

# *The Knapsack*

*Raleigh Civil War Round Table*

*The same rain falls on both friend and foe.*

**September 9, 2019**  
**Our 223rd Meeting**



**Volume 19**  
**Number 9**

<http://www.raleighcwr.org>

## **September 9<sup>th</sup> Event Features Amy Bauer Speaking on the 135<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment United States Colored Troops**

Our upcoming meeting will be on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7:00 pm in Daniels Auditorium at the NC Museum of History in Raleigh and will feature Amy Bauer speaking on the **135<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment U.S. Colored Troops**. This will be preceded at 6:30 pm by a social half-hour. **N.B.: it's time for annual membership dues.**

Amy Bauer was raised on an island outside of Savannah, GA where she learned to appreciate and value history.



*Jay and Amy Bauer*

The rich historic roots of Savannah exposed her to the work of genealogy and has kept her intrigued enough to have worked in the field for over thirty years. Her husband, Jay, shares her interest in genealogy. They are a military family. Jay served as an army Captain pilot, flying "bird dog" missions in Vietnam. Jay's brother is buried in Arlington National Cemetery and their nephew graduated from West Point. Jay was a construction manager in Los Angeles for 40 years while Amy has been an independent insurance broker for over 30 years.

In 2013, Jay retired and they relocated from California to Goldsboro, NC to become involved with Preservation NC, where they spent several years preserving the house that has become their retirement home. There they continued their avocations as local historians, preservationists, and genealogists. In 2014, Amy and Jay attended a history talk at the Wayne County Public in Goldsboro. The lecture hinted that a troop of African-Americans called the 135<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment United States Colored Troops (USCT) had been raised in Goldsboro in the final month of the Civil War.

This rumor piqued Amy and Jay's interest. Their research soon led them to the National Archives in Washington, DC, where they discovered the lost history of the

135<sup>th</sup> USCT written in pension records. Over a four-year period, they continued to research these records. They also visited the Library of Congress a half-dozen times as well as a number of graveyards, collecting information to aid them in tracking down living descendants.

Over this period, Amy and Jay have analyzed close to 300 pension records, have done genealogies on 1,100 of these men and have tracked down over 100 of their descendant families. They continue to find more descendants every day as they continue to lecture on the 135<sup>th</sup> USCT. Recently, they had an interested audience of over 300.

During their research, Amy and Jay learned the genesis of the 135<sup>th</sup> USCT. Sherman's March-to-the-Sea and March through the Carolinas required manpower to move 60,00 troops, supply wagons, artillery, and ambulances. To this end, Sherman employed liberated slaves to cut trees for corduroy roads, and to erect bridges and causeways. These liberated slaves were known as the "Pioneer Corps". Once Sherman reached Goldsboro, they were given uniforms and organized into the 135<sup>th</sup> USCT. A total of 1,154 men made up this "lost troop".

In a move to demonstrate their commitment to this project, Jay and Amy formed the 135<sup>th</sup> USCT, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization comprised of dedicated volunteers. Jay serves as President while Amy serves as Vice President of the organization.

The organization's members include many of the living descendants of the 135<sup>th</sup> USCT, along with prominent Civil War historians, such as Earl Ijames from the North Carolina Museum of History, UNC's Dr. Reginald Hildebrand, Dr. Ben Speller from NCCU, and Dr. Malcom Beech from Washington D.C. The commission has gained strong support from the local and state community and has produced a Civil War living history weekend each of the past few years in Goldsboro, NC.

Amy attended Georgia Southern University. She and Jay have two daughters and seven grandchildren.

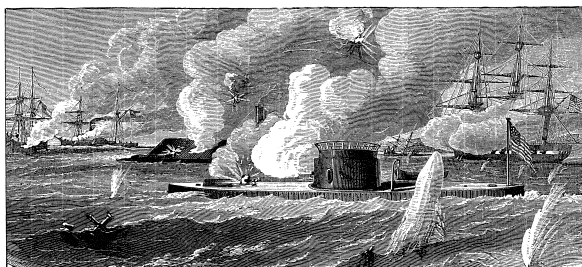
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## Back to School:

### Best Universities/Colleges for an Online Bachelor's Degree in History

By Bob Graesser, Raleigh CWRT Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

A reader of the Raleigh Civil War Round Table website sent this editor an email message recently. She wanted to know if I could add a link to the website of the University where she worked. Specifically, she wanted to promote her University's online bachelor's degree program in History.



She pointed out that people interested in the Civil War might be interested in History, especially American History, in general. Furthermore, online degrees offer maximum flexibility for working adults and retired seniors, the same demographic that makes up the vast majority of our Civil War Round Table membership. "Flexibility" denotes the fact that most online programs allow a student to start at any time and to work at their own pace.

It is also possible that these online History programs offer the possibility of demonstrating proficiency in a course by passing an online test and, thereby, not having to take the course. Credits from course work already taken at other institutions, in-person or online, are also sometimes transferable.

Rather than simply posting a link to the correspondent's University, I decided to scour the web for top 25 lists of online Universities/Colleges where others have already done the legwork of gathering the data and generating the rankings based on stated criteria. Presented on page 3 is my collation of four such linked lists of rankings. Out of respect to the reader who was instrumental in piquing my interest in this subject, I have listed her school, Maryville University in St. Louis, MO first, even though it didn't appear in any of the four lists.

Four sources went into the table I created for Best Universities/Colleges for an Online Bachelor's Degree in History:

BC = [BestColleges.com](http://BestColleges.com)  
BS = [TheBestSchools.org](http://TheBestSchools.org)  
BV = [BestValueSchools.com](http://BestValueSchools.com) (ranked only by cost)  
US = [USNews.com](http://USNews.com)

**Table Key:** NR = Not Ranked; ? = Info not available

A full course load leading to an online bachelor's degree in History typically requires 120 credit hours. Since North Carolina is not mentioned on any of the lists, I am limiting the following discussion of cost to out-of-state tuition. Out-of-state per-credit costs for an online bachelor's degree in History typically range from \$190 to \$575. Therefore, students should expect to pay between a best case of \$22,800 and a worst case of \$69,000 in total tuition for the equivalent of a four year education. The average of those extremes would be \$45,900.

Where a specific dollar amount of out-of-state cost per credit hour was not given, a relative rating system, if available, where "\$" is least expensive and "\$\$\$\$\$" is most expensive was used instead. Since one would be pursuing the degree online from home, there would be no additional room and board expenses beyond what one is already experiencing.

In comparison, [here](#) is a breakdown of the average tuition cost of four full years (120 credit hours) of attending college in person:

Public four-year (in-state): \$39,880  
Public four-year (out-of-state): \$102,480  
Private four-year: \$138,960

So, the average online out-of-state cost of \$45,900 for a bachelor's degree in History is a bargain compared to the in-person costs. The high cost of education is having an effect on the long-term survival of Universities/Colleges in the U.S. A CBS report today stated that 25% of all Universities/Colleges are expected to close over the next 20 years. This is disheartening because one advantage in-person attendance in a place of higher learning bestows is valuable socialization skills, skills not learned online.

Of all the listings in the table on page 3, only Park University offers a specific online bachelor's degree in military history. Other than that, Southern New Hampshire University is the only one to offer an online bachelor's history degree with a concentration in military history. The others offer an online bachelor's degree in history with the option for a concentration in American history.

Considering all factors, including being highly rated by all four rating sources, having a relatively moderate cost, and a relatively high graduation rate, **the best institution for receiving an online out-of-state bachelor's degree is Oregon State University in Corvallis. The University of Central Florida in Orlando and the University of Illinois at Springfield rank second and third, respectively.**

## Best Universities/Colleges for an Online Bachelor's Degree in History

BC Rank	BS Rank	BV Rank	US Rank	(Click link for website) Institution of Higher Learning	City	State	Out-of-State \$ Cost Per Credit Hr	Enrollment	Grad. Rate Pct
NR	NR	NR	NR	<a href="#">Maryville University</a>	St. Louis	MO	510	?	?
1	2	9	3	<a href="#">Univ. of Central FL</a>	Orlando	FL	300	11,947	70
2	6	NR	20	<a href="#">Liberty Univ.</a>	Lynchburg	VA	390	37,570	47
3	4	3	2	<a href="#">OR State Univ.</a>	Corvallis	OR	297	5,948	96
4	1	NR	NR	<a href="#">Harvard Div. of Cont. Ed.</a>	Cambridge	MA	\$\$\$	?	65
5	NR	NR	6	<a href="#">Regent Univ.</a>	Virginia Beach	VA	425	4,703	61
6	11	NR	NR	<a href="#">Excelsior College</a>	Albany	NY	\$\$	?	45
7	8	4	5	<a href="#">Univ. of IL at Springfield</a>	Springfield	IL	359	1,047	50
8	NR	11	12	<a href="#">Sam Houston State Univ.</a>	Huntsville	TX	234	2,565	51
9	14	NR	4	<a href="#">Univ. of AZ</a>	Tucson	AZ	500	1,493	64
10	19	NR	NR	<a href="#">Southern NH Univ.</a>	Manchester	NH	\$\$\$\$	?	49
11	5	NR	NR	<a href="#">Univ. of ND</a>	Grand Forks	ND	300	?	14
12	12	19	1	<a href="#">AZ State Univ.</a>	Scottsdale	AZ	520	36,464	54
13	NR	NR	NR	<a href="#">The Baptist College of FL</a>	Graceville	FL	350	?	47
14	15	NR	32	<a href="#">NW State Univ. of LA</a>	Natchitoches	LA	375	?	39
15	NR	NR	NR	<a href="#">TX State Univ.</a>	San Marcos	TX	\$\$	?	54
16	7	NR	NR	<a href="#">Univ. of MA - Lowell</a>	Lowell	MA	380	?	60
17	NR	20	7	<a href="#">Univ. of WI - Milwaukee</a>	Milwaukee	WI	337	3,389	41
18	10	10	21	<a href="#">Univ. of LA at Monroe</a>	Monroe	LA	400	882	41
19	9	NR	NR	<a href="#">Univ. of NE at Kearney</a>	Kearney	NE	\$\$\$	?	61
20	13	NR	NR	<a href="#">Thomas Edison State Univ.</a>	Trenton	NJ	\$\$	?	45
21	16	NR	NR	<a href="#">Univ. of ID</a>	Moscow	ID	\$\$\$	?	09
22	24	NR	NR	<a href="#">Univ. of MD - Univ. College</a>	Adelphi	MD	\$\$	?	55
23	21	14	NR	<a href="#">Ottawa Univ.</a>	Ottawa	KS	499	193	46
24	NR	17	19	<a href="#">Univ. of North AL</a>	Florence	AL	544	308	45
25	NR	NR	22	<a href="#">Bellevue Univ.</a>	Bellevue	NE	415	5,821	17
NR	3	12	10	<a href="#">Univ. of Memphis</a>	Memphis	TN	420	1,700	?
NR	17	7	11	<a href="#">Granite State College</a>	Concord	NH	355	2,053	?
NR	18	1	8	<a href="#">Westfield State Univ.</a>	Westfield	MA	315	227	?
NR	20	NR	NR	<a href="#">King Univ.</a>	Bristol	TN	?	?	?
NR	22	NR	NR	<a href="#">Mount Mary Univ.</a>	Milwaukee	WI	?	?	?
NR	23	2	24	<a href="#">Nicholls State Univ.</a>	Thibodaux	LA	275	654	?
NR	25	NR	NR	<a href="#">Ohio Christian Univ.</a>	Circleville	OH	?	?	?
NR	NR	NR	9	<a href="#">FL International Univ.</a>	Miami	FL	247	4,910	?
NR	NR	NR	13	<a href="#">Eastern OR Univ.</a>	La Grande	OR	240	1,443	?
NR	NR	5	14	<a href="#">Univ. of MA - Dartmouth</a>	Dartmouth	MA	332	377	?
NR	NR	NR	15	<a href="#">National Univ.</a>	La Jolla	CA	370	8,213	?
NR	NR	NR	16	<a href="#">Columbia College</a>	Columbia	MO	375	12,283	?
NR	NR	6	17	<a href="#">Troy Univ.</a>	Troy	AL	338	4,401	?
NR	NR	16	18	<a href="#">Valley City State Univ.</a>	Valley City	ND	190	280	?
NR	NR	NR	23	<a href="#">Mary Baldwin Univ.</a>	Staunton	VA	460	698	?
NR	NR	NR	25	<a href="#">AR Tech Univ.</a>	Russellville	AR	452	?	?
NR	NR	NR	26	<a href="#">Park Univ.</a>	Parkville	MO	399	?	?
NR	NR	8	NR	<a href="#">Univ. of ME at Presque Isle</a>	Presque Isle	ME	373	1,414	?
NR	NR	13	NR	<a href="#">Judson College</a>	Marion	AL	495	327	?
NR	NR	18	NR	<a href="#">WA State Univ.</a>	Pullman	WA	565	30,142	?

## Upcoming Events

**Oct. 5, 2019: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Fort Fisher: American Battlefield Trust Park Day**

Fort Fisher, 1610 Fort Fisher Blvd South, Kure Beach, NC 28443.

Calling all volunteers! On Sat., Oct. 5, 2019, Fort Fisher State Historic Site will host Park Day, an annual hands-on event sponsored by the American Battlefield Trust, which brings history enthusiasts together with staff members to help pre-serve our nation's heritage sites. Fort Fisher welcomes volunteers of all ages and skill levels. This event is free and open to the public.



For more information, visit the website at <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/fisher>, or contact John Moseley at (910) 251-7342 or by email to [john.moseley@ncdcr.gov](mailto:john.moseley@ncdcr.gov).

**October 18-20, 2019: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. 23rd Annual Civil War Symposium**

Pamplin Historical Park, 6125 Boydton Plank Road, Petersburg, VA 23803

Hear from some of the nation's greatest Civil War scholars as they talk about *Small Battles, Big Results*.

The authors and topics are as follows:

- Mr. Peter Cozzens – Battle of luka
- Mr. Jerry Desmond – Battle of Ringgold
- Mr. Rod Gragg – Battle of Fort Fisher
- Mr. Jeff Hunt – Battle of Mine Run
- Mr. James Morgan – Battle of Ball's Bluff
- Dr. Timothy Smith – Champion Hill
- Dr. Brian Steel Wills – Battle of Fort Pillow

The Symposium begins on Friday night with a reception at the Park where attendees and speakers can meet and enjoy refreshments. Saturday is filled with lectures and opportunities to purchase published works by the speakers for autographs and participation in a silent auction. Sunday will feature additional speakers and a panel discussion. Symposium pricing is \$339.00 per attendee.

Call (804) 861-2408 or visit <http://www.pamplinpark.org> for more information and to register today. Space is limited so register now. See and print the registration form at <https://pamplinpark.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/symp19-flyerfinal2full.pdf>.

**October 24-27, 2019: Forging the Path to Gettysburg**

Discover the little-known action of spring/summer 1863 leading up to the pivotal Battle of Gettysburg! Tours led by area historian and Camp Curtin Historical Society President Jim Schmick and award-winning author and historian Scott Mingu. Presented by Civil War Seminars ([www.CivilWarSeminars.org](http://www.CivilWarSeminars.org)). Bus tour and Seminar.

Home base is Hampton Inn, 955 Leshner Road, Chambersburg, PA, 17201, (717) 261-9185, [www.hamptoninn.com](http://www.hamptoninn.com).

## A Synopsis of the Book

**Where Eagles Come From: A One Hundred and Fifty-Year Old Mystery is Solved From Clues in the Attic Trunk**

**By Amy A. Bauer and Jay G. Bauer**

This collaboration between spouses Amy and Jay Bauer grew out of Amy's background growing up in the low country of Savannah, South Carolina and the couple's dedicated research on the "lost troop", the 135th Infantry Regiment United States Colored Troops.

This is a fictional story but it is based on true life events of a young African American girl's life in modern times as she makes discoveries about her family that were left to be forgotten. These discoveries change her life and perspective. Additionally, the story shows how the differences in generations can find common motivations and needs that, when they work together to overcome them, can result in a very special, meaningful bond.



A reviewer on the Amazon web site had this to say on August 1, 2019 about *Where Eagles Come From*: *This is a great book to help families begin to discuss who you are and where you come from. It inspires getting your families together and celebrating what matters. Within this book to find out that there was a real unit of the 135<sup>th</sup> USCT, that they actually did exist is an exciting discovery for U.S. history. It's a great read! Highly recommend for any age group.*

**Hard Cover** (\$19.99):

Publisher: FriesenPress (May 14, 2019)  
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**ISBN-13:** 978-1525539534

**Paperback** (\$13.53):

Publisher: FriesenPress (May 14, 2019)  
Language: English  
**ISBN-10:** 152553954X  
**ISBN-13:** 978-1525539541

**Kindle** (\$4.99):

Publisher: FriesenPress; 1<sup>st</sup> edition (May 21, 2019)  
Publication Date: May 21, 2019

Available from Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh, NC, Amazon.com, and other book sellers.

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# News of the RCWRT



## Upcoming 2019 RCWRT Meetings

Date	Speaker	Topic
Sep. 9	Amy Bauer	135 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment U.S. Colored Troops
Oct. 14	Wade Sokolosky, U.S. Army Col. (ret.)	NC Confederate Hospitals in 1865
Nov. 4	Ron Roth, M.T. in Museum Studies	Desperate Hours: Under- standing the Battle of Get- tysburg Through the Art of its Battlefield Monuments
Dec. 9	Holiday Party	Location and entertainment to be announced



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>.

### Did You Know?

Only four members of the Confederate cabinet of Jefferson Davis remained in their position for the entire 1861-1865 duration of the Civil War:

President **Jefferson Davis**  
 Vice President **Alexander H. Stephens**  
 Secretary of the Navy **Stephen Mallory**  
 Postmaster General **John H. Reagan**

On the other hand, the secessionists had successions of three Secretaries of State, three Secretaries of the Treasury, five Secretaries of War, and four Attorneys General.

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 the Treasurer by **September 15** each year.



## The Knapsack

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### Staff

**Bob Graesser, Editor**

### Contributors

**Griff Bartlett**

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

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([bob.graesser@gmail.com](mailto:bob.graesser@gmail.com); 919-244-9041)

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Beverly Thomas	Member	919-859-4474	<a href="mailto:bhthomas@nc.rr.com">bhthomas@nc.rr.com</a>

**Paying Memberships / Total Members: 135 / 216**

**New members: Welcome, Allen Shaffer and Jean Sander, husband and wife, 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](mailto:trkunstling@aol.com) or (919) 787-5282 to place your order.

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