



The Watch Fire

Newsletter of the North Carolina Civil War Tourism Council, Inc.

Chairman's/Editor's Note

This edition of the *Watch Fire* marks my last as Chairman of the NC Civil War Tourism Council. For the past two years, I have led this organization in what I hope has been a positive manner. However, over the past year it has become apparent to me that it is time for the Council (and me) to branch out in new directions. We are on the verge of creating some new and exciting programs for the Council that will benefit many people across the state. It will take new vision and new direction to make these programs successful, and that new vision and direction will come from our new Chairman, Jeff Bockert. Jeff is the Eastern Civil War Specialist for the NC Department of Cultural Resources and is based out of Goldsboro. The chairmanship of the Council fits in very nicely with Jeff's job and will not only further the interests of the Council, but further Jeff's work as well. To make the transition smoothly, I will be stepping back to take over the Vice Chairman's position for the next year, and will continue to be the Editor of the *Watch Fire*. The rest of the officer slate for 2006-07 will include Terri Stutts (Membership Chair), Jann Brown (Secretary), and Judy Newman (Treasurer). Jim McPherson, a long-time Board member, will step down this year, and Judy Newman plans to step down next year, following her retirement.

There will be a number of changes in the Council's leadership over the next two years, but it is change that I believe will make the Council stronger and better. The Council will benefit from a mixture of solid, established leadership and new, fresh ideas. I hope that all of you will continue to support the Council and its programs, because without you, our members, there is no Council. Thanks to everyone who has made my time as Chairman clear sailing. I hope that Jeff will receive the same amount of support as I have over the past two years.

Andrew Duppstadt
CSS Neuse State Historic Site
Chairman/Editor, NCCWTC

Civil War Trails Update from Executive Director Mitch Bowman

Since the first week of May three new sites in western North Carolina have been installed: the McElroy House in Burnsville (Yancey County), and the Carson House and Swannanoa Gap in McDowell County. Five new sites have been installed in Scotland County. Of particular interest is Laurel Hill Church, where there is a good bit of graffiti from Sherman's troops.

The North Carolina Civil War Trails are being promoted in the dual state Virginia/Maryland map guides. There are 1.5 million of those brochures scattered over 506 sites in those two states. The North Carolina statewide map-guide should go to press early in 2007.

Anyone with additional sites to include on the Civil War Trails should contact Mitch Bowman at hmb7@cox.net or (804) 783-7423 or Teresa Watts at twatts@nccommerce.com.



Mark Your Calendars! Dedication of Goldsboro Battlefield

Though still six months in the future, please mark your calendars for Sunday, December 17, 2006. At 2:00 p.m. that day, there will be a dedication ceremony held on the original 1862 Goldsboro battlefield. The day's activities will include reenactors and weapons demonstrations. Local historians and community leaders will be on hand to dedicate Civil War Trails markers and to interpret the site to the public. Everyone is encouraged to tour the new 32 acre park and pay homage to the brave men, both North and South, who fought and died on this site 144 years ago.

Directions: Traveling South on Highway 117, cross the Neuse River bridge and turn left at the light onto "Old Mount Olive Highway." The site is approximately 1/4 mile on the left (look for the Civil War Trails trailblazer sign). For more info contact betsyr@waynecountychamber.com, Randy.Sauls@rels.info, or Danny.Davis@BBandT.com.

Magnolias and Memories Southern Ball **To Be Held in Virginia Beach**

The Pickett-Buchanan Chapter 21 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy will present an 1860s Southern ball on Saturday, September 30 at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center, 2800 Shore Drive in Virginia Beach. Prepaid registration is required and cost is \$50 per person. Guests who wish to stay overnight can get a special rate of \$99 plus tax and can make reservations by calling (757) 481-9000 and mentioning the UDC rate for the room.

The purpose of the event is to raise money to complete the Confederate monument in Norfolk's Elmwood Cemetery. Period dress is requested of all participants. Vintage clothing costumes and accessories are available for rental at Echoes of Time, who can be contacted at (757) 428-2332.

Social hour will be from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. A cash bar will be available during the social hour. Buffet dinner will be from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., followed by two hours of dancing. A photographer will also be available for participants who wish to have a photo made. For information or to make reservations please contact Mrs. Roland Lewis at (757) 853-4663.



EVENTS CALENDAR

Editor's Note: Certainly this is but a partial listing of all that is going on at North Carolina's sites and within the various Civil War Roundtables. If you would like to have any of your site's or group's events or meetings published in this newsletter please send them in advance to Andrew Duppstadt at andrew.duppstadt@ncmail.net or PO Box 3043, Kinston, NC 28502. *The Watch Fire* is published quarterly so plan ahead!

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, July 4. Fort Macon State Park, Atlantic Beach. Artillery demonstrations. The Fort Macon Guards, a group of volunteer reenactors fire the fort's original 6-pounder in the parade ground of the fort. Demonstrations are done at 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, and 3:30. For more info contact Paul Branch at (252) 726-8908 or fort.macon@ncmail.net.

Saturday, August 5. Hammocks Beach State Park, Swansboro. Civil War Navy living history program. Members of the Ship's Company of the Roanoke will present a living history focusing on the activities of the Union Navy in Onslow County waters. Program will include musket demonstrations and various displays and/or presentations. For more information contact Andrew Duppstadt at andrew.duppstadt@ncmail.net or (252) 522-2091.

Saturday, August 12. Fort Macon State Park, Atlantic Beach. Artillery demonstrations. The Fort Macon Guards, a group of volunteer reenactors fire the fort's original 6-pounder in the parade ground of the fort. Demonstrations are done at 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, and 3:30. For more info contact Paul Branch at (252) 726-8908 or fort.macon@ncmail.net.

Saturday, August 19. Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site, Four Oaks. Summer seasonal living history program and artillery demonstrations. For more info contact John Rincon at (910) 594-0789 or email Bentonville@ncmail.net.

Saturday, September 2. Fort Macon State Park, Atlantic Beach. Artillery demonstrations. The Fort Macon Guards, a group of volunteer reenactors fire the fort's original 6-pounder in the parade ground of the fort. Demonstrations are done at 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, and 3:30. For more info contact Paul Branch at (252) 726-8908 or fort.macon@ncmail.net.

Sunday, September 10. Hammocks Beach State Park, Swansboro. Navy-through-the-Ages living history program. As part of the Park's Military Appreciation Day, members of the Ship's Company of the Roanoke will be on hand to provide displays and demonstrations portraying the US Navy and privateers in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War. For more information contact Andrew Duppstadt at andrew.duppstadt@ncmail.net or (252) 522-2091.

Sunday, September 17. Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex, Fayetteville. LIVE! at the Arsenal from 1:15 – 4:00 p.m. Guided tours of the Arsenal and a presentation on Civil War fashion. For info contact Rachel Hake at (910) 486-1330.

Saturday and Sunday, September 23-24. Waynesborough Historical Village, Goldsboro. 3rd Annual Battle of Goldsboro Bridge reenactment. This event will feature approximately 250 reenactors. The event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Danny Davis at Danny.Davis@BBandT.com, the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce via betsyr@waynecountychamber.com, or go to www.waynesboroughhistoricalvillage.com.

Saturday, October 7. Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site, Four Oaks. Fall civilian living history program will feature civilian reenactors portraying life on the home front during the Civil War. For more info contact John Rincon at (910) 594-0789 or email Bentonville@ncmail.net.

Saturday and Sunday, November 18-19. CSS *Neuse* State Historic Site, Kinston. Annual Navy/Marine/Artillery living history weekend. Program will feature navy and marine living history, artillery and small arms demonstrations, blacksmithing, and civilian activities. Includes an evening artillery demonstration after dark on Saturday. For info contact Andrew Duppstadt at (252) 522-2091 or andrew.duppstadt@ncmail.net.

Saturday, December 2. Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site, Four Oaks. Christmas Open House. For info contact John Rincon at (910) 594-0789 or Bentonville@ncmail.net.

Roundtable News

We will gladly print Civil War Roundtable schedules if we have the information far enough in advance. Please send your schedules to me at andrew.duppstadt@ncmail.net and the get the word out!

***Surry County CWRT** – The Surry County Civil War Roundtable meets the first Tuesday of every month from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Mount Airy Public Library on Rockford Street. Everyone is welcome to come for an informal discussion of topics related to the Civil War. For more information contact surrycountycwrt@yahoo.com or call John Cail at (336) 786-6942.

NO SCHEDULE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

***Civil War Roundtable of Eastern North Carolina** – The Civil War Roundtable of Eastern North Carolina meets the fourth Thursday of every month at Golden Corral, 209 Freedom Way (NC Hwy. 24), Jacksonville. Buffet supper begins at 6:00 p.m., followed by the meeting starting at 6:30. For further information call (910) 347-5287 or (910) 934-2642.

July 27 – David Norris will speak on Potter's 1863 Raid in Eastern North Carolina

August 24 – Horace Mewborn will speak on John S. Mosby's Leadership and Tactics

September 28 – TBA

October 26 – Dr. Donald Collins will speak on Charles Henry Foster

November 16 – Chris Grimes will speak about the Union submarine, USS *Alligator*

***New Bern Civil War Roundtable** – The New Bern Civil War Roundtable meets the second Wednesday of each month from September through May at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station Museum on Hancock Street. For more information contact Horace Mewborn at (252) 633-1634 or neuser@always-online.com.

September 23 – Andrew Ballard will discuss the engagement at Monocacy Junction, MD in July 1864.

October 11, November 8, and December 13 – All TBA

***Raleigh Civil War Roundtable** – The Raleigh Civil War Roundtable meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Agricultural Building in the Wake County Office park, just off Poole Road at I-440, exit 15 (outside the beltline). For more information contact Bob Farrell at cwfan2@aol.com or Charles Hawks at charleshawks@nc.rr.com.

July 10 – Chris Grimes talks about the first Union submarine, the USS *Alligator*

August 14 – Horace Mewborn will discuss The Beefsteak Raid

September 11 – Annual cookout

October 9 – Andrew Dupstadt will discuss Civil War navy and Marine uniforms

November 13 – TBA

December 11 – Annual Christmas party

***Civil War Roundtable of Durham** – Meets the third Thursday of each month (except June, July, and August) at 7 p.m. at the Bennett Place State Historic Site. For more information call Jack Schrader at (919) 383-5629 or the site at (919) 383 4345.

NO SCHEDULE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

***Fort Macon Civil War Roundtable** – The Fort Macon Civil War Roundtable meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Student Union Building on the campus of Carteret Community College in Morehead City. For more information contact John Rhodes at croatan2@aol.com.

July 25 – Andrew Duppstadt will discuss Federal Navy Operations in Onslow County

August 22 – Michael Robinson will discuss John Taylor Wood's raid on the USS *Underwriter* in February 1864

September 26 – Paul Switzer will do a presentation on New Bern under Union occupation

October 24 – Local artist Peter Hale will display and discuss some of his artwork dealing with the Civil War

November 28 – TBA

***Albemarle Historical Roundtable** – The Albemarle Historical Roundtable meets the first Thursday of each month at various locations in northeastern North Carolina. For more information on the Roundtable and its programs contact Howard Draper at 252-331-4032 or howard.draper@ncmail.net.

***Arsenal Park Roundtable (Fayetteville)** – The Arsenal Park Roundtable meets on the last Thursday of every other month at the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. For more information call (910) 486-1330.

July 27 - Presentation by the living historians of the Arsenal Guard will focus on the Mexican War period of the arsenal, both military and civilian.

September 17 – Arsenal Archaeology

***Cape Fear Civil War Roundtable (Wilmington)** – meets the second Thursday of each month from September through May at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, located at the intersection of Airlie Road, Wrightsville Avenue, and Military Cutoff Road. For more information contact Dan Geddie at (910) 799-5338 or Bruce Patterson at (910) 794-8905.

September 14 and October 12 - TBA

***North Carolina Civil War Roundtable (Burlington)** – meets on the third Saturday of every other month (January, March, May, July, September, and November). Meetings are held at K&W Cafeteria, 2629 Ramada Road in Burlington. Social hour begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner and a speaker at 6:30 p.m. For more information contact Dr. Eugene Adcock at eadcock@triad.rr.com or Tom Barrows at tbarr100@aol.com. You may inquire about the cost of dinner and reserve a seat.

July 15 – Gregory Biggs, “Nathan Bedford Forrest: Napoleonic Cavalryman”

September 16 – Chris Hartley will discuss Stoneman’s Raid

November 18 – John Coski of the Museum of the Confederacy will discuss the Confederate Battle Flag and the surrounding controversies

***Outer Banks Civil War Roundtable** – meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Duck Woods Country Club. For more information contact Mike Ross at 252-261-2000 ext. 1 or mross@beachlink.com.

August 15 – Dr. Mark Grimsley, topic TBA

October 17 – Sandy Barnard, topic TBA

***Western NC Civil War Roundtable** – meets the second Monday of each month from September through April in room 215 of the Jackson County Criminal Justice Building in Sylva. Refreshments and social hour start at 6:30 followed by a 7:00 meeting. For more information go to the web page at www.wnccwrt.org or email rozchris@earthlink.net.