

The Knapsack

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

April 9, 2018
Our 206th Meeting



Volume 18
Number 4

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

April 9 Event Features Gene Schmiel Speaking on Union General Jacob D. Cox

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's April 2018 meeting will feature a presentation by author and historian Dr. Eugene D. Schmiel.



Gene earned his Ph.D. at The Ohio State University and served as a professor of history at several institutions including St. Francis University (Pa.), Marymount, and Penn State before working in the foreign service. Gene served with the U.S. State Department from 1973 until 1996. During his

time in the foreign service, he served in embassies across the world, having posts in Djibouti, Iceland, Kenya, South Africa, and Sweden.

Gene authored *Citizen-General: Jacob Dolson Cox and the Civil War Era*, published in 2014. The book was a History Book Club selection, and was labeled the "best biography of the year" by the Civil War Books and Authors website. Cox is the topic of his April 9 talk to the Raleigh Civil War Round Table.

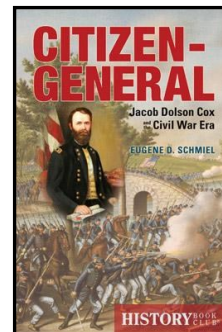
He is currently working on a "counterfactual" book about the Battle of Antietam and how an overwhelming Union victory there ironically resulted in the preservation of slavery. Gene lives with his wife Kathryn in Gainesville, Virginia.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

This month's meeting will feature a raffle with books and several nice prints. Tickets are \$5 each. Bring any books or artwork you would like to donate to the RCWRT to include in the raffle.

~ Jacob D. Cox ~

Jacob D. Cox was an abolitionist sympathizer and state Senator from Ohio when the Civil War broke out. He joined the state volunteers as a brigadier general in April 1861.



Cox led the assault on Confederate forces during the September 1862 Battle of South Mountain, fought at Antietam, and participated in the Atlanta and Carolina campaigns. He is credited with saving the center of the Union line at the November 1864 Battle of Franklin.



Oregon

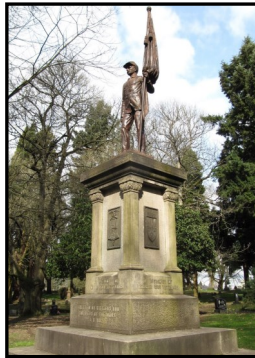
The States During the Civil War



The 'Beaver State'

Oregon entered the Union in 1859, the 33rd state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. Its nickname, the "Beaver State," came from it being a source of pelts used to make fur hats, which were fashionable in the 19th century. The state is also known as "The Sunset State." When it joined the Union, it was the farthest west of all states.

In 1860, Oregon had a population of 52,456. After most of the regular army units in the area were sent east when the Civil War broke out, Oregon raised both an infantry and a cavalry regiment to patrol the state and protect settlers from Indian raiders. It is estimated that some 15,000 Union and Confederate veterans moved to Oregon after the Civil War.



Monument at Lone Fir Cemetery, Portland

1860 Election Results for Oregon:

Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	5,344 (36.2%)
John Breckenridge (Dem)	5,074 (34.4%)
Stephen Douglas (Dem)	4,131 (28.0%)
John Bell (Union)	212 (1.4%)

1864 Election Results for Oregon:

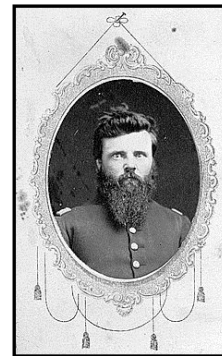
Abraham Lincoln (Rep)	9,888 (53.9%)
George McClellan (Dem)	8,457 (46.1%)

Oregon's Civil War Governors:

John Whiteaker (Dem)	March 3, 1859 – Sept. 10, 1862
A.C. Gibbs (Rep)	Sept. 10, 1862 – Sept. 12, 1866

The First Cavalry

After the Civil War began in April 1861, most of the regular army troops were taken from the Pacific Northwest to serve in the Eastern Theater of the war. That left Oregon and nearby territories without enough soldiers to protect settlers and miners and guard Indian reservations.



Col. George Currey, 1st Oregon Infantry

During the war, prospectors and other settlers drawn by gold recently discovered in the Blue Mountains clashed with native tribes, leading to the bloody Snake War in 1864.

The 1st Oregon Volunteer Cavalry was formed for service with the Union in April 1862 to patrol the state and protect travelers and miners. The unit was rarely intact, as companies were sent to different parts of the region and engaged in expeditions and military operations against the Snake Indians and other threats.

In November 1864, the state raised the 1st Oregon Volunteer Infantry Regiment to reinforce its cavalry volunteers. While the unit mostly served on patrols and post duty, it saw some skirmishing with hostile natives.

No Civil War battles were fought in Oregon, but one of its U.S. Senators, Col. Edward Dickinson Baker, was killed in October 1861 while leading Union troops at the Battle of Ball's Bluff in Virginia. Another early war casualty from Oregon was Capt. James W. Lingenfelter, who was killed on picket duty while serving with Co. B of the 71st Pennsylvania Infantry.

A TarHeel's Best Friend

Below is the only known photograph of a North Carolina Civil War soldier posing with a dog.



The soldier is identified as Jesse Ferguson of Co. C, 32nd North Carolina Troops ("Lenoir Braves"). Generals Junius Daniel and Bryan Grimes led the unit's brigade. The 32nd fought in various battles from Gettysburg to Cold Harbor, saw action in the Shenandoah Valley with Jubal Early, and ended its service at Appomattox.

Secession Vote by County

A document posted online by the North Carolina Civil War & Reconstruction History Center in Fayetteville lists county-by-county votes on secession in February 1861. The information is taken from the March 14, 1861, edition of the *Fayetteville Observer*.



The most lopsided votes, taken Feb. 28, 1861, were in Edgecombe and Wilson counties (99 percent for) and Randolph and Yadkin counties (98 percent against). Wake County had 53 percent voting in favor of secession. Overall, citizens rejected secession at that time by a 47,337 to 46,673 vote (50.4 percent against). North Carolina delegates would eventually vote to secede on May 20, 1861. See the full county-by-county tally at <http://bit.ly/2BDOxgj>

Upcoming Events

April 13-15: The 21st annual Salisbury Confederate Prison Symposium will be held in Salisbury, N.C. Series of lectures, displays, book sales, music. \$75. For details, telephone Sue Curtis (704) 637-6411 or go online to <http://www.salisburyprison.org/AnnualSymposium.htm>.

April 17. Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh hosts *Cold Mountain* author Charles Frazier who is signing copies of his new novel about Varina Howell, the second wife of Jefferson Davis. Call (919) 828-1588 or see <http://www.quailridgebooks.com/event/charles-frazier-varina>.

April 28-29. Washington County Historical Society holds its annual living history event in Plymouth, N.C. Two battle reenactments, an evening "Fireside Feast", "Duelling Narrators" debate, children's recruiting station, period music, troop encampment, book signers, free museum entrance, and more. Re-enactment only \$5, other events additional. For more information, see <http://portplymouthmuseum.org/events/living-history-weekend> or call the Port o' Plymouth Museum at (252) 793-1377.

May 5: The CSS *Neuse* Civil War Interpretive Center in Kinston, N.C., holds an event on Civil War medicine. Gary Riggs discusses wounds, nursing, diseases, and other issues. Displays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., talks at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Free with regular admission (\$5 for adults). For details, visit nchistoricsites.org/neuse/neuse.htm or call (252) 522-2107.

Preservation News

In addition to purchasing battlefield ground for preservation, the Civil War Trust also is undertaking efforts to restore such land to its historic condition.



The trust is launching restoration projects at eight sites: Appomattox, Chancellorsville, Cold Harbor, Gaines' Mill, Gettysburg, Harper's Ferry, Trevilian Station, and Vicksburg. Modern structures are to be demolished as part of the efforts.

The Trust's goal in this campaign is to raise \$118,000. Donations are matched at a 2:1 rate!

For details, go to <https://www.civilwar.org/give/save-battlefields/help-restore-battlefields>

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

May: Scott Mauger, Maj. John Pelham, CSA
June: William H. Brown, NC in Army of Tennessee
July: Michael Hardy, the Branch-Lane Brigade
August: Angela Robbins, NC women post-war
September: Chris Fonvielle, Gen. Braxton Bragg
October: Wade Sokolosky, Confederate hospitals
November: Keith Hardison, first person CS soldier

Knapsack Editor Wanted!!

Knapsack Editor Andrew Ballard is ending his eight-year run in three months with the July 2018 edition. If you have any interest in taking over the position, please contact the RCWRT's Board of Directors at raleighcwrt@yahoo.com or call President Ted Kunstling at (919) 787-5282.

Goldsboro Bridge Trip Report

Led by Jack Milani, eleven members of the RCWRT toured the Goldsboro Bridge Battlefield on March 3. The field trip included visiting living history encampments as well as demonstrations by infantry and artillery units. Randy Sauls, 2018 Gatton awardee and president of the Goldsboro Bridge Association, gave the group a tour of the battlefield.

Petersburg Tour Planned for May 19

Mark your calendars for the next RCWRT excursion on May 19. The group will visit some of the highlights associated with the Petersburg National Battlefield in Virginia. Among the targeted sites are Grant's headquarters at City Point, The Crater, and Five Forks. Departure is planned for 7 a.m. that morning, a Saturday. Stay tuned for details.

New Member(s)!

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table welcomes our newest member, Dr. Glenn M. Davis of Raleigh. Also "re-upping" after a few years is Marshall Neathery—welcome back! If you know of someone who has an interest in the Civil War, bring to our next meeting and encourage them to join!



The Knapsack

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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 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. Students are free. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20.