

# Civil War Roundtable of North Florida



“Where Both Sides Are Heard”  
Founded in 2012

Please join us for our Next Meeting  
6:30 PM Thursday, February 8, 2018



## Brian Steel Wills

**Prolific Author and Director, Center for the Study of the Civil War Era and  
Professor of History at Kennesaw State University**

### “Bedford Forrest’s Wizardry in the Saddle”

**Focusing on the numerous tools he employed to obtain success in his raids and  
other military actions**

Brian Steel Wills is the Director of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era and Professor of History at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia, after a long tenure at the University of Virginia's College at Wise. He is the author of numerous works relating to the American Civil War, including a new volume - The River Was Dyed with Blood: Nathan Bedford Forrest and Fort Pillow.

In 2000, Dr. Wills received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the state of Virginia, one of eleven recipients from all faculty members at public and private institutions across the state. He was named Kenneth Asbury Professor of History and won both the Teaching award and the Research and Publication award from UVA-Wise.

**Trinity United Methodist Church (TUMC)  
4000 NW 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32653**

## Last Month's Meeting January 11, 2018

### Civil War reenactor Keith Kohl gave a very informative report on two Battles in Gainesville



Keith described a skirmish that occurred in Gainesville on February 14, 1864 and a battle that occurred on August 17, 1864 near the downtown square in Gainesville. The February skirmish resulted in a Union victory with Federal troops holding the town for a short time before returning to Jacksonville.

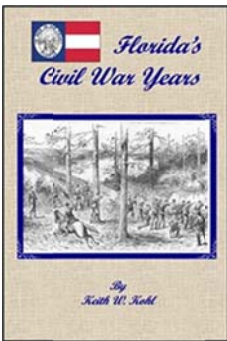
The battle in August resulted in a rout of the Federal troops. After which the Confederacy held the town for the remainder of the war.

There was a good audience discussion of just where the battle occurred and the landmarks in the period sketch of the battle depicting the Beville Hotel.

The hotel is known to have existed, but its location is not known exactly.

After the meeting, Keith sold and signed his book *Florida's Civil War Years*.

Keith also brought a nice display of gear typical of a Confederate soldier.



# 2018 Raid on Brooksville 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Reenactment Occurred on January 20 & 21, 2018



## FEBRUARY IN THE CIVIL WAR

1861

- 4<sup>th</sup> - Peace Convention in Washington City, southern states do not attend
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Southern constitution accepted, creating the Confederate States of America
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Peace Convention drafts 6 proposed amendments to the US Constitution to save the Union

1862

- 6<sup>th</sup> - Ft. Henry on the Tennessee River surrenders to General U.S. Grant
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Ft. Donaldson on the Cumberland River surrenders to General U.S. Grant
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Lincoln's son, Willie, dies of Typhoid Fever in the White House

1863

- 12<sup>th</sup> - Yankee Clipper ship *Jacob Bell*, with cargo valued at \$2 million, is destroyed by the commerce raider *CSS Florida*
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Federal Senate passes conscription act, creating the first military draft in the U.S.
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Federal monitor *USS Montauk* destroys the Confederate raider *CSS Nashville* on the Ogeechee River near Savannah, Ga

1864

- 9<sup>th</sup> - President Lincoln sits for several photographs, one of which is now on the \$5 bill
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Confederate submarine *HL Hunley* attacks and sinks the *USS Housatonic* off Charleston Harbor
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Confederate forces defeat the Federals at Olustee, the largest battle in Florida
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Congress revives the rank of Lieutenant General for U.S. Grant
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Federal prisoners of war begin arriving at the still unfinished camp at Andersonville

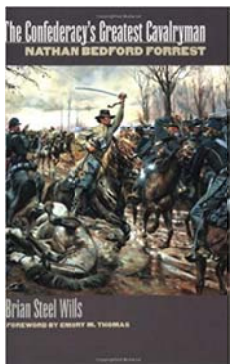
1865

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Sherman begins his Carolina Campaign
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Lincoln and Seward meet with Stevens, Campbell and Hunter aboard the *River Queen* off Hampton Roads to discuss the possibility of peace
- 9<sup>th</sup> - General R.E. Lee appointed the general-in-chief of all Confederate Armies
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Lee endorses the idea of arming slaves to help the south win its independence

## Upcoming Meetings

(second Thursday of each month—6:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church)  
(speakers and topics subject to change)

### Feb. 8, 2018:



**Brian Wills** will give a presentation on **Nathan Bedford Forrest's Wizardry in the Saddle**. Brian is the Director of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era and Professor of History at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia, after a long tenure at the University of Virginia's College at Wise. He is the author of numerous works relating to the American Civil War, including a new volume, *The River Was Dyed with Blood: Nathan Bedford Forrest and Fort Pillow*. He also wrote *A Battle from the Start: The Life of Nathan Bedford Forrest*, reprinted as *The Confederacy's Greatest Cavalryman: Nathan Bedford Forrest* (1998).

### March 8, 2018:

Gayle Underwood, a retired Pensacola history teacher and Gettysburg Shriver House Museum tour guide, will discuss **Quilts and Women's Clothing in the Civil War**. As a living historian, Gayle splits her time between Pensacola and Gettysburg. She makes Civil War quilt replicas out of reproduction period fabrics and presents the history of the quilts in full authentic period dress. Photo courtesy: Tony Giberson / *Pensacola News Journal*



### April 12, 2018:

**Mark Laubacher** will speak on **A Surgeon's Life Aboard USS Monitor**. Mark will discuss Dr. Daniel C. Logue's 90-day service on this history-making Federal ironclad and the medical conditions he had to deal with while on board this warship.

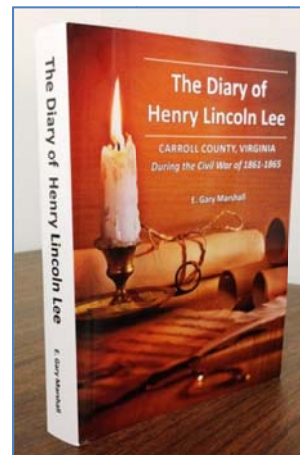
Sketch of USS *Monitor* (image

originally published in *Harpers Weekly* in 1862). Image courtesy:

<http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/images/h58000/h58757.jpg>

### May 10, 2018:

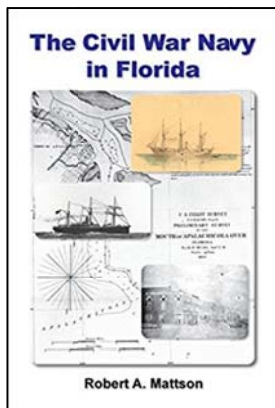
Historian **Gary Marshall** will speak on **Conflicted Family, Conflicted County, Conflicted Nation: The Civil War in Carroll County, Virginia**, based on his book, *The Diary of Henry Lincoln Lee: Carroll County, Virginia during the Civil War of 1861-1865*.



### June 14, 2018:

**Robert Mattson** will talk about the **Naval Civil War in Florida**, based on his book by the same title (2014). His presentation will focus on men, ships, and actions. Robert is a Civil War reenactor who portrays a Union Navy seaman.

**Check us out on the web: [www.cwrnf.org](http://www.cwrnf.org)**



**July 12, 2018:**

**Dr. Angela Zombek**, history professor at St. Petersburg College (and a University of Florida graduate), will speak on **Imprisonment in the Civil War Era**. Of the approximate 3.8 million soldiers in the Civil War, about 400,000 became POWs.

**Right: Georgia's infamous Andersonville POW camp where 13,000 Union soldiers perished. Photo taken on Aug. 7, 1864, by Andrew Jackson Riddle.** Photo courtesy: Civil War Academy



**Aug. 9, 2018: No meeting**

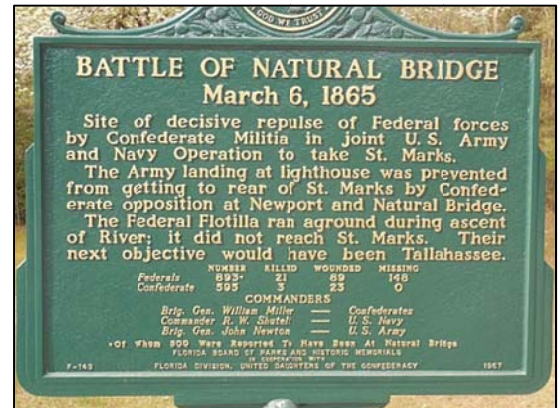
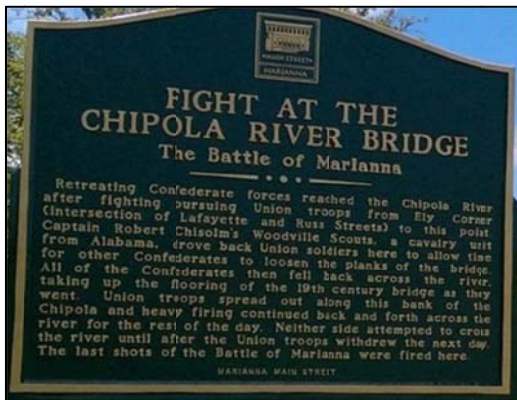
**Sept. 13, 2018:**

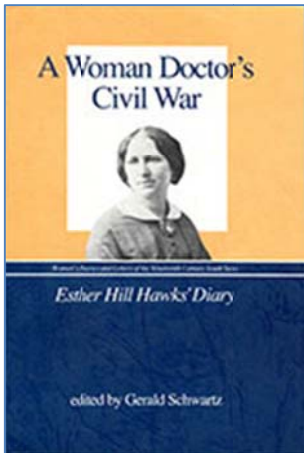
Author and historian **Dale Cox**, of Two Egg (in the Panhandle), Florida, will give a presentation on the **Battle of Marianna (Sept. 27, 1864) and Natural Bridge (March 6, 1865)**.

**Below left: photo of Battle of Marianna plaque.** Plaque courtesy: <http://twoegg.tv/tag/marianna/>

**Below right: photo of Natural Bridge plaque.**

Plaque courtesy: [http://www.rvadventuresofgaryandmarianne.net/RV\\_2015\\_03.html](http://www.rvadventuresofgaryandmarianne.net/RV_2015_03.html)





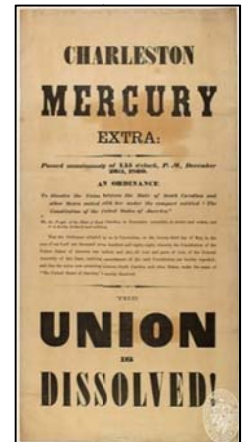
**Oct 11, 2018:**

**Peggy Macdonald**, director of the Matheson History Museum in Gainesville, will speak on **Esther Hill Hawks** and the emergence of modern medicine during the Civil War. Hawks was a physician, a Northerner, a teacher, a school administrator, a suffragist, and an abolitionist. In her diaries, she describes heading to the South after the war to care for the newly freed slaves in her capacity as both a teacher and a doctor.

**Nov. 8, 2018:**

**Donna Waller** will give a talk on **Why the Civil War Happened**. Dr. Waller is a retired Santa Fe College faculty member where her teaching focus for 30 years was on the Civil War and the history of the American presidency. In October 2014, she spoke to the CWRNF on the war with Mexico and Pres. James K. Polk.

**Right: Charleston Mercury broadside printed Dec. 20, 1860, which instigated a war resulting in more than 700,000 deaths.** Courtesy: [http://railsplitter.com/?page\\_id=218](http://railsplitter.com/?page_id=218)



**Dec. 13, 2018:** Holiday Party



**Levy County Historical Presentations  
2018 Historical Presentations  
The Seminole Indian Wars**

**Cedar Key RV Resort  
11960 SW Shiloh Ranch Road, Sumner FL**

**Gen. Walker Armistead's War With the Seminoles in Levy County –**  
Christopher Kimball  
Saturday, February 10, 2018 – 2:00 PM

**Soldiers & Seminoles in the Swamp –** Dr. Joe Knetsch  
Saturday, March 17, 2018 – 2:00 PM

**For more information visit the Levy County Historical Society web site**  
<http://www.levycountyhistoricalsociety.com/seminole-indian-wars-talks-1.html>



## Upcoming Local & Regional & State Civil War Events

(events & dates subject to change; please confirm event & date before traveling)

### Feb. 3-4, 2018:

**Battle at Townsend's Plantation reenactment, Renninger's Market,**  
20651 US Hwy. 441, Mt. Dora, FL.  
<http://townsendfirm.com/plantation.htm>

### Feb. 3-4, 2018:

**Living History at Fort Taylor,** Fort Taylor Historic State Park,  
601 Howard England Way, Key West, FL.  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fort-Zachary-Taylor-Historic-State-Park/110194162344049>



Right: Fort Zachary Taylor State Park. Aerial photo courtesy:  
[www.placesaroundflorida.com](http://www.placesaroundflorida.com)

### Feb. 17-18, 2018:

**Battle of Olustee reenactment** (took place Feb. 20, 1864), Olustee Battlefield State Historic Site,  
5890 Battlefield Trail Rd., Olustee, FL. <https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Olustee-Battlefield> or  
<http://battleofolustee.org>

### Feb. 24-25, 2018:

**Battle of Ballast Point reenactment.** Fort DeSoto Park, 3500 Pinellas Bayway S., St. Petersburg,  
FL. [kayakmama@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kayakmama@tampabay.rr.com)

### Feb. 24-25, 2018:

**Battle of Dade City reenactment.** Pioneer Florida Museum and Village, 15602 Pioneer Museum  
Rd., Dade City, FL. [www.pioneerfloridamuseum.org](http://www.pioneerfloridamuseum.org)

### March 3-4, 2018:

**Battle of Natural Bridge reenactment.** Natural  
Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park, 7502 Natural  
Bridge Rd., Tallahassee, FL. <http://www.nbhscso.com>  
or <http://www.floridastateparks.org/naturalbridge/>

Left: Natural Bridge battlefield. Photo courtesy:  
<http://www.nbhscso.com/gpage.html>



**New for 2018 - 50/50 Raffle at the end of each Meeting**

In an effort to raise more funds for continued exciting outside speakers the board has decided to hold a 50/50 raffle at the end of each meeting. The winning ticket receives 50% of the ticket sales with the remainder going to the Round Table. Several conciliation prizes of books will be drawn after the Grand Prize. Please see Sue Wooley to get your tickets before the meeting.

**Book sales**



Please donate your “gently used” Civil War history books, history DVDs, historical maps, and/or magazines for re-sale at our monthly meetings. All proceeds go toward outside speaker fees and room rental fees.

**Current Advisory Board Members**

**Terry Huston** (352-359-1442, [thuston528@msn.com](mailto:thuston528@msn.com))

**Bill Zettler**

**Eric Starnes**

**Bob Wooley** (352-325-0722, [wooleyrj@gmail.com](mailto:wooleyrj@gmail.com))

**Sid Mayer**