

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

April 8, 2013
Our 146th Meeting



Volume 13
Number 4

Jeffrey Crow to Speak at April 8 Meeting On Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation

Our speaker for April is local author and formerly one of North Carolina's chief historians, Jeffrey Crow.

Jeff recently retired as the deputy secretary for the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources' Office of Archives and History, a position he held since 2001. Prior to that, he was the administrator of the division's historical publications section. From 1995 until 2012, Jeff also served as the state historic records coordinator and preservation officer.



Jeff was born in Akron, Ohio and earned his B.A. at Ohio State University. He holds an M.A. from the University of Akron, and received his doctorate from Duke University.

Jeff has served on several boards, committees, and other groups involved in historical education and preservation.

Jeff has authored or co-authored numerous books on our state's history including: *A History of African Americans in North Carolina*, *North Carolina: The History of an American State*, *Maverick Republican in the Old North State: A Political Biography of Daniel L. Russell*, and *The Black Experience in Revolutionary North Carolina*. He has published several articles on history and earned literary awards for historical writing.

Jeff also has been adjunct professor of history at North Carolina State University since 1985.

Jeff said his interest in the Civil War was spurred by his scholarship and influenced by growing up during its centennial. Jeff told *The Knapsack* that his focus is more on the social, economic, and political impact of the conflict rather than the military story.

Jeff's presentation to the Round Table in April is titled "From Celestial to Earthly Politics: Abraham Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation."

~ The Proclamation ~

At the start of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln framed the conflict as an effort to preserve the union.



However, Lincoln gradually became convinced that abolition was not only morally sound, but also an effective military strategy. On Sept. 22, 1862, shortly after the Union victory at Antietam, the President would sign a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation. The document officially declared his intention to free slaves in the Confederate states. A final version was issued Jan. 1, 1863.



The Sesquicentennial



April 1863

Union Cavalry Raids

Two significant Federal Cavalry raids were launched during April 1863.

In the Eastern Theater of the war, U.S. Maj. Gen. George Stoneman attempted to cut the supply line between Robert E. Lee and his defenses around Fredericksburg, Va., and the Confederate capitol of Richmond with his 10,000-man cavalry corps. Even though the raid failed in its primary mission, it boosted the morale of the Federal cavalry.

Out West, Union Col. Benjamin Grierson launched an 800-mile destructive cavalry offensive through the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana.



Stoneman and staff, 1863

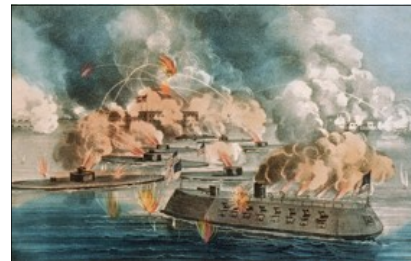
The two cavalry offenses resulted from an increased confidence by Union forces in their attempt to match the effectiveness demonstrated by independent Confederate cavalry units.

On April 16, U.S. Rear Admiral David D. Porter led a fleet of 12 ships past defenses around Vicksburg on the Mississippi River. All of the Federal ships were damaged in the effort to support troops gathering south of the city, but only one vessel would sink.

On April 23, four British steamers ran the Federal coastal blockade and landed at Wilmington, N.C.

Ironclads Attack Ft. Sumter

On April 7, 1863, nine Union ironclads steamed into Charleston, S.C., harbor and attacked Confederate forts and batteries defending the city, in an attempt to support a land assault.



The Federal ships damaged Ft. Sumter, but were unable to take the harbor. One of the U.S ironclads, the USS *Keokuk*, was struck more than 90 times by the defending forces and sank the following day. The amphibious operation would be abandoned.

Bread Riots in Richmond!

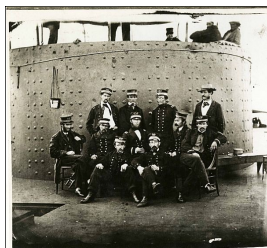
On April 2, a group of women in the Confederate capital of Richmond protested against the high price of bread.



The Richmond Bread Riot of 1863 was the most significant of a number of civil disturbances that occurred throughout the South due to inflation and other hardships suffered by citizens. A group of women led a mob that attacked stores, warehouses, and other establishments.

Monitor Sailors Honored

On March 8, 2013, two sailors recovered from the wreck of the U.S.S. *Monitor* were interred with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.



The *Monitor* was made famous for its role in the first battle of ironclads at Hampton Roads, Va., in March 1862. The vessel sank in a storm off the coast of North Carolina in December 1862, taking 16 sailors with it. U.S. Navy divers exploring the wreck discovered the remains of two of the sailors, who currently are unidentified.

Photos of the ceremony at Arlington are available at <http://www.navy.mil/viewGallery.asp?id=167>.

Gettysburg Address on Display

The John Hay copy of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address is being displayed at the Library of Congress through May 4 as part of a Civil War exhibition.



The copy is one of five manuscript drafts that are known to exist. A second, the Nicolay copy, also is owned by the Library of Congress. The other three are held by the White House, Cornell University, and the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

The document is being displayed as part of "The Civil War in America" exhibition that runs through Jan. 4, 2014. For details, see <http://myloc.gov/exhibitions/civil-war-in-america/pages/default.aspx>.

Upcoming Events

April 13: The City of Raleigh Museum presents a Civil War walking tour of North Carolina's capitol, led by Ernie Dollar. \$20 per person. 10 a.m. Call (919) 996-2220 or go online to <http://www.raleighcitymuseum.org> for details.

April 20-21: Bennett Place in Durham, N.C., explores how the war was portrayed through photography, art, and journalism. Living history presentations as well. Free. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on April 20; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 21. For more, telephone (919) 383-4345 or visit <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/bennett.htm>.

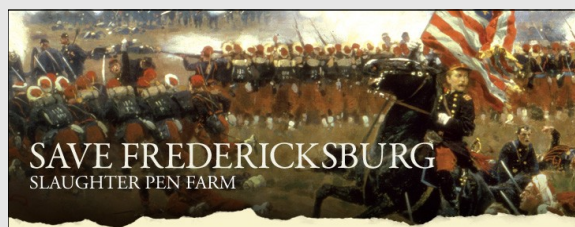
April 25: The Museum of the Cape Fear in Fayetteville, N.C., presents Matt Farina on the wounding and death of Stonewall Jackson. Free at 7 p.m. For details, call (910) 486-1330 or see <http://museumofthecapefear.ncdcr.gov>.

April 27: The North Carolina state library in Raleigh is offering guidance on researching Civil War ancestors using the library and archives. Free. 10 a.m. To register, call (919) 807-7450 or email slnc.reference@ncdcr.gov.

April 28: The North Carolina Museum of History presents a program on "The Power and Popularity of Music in the Civil War." Free at 2 p.m. For details, call (919) 807-7900 or visit <http://www.ncmuseumofhistory.org>.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust's efforts to preserve 208 acres of the Slaughter Pen Farm at Fredericksburg, Va., continues.



The Trust has raised about \$7 million of the \$12 million needed to preserve what is termed "the very heart and soul" of the December 1862 battlefield.

As part of its commitment, the Civil War Trust needs to raise \$100,000 during 2013.

For details, visit <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/fredericksburg/fredericksburg-2010>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

- May:** Sandy Barnard, a private in the Irish Brigade
June: Stephen Wise, blockade running
July: Rick Walton, Raleigh's Pettigrew Hospital
August: Debbi Blake, using the State Archives
September: Terry Winschel, Vicksburg
October: Tom Crouch, Civil War ballooning
November: Ansley Wegner, artificial limbs
December: Period music at state capitol
January: Annual Ed Bearss event
February: Keith Hardison, Jefferson Davis
March: Bob Zeller, photographic history
April: William Davis, CSA secret servicewoman
May: William Harris, TBD
June: Earl Hess, Petersburg
July: Benjamin F. Cooling, Early's raid on DC

Nametags Available

The RCWRT's board of directors encourages all members to obtain (and wear) one of our attractive bronze nametags decorated with our logo. To order yours, please send a check for \$8 to: David June, Treasurer, 3912 White Chapel Way, Raleigh, NC 27615, or bring your payment to the next meeting.

Board Approves Donation

At its March meeting, the RCWRT board approved a \$1,000 donation for the new CSS *Neuse* museum. The payment, using revenue from our annual Ed Bearss event, will be presented during the RCWRT's April 20 tour of the museum and Kinston battlefields.

Two New Members

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table welcomes our two newest members, Aldo and Martin Perry, both of Raleigh. 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	121
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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) immediately after the meeting. Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$15 for students. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20.