

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

*August 8, 2016
Our 186th Meeting*



*Volume 16
Number 8*

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

August 8 Event Features Betty Vaughn On Foster's December 1862 Raid in Eastern N.C.

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's August 2016 meeting will feature award-winning author, visual artist, and former teacher Betty Johnson 'B.J.' Vaughn.



Betty grew up in Kinston, N.C., and earned her bachelors degree in art at East Carolina University. She pursued graduate studies in Louisville, Ky., at Spalding University and studied art history and Italian in Venice, Italy.

Betty taught AP art history and painting at Enloe High School in Raleigh. As an educator, she conducted 18 study tours of Europe. She was instrumental in the creation of the nationally-recognized magnet school art program at Enloe.

She is an accomplished visual artist whose works have been widely shown, both in the United States and overseas. In addition to writing a number of professional articles and booklets associated with teaching, she is an award-winning book author.

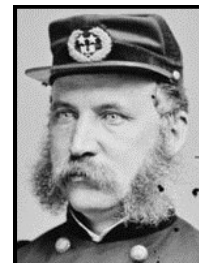
Betty is the 2013 recipient of the award for historical fiction from the North Carolina Society of Historians for her most recent manuscript, *Run, Cissy, Run*. Her previous books, *The Man in the Chimney* (first published as *Muddy Waters*) and *Turbulent Waters* (first published as *Blue Waters*) won the historical fiction awards for 2011 and 2012, respectively.

Betty also has published *The Intrepid Miss LaRoque* and *Yesterday's Magnolia*, a work separate from the historical fiction series. Betty's books, inspired by her love of local history, will be available for purchase at our August 8 event.

Her presentation to the RCWRT will be a first-person account of Foster's Raid in Eastern North Carolina, featuring letters written home by men of the 10th Connecticut.

~ Foster's Raid ~

In December 1862, Union Maj. Gen. John G. Foster led a Federal raid on the strategically important Wilmington & Weldon Railroad bridge over the Neuse River at Goldsboro, N. C.



Foster's men captured the town of Kinston, fought Southern troops at Whitehall, burned the Goldsboro bridge, and then returned to Union-occupied New Bern. The bridge was repaired by Confederates within two weeks.



Rhode Island

The States During the Civil War



'The Ocean State'

Rhode Island, one of the original colonies, was the 13th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. "The Ocean State" was an important source of men, weapons, and materiel for the Union cause, despite its small size.

In 1860, Rhode Island had 174,611 residents, one of the smallest states in terms of population and size. However, its proportional contribution of fighting men to the Union forces exceeded any other state. The Ocean State's textile and metal-related industries supported the Northern war effort.

Some 25,000 men from Rhode Island served in the Federal army and navy, with 486 killed in action and approximately 1,200 more dying of disease during the conflict.



Rhode Island Monument, Vicksburg

1860 Election Results:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	12,244 (61.4%)
Stephen Douglas (Dem)	7,707 (38.6%)

1864 Election Results:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	13,962 (62.2%)
George McClellan (Dem)	8,470 (37.8%)

Governors:

William Sprague IV (Rep)	May 29, 1860 – March 3, 1863
William C. Cozzens (Dem)	March 3, 1863 – May 26, 1863
James Y. Smith (Rep)	May 26, 1863 – May 29, 1866

'Battery B'

Rhode Island contributed eight infantry regiments, three cavalry regiments, eight batteries of artillery and three heavy artillery regiments. Rhode Islanders fought in most of the major battles in the Eastern Theater of the war and 16 men from the state were awarded the Medal of Honor.



Field Band, 2nd Rhode Island Infantry

Among the notable units from Rhode Island was Battery B of the 1st Rhode Island Light Artillery, who faced "Pickett's Charge" at Gettysburg. Three units, the 1st Rhode Island Detached Militia, 2nd Regt. Rhode Island Vols., and Battery A of the 1st Light Artillery suffered heavy casualties at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas).

No Civil War battles were fought in the Ocean State, but the United States Naval Academy was relocated from Annapolis, Md., to Providence, R.I., early in the conflict due to concerns over its strategic location and proximity to Southern sympathies. A large U.S. army hospital also was established in Portsmouth Grove, now Melville, R.I.

Notable individuals from Rhode Island included Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside, commander of the Army of the Potomac until his defeat at Fredericksburg. Prior to the war, Burnside had been a weapons maker, politician, and general in the state militia. After the war, Burnside would become the governor. Other generals from Rhode Island included Zenas Bliss, recipient of the Medal of Honor for his gallantry at Fredericksburg, and Isaac P. Rodman, who was killed at Antietam, as well as Richard Arnold, Silas Casey, George S. Greene, Thomas W. Sherman, and Frank Wheaton. William Rogers Taylor, a Union naval captain, also hailed from the Ocean State.

Made in China

Several dozen Chinese men fought in the American Civil War.



Cpl. Joseph Pierce, 14th Connecticut

Among the most notable is John Tomney (also called John Tommy), who served in Co. D of the 70th New York under Dan Sickles. Tomney bled to death at Gettysburg after both his legs were torn off at the thigh by an artillery shell. Period newspaper accounts called him “one of the bravest soldiers in that bravest of brigades.”

Information about specific Civil War soldiers and sailors from Asia is available from the National Park Service at <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/upload/More-Info-on-Asians-Pacific-Islanders-in-the-Civil-War-Alphabetically-by-Name.pdf>.

Plans for Fort Fisher!

An expanded visitor center is planned to be built for Fort Fisher in the next few years to accommodate the growing number of visitors to the historical site.



The plans call for a 3,500 square-foot museum and expanded gift shop as well as a new auditorium and banquet hall. The renovations are estimated to cost about \$9 million and fundraising will begin shortly.

For more information about the fort, go online to <http://nchistoricsites.org/fisher> or call (910) 458-5538.

Upcoming Events

Aug. 13. Fort Fisher Historical Site at Kure Beach, N.C., offers “After Fisher: Action at Sugarloaf Line,” a presentation on the often overlooked part of the 1865 Wilmington Campaign by Chris Fonvielle. Free. 2 p.m. Details are available at <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/fisher> or by telephone at (910) 458-5538.

Aug. 26 - 28. The state transportation museum in Spencer, N.C., offers a Civil War weekend program on Stoneman’s raid through Salisbury. Period music, living history programs, train rides and more. Range of ticket prices. For details, see <http://www.nctrans.org/Events/Civil-War-Weekend-2016.aspx> or call (704) 636-2889.

Aug. 27. The CSS *Neuse* Civil War Interpretive Center in Kinston, N.C. presents a “Hands on History” program featuring Civil War photography. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/neuse/neuse.htm> or phone (252) 522-2107 for more information.

Aug. 27. Bentonville Battlefield Historic Site near Four Oaks, N.C., offers a Civil War artillery demonstration program. Free. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more, go to <http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi/bentonvi.htm>, or call (910) 594-0789.

Preservation News

The Civil War Trust is seeking to preserve important ground at five battlefields in Virginia.



The land targeted for preservation is 313 acres of the 1862 battles of Gaines’ Mill and Williamsburg, the 1864 fight at Ream’s Station, and the 1865 clashes at Sailor’s Creek and White Oak Road.

The Trust’s goal in this campaign is to raise \$91,000. Donations are matched at a 10.8:1 rate!

For details, go to <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/sailorscreek/old-dominion-2016>.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

September: Juanita Patience Moss, black soldiers

October: Doug Mattox, CSA currency and stamps

November: Fitzhugh Brundage, Frederick Douglass

December: annual Holiday Party

January: Ed Bearss event

February: Michael Zatarga, Battle of Roanoke Island

March: Jim Gaddis, Gen. Richard Gatlin

N.C. Roundtables Meet!

On July 23, the leaders of several roundtables from around the state met to discuss approaches to securing quality speakers, boosting memberships, holding joint meetings and other issues of common concern.

August Business Meeting

During our August event, we will have a short business meeting to elect officers and directors for the next two years per our bylaws. The current Board of Directors will present their recommendations and accept nominees from the floor. Nominees should be willing to serve. Thanks to all who served during the previous term.

Program Committee Forms

Program director David Waller has been joined by two other volunteers that will work as a team to continue to keep the quality and variety of our speakers at the high level that we have grown accustomed to. The new Program Committee will now include P.L. Smith and Adam Medlin. Thanks for your time and efforts, David, P.L., and Adam!

Correction

In last month's *Knapsack* feature on North Carolina (Vol. 16, No. 7, p. 2), Bryan Grimes was listed as a brigadier general. Grimes was promoted to major general in February 1865.



The Knapsack

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RCWRT Score Card

Members 172

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 (located at 5 Edenton Street, across from the State Capitol). Members and guests are encouraged to meet for supper at K&W Cafeteria, 511 Woodburn Rd., in Cameron Village before the meeting, at 5:15 pm.

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.