



# THE FLAGBEARER

## Future Speakers

Megan Kate Nelson will be with us in November. Please note on your calendar that we will move the date of this meeting to November 17th, so as to not conflict with Thanksgiving week.



Her topic is new and is the subject of her latest book. She will cover the American Civil War in the Desert Southwest. Megan earned a B.A. at Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in American Studies at the University of Iowa.



Al Smith, joins us in January, for the first time, with a wonderful presentation on the Abraham Lincoln Funeral Train. Al, and his brother Dave, lead the annual *Four Days in May Trip* to the East Coast Battlefields.

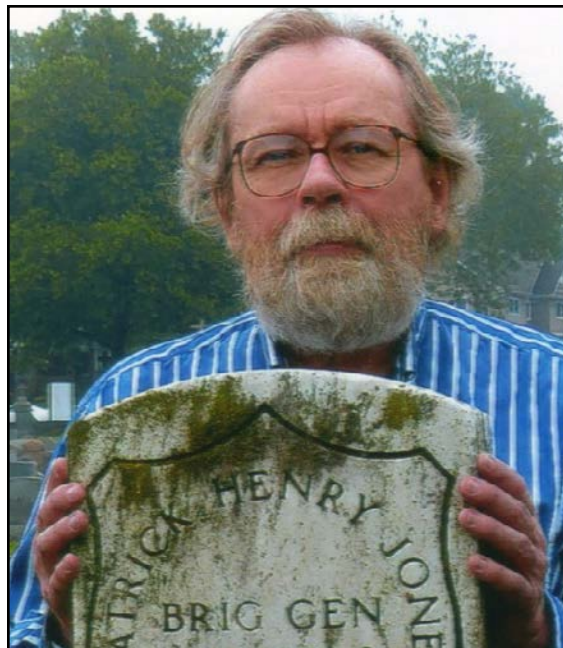
**OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER DATE HAS BEEN RESERVED  
ONCE AGAIN WE WILL GATHER AT ME AND ED'S RESTAURANT FOR OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR 6:00 P.M. TUESDAY DECEMBER 15**

## Greater New Bedford Civil War Round Table

### October 27, 2015, 7:00 Meeting

### @ Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum

#### Mark Dunkelman returns to The New Bedford Civil War Round Table in October .



Mark H. Dunkelman is well known to our Round Table, he usually speaks at our meetings once a year. He is the author of (1) *Brothers One and All: Esprit de Corps in a Civil War Regiment*, (2) *War's Relentless Hand: Twelve Tales of Civil War Soldiers*, and (3) *Marching with Sherman: Through Georgia and the Carolina with the 154th New York*.

This year Mark is introducing his newest book, *Patrick Henry Jones, Irish American, Civil War General, and Gilded Age Politician*.

Patrick Henry Jones (1830-1900), a poor Irish immigrant began his career in journalism before gaining admittance to the New York Bar. When the Civil War erupted in 1861, Jones volunteered for service in the Union Army, where he rose steadily through the ranks of the 37th New York, became Colonel of the 154th New York, and eventually attained the rank of Brigadier General. Mark will tell us his story.

#### Speaker Schedule 2015-2016

**October 27, 2015**—Mark Dunkelman. Gen'l Patrick Henry Jones

**November 17, 2015**—Megan Kate Nelson war in the Southwest

**December 15, 2015**—Annual Holiday dinner and book raffle

**January 26, 2016**—Albert Smith, The Lincoln Funeral

**Feb 23, 2016**—Mark Mello, Devil's Den

**Mar 22, 2016**—James Conroy, *Our One Common Country*

**April 26, 2016**—Prof John Rodrigue, Lincoln and Reconstruction

**May 24, 2016**—John Foskett, Civil War Artillery

**June, 2016**—Annual Picnic

**July–August, 2016** Summer Vacation

**September 27, 2016** - Matthew Cost, *Joshua Chamberlain and the Civil War: At Every Hazard*

#### 2015-2016 Officers

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## UPCOMING ROUND TABLE SPEAKERS



Megan Kate Nelson returns to the Round Table in November, 2015. She is a writer, historian, and cultural critic. She has written for the *New York Times*, and *The Civil War Times*. She earned her B.A. in History and Literature from Harvard University and her PhD in American Studies from the University of Iowa, and taught at Cal State Fullerton, Harvard, and Brown. She has written two books— *Ruin Nation: Destruction and The American Civil War* (2012) and *Trembling Earth: A Cultural History of the Okefenokee Swamp* (2005)— and is working on a third, *Path of the Dead Man: How the West Was Won— and Lost —during the American Civil War*. Megan Kate Nelson will feature this last piece of research at the November Round Table meeting.

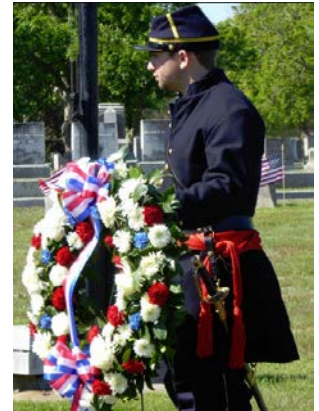
In March, 2016 we welcome writer James Conroy. His book, *Our One Common Country*, tells the story of Abraham Lincoln's presidential peace mission. His book is a 2015 Finalist for the prestigious Gilder-Lehrman Lincoln Prize



April, 2016 brings us Professor John C. Rodrique, from Stonehill College. He will feature his book, *Lincoln and Reconstruction*. Professor Rodrique earned his B.A., History from Rutgers University, his M.A., History from Columbia University, and his Ph.D., History from Emory University. His teaching and research interests focus on nineteenth-century United States history, specifically the Civil War and Reconstruction era, slavery and emancipation, the U.S. South, and African-American history. He is currently working on a long-term project on the southern planters after the war.

We began our 2015-2016 season with a colorful presentation by Mark Mello. His topic was the life of the average Union soldier; what he wore, carried, cooked, and ate. Mark discussed how his unit was organized, and what his life was like. If you wish to have Mark present to your organization; school, library, seniors group, veterans group, etc contact him or myself.

Mark will return next February with a new subject, - the battle for Devil's Den, July 2, 1863.



John Foskett is our May, 2016 speaker. He earned his B.A. from Notre Dame and his J.D. from Boston College Law School. His topic? Let's assume you know the Governor of Massachusetts. Abraham Lincoln has called for 75,000 troops after Fort Sumter. The Massachusetts Governor has stopped by your home and appointed you Captain, Battery "A", 1st Mass Light. This is a newly formed Battery. What do you next. John Foskett will be your guide. John is a well known expert on Civil War artillery tactics

.....*News from the Round Table*

.....*We thank Mark Mello , our September program presenter , for stepping in at the last moment—our originally scheduled speaker had cancelled early in the month.*

.... *We have made our final reservation for our Annual Holiday Dinner , - December 15th, at Me and Ed’s Restaurant. We have had our annual event at Me and Ed’s for several years and have been very pleased at their quality and service. Please mark your calendar for Dec 15th and plan to attend.*

.... *I recently was contacted by Matthew Cost, Brunswick Maine, about coming to the New Bedford Round Table in September 2016 , - he has a new book being published , on Joshua Chamberlain. So we are booked on speakers from now through September 2016.*

... *I recently returned from my annual trip to Gettysburg. While there I looked up Scott Atkinson , one of the better presenting National Park Rangers. He expressed an interest in coming to the New Bedford Round Table in 2016. We’ll work on that. His presentations are lively , humorous, and loaded with information. It’s always a treat to hear a Gettysburg battlefield talk by Scott Atkinson.*

... *Well known Lincoln re-enactor , James Getty, of Gettysburg , passed away . Many of you have seen him on tv or at the Gettysburg battlefield during a “Four Days in May” trip*

... *Questions or comments? Contact me....Bob Lytle 508-542-7630 bobbylee76@comcast.net*

**150 YEARS AGO**

...June 26 and 28 ,1865.... C.S.S. *Shenandoah* took seventeen whalers in the Bering Sea.

...July 7, 1865..... On a hot July day in Washington, a large crowd gathered in the Arsenal grounds at the Old Penitentiary Building. The Lincoln conspirators were brought in , four graves were dug, and four were hanged. Lewis Payne, George A. Atzerodt, David Herold, and Mrs. Mary E. Surratt were executed for their roles in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

...September 14, 1865.... At Fort Smith, Ark., representatives of the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Osages, Seminoles, Senacas, Shawnees, and Quapaws signed a treaty of loyalty with the United States, and renounced all Confederate agreements. Additional Indian groups later did the same.

...November 6, 1865 ... Confederate cruiser *Shenandoah* , was surrendered by Lieut. James Waddell to British officials at Liverpool.

...November 10, 1865... Capt. Henry Wirz, who commanded the notorious Andersonville, Ga. Confederate prison, was hanged after conviction by a military commission on charges of cruelty to Federal prisoners of war.

...December 18, 1865 The Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolishing slavery was declared in effect by Sec. of State Seward after approval by twenty seven states.

**Minutemen of ‘61**

Governor Andrew took office in January 1861, just two weeks after the secession of South Carolina. Convinced that war was imminent, Andrew took rapid measures to prepare the state militia for active duty. Massachusetts sent a total of 159,165 men to serve in the war. Of these, 133,002 served in the Union army, and 26,163 in the navy. The army units raised in Massachusetts consisted of 62 regiments of infantry, six regiments of cavalry, 16 batteries of light artillery, four regiments of heavy artillery, two companies of sharpshooters, a handful of unattached battalions, and 26 unattached companies.

On April 15, 1861, Andrew received a telegraph from Washington calling for 1,500 men, to serve for 90 days. The next day, several companies of the 8th Massachusetts Volunteer Militia from Marblehead were the first to report in Boston. By the end of the day , three regiments were ready to start for Washington.

While passing through Baltimore on April 19, 1861, the 6th Massachusetts was attacked by a

pro-secessionist mob and became the first volunteer troops to suffer casualties in the war. The 6th Massachusetts was also the first to reach Washington D.C. in response to Lincoln’s call. Lincoln awaited the arrival of additional regiments, but none arrived for several days. Inspecting the 6th Massachusetts on April 24th, Lincoln told the soldiers, “I don’t believe there is any North....You are the only Northern realities.”

Given that the 6th Massachusetts reached Washington on April 19th ( the anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, which commenced the American Revolution), and other Massachusetts regiments were en route to Washington and Virginia on that date, the first militia units to leave Massachusetts were dubbed “ The Minutemen of ‘61.”

....Wikipedia

Meanwhile back in New Bedford, in May, 1861, the earthworks fort was completed and operational. Brass and Iron cannons were mounted to protect the Clark’s Cove and Acushnet River approaches to the city. This temporary defensive position was named Fort Taber, in honor of the city’s chief executive at that time.

### Civil War Trivia

1. What state was described as, “ too small to be a republic and to large to be an insane asylum?”
2. Who was the youngest general in the army?
3. Who defined a honest politician as one who, “once bought , stays bought”
4. What was Lincoln's first official act as president?
5. Who was known as the dictator of Congress?”
6. Who is buried in the largest mausoleum in America?
7. How many times was General Nathan Bedford Forrest wounded during the Civil War?
8. Who was known as the “Cleopatra of the Confederacy”?
9. What was the original name proposed for the state of West Virginia?
10. Who said, “The office of the President of the United States is not fit for a gentleman”?

### Answers

1. South Carolina. Former congressman James Petigru's sentiment
2. Galusha Pennypacker. Enlisted at 16 as Quartermaster Sergeant in 9th Pa Inf Reg. Breveted to Major in 97th Pa, hero of the second Battle of Fort Fisher. Received full promotion to Brig Gen'l at age 20. Retired in 1883.
3. Simon Cameron. Famous as political machine boss. Served as Lincoln's first Sec of War.
4. Appoint John Nicolay as his secretary, at a salary of \$2500.
5. Pennsylvania Senator Thaddeus Stevens
6. Not buried , but entombed, - General U.S. Grant and his wife. 122nd St, New York City
7. Three times
8. Belle Boyd. Her spying career began when she reportedly shot and killed a Union soldier who insulted her. Belle was acquitted and soon became a local celebrity in her hometown of Winchester, Va, attracting the attention of Generals Beauregard and Jackson, for whom she acted as courier and spy.
9. Kanawha.
10. President James Buchanan.

Source: Civil War Studies

### Interesting Civil War Phrases

Forty Dead Men— a full cartridge box , which usually held forty rounds

Bark juice, Red Eye, O Be Joyful— liquor

Arkansas Toothpick- a long sharp knife

Blue Mass- refers to men on sick call; named after blue pill

Company Q- fictitious unit designation for sick list

Bummer- malingerer, someone who deliberately lags behind

French leave- to go absent without leave

John Barleycorn- beer

Jonah- someone who brings bad luck

Housewife- sewing kit

Goobers- peanuts

Salt horse- salted meat

See The Elephant- experience combat or other worldly events

Pumpkin Rinds- gold lieutenant's bars