

May 2022

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...Feeding the Army of the Potomac

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THE FLAGBEARER

THE GREATER NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Tuesday May 24, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Low Tide Yacht Club building, 1000 So. Rodney French Blvd, New Bedford, MA located inside Fort Taber Park, open to the public, no charge, ample free parking

OUR SPEAKER FOR MAY 24, 2022

May 24, 2022 Speaker

Jamie Malanowski, Author and Screenwriter

"Commander Will Cushing, U.S. Navy, Daredevil Hero of the Civil War"

It was October 1864. The Confederate iron-clad CSS Albemarle had sunk two Federal warships and damaged seven others, taking control of the Roanoke River. Twenty-one year



Jamie Malanowski



old Navy Lieutenant William Barker Cushing

hatched a daring plan; to

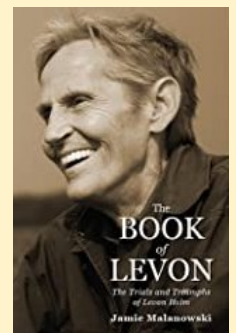
attack the fearsome warship with a few dozen men in two small wooden boats. What followed, the close range torpedoing of the Albemarle and Cushing's two day escape downriver is one of the most dramatic individual exploits in American military history.

Theodore Roosevelt said that Cushing "comes next to Farragut on the hero roll of American naval history", but most have never heard of him today. A thrilling narrative biography, steeped in tactics, weaponry, and battle techniques of the Union Navy, Commander Will Cushing brings to life a compelling but flawed figure. Along with three brothers, including the one that fell at Gettysburg, Cushing served with bravery and heroism. But he was irascible and complicated—a loveable rogue, prideful and impulsive, who nonetheless possessed a genius for combat.

In telling Cushing's story, Malanowski paints a vivid, memorable portrait of the army officials, engineers, and politicians scrambling to win the war.

Please note Jamie's other book shown here.

Do you remember "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down"?



Save the Date—Annual Round Table BBQ Picnic

The Annual June picnic of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table will be at the Low Tide Yacht Club building on Tuesday June 28 at 6:00. This will be a catered event. Details will be in the June Flagbearer.



Salute to the Civil War Veterans, by the New Bedford Civil War Round Table Leadership Team

Memorial Day weekend - Annual New Bedford Civil War Round Table Remembrance Service at Rural Cemetery, Dartmouth Street, New Bedford.

Saturday morning 9:00 A.M. May 28th in the Civil War Section of the Cemetery. Keynote speaker is scheduled to be New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell.



Your Round Table Communications Team

The You Tube Channel showcases individual meetings through the filming and editing of each in-person meeting

[DON BROWN, ROUND TABLE DIGITAL OUTREACH](#)

Don Brown is also an authorized producer graduate of New Bedford Cable Access Channel 95

The Facebook page is the handled by

[DAVID PRENTISS , ROUND TABLE MEMBER](#)

The Round Table Website is the responsibility of

[FOLLOWING SEA DESIGN INC. LUCY IANNOTTI](#)

The Flagbearer is edited by

[BOB LYTL, ROUND TABLE MEMBER](#)

Joseph E. Langlois Book Award announcement for 2022



The selection committee comprised of Peter Rioux and Jack Richer have selected a recipient and have composed this press release.

The New Bedford Civil War Round Table is pleased to announce that the 2022 Joseph E. Langlois Book Award in the amount of five hundred dollars has been presented to Evan Garcia.

Evan is presently a senior at Dartmouth High School. He is a well-deserving recipient based upon his superior academic record, extensive leadership and participation in school activities, community activity involvement, and the quality of his submitted essay on New Bedford's role in the Civil War.

Next fall, Evan intends to pursue his education at Holy Cross College majoring in Political Science and History.

Evan was among an array of highly qualified applicants, and we extend our congratulations to him and express our very best wishes to him for what we are confident will be a very successful college experience.

HOW WE COMMUNICATE WITH YOU

The Round Table Newsletter

April 2022

This issue of the Flagbearer:

- ...April 26 Speaker is David Prentiss
- ...May 24 Speaker is Jamie McIntosh
- ...Save the Date for our Annual June picnic
- ...Save the Date for our Annual Memorial Day Service at Rural Cemetery
- ...Al Smith cancelled the "4 Days in May" trip
- ...Our Round Table needs your help. We need a recording Secretary to publish minutes of our quarterly Executive Board Meeting.

THE FLAGBEARER

THE GREATER NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

Tuesday April 26, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Low Tide Yacht Club building, 1000 So. Rodney French Blvd, New Bedford, MA located inside Fort Taber Park, open to the public, no charge, ample free parking


OUR SPEAKER FOR APRIL 26, 2022

DAVID PRENTISS

David Prentiss is a long time member of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table. He has delivered many presentations to our organization.

His topic for April 26th is "The Art of Generalship: Grant's Vicksburg Campaign"

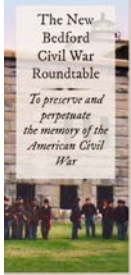
The capture of Vicksburg was one of the most difficult military objectives of the Civil War. Grant's campaign is the spring of 1863 which led to the



The Round Table Website

The New Bedford Civil War Roundtable

To preserve and perpetuate the memory of the American Civil War



Calendar of Events


All events take place at the Fort Taber Military Museum unless otherwise noted. Talks are free and open to all.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Apr 26, 2022, 7:00pm

David Prentiss

The Art of Generalship: Grant's Vicksburg Campaign



Mission

We present free talks on a wide range of topics pertaining to the American Civil War. We believe that understanding our past is critical to making our future better. Please join us!

Activities

We periodically undertake preservation and memorial activities related to the Civil War. Check the Calendar of Events for more information.

Membership

Membership is open to anyone interested in the American Civil War. Annual memberships begin Sept. 1st. Dues support the scholarship fund.

Individual \$25 Family \$30 Download the Membership Form.

Meetings

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, starting at 7pm, at the Fort Taber Military Museum.


The Round Table YouTube Channel



The Round Table Facebook Page


Photos

See all



Videos

See all



New Bedford Civil War Roundtable

Published by Dave Prentiss · February 19 ·

REMINDER: This Tuesday, February 22 at 7pm, Jack Richer will be presenting a very interesting program on the Battle of Antietam. Was it a draw? Jack is popular on the Round Table circuit. He promises to bring us new information gleaned from a recent Antietam symposium. THIS IS AN IN-PERSON MEETING! The New Bedford Civil War Round Table is moving to a new and permanent meeting location. Beginning with the January 2022 meeting, we will meet at the Low Tide Yacht Club. This loca... See more

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New Bedford Civil War Roundtable


Published by Dave Prentiss · February 16 ·

Be sure to check out the February Flagbearer and our updated website. <https://newbedfordcivwar.org/flagbearer-feb-2022.pdf>

Internet email blast direct to members

↩ Reply ↻ Reply all → Forward 🗄 Archive 🗑 Delete 🚩 Set flag ...

NB Round Table meeting tomorrow

 bobbylee76@comcast.net <bobbylee76@comcast.net>

4/25/2022 11:22 AM

To: bobbylee76@comcast.net

Just a reminder that tomorrow night at the Low Tide Yacht Club at the Ft Taber Park, 1000 So. Rodney French Blvd, NB, the New Bedford Civil War Round Table will meet at 7:00. Doors open at 6:15. Come hear a great presentation by Round Table member David Prentiss. His focus will be on U.S. Grant and the Vicksburg campaign. Open to the public, no costs or fees, plenty of free well lit parking. Bring a friend. Coffee will be available, and a book raffle. See you tomorrow night. Bob Lytle 508-542-7630

New Bedford Cable Access Channel 95

Producer, Don Brown, Round Table Member



In-Person Meetings at the Low Tide Yacht Club—usually 4th Tuesday of the month



What in the month of May during the Civil War?

1863...The Battle of Chancellorsville

1863..."Stonewall" Jackson dies at Guinea Station, VA

1863...First assault on Vicksburg

1864...Battle of the Wilderness begins

1864...The Battle of Spotsylvania begins

1864...Battle of Resaca, GA begins

1864...The Battle of New Market

1864...Battle of New Hope Church, GA begins

1864...Battle of Cold Harbor begins

1965...Abraham Lincoln buried in Springfield

After reading Peter Rioux's excellent essay on Augustus Saint-Gaudens, you may wish to visit the National Park dedicated to this famous sculptor. Check it out on the internet. The site is near Windsor Vermont, off I-91.



At the Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum , several new artifacts related to the Civil War have been added to the collection.

- Front page New York Tribune "Lincoln is Assassinated"
- Front page newspaper—The Battle on Fort Wagner, S.C. and the heroics of the famed Mass Vol Regt, - the 54th. Sgt Carney receives Medal of Honor

Museum hours are: Weds—Sun 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Speaker for September 27. 2022

Megan Kate Nelson, Ph.D.

Dr. Nelson returns to the New Bedford Civil War Round Table for the third or fourth time, this time to introduce her newest book,

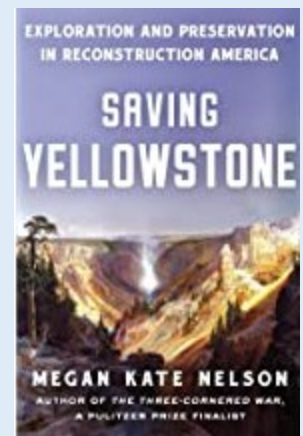


"Saving Yellowstone". Each year nearly four million people visit Yellowstone National Park, but few know the fascinating historical context in which it was established. In late July 1871, the geologist-explorer Ferdinand Hayden led a team of scientists through a narrow canyon into Yellowstone Basin, entering one of the last unmapped places in the country. The survey's discoveries led to the passage of the Yellowstone Act in 1872, which created the first national park in the world.

Saving Yellowstone follows Hayden and two other protagonists in pursuit of their own agendas: Sitting Bull, a

Lakota leader who asserted his peoples' claims to their homelands, and financier Jay Cooke, who wanted to secure his national reputation by building the Northern Pacific Railroad through the Great Northwest. Hayden, Cooke, and Sitting Bull staked their claims to Yellowstone at a critical moment in Reconstruction, when the Grant Administration and the 42nd Congress were testing the reach and the purpose of federal power across the nation.

You may wish to purchase her book prior to the September 27th Round Table meeting.



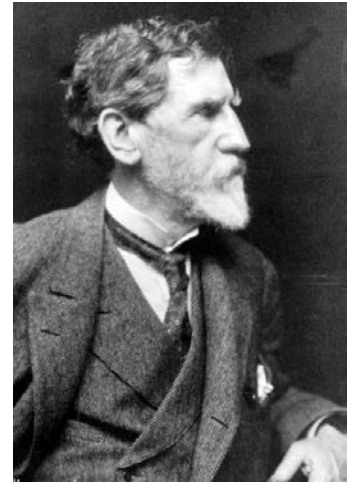
A Sculptor's Tribute to the Union's Heroes, by Peter Rioux

It was time to recognize the heroes.

A decade after the conclusion of a tragic and bitterly divisive civil war, the nation sought to determine a fitting way to recognize those heroes who had played a crucial role in the preservation of the Union; heroes whose leadership would be recognized and perpetually honored.

Memorial commissions were established, and many of them sought a sculptor with the artistic ability and genius to portray not just the physical reality of such honored heroes, but whose sculpted tributes would capture the essence, spirit, and character of each, and inspire multiple generations long into the future.

Many memorial commissions chose an artist and sculptor whose work would profoundly achieve this objective. **That sculptor was Augustus St. Gaudens** – and his work would prove to profoundly honor Abraham Lincoln, General William Tecumseh Sherman, Admiral David Farragut, General John Logan, and the Colonel Robert Shaw and 54th Black Regiment. As he said, “I have such respect and admiration for the heroes of the Civil War that I consider it my duty to commemorate them in a noble and dignified fashion worthy of their great service.” He would become the war's most influential memorial sculptor in the latter part of the 19th Century.



Augustus St. Gaudens

St. Gaudens was born in Dublin, Ireland, raised in New York City, and extensively studied in Paris. As a boy, he retained strong and vivid recollections of having seen Lincoln at his first Inaugural.

St. Gauden's primary objective as an artistic sculptor was to display “strength with elegance and style” and to vividly produce the physical presence of the seen, and to allow each memorial's observer to form an emotional sense of the unseen – Lincoln's contemplative and burdened leadership, Farragut's resolve, Sherman and Logan's forcefulness, and Shaw's shared patriotism with his troops.

The Farragut Monument

The first monument work for which St. Gauden was commissioned was “Admiral David Glasgow Farragut,” which he started in 1876 and was then dedicated on May 31, 1881 at Madison Square Park in New York City. It was this commissioned memorial that first established St. Gaudens' reputation and launched his ultimately successful career.

He completed his extensive research of his subject, including extensive interviews with Farragut family members. The Farragut statue that St. Gauden completed represents the artist's much-admired effort to portray the essential character of the admiral – strong, determined, resolute – a man of flesh and blood, not simply an expression cast in bronze. St. Gaudens worked diligently to achieve realism in every detail, including Farragut's determined facial expression that would accurately depict him when viewed from any perspective.



The eight foot, nine hundred pound monument would exceed a static physical expression by conveying an expressed dynamic of a man firmly in command – standing on a deck, bracing against the wind, gripping his binoculars, and the sword coat flapping from the gale of the water as he experienced in the Gulf of Mexico. As expressed by the New York Post, “The spectator does not feel the bronze, he feels the presence of the admiral himself.” The statue's base includes symbols of the ocean and allegorical figures representing “courage and loyalty.”

After the dedication attended by ten thousand people, the New York Times praised the Farragut tribute monument as a remarkable and beautiful work of art stating that, “It is Mr. Gaudens' triumph.”

Lincoln: The Man and Lincoln: The Leader

In 1887, St. Gaudens was invited by a Chicago monument committee to design a fitting tribute to Lincoln after Eli Bates, a Chicago businessman, had bequeathed \$40,000 in his will for such a memorial to the fallen president. The sculptor portrays "Lincoln: The Man" as a standing Lincoln, twelve feet high, exhibiting a grandeur of character, a humble leader in contemplation, and a face of war weariness about to deliver a speech. He looms large, head bowed, standing before a symbolic over-sized chair of state, positioned behind him to emphasize the power of the presidency.



In the process of his design, St. Gaudens applied his vivid recollections of having seen Lincoln twice, first while he was campaigning in New York in 1860. St. Gaudens described his view of Lincoln as "tall and dark, seated in a carriage bowing to the crowd on each side." Five years later, St. Gaudens viewed Lincoln again as the President lay in state at New York City Hall. He also used a live model who was the same height as Lincoln, and the President's face mask and hand cast completed by another sculptor in 1860.

The monument was completed and dedicated on October 22, 1887, and it is located in Lincoln Park in Chicago. Lincoln's only grandson was in attendance at the dedication ceremony. It was the most acclaimed Lincoln statue at that time. The New York Evening Post described it as "the most important achievement American sculpture has produced." The City of Chicago awarded the monument landmark status in 2001. Same size monument replicas are located at Lincoln's tomb, Parliament Square in London, and Mexico City.



The second Lincoln monument, "Lincoln: The Leader" or "Sitting Lincoln", was commissioned ten years later with funding provided through a generous bequeath of a Chicago industrialist. St. Gaudens completed the design and the initial casting for this monument before his death in 1907. After a prolonged dispute over the locational placement of the monument, the statue was ultimately unveiled and dedicated in Grant Park in 1926. Although not viewed as famously as "Lincoln: The Man," the sculptor wanted to evoke a somber sense of Lincoln's loneliness and the heavy burden of command that he had experienced during the fiery trials of the country's tragic conflict.

Generals John Logan and William Tecumseh Sherman

With his artistic acclaim established, St. Gaudens was commissioned to complete two monument memorials during the 1890's and early 20th Century – General John Logan and General William Tecumseh Sherman, both of which were equestrian enhanced sculptures.

The Logan monument, located in Chicago's Grant Park, portrays Logan as a spirited military leader rallying his troops, grasping the American flag that had been dropped by a standard bearer during the Battle of Atlanta. St. Gaudens stated that he "wished to present a figure who would embody the highest type of warrior – fierce, indomitable, energetic, and patriotic." The monument was dedicated in July, 1897, and the city's annual Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony is held at this Logan site.



General John A. Logan

The monument of General Sherman was commissioned by New York City's Chamber of Commerce and is located at the Grand Army Plaza section of Central Park and was dedicated on May 30, 1903.

Assisting St. Gaudens in the development of the monument's design, Sherman had years earlier agreed to multiple sittings with St. Gaudens for the creation of a bust. The artist was subsequently contacted by Sherman's son the day after the General's death to prepare a death mask. After agreeing, St. Gaudens contacted Daniel Chester French,



General William Tecumseh Sherman

death mask. After later to become the

infamous sculptor of the Lincoln Memorial Statue, to complete the death mask. This mask was used by St. Gaudens to portray the vividness of Sherman's image in this thirteen-foot monument of the General. The monument displays Sherman with his cape in the wind, while being guided vigorously forward as he is propelled by his horse and by an allegorical figure entitled "Victory" (The Greek goddess Nike).

The Shaw 54th Regiment Memorial

The monument to Civil War heroes, which is generally regarded as St. Gaudens' ultimate masterpiece, is the "Shaw Memorial." St. Gaudens intensively labored over its creation for fourteen years before it was unveiled on May 21, 1897, at the Boston Common. The monument commission that selected St. Gaudens was led by Joshua Smith, a Boston businessman and a former slave.

As the Shaw family desired, the design includes Colonel Shaw alongside his troops, not as a commander, but of equal size with accurately detailed individualized faces and uniforms of soldiers of the 54th Regiment. The Latin inscription on the rear facing of the monument translates to "He forsook all to preserve the public weal."

Thirty-four stars representing the reunified country appear along the top. Shaw and his troops are portrayed as returning home in the reverse direction from that when they first left to prepare for battle in 1863. St. Gaudens stated at the dedication that, "The impression of these soldiers passing the very spot where they left for the war so many years before thrills me."



Col. Robert Gould Shaw Memorial, Boston

The dedication ceremony was attended by Governor Andrews, who had originally appointed Shaw to lead the 54th, Frederick Douglass, and sixty-five original members of this Black Regiment.

The great sculptor Rodin saw a reproduction of the Shaw 54th Memorial in Paris, and stopping before it, removed his hat and stood solemnly in an expression of profound respect for the artistic tribute to a courageous and inspiring regiment.

Upon St. Gaudens' passing, he was praised as a brilliant artist whose work honored those who had led and served with their countrymen and contributed to the preservation of a reunified nation.

Feeding the Army of the Potomac, an excerpt from an article written by Lt. Col. Thomas Wilson

Col. Wilson was responsible for feeding this Army. I will quote his remarks focusing solely on the supply of beef. (editor)

On May 4, 1864, the Army of the Potomac left Brandy Station, near Culpepper Court House, Virginia, for the campaign during which were fought the Battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor, and others. During the winter the base of supplies had been Alexandria, 50 miles distant by rail. When the army began its march across Germanna Ford its strength aggregated some 150,000 officers and men, including Burnside's IX Corps, which was to follow the main army in a few days. The soldiers were required to carry in their knapsacks three days' rations, and in their haversacks an additional three days rations of hardtack, coffee, sugar, and salt. Issues of these articles were resupplied every three days. It was ordered that the meat ration should be provided by beef cattle on the hoof, to be driven along with the troops but to not use any road on which the men were marching. Cattle to supply thirteen days of beef ration were to be so driven.

Some idea of the length of the wagon train which would accompany the army may be formed from the following. After being loaded with subsistence stores, ammunition, forage for the animals, and clothing, this train would have been so long if formed in a single column that it would have stretched from Washington to Richmond, a distance of 130 miles by rail. In addition to herd of cattle, it was necessary to ship from Alexandria an additional 6,000 head of beef, along with the forage, corn in the ear, and hay. This had to be accomplished between Friday morning and the following Tuesday. The rail capacity was only good for 300 head daily. The need was for 1,200 head daily. The feat was accomplished by the Military Railroad by seizing all flat cars in the vicinity, and building pens on board. (end of excerpt)

THE NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Program Year is July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

Please fill out this form and make check payable to "New Bedford CWRT"

Mail to: New Bedford Civil War Round Table, C/O Martin Flinn, Treas 39 Little Oak Road, New Bedford MA 02745

Name _____

Type of Membership _____ Individual (\$15.00) _____ Family (\$20.00)

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell or Home phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Date: _____

New Bedford Round Table member, Robert Randall donating ancestor's artifacts to Military Museum

Robert Randall, age 90, and long time member of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table has donated his great-great grandfather's Civil War hats to New Bedford's Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum. Accepting this gift is the President of the Museum, William Niedzwiedz.

Bob Randall's great-great grandfather was George E. Randall of Rochchester MA. The gift memorabilia include George Randall's kepi worn throughout his military career, his G.A.R. campaign hat, Post 190, R.A. Pierce, New Bedford, his formal top head (he was married in it) and his bowler hat. Several pictures of George Randall are included also.

The ceremony occurred at the April 26th meeting of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table. The Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum will display these artifacts in a special case in the Civil War section of the Museum.

Museum hours are Weds through Sunday 1:00 to 4:00 pm.



William Niedzwiedz and Robert Randall

Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum is looking for volunteer staff

Have some time each week? Three to four hours one day a week is all that is required to be a Volunteer Docent at the Museum. Duties would be to meet and greet the public visitors at the Museum. If you have an interest in history, there is no better place to learn more about your interest. The Museum Mission is to educate the public about the role the men and women of New Bedford played; their sacrifice and service to our country. We display their pictures, uniforms, artifacts, and tell their stories. Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum is where "Every Day is Veterans Day"

Questions? Call Bob Lytle 508-542-7630



The Olde Colony Civil War Round Table has announced plans for its annual Jubilee Dinner



Olde Colony Civil War Round Table

Nonprofit organization

Our sister Round Table , the Olde Colony Civil War Round Table of Dedham, MA , has announced their annual Jubilee Dinner.

When: Thursday October 20, 2022 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Location: Four Points Sheraton, Norwood, MA

Guest Speaker: Scott L. Mingus, Sr.



Flames Beyond Gettysburg: The Confederate Expedition to the Susquehanna River, June 1863



Tickets: \$50.00

Reservations are required. Ticket information will be forthcoming . The New Bedford Civil War Round Table has supported Olde Colony's Jubilee Dinner for many years. We usually have a full table of our members in attendance. The dinner is excellent. The raffle of Civil War artifacts and books is impressive , and Olde Colony has always tried to have the best speakers present for your evening's enjoyment. Mark your calendar for October 20th.

Olde Colony Civil War Round Table's President , Dana Zaiser, is also a long time member of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table.

