



## MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

### LCWRT MEMBERS

Attached is the August 2015 edition of the *Minié Ball Gazette*. In it you will find:

1. A message from the President — Robert Waite
2. Information regarding the September Meeting — Wed., Sept. 9, 2015.  
“Ice Cream Social - All You Can Eat for \$3.
3. “Women and the War 1861 to 1865” present by The Sun City Community Theater women. Quilt exhibit by the Palmetto Quilt Guild.
4. “Courageous Women Passing as Men in the Civil War.
5. **The 2015-2016 Lecture Series** with fantastic programs and tours.  
(Mark your calendars!)
6. New/Renewal Membership Form for the LCWRT  
Please pay dues prior to the meeting to avoid a long line. Don’t forget your badges!
7. Poster for the **Battle of Port Royal Sound Cruise** with guides Dr. Stephen Wise and Michael Cocker on Nov. 13, 2015, leaving from Shelter Cove.
8. Executive Committee & Committee Chairpersons

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me. Have a safe and happy fall. Don’t forget to bring a friend with you for the September program! Guests — \$10.

Hope to see you there!

*Caroline Wallace Kennedy*

Communications Chairman

Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Inc.

## A Message from the President

You may have noticed a new vitality in our club. I am pleased with what your leadership is planning, undertaking and completing. We recently had a successful event in Sun City at Magnolia Hall. Jack Rabbitt's presentation was outstanding. It provided our members a bonus program, and we attracted many nonmembers. The community benefitted, and we received a great deal of publicity. **We need volunteers!** To continue our excellent programs we need you! If you can give the club one day a month or one day a year, let us know. We'll find a place for you.

Recently, our logo was discussed. The use of the "Battle Flag" of Northern Virginia came under scrutiny as a result of the mass shooting in Charleston and the subsequent call for the removal of the flag from the Capitol building in Columbia. Our logo will display the first Confederate flag, "the Stars and Bars." The square "Battle Flag" has been co-opted by minority groups that we do not wish to be associated. As a club dedicated to understanding and studying the Civil War without prejudice, we will stand by our logo with "Old Glory" and the "Stars and Bars." We will also honor the "Battle Flag" for what it represents, the valor, suffering and death of an estimated 620,000 casualties — North and South. (For more information Google "The Right Way to Remember the Confederacy," by William C. Davis, former executive director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech. The article appeared in the weekend edition of the *Wall Street Journal*. Davis will speak to the LCWRT on Feb. 10, 2016 - "Reluctant Hero: Lee's Last Years.")

The incredibly high quality of our first scholarship winner Marrcel Smith has prompted us to expand the program this year. Marrcel has become a close friend of the club and several of our members are following his progress at Clemson University. We would like to thank LCWRT members Anne and William Cubley for their generous donation toward the scholarship fund! Please consider contributing. Look for details about our 2016 scholarship coming soon.

Finally, we are excited about our September program. We're having an "All You Can Eat for \$3 Ice Cream Social." Please register your attendance and prepay \$3. per person for the ice cream so we can have a headcount. (See form attached.) The Sun City Community Theater women will present "Women and the War 1861 to 1865" in period costume. The Palmetto Quilt Guild Outreach Committee will display heirloom quilts - some from the Civil War.

On Oct. 14, Dr. Mary A. DeCredico Professor of History at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. will present "Myths and Realities of Reconstruction." Dr. DeCredico has taught at the Naval Academy since 1986. She is currently researching the Richmond, Va., home front during the Civil War.

We have a dynamite program planned for Nov. 11-12-13. Check the poster attached to the *Minié Ball Gazette*.

Respectfully yours,

*Robert Waite*

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### Civil War Quote

"A rich man's war and a poor man's fight . . ." - *The Civil War* by Shelby Foot, American Historian & Novelist

**We're Throwing an Ice Cream Social Celebration  
to Welcome our 2015-2016 LCWRT Season  
and Say Goodbye to Summer!**

“It's amazing how quickly you recover from misery when someone offers you ice cream.”

– Neil Simon, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*

Ice cream socials are a traditional gathering dating back to the eighteenth century in America. Churches and organizations frequently organized them. They can be the sole reason or just a fun way to serve dessert! Jack Frost Ice Cream will provide the “All You Can Eat Ice Cream.” **Reservations required by September 1, 2015!**

Where: Bluffton High School

When: Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2015 – 5:45 p.m.

The Palmetto Quilt Guild Exhibit – 5:45 p.m.

Program: 6:45 p.m. (*Women at War 1861-1865*)

**Let's be kids again for only \$3 per person.**

**Join us for our sweet, decadent bash. They'll be gracious plenty!**

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(Cut along line and include with cash or check.)

**Reservations for Ice Cream Social**

**Required by September 1, 2015.**

**Names:**

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**Number in Party:**

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**\$3. Cash or Check made payable to LCWRT, Inc.-**

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**Mail to or Place in Lower Box of Sandi & Ken Schroeder, 23 Camilla Pink Circle, Bluffton, SC 29909 - tel: 843.705.9779**

## **Sun City Community Theatre - *"Women and the War: 1861 – 1865"***

Wars are most frequently viewed through the eyes of men. Often overlooked in the greatest of human dramas are the roles of the woman. Immediately following the Civil War and continuing to the present, day, many diaries, journals and memoirs of both Northern and Southern women have been published. Some were written with the goal of publication in mind while others were meant to serve as a record to be shared with family. Some writers had to be persuaded by family and friends to preserve their writings. All of the words in this dramatic one-act piece were derived from the diaries of 20 Northern and Southern women. They portray events of the Civil War and the impact of those events on the lives of these women. (Our thanks to Playwright, Bobby Funk, Consultant, Darcy Martin, and Director, Jan Fierick.)

### **The Palmetto Quilt Guild**

The Palmetto Quilt Guild has over 150 members. Some of the members have quilts made during the Civil War. Other have quilts using replica fabrics in patterns of that period. They like to share their passion for history by displaying their quilts, believing it brings history to life. Their representatives will talk about how the women quilted, and how quilts were used, and I share their Civil War stories.

Julie Rittmeyer has an antique "Crazy Quilt" bought at auction in N.Y. A miniature "Flying Geese Quilt," is a copy of one in the Margaret Strong Museum, Rochester, N.Y. that was possibly a signal quilt used in the Underground Railroad. The quilt was a signal to follow the direction of the flying geese as they migrated north in the spring. The quilt would have been used as a guide for water, food and places to rest

"Gullah/Geechee Slave Quilts" used designs brought from West Africa such as the "Box Pattern Quilt" used on horse armour. The "Red Bird Quilt" held religious significance, and the "Scissors Quilt" was used during childbirth to ease the pain of labour. The "Mourning Quilt" was used on beds for one or two years when a loved one was lost during the War. Quilts could offer some small comfort in the times of grief. The black and grey colors were displayed for one year with tan and browns used the second and third years. With so many men lost, nearly every family was in mourning. There will be a legendary sampler "Dear Jane Quilt" comprising 169 five-inch square blocks, an "ERA Quilt," a "Christmas Quilt," and a patriotic "13 Star Flag Quilt" commemorating the original 13 Colonies. There are two rare quilts. Eileen Joyce, the great granddaughter of Private Michael Ryan, who was in the D-Day (Invasion of Normandy), will display a WWII memorial quilt with information regarding the life of Pvt. Ryan. Pam Rubinos has a quilt passed down from Jean Winchester Hart. Hart's grandfather, John Winchester, a U.S. Merchant Marine, quilted as a hobby.

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### **More Civil War Quotes**

"We'll fight them, sir, 'til Hell freezes over, and then, sir, we will fight them on the ice." - The Civil War by Shelby Foote

"My failures have been errors in judgment, not of intent." - Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant

"The patriot volunteer, fighting for country and his rights, makes the most reliable soldier on earth" -

Confederate Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson

## Courageous Women Passing as Men in the Civil War

*"I am as independent as a hog on the ice."* - Pvt. Wakeman aka Sarah Rosetta  
by Caroline Wallace Kennedy

**Mollie Bean\*** from North Carolina masqueraded as a man joining the 47th North Carolina, a unit of the Confederate army. She was captured in uniform by Union forces outside Richmond, Va., on the night of Feb. 17, 1865. According to *North Carolina Troops 1861-1865 – a Roster, vol XI*, she may have fought at the Battle of Gettysburg. (\*Mollie Bean's true identity remains unknown.) The *Richmond Whig*, Feb. 20, 1865, published this report. *"A young woman, dressed in military uniform, was arrested somewhere up the Danville Railroad and sent to this city, charged with being a suspicious character. On examination of the provost marshal's office it appeared that her name was Mollie Bean, and that she had been serving in the 47th North Carolina Regiment forever two years, during which time she had been twice wounded. She was sent to Castle Thunder (Richmond's wartime prison), that common receptacle of the guilty, the suspected, and the unfortunate. This poor creature is, from her record, manifestly crazy. It will not, we presume, be pretended that she had served so long in the army without her sex being discovered."*

**Elizabeth "Lizzie" Compton**, a fourteen-year-old Canadian, served in the 11th Kentucky Cavalry in 1863, the 125th Michigan Cavalry, and six other regiments. She became known as "Jack" or "Johnny," and was wounded by shrapnel to her side while fighting in Greenbrier, Tenn. When doctors at a hospital in Lebanon, Ky. peeled away her blue uniform, she was discovered to be a woman and discharged from the service. She reenlisted in and was found in six more regiments, serving a total of 18 months in the Union army.

**Mary and Mollie Bell**, two young farm cousins who fought for the Confederacy as Pvts. Bob Martin and Tom Parker. They enlisted in a cavalry regiment under the command of Confederate Gen. Jubal Early. Serving for two years, they earned the respect of the other soldiers for their bravery. A regimental historian of the 36th Virginia reports that while on picket duty, "Martin" killed three Yankees and was promoted to Corporal. "Parker" had been promoted to Sergeant. At Belle Grove, The Battle of Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1864, their captain (in whom they had confided) was captured. When they told the lieutenant who took command, he turned them into Gen. Early. Early admitted there were at least six other women in his army. Early put them on a train to Richmond where they were incarcerated for three weeks in Castle Thunder Prison falsely accused of being prostitutes. In late Nov. 1864, they were released with no charges and sent home to Pulaski County, Va. in the same uniforms they wore when arrested. The *Richmond Daily Examiner* reported: "... sending home the petticoat soldiers."

**Sarah Bradbury and Ella Reno.** Bradbury enlisted in the 7th Illinois Cavalry as "Frank Morton." She served in several regiments, joining the 2nd Kentucky Cavalry as an orderly in Gen. Philip Sheridan's escort. She became acquainted with **Ella Reno**, who was serving as a teamster. The two got drunk on apple cider while on a foraging expedition in Kentucky and fell in the river. After their rescuers had discovered they were women, they were called before Sheridan. Writing in his memoirs, Sheridan mentioned them as "she dragoons." He wrote: "The East Tennessee woman (the teamster) was found in camp, somewhat the worst for the experiences of the day before, but awaiting her fate, contentedly smoking a cob pipe. The Cavalry soldier proved to be a rather prepossessing young woman. How the two got acquainted, I never learned, and though they had joined the army independently of each other, yet an intimacy had sprung up between them long before the mishaps of the foraging expedition."

## The 2015-2016 Lecture Series

**September 9 - Ice Cream Social at 5:45 p.m. Program at 6:45 p.m.**

Sun City Community Theatre; Women at War 1861-1865

**October 14 - 6:45 p.m.** - Dr. Mary DeCredico; History Department of the U. S. Naval Academy;

Myths and Realities of Reconstruction

**November 11 - 6:45 p.m.** - Michael D. Coker, author; Operations Asst. Old Exchange & Provost Dungeon in Charleston; The Battle of Port Royal - 1861 (Bus tour on Thursday & boat cruise on Friday)

**January 13 - 6:45 p.m.** - Dr. James "Bud" Robertson, Jr.; Virginia Tech;

After the Civil War; The Heroes, Villains, Soldiers & Civilians Who Changed America

**February 10 - 6:45 p.m.** - Jack Davis; Virginia Tech; Reluctant Hero: Lee's Last Years

**March 9 - 6:45 p.m.** - Ed Bearss; Chief Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service; Vicksburg

**April 13 - 6:45 p.m.** - Barry Sheey; Urban Slavery in Savannah (With a tour on Thursday)

**May 11 - 6:45 p.m.** - John White; Park Ranger Rivers' Bridge Historic Site; The Battle of Rivers' Bridge

(Tour on Thursday.)

**NOTE: There is a \$10 Guest/Nonmember fee for any individual lecture. Students and teachers with ID are free free.**

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### **Women Were Urged to Dress Down for the Cause.**

*Despite an array of "Dresses to sit in, and stand in, and walk in / Dresses to dance in, and flirt in, and talk in" poor Miss Flora McFlimsey had "nothing to wear."*

- "Nothing to Wear" 1857 satirical poem by William Allen Butler

On June 4, 1861, the *Staunton Spectator*, in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, asked readers to forego frippery for the duration. The paper called on well-heeled locals who might be tempted by the fine silks shown in *Godey's Lady's Book* – the most widely read women's magazine of the day – to lead by example.

"Economy is a commendable virtue at any time, but it now becomes a patriotic duty. The people should now economize as much as possible, that they may have more means to contribute to the defense of the State, and to the comfort and necessities of our soldiers. The Revolution in which we are now engaged will demand heavy sacrifices, and we should prepare ourselves as well as possible to bear them. No money should now be expended for luxuries or mere display. We should now confine our purchases to the necessities of life, and to such articles are of positive utility . . . The ladies should be willing to forego the pleasure of appearing in costly silks, and high-priced bonnets. The fashion should now be to wear cheap and durable apparel. . . . Who will set the example? What lady will lead in this laudable enterprise? The ladies of Staunton have as good a right to 'set the fashions' as the less worthy ladies of Paris have. - Patriotism now demands it." - cwk

# LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, INC.

## NEW/RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 to AUGUST 31, 2016**

Please **Print** All Information Below

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Badge Nickname

\_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Household Member Last Name First Name Badge Nickname

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

(We will keep this confidential!) Referred by

**Please check YES & help us save money! I want my monthly newsletter E-MAILED to me YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_**

### **New Enlistment:**

Single: One-Time Initiation Fee \$25.00 + Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2016): \$30.00 = \$55.00

Household: One-Time Initiation Fee \$35.00 + Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2016): \$45.00 = \$80.00

### **Reenlistment - - Previous Members Only:**

Single: Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2016): \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Household: Annual Membership (to Aug 31, 2016): \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_

We always need/solicit volunteers to continue making the LCWRT successful.

### **Please check the area(s) for which you are volunteering:**

\_\_\_\_ Program Committee: select topics & speakers \_\_\_\_ Assist in Production of the *Minie Ball Gazette*

\_\_\_\_ Assist on Program Night (Greeter, Collect Tickets or Guest Fees, Tally Program Attendance)

\_\_\_\_ Historian \_\_\_\_ Maintain Membership Roster \_\_\_\_ Work at Sun City Club Fair

\_\_\_\_ Web Site Maintenance

Mail to or leave in "lower" box: **David McColloch, 42 Concession Oak Drive, Bluffton, SC 29909**

Make Check Payable to: **LCWRT Inc.** Any questions, please call **Dave McColloch** at **843-705-3060**



# Lowcountry Civil War Round Table

The Battle of Port Royal from the  
Naval perspective:

A Cruise to Fort Walker

Guided by  
Dr. Stephen Wise and Michael Coker

aboard the "Holiday"



November 13, 2015

Departing from: Shelter Cove

Time: 9:30 a.m. Cost: \$30 pp

Call 843-473-4388 or Email [lcwrtsc@gmail.com](mailto:lcwrtsc@gmail.com)  
Leave your name, address and phone number  
we will reply.

Water provided. Bring your own lunch.



# Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Inc.

## 2015-2016 Executive Committee

### Officers

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Robert Waite 12 Shooting Star Circle Bluffton, SC 29909	843-705-0895 <a href="mailto:waiteinsurance123@gmail.com">waiteinsurance123@gmail.com</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Gary Welsh 206 Benjamin Seabrook Court Bluffton, SC 29909	843-705-6852 <a href="mailto:gbw206@sc.rr.com">gbw206@sc.rr.com</a>
<b>TREASURER</b>	Jeff Rugg 484 B.B. Sams Road Dataw Island, SC 29920	843-838-9713 <a href="mailto:rugg1943@gmail.com">rugg1943@gmail.com</a>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Michael Sweeney 318 Shearwater Pointe Drive Bluffton, SC 29909	843-707-7275 <a href="mailto:msweeney@sc.rr.com">msweeney@sc.rr.com</a>
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	Joe Roney 1502 Gleason's Landing Court Dataw Island, SC 29920	843-838-4972 <a href="mailto:jvriersey@gmail.com">jvriersey@gmail.com</a>

### Committee Chairpersons

<b>Communications</b>	Caroline Kennedy 8 Rose Bush Lane Bluffton, SC 29909 John Foster 204 Benjamin Seabrook Court Bluffton, SC 29909	843-705-5654 <a href="mailto:cwkenned@aol.com">cwkenned@aol.com</a> 843-705-6444 <a href="mailto:jfoster20@sc.rr.com">jfoster20@sc.rr.com</a>
<b>Hospitality</b>	Sandi & Ken Schroeder 23 Camilia Pink Circle Bluffton, SC 29909	843-705-9779 <a href="mailto:sanindex@schroederindexing.com">sanindex@schroederindexing.com</a> <a href="mailto:kens242@yahoo.com">kens242@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Membership</b>	David McColloch 42 Concession Oak Drive Bluffton, SC 29909	843-705-3060 <a href="mailto:mccollochd@hargray.com">mccollochd@hargray.com</a>
<b>Programs</b>	John Kemp 319 Shearwater Pointe Drive Bluffton, SC 29909	201-845-4178 <a href="mailto:Norwich68@gmail.com">Norwich68@gmail.com</a>

## **MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE**

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The Lowcountry Civil War Round Table, Inc.

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Founded in 2000 and dedicated to Civil War history,  
education and battlefield preservation.

### **A Not-for-Profit, Charitable Organization**

As qualified under section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code

**NOTE:** The website address for the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table (LCWRT) is:  
**[www.lcwrt.squarespace.com](http://www.lcwrt.squarespace.com)** and it can be used to get current and historical LCWRT information.