



LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

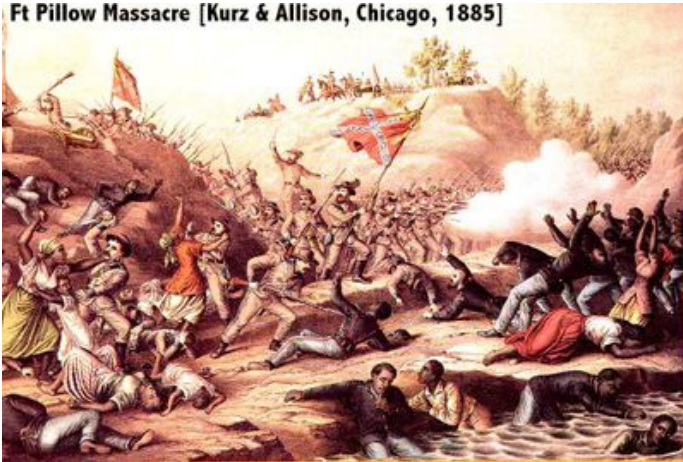
April 2007 Issue 63

Fort Pillow

Presented by Brian Steele Wills

What really happened at Fort Pillow. Situated on a high bluff on the eastern bank of the Mississippi river about forty river miles above Memphis, TN, it became part of a chain of Federal garrisons. In April 1864 it was manned by 295 white Tennessee troops and 262 U.S. Colored Troops when Nathan Bedford Forrest, the famous (or infamous) Confederate cavalryman, attacked and the fort surrendered.

Ft Pillow Massacre [Kurz & Allison, Chicago, 1885]



1885 COLOR POSTER OF THE "FORT PILLOW MASSACRE"

Casualties were high and only sixty-two of the U.S. Colored Troops survived the fight. The Confederates were accused of massacre, a controversy that continues today. Fort Pillow became the subject of a Federal joint Congressional investigation. Was it a massacre, revenge or "war as an act of violence pushed to its utmost bounds"?

Fort Pillow, 40 miles north of Memphis, was built by Brigadier General Gideon Johnson Pillow in early 1862 and was used by both sides during the war. With the fall of New Madrid and Island No. 10 to Union forces, Confederate troops evacuated Fort Pillow on June 4, 1862, in order not to be cut off from the rest of the Confederate Army. Union forces occupied Fort Pillow on June 6, 1862, and used it to protect the river approach to Memphis.

On March 16, 1864, Forrest launched a month-long cavalry raid with 7,000 troopers into western Tennessee and Kentucky. Their objectives were to capture Union prisoners and supplies and to demolish posts and fortifications from Paducah, Kentucky, south to Mem-

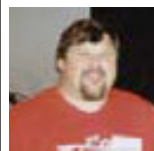
phis

The Union garrison at Fort Pillow consisted of about 600 men, divided almost evenly between black and white troops. The black soldiers belonged to the 2nd U.S. Colored Light Artillery and the 6th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery, under the overall command of Major Lionel F. Booth. Many were former slaves. The white soldiers were predominantly new recruits from the 14th Tennessee Cavalry, a Federal regiment from western Tennessee, commanded by Maj. William F. Bradford.

As the battle started, Major Booth was killed by a sharpshooter's bullet and Bradford assumed command. The Confederates had captured two rows of barracks about 150 yards from the southern end of

(Continued on page 4 **PILLOW**)

Biography of Brian Steele Wills



Brian Steel Wills was raised in Suffolk County, Virginia. His interest in American history began early with a love for reading books about great American figures such as George Washington and Robert E. Lee. He graduated from the University of Richmond, after which he earned an M.A. and PhD. from the University of Georgia. He is a former professor of history at Georgia Southern University and is currently associate professor of history and chair of the department of history and philosophy at the University of Virginia-Wise. Wills' reputation as a popular and dynamic speaker was recently reinforced when he was recognized with an Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the commonwealth's highest honor for professors at Virginia's public and private colleges and universities.

Wills' publications include **The Confederacy's Greatest Cavalryman: Nathan Bedford Forrest** and **The War Hits Home**.

Lowcountry Civil War Round Table

AS I SEE IT by Paul Bucklin, President

Many members attend classes of a historical nature here in the Lowcountry and some visit other Roundtables and listen to some outstanding presenters. I receive many suggestions from members about potential good program subjects and speakers of high quality who could provide future programs for our Roundtable. I pass this information on to our Program Committee.



I feel it is important that our membership understand how our programming is determined and how we go about securing our speakers. First, you must understand that our Program Committee decided in the very beginning (2000) that we would

start with the first year (1861) and work our way through the War until it's conclusion in 1865. We are now this program year completing 1863 and most of next year's programs will be time lined in 1864. Our committee has already tied down many of the speakers for the '07-'08 program year and they are now constructing the '08-'09 program topics.

We, as you know, have tried to put together program years that feature a combination of battles, generals, interesting personalities, professional actors who have impersonated President Lincoln and Mary Chestnut, battle group reenactors like the 54th Massachusetts USCT, and special interest topics such as music, heroines, prisons, chaplains, medicine, journalism, plantation life, etc.. The make -up of our Roundtable is quite different from most others because our membership is about 40% women and 60% men. Our programs try to present a balance that is interesting for all.

Once a program subject is selected and the person best qualified to present it is determined, then a member of the Program Committee is assigned to be the "Coordinator" to produce that program. That means contacting the speaker and securing their willingness to be with us, coordinating the date, confirming the subject, sharing information about our audience and the venue where the presentation takes place, arranging for travel and over-night accommodations or possibly hosting the speaker, reimbursing each for their travel and determining the Civil War charity to be the recipient of their time with us. Lastly our "coordinator" introduces the speaker at our Roundtable.

Our Program Committee is very ably chaired this year by Chris Clayton. Members are Paul Ricker, Bob Zabawa, Kirk Schleifer, Bob Williams, Past Presidents Bob Eberly and Johanna Verwer, Judge Bill Bodoh, John Monkaitis and Steve Mohn. Any one of them would welcome any input you feel would be helpful. They meet monthly one week before each roundtable and contribute substantially to what this Roundtable is today. We all owe them much praise and many thanks.

Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Inc.

The Minie Ball Gazette

P.O. Box 2252
Bluffton, SC 29910

WWW.LOWCOUNTRYCWR.T.ORG

***Dedicated to Historic Preservation
and Enlightenment***

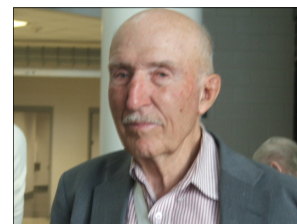
Editors: Mitch & Marian Sackson

The Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Inc. is a not-for-profit, charitable organization as qualified under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code

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Hospitality	Margret & Don Hubsch	705-7786

Near Capacity Audience Heard Edwin Bearss on March 14, 2007



**Please return the Dinner Reservation
Form as soon as possible, but no later
then *April 5th 2007***

The 2006-2007 Lecture Series

Sept 13 2006 Chancellorsville. Mac Wyckoff will explore Chancellorsville, a bloody affair that best portrayed Robert E. Lee's confidence, determination, tactical courage and military genius. It was a battlefield triumph for the South and a personal tragedy for Lee with the loss of his "right arm" General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. Mr. Wyckoff will bring this battle to life as seen through the eyes of the major personalities locked in combat May 1-3, 1863, Chancellorsville, Virginia.

Oct 11 2006. Gettysburg. Rev. Jeff Miller will examine Gettysburg, the strategies of Lee and Meade, and the aftermath of the Confederate loss. The three days of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863 are called by some the turning point of the Civil War or the "high tide" of the Confederacy. General Lee marched into Pennsylvania expecting to win his third major battle in six months; but now he entered the enemy's country and the outcome was quite different. From the gallantry of Pickett's charge to the bravery on Little Round Top, Gettysburg has become the symbol of the War Between the States.

Nov 8 2006 The Western Theater. Richard McMurry will talk on the Western battles: Forts Donnellson and Henry, Shiloh Church, Vicksburg, Chickamauga and many others in what is referred to as the trans-Mississippi region. These battles have until recently been relegated to a position of less importance than the battles in the Eastern states, yet they represented, for the Union, the most significant victories. What was the Unions strategy and why were they more successful?

Jan 10 2007 Jefferson Davis and his generals. Jack Davis is a renown historian of the Civil War. His talk will concern Jefferson Davis' relationship with his generals, specifically Gen Johnston, Beauregard and Bragg.

Feb 14 2007 Role of 'Colored' Troops. This presentation will depart from our usual format and present a living history when the Charleston Re-enactors Group becomes the 54th Massachusetts and portrays their role in the battle of Battery Wagner. We will discuss the events that led to the formation of the so called "Colored Troops" and their role in the Civil War. Also, we will show the uniforms and customs of this regiment and discuss details of the battle.

Mar 14 2007 Chickamauga & Chattanooga. Ed Bearss will return to examine the battles of this region of Tennessee, including Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. The name Chickamauga was an old Cherokee word meaning river of death and it lived up to its name as each side lost nearly a third of its men. Chickamauga was a Union disaster. As September 1863 ended the federals held Chattanooga but were on the verge of surrender. The Union was galvanized by the potential destruction of the Army of the Cumberland and dispatched large numbers of troops quickly by rail from the Eastern Theatre.

Apr 11 2007 Fort Pillow. Brian Steel Wills will tell us what really happened at Fort Pillow. Situated on a high bluff on the eastern bank of the Mississippi river about forty river miles above Memphis, TN, it became part of a chain of Federal garrisons. In April 1864 it was manned by 295 white Tennessee troops and 262 U.S. Colored Troops when Nathan Bedford Forrest, the famous (or infamous) Confederate cavalryman, attacked and the fort surrendered. Casualties were high and only sixty-two of the U.S. Colored Troops survived the fight. The Confederates were accused of massacre, a controversy that continues today. Fort Pillow became the subject of a Federal joint Congressional investigation. Was it a massacre, revenge or "war as an act of violence pushed to its utmost bounds"?

May 9 2007 Mobile Bay. Craig Symonds is back with us to elaborate on the added significance of Rear-Admiral Farragut's naval victory at Mobile Bay in light of Sherman's victory in Atlanta. Farragut, aloft in the rigging of his flag ship Hartford, directed the battle as his ships outmaneuvered the feared rebel iron clad, Tennessee, so that she struck no blow but went to the bottom under federal gunfire. The capture of Mobile Bay left only Wilmington, North Carolina as the only open port for blockade runners in the closing days of the war.

Lowcountry Civil War Round Table

(PILLOW Continued from page 1)

the fort. The Union soldiers had failed to destroy these buildings before the Confederates occupied them and subjected the garrison to a murderous fire. Forrest sent a note demanding surrender: "I now demand unconditional surrender of your forces, at the same time assuring you that you will be treated as prisoners of war. Bradford's final reply was, "I will not surrender." Forrest ordered his bugler to sound the charge.

The Confederate assault was furious. While the sharpshooters maintained their fire into the fort all proceeded with very little firing, except from the sharpshooters and around the flanks. Their fire against the *New Era* caused the sailors to button up their gun ports and hold their fire. As the sharpshooters were signaled to hold their fire, the men on the ledge went up and over an embankment, firing now for the first time into the massed defenders, who fought briefly, but then broke rearward for a race to the landing at the foot of a bluff, where they had been told that the Union gunboat would cover their withdrawal by firing grape and canister. The gunboat did not fire a single shot because its gun ports were sealed, and there probably would have been more Union casualties than Confederate if they had fired. The fleeing soldiers were subjected to fire both from the rear and from the flank, from the sol-



MASSACRE OF FEDERAL TROOPS AT FORT PILLOW, APRIL 12TH, 1864.

diers who had been firing at the gunboat. Many were shot down. Others reached the river only to drown or be picked off in the water by marksmen on the bluff.

Conflicting reports of what happened next led to the controversy. Union sources claimed that even though the Union troops surrendered, Forrest's men massacred them in cold blood. Surviving members of the garrison said that most of their men surrendered and threw down their arms, only to be shot or bayoneted by the attackers, who repeatedly shouted, "No quarter! No quarter!" Several accounts support the charge of massacre. The Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War investigated the incident and concluded that the Confederates shot most of the garrison after it had surrendered.

On the other hand, Forrest's men insisted that the Federals, although fleeing, kept their weapons and frequently turned to shoot, forcing the Confederates to keep firing in self defense. The Union flag was still

flying over the fort, which indicated that the force had not formally surrendered. A contemporary newspaper account from Jackson, Tennessee, states that *General Forrest begged them to surrender but not the first sign of surrender was ever given*. Similar accounts were reported in many Southern newspapers at the time. The Confederates evacuated Fort Pillow that evening, so they gained little except a temporary disruption of Union operations. The *Fort Pillow Massacre* was thereafter used as a Union rallying cry and cemented resolve to see the war through to its end.

In the aftermath of Fort Pillow, Abraham Lincoln demanded that Confederates treat captured black Union soldiers as prisoners of war, even if they happened to be runaway slaves. This demand was refused, and as a result the exchanges of prisoners that had gone on during the war came to a halt. From Wikipedia

The "Battle of the Bands", Civil War Style



During the winter of 1862-1863, Union and Confederate armies were camped near each other at Fredericksburg, Virginia, separated only by the expanse of the Rappahannock River. One cold afternoon, a band in the Union camp struck up some patriotic

tunes to cheer the men. They were answered from across the river by a Confederate band. The Union band played another tune followed by the Confederates who also did their best to play the same song. Back and forth the musical duel went well into the evening hours. Soldiers in both armies listened to the musical battle and would cheer for their own bands. The duel finally ended when both bands struck up the tune of "Home, Sweet Home". It was then that the men of both sides who were so far from their homes, cheered as one.

Robert E. Lee once remarked that without music, there would have been no army. Certainly, music was a large part of life during the War Between the States, both in the camps and at home. Not only was it a major source of entertainment, it was also a way to give voice to feelings that words alone often could not express.

In his excellent volume on the Lower Peninsula campaign of 1862, *To the Gates of Richmond*, historian Stephen Sears cites an incident that occurred during the Battle of Williamsburg:

[Federal] Corps commander [Samuel] Heintzelman joined the desperate struggle to close the broken ranks. He hit on the novel idea of rallying them with music. Finding several regimental bands standing by bewildered as the battle closed in, Heintzelman ordered them to take up their instruments. "Play! Play! It's all you're good for," he shouted. "Play, damn it! Play some marching tune! Play *Yankee Doodle*, or any doodle you can think of, only play something!" Before long, over the roar of the guns, came the incongruous

(Continued on page 6 **BATTLE**)

The Confederate Home Guard

by Donald Sensing, Editor of the site OneHandClapping.com 1/17/04 [edited]

I never read the book *Cold Mountain*, so [when I saw] the movie I did so with an uncluttered mind, knowing only that the story line was of a Confederate soldier who deserts to make a long trek home to his beloved. This man is named Inman, played by Jude Law. Nicole Kidman plays the heroine, Ada Monroe, who loves Inman and waits faithfully for him to return. The movie opens on July 30, 1864, with the Battle of the Crater at the Union siege of Petersburg, Va., which *Cold Mountain* accurately presents as an unmitigated disaster for the Union side. As a result of the battle, his own near-death experience from a nasty neck wound, and of Ada's letters explaining how difficult life is for her, Inman deserts to make his way back to Cold Mountain, NC, and Ada.



BATTLE OF THE CRATER

The dramatic conflict of the movie revolves around the heroine's antagonist, Marshall Teague. Teague heads the local Home Guard, a paramilitary outfit empowered by the state government to deal with Confederate army deserters and civilians who gave them aid, even their family members. Desertion was the huge prob-

lem, especially in 1864 and 1865. More than 13,000 North Carolina Confederate soldiers deserted during the war. The privations of the war on the home front put many soldiers' families in truly desperate circumstances. All in all, tens of thousands of Confederate soldiers deserted to care for their loved ones. (Many returned to their units, however, and were generally forgiven once they did.)

Teague and his small band of enforcers, chartered by the state, ruthlessly track down deserters. For selfish reasons, Teague leans hard on Ada. At one point Teague and his men saber to death a man in his own front yard for suspicion of harboring deserters. They torture his wife, expose the deserters and shoot them down on the spot. I am sort of a stickler for historical accuracy in movies that derive the context from history. I found the Home Guard portrayals very offensive. I had never read of such brutalities being done by during the war by Confederate states to their own people, and reacted to this part of the movie with scorn. This, I thought, was a fatal flaw of the story. While I had no doubt that Confederate authorities did try to capture deserters, I dismissed the idea that Home Guard "brown shirts" ever had the authority simply to shoot down deserters on the roadside or savage Southern civilian families. I discovered *Cold Mountain* is accurate. Consider:

Allen Lowery was born 1795 in Robeson County, NC. He died 9 Mar 1865 in Robeson County, NC from *Shot to Death by the Robeson County Home Guard* and was buried in Lowery family cemetery near Pembroke, NC. ... Allen and his son (William) was killed by the Robeson County Confederate Home Guard, because they where believed to have helped Union soldiers during the Civil War.

According to historian Milton Ready of the University

of North Carolina-Asheville, to help enforce conscription, find deserters and collect taxes, the "Guard for the Home Defense" was formed. The Home Guard, as it came to be known, is depicted in [*Cold Mountain*] as a sort of Confederate Gestapo ... "A lot of the people in the Home Guard belonged to extended families and a lot of the people who didn't want to pay or who harbored deserters were in different families," Ready says. "They used the Civil War to settle personal debts that went back years" and not just in North Carolina. In the northern Alabama hill country there remained strong pro-Union sentiment throughout the war. With the advent of Confederate conscription in 1862, the men there were subject to arrest by the Home Guard for not responding to the callus. Large numbers fled to the hills, leaving their families behind.

But the Home Guard persecuted the families. The family of John Phillips, for example, suffered severely. Phillips related,

"They commenced robbing my family of the support I had left for them; they drove off my cattle and took my horses and mules, also my corn. They event went so far as to pour what meal my family had out in the floor and fill the sacks with meat. They event took their cups, saucers and plates, not leaving anything for their sustenance." Such brutalities led many of the men to make their way to Union lines and enlist in the Union Army. One such man was named Henry Tucker, who rather foolishly decided when on leave from Union service to visit his family in Alabama.

Henry Tucker was arrested by the Home Guard at his home in Marion County and tortured to death. He was tied to a tree, castrated, his eyes removed and his tongue cut out before he was literally skinned alive. He is buried at Hopewell Cemetery, south of Glen Allen, Ala. But Tucker's vicious death was avenged. Home Guard leader Stoke Roberts, who personally directed the torture of Tucker, was eventually caught by a group of unionists near Winfield. They took a long iron spike and drove it through his mouth and out the back of his head and nailed him to the root of a big oak tree. Alabama men who remained hiding in the hills were tracked down and often killed on the spot. Joel Jackson Curtis was killed in 1862 for refusing to join the confederate army. George Washington Curtis, home on leave from the union army, was killed by the home guard in his yard while his wife and three children watched. Thomas Pink Curtis, the probate judge of Winston County, was arrested near Houston by Confederate authorities in 1864 and taken to a bluff on Clear Creek where he was summarily executed with two shots to his right eye.

This is a repellant aspect of Southern history that is underreported. I wish a competent historian would undertake a disciplined study of the Home Guard. Some historians estimate that 100,000 white Southerners served in the Union Army; with brutalities committed by the Home Guard against many of their families, it seems that the war was a civil war not merely between North and South, but just as much between Southerners.

More On Bands

President Lincoln, out of his busy schedule, paid particular attention to military bands. He called for 75,000 volunteers to serve three-month enlistments. Three weeks later, he realized that the shortages would continue and called for 40,000 three-year enlistees and 40 additional regiments to be recruited, organized, and equipped by the states.

The Federal government allowed the states to establish their own recruiting and organizational policies. Many volunteer regiments recruited bands. Civilian bands with such famous conductors as Patrick Gilmore (whose band served with the Massachusetts 24th Volunteer Regiment) volunteered their services to Union regiments. Band recruiting was so successful that, by the end of 1861, the Union Army had 618 bands and more than 28,000 musicians.

In response to a Congressional inquiry, the Paymaster General of the Army reported the following pay scales for musicians:

First-Class \$ 34.00 per month
Second-Class \$ 20.00 per month
Third-Class \$ 17.00 per month
Drum Major \$10.50 per month

The federal government assumed the cost of volunteer regiments during the Civil War. With the increase of the number of regiments, some members of Congress became cost conscious. The cost of maintaining bands for all regiments was a burden Congressmen did not want to bear. On January 31, 1862, Congress asked the Secretary of War, Simon Cameron, to evaluate the cost of each band and could bands be dispensed without injury to the public service.



The Secretary of War reported the average cost of maintaining artillery or cavalry band was \$9,161.30 and the cost of maintaining the larger infantry

band was \$13,139.40. It was also reported 26 of 30 Regular Army regiments and 213 of 465 volunteer regiments had bands. The War Department spent \$4,000,000.00 on bands with 618 bands in service, a ratio of one musician to every 41 soldiers. Congress concluded bands were too expensive and could be dispensed without injury to the service. During the inquiry, 50 Union bands staged a Sunday concert at the White House. This concert undoubtedly added fuel to the debate about the cost of regimental Bands.

On July 17, 1862, Congress passed Public Law 165. Public Law 165 abolished regimental bands in the volunteer army and provided for the mustering out of all musicians within 30 days of passage. Public law only applied to bands in the volunteer service and not to bands in the Regular Army. Congress replaced the

regimental bands with brigade bands (one band for every four regiments). Provisions were made allowing musicians in regimental bands to transfer to the brigade bands. The pay of the bandleader was reduced from \$105.50 a month to \$45.00 a month with the rank privileges of a quartermaster sergeant. Congress also reduced the authorized number of musicians in each band from 24 to 16. The Act reduced the number of bands to approximately 60 and the number of musicians to about 2500.

Militia units still remained under state control and were not affected by Congressional actions. Militia bands of 35 to 50 musicians were the rule, and the number of bands increased sharply as more militia units entered the war. The militia bands were far superior to the Federal bands. The majority of militia bands comprised of highly trained musicians augmented with some lesser-trained performers to fill out the sound of the band.

Although Congress established no standard band instrumentation, most bands used all brass.



Brass instruments withstood the rigors of the outdoors. Only the largest bands used woodwinds to complement the brasses.

Performing under fire became commonplace for bands under the command of General Philip H. Sheridan. Sheridan loved music and took a personal interest in his bands. This was shown in the equipment, mounts, and uniforms he accorded his bandsmen. To pay for these privileges, his bands performed at the front during battle playing the liveliest airs in their repertory.

At Dinwiddie Court House, Sheridan massed all his musicians on the firing line with the order to "play the gayest tunes in their books Play them loud and keep on playing them, and never mind if a bullet goes through a trombone, or even a trombonist, now and then." General Sheridan paid tribute to Army bands when he remarked, "Music has done its share, and more than its share, in winning this war."

(BATTLE Continued from page 4)

sound of *Yankee Doodle* and then *Three Cheers for the Red, White, and Blue*. One of [General Joseph] Hooker's men thought the music was worth a thousand men. "It saved the battle," he wrote.

Survivors of General George Pickett's disastrous charge at the Battle of Gettysburg (July 3, 1863) remembered in later years that Confederate regimental bands stationed in the trees played stirring martial airs as they started off across the mile-long field that separated them from George Meade's Army of the Potomac. Those same bands greeted them with *Nearer, My God, To Thee* as they streamed back to the safety of their own lines after being repulsed at the stone wall. From <http://www.civilwarpoetry.org/music/index.html>

The Dinner Menu for April 11 2007

Pot Roast & Vegetables, Baked Wild Alaskan Salmon, Bourbon Chicken

House Salad with Carrots, Cucumbers, Onions, Peppers, Tomatoes, Cheese and 7 Types of Dressing (Ranch, Blue Cheese, Italian, Thousand Island, Catalina, Honey Mustard, Caesar)

Steamed Carrots, Mash Potato, Okra & Stewed Tomatoes, Steamed Spinach, Dinner Yeast Rolls with Honey Butter

Mixed Fruit with Cantaloupe, Honeydew, Strawberries (if in season), Grapes, Watermelon-if possible

Mixed Cookies (Oatmeal Raisin, Chocolate chip, Peanut butter), Brownies, Coconut Macaroons, Lemon Bars

Sweet & Unsweetened Tea, Lemonade, Coffee

Served on Dinner Plates with Silverware and Glasses

Catered by **Golden Corral, Bluffton, SC**

(Note: Substitutions may need to be made)



Golden Corral Ready to Serve You

Dinner Reservations for April 11th Meeting At Bluffton High School

Social @ 5pm•Buffet @ 5:45•Meeting @ 6:45•Presentation @ 7:00

(NOTE: BUFFET TIME OF 5:45)

NO LATER THAN THURSDAY APRIL 5 2007

Note: There will be two (2) lines at the buffet. Do not go on line until your table is selected!!! This will eliminate the l o n g line & long wait. You may take a 2nd plate for salad. Violators will be given the choice of Andersonville or Elmira.

All Members are invited to the General Meeting. Reservations are required ONLY for DINNER.

Dinner Reservation For April 11 2007

NO LATER THAN THURSDAY APRIL 5 2007

Number of Dinners: ____ @ \$12 each = ____

Name 1: _____

Name 2: _____

Phone #: _____

Make Check Payable to: **LCWRT**
Inc. Mail Check with this Form to: →
Or place it in Jim's Lower Box

Jim Strohecker
125 Lake Somerset Circle
Bluffton, SC 29909

Guests: _____

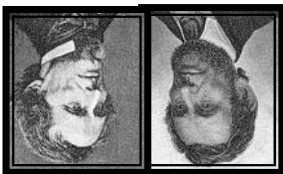
List Guests on additional paper if necessary

April 2007 Issue 63
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 Presented by
 Brian Steele Wills

CONFEDERATE HOME GUARD (FROM COLD MOUNTAIN)



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 The Minnie Ball Gazette
 P.O. Box 2252
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 WWW.LOWCOUNTRYCIVILWAR.ORG



Upcoming Re-enactments

Battle of Selma, Selma, AL, April 12-15, 2007
www.battleofselma.com/

20th Anniversary of the Battle of Selma. Authentic recreation of battle, with enforcement of period dress and accoutrements. Separate modern and period camp areas.

Battle of Eddyville Eddyville, KY, April 27-29, 2007
www.battleofeddyville.com

Welcome Home Cobb's Battery Civil War encampment and reenactment of the last documented skirmish of the American Civil War in Kentucky. Ladies Tea & Fashion show and other events.

2nd Annual Battle of Bean's Station Reenactment
 Rutledge, TN John Beckwith May 11-13, 2007
www.ritterfarms.com/battleindex.html Reenactment of Battle of Bean's Station & Strawberry Weekend at Ritter Farms. Living Museum (Demonstrations of Civil War Crafts - quilting, pottery, knife making, blacksmithing, tatting, etc). Fresh Grainger County Strawberries and Tomatoes. See our website for complete details

Battle of New Market Reenactment New Market, VA May 19-20, 2007 www.visitshenandoah.org/events/0507svta.html
 143rd anniversary reenactment of the Battle of New Market, made famous by the VMI Cadets' charge. Relive the events of the fateful day in May 1864 when young men clashed on the battlefields of New Market. See what it must have been like to face the thundering cannon, the earth-shaking hooves, and devastating tragedy that was the Civil War. This two-day experience includes living history at the Bushong Farm, church service, signal corps demonstration, and tactical battle reenactment. \$ fee

NEXT MONTH

May 9 2007 Mobile Bay. Craig Symonds is back with us to elaborate on the added significance of Rear-Admiral Farragut's naval victory at Mobile Bay in light of Sherman's victory in Atlanta. Farragut, aloft in the rigging of his flag ship Hartford, directed the battle as his ships outmaneuvered the feared rebel iron clad, Tennessee, so that she struck no blow but went to the bottom under federal gunfire. The capture of Mobile Bay left only Wilmington, North Carolina as the only open port for blockade runners in the closing days of the war.



We thank Palmetto Electric for their allowing the LCWRT usage of their meeting room for our *Morning After*.