



# THE FLAGBEARER

## ....News from the New Bedford Civil War Round Table

September is the kick-off meeting for our 2017-2018 program year. It's a new season and we have excellent speakers lined up for you.

This is also the month we begin **dues** collection for the new program year, 2017-2018. Please fill in the dues form enclosed and mail it, along with your payment, to our Treasurer, Martin Flinn.

Long time Board Member, Al Caron, has retired from the Executive Board and we thank him for his many years of service to the Round Table. However, we expect to see Al at our monthly meetings, adding his commentary to our lectures.

Replacing Al on the Board is Mark Mello. We have enjoyed Mark's presentations over the years and his support of our Round Table. Welcome to Mark.

Taking over Al Caron's duty on the scholarship committee will be Peter Rioux.

### 2017-2018 Executive Board

- Joe Langlois—President
- Bruce Baggary—V President
- Secretary—Open
- Martin Flinn—Treasurer
- Bobby Watkins—Board of Directors
- Bob Macfarlane—Board of Directors Emeritus
- Peter Rioux—Board of Directors
- Mark Mello—Board of Directors
- Bob Randall—Librarian
- Larry Roy—Board of Directors
- Bob Lytle—Flagbearer
- Cell # 508-542-7630
- bobbylee76@comcast.net

## Greater New Bedford Civil War Round Table

**Tuesday, September 26th 7:00 pm**

**We meet at the Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum**

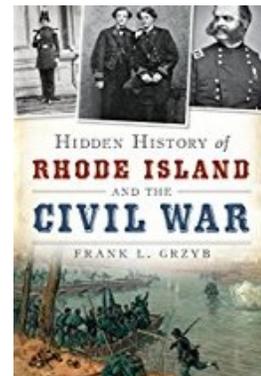
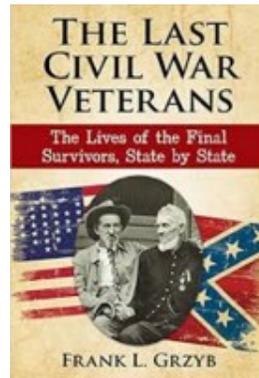
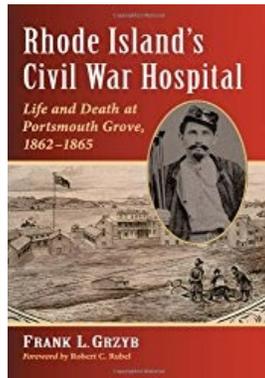
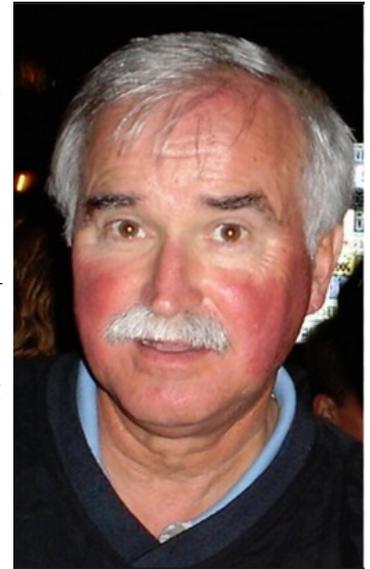


### Meet the September 26th speaker

#### Frank L. Grzyb

What a great way to kick off the 2017-2018 speaker season. Frank Grzyb has authored seven books, written many articles in magazines, newspapers, and journals. He has delivered a number of lectures at Civil War Round Tables and historical societies. His work has been featured in Civil War Times, America's Civil War, Civil War Monitor, and North and South. He is also a member of the Rhode Island Civil War Round Table. Frank is a decorated Army combat veteran of the Vietnam Conflict. He was drafted into the army in 1969 and sent to Vietnam in 1970. He was assigned to the 1st Logistical Command, and was located near the coastal city of Qui Nhon. Before departing Vietnam, Frank was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Commendation, and various campaign medals. Frank was educated at Nichols College, Fairleigh Dickinson University Graduate School.

Welcome Frank L. Grzyb



....It is time to send in your dues for 2017-2018. See page 6 of this issue of the Flagbearer for the Annual Membership Form

....Welcome to new members Jack Byrnes and Frank Grzyb

## GRANT AND LEE, A COMPARISON

by Peter Rioux, New Bedford Civil War Round Table Member

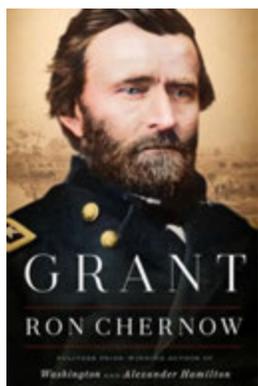
I recently had an opportunity to view an excellent lecture delivered by William C. "Jack" Davis on You Tube (C Span 3.org) contrasting the personality and leadership styles of Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee. Mr. Davis is the author of the excellent book on this topic entitled Crucible of Command and former Executive Director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies.



According to Mr. Davis, although both leaders demonstrated similarities in the application of many military tactics, they did exhibit other significant differences. Their contrasting personalities originated during their early lives. As a youth, Grant had been afforded an extensive degree of freedom to travel and seek broad personal discovery. This early experience provided Grant as an adult with an outward world view and curiosity resulting in his extensive traveling during his post presidential years. By contrast, as a young man, Lee was provided limited movement freedom and, as a result, his geographical view was quite limited, confining him to the Alexandria, Virginia region. As an adult, Lee expressed little interest in a broader world view or travel.

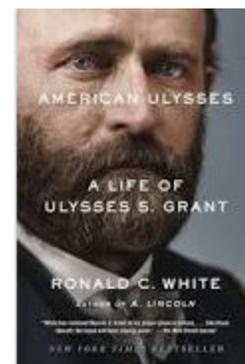
In respect to their self images, Grant was an external optimist, retaining a constant expectation of eventual success despite being an average student at West Point and experiencing early business and military career failures. Lee, however, despite his achieving an outstanding educational record at the Military Academy and a consistently successful and highly respected military career, viewed himself as an underachiever and disappointment. Their religious beliefs may have contributed to this contrast. Grant retained a quiet, but positive faith, while Lee, especially in the aftermath of the Mexican War, generally viewed life as one of struggle burdened by constant difficulties.

Grant's marriage with his wife Julie Dent was an extremely strong and mutually adoring one. He would often claim that the happiest times of his life were spent with her. It was this view that motivated him in his struggle to complete his personal memoirs, despite struggling with throat cancer, in order to leave her with a healthy, financially comfortable inheritance. Lee's relationship with his wife Mary Custis was a distant one, characterized by limited romance or a strong sense of affection.



Their military management styles were characterized by some differences. Grant communicated with a very direct and clear style with his office staff. Lee's directives were often viewed by his smaller staff as open to differing interpretation.

A closing note of interest: Even though Grant and Lee felt a quiet respect for each other's military abilities as they expressed in the war's aftermath, neither one regarded the other as their most formidable adversary. For Grant, it was Joseph E. Johnston. For Lee, it was McClellan and Meade.



On October 10, Ron Chernow's long awaited biography, Grant, will be released. He is the previous winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Washington and the National Book Critics Award for Hamilton, upon which the Broadway play is based.

An excellent 2016 biography of Grant is American Ulysses by Dr. Ronald C. White. Dr. White's access to 33 volumes of Grant's papers and letters advances his biography, since they had not been available to previous Grant biographers.

\*\*\*\*WE NEED YOUR HELP\*\*\*\*

.....We have had quite a turnover in email addresses, to the point that my Round Table email list is no longer usable. So, I have shut it down. Did Verizon or Yahoo exit the email business? It would be helpful in our future communications to you if we build new email file. But, to do so I will need your cooperation. Please consider emailing me your email address. If you email me your name and email address we will start from scratch and build a new 2017-2018 email file for the Round Table. You might ask why is this helpful.

\* During the winter , when we find it necessary to cancel a meeting , we do it by email. We do not have a telephone list for all of you, only some of you.

\* When other historical organizations have speakers that may be of interest to you , we send out notices via email, particularly if it is a short notice situation.

\* Also, we will have the option of sending future Flagbearer notices to you as an email file attachment, as opposed to U.S. Postal Service.

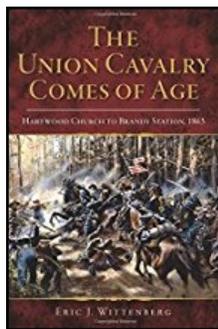
Bob Lytle, Flagbearer

bobbylee76@comcast.net

NEW BOOK RELEASES

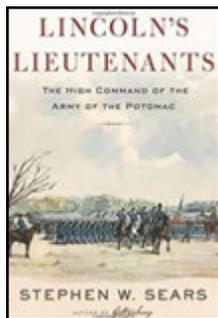
**The Union Cavalry Comes of Age: Harwood Church to Brandy Station, 1863.** By Erick j. Wittenberg

This book is a detailed analysis of how the cavalry evolved from an embarrassment in 1862 into what ultimately would become the world's finest corps of horse soldiers by 1864.



**Lincoln's Lieutenants: The High Command of the Army of the Potomac.** By Stephan W. Sears

Eminent Civil War historian Stephan W. Sears lays out in detail the behind-the-scenes maneuvering and the effect they had on the army's efficiency. Such backbiting and political infighting made the high command appear to be defending itself against its own civilian leaders rather than waging war on their behalf.



UPCOMING SPEAKERS FOR THE NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE.

October 24, 2017

Jim Thayer

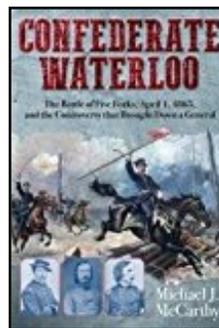
Jim is a teacher and expert on Frederick Law Olmsted. His presentation will be "Olmsted's War"



November 14, 2017

Michael McCarthy

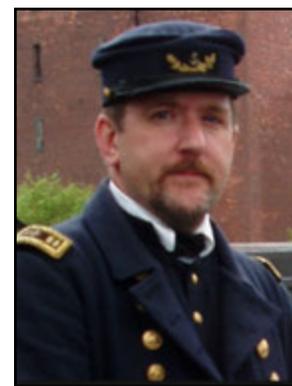
Confederate Waterloo—The Battle of Five Forks, April 1, 1865, and the Controversy that Brought Down a General



Jan 22, 2018

Chuck Viet

Chuck returns with the story of the U.S.S. Alligator



We are holding the Feb date open in hopes that we can host a visit by one the rock stars of the Gettysburg National Park Service Ranger Corps. We are keeping our fingers crossed.

**Miscellaneous notes from my desk.....**

....From the fall issue of "Civil War Monitor" magazine, please see the review written by our Round Table friend and past speaker , Megan Kate Nelson, as she discusses the major plot points in the 2017 film, The Beguiled.

.... I've cancelled all Civil War periodical subscriptions except "Civil War Monitor" magazine, and "Civil War News". Those two subscriptions seem to cover it all. Currently the "Civil War News" has a lively 'letters to the editor' page on 'what to do about the monument' controversy. Both have excellent sections on new book releases and upcoming Civil War Events. Each will have articles written by leading scholars.

....By now you have heard that the sword of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw , 54th Massachusetts Infantry, has surfaced and been turned over to Massachusetts Historical Society. This long missing sword was discovered in March of this year , in possession of Shaw's sister's great-grandchildren. Once discovered , it was immediately recognized for what it was and the process of donation commenced. This sword is the "holy grail of Civil War swords."



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....And here is why magazine subscriptions get cancelled, - with excellent TV programming like this (below) plus lectures on You Tube, it's tough for a magazine to be successful.

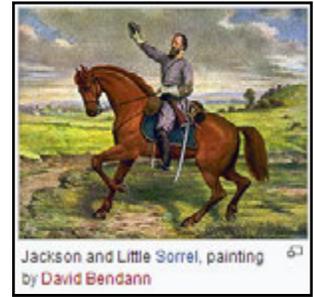


**.....More on 2018 Round Table Speakers**

March 27, 2018

Susan B. Smith

**Jackson's 'Little Sorrel'**



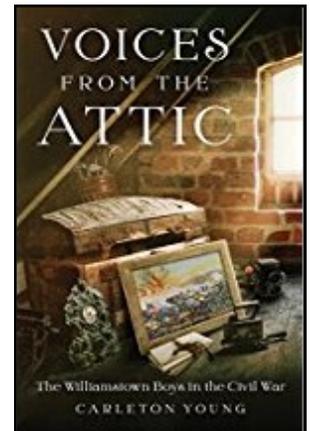
April 24, 2018

Carlton Young

Book author from Pittsburgh, PA

Voices from the Attic: The Williamstown Boys in the Civil War

Carlton's new book has received excellent reviews. We are pleased to have him on our 2018 speaker schedule.



September 2018

.....The return of

Col. Kevin Weddle

Professor of Military Theory and Strategy at the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, Pennsylvania



**SAVE THE DATE !!!!**

**New Bedford Civil War Round Table Annual  
Holiday Party at Me and Ed's Restaurant**

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 19, 2017, 6:00 PM**

The Olde Colony Civil War Round Table, Dedham, MA, has announced its annual Jubilee Dinner. This is a great event :- dinner, raffle, speaker, camaraderie with all the New England Civil War Round Tables. The New Bedford Round Table usually has a strong showing. Can we include you? Please contact Bob Hearsey per the instructions below...Bob Lytle

## *Olde Colony Civil War Round Table*

*Dedham, Massachusetts 02026*

www.occwrt.org ~ like us on Facebook

OCCWRT is a registered 501(C)(3) non-profit organization

### **Annual Jubilee Dinner and Preservation Raffle**

**Thursday, October 19, 2017 Tickets \$45.00\* each**

**Lombardo's in Randolph, MA**

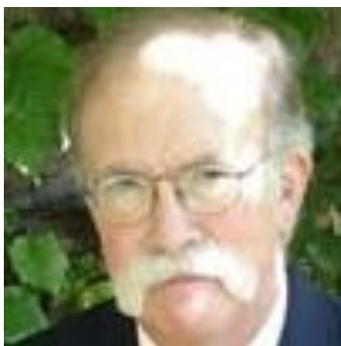
**Social at 6:00pm ~ opening presentations at 6:45pm ~ dinner at 7:00pm**

**Door Prizes ~ Exhibits of Civil War artifacts**

### *The Richmond Bread Riots*

*Presented by Michael Chesson, Ph.D.*

*American Historian ~ Author ~ Professor Emeritus*



Michael Chesson is a broad-gauged American historian with thirty-five years of experience in academia since earning his Ph.D. under David Donald at Harvard in 1978. He has published or edited four books, and dozens of articles and book reviews. He is also an active consultant, and has done work for historical societies, museums, law firms, churches, and many other organizations, much of it pro bono.

Specialties: The Civil War and Reconstruction; the Old South; American Slavery; violence in America; American biography; intellectual history; social history.

Tickets are \$45.00\* each and can be obtained by Oct. 10, 2017 by sending a check payable to OCCWRT and addressed to Bob Hearsey, 311 Sherman St., Canton, MA 02021. He can be reached at 781-828-3183.

*\*Please note a late fee of \$5.00 per meal will be charged by Lombardo's after October 16, 2017.*

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL !!

Your membership renewal enables the New Bedford Civil War Round Table to provide an Annual Scholarship to a greater New Bedford area high school graduating student. Our speakers are not paid, yet, I hope you will agree that we have attracted interesting people to speak at our meetings. And, therefore, you believe your membership in the Round Table has valuable educational benefits and adds to your interest in history. Finally, your dues help defray expenses we incur at the annual Rural Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony.

So, please take a moment this month, and renew your membership.

Please fill out the form below and enclose it and your check to Martin Flinn, Treas. New Bedford Civil War Round Table, 39 Little Oak Road, New Bedford, 02745



MEMBERSHIP IS VALID FROM SEPT 2017 TO JUNE 2018. MAKE CHECK OUT TO  
"NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE"  
AND SEND TO MARTIN FLINN, TREAS, 39 LITTLE OAK ROAD, NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL (\$25.00) \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY (\$30.00) \_\_\_\_\_

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND  
TABLE FOR THE 2017-2018 PROGRAM SEASON

\*\*\*\*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT \*\*\*\*