



# THE FLAGBEARER

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

Please take a moment to update your email address with me. I have been sending out electronic reminders and notices to our members. If you have **not** received up-to-date information from me, it's because I don't have a current email address for you. Please email me at

bobbylee76@comcast.net

.....Bob Lytle

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF OUR PICNIC START TIME ON JUNE 27. IT WILL BE 6:00 P.M.**

This issue of the Flagbearer highlights the following

- The June picnic
- The Memorial Day Service
- The "5 Days in May Trip"
- The Jubilee Dinner
- 2017 and 2018 Speakers
- Gettysburg update
- New book offerings
- Book Award Announcement

## Greater New Bedford Civil War Round Table

**Tuesday, June 27 6:00 pm**

**Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military  
Museum**



### THE GREATER NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



**ANNUAL PICNIC AND MEETING TO  
ELECT 2017-2018 OFFICERS  
TUES JUNE 27th @ **6:00 P.M.**  
AT FORT TABER ~ FT RODMAN  
LOW TIDE YACHT CLUB**

**NEXT DOOR TO OUR USUAL MEETING  
LOCATION (THE MILITARY MUSEUM)**

#### WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING?

**A DESSERT TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE. SAME AS LAST YEAR  
A JACKET - DINNER IS INSIDE BUT ENJOY THE OUTSIDE DECK  
DO YOU HAVE USED BOOKS YOU'D LIKE TO DONATE TO THE RAFFLE?  
PLEASE BRING THEM. THE BOOK RAFFLE IS A HIGHLIGHT.  
BRING SPOUSE, PARTNER, AND/OR A GUEST.**

**PLEASE NOTE THE 6:00 P.M. START TIME**

**WE ARE ASKING FOR A DONATION OF \$10.00 PER PERSON TO COVER CATERING COSTS. WE WILL PASS THE HAT DURING DINNER OR HAVE A DONATION TABLE SET UP AT THE DOOR. PLEASE CHECK IN WHEN YOU ARRIVE.**

#### 2016-2017 Executive Board

- Joe Langlois—President
  - Bruce Baggaly—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

## ***New Bedford Civil War Round Table holds successful Memorial Day Service***

Once again our Round Table successfully presented a beautiful Memorial Day Service at Rural Cemetery. We hope you were present for the event. If not, please look us up on "New Bedford Guide", as the entire program was recorded, and New Bedford Cable was also present. Mayor Jon Mitchell was the keynote speaker. As an addition to our usual schedule of presentations, a light collation was offered this year. It seemed to be especially appreciated. Here are a few photos from the service.

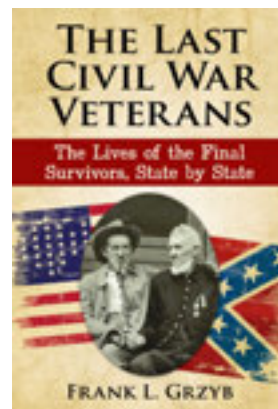


## ***UPCOMING SPEAKERS FOR THE NEW BEDFORD CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE.***

**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**

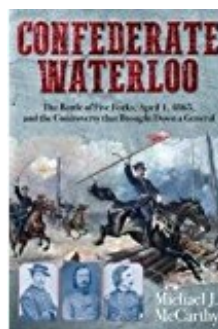
***Jim is a teacher and expert on Frederick Law Olmsted. His presentation will be "Olmsted's War"***



**November 14, 2017**

**Michael McCarthy**

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



**New Bedford Civil War Round Table announces 2017 recipient of Annual Book Award to high school senior**

The Round Table Book Award committee and President Joe Langlois have announced the recipient of this year's Book Award. This is an annual presentation that is given to a deserving high school senior to help defray the costs of text books in their first year of university.

This year's winner is Daniel Perry of Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School. Daniel Perry ranked #1 in his class of 538, as of last January. He plans to attend Massachusetts Maritime Academy and major in Marine Transportation. He has worked as an apprentice at the New Bedford Whaling Museum and used that background to write his essay.

Congratulations to Daniel Perry.

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**What's New at the Gettysburg National Military Park?**

Many of us enjoy visiting this Battlefield every year. And for those familiar with the Park, but haven't had time to stay current with what's new at the Park, here are but a few of the updates coming from the Park's Superintendent.

....A **Visitor Use Management Plan** is being put together that will address on site parking at the Eisenhower National Historic Site, thus ending the need for the Shuttle Bus set up. Stay tuned for that change perhaps in 2019.

....**Stone Walls Along Pickett's Charge**. This project is 90% complete. Due to poor site conditions this project ran longer than anticipated.

....**Planning for Burial of Overhead Utility Lines Along Taneytown Road**. The overhead utility lines that currently run along the entirety of the road represent a visual intrusion on the historic battlefield landscape. This is particularly true along the northern stretch of the Taneytown Road where the lines are visible from Cemetery Ridge, Ziegler's Grove, and Cemetery Hill. Funding is available for planning and design for this year with expectation of construction in 2018.

There is much more, i.e. **Cemetery Ridge Rehab, Little Round Top Rehab**. Start making a plan for a return visit.

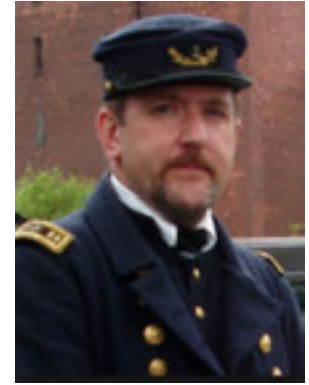
**.....More on 2018 Round Table Speakers**

**Jan 22, 2018**

**The return of.....**

**Chuck Veit**

**U S S Alligator story**



**Feb, 2018**

**We are holding this date for a special Gettysburg Park Ranger visit. Negotiations are ongoing.**

**March 27, 2018**

**Susan B. Smith**

**Jackson's 'Little Sorrel'**



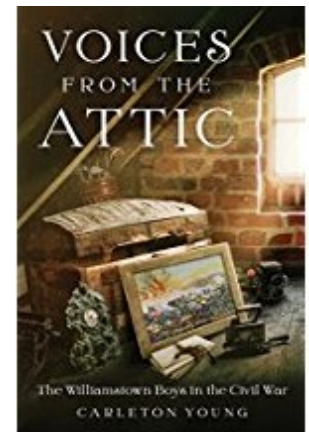
**April 24, 2018**

**Carlton Young**

**Book author from Pittsburgh, PA**

**Voices from the Attic: The Williamstown Boys in the Civil War**

**Carlton's new book has received excellent reviews. We are pleased to have him on our 2018 speaker schedule.**



**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**



## May 2017 Civil War “5 Days in May “ Round Table Trip

### Booth’s Escape



Ten of us from the New Bedford Civil War Round Table joined the Boston Round Table , along with Round Tables from Central Mass, Lynn Mass, Dedham Mass, Gettysburg, and Virginia, for the annual bus tour to Civil War sites. Dave and Al Smith, Boston Round Table, have run these tours for 35 years. This year we travelled to Washington D.C. and followed the John Wilkes Booth escape route from Ford’s Theatre to the Garrett’s Farm where he died.



I asked Peter Rioux, RT Board Member, and a tour participant , to write up highlights of the trip. His commentary appears below.

On May 17-21, forty-one Civil War enthusiasts participated in our annual 5 Days in May Civil War Tour. Ten members of our New Bedford Civil War Roundtable enjoyed the trip this year. The theme was “Booth’s Escape” where we covered John Wilkes Booth’s twelve day escape route and his eventual capture.



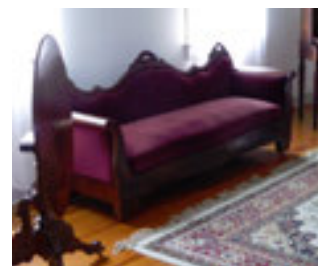
Our tour guide was Kate Ramirez, who is an historian specializing in the Lincoln assassination and a renowned and highly acclaimed Mary Surratt re-enactor. Kate consistently and enthusiastically provided our group with a wealth of captivating and often little known information enabling us to form a valuable context and setting prior and subsequent to each escape site that we visited.

#### Highlights of our tour included:

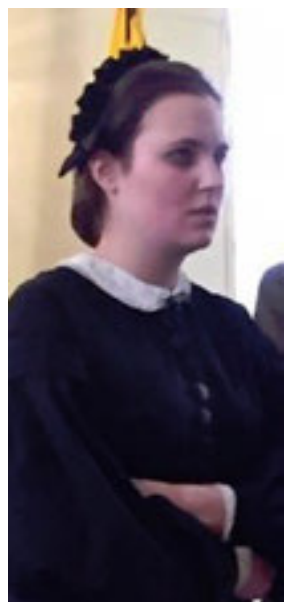
**Ford’s Theater**, which now includes an extensive educational and orientation center detailing the significant events of the Lincoln Presidency and the assassination itself as well as its immediate aftermath. A one act play entitled One Destiny (derived from a sown inscription in Lincoln’s coat that he wore that evening) was presented by two actors who portrayed Our American Cousin actor Harry Hawk and theater promoter Harry Ford. It was a dramatic account of the events of the evening of Friday, April 14, as they unfolded. We also viewed the theater’s rear alley where Booth’s escape began.



**Mary Surratt’s Tavern**, located in Clinton, Maryland, which was the location where various conspirators had stayed and Booth first stopped to retrieve a pair of rifles previously stored. The tavern is authentically restored, and the tour guides, dressed in period attire, were extremely well informed.



**Dr. Samuel Mudd’s home**, located in Waldorf, Maryland, (15 miles south of the Surratt Tavern and 30 miles south of Washington, D.C.). This was the second stop along Booth’s escape route where Dr. Mudd set Booth’s broken leg on April 15. The Mudd home remains in exact historic condition on a beautiful 197 acre site. The house itself includes some original furniture, such as the couch used by Mudd to initially examine Booth and the bed Booth then used to rest until departing.



**Fort Leslie McNair** is located in Greenleaf Point in Washington. This active military site was formerly the Old Washington Arsenal Penitentiary. Kate made special arrangements for us to tour Grant Hall, which was used as the court room to conduct the military trial of eight of the conspirators over fifty days (May 10 – June 29, 1865). We then walked the exact path taken by the four condemned conspirators (Surratt, Powell, Atzerodt, Herold) and viewed the specific site of the scaffolding used

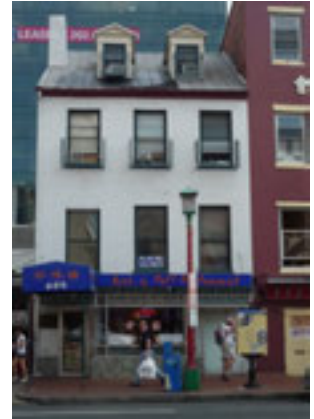
for their execution on July 7, 1865.

( 5 Days in May Trip continued )

**Other escape route locations** included Booth's movement across the Potomac into Virginia, Cleydael (where Booth and Herold were turned away by Dr. Stuart after providing them with dinner), and the Garrett Farm (farmhouse and barn no longer standing) where Booth was killed and Herold captured.

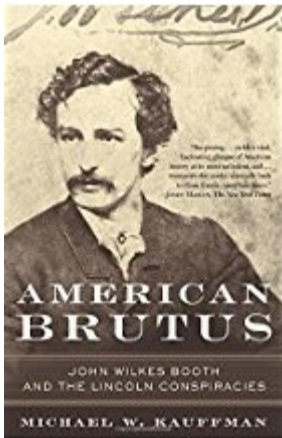


**Washington and Baltimore Cemetery Locations** included Mt. Olivet, which is the burial site of Mary Surratt ( tombstone reads: Mrs. Surratt) and the Congressional Cemetery for David Herold. The Baltimore cemetery locations included Greenmount for Booth (He is buried perpendicular in an unmarked grave in front of a large obelisk designating the burial site of five of Booth's siblings.) and New Cathedral Cemetery for the burial site of John Surratt, Mary's son and kidnap conspirator (tombstone reads: Surratt).



**Surratt Boarding House**, located in D.C., was used by the plotting conspirators. We enjoyed lunch there, at what is now the current restaurant, Wok and Roll.

Kate had arranged for Michael Kauffman, author of American Brutus, which is regarded as the most definite account of the assassination events and is based on thirty years of his research, to discuss Booth's escape strategy into Maryland. Many of us purchased a copy of his book and began to eagerly pour through it on the bus ride home.



Kate culminated our tour after our Saturday evening dinner with an intriguing presentation highlighting the prosecutorial and defense evidence which had been introduced at Mary Surratt's trial. After pondering her trial summary and all we had seen and heard over the previous two days of our tour, Kate asked us to reach our own verdict on Mary Surratt: guilty or innocent?



In all, the trip was extremely informative and enjoyable, one that vividly brought this tragic and dramatic event in American history to life.....Peter Rioux

\*\*\*\*\*Books for you to consider—summer reading\*\*\*\*\*

***A More Civil War: How the Union Waged a Just War.*** By D.H. Dilbeck University of North Carolina Press

***Democracy and the American Civil War: Race and African Americans in the Nineteenth Century.*** Edited by Kevin Adams and Leonne M. Hudson Kent State University

***Pickett's Charge: A New Look at Gettysburg's Final Attack.*** By Phillip Thomas Tucker Skyhorse Pub

***Braxton Bragg: The Most Hated Man in the Confederacy.*** By Earl J. Hess University of North Carolina Press

***The Battle of Charleston and the 1862 Kanawha Valley Campaign.*** By Terry Lowry 35th Star Publishing

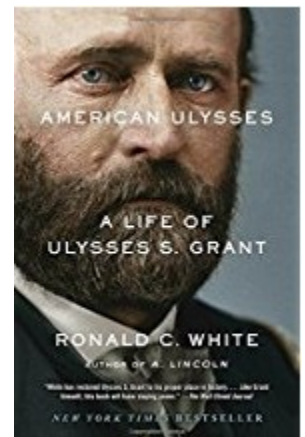
***A Field Guide to Antietam,*** By Carol Reardon and Tom Vossler University of North Carolina Press

***Out Flew the Sabres: The Battle of Brandy Station,*** By Eric J. Wittenberg Savis beatty

***Engineering Victory: How Technology Won the Civil War,*** By Thomas F. Army, Jr.

***American Ulysses: A Life of Ulysses S. Grant.*** By Ronald C. White

***Conversations with Lincoln. Little Known Stories.*** By Gordon Leidner Cumberland House



The Olde Colony Civil War Round Table, Dedham, MA, has announced its annual Jubilee Dinner. This is a great event ;- dinner, raffle, speaker, camaraderie with all the New England Civil War Round Tables. The New Bedford Round Table usually has a strong showing. Can we include you? ...Bob Lytle

OLDE COLONY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
ANNUAL JUBILEE DINNER  
MICHAEL CHESSON, Ph.D.  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS, HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR

DATE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017, COCKTAILS AT 6:00 PM

LOCATION: LOMBARDO'S, RANDOLPH, MA

COST: \$45.00

TICKET ORDER FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: OCCWRT

SEND TICKET REQUESTS AND CHECK TO:

BOB HEARSEY  
311 SHERMAN STREET  
CANTON, MA 02021  
781-828-3183

TICKET REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 10, 2017. (A LATE FEE OF \$5.00 PER MEAL WILL BE CHARGED BY LOMARDOS AFTER OCTOBER 16,2017).

\*CIVIL WAR ARTIFACTS EXHIBITS

\*PRESERVATION RAFFLE

CASH \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

TICKET # \_\_\_\_\_