

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

July 8, 2013
Our 149th Meeting



Volume 13
Number 7

Rick Walton to Speak at July 8 Meeting On Raleigh's Pettigrew Hospital Records

On July 8, Rick Walton will give the Raleigh Civil War Round Table a presentation about records from the Pettigrew Hospital in Raleigh.

At Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Rick earned a degree in electronics and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Computer Science. He worked at IBM as a scientist, engineer, and manager during his 30-year career.



Rick developed his passion for history and genealogy through research, writing, photography, and living history. Since retiring from IBM, he offers professional photography and historical and genealogical research services.

Rick currently serves as a volunteer tour guide at the North Carolina State Capitol where he also manages a volunteer photo digitization project. He is involved in living history events as a North Carolina governor from the 19th century which he has performed in film documentaries and at historic sites.

Rick also is active with the Cedar Fork Rifles, Co. 1, 6th North Carolina State troops, as a re-enactor, webmaster, and historian. He currently serves as the group's chairman of the board and ranks as a 1st Lieutenant when in the field.

While visiting the National Archives in 2010, Rick discovered a set of records that originated from the Pettigrew Confederate Hospital in Raleigh that was captured at the end of the Civil War. These unique North Carolina records remain in Washington, D.C., beyond the reach of many local genealogists and researchers.

At the Round Table's July 2013 meeting, Rick will offer a look at the records and discuss how they were created, what they tell us, and why they should be made available to local researchers.

~ The Pettigrew Hospital ~

In May 1861, a temporary hospital was built at the site of Raleigh's original fairgrounds to serve North Carolina's first Confederate unit.



The hospital would be made permanent in April 1864 and be named for Gen. James J. Pettigrew, who was killed shortly after Gettysburg. It had enough beds to house up to 400 soldiers and would serve as U.S. Army barracks during the occupation of Raleigh by the Union army from 1865 until 1876. The facilities would later become a veterans' home.



The Sesquicentennial



July 1863

Invasion Turned Back

From July 1-3, 1863, the small Pennsylvania town of Gettysburg would be the scene of a massive battle, considered by many to be the turning point of the Civil War. Total casualties would exceed 50,000.

Following his success at Chancellorsville in May 1863, Lee launched his second invasion of Union territory in an effort to take the conflict out of Virginia and cause the Federal government to seek an end to the war. Lee would meet the Union army under Maj. Gen. George Meade, who had been given command just three days before the battle.

During the fighting, the Union line had been laid in a defensive formation along the ridgeline in the shape of a fishhook.



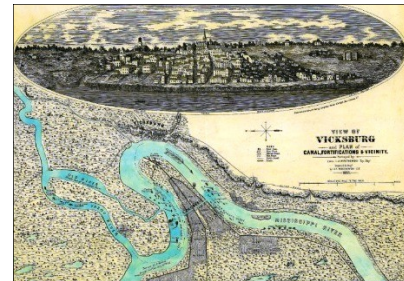
The climax of the three-day battle was the charge of about 12,500 Confederates against the center of the Union line, an assault generally known as Pickett's Charge. The attack was turned back with great loss to the Confederate army. During the three days, both sides suffered more than 23,000 casualties.

Although victorious in the battle, Meade was widely criticized for not pursuing and destroying Lee's army.

Also in July 1863, a Union assault on Fort Wagner in South Carolina would fail. The July 18 attack was led by the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, a unit made up of black soldiers commanded by Col. Robert Gould Shaw. Shaw would be killed and Federal forces would suffer 1,515 casualties.

Grant Takes Vicksburg

On July 4, after several weeks of being under siege, the Confederate forces at Vicksburg, Miss., would surrender.



In May, Union Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant had driven the Confederate army under Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton into the defensive lines surrounding Vicksburg. After two failed assaults, Grant decided to lay siege to the city beginning on May 25. Pemberton surrendered after his supplies ran low and no reinforcements were sent.

Morgan's Bold Raid Ends

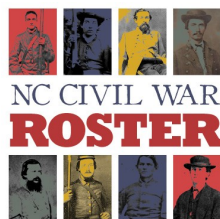
On July 26, Union forces defeated Confederate raiders and captured their leader, Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan, in eastern Ohio.



Morgan's men rode more than 1,000 miles in 46 days through Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. They terrorized the citizens of the Northern states, capturing and paroling about 6,000 Union soldiers, destroying bridges and rail lines, and seizing food, horses, and supplies.

Online N.C. Roster Index

A cumulative master index of the 18 volumes of "North Carolina Troops: 1861-1865: A Roster" is now available online.



Included are the names of about 115,000 North Carolinians who served in the Civil War. The roster project began in 1961, and rosters in each volume are arranged numerically by regiment or battalion and alphabetically by company. Unit histories and information about individuals based on their service records and also are provided in the volumes.

The index is available at <http://cwroster.ncdcr.gov>.

Upcoming Events

July 7: The N.C. Museum of History commemorates the 150th anniversary of Gettysburg with a showing of the 1993 film about the battle and a question and answer session with a licensed battlefield guide. Free. 12:30 - 6 p.m. Also see the state's original copy of the 13th Amendment, on display from July 1 through Oct. 6. For more information, see <http://www.ncmuseumofhistory.org> or phone (919) 807-7900.

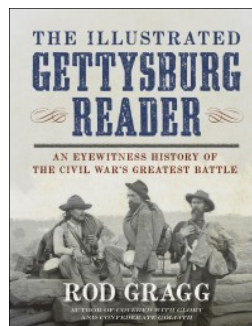
July 13: Bentonville Battlefield near Four Oaks, N.C., presents "Made in the Shade: Summertime Fun." Period arts and crafts and games. Free. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Go to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi/bentonvi.htm> or call (910) 594-0789 for details.

July 13: Author Michael C. Hardy will be at the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex in Fayetteville, N.C., talking about his latest book, *Civil War Charlotte: Last Capitol of the Confederacy*. Free. 2 p.m. Go to <http://museumofthecapefear.ncdcr.gov> or telephone (910) 486-1330 for more information.

July 14: Historic Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh will hold a second event to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg. Free three-part event includes a presentation and discussion on Civil War mortality and walking tours focused on the epic battle. For details, go to <http://historicoakwoodcemetery.org> or call (919) 832-6077.

They Were There

Just in time for the battle's 150th anniversary, *The Illustrated Gettysburg Reader* has been released.



The book uses an extensive amount of primary sources to tell the story of the epic battle using eyewitness accounts. Numerous illustrations and photographs enhance the narrative.

Author Rod Gragg is a history professor at Coastal Carolina who also authored *Covered with Glory* and *Confederate Goliath*.

For more information on the book, visit <http://www.regnery.com/books/the-illustrated-gettysburg-reader>.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust seeks to preserve 11 acres of battlefield land at Vicksburg, Miss.



The property targeted for preservation is next to the national military park and was where Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand's troops formed before their May 22, 1863, assault on Confederate defenses.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$315,000. Donations are matched 2.29 to 1.

For details, visit <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/vicksburg/vicksburg-2013>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

- August:** Debbi Blake, using the State Archives
September: Terry Winschel, Vicksburg
October: Tom Crouch, Civil War ballooning
November: Ansley Wegner, artificial limbs
December: Period music at state capitol
January: Annual Ed Bearss event
February: Keith Hardison, Jefferson Davis
March: Bob Zeller, photographic history
April: William Davis, CSA secret servicewoman

At Ashley's Art Gallery

Ashley's Art Gallery in Fuquay-Varina, N.C., now has available copies of a new painting by famed artist John Paul Strain titled "Battlefield Gettysburg." The artwork features General Robert E. Lee instructing Col. Edward Porter Alexander to conduct a massive artillery barrage in support of the Pickett/Pettigrew charge on July 3, 1863, the final day of the battle.



"Battlefield Gettysburg" by John Paul Strain

The painting is the third in a series made by Strain to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the battle. Call (919) 552-7533 or visit <http://www.ashleyart.com> for details.

Board Meeting Scheduled

The RCWRT board has scheduled a meeting July 10. Please forward any suggestions for agenda items to President Ted Kunstling or any of the other board members (see contact information at right).



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RCWRT Score Card

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| Members | 124 |
|---------|-----|

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.