



THE FLAGBEARER

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

.....It was great to see all 46 of you at our Annual Holiday dinner party at Me & Ed's Restaurant. Owner and Chef Cory was at his best—the food buffet was excellent. And everyone went home with a book from the raffle. We will of course, do this again in 2017. December 12, 2017 to be exact.

Check out the Flagbearer story on page 2 on the honor being paid to our Round Table member and Director, Bobby Watkins, his career NFL stats—1,048 yards over 4 seasons, 4.4 yds per carry career ave, 238 carries, 11 TDS.

Speakers, while set for most of 2017, are still a work in progress however. I've attached a partial lineup on page 2.

Please bring a guest to the January meeting.

2015-2016 Officers

Joe Langlois—President

Bruce Baggarly—V President

Larry Bedell—Secretary

Bobby Watkins—Board of Directors

Bob Macfarlane—Board of Directors Emeritus

Peter Rioux—Board of Directors

Al Caron—Board of Directors

Bob Randall—Librarian

Larry Roy—Board of Directors

Bob Lytle—Newsletter / Speakers / Publicity / Website

Cell # 508-542-7630

bobbylee76@comcast.net

Greater New Bedford Civil War Round Table

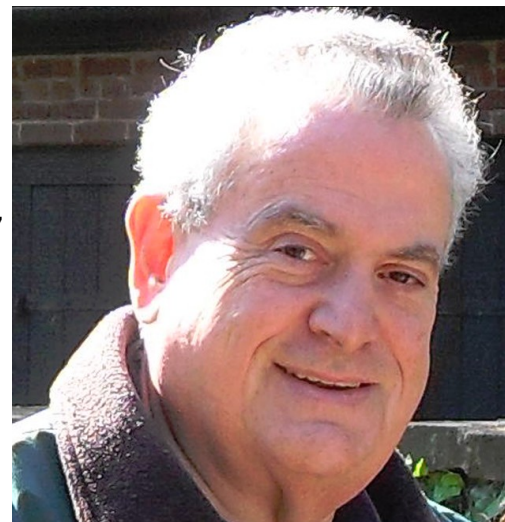
Tuesday, January 24th, 7:00 pm

**Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military
Museum**



MEET OUR JANUARY SPEAKER

Fred C. Wexler is a 16 year member of the Cape Cod Civil War Round Table—President from 2007 thru 2009. His many lectures include the following: Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Ball's Bluff, General McClellan and the Peninsula Campaign, The Civil War Draft, General Grierson's 1864 Cavalry Raid on Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and many others. He is the principle lecturer and organizer of the Plymouth Mass Pine Hills Civil War Study Group. He has been a Guest Lecturer at Chatham, Plymouth, and Barnstable schools, lecturing on Slavery and the Civil War Amendments to the United States Constitution: 2004-6. Fred was also instrumental to the Kneeling Soldier preservation project in Dorchester, Massachusetts.



Fred Wexler has his Bachelors degree from City College of New York, 1967, his M.B.A from Boston University in May of 1971, and his J.D. from New England School of Law in May of 1989.

His presentation for this month at our Round Table will be "The Tammany Regiment: A History of the Forty-Second New York Volunteer Infantry, 1861-1864.

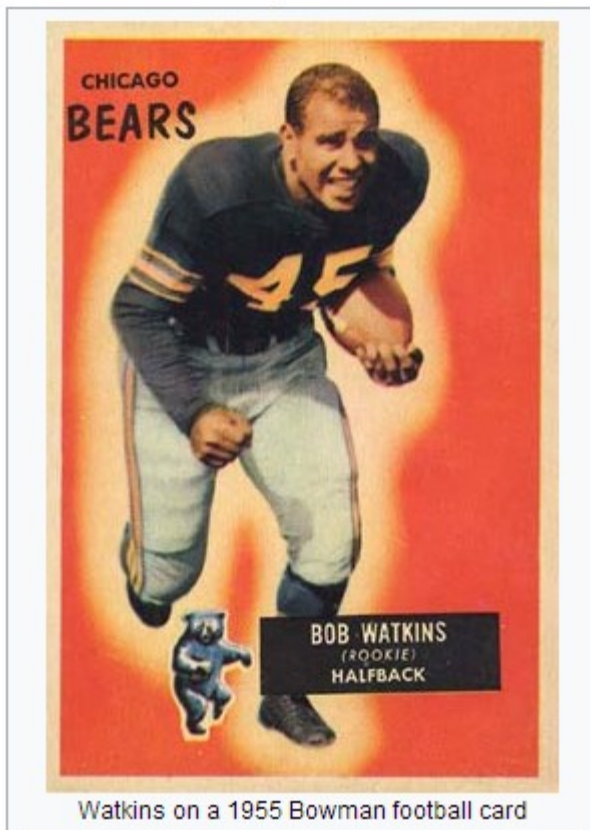
As the Union mobilized to meet the military challenges of the Civil War, the people of New York volunteered in large numbers to meet the quotas set by President Lincoln. Tammany Hall used all of its political power to recruit men, mostly Irish immigrants, to form the regiment that would bear its name throughout most of the fiercest fighting of the war—from the bluffs outside Leesburg, the West Woods of Antietam, and the streets of Fredericksburg to Pickett's Charge of Gettysburg and the chaos that was Petersburg. Of the more than one thousand men who started with the regiment in 1861, less than one hundred would remain in 1864.

The Tammany Regiment is more than a story of a powerful political machine. It is a story about how the Fenian Movement to free Ireland from England affected the men in the trenches. It is a story of how families survived the challenges of war.

I heard Fred deliver this lecture at the East Bridgewater Civil War Round Table. He is a great storyteller, and you will thoroughly enjoy this presentation.

NEW BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL FITNESS CENTER TO BE NAMED AFTER FOOTBALL LEGAND BOBBY WATKINS

Bobby Watkins



Watkins on a 1955 Bowman football card

The New Bedford School Committee approved a proposal by Mayor Jon Mitchell to name the new fitness center under construction at New Bedford High School for NBHS football great Bobby Watkins. Watkins' athletic accomplishments are downright legendary, but he left an even more profound legacy as one of the primary African-American football players to break the color barrier in major college football and the National Football League.....story credit to the office of Mayor Jon Mitchell

Bobby has had a lifelong interest in American Civil War history and also the poetry of Robert Burns. He is a Board Director for the New Bedford Civil War Round Table.

After a record setting career as a running back for Ohio State University, Bobby was drafted in Round 2 of the 1955 NFL draft. He played three years for the Chicago Bears before ending his career in 1958 with the cross-town Chicago Cardinals.

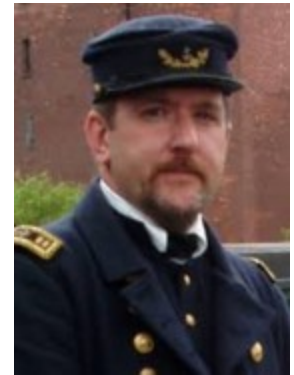
Bobby loves to reminisce about "the good old days" and I hope you will take the time to sit with Bobby at our January meeting and talk about his wonderful career and how it was growing up in New Bedford.

UPCOMING WINTER AND SPRING SPEAKERS FOR OUR ROUND TABLE.

Feb 28, 2017

Chuck Veit

Chuck is President of the Naval & Marine Living History Association and founder of the U.S. Naval Landing Party, and noted author.



March 28, 2017

David Prentiss

"The Lessons of Lincoln: What Abraham Lincoln Can Teach Us Today"



April 25, 2017

John Foskett

John Foskett returns with Part 2 of his presentation on Civil War Artillery. Not to worry, he will bring a review handout of Part 1.



May 23, 2017

Kevin Levin

The History of the Confederate Battle Flag.

You can find Kevin's commentary on Twitter and many other websites



The New Bedford Civil War Round Table announces it annual Book Award

Al Caron, Chairperson of the NB Round Table Book Award Committee has released information about the 2017 program and details are printed in the attachment to this issue of the Flagbearer. If you know of a graduating senior in one of the Greater New Bedford area high schools, please take note of this Award of \$500. Eligible schools are New Bedford High School, Dartmouth High School, Fairhaven High School, Old Colony Regional Vocational, Freetown Lakeville Apponequet Regional, Old Rochester Regional High School, Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational, and Bishop Stang High School. I have enclosed an application form. Materials requested in the application must be received by Friday March 31, 2017. Details and questions about this Award may also be found at www.newbedfordcwr.org

Al Smith announces Annual 5 Days in May Civil War Bus Tour for 2017

David and Al Smith have been doing the Annual Civil War trips for about 40 years, always a good value, especially with the tour guide/experts they have onboard the bus. Approx 9-10 New Bedford Round Table members have been taking advantage of this good value in Civil War historical tours, the past several years. It's an early departure from the Boston T-Station parking lot, May 17th, with a return May 21, 2017.



This year's trip follows the escape route of John Wilkes Booth, after his assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. We will stay at Days Inn Pentagon in Arlington, Va. Site visits included in the tour are: Ford's Theater, Old Capitol Prison, Surratt Boardinghouse, Mt. Olive Cemetery, Port Royal, Belle Grove, Site of Garrett Farm, Greenmount Cemetery, and other locations. The tour guide will be Kate Ramirez, noted Lincoln Assassination expert, and re-enactor of Mary Surratt.

Al's price is an all inclusive, admission charges, guide expense, hotel, dinner on Thursday night, Friday night, and Saturday night and tips. A \$50.00 deposit will hold your reservation. Price will be \$895.00 for a single reservation, a double reservation is \$650.00 ea.

If you wish to go, send your deposit to Al Smith, 11 Poplar Street, Belmont, MA 02478. Make check payable to The Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston.

Questions? Call Al Smith at 617-484-5613 or email him at ohjudyoh@yahoo.com

New Releases of Civil War Books

Summon Only the Brave! Commanders, Soldiers, and Chaplains at Gettysburg by John W. Brinsfield Jr, Mercer University Press

A Savage War: A Military History of the Civil War, by Williamson Murray and Wayne Wei-Siang Hsich, Princeton University Press

Much Embarrassed: Civil War Intelligence and the Gettysburg Campaign, by George Donne, Helion & Company

The Civil War Memoirs of a Virginia Cavalryman, by Lt. Robert Hubbard Jr. Edited by Thomas P. Nanzig, University of Alabama Press

Source: Civil War News Jan 2017 Issue

Upcoming Civil War Shows

40th Annual Ohio Civil War & WW 1 & 11 Show

Sat May 6, Sun May 7 Richland County Fair Grounds, Mansfield Ohio 800 Tables

MK Shows presents:

Chickamauga (Dalton) Civil War Show

Feb 4 & 5, 2017

Middle Tenn (Franklin) Civil War Show

Dec 2 & 3, 2017

READY TO JOIN THE NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE?

Fill out 2017 application and mail your check to Martin Flinn, Treas, New Bedford Civil War Round Table, 39 Little Oak Road, New Bedford MA 02745

Make check out to NBCWRT

Name _____

_____ **Individual (\$25)** _____ **Family (\$30)**

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

We recently made a Civil War pilgrimage, again , to the south,- favorite places such as ;Gettysburg, Winchester, VA, Monticello, Montpelier @ Orange and Charlottesville, VA, and then "On to Richmond" , with a stop in Chambersburg to find Rev Bob Macfarlane (a.k.a. Col. Joshua Chamberlain) at his new church. Here are a few photos.....Bob



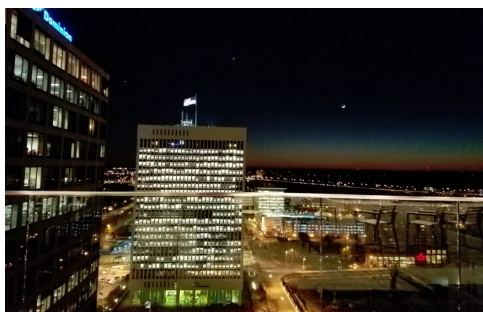
This is the newly done over Lee's headquarters, just opened in November. And, of course, Little Round Top.



Col. Chamberlain's current church in Chambersburg, Pa. Then it was on to Winchester, VA, (Third Battle of Winchester) , Orange VA to see Montpelier, home to James and Dolley Madison, followed the next day by Monticello.



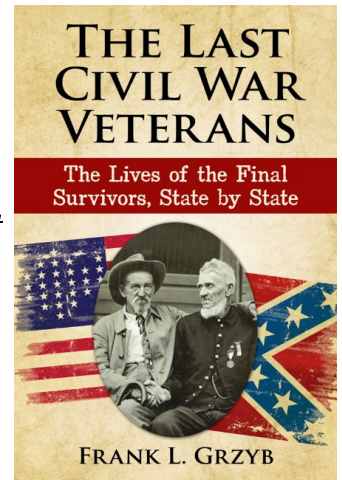
And finally, Richmond at night



.....More on 2017 Round Table Speakers
September 26, 2017

Frank L. Grzyb

Frank has authored seven books. His work has been featured in Civil War Times, America's Civil War, Civil War Monitor, and North and South. He is a member of the Rhode Island 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

Open—TBA

In Richmond , the new American Civil War Museum , plus The White House of the Confederacy visits are time well spent. The artifacts are truly outstanding.

