

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

November 10, 2014
Our 165th Meeting



Volume 14
Number 11

<http://www.raleighcwr.org>

Noah Trudeau to Speak at November 10 Meeting On Sherman's March to the Sea

Noah Andre Trudeau, author and historian, will be the speaker at the Raleigh Civil War Round Table's November 10 meeting.



Noah is the proud son of two World War II veterans and a history graduate of the State University of New York at Albany. He formerly worked as an executive producer for cultural programming with National Public Radio and received a national program award for a four-part audio biography of composer Charles Ives.

Noah has written numerous military history articles and seven books on Civil War history. His articles have appeared in *Civil War Times Illustrated*, *Blue and Gray*, *Gettysburg Magazine*, *North & South*, *The Columbiad*, *America's Civil War*, *Naval History*, and *Military History Quarterly*. He appeared as an on-camera expert in "Foot Soldier," a feature that aired on the A&E channel, and wrote short histories of the Petersburg and Appomattox campaigns for use in National Park Service bookstores, among other works.

Bloody Roads South, Noah's full-length study of the Overland Campaign of 1864 was published in 1989 and won the Civil War Round Table of New York's prestigious Fletcher Pratt Award. He wrote two other books as part of this trilogy, *The Last Citadel* (1991) and *Out of the Storm* (1994). He was awarded the Grady McWhiney Research Foundation's Jerry

Coffey Memorial Book Prize for his fourth book, *Like Men of War*, a combat history of black troops in the Civil War. He also wrote *Gettysburg: A Testing of Courage* and *Southern Storm*, a history of Sherman's march through Georgia. Noah's most recent work is a short biography of Robert E. Lee and he currently is working on a book about Abraham Lincoln's visit to the war front during the Spring of 1865. His talk to the RCWRT will be on Sherman's march.

~ William T. Sherman ~

William T. Sherman was put in command of Union forces in the Western theater after Ulysses S. Grant was promoted to commander of the Federal army.



In 1864, Sherman would launch a campaign of "total war" in Georgia, aimed not only at defeating his foe in the field, but dealing blows to Southern materiel and supplies and its will to fight. After his capture of Atlanta, he would commence his "March to the Sea," then moving through the Carolinas.



The Sesquicentennial



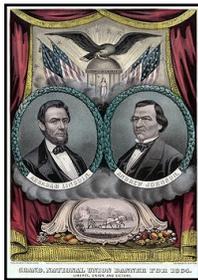
November 1864

Lincoln Wins Re-Election!

Although he himself was unsure of his chances, on Nov. 8, President Abraham Lincoln won a landslide victory over his Democratic challenger, George B. McClellan in the 1864 Presidential election. Recent Union military successes and a successful effort by his supporters to convince the public that the peace platform advocated by the Democrats was traitorous helped the President win re-election.

As a result of succession, 25 states participated in the 1864 Federal election and 4 million votes were cast. Lincoln won 55 percent of the popular vote and captured 212 electoral votes to McClellan's 21. The Democrats only won in Delaware, Kentucky, and New Jersey.

The large majority of members of the military voted for Lincoln (78 percent). The military vote was about 4 percent of the total cast during the election.



Lincoln/Johnson Campaign Poster

In the 1864 U.S. Presidential election, three states — Kansas, Nevada, and West Virginia — were represented for the first time.

Also in November 1864, the Confederate Congress reconvened for the last time, Sherman's army headed across Georgia on it's "March to the Sea," Gen. John Bell Hood moved his forces toward Tennessee in an attempt to draw Sherman out of Georgia, and a plot by Confederate agents to burn New York City proved ineffective, but P.T. Barnum's museum and several hotels were set on fire.

Heavy Losses at Franklin, Tenn.

After Union forces slipped out of his grasp at the Battle of Spring Hill, Tenn., Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood launched an assault on Federal defenses in Franklin on Nov. 30.



The frontal assault by Hood's Confederates resulted in 6,252 casualties, including six generals who were killed or mortally wounded: John Adams, John C. Carter, Patrick Cleburne, States Rights Gist, Hiram B. Granbury, and Otho F. Strahl. Union losses were reported to total 2,326, about half of which were men that were captured or missing.

After the battle, the Union forces would withdraw to Nashville, leaving a decimated Confederate Army of Tennessee behind to regroup.

Massacre in Colorado

At dawn on Nov. 29, about 675 U.S. volunteers under Col. John Chivington attacked a village of Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians along Sand Creek in southeastern Colorado Territory.



The attack, launched despite the reported flying of an American and white flag, resulted in the killing of about 200 natives, mostly women and children. Numerous atrocities on the dead also were committed by U.S. soldiers.

Battlefield Bourbon

To honor the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, author and historian Robert Hicks has crafted "Battlefield Bourbon."



Hicks, who wrote the Civil War novel *Widow of the South*, combined two of his passions, using spring water from the battlefield in Franklin to make 1,864 bottles of bourbon to be offered through high-end liquor stores in the Nashville and Franklin areas. Proceeds from the sales will be used for efforts to preserve battlefield land at Franklin.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 10: The N.C. State Archives in Raleigh hosts Debbi Blake, giving a talk on Confederate spy Rose O'Neal Greenhow, covering her imprisonment, travel to Europe, and drowning off Wilmington while trying to avoid capture in a rowboat. Lecture is free. Noon. For more information, go online to <http://www.ncdcr.gov/archives/Home.aspx> or telephone (919) 807-7310.

Nov. 15: Tryon Palace in New Bern, N.C., presents a program focusing on the medical history of the town in the Civil War. Other Civil War themed exhibits also will be available. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Regular admission cost. Visit <http://www.tryonpalace.org/events/civil-war-weekend-new-bern-s-hospitals> or call (252) 639-3500 for details.

Nov. 22: Wake County's Southeast Regional Library in Garner, N.C., hosts a Civil War event featuring a talk by Ernie Dollar at 3 p.m. Free. Call (919) 662-2839.

Dec. 6: Bentonville Battlefield near Four Oaks, N.C., holds a Civil War Christmas living history event. Free. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Go online to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi/bentonvi.htm> or call (910) 594-0789 for details.

Dec. 6: Bennett Place in Durham, N.C., presents a Civil War Christmas living history event. Free. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details, see <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/bennett.htm> or call (919) 383-4345 for details.

Unknowns, No Longer

About 350 Confederates buried as "unknowns" in the Marietta, Ga., cemetery have been identified and are now named on its memorial walls.



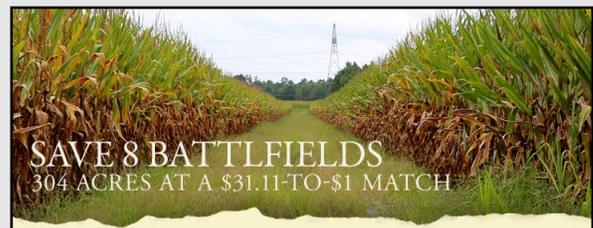
Confederate Cemetery, Marietta, Ga.

Two local historians were able to uncover the names of the soldiers by sifting through thousands of pages of Confederate hospital records and comparing them with the cemetery's information on burials. The newly identified soldiers' names have been added to about 800 Confederates already listed on granite walls at the Marietta cemetery.

A new bronze statue of a Confederate soldier also was unveiled at the cemetery Oct. 19.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust is seeking to preserve portions of eight battlefields in three states.



The land targeted from preservation is 304.1 acres at Bentonville, N.C., Bull Run, Va., Davis Bridge, Tenn., Rappahannock Station, Va., Reams Station, Va., Shiloh, Tenn., Thompson's Station, Tenn., and White Oak Road, Va.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$101,700. Donations are matched at a 31.11:1 rate!

For details, go to <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/bentonville/save-8-battlefields-2014>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

2014

December: Holiday party at the Capitol

2015

January: annual Ed Bearss event

February: Brenda McKean, The Home Front

March: Patrick Schroeder, Appomattox

April: Mark Bradley, End of the Civil War in NC

May: Lee Craig, Economics of the American Civil War

RCWRT Supports Bennett Place

Last month, the folks at Bennett Place, the site of the largest surrender of the Civil War, issued an urgent appeal for funds to purchase two acres near the "Unity Monument."



In addition to individual donations, our members generously gave through the RCWRT and, on Oct. 17, Ted Kunstling, Griff Bartlett, and Kevin Milus presented a \$700 check from our group to John Guss, the site manager. With the help of donations and two grants, the \$310,000 needed to purchase the property was raised.

Two New Members

The RCWRT welcomes our newest members, Patricia Smith (Raleigh) and Marvin Nicholson (Conway, S.C.). If you know someone that has an interest in the Civil War, please bring them to a meeting and encourage them to join!



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RCWRT Score Card

Members	128
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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) after the meeting. 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.