

The Knapsack

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

January 13, 2020
Our 227th Meeting



Volume 20
Number 1

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

Jan. 13th Event Features Presentation by David Winslow on The Real Story Behind North Carolina's Gettysburg Cyclorama

Our upcoming meeting will be on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm in Daniels Auditorium at the NC Museum of History in Raleigh and will feature a presentation by David Winslow on [The Real Story Behind North Carolina's Gettysburg Cyclorama](#). This will be preceded at 6:30 pm by a social half-hour. **Please check the website (<http://www.raleighcwrt.org/>) and emails when adverse weather might cause a last minute program cancellation.**

A graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts, David Winslow began his fundraising career in 1978 as head of the School's International Music Program Orchestra, working primarily in Italy and Germany. He later managed the School's fundraising efforts in North Carolina. Past and current Board affiliations include the national League of Historic American Theatres, SciWorks, the Winston-Salem Symphony, the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Coalition on Drug and Alcohol Problems, the

North Carolina Governor's School Foundation, and the Semans Art Fund of the North Carolina School of the Arts.

Currently, David is also President of the North Carolina Civil War & Reconstruction History Center, having previously served as the project's senior consultant.

In Memoriam: Horace Mewborn, Jr.

We recently learned that noted Civil War author Horace Mewborn passed away on Dec. 14, 2019. Horace was an expert on the Confederate army cavalry battalion commander John Mosby, the "Gray Ghost".

Horace Mewborn, Jr., 78, was a native of NC. After graduating from Campbell College he served for seven years in the U.S. Army, with 30 months in Vietnam as



After leaving the army, he graduated from E. Carolina University and entered the FBI. Among his assignments with the FBI were tours of duty as a domestic terrorism specialist in New York City, Washington D.C., the Hostage Rescue Team, and FBI headquarters.

Horace authored five articles for *Blue and Gray Magazine*:

- [A Wonderful Exploit: Jeb Stuart's Ride Around the Army of the Potomac, June 12-15, 1862](#) (Volume XV, Issue 6, 1997-1998, # 90)
- [The Operations of Mosby's Rangers: Mosby's Confederacy](#) (Volume XVII, Issue 4, 1999-2000, # 100)
- [The Operations of Mosby's Rangers: The Shenandoah Valley](#) (Volume XVII, Issue 6, 1999-2000, # 102)
- [The Operations of Mosby's Rangers: Railroad Raids and the End of the War](#) (Volume XIX, Issue 1, 2001-2002, # 109)
- [Herding Yankee Cattle: The Beefsteak Raid, September 14-17, 1864](#) (Volume XXII, Issue 3, 2004-2005, # 129)

He co-authored the book on Mosby's command, the [43rd Battalion, Virginia Cavalry, Mosby's Command](#), for the H.E. Howard Virginia Regimental series, and he compiled and edited [From Mosby's Command: Newspaper Letters & Articles by and about John S. Mosby and his Rangers](#), published by Butternut and Blue, Baltimore (2005).

Horace resided in New Bern, N.C, where he had been President of the New Bern Civil War Roundtable until he resigned last summer due to failing health (metastatic colon cancer). Dr. Ted Kunstling, President of the Raleigh CWRT, stated: "Horace was a good man and assisted greatly with Ed Bearss' visits to NC. He sometimes attended Ed's presentation to the Raleigh CWRT and then drove Ed down to New Bern for a presentation there."

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Upcoming Events

Jan. 18-19, 2020: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm each day. **“Glory Enough For All: the 155th Commemoration of the Second Battle of Fort Fisher.”** Free, donations appreciated. The program will feature a tactical battle scenario (1 pm Sat and 10 am Sun) with hundreds of reenactors in period uniforms. It will also include living history demonstrations, musket demonstrations, artillery firings, period music, guided tours, and special guest speakers to educate and entertain. For details, go to <https://historicsites.nc.gov/events/glory-enough-all-155th-commemoration-second-battle-fort-fisher> or contact John Moseley at john.moseley@ncdcr.gov, (910) 251-7342. If you plan on attending both days, make a hotel reservation ASAP. One close-by hotel is the Hampton Inn & Suites Carolina Beach Oceanfront, 1 Harper Avenue, Carolina Beach, North Carolina, 28428. Their phone number is (910) 707-1770.



Feb. 1, 2020: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. **Twenty-first Annual Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and Longwood University-sponsored Symposium: Lifting the Veil on Sundry Aspects of the Civil War.** Jarman Auditorium, Longwood University, Farmville, Virginia. Speakers are as follows:

- DR. JOHN M. COSKI, Historian at The Museum of the Confederacy (now part of The American Civil War Museum): **How Civil War Prisons Help Us Better Understand Pretty Much Everything About the Civil War.**
- DR. JONATHAN W. WHITE, associate professor of American Studies at Christopher Newport University: **Dreams of War and Peace: The Remarkable Night Life of Civil War Americans.**
- DR. GARY W. GALLAGHER, former John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War and Director of the John L. Nau III Center for Civil War History at the Univ. of Virginia: **The Civil War in Film.**
- DR. ELIZABETH R. VARON, Langbourne M. Williams Professor of American History at the University of Virginia: **Armies of Deliverance: Lincoln's Coalition for Winning the War.**
- MR. TREVOR K. PLANTE, Chief of the Reference Services Branch at the National Archives in Washington, DC: **Civil War Records and Treasures at the National Archives.**

No reservations are needed as the program is free and open to the public. Parking is available in the Wheeler Lot at the corner of High Street and Griffin Blvd. For directions to the campus go to <https://www.longwood.edu>. Lunch is available at the Longwood University Dining Hall. For more information contact Patrick Schroeder at (434) 352-8987, ext. 232 or Dr. David Coles at (434) 395-2220. An event brochure can be accessed at <http://raleighcwrtsquarespace.com/storage/2020%20Longwood%20University%20Civil%20War%20Seminar%20Brochure.pdf>.

Mar. 21-22, 2020: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm each day. **155th Anniversary of The Battle of Bentonville.** Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site is the largest state historic site in North Carolina and hosts the largest reenactment event in the state every five years, this being one such year. This was the last major Confederate offensive of the war as General Joseph Johnston fought the advancing troops of General Sherman's march across the south. This living history event has many FREE programs and two battle reenactments which are ticketed events.

For tickets, schedule information, and reenactor registration, visit <https://www.johnstoncountync.org/155th-bentonville-reenactment/>. For information on the Bentonville Battlefield, itself, visit <https://www.johnstoncountync.org/bentonvillebattlefield/>. To order tickets, visit <https://squareup.com/store/fobb>. For more information, email Chad Jefferds at chadwick.jefferds@ncdcr.gov or (910) 594-0789.



Apr. 25-26, 2020: 11:00 am to 9:00 pm on Apr. 25 and 2:00 pm to ??? on Apr. 26. **Living History Weekend.** Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, the Washington County Historical Society's annual Living History Weekend is one of North Carolina's premier Civil War events. Known for its intimate feel and beautiful riverfront setting, the weekend-long event features two battle reenactments, an evening "Tourchlight Tour", "Duelling Narrators" debate, period music, troop encampment, book signers, free museum entrance, and more! For more information, go to <http://portoplymouthmuseum.org/events/living-history-weekend/> or call the Port o' Plymouth Museum at (252) 793-1377 or send an email inquiry to admin@portoplymouthmuseum.org. Advance ticket sales begin **March 1, 2020** (unless noted otherwise). Call the Museum at (252) 793-1377 for purchase.



Jul. 22-26, 2020: Chickamauga & Chattanooga Civil War History Conference. Chambersburg Civil War Seminars & Tours presents a tour/seminar featuring tour guide & leading authority David Powell with Eric Wittenberg in visiting Bridgeport and Stevenson, AL, LaFayette, GA, Davis's Crossroads, Chickamauga, Reed's Bridge, Jay's Mill, Brock Field, Kelly Field, Brotherton Field, Horseshoe Ridge, Lookout Mountain, National Cemetery, Orchard Knob, Ringgold & more!

The Conference will be based at the Hampton Inn at 6875 Battlefield Pkwy, Ringgold, GA 30736. All participants are responsible for arranging hotel accommodations for the seminar, which is not included in the tour price. \$125/night double occupancy plus tax. Special pricing for participants based on room availability.

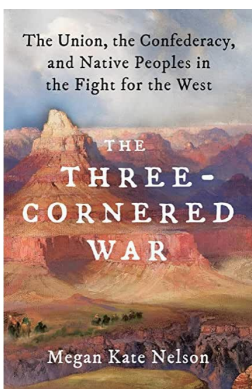
Brochure: <https://chambermaster.blob.core.windows.net/userfiles/UserFiles/chambers/1180/Image/ChickamaugaChattanooga2020OnlineBrochureUpdate.pdf>.
Registration: <https://business.chambersburg.org/events/details/chickamauga-chattanooga-civil-war-history-conference-30331>.

Two New Civil War Book Releases

The Three-Cornered War: The Union, the Confederacy, and Native Peoples in the Fight for the West

by Megan Kate Nelson

"In *The Three-Cornered War* Megan Kate Nelson reveals the fascinating history of the Civil War in the American West. Exploring the connections among the Civil War, the Indian wars, and western expansion, Nelson reframes the era as one of national conflict—involving not just the North and South, but also the West."



"Against the backdrop of this larger series of battles, Nelson introduces nine individuals. As we learn how these charismatic individuals fought for self-determination and control of the region, we also see the importance of individual actions in the midst of a larger military conflict. *The Three-Cornered War* is a captivating history—based on letters and diaries, military records and oral histories, and photographs and maps from the time—that sheds light on a forgotten chapter of

American history."

Author Megan Kate Nelson grew up in Littleton, Colorado, and is now a writer and historian living in Lincoln, Massachusetts.

She has written about the Civil War, U.S. western history, academia, and American culture for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Preservation Magazine*, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and *Civil War Times*. She also writes a regular column on Civil War popular culture, *Stereoscope*, for *Civil War Monitor*.



Nelson earned her BA in history and literature from Harvard University and her PhD in American Studies from the University of Iowa, and she has taught at Texas Tech University, Cal State Fullerton, Harvard, and Brown. Nelson is the author of *The Three-Cornered War*, *Ruin Nation*, and *Trembling Earth*.

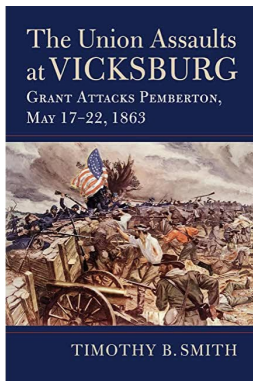
In a review, James M. McPherson had this to say: "Of the several 'western theaters' in the Civil War that stretched 1800 miles from Knoxville to Tucson, the events and significance of the once farthest west is least known or understood. Union forces in New Mexico and Arizona repulsed a Confederate attempt to conquer this region and subdued the Navajos and Apaches in a successful effort to 'reconstruct' the region into the United States. Megan Kate Nelson's beautifully written account tells this important story."

Hardcover Publisher: Scribner (Feb. 11, 2020); ISBN-10: 1501152548, ISBN-13: 978-1501152542.

The Union Assaults at Vicksburg: Grant Attacks Pemberton, May 17–22, 1863

By Timothy B. Smith

After seven months and six attempts, Ulysses S. Grant was finally at the doorstep of Vicksburg in the third week of May 1863. He proceeded to launch a series of attacks and maneuvers, intending to end the campaign quickly by assault, but the determined defense of Vicksburg's garrison changed his plans.



The Union Assaults at Vicksburg is the first comprehensive account of Ulysses S. Grant's quick attempt to capture Vicksburg, which proved critical to the Union's ultimate success and Grant's eventual solidification as one of the most significant military

commanders in American history.

Establishing a precise timeline for this crucial week, military historian Timothy B. Smith invites readers to follow the Vicksburg assaults as they unfold. His finely detailed account reaches from the offices of statesmen and politicians to the field of battle, with exacting analysis and insight that ranges from the highest level of planning and command to the combat experience of the common soldier. Smith's book also puts the sum of these battles into the larger context of the Vicksburg campaign, as well as the entire war.

Dr. Timothy B. Smith teaches history at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His many books include, most recently, *Grant Invades Tennessee: The 1862 Battles for Forts Henry and Donelson* as well as *Corinth 1862: Siege, Battle, Occupation* and *Shiloh: Conquer or Perish*, all published by the Univ. Press of Kansas.



Reviewer John F. Marszalek, Giles Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History and executive director and managing editor of the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library at Mississippi State University stated: "Tim Smith has done it again. His book on U. S. Grant's first attack on Vicksburg is another tour de force. There is no other historian who knows Civil War battles better than Smith, especially the conflict at Vicksburg. Civil War scholars and buffs are in for yet another excellent Timothy B. Smith battle account and can only await further books on this key battle."

Hardcover Publisher: Univ. Press of Kansas (Jan. 31, 2020); ISBN-10: 0700629068; ISBN-13: 978-0700629060

The above two books are available at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh, NC, as well as other book stores and online at Amazon.com. For other 2020 Civil War-related releases, go to website <https://cwba.blogspot.com/2020/>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming 2020 RCWRT Meetings

Date	Speaker	Topic
Jan. 13, 2020	David Winslow	The Real Story Behind NC's Gettysburg Cyclorama
Feb. 10, 2020	Richard Lewis	Cloaked in Mystery: The Curious Case of the Confederate Coat
Mar. 9, 2020	Jeremiah DeGennaro	The Collapse of Confederate Greensboro During April 1865
April 13, 2020	Douglas Waller	Lincoln's Spies
May 11, 2020	Freddie Kiger	TBD
June 8, 2020	Hampton Newsome	The Fight for the Old North State: The Civil War in NC, January-May 1864

Did You Know?

On Jan. 13, 1865, 155 years to the day prior to our Jan. 2020 meeting, a highly coordinated navy/army attack was begun on Fort Fisher, NC. Admiral Porter's extremely powerful Federal naval fleet, consisting of 627 guns in 59 vessels, began bombarding Fort Fisher at the mouth of the Cape Fear River. This produced the greatest firepower in world naval history up to that time. Simultaneously, 8,000 Union troops under Gen. Alfred Terry were successfully put ashore in small boats. Over a 3-day period, the navy fired some 20,000 projectiles which were much more effective than those of the failed attack in Dec. 1864.



**AMERICAN
BATTLEFIELD
TRUST** ★ ★ ★

The American Battlefield Trust asks for your help in saving two acres of irreplaceable Civil War history on small, but vital, tracts of land of three Civil War battlefields: East Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg, PA (one-half acre), Parker's Cross Roads, TN (one-half acre), and Sailor's Creek, VA (one acre). The goal is to raise \$193,000. Donations are matched at a ratio of \$4.00-to-\$1.00. For more information, go to <https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/save-central-land-3-battlefields>.

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 6:30 pm, at the N.C. Museum of History (located at 5 Edenton Street, across from the State Capitol). The programs begin at 7:00 p.m. Check the RCWRT website (<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>) for program dates and timing.

Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$10 for teachers. Student membership is free. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20. Dues should be submitted to Griff Bartlett, Treasurer, 908 Kinsdale Drive, Raleigh, NC 27615-1117 by **September 15** each year.

The Knapsack (Revised)



The Knapsack

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Readers are encouraged to submit photos, events, & articles for publication to

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Paying Memberships / Total Members: 139 / 221

New members: None

Donated Civil War-Related Books On Sale

A collection of 456 Civil War-related books from the library of our late member Jim Brenner was generously donated in 2019 to the Raleigh CWRT and is up for sale. The proceeds will be used to seed a new pool for funding future educational and preservation activities related to NC and the Civil War.

Dr. Ted Kunstling is currently curating the collection. Each book can be found listed on the Raleigh CWRT's website under the front page link [Civil War Book Collection Sale](http://raleighcwrt.squarespace.com/civil-war-book-collection-sale/) (<http://raleighcwrt.squarespace.com/civil-war-book-collection-sale/>).

Prices are \$5 per hardcover book and \$2 per paperback book. Buy three books and get a fourth free regardless of type. Contact Ted at trkunstling@aol.com or (919) 787-5282 to place your order.