

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

September 12, 2016
Our 187th Meeting



Volume 16
Number 9

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

September 12 Event Features Juanita Patience Moss On Forgotten Black Soldiers Serving in White Units



The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's September 2016 meeting will feature author and former teacher Dr. Juanita Patience Moss.

Juanita is the daughter of a renowned anthracite coal sculptor and grew up in northeastern Pennsylvania. After she attended Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C., Juanita earned her bachelor's degree at Wilkes University in

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and her master's degree from Farleigh Dickinson University in Rutherford, N.J. In 2011, Juanita was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humanities from King's College in Wilkes-Barre.

A retired New Jersey high school biology teacher, she developed an interest in genealogy that led her to researching black Civil War soldiers who served in white regiments. Her great-grandfather, Crowder Patience, a contraband from Chowan County, N.C., had enlisted in the 103rd Pennsylvania when they were garrisoned at Plymouth, N.C. Over the past 18 years, she has found more than 3,000 additional black soldiers who had served in white regiments and also were not previously documented.

Juanita published her first book, *Created to Be Free*, in 2001, and has since authored *Battle of Plymouth, April 17-20, 1864: The Last Confederate Victory* and two volumes of *Forgotten Black Soldiers Who Served in White Regiments During the Civil War*, the topic of her talk to the RCWRT. Signed copies of her books can be purchased at the meeting.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Members, it is time to remit your annual dues for the new fiscal year. If you have not already done so, please bring your payment to the Sept. 12 meeting or mail it to:

Griff Bartlett, Treasurer
908 Kinsdale Drive
Raleigh, NC 27615

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~ Black Soldiers ~

Approximately 179,000 black men, both free African Americans and runaway slaves from the South, served in the Union army during the Civil War, about 10 percent of its total. Nearly 20,000 more were in the navy.



African-American Monument, Washington, DC

Almost 40,000 of them died, with three-fourths of the deaths from disease or infection. Eighteen black soldiers and seven sailors earned the Congressional Medal of Honor for valorous service during the war.



Vermont

The States During the Civil War



'The Green Mountain State'

Vermont entered the Union in 1791, the 14th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. "The Green Mountain State," was the first of the former colonies to abolish slavery, doing so in July 1777, while it was a free republic. Rep. Justin L. Morrill was an influential member of the U.S. House of Representatives who was a strong advocate for the 13th Amendment that would abolish slavery.

In 1860, Vermont had 315,098 residents. More than 35,000 men from Vermont served in the United States army, navy, and marines, with 1,832 killed or mortally wounded in combat. Another 3,362 men from the state died of disease or in prison.

In proportion to the size of its population, Vermont lost more men during the war than any other state, about one out of every seven that served.



1st VT Brigade Monument, Gettysburg

1860 Election Results:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	33,808 (75.9%)
Stephen Douglas (Dem)	8,649 (19.4%)
John Breckenridge (Dem)	1,866 (4.2%)
John Bell (Union)	217 (0.5%)

1864 Election Results:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	42,420 (76.1%)
George McClellan (Dem)	13,322 (23.9%)

Governors:

Erastus Fairbanks (Rep)	Oct. 12, 1860 – Oct. 11, 1861
Frederick Holbrook (Rep)	Oct. 11, 1861 – Oct. 9, 1863
J. Gregory Smith (Rep)	Oct. 9, 1863 – Oct. 13, 1865

'Green Mountain Boys'

Vermont contributed 17 infantry regiments, a cavalry regiment, three batteries of artillery, and one heavy artillery regiment to the Union cause. The Green Mountain State also provided three companies of sharpshooters and raised two companies of frontier cavalry. Vermonters fought in other state regiments and Federal units as well.



Band, 4th Vermont Infantry Regiment

Continuing their military tradition from the American Revolution, men from Vermont were known as "The Green Mountain Boys." Among the notable units from Vermont were the 10th Vermont Regt., which fought with valor in the Battle of Monocacy in July 1864 and the 8th Vermont Regt., which suffered 67.9 percent casualties in October 1864 at Cedar Creek, Va. The 1st Vermont Brigade lost 1,645 of the 2,100 men engaged at the Wilderness in May 1864, the bulk of them in a 12-hour period.

Sixty-four men from Vermont were awarded the Medal of Honor, including Willie Johnston, who served as the drummer for the 3rd Vermont's Co. D and, at the age of 13, was the youngest person to ever receive the award.

No major Civil War battles were fought in the Green Mountain State, but, in October 1864, St. Albans was the site of the northernmost land action during the war when Confederate raiders robbed three banks in the town and then fled to Canada.

Notable individuals from Vermont included Lucius E. Chittenden, who served as the U.S. Registrar of the Treasury. Generals from the state included Charles B. Stoughton and William B. Hazen. George Dewey, later an admiral, served in the U.S. Navy.

What's the Connection?

The new *Ben-Hur* film opened in theatres on Aug. 19. Besides the brother-vs-brother theme and the *Glory* actor Morgan Freeman, what does this film have to do with the American Civil War?



Answer: The film is the latest adaptation of a book published in 1880 and written by Lew Wallace, a Union general from Indiana who led troops at Fort Donelson and Shiloh and commanded the cobbled-together Federal force that resisted Jubal Early's invasion of Maryland at Monocacy Junction, "The Battle That Saved Washington," in July 1864.

Wallace also served as a military judge at the trials of the Lincoln conspirators and Henry Wirz, the commandant of the infamous Andersonville prison, and later served as the governor of the New Mexico Territory and was the ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, among other notable accomplishments.

Upcoming Events

Sept. 18. Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh offers author Jennifer Chiaverini on *Fates and Traitors*, her novel about John Wilkes Booth and women who kept his confidence. Free. 2 p.m. See <http://www.quailridgebooks.com> or call (919) 828-1588 for more information.

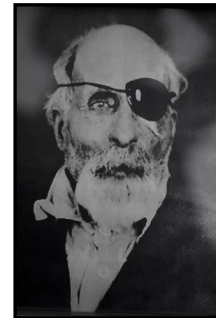
Sept. 24. The CSS Neuse Civil War Interpretive Center in Kinston, N.C. presents a "Hands on History" program featuring curious and strange artifacts of the Civil War. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/neuse/neuse.htm> or phone (252) 522-2091 for more information.

Sept. 24—25. Bennett Place State Historic Site in Durham, N.C., offers a Civil War living history program including camps, drilling, and weapons demonstrations. Free. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sat., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sun. For more, go to <http://www.bennettplacehistoricsite.com> or telephone (919) 383-4345.

Sept. 25. Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh offers author Terry Roberts on *That Bright Land*, a book about Jacob Ballard, a former Union soldier and spy who aims to track down a serial killer in the N.C. mountains shortly after the war. Free. 2 p.m. Go to <http://www.quailridgebooks.com> or call (919) 828-1588 for details.

A Long Trip Home

It has taken a very long time, but Pvt. Jewett Williams of the 20th Maine is finally home again.

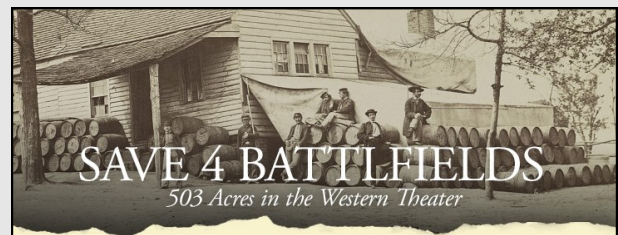


Williams was drafted into the U.S. Army in October 1864 and served in the siege of Petersburg and other battles in Virginia toward the end of the Civil War. He returned home after the war, but lived in several states before settling in Oregon. Williams spent the last months of his life in the Oregon State Hospital for the Insane, having been diagnosed with senility, and died there in 1922. His forgotten ashes were found in 2004 in a can on the property.

A number of volunteer organizations were involved in an effort to transport him 3,500 miles by motorcycle to finally rest at his hometown in Hodgdon, Maine.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust is seeking to preserve key ground at four battlefields in the Western Theater of the Civil War, including Bentonville, N.C.



In addition to Bentonville, the 503 acres of land that is targeted for preservation includes tracts at Shiloh and Stones River in Tennessee, and Rocky Face Ridge in Georgia.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$135,500. Donations are matched at a 15.71:1 rate!

For details, go to <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/shiloh/shiloh-2016>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

October: Doug Mattox, CSA currency and stamps
November: Fitzhugh Brundage, Frederick Douglass
December: annual Holiday Party
January: Ed Bearss event
February: Michael Zatarra, Battle of Roanoke Island

Treasurer's Report

Cash Balance as of Sept. 1, 2015	4,270
General Fund Receipts:	
Dues	2,340
Ed Bearss event, net	350
Other receipts	463
General Fund Disbursements:	
Donations to Oakwood Cemetery, Archives	(508)
Speakers	(1,124)
Rent	(1,350)
Web Site	(258)
Newsletter	(49)
Other disbursements	(244)
Cash Balance as of Aug. 31, 2016	3,890
Documentary DVD Donations	641
DVD Production, Mailing Costs	(692)
Documentary Fund Balance	1,307

Officers Elected For Two-Year Terms

The following individuals were elected at the RCWRT's Aug. 8 meeting to serve from September 2016 through August 2018:

President: Ted Kunstling
Vice President: George Mills
Secretary/Treasurer: Griff Bartlett
Director: Steve Savia
Director: Pattie Smith
Director: Jack Milani
Director: John Kucik
Director: Frank Ragsdale
Director: David Waller



The Knapsack

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RCWRT Score Card

Members 132

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.