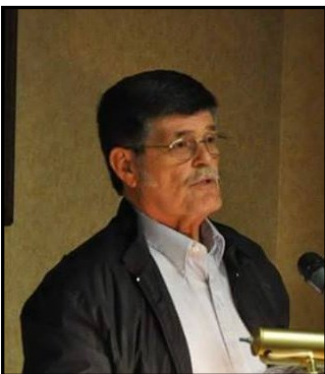


*Volume 17*  
*Number 8*

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

## **August 14 Event Features Robert Thomas On Longstreet and His Gettysburg Monument**

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's August 2017 meeting will feature a talk by pastor and historian Rev. Robert C. Thomas.



Robert was born in 1955 and is a native of Sanford, N.C. He graduated from Broadway High School in 1973 and then earned his associates degree in police science from Central Carolina Community College and, subsequently, earned his bachelor's degree in biblical studies from the Carolina College of Biblical studies.

Robert retired as a heavy equipment operator with the North Carolina Forest Service. He currently serves as pastor of the 1st Congregational Christian Church in Sanford and was the former commander of the Sons of Confederate Veteran's Robert E. Lee Camp (#803). Robert also served as the chairman of the Longstreet Memorial Fund from 1991 through 1998.

Robert is married to Susan Gross Thomas and has two children and four grandchildren. He continues to reside in Sanford.

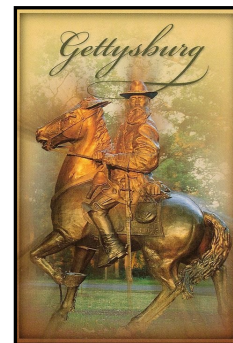
~ o ~

**REMINDER:** Annual dues are to be remitted next month. You may bring your cash or a check to an upcoming RCWRT meeting or mail payment to:

Griff Bartlett, Treasurer  
908 Kinsdale Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27615

### **~ Longstreet Monument ~**

The equestrian statue of General James Longstreet is southwest of the town of Gettysburg along West Confederate Avenue in Pitzer's Woods.



Longstreet's monument was commissioned by the N.C. Division of Sons of Confederate Veterans and sculpted by Gary Casteel. It was unveiled in July 1997.



# Arkansas

The States During the Civil War



## The 'Toothpick State'

Arkansas entered the Union as a slave state in 1836, the 25th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. It was nicknamed the "Toothpick State" because of the custom of its men to carry large knives. The state seceded May 6, 1861, after Lincoln called for troops to put down the rebellion, becoming the ninth Southern state to do so.

In 1860, Arkansas had a population of 435,450. Of that total, 111,115, or about one quarter, were slaves. The state was strategically important in the effort to control the Mississippi River. By war's end, Arkansas' economy was devastated and about one-eighth of its male population was dead.

About 60,000 men from the Toothpick State served in the Confederate forces. Nearly 9,000 more men from the state, both white and black, fought for the Union cause.



Arkansas Monument, Vicksburg

### 1860 Election Results:

John Breckenridge (Dem)	28,732 (53.1%)
John Bell (Union)	20,063 (37.1%)
Stephen Douglas (Dem)	5,357 (9.9%)

### Secession Vote (5/6/61 Convention):

For	69
Against	1

### Governors:

Henry M. Rector (Dem)	Nov. 16, 1860 – Nov. 4, 1862
Thomas Fletcher (Dem)	Nov. 4, 1862 – Nov. 15, 1862
Harris Flanagin (Dem)	Nov. 15, 1862 – May 26, 1865
*Isaac Murphy (Rep)	April 18, 1864 – July 2, 1868
	*provisional Unionist governor

## The 'Bloody Seventh'

Arkansas provided about 48 infantry regiments, as well as a number of cavalry and artillery units to the Confederate cause. After the state capital of Little Rock fell in 1863, some 11 regiments of infantry as well as a handful of cavalry and artillery units were formed to fight for the Union cause. Numerous black residents, primarily former slaves, joined the United States Colored Troops.



3rd Arkansas, Co. B

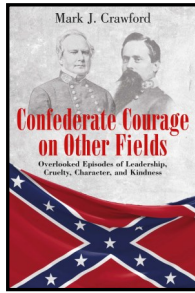
Among the notable units from Arkansas was the 7th Infantry Regiment, which was nicknamed "The Bloody Seventh" by Confederate General William Hardee after suffering heavy casualties at the Battle of Shiloh. Other units of note were the 1st Arkansas and 15th Arkansas Infantry Regiments, which were consolidated after being depleted during the war.

Arkansas saw a number of battles and skirmishes during the Civil War, including Pea Ridge in March 1862, which, along with Prairie Grove later that year led to Federal control of the northern part of the state as well as the bulk of Missouri. Little Rock fell to Union forces in 1863 and the Confederate seat of government moved to Washington in the southwest part of Arkansas. Widespread lawlessness took hold and nearly a third of men from the Toothpick State in uniform served in the Federal army by the close of the war.

Notable individuals that were from the state included Confederate generals Patrick Cleburne, nicknamed the "Stonewall of the West," as well as Thomas Hindman and Albert Rust, who were both former U.S. Representatives.

## Confederate Experiences

A new book on untold and little-known Civil War stories about Confederate soldiers and officers has just been published by Savas Beatie.



Mark Crawford's *Confederate Courage on Other Fields: Overlooked Episodes of Leadership, Cruelty, Character, and Kindness* includes sections on the writings of severely wounded men at a hospital in North Carolina, letters from an Southern officer, an ugly and personal quarrel between a Confederate and Union officer, and a look at the Battle of Dinwiddie Courthouse in Virginia.

More information about the book is available from the historical book publishing company at <http://savasbeatie.com>.

## Upcoming Events

**Aug. 12.** Fort Fisher Historical Site in Kure Beach, N.C., hosts Wade Sokolosky, presenting "Welcoming Sherman: Wilmington and the Cape Fear." Free. 2 p.m. Visit <http://www.friendsoffortfisher.com> online or phone (910) 458-5538 for more information.

**Aug. 24.** Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh offers Bruce Miller and Robin Simonton speaking on historic Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh. Free. 7 p.m. For details, telephone the book store at (919) 828-1588 or go online to <http://www.quailridgebooks.com/event/bruce-miller-robin-simonton-historic-oakwood-cemetery>.

**Aug. 26.** Bentonville Battlefield near Four Oaks, N.C., offers an artillery demonstration with Starr's Battery. The 27th NC Infantry also will provide displays and other demonstrations. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat. Free. For more, see <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi/bentonvi.htm> or call (910) 594-0789.

**Sept. 7.** Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh celebrates the 20th anniversary of *Cold Mountain* with award-winning author Charles Frazier and the NC Opera's Eric Mitchko. Free. 7 p.m. For details, call the book store at (919) 828-1588 or see <http://www.quailridgebooks.com>.

## Shaw's Sword Found!

The sword of Col. Robert Gould Shaw, who led the famous 54th Massachusetts in the assault on Fort Wagner, S.C. — the subject of the movie *Glory* — has been found and is now on display.

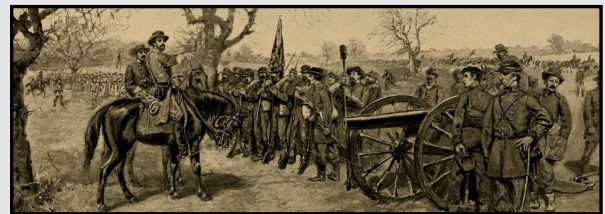


Photo by Stewart C. Mowbray

The white leader of the all-black regiment was killed during the July 18, 1863, attack on the fort, and his unit suffered about 40 percent casualties in the frontal assault. Shaw died on the parapet of the fort and his British-made sword was taken after the battle. It was recently located at the home of a distant relative and is on display at the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston.

## Preservation News

The Civil War Trust has launched a new campaign to preserve key ground at Appomattox.



The targeted property comprises three tracts that total 74 acres in size, including property located at the center of the national park in Virginia and part of the ground over which Joshua Chamberlain and his men made their last charge of the Civil War.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$386,500. Donations are matched at a 1.8:1 rate!

For details, go to <https://www.civilwar.org/give/save-battlefields/save-appomattox>



# News of the RCWRT



## Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

**September:** Randy Sauls, Battle of Goldsboro Bridge

**October:** Debbie Blake, Rose O'Neal Greenhow

**November:** Jeff Bockert, blockade runners

**December:** holiday party

**January:** annual Ed Bearss event

## Area Round Table Meeting Held



Ted Kunstling, David Waller and Pattie Smith represented the Raleigh CWRT at the second annual forum of Round Tables from across North Carolina held August 5 in Raleigh to share ideas and discuss best practices. The agenda included obtaining quality speakers, promotion, organizing field trips, fund raising, membership, and program development. Kunstling and Wally Rueckel of the Brunswick CWRT organized this event.

## What You Missed on Facebook

Recent posts on our Facebook page include book reviews, unique period photos, images of the 4th NC's flag from the American Civil War Museum, video of artillery firing at Fort Fisher, as well as other interesting material related to the Civil War. Come join us—its free! Go to <http://www.facebook.com> and search for "Raleigh Civil War Roundtable."

## New Member!

The RCWRT welcomes our newest member, Wayne Smith of Raleigh. If you know of someone with an interest in the Civil War, bring them to our next meeting and encourage them to join!



## ***The Knapsack***

***is the official newsletter of the RCWRT and is published on the Wednesday before each meeting.  
(August 2017 Circulation: 391)***

### ***Staff***

***Andrew Ballard, Editor  
George Long, Proofreader***

### ***Contributors***

***Ted Kunstling  
David Waller***

***Readers are encouraged to submit photos, events, & articles for publication to  
Andrew Ballard, Editor  
([anballard@yahoo.com](mailto:anballard@yahoo.com); 919-215-7304)***

## RCWRT Board of Directors

**Ted Kunstling**, President, 919-787-5282, [trkunstling@aol.com](mailto:trkunstling@aol.com)  
**George Mills**, VP, 919-847-8581, [g.c.mills.iii@earthlink.net](mailto:g.c.mills.iii@earthlink.net)  
**Griff Bartlett**, Treasurer, 919-848-6562, [griffb@yahoo.com](mailto:griffb@yahoo.com)  
**John Kucik**, 919-616-0855, [johnkucik@yahoo.com](mailto:johnkucik@yahoo.com)  
**Jack Milani**, 919-848-3670, [1huntmstr@gmail.com](mailto:1huntmstr@gmail.com)  
**Frank Ragsdale**, 919-847-1005, [fjr1947@gmail.com](mailto:fjr1947@gmail.com)  
**Steve Savia**, 919-846-6908, [sagegroup1@aol.com](mailto:sagegroup1@aol.com)  
**Pattie Smith**, 252-450-5040 [rvpls00@yahoo.com](mailto:rvpls00@yahoo.com)  
**David Waller**, 919-602-8152 [djcwaller@earthlink.net](mailto:djcwaller@earthlink.net)

### **RCWRT Score Card**

Members 139

**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 (located at 5 Edenton Street, across from the State Capitol). Members and guests are encouraged to meet for supper at K&W Cafeteria, 511 Woodburn Rd., in Cameron Village before the meeting, at 5:15 pm.

Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$10 for teachers. Students are free. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20.