



Western North Carolina

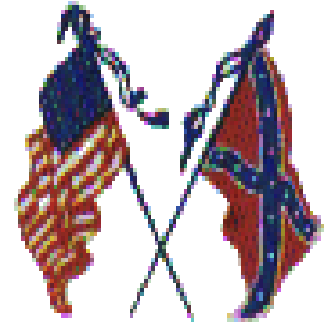
Civil War Round Table

Volume XV-Issue 6

February 2012

Web page— [www. WNCCWRT.ORG](http://www.WNCCWRT.ORG)

Meetings Exit 83 and right to Justice Center



Panel Discussion Is February Program

Our February program at the Justice Center will be a panel discussion of the Kennesaw Mountain Battle by our members, Ray Rouser, Chuck Beemer and Paul Turner. Ray will lead with an over view of the battle and Chuck will follow with the Union viewpoint and Paul with the Confederate one. Members are encouraged to participate in the discussion. This program is a bit different and promises to be most interesting. The stage is yours, guys, bring it on!



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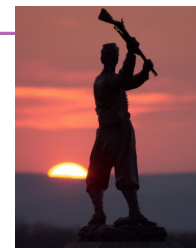
Refreshments will be provided in February by Betty Rouser and Diane Plemmons and in March by Susan and Howard Chambers. In April by Carrie Kirkman and in May by Margaret and John McGirt.



Guests and newcomers included Beverly Neufield, Greg Meek, Lydia Doyle, Ken Fisher and Jane Nardy of the Cashiers Historical Society, who were guests of Ann McKee Austin. We welcome all of you.



The editors of the newsletter would like stories of soldiers from WNC serving in the Civil War. Contact Betty Rouser or Gabriell Lambert if you provide them and a photograph.





By Betty Rouser

1. What Virginia spy, captured by Union agents, reportedly took her guard's gun and shot him dead?
2. What was Jefferson Davis doing when news of his election arrived?
3. What Maryland town saw a Union army entering as the Confederates were leaving on the other side?
4. What Tenn. Calvary general became a horse breeder after the war?
5. What Southern governor fled to England after the war and why?
6. What lasting legacy did Union soldier John D. Billings leave?

Neufeld is Speaker In January

Betty Rouser

Our distinguished speaker at the January meeting at the Justice Center was Rob Neufeld, historian, author and storyteller. Rob presented vignettes of Civil War personalities in his program entitled CIVIL WAR IN WNC –PERSON BY PERSON. Included were Thomas Lenoir of the 25th NC Regiment known as the Haywood Highlanders. Lenoir, 44 years of age, served at Camp Lee in 1862, was unwell but still did his job. He was also a strict disciplinarian who was sometimes unpopular with his soldiers. Seven of the Haywood Highlanders made it from their enlistment to the end at Appomattox. Rob stated that 98% of soldiers enlisting in WNC did so for homeland security reasons, not to preserve slavery or others causes. Other vignettes included that of Charles Aycock, Governor of NC, who improved education in this state, but accusations of racism have marred his reputation; another vignette was that of James McDowell of Madison County and Lt. Thomas Patton who wrote that McDowell failed to drill soldiers under him. Another was William Hall from Newfound who was killed at Chickamauga; and James Martin Henderson who wrote 219 descriptive letters home, serving in the same company as William P. Inman. Henderson would die in the hospital in Petersburg that Inman deserted from. All the vignettes represented a cross section of soldiers and their experiences during the war. Rob continues to research and write their stories, and we became the benefactors as we read them.

Rob is the author and editor of five books, and a producer of events and local history. He is a writer for the Asheville Citizen Times, and publishes the popular books and heritage website THE READ ON WNC. He and wife Beverly live in Asheville. He enjoys the woods, talking to people, writing and his family.

We thank Rob for a most interesting program.

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Dr. Nancy Freeman was the winner of the Time Life set of books raffled by the Roundtable. She bought six tickets from Ray Rouser. The raffle netted the Roundtable \$220 profit.



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MEETING SCHEDULE

February 13: At Sylva

(Ray Rouser, Paul Turner and Chuck Beemer) Three member panel and audience discussion on the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.

Kennesaw will be our Spring Field Trip in mid-April, 2012.

March 12: At Sylva

Chris Hartley

Col. George Stoneman's Raid

April 9: At Sylva

Thomas Cartwright

Gen. Patrick Cleburne and the

Battle of Franklin

May 14: At WCU Auditorium

Susan Thomas and Sister

(Two for the price of one)

Belle Boyd, Confederate Spy

Sister portrays Dr. Mary Edwards

Walker - a Union Surgeon



JUST FOR FUN CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

1. Nancy Hart, but some historians question whether she was real or fictitious.
2. Davis was in his garden pruning roses
3. Frederick Maryland
4. William Hicks Jackson, whose Belle Meade stables produced several champion Thoroughbreds
5. Governor Isham Harris of Tn fled to England to avoid charges of treason by the Federals, returning in 1868 when no longer threatened
6. John D. Billings of the 10th Mass. Kept a diary of daily life during the war, and compiled it into Hard Tack and Coffee, a wonderful account of camp life, battles and soldiering.

Backward Glances: Snippets of Civil War History—Betty Rouser

Captain John Alden Garrett Howell of Waynesville was one of the last surviving officers of the Civil War, living to be 106 years old. He grew up in Haywood Co. joining the confederate Army as a second lieutenant at the age of twenty. Within a year, he was promoted to Captain of Company B, 5th NC Infantry. Captain Howell served under General Thomas J “Stonewall” Jackson and was only thirty feet from him when he was mortally wounded at Chancellorsville. Throughout the war, Captain Howell served valiantly and was fortunate to suffer no severe wounding.

Following the war, Captain Howell returned to Waynesville, studied law and earned his degree and license. He pursued a legal practice only briefly before finding business and banking more to his liking. He became one of Haywood counties most trusted and successful businessman. In his later years, Captain Howell said “if you want to live to be 100 years old, make the 23 psalm a part of your daily life, eat three square meals a day, keep your chin up and your temper under control.” Captain Howell was honored by the NC Legislature on the occasion of his 106th birthday and again at this death.

GENERALS CLUB

LIEUTENANT GENERALS

Chuck and Nancy Beemer

To Honor:

1st Lt. Benjamin Marshall Mills

49th US infantry - Chuck's

Great, Great Uncle,

White officer, colored reg.

Paul Turner

To Honor:

Captain Thomas M. Angel

in 16th NC

Sergeant George M. Angel

in 16th NC (Wounded at

Mechanicsville & Gettysburg)

MAJOR GENERALS

Bud and Connie Ebert

To Honor:

Captain Charles O. Tannehill

65th Ohio Volunteers

Ninian Tannehill,- Tannehill Iron

Works, Birmingham, Alabama

Hon. Phil Haire

To Honor:

Perry Haire

1st Corps Co. F, 7th NC

KIA Fredericksburg 12/13/62

Jesse W. Jackson

Pvt. Co. E, 22nd NC

Paroled - Appomattox 4/9/65

Rick Plemmons

To Honor:

Pvt. Levi Plemmons 2nd NC

Paroled at Appomattox

Pvt. William Plemmons 2nd NC

Pvt. Jess Plemmons 29th NC

Royce Woosley

To Honor: **Five Relatives - All in Union Army Co. B**

17th Kentucky Volunteers

1st Sgt. Thomas Ferry (Royce's

Great Grandfather)

Pvt. John Ferry

Pvt. Charles Ferry

Captain Issac Ferry,-Commander

Pvt. Hugh Ferry - Died 5/20/62,

from wounds suffered at Shiloh

Marcia Woosley

To Honor:

Captain Myles Keogh,

Irishman and Union Cavalry

Commander, Co. I, 7th US

Cavalry on 6/25/76 when KIA

at Battle of Little Big Horn.

Treasurer Report for January

Beginning Balance	5015.80
Expenses	-1232.09
Income	257.00
Ending Balance	4040.71

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