

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table

The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

September 10, 2018
Our 211th Meeting

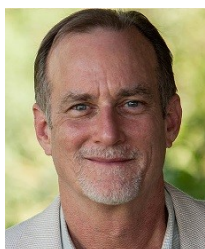


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<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

Sept. 10 Event Features Chris Fonvielle, Jr., Ph.D. Speaking on Confederate General Braxton Bragg

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's September 2018 meeting will feature a presentation by historian Chris E. Fonvielle, Jr., Ph.D., an associate professor emeritus of the Department of History at UNC, Wilmington.



Dr. Fonvielle is a native Wilmingtonian with a lifelong interest in American Civil War, North Carolina, and Cape Fear history. He attended public schools, graduating from New Hanover High School in 1971. After receiving his B.A. in anthropology at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, Chris served as the last curator of the Blockade Runners of the Confederacy Museum. He

subsequently received his M.A. in American history at East Carolina University, and his Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina. That makes Chris a Wildcat, a Seahawk, a Pirate, and a Gamecock.

After a brief teaching stint at East Carolina University, Dr. Fonvielle returned to his undergraduate alma mater at UNCW in 1996, where he taught courses on the Civil War, Wilmington and the Lower Cape Fear, and Antebellum America. His in-depth research focuses on coastal operations and defenses, and blockade running in southeastern North Carolina during the Civil War.

He has published books and articles including *The Wilmington Campaign: Last Rays of Departing Hope*; *Wilmington and the Lower Cape Fear: An Illustrated History*; and *To Forge a Thunderbolt: Fort Anderson and the Battle for Wilmington*.

In 2014, then-Governor Pat McCrory appointed Dr. Fonvielle to the N.C. Historical Commission. Upon his retirement from UNC Wilmington in 2018, Chris was presented with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine for distinguished service to the State of North Carolina, signed by incumbent Governor Roy Cooper. Chris and his wife Nancy of 36 years have two daughters, Mary and Anne.

Chris's presentation to the RCWRT at our September 10 meeting will be titled *Unlucky in War: Confederate General Braxton Bragg*.

NOTE: In the wake of the recent toppling of the "Silent Sam" statue at UNC-Chapel Hill, Dr. Fontvielle has written an opinion in StarNews Online that can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.starnewsonline.com/opinion/20180829/opinion-dr-chris-fonvielle-historic-context-vital-for-confederate-monuments>.

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~ General Braxton Bragg ~

Confederate General Braxton Bragg led the Army of Tennessee to victory in the Battle of Chickamauga in Sept. 1863. Although this turned out to be the greatest Confederate victory in the Western Theater, his large number of casualties, his failure to follow-up, and his subsequent defeat at the hands of General Ulysses S. Grant in the Battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge in Nov. 1863 greatly tarnished his record and resulted in his replacement by Joseph E. Johnston in Dec. 1863.



~ Raleigh CWRT Dues ~

September is when we renew our membership in the Raleigh Civil War Round Table. Dues are \$30.00 (Individual/Family), \$10 Teachers, and is free for Students.

Your dues are used to pay the rent at the NC Museum of History, pay our speakers expenses, pay for our web site, and for other expenses of running the Round Table. You may pay your dues at our September 10th monthly meeting or by sending a check to:

Griff Bartlett
Treasurer-RCWRT
908 Kinsdale Dr
Raleigh, NC 27615



North Carolina Museum of History

Focusing on Current Exhibits in the Civil War Gallery
By Charlie Knight, Curator of Military History



Robert Hoke

One of the most notable characteristics of Confederate uniforms is their lack of uniformity. Among the dozens of uniforms in the NC Museum of History collection can be found frock coats and shell jackets of various shades of grey and brown, composed of different materials, and in a number of different styles. Perhaps the most unique, however, is one identified as a “camp coat,” worn by Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke.

It is a most interesting design – not quite knee-length, a pleated body with stand-up collar, built-in waist belt and open-top pockets on the skirt fronts, all made of brown wool with dark blue trim. Oddly enough, it has New York buttons at the neck and waist (probably post-war additions), with Federal eagle buttons on the cuffs. Only one star remains on the collar, but the outlines of three on each side are visible, which dates the coat to 1862 when Hoke was Colonel of the 21st NC.



Front view of Hoke's
“Camp Coat”

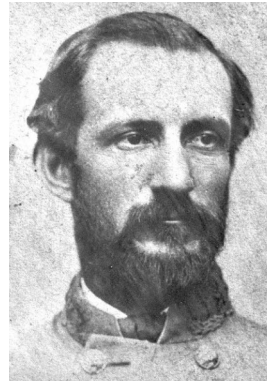
This coat is one of several items related to Hoke in the museum’s collection; other items include his headquarters flag, frock coat, sword and sword belt, and death mask.



Rear view of Hoke's
“Camp Coat”

Hoke was born in Lincolnton, NC, May 27, 1837, and graduated from the Kentucky Military Institute in 1854. When the war began, Hoke was commissioned a lieutenant in the 1st NC Volunteers and

distinguished himself at Big Bethel in June 1861. He rose quickly through the ranks thereafter and was promoted to Major within months, before being promoted again to Lieutenant Colonel and transferred to the 23rd NC.



Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke

Hoke temporarily led the 33rd NC for a time after its commander was captured, leading that regiment through the Seven Days, 2nd Manassas, and Maryland campaigns. His performance earned him promo-

tion again and command of his own regiment, the 21st NC. Again he distinguished himself at Fredericksburg in December 1862 and was promoted to Brigadier General in early 1863. He was severely wounded at Chancellorsville and missed the Gettysburg campaign.

In early 1864 he was sent to his home state to operate against Union forces in and around New Bern; this marked the high point of Hoke’s career. In April he captured the Federal garrison at Plymouth, for which he received the official thanks of the Confederate Congress and promotion to Major General. At the age of 26, he was the youngest of that grade in the Confederate army. Soon after he and his men were recalled to Virginia, fighting at Drewry’s Bluff, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Darbytown Road. However, around Richmond and Petersburg Hoke did not live up to his earlier performances, failing to coordinate with other troops on several occasions.

He was sent to aid in the defense of Wilmington in late 1864, resisted Sherman’s advance through North Carolina at Wyse Fork and Bentonville in March 1865, and was included in Johnston’s surrender at Bennett Place.

After the war Hoke became involved in mining and the North Carolina Railroad, and married into the prominent Van Wyck family of New York. He died in Raleigh, July 3, 1912, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

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Election Results for Officers and Directors of the Raleigh CWRT for 2018-2020

The following slate of candidates was approved as Officers and Directors of the Raleigh Civil War Round Table at the Aug. 13 meeting. The following members were elected to the Board of Directors:

President: Ted Kunstling*
Vice President: Adam Medlin
Secretary-Treasurer: Griff Bartlett*
Director: Jack Milani* (Trip Coordinator)
Director: Pattie Smith* (Program Chair)
Director: Bob Graesser (Knapsack Editor & Webmaster)
Director: John Woods
Director: Frank Gordon
Director: Beverly Thomas

*Incumbents

The nominees were approved by voice acclamation of the members present.

Ted Kunstling, M.D.
President, Raleigh Civil War Round Table

Upcoming Events

PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK TOUR - RCWRT TRIP

October 6, 2018: Petersburg, VA

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table has organized a final field trip for 2018. RCWRT members are invited to join a trip to tour Pamplin Historical Park, located in Petersburg, VA, on Oct. 6, 2018. We will depart Raleigh by car at 8:00 am with an estimated time of arrival of 10:00 am. We expect to be back in Raleigh by 6:30 pm.

The Park is divided into 5 parts plus a Battlefield Center. We will interrupt our tour to have a leisurely lunch at a nearby restaurant and then return for the balance of the tour. The time required for the tour itself is approximately 5-6 hours. See our website for the detailed itinerary.

Admission is \$12 to \$13, depending on your age, and includes the services of a guide if we have a minimum of ten participants. We need to know of your intent to participate as soon as possible so that a guide can be reserved. To sign up and obtain details on meetup location, please contact Jack Milani, Trip Coordinator, at (919) 838-3670 or 1huntmstr@gmail.com.

NC 30TH FLAG RESTORATION CEREMONY

Theme of RCWRT Nov. 5 Meeting (rescheduled from Nov. 12 due to Veteran's Day closure of the NC History Museum)

The RCWRT is sponsoring the restoration of a battle flag belonging to the NC 30th Infantry Regiment. Andrew Ballard, Knapsack editor emeritus and originator of the idea for this flag project, will provide an overview. He will also discuss how the funds generated by the sale of the

documentary he produced on the the end of the Civil War in North Carolina helps to fund the restoration project.

Charlie Knight, Curator of Military History at the Museum, will talk about the flag's history and about the conservation process, and David Waller will give the unit history of the 30th NC Infantry Regiment.

It is also envisioned that a raffle, silent auctions, and other fund-raising events will occur. Finally, the Demo Gallery at the Museum has been reserved to display "our" flag on Nov. 5 as part of the meeting.

Sep. 15, 2018. 9:00 am to 12:00 pm: Panel Discussion: Loyalty and Desertion During the Civil War. Vance Birthplace State Historic Site, Visitor Center, 911 Reems Creek Road, Weaverville, NC 28787. East Tennessee State University's Department of History and the Vance Birthplace will welcome historians, Judkin Browning, Katherine Cutshall, and Dan Slagle along with Steve Nash as moderator to present a panel discussion on loyalty and desertion during the Civil War in the Appalachian mountains. Free. For details, go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/763828027146198/> or contact Kimberly Floyd at 828-645-6706 or by email at vance@ncdcr.gov.

Sep. 15, 2018. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm: Heirlooms, Antiques, and Militaria. CSS Neuse Civil War Interpretive Center, 100 North Queen Street, Kinston, NC 28501. Help on identifying your Civil War-era artifacts. Free. For details, go to <https://www.ncdcr.gov/heirlooms-antiques-and-militaria> or contact Rachel Kennedy at 252-526-9600 ext. 222 or by email at rachel.kennedy@ncdcr.gov.

Sep. 19, 2018. 10:00 am to 12:00 pm: Homeschool Day: The Economy During the Civil War. CSS Neuse Civil War Interpretive Center, 100 North Queen Street, Kinston, NC 28501. The following topics will be covered:

- Shortages and substitutions
- Blockade running
- Inflation and counterfeiting
- Panic of 1857
- Post war- the freedmen and how the economy changed after the war

Each of these topics will include a fun interactive activity with a STEM component! Cost is \$1.00 per person and pre-registration is required. This program will be capped at 100 students. Please sign up ASAP. For details, go to <https://www.ncdcr.gov/homeschool-day-economy-during-civil-war> or contact Rachel Kennedy at 252-526-9600 ext. 222 or by email at rachel.kennedy@ncdcr.gov.

Sep. 29, 2018. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; and, Sep. 30, 2018. 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. School of the Soldier. Bennett Place State Historic Site, 4409 Bennett Memorial Road, Durham, NC 27705. Watch as soldiers perform basic drill, cook and sleep while in the field. Learn about the different weapons used during the war as well as the flags they carried. There will be weapons demonstrations throughout the day each day. Free, but donations greatly appreciated. For details, contact the Bennett Place Staff at 919-383-4345 or by email at bennett@ncdcr.gov, or go to <https://www.ncdcr.gov/school-soldier>.

Upcoming Events (Continued)

Sep. 30, 2018. 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Artillery Demonstration. The Eastern Front Unit of Petersburg National Battlefield presents an artillery demonstration by the Pegram Battery (CSA), showing the steps involved in firing a Civil War cannon. Free. For details go to <https://www.nps.gov/pete/index.htm> or contact Ranger Maggs Vibo at 804-732-3531 ext. 222 or by email at Margaret_Viboolsittiseri@nps.gov with any questions.

Oct. 6, 2018. 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. "Follow the Fight" Tour. Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site, 5466 Harper House Rd, Four Oaks, NC 27524. Tours leave from the Battlefield's Visitors Center and will cost \$5.00 per person, with children 12 & under free. For details, go to www.fobb.net/Tours.aspx, call 910-594-0789, or send email request to info@fobb.net.

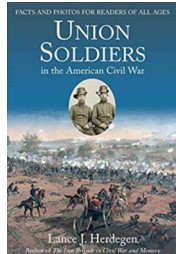
Oct. 10-14, 2018: Chambersburg Civil War Seminars & Tours -- Mr. Lincoln's City & John Wilkes Booth Escape Tour. Fairfield Inn & Suites By Marriott, 5220 Westview Drive, Frederick, MD 21703. This is a five-day symposium featuring bus and walking tours of Mr. Lincoln's Washington and John Wilkes Booth Escape Route (both led by Joan Chaconas and Dr. Ed Steer). Sites to be visited will include the following:

- Ford's Theatre
- Lincoln Memorial
- Old Soldiers' Home where Lincoln visited
- Surratt Tavern
- Dr. Mudd House

In addition, Dr. Gordon Dammann leads a bus and walking tour of historic Frederick, Maryland entitled "[Amongst the Clustered Spires: Touring Civil War Frederick](#)". Bonus tours will include "[In the Footsteps of the Presidents](#)" seeing unique places visited by Abraham Lincoln, James Buchanan, LBJ, and Dwight D. Eisenhower at Gettysburg, Antietam, and the Cumberland Valley. For details, see <http://www.civilwarseminars.org>.

New Civil War-Related Release

Union Soldiers in the American Civil War: Facts and Photos for Readers of All Ages by



Lance J. Herdegen is a handy paperback book that experienced Civil War buffs will find to be an invaluable quick reference guide, and one that makes an excellent gift for introducing the Civil War to anyone of any age. There's a Confederate companion volume in the pipeline, too, authored by Mark Hughes.

Savas Beatie, Publisher, August, 2018. ISBN: 978-1-61121-339-3. Available at Quail Ridge Books, Raleigh, NC, as well as other book stores and online at Amazon.com.

For other 2018 Civil War-related releases, go to website <https://cwba.blogspot.com/2018/>.

From the Editor

The members of our Civil War Round Table have many ways of expressing their passion for this critical watershed period in our Nation's history.

- Many have ancestors who fought in the Civil War and are interested in genealogy and in honoring their memory.
- Some enjoy simulating the experience of the Civil War through re-enacting camp life, drills, and battles.
- Others are ardent collectors of artifacts of that period: clothing, weapons, buttons, currency, etc.
- Some are more interested in reliving the emotional times and personal victories and tragedies as expressed in letters and diaries of that tumultuous time.
- I am among those who enjoy reading about the strategy and tactics exhibited by the leaders and officers on both sides. I find these battles come to life in Civil War-related board games. Noodling cardboard pieces imprinted with a unit's name, strength, and movement capability over a map showing the detailed terrain fought over, gives me a better understanding of how specific battles came about and unfolded.

If you would like to be profiled in a future issue of the Knapsack as to your particular Civil War passion, please email me at bob.graesser@gmail.com. I think other Knapsack readers would be very interested in your story.

Bob Graesser
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster, Raleigh CWRT
August 31, 2018

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Preservation News



Help the American Battlefield Trust in their 2018 projects.

Appomattox Campaign:

Project 1: Remove residence on a five-acre property that is a "donut hole" on the battlefield. \$25,000.

Project 2: Remove residence whose structure dates to late 1940s, has been vacant for at least 3 years, uninhabitable in current state, and presents a dangerous nuisance. \$18,000.

Gaines' Mill

Remove residence: Demolition will further the goal of restoring the Gaines' Mill battlefield and largest Confederate attack of the war. \$28,000.

For more information, go to <https://www.battlefields.org/help-restore-battlefields-their-wartime-appearances>

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming RCWRT Meetings

Date	Speaker(s)	Topic
Sep. 10	Chris Fonvielle	Gen. Braxton Bragg
Oct. 8	Wade Sokolosky	NC Hospitals in 1865
Nov. 5	Andrew Ballard, Charlie Knight, & David Waller	Special 30th NC Infantry flag conservation event
Dec. 10	Betty Vaughn	Holiday party (venue TBD)



The Knapsack

is the official newsletter of the RCWRT and is published on the 1st of each month.

(September 2018 Circulation: 387)

Staff

Bob Graesser, Editor

Contributors

Griff Bartlett
Charlie Knight

Readers are encouraged to submit photos, events, & articles for publication to **Bob Graesser, Editor**
(bob.graesser@gmail.com; 919-244-9041)

Financial Year-End Membership Report

General Fund	
Balance as of Sept. 1, 2017	\$3,065
Receipts	
Dues	\$2,300
Other receipts (Raffle, Nametags, Donations, etc)	\$1,204
Disbursements	
Speaker/Program Expenses	-\$1,194
Rent	-\$1,350
Web Site	-\$ 260
Other Expenses	-\$ 11
Balance as of Aug. 31, 2018	\$3,754

RCWRT Board of Directors (2018-2020)

Name	Position	Phone #	Email Address
Ted Kunstling	President	919-787-5282	trkunstling@aol.com
Adam Medlin	Vice President	919-478-5643	h46thnc@gmail.com
Griff Bartlett	Sec.-Treas.	919-848-6562	griffb@yahoo.com
Jack Milani	Trip Coord.	919-848-3670	1huntmstr@gmail.com
Pattie Smith	Prog. Chair	252-450-5040	rvpls00@yahoo.com
Bob Graesser	Knapsack Ed./ Webmaster	919-244-9041	bob.graesser@gmail.com
John Wood	Member	919-802-7996	john3wood@gmail.com
Frank Gordon	Member	919-847-0716	figordon@yahoo.com
Beverly Thomas	Member	919-859-4474	bhthomas@nc.rr.com

Paying Memberships / Total Members: 128 / 201

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.raleighcwr.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** of each year.

NC 30th Regimental Flag Restoration Fund *	
Balance as of Sept. 1, 2017	\$1,672
Contributions	\$1,901
Donations to NC History Museum for Flag Restoration	-\$1,500
Expenses	-\$ 513
Balance as of Aug. 31, 2018	\$1,560

* Formerly called the DVD/Tour Fund

T H I S P A G E I N T E N T I O N A L L Y B L A N K