

The Knapsack

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

December 9, 2019
Our 226th Meeting



Volume 19
Number 12

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

Dec. 9th Annual Holiday Event Features Presentation by Betty Vaughn on **Origins and Traditions of Christmas Celebrations in the mid-1800's**

December 9, 2019 features our annual holiday event which is being held at the Church of the Holy Cross, 2301 W. Millbrook Rd., Raleigh, NC. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. Attendees are asked to park on either side of or in back of the church. Entrance to the church is on either side directly into the narthex. **Please check the website (<http://www.raleighcwrt.org/>) and emails when adverse weather might cause a last minute program cancellation.**

Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. The usual hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and desserts will be provided. Dining will be held off the narthex in the Fellowship Hall.

The evening's presentation is by Betty Vaughn and begins at 7:30 p.m. Her topic will be the **Origins and Traditions of Christmas Celebrations in the Mid-1800's** (with emphasis on the Civil War period). The presentation will be in the Sanctuary on the opposite side of the narthex from the Fellowship Hall.



Betty J. Vaughn, former department chair and art teacher at Enloe Magnet High School in Raleigh, NC, following 32 years of teaching, launched a career as an author.

Previously her books **The Man in the Chimney** (originally published as **Muddy Waters**) and **Turbulent Waters** (originally published as **Blue Waters**) won historical fiction awards from the NC Society of Historians for 2011 and 2012, respectively. She is the 2013 winner of the award for historical fiction for her book **Run, Cissy, Run**. The fourth book in the series, **The Intrepid Miss LaRoque**, won the award in 2015. Her book **Yesterday's Magnolia** is not part of the historical fiction series. Her book, **The Tiger's Code**, is a CIA thriller and began a new series. Her most recently published work is **The Dragon's Sword**, book two in the series. Currently, Betty is working on **Lyon's Claw**, book three in the series.

In honoring her books, in a unanimous decision, the judges commented: "It is gratifying to find an astute historian whose skills far exceed that realm; someone who can take facts and weave them together with fiction and end up with a story that actually could have happened... [It is] a wonderful story full of emotion, unexpected twists and turns, close calls and tragic moments...Mrs. Vaughn can consider herself a seasoned novelist...[Her books] are fast paced, action packed, and full of adventure...Her work simply isn't just a flurry of words, dry, and boring...She is a master of literary technique as she weaves together her tapestry of words."

A prize-winning visual artist with paintings in collections worldwide, Mrs. Vaughn designed the magnet art program at Enloe where her students consistently won top honors. The recipient of a three year Federal Grant to the Wake County School System, she led Enloe Enterprises, Inc. in operating an art gallery, a summer arts camp, and an Emmy award-winning television production company. As a result, Enterprises Enloe was selected as one of the ten best art schools in the nation by Business Week Magazine. She wrote and published a monthly newsletter for the Enterprises and is the author of numerous professional articles.

Betty loves to travel and led study tours of Europe for many years. History, art, and books are a lifelong passion. Both as a teacher of advanced placement art history and as a writer, Mrs. Vaughn brings the story of the past alive through the people who lived it.



"Christmas Eve," an illustration by Thomas Nast for Harper's Weekly, January 3, 1863

Last Survivors of the Civil War

By Bob Graesser, Newsletter Editor

*How did it get so late so soon?
It's night before it's afternoon.
December is here before it's June.
My goodness how the time has flown.
How did it get so late so soon?*

– Dr. Seuss

Introduction

The following article identifies five individuals, each the last survivor of a specific group of people related to the American Civil War:

- the last living Union soldier
- the last living Confederate soldier
- the last living witness to Lincoln's assassination
- the last living former American slave
- the last living Civil War pension recipient

In Greek mythology, the Fates are a group of three weaving goddesses who assign individual destinies to



mortals at birth. These are portrayed as three women spinners, each having a different task revealed by her name: Clotho ("The Spinner") spun the thread of life, Lachesis ("The Allotter") measured its allotted length, and Atropos ("The Inflexible") cut it off with her shears.

Today, we understand one's lifespan to be governed by nature (one's biological/genetic predispositions) as well as by nurture (one's environment). Added to this is chance, i.e., luck, be it good or bad.

The following five people won the lifespan sweepstakes for each of their groups and are remembered, even to the present day. As a result of the luck of the draw, it seems a bit unfair, however, that few, if any, remember or memorialize, for example, the name of the next-to-last living person in a group.

The last living Union soldier

Albert Henry Woolson (Feb. 11, 1850 – Aug. 2, 1956) was the last known surviving member of the 2,675,000 men of the Union Army who served in the American Civil

War. He was also the last surviving Civil War veteran on either side whose status is undisputed.



Woolson was born in Antwerp, New York on February 11, 1850. He enlisted as a drummer boy in Company C, 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery Regiment on October 4, 1864, becoming the company's drummer. However, he was discharged on September 7, 1865, his company having never seen combat.

Woolson returned to Minnesota, where he lived the rest of his life. He was a carpenter and later a member of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), the powerful political organization made up of Civil War veterans. The G.A.R. once numbered 408,489 members. Although it held its final encampment in 1949, it continued to exist until Woolson's death in Duluth, Minnesota, on August 2, 1956.

Woolson was buried with full military honors by the National Guard at Park Hill Cemetery in Duluth. Following his death, President Dwight D. Eisenhower said: "The American people have lost the last personal link with the Union Army ... His passing brings sorrow to the hearts of all of us who cherished the memory of the brave men on both sides of the War Between the States."

For those who prefer to define the last living surviving member of the Union army as having actually experienced combat, the honor would instead fall to James Albert Hard (July 15, 1843 – March 12, 1953). He is recorded as having joined the Union Army four days after the April 12, 1861 firing on Fort Sumter began the Civil War. Hard is reported to have fought as an infantryman in the 37th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment at the battles of First Bull Run, Antietam, Chancellorsville, and Fredericksburg. He is said to have met Abraham Lincoln at a White House reception as well as later seeing him twice reviewing troops in Virginia.



The last living Confederate soldier

The colorfully named Private Pleasant Riggs Crump (Dec. 23, 1847 – Dec. 31, 1951), of Talladega County, Alabama, was the last confirmed surviving veteran of the Confederate States Army. Historical research has subsequently debunked claims of others who died later during the 1950's. Thus, Crump officially remains the last surviving veteran of the Confederate Army.

In 1863, encouraged by one of his young neighbors who had been fighting in the 10th Alabama Regiment in

Last Survivors of the Civil War (Cont.)

the Virginia Campaign and was home on leave, the 16 year-old Crump decided to enlist. The two of them took off for Petersburg and joined the forces of Northern Virginia in November 1864.



Private Crump fought at the Battle of Hatcher's Run and at other Virginia battles before witnessing the end of the Confederacy at Appomattox Court House.

In 1913, Crump recalled how he was just across the road from the McLean House that Sunday, and how, later, he took part in the Stack-

ing of the Arms. He would live to become Alabama's last surviving soldier witness to the Appomattox surrender.

While President, Harry Truman bestowed on Pleasant Crump the honorary title of "Colonel".

An Old Testament Bible verse (Psalm 133:1) sums up Crump's life after the Civil War: "Behold how good and how PLEASANT it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The last living witness to Lincoln's assassination

Samuel James Seymour (Mar. 28, 1860 – Apr. 12, 1956) was the last surviving person who had been in Ford's Theatre the night of the assassination of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln on April 14, 1865.

That night, five year-old Samuel was taken by his godmother to see Our American Cousin at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. They sat in the balcony across the theater from the Presidential box. He saw Lincoln come into the box, waving and smiling.



Later, "All of a sudden a shot rang out ... and someone in the President's box screamed. I saw Lincoln slumped forward in his seat." Seymour watched John Wilkes Booth jump from the box to the stage. He remembers that his strongest memory was not what had happened to Lincoln, but rather feeling very concerned for Booth, who had broken his leg in the jump.

[Aside: Cal J. Shoonover, in a guest post on the website [Emerging Civil War, https://emergingcivilwar.com/2014/02/26/in-jumping-broke-my-leg-another-look-at-the-lincoln-assassination-legend/](https://emergingcivilwar.com/2014/02/26/in-jumping-broke-my-leg-another-look-at-the-lincoln-assassination-legend/), makes a compelling argument that Booth did not break his leg jumping from the balcony. Instead, testimony from a number of witnesses suggests that Booth broke his leg only later, when his horse fell during his escape ride.]

The impetus for writing this article was my recent accidental stumbling across a YouTube video of the February 9, 1956, broadcast of the CBS TV panel show **I've Got a Secret**. On it, only two months before his death, Samuel Seymour appeared as one of the contestants. Here is a link to that video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RPoymt3Jx4>. While watching it, reflect on the fact that you are viewing a 63 year-old video of a person describing his personal involvement in a cataclysmic historical event which occurred 91 years before that, a total span of 154 years!

I've Got a Secret host Garry Moore, after escorting Seymour on stage, explained that he and the show's producers had urged Seymour to skip his appearance on the show. It seems that, after arriving in New York City for the taping, Seymour had suffered a fall down the stairs at his hotel. This left him with a large swollen knot above his right eye.

However, Seymour's doctor had left the decision of his appearance up to him. Perhaps sensing his impending mortality, and wanting to allow America's viewers to see a part of history, Seymour decided to go on anyway.

The show's panelists that night included Bill Cullen, Jayne Meadows, Henry Morgan, and Lucile Ball. During Seymour's appearance, he was first questioned by panelist Bill Cullen, who quickly gathered from Seymour's age that his secret was somehow connected with the American Civil War. Cullen then correctly guessed that it was related to politics and involved a political figure. The questioning proceeded to Jayne Meadows, who correctly guessed that the political figure was Lincoln, and, finally, that Seymour had witnessed Lincoln's assassination.

The program definitely showed its age: A prominent Winston cigarette sign appeared on the front of host Gary Moore's desk and Moore smoked a cigarette throughout the questioning. Finally, because Seymour smoked a pipe rather than cigarettes, the show's sponsor, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company gave him a can of Prince Albert pipe tobacco instead of the usual prize of a carton of Winston cigarettes. Apparently, TV game show prize budgets were tight in the 1950's.

As mentioned earlier, Samuel Seymour would live only two months after his appearance on the show. Whether the fall was a factor in his soon-to-be death or only a symptom of his frailty, Seymour passed away on April 12, 1956. This was exactly 95 years after the firing on Fort Sumter, which began the Civil War, and only two days shy of the 91st anniversary of the assassination that he had witnessed as a child, which occurred only five days after Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House.

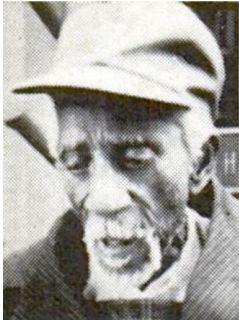
The last living former American slave

Sylvester Magee (May 29, 1841 – Oct. 15, 1971) was the last living former American slave. He was well known in later years, having received much publicity.

Sylvester Magee was alleged to have been born in North Carolina in 1841 to Ephraim and Jeanette, slaves

Last Survivors of the Civil War (Cont.)

on the J.J. Shanks plantation. Magee indicated that he was purchased at the age of 19 just before the start of the American Civil War by Southern plantation owner Hugh Magee at a slave market in Enterprise, Mississippi. Hugh Magee owned the Lone Star Plantation in Covington County, Mississippi. Sylvester Magee claimed that in 1863 he ran away from the Steen plantation and enlisted in the Union Army, taking part in the assault on Vicksburg, Mississippi.



Although much documentation is lost or possibly never existed, some sources suggest that Magee may have served in both the Confederate and Union armies.

Accepting the evidence of his *bona fides* as legitimate, in his later years he was accepted for treatment by the Mississippi Veterans Hospital as a veteran of the American Civil War.

On Magee's 124th birthday in 1965, Mississippi Governor Paul B. Johnson, Jr. declared it "Sylvester Magee Day". On his 125th birthday in 1966, he was proclaimed as the oldest living United States citizen by a life insurance company and received a birthday card from President Lyndon B. Johnson. In an interview that same year, Magee stated that he had never drunk alcohol, not uttered a swear word, although he had smoked cigarettes for 108 years! On his 130th birthday in 1971, he was recognized by President Richard Nixon.

Magee had four wives and outlived three of them. He fathered 7 children, the last at age 107. Supposedly, his father lived to 123, while his mother lived to 122. In his later years, he made a living digging graves.

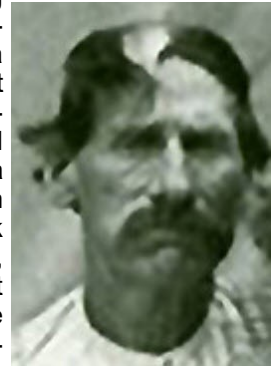
On October 15, 1971, Sylvester Magee died in Columbia, Mississippi, age 130. After his funeral at John the Baptist Missionary Church, and, despite his celebrity, he was buried in an unmarked grave in the Pleasant Valley Church Cemetery in nearby Foxworth, Mississippi. In 2011, the Marion County Mississippi Historical Society provided a marker.

The last living Civil War pension recipient

It is doubtful that Abraham Lincoln could have dreamed that 21st-century Americans would still be paying for pensions created under him.

Irene Triplett, a woman from North Carolina, is one such example. She's the last living recipient of a Civil War pension, which her father earned for his service to the Union cause. Irene was born in 1930 to Mose (aka Moses) Triplett and his second wife, Elida. Mose, whose first wife Mary died in the 1920s, fathered five children with Elida, who was 50 years younger than he was. Irene and her younger brother were the only ones to survive childhood.

Mose Triplett's army career started on the Confederate side, when he joined the 53rd North Carolina Infantry Regiment in 1862 at the young age of 16. In 1863, he transferred to the 26th North Carolina Infantry Regiment. Later that year as part of Lee's second incursion into the north, Mose fell ill with fever and was admitted to a Confederate hospital. From there, he escaped just a week before the battle of Gettysburg, deserting his regiment entirely. It was lucky for him because the 26th North Carolina Infantry Regiment is famous for being the regiment with the largest number of casualties on either side at Gettysburg as well as during the entire Civil War.



Local people in North Carolina, especially the western part, were sympathetic to the Union and frequently helped Confederate deserters. Mose made his way over the mountains and on to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he joined the 3rd North Carolina Mounted Infantry, a Union regiment, in the summer of 1864. He made it through the rest of the war virtually unscathed.

Irene Triplett was 8 years old when her father, Mose, died in 1938. Both Elida and Irene then each began



receiving a small monthly pension as widow and child of a Civil War veteran. As victims of the Great Depression, no wage-earning man in the house, and suffering from mental conditions, Irene and her mother, Elida, moved into a poorhouse in Wilkes County, North Carolina in 1943. When it shut down in 1960, they moved into a new private nursing

home. There, Elida Triplett died of cancer in 1967. In 2013, after breaking her hip, Irene moved from the nursing home into a Wilkesboro skilled-nursing facility. As of November 5, 2019, Irene is still living at the age of 89. She is the sole remaining receiver of pension checks from the Civil War. Her monthly checks from the federal government's Department of Veterans Affairs total to \$73.13, about \$880 per year.

Conclusion

Even today, 154 years after its conclusion, echoes of the Civil War continue to reverberate as exemplified by Irene Triplett, still-living daughter of a Civil War veteran, and only remaining recipient of a Civil War pension.

A common denominator among these last survivors is that they were either relatively young at the onset of the Civil War or the offspring of a very old veteran and a relatively very young wife. That, plus favorable alignments of nature, nurture, and plain old good luck!

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Upcoming Events

Dec. 6, 2019: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The CSS Neuse Presents: "A Walk Through Christmas Past." CSS Neuse Civil War Interpretive Center, 100 North Queen Street, Kinston, NC 28465. Experience Christmas in Lenoir County in 1861, 1862, 1864, and 1865 through a guided tour inside the museum. See what the holiday season was like in the field with the soldiers, on board ship with sailors, and on the home front. This is an Evening Theater ticketed program. Families will be able to make decorations in the lobby for a table top tree while they are waiting to be taken on tour. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 3-12 years. Tickets are timed and tours of approx. 20 people will begin every 15 minutes from 6pm to 8pm. Guided Christmas Tour lasts approximately ½ hour. Tickets can be purchased in advance or day of if tickets and times remain. For details, go to <https://historicsites.nc.gov/events/css-neuse-presents-walk-through-christmas-past> or contact Rachel at 252-526-9600 ext. 222.



Dec. 7, 2019: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. "A Civil War Christmas" Holiday Open House. Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site, 5466 Harper House Rd, Four Oaks, NC 27524. Come celebrate a Civil War Christmas during this free Holiday open house event. Costumed interpreters



will decorate the kitchen in festive themes using natural materials such as holly, magnolia, fruits, & popcorn strands.

Visitors can enjoy cookies and cider while listening to period music. Members from the 27th NC Co. D will demonstrate how soldiers spent their holidays. For details, go to <https://historicsites.nc.gov/events/civil-war-christmas-bentonville-battlefield> or contact Contact: Chad Jefferds, chadwick.jefferds@ncdcr.gov, (910) 594-0789.



Dec. 7, 2019: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. "Holiday Open House 2019". Fort Fisher State Historic Site, 1610 Fort Fisher Blvd. South, Kure Beach, NC 28449. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the holiday season. Free and open to the public, the program will be feature seasonal decorations, holiday music, and special discounts in the museum store. Practice 19th Century dance steps and learn about the history of Santa Claus. All Fort Fisher programming is made possible by the Friends of Fort Fisher and its sustaining members, as well as from generous support from the town of Carolina Beach and the town of Kure Beach. For details, go to <https://historicsites.nc.gov/events/fort-fisher-state-historic-site-holiday-open-house-2019> or contact John Moseley at john.moseley@ncdcr.gov, (910) 251-7342.

Dec. 7, 2019: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. "Fort Branch Christmas." Fort Branch Confederate Earthen Fort Civil War Site, Hamilton, NC. Located 3 miles south-east of Hamilton, N.C. Just off NC Hwy 125/903 at 2883 Fort Branch Road in Martin County on the Roanoke River.

The Fort holds a candlelight tour of recreated Christmas scenes. Visitors enjoy refreshments, sharing an interest in history with the participants and caroling around the campfire. For details, go to <http://www.fortbranchcivilwarsite.com/re-enactment-christmas.aspx> or send email request to fort.branch.nc@gmail.com.



Dec. 14, 2019. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. "Civil War Christmas in the Piedmont." Bennett Place State Historic Site, 4409 Bennett Memorial Road, Durham, NC 27705. Witness how Christmas was celebrated in the Piedmont Carolinas during the American Civil War. Living historians will decorate the farm in a typical modest fashion of the time. There will be cooking demonstrations in the kitchen house, Christmas decorations and packages in the main house, soldiers will be on hand to demonstrate Christmas in the field and of course, a visit with Ole St. Nick. Complimentary hot apple cider will be available. There will also be a bake sale where you can purchase some sweet treats. All proceeds from the bake sale go towards the preservation of the site. Admission is \$3.00 per adult, \$2.00 per child, with children under 5 FREE. For details, go to <https://historicsites.nc.gov/events/civil-war-christmas-piedmont> or contact the Bennett Place Staff at bennett@ncdcr.gov or (919) 383-4345.



Jan. 18-19, 2020: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. "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 re-enactors 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.

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Two New Civil War Book Releases

The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution

by Eric Foner

“From the Pulitzer Prize–winning scholar, a timely history of the constitutional changes that built equality into the nation’s foundation and how those guarantees have been shaken over time.”

“The Declaration of Independence announced equality as an American ideal, but it took the Civil War and the subsequent adoption of three constitutional amendments to establish that ideal as American law. The Reconstruction amendments abolished slavery, guaranteed all persons due process and equal protection of the law, and equipped black men with the right to vote. They established the principle of birthright citizenship and guaranteed the privileges and immunities of all citizens. The federal government, not the states, was charged with enforcement, reversing the priority of the original Constitution and the Bill of

Rights. In grafting the principle of equality onto the Constitution, these revolutionary changes marked the second founding of the United States.”

The above description paints a nice picture. However, Eric Foner goes on to show how these changes were virtually nullified by the time the late nineteenth century rolled around. Two forces contributed to the setback. First was a series of momentous decisions by the Supreme Court which narrowed the rights guaranteed in the amendments. Second was the active involvement of the states to undermine the social gains. These factors produced the Jim Crow system as a result.

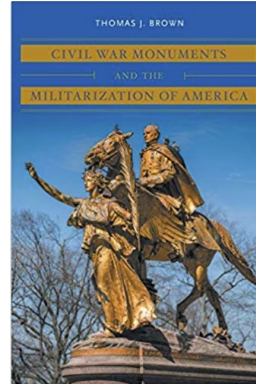
Today there are again serious political challenges to birthright citizenship, voting rights, due process, and equal protection of the law. As philosopher George Santayana proclaimed: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Hardcover Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 1 edition (Sept. 17, 2019); ISBN-10: 0393652572, ISBN-13: 978-0393652574.

Civil War Monuments and the Militarization of America

By Thomas J. Brown

“This sweeping new assessment of Civil War monuments unveiled in the United States between the 1860s and 1930s argues that they were pivotal to a national embrace of military values. Americans’ wariness of standing armies limited construction of war memorials in the early republic, and continued to influence commemoration after the Civil War. Many Civil War monuments proposed new norms of discipline and vigor that lifted veterans to a favored political status and modeled racial and class hierarchies. A half century of Civil War commemoration

reshaped remembrance of the American Revolution and guided American responses to World War I.”



“Brown provides the most comprehensive overview of the American war memorial as a cultural form and reframes the national debate over Civil War monuments that remain potent presences on the civic landscape.” That the publication of this book is very timely is exemplified in the sidebar article below. Paperback Publisher: The Univ. of NC Press (December 9, 2019); ISBN-10: 1469653745; ISBN-13: 978-1469653747.

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 2019 Civil War-related releases, go to website <https://cwba.blogspot.com/2019/>.

UNC Gives Silent Sam to Sons of Confederate Veterans

The November 29, 2019 issue of the Raleigh News & Observer carried an article by reporter Kate Murphy entitled UNC Gives Silent Sam to Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Silent Sam is an 8-foot bronze statue of a Confederate Soldier which stood on a stone pedestal on the UNC campus in Chapel Hill. Erected in 1913, it honored UNC alumni who fought for the South in the Civil War. In 2018, it was illegally toppled by protesters who considered it a “monument to white supremacy.”

Since then, the remains of the statue and, presumably, the stone pedestal have been stored in a non-disclosed location while UNC leaders and members of the Board of Governors debated what to do with the controversial monument. The first proposal, which involved creation of a \$5.3 million history center on the edge of campus to house the statue, was rejected by the Board of Governors in December 2018.

The Board then took control of the process and recently reached an agreement with the NC Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc., turning the statue over to them and granting them access to up to \$2.5 million to transport and preserve the monument through a charitable trust set up by the UNC System. The trust also includes funds to build a facility to house and display the monument.

The funds would be derived from private donations, not tax-payer dollars. One stipulation is that the Silent Sam statue would not be allowed to be erected in any of the 14 NC counties that contain a UNC System university.

Controversy continues to swirl about the ultimate fate of Silent Sam and his impact upon the University of North Carolina system.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming 2019-2020 RCWRT Meetings

| Date | Speaker | Topic |
|---------------|--|--|
| Dec. 9, 2019 | Betty Vaughn, author (Holiday Potluck Party at Church of the Holy Cross, 2301 W. Millbrook Rd., Raleigh, NC) | Origins and Traditions of Christmas Celebrations in the mid-1800's |
| Jan. 13, 2020 | David Winslow | The Real Story behind NC's Gettysburg Cyclorama |



The American Battlefield Trust asks for your help in saving 185 acres of irreplaceable Civil War history on parts of three Civil War battlefields: The Wilderness (36 acres), Cold Harbor (5 acres), and Bentonville (144 acres). The goal is to raise \$161,375. Donations are matched at a ratio of \$10.43-to-\$1.

For more information, go to <https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/save-three-civil-war-battlefields>.

The Trust's website has a web page devoted to a wonderful interactive tool. Displayed is a map of the U.S. that can be toggled between topographical and satellite views. In either case, an Interstate highway system is superimposed for reference.

For each State in which Civil War battles were fought, one can zoom in on that State and then drill down to show a specific battle. Clicking on the battle location brings up a webpage with details about the battle.

The map can be filtered by State, by Civil War year, and by victor. One can toggle a depiction of any land within the battlefield that is part of the current campaign for preservation. For each battle, the number of acres already saved as well as the number of additional acres available for saving is displayed. The interactive map can be found at <https://www.battlefields.org/preserve/saved-land>.

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

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Readers are encouraged to submit photos, events, & articles for publication to Bob Graesser, Editor (bob.graesser@gmail.com; 919-244-9041)

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| Beverly Thomas | Member | 919-859-4474 | bhthomas@nc.rr.com |

Paying Memberships / Total Members: 139 / 221

New member: We welcome Joe Simpson of Raleigh

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 recently generously donated to the Raleigh CWRT and is up for sale. The proceeds will 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.

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