# www.newbedfordcwrt.org March 2017 Issue



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

We are working on the speaker line up for 2018. Chuck Veit will return in Jan 2018, and Col. Kevin Weddle Staff Professor from the U.S. Army War College in Pennsylvania will return in September of 2018. April 2018 is also booked.

Your Scholarship Committee will announce the their choice for the 2017 Book Award soon.

The Executive Board is in the planning stage for the annual June BBQ picnic.

Membership dues are coming in. Thank you for being prompt.

The Boston Civil War Round Table, "5 Days in May" trip" has nine of us from our Round Table signed up. It's not too late for you to join us.

Answer to February quiz "Where Am I?"....The Pennsylvania Memorial—Gettysburg battlefield.

Please consider donating a book or two to our monthly raffle. Money raised helps support our annual "Book Award"

#### 2016-2017 Executive Board

Joe Langlois—President

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bobbylee76@comcast.net

## THE FLAGBEARER

### Greater New Bedford Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, March 28th 7:00 pm

Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military
Museum



#### MARCH 28 SPEAKER— MR. DAVID PRENTISS

Our March speaker is well known to our membership. David Prentiss is a long time member, one of the first, and has given several presentations to our organization. David is an Adjunct Professor and Lecturer at UMass Dartmouth in Political Science. He is also the current President of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra. David is an excellent student of the American Civil War and in particular, is an Abraham Lincoln scholar. Tonight's lecture is titled, "The Lessons of Lincoln: What Abraham Lincoln Can Teach Us Today".

Guests are always welcome to the Round Table meeting. No charge, and plenty of parking......



**DAVID PRENTISS** 

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I recently attended a Round Table meeting in Dedham that featured an interesting organization; - the Friends of Middleborough Cemeteries, Inc. Their mission is to photograph, index, record from several angles, and clean the headstones of Veterans of the Civil War buried and remembered throughout the 14 cemeteries in Middleborough. The molds and lichens that obscure their names are almost gone on many of the headstones. They measure them , transcribe the inscriptions, and work with Middleborough's Veteran's Agent to flag the headstones and research the names of those interred. They also teach, for free, the proper method of cleaning the slate, marble, and granite stones. This is truly a labor of love. The before and after photographs of their cleaning efforts were really something to behold. I did not know the ins and outs of headstone cleaning. They have cleaned and photographed over 400 headstones of Civil War veterans. They use but one cleaning solution; - D2 Biological solution, at about \$40 per gallon, along with water, nylon brushes, and wooden tongue depressors. They meet the third Thursday of the month at the Middleborough Public Library. .....Bob Lytle

#### **CIVIL WAR EVENTS / SHOWS 2017**

**April 1.....**Pamplin Park. Petersburg Breakthrough Anniversary. Walk in the footsteps of Civil War soldiers on an exclusive tour of the Park's historic grounds. For information 804-861-2408

**April 2...**A.P. Hill Ceremony. 152nd Anniversary of the death of A.P. Hill memorial ceremony will be held at the death site across from the Pamplin Park entrance, Petersburg on Sunday 1 p.m. with Patrick Falci and friend. Falci starred as A.P. Hill in the movie. Gettysburg.

May 6-7 New York. The 29th Annual Artillery School at Old Fort Niagara in Youngstown, N.Y. Open to all branches of service, Confederate and Union, sponsored by the National Civil War Artillery Association. For information, 716-432-0456

May 19-21. Virginia. Period Firearms Competition. The North-South Skirmish Association 135th National Competition near Winchester, VA. Over 3,000 uniformed competitors in 200 member units compete in live-fire matches with muskets, carbines, breech loading rifles, revolvers, mortars and cannon. The largest Civil War live-fire event in the country. Free admission. For info, visit the website www.n-ssa.org.

June 24-25. Pennsylvania. 44th Annual Civil War Collectors' Show All Star Expo Hall at Eisenhower Inn, Gettysburg. Sat 10-5, Sunday 9-2. Sponsored by the Gettysburg Battlefield preservation Assn. Call 717-339-0009

July 1-3. Pennsylvania, Reenactment. The 154th Gettysburg Battle Anniversary Reenactment will be held at 969 Pumping Station Road at the Gettysburg Movie Site overlooking the Round Tops and historic Sachs Mill Covered Bridge adjoining Gettysburg National Military Park. Spectator tickets are on sale now. Bleacher seating packages are available. For more information go to www.gettysburgreenactment.com

#### **Book recommendations**

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"If I Am Alive Next Summer": The Civil War Letters of Captain Charles Robinson of the 16th Massachusetts Infantry, "The Iron Sixteenth", edited by Albert C. Eisenberg and Michael Hammerson. Heritage Books

**Pure Heart" The Faith of a Father and Son in the War for a More Perfect Union.** By William F. Quigley. Kent State University Press

The 18th New York Infantry in the Civil War: A History and Roster. By Ryan A. Conklin McFarland and Company, Inc

**The Life of a Union Army Sharpshooter: The Diaries and Letters of John T. Farnham.** Edited by William G. Andrews . Fonthill Media

Credit to Civil War News March issue

UPCOMING SPRING SPEAKERS FOR THE NEW BED-FORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE.

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#### 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



#### June 27, 2017

Annual New Bedford Civil War Round Table Picnic

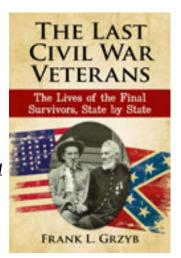
.....Save The Date



#### September 26, 2017

#### Frank L. Grzyb

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



#### 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

### \*\*\*\*\* Underground Railroad\*\*\*\*\*\*



# ...From the Standard Times...story credit to Steve Ur-

There is a significant number of artifacts on display or in the collection at the New Bedford Whaling Museum with connections to the American Civil War. All this is under the watchful eye of the Old Dartmouth Historical Society. They are as follows.....

- \*\* A silver-framed mirror that came from the presidential stateroom on the steamer River Oueen. We all know about the River Queen from the presentation by James Conroy here at the Round Table last November.
- \*\*A piece of printed fabric from the dress that that British actress Laura Keene, who had cradled Lincoln's head after he was shot. She was appearing in the play "My American Cousin." The swatch is one of about five that are known to exist, and was kept by Keene at her adopted home in Acushnet at the William Bradford farm, which she had purchased. Eventually it was donated to the Museum, where it is rarely exhibited.
- \*\*We all know about the history of the Resolute desk gifted to President Rutherford B. Hayes by Queen Victoria, - made from the great sailing ship, upon decommissioning. There were two other desks made, one to the Royal Navy Museum, and the other given to New Bedford businessman Henry Grinnell. It was kept in the family until 1993 when it was given to the Whaling Museum. This oak desk is displayed in the Braitmayer Gallery at the Museum.

### 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 (AOE)	Formille (#20)
Individual (\$25)	ramily (\$30)
Home Address:	
Phone:	
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Email Address:	

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

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.newbedfordcwrt.org

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# THE 12TH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS "THE WEBSTER REGIMENT"

The 12th Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was requited in April 1861, through the personal efforts of Fletcher Webster, son of the statesman, Daniel Webster. During the first week of May 1861, the Regiment was transferred to Fort Warren where its organization was completed. Five companies were raised in Boston, and one each in Abington, North Bridgewater, Gloucester, Stoughton, and Weymouth. The regiment left for the seat of war on July 23rd., and reached Sandy Hook, Md on the 27th, near Harper's Ferry. The 12th saw action at Second Bull Run, where its commander, Col. Webster was mortally wounded. On September 17th, at Antietam, the 12th fought in the Bloody Cornfield, losing 224 officers and men, including its Surgeon, A.A. Kendall. The 12th fought at Fredericksburg where it took 258 men into bat-

tle and lost 105. The 12th fought at Chancellorsville, and saw action on the First Day at Gettysburg. Before Petersburg in 1864, the Regiment was ordered home and mustered out on July, 1864. The 12th Regiment gave the Union great service. (source—internet)



......More on 2017-18 Round Table Speakers

October 24, 2017

<u>Jim Thayer</u>

Jim is a teacher and expert on Frederick Law Olmsted. His presentation will be

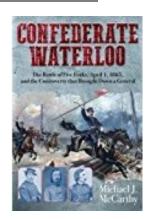
"Olmsted's War"



November 14, 2017

Michael McCarthy

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



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





#### **CIVIL WAR TRIVIA**

1. What former medical professor amputated Stonewall Jackson's arm?

#### .....Hunter McGuire

2. Where is the arm buried?

....Chancellorsville Va at Ellwood Manor. Extra points if you have visited this gravesite. I know at least 6 of you from the Round Table have been there.



3. Who was Robert E. Lee's military secretary?

....Col. Armistead Lindsey Long His book on Robert E. Lee is the definitive study of Lee

4. Who was the only man on either side, Confederate or Union, who started in the war as a private and ended as a lieutenant general?

...Nathan Bedford Forrest, nickname "Wizard of the Saddle" or as Grant put it "that devil Forrest"

5. What Brigadier General in the Corps of Engineers supervised the completion of the Washington Monument after the war?

....Horatio Gouverneur Wright Born in Clinton CT, buried in Arlington. Commanded VI Corps. Taught French and Engineering at West Point.



6. Who had as subordinates the Comte de Paris, the Duc de Chartes, and the Prince de Joinville?

#### ... Major General George B. MClellan

7. What Maine born Major General served in the postwar years as Governor of Wisconsin, as a U.S. Congressman, and a founder of the company that became General Mills?

#### ....Cadwallader Colden Washburn

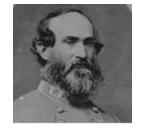
- 8. What millionaire soldier of fortune who was killed at Chantilly had a town in New jersey and two decorations, a medal, and a cross, named after him?
- ... Major General Philip Kearney "Kearney the Magnificent"
- 9. What two future U.S. presidents served in the 23rd Ohio?

...Brev. Maj. William McKinley and Brev. Maj. Gen. Rutherford B. Hayes

#### WHO ARE THESE GENERALS?



















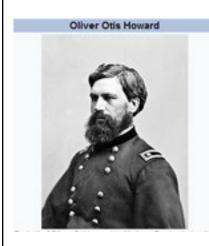


#### **ANSWERS**

Joseph E. Johnston
Jubal Early
John A. Logan
John Buford
Stonewall Jackson

James Longstreet P.G.T. Beauregard Henry Slocum George Sykes George Custer

#### WHAT THEY DID AFTER THE WAR



Oliver O. Howard. Known as the "Christian General", because he tried to base his policy decisions on his deep religious piety. He was given charge of the Freedmen's Bureau in mid-1865, with the mission of integrating the freed slaves into Southern society and politics during the second phase of the Reconstruction Era. Howard took charge of labor policy. Setting up a system that required free slaves to work on former plantation land under pay scales fixed by the Bureau, on terms negotiated by the Bureau with white land owners. Howard's Bureau was primarily responsible for the legal affairs of the freedmen. He attempted to protect freed blacks from the hostile conditions, but lacked adequate power, and was repeatedly frustrated by President Andrew Johnson. Howard's allies, the Radical Republicans won control of Congress in the 1866 elections and imposed Radical

Reconstruction, with the result that freedmen were given the vote. With the help and advise of the Bureau, freedmen joined Republican coalitions and won at the ballot boxes of most of the southern states. Howard was also a leader in promoting higher education for freedmen, most notably founding of Howard University in Washington D.C. and serving as its President 1867-73. After 1874, Howard commanded troops in the West, conducting a famous campaign against the Nez Perce tribe, the and Apaches in 1872. Howard was born in Leeds, Maine , and died in 1909 (age 78) and is buried in Burlington , Vermont.' (source—Wikipedia )



Nelson Appleton Miles. Born in Westminster, Massachusetts. Died in Washington D.C. 1925 (age 85) Buried in Arlington. Highest rank—Commanding General of the United States Army. Began as a Lieutenant in the 22nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. Famous as a fighter in the Indian Wars, and as the Military Governor of Puerto Rico. Fought at Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania, the Wilderness, and Appomattox. Shot four times in battle. Commanded at Fort Monroe when Confederate President Davis was held there, and was forced to defend himself against charges that Jefferson Davis was mistreated while there. Married the niece of General William T. Sherman. Miles played a major role in nearly all of the U.S. Army's campaigns against the American Indian tribes of the Great Plains. He was the field commander of the force that defeated the Kiowa, Comanche, and the Southern Cheyenne along the Red River. He cleaned up the

Great Plains after the defeat of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer. In the winter of 1877 he drove his troops across Montana and intercepted the Nez Perce band led by Chief Joseph. For the rest of Miles' career, he would quarrel with General O.O. Howard over credit for Joseph's capture. While on the Yellowstone, he developed expertise with the heliograph for sending communications signals, establishing a 140-mile-log line of heliographs connecting Fort Keogh and Fort Custer, Montana in 1878, After fighting in the Spanish American War as Commanding General of the Army, at the age of 64, he showed his strength to be still physically able to command, on July 14, 1903, he rode 90 miles from Fort Sill in Oklahoma to Fort Reno, Oklahoma, in 8 hours riding time in temperatures between 90 and 100 degrees F. The distance was covered on a relay of horses stationed at 10 mile intervals; the first 30 miles were covered in 2 hours, 25 minutes. This was the longest horseback ride ever made by a commanding general of the army. Miles died in 1925 at the age of 85 from a heart attack while attending a circus in Washington D.C., with is grandchildren. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, in the Miles Mausoleum. There is only one other Mausoleum at Arlington. (source—Wikipedia)