

Civil War Roundtable of North Florida



“Where Both Sides Are Heard”

Founded in 2012

The Courier

The Newsletter of the Civil War Roundtable of North Florida

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Gainesville, Florida

Next Meeting (open to the public)

Thursday, **January 8, 2015**, from **6 to 8 p.m.** at:

Millhopper Branch Library (Meeting Room A in the back)
3145 N.W. 43rd Street
Gainesville, Florida 32606

Please Note !!!!

Due to library room rescheduling, effective January 8, 2015,

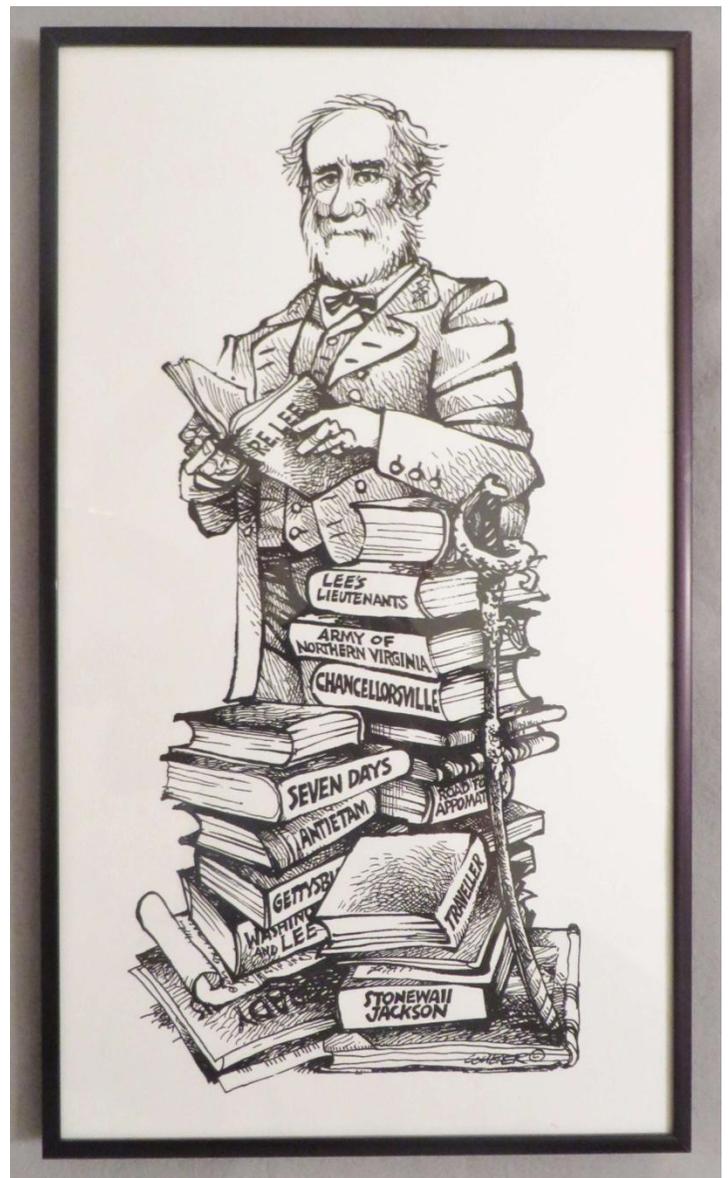
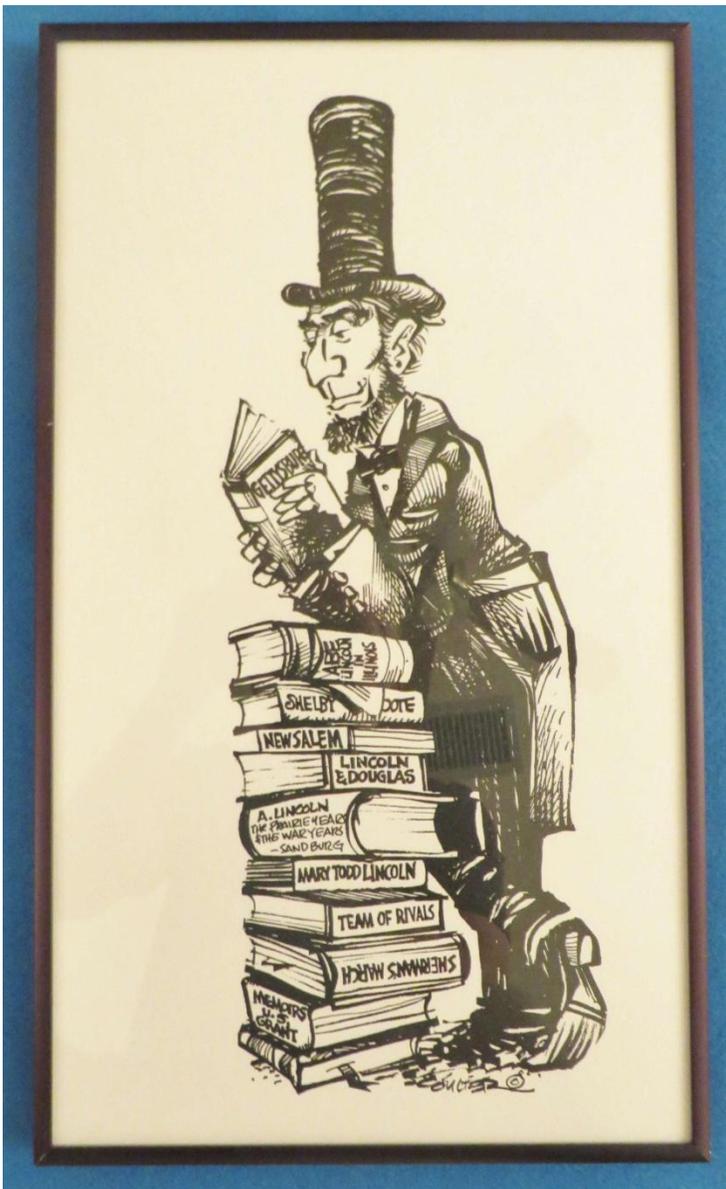
the CWRNF meetings will be held

the second Thursday of each month. Also: new meeting time: 6 to 8 p.m.

CWRNF News

Holiday dinner on Dec. 11

32 CWRNF members and guests came to the second annual holiday dinner on Dec. 11. The evening's theme focused on the 150th anniversary of the surrender of Savannah in Dec. 1864—the climax of Sherman's March to the Sea. Members and their guests read quotes from letters written in late 1864 and early 1865 about the surrender of Savannah: from white Savannahians who experienced the month-long military control; from newly freed slaves and what they confronted; from Sherman's troops and what they lived through as they occupied this city of 20,000 residents; and from 10,000 evacuating, dejected Confederates under Gen. Hardee and what they felt in abandoning Savannah. **See photos at end of this newsletter. Thanks to all the members and their guests who helped make the raffle a success!**



Book sales

Please donate one or more of your “gently used” history books, history DVDs, historical maps, or magazines for re-sale at our monthly meetings. They can cover any period in history, but American 19th and 20th century history books, periodicals, and DVDs would be preferred. All proceeds go directly into the CWRNF account. Payment can be either cash or check. Place a post-it on the cover to show the price. Prices are not negotiable at these reduced rates. **At the Nov. 6 meeting, the CWRNF made \$97!**

Website: www.cwrnf.org

Please check the website periodically for updates on the CWRNF’s ongoing events. We will continue emailing the monthly *Courier*.

Membership dues

Full membership dues were **payable in September** for next year’s participation in the CWRNF organization. We also encourage anyone who may not be able to attend our meeting—but who wishes to support our organization—to sign up. Your financial assistance will be greatly appreciated. **Individual: \$25; Couple/Family: \$35; Student: \$15**

“Like” the CWRNF page on Facebook

We have a Facebook page. Search “Civil War Roundtable of North Florida – Facebook.” Many thanks to John Walsh for his time and effort to update and maintain this page.

Upcoming Meetings

(now held on the second Thursday of each month—at 6 p.m. !!!)

(speakers and topics subject to change)

January 8:

Guest speaker **Steve Stanley**, well-known and highly regarded Civil War mapmaker, will talk about the **making of Civil War maps** he creates for the Civil War Trust. **Question & answer period to follow. Please save your comments and questions until after his talk.** Mr. Stanley lives in Gettysburg and is a graphic artist specializing in historical map design and battlefield photography. His maps, considered among the best in historical cartography, have been a longtime staple of the Civil War Preservation Trust, and his maps have raised millions of dollars for preservation. Steve Stanley’s maps have appeared in a wide variety of publications.

Mr. Stanley will bring copies of his books to sell and autograph after the meeting: **1) *The Complete Gettysburg Guide: Walking and Driving Tours of the Battlefield, Town, Cemeteries, Field Hospital Sites, and Other Topics of Historic Interest* (\$35 which retails for \$39.95); 2) *The New Gettysburg Campaign Handbook: Facts, Photos, and Artwork for Readers of All Ages: June 9 - July 14, 1863* (\$15 which retails for \$18.95); and 3) *The Gettysburg Campaign in Numbers and Losses: Synopses, Orders of Battle, Strengths, Casualties, and Maps: June 9 – July 14, 1863* (\$26 which retails for \$32.95).** He takes checks, cash, and credit cards.

February 12:

Guest speaker **Barbara Oberlander** will give a presentation entitled: **“The Other Lincoln: Mary Todd Lincoln: Our Most Controversial First Lady.”** This is an appropriate topic because this meeting date, Feb. 12, is Abraham Lincoln’s birthday (1809-1865). **Question & answer period to follow. Please**

save your comments and questions until after her talk. From 1975 to 2005, Barbara Oberlander was a professor of history at Santa Fe College. She has been very active in community efforts to heighten awareness of women's role in American life, both working with the Gainesville Commission on the Status of Women, Inc. and offering numerous public presentations on outstanding women and women's contributions. She has also taught classes at Oak Hammock, including *Ladies First: From Martha to Laura; Petticoats to Flak Jackets: Women in Wartime; Every Four Years: Memorable Presidential Elections*; and most recently, "Well Behaved Women Rarely Make History (or Do They?)."

March 12:

Member **John Paling** will give a talk entitled: "**The Thomas Jackson Letters: How a Brit Tried to Save the United States of America.**" This presentation is not mainly a "see what my relative did in the Civil War," but rather the opportunity for an outsider to use British citizen Thomas Jackson's eloquent letters as a starting point to take an independent, fresh look at several of the big issues of the time and to invite members to join him to discuss whether there might be lessons from those times that might apply to our own generation today. John Paling is the co-author of *Up to Your Armpits in Alligators? How to Sort Out What Risks Are Worth Worrying About!* (1994) and several other books and articles. He has 20 years' experience as a professional speaker, author, and consultant in 58 countries, plus 20 years' experience as producer/filmmaker of more than 50 wildlife films. **Due to "early voting" at the Millhopper Branch Library, meeting site to be determined.**

April 9:

Guest speaker **Matt Gallman** will discuss **Appomattox**—and this date, **April 9, 2015**, marks the 150th anniversary of Gen. Lee surrendering the Army of Northern Virginia (**April 9, 1865**). **Question & answer period to follow. Please save your comments and questions until after his talk.** He is the author of four books, including *Mastering Wartime: A Social History of Philadelphia During the Civil War* (Cambridge, 1990); *The North Fights the Civil War: The Home Front* (Ivan Dee, 1994); *Receiving Erin's Children: Philadelphia, Liverpool, and the Irish Famine Migration, 1845-1855* (UNC, 2000); and *America's Joan of Arc: The Life of Anna Elizabeth Dickinson* (Oxford, 2006). He is currently working on a study of political rhetoric and satire in the North during the Civil War. He has taught undergraduate courses on the Civil War era and on American Women's History. He teaches the department's graduate foundation course on 19th Century America, and he has also taught a graduate seminar on the Civil War. **Due to "early voting" at the Millhopper Branch Library, meeting site to be determined.**

May 14:

Member **Fred Donaldson** will give a talk entitled "**Jeff Davis's Baggage or Maybe Another Cabinet Member's Baggage at Waldo.**"

Civil War-Related Regional Events

(Events subject to change. Please VERIFY before attending event.)

Feb. 14-15, 2015: Battle of Olustee Re-enactment east of Lake City, FL. \$10/adults; \$5/children

The main re-enactment will be on Sunday, Feb. 15, starting at 1 p.m. Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park is located on US 90, 15 miles east of Lake City and 50 miles west of Jacksonville. The battle took place on February 20, 1864, in which 10,500 Federal and Confederate soldiers clashed—a decisive Confederate victory. The CWRNF will have a presence at this re-enactment. Eric Starnes will have a table

displaying Civil War guns. Volunteers can share a corner of his table to distribute CWRNF flyers in four different shifts: **Feb. 14: 1)** (Sat.) morning **or 2)** afternoon; **Feb. 15: 3)** (Sun.) morning **or 4)** afternoon. Re-enactment information: <http://www.battleofolustee.org/reenactment.html>

CWRNF Holiday Dinner at Red Lobster on Dec. 11

The CWRNF’s holiday dinner raffle was a fundraiser success: **\$204!!** The five winners were: 1) **Jackie Davison:** basket of Civil War-related gifts; 2) **Judith Comeau:** bottle of Savannah River red wine and a bale of cotton; 3) **Eric Starnes:** bottle of Savannah River red wine and a bale of cotton; 4) **Stewart White:** DVD of the movie *Gettysburg*; 4) **Ann Christie:** CD of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir singing *Songs of the Civil War*

Top row: Left: CWRNF’s board members: L to R: **Eric Starnes, Bill Zettler, John Walsh, Diane Fischler, Stewart White,** and **Terry Huston** standing behind raffle basket. **Center:** boll of cotton & a “Sherman necktie” at each place setting; **Right:** display of some of the raffle prizes

Second row: Left: Stewart White & Sid Mayer. Center: Judith Comeau, John Paling, Joyce Hallman, John Walsh. Right: Jackie Davison, John Buckta, Lise Abrams

Third row: Left: Eric & Renee Starnes, Rosemary Cortez, Ann Christie, Carol & Bill Zettler. Center: members & guests. **Right:** place settings with boll of cotton, a “Sherman necktie” & map of the March to the Sea

