

THE FLAGBEARER

Greater New Bedford Ma Civil War Round Table

Tuesday May 28, 2019 7:00 pm

at the Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum

1000c Rodney French Blvd. New Bedford

Open to the public , no fees

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

...Please remember to attend the Memorial Day Ceremony sponsored by the New Bedford Civil War Round Table on May 25 at 9:00 a.m. See details in this Flagbearer.

...Note that our Annual Round Table picnic BBQ will be June 25 at 6:00 p.m.

...Our Annual December Holiday Dinner will be held at Century House, Acushnet, December 10th Note the change in location.

...We would like to continue the highlighting of ancestors of our members. Round Table member Doug Fogg sent us a feature on his ancestor Nathan H. Fogg for this issue of the Flagbearer. Send us the name of your ancestor from the Civil War and we will try to research a story.

...This month's issue of The Flagbearer once again features an excellent essay written by our member, Peter Rioux. He is a regular contributor and we look forward to his well researched work each month.

Our May 28, 2019 speaker

Mark Dunkelman has appeared before our Round Table several times. We associate him with the Rhode Island Civil War Round Table, and with his life long passion for the history of the 154th New York Vol Inf Rgt. His great-great-grandfather joined the 154th New York , thus igniting a life long passion in Mark' for the Civil War.

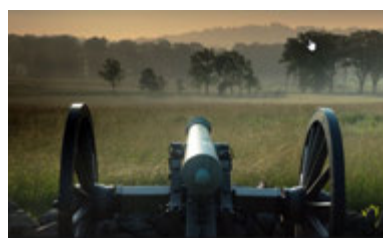
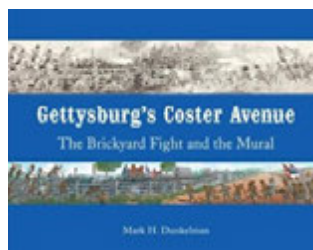


Mark H. Dunkelman

In April of last year Mark released his latest book , Gettysburg's Coster Avenue: The Brickyard Fight and the Mural. The first half of this book covers the clash between an inexperienced Union Brigade led by newly minted, 23 year old Colonel Charles R. Coster, and two Confederate brigades of eight veteran Louisiana and North Carolina regiments. The 154th New York was in the Coster Brigade.

The first day's action at Gettysburg ended with a blocking and desperate stand in the now famous John Kuhn's brickyard. In 30 minutes Coster's brigade took a devastating loss., 269 dead and 301 captured.

A visit in 1970 by Mark to the brickyard site in the town of Gettysburg revealed ,next to the 154th Monument , an 80 foot concrete wall of a roofing company, thus the idea born to use this wall as a mural depicting the scene of that day's fighting. The second half of Mark's book is the story of that mural, and Mark's effort to paint the scene, and preserve as evidence, the uncommon valor and selfless sacrifice shown that day by Coster's Brigade. This brickyard stand aided the Union's effort to regroup on Cemetery Hill at the end of the first day's fighting at Gettysburg. Coster's Brigade of less than 1,000 men vs the 3000 hard charging Louisianans is a story worth hearing.



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Mark H. Dunkelman's Brickyard Mural at Gettysburg



Story of Pvt. Nathan H. Fogg, Company "L" - 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry. (The California Battalion)

Nathan H. Fogg departed Saco Maine for California in 1858 to seek his fortune. However 6 years later he found himself outside Aldie Virginia defending himself against a charge of Confederate cavalry led by John Mosby and his partisan rangers.

When the war broke out many East Coast Union men living in the West desired to fight for the Union, but knew that if they volunteered in California, they would end up doing garrison duty in the West, along other boring tasks. So, a letter was written to Gov. Andrew of Massachusetts asking if he would accept the California boys as a Cavalry unit to be counted toward the Massachusetts quota. He agreed with some stipulations, thus was born the "California Battalion", a.k.a. the 2nd Mass. Cavalry.

24 year old Nathan H. Fogg, 5 ft 4 1/2" tall, came East in Company "L", trained at Camp Meigs, and, in 1863, was assigned to the defenses of Washington D.C. There, they were used to counter attacks by Mosby, and later against Jubal Early in 1864. 2nd Mass Cavalry was then assigned to the Shenandoah Valley and General Sheridan. However, Nathan Fogg was wounded on July 7, 1864 outside Aldie Virginia as part of a 150 man scouting detail, when met by an equal sized group of Mosby's guerillas near the Mount Zion Church. After close hand to hand combat the Union troopers gave up the field. The Confederates did have a light howitzer.

Trooper Fogg stayed with his company but in a non combat role, and served in the Shenandoah Valley campaign. Later he was assigned to duties in Maryland, and at the end of the war he rejoined Company "L" and on July 20, 1865 was mustered out of service. When he settled his final account with the Army, he purchased his Colt 1860 Army revolver and his Cavalry saber for a total of \$11.00.

In 1844 Nathan Fogg departed his home state of Maine and moved to Florida. He spent the rest of his life in Altamonte Springs, outside Orlando, raising oranges, pecans, and a family. He was active in his local G.A.R. Post. He died in 1916 and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Altamonte Springs, Florida.

We have here a wonderful story from a New Bedford Civil War Round Table member, Dr. C. Douglass Fogg.

Remember Colonel Kevin Weddle from the U.S. Army War College,? He spoke to our Round Table last September. He is currently teaching at his alma mater, Princeton University. He recently conducted a Normandy Beach battlefield tour for his students.

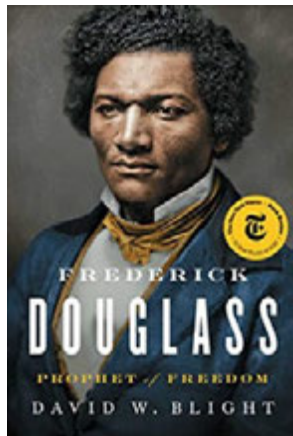
Kevin J. Weddle is in Bayeux, Basse-Normandie, France.
 March 18 at 12:05 PM
 Today at Juno Beach in Normandy. What a great group of students!



David Blight, Yale University , Class of 1954, Professor of American History and director of the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, has been awarded the 2019 Pulitzer Prize. Blight was honored in the history category for his new biography on Frederick Douglass, the escaped slave and New Bedford resident, who became a prominent activist, author, and public speaker. Titled "Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom", Blight's book was lauded for being "a breathtaking history that demonstrates the scope of Frederick Douglass' influence through deep research on his writings, his intellectual evolution, and his relationships."



David Blight (Photo credit: Daniel Vieira)



Spring /Fall 2019 Speaker/Meeting Schedule

- June 25, 2019

Annual Civil War Round Table Picnic. All are welcome, including family and guests.

6:00 p.m. At the Low Tide Yacht Club location next door to the Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum, This the same location as last year . We ask for a donation toward the catering expense, and you are asked to bring a dessert to share with all.



- July and August--Summer vacation
- September 24, 2019

John C. Rodrigue

Lawrence and Theresa Salameno Professor

Department of History
 Stonehill College



A shout out to Larry Hicklin of Middle Tennessee Civil War Relics. Check his website for a full range of Civil War relics, news, links, contacts, etc. Met him several years ago while relic hunting near the Stones River Battlefield, - I said near, not on, the battlefield. A really good guy.Bob



SPECIAL SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENT

Craig L. Symonds will be coming to New Bedford November 19th, 2019 for a speaking engagement at the New Bedford Civil War Round Table.

We are pleased to make the following announcement. Noted historian, author, Professor of History Emeritus at the U. S. Naval Academy, and until recently, Chief Historian of the U.S. Monitor Center at the Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia, will speak at the New Bedford Civil War Round Table.

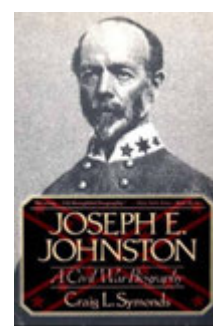
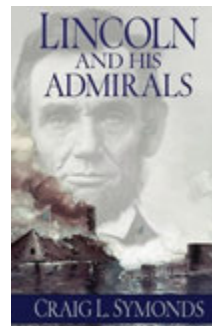
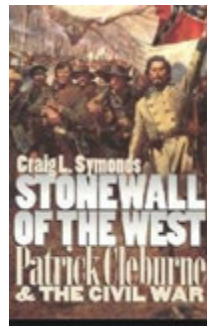
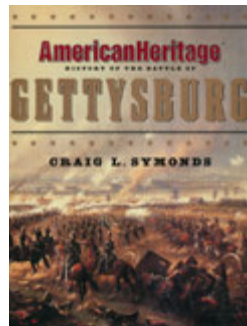
He is the author of Lincoln and His Admirals, which won the 2009 Lincoln Prize, the culmination of three decades of study of the Civil War navies and the Union's admiral-in-chief.

He is also the recipient of the Samuel Eliot Morrison Award for Naval Literature.

I have included some of his other books here for your informational background. We will add to his credentials as the year moves forward, but for now I simply wanted to share this great news with you. Bob Lytle



Craig L. Symonds.



2019 Book Award Announcement

The New Bedford Civil War Round Table is very pleased to announce that the 2019 Book Award in the amount of \$500. has been presented to Shane C. Rose. Shane is currently a senior at Dartmouth High School. He is a well-deserving Award recipient, based upon his outstanding academic record, extensive participation in school activities (National Honor Society, basketball, lacrosse, and soccer teams, debate club), leadership positions (Student Representative on the Dartmouth School Committee, Student Council Representative, School Council Representative, Principal's Advisory Council Representative, DECA Vice President, delegate for the Massachusetts United States Senate Youth Program), community volunteer activities (South Coast Youth Court, tutor, founder of the Dartmouth High School Give Back Program). Next fall, Shane intends to pursue his education at U Mass Amherst majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Shane was among thirty highly qualified applicants, and we extend our congratulations to him on receiving this Award and for achieving an outstandingly complete high school career. We extend our best wishes to him for what we are confident will be a successful college experience.

Two Generals – In the War's Aftermath, by Peter Rioux

During the Civil War, their lives had been committed to the execution of military strategy experiencing first hand the tragic human toll that this war would take upon the lives of their countrymen. However, upon cessation of the hostilities of the war with the surrender of one to the other, two of the war's most significant Union and Confederate military commanders, William Tecumseh Sherman and Joseph Eggleston Johnston would continue to play active roles in the life of a reconstructing nation over the following twenty-five years culminating with the death of one within five weeks after honoring the death of the other.

William Tecumseh Sherman



Immediately after the Civil War, General Sherman was appointed as Lieutenant General by Andrew Johnson commanding the Missouri District responsible for protecting the building of the Transcontinental Railroad and establishing western military posts.

In 1869, President Grant appointed him as Commanding General, a role he assumed for fourteen years. After moving his headquarters to St. Louis, he led campaigns to protect settlers against Indian tribes in the Northern and Southern plains by forcing them onto reservations. While serving in command, he would visit variously stationed troops, vigorously support advanced military education and training, confront anti-black mob violence in Charleston, South Carolina, and strongly support voting rights of black Americans.

In 1875, he became the first of the war generals to publish his two volume memoirs, which were received with much critical acclaim. Grant indicated that Sherman's account was the most "correct history" that could be given of the events of the war. In 1884, he retired as Commanding General and became a lecturer and high demand after dinner and banquet speaker. Audiences enthusiastically responded to his unique ability to captivate them with memorably vivid stories and recollections of the war.

During his retirement, after moving from St. Louis to New York City, he attended numerous reunions, Broadway plays, dinner parties, annually visited West Point, traveled extensively throughout Europe, and frequently visited former President Grant during Grant's final illness, later serving as one of his pallbearers.

He had been approached by political leaders to accept the Republican nomination for President in 1884, but emphatically refused this offer by stating, "I will not accept if nominated and will not serve if elected." His wife of thirty-six years, Ellen, passed away in 1836 at the age of 64.



In February 1891, Sherman died at the age of 71, after waging a final battle with asthma related pneumonia. His funeral service, attended by President Harrison and former presidents Cleveland and Hayes, was held in New York City after a thirty thousand strong procession, including the West Point Corp Cadets and thousands of Civil War veterans, along Fifth Avenue. After his funeral train completed its journey from New York City, he was buried in the Calvary Cemetery in St. Louis.

Former Confederate General Joseph Johnston served as one of Sherman's pallbearers, and in doing so, caught a serious head cold after refusing to wear a hat in his honoring of Sherman, resulting in an illness that ended his own life only five weeks later.

Joseph Eggleston Johnston

Upon the ending of the war, with his surrender to, and acceptance of terms offered by, General Sherman at Bennett Place in Durham, North Carolina, General Johnston moved to Selma, Alabama, where he became the President of the Alabama and Tennessee Railroad Company. However, he eventually resigned due to the company's serious financial difficulties. He subsequently became General Agent for the Liverpool / London/ Globe Insurance Company and New York Life Insurance Company in Savanna, Georgia, enabling him to achieve an excellent income.

In 1874, he completed his wartime memoirs, Narrative of Military Operations, which was critical of the leadership of Confederate President Jefferson Davis and Lee's Overland Campaign. However, the book was not well received and sold poorly. He then became part owner of the Atlantic and Mexican Gulf Company, completing the construction of a canal from St. Mary's Place in Georgia to the Gulf of Mexico.

Johnston then moved from Savannah to Richmond, where he successfully ran for Congress as a Democrat in 1878, serving one two year term. Upon completion of his term, he was appointed Commissioner of Railroads by President Cleveland. While living in Washington, D. C., as a congressman and railroad commissioner, he would often enjoy dinner occasions with his war rival, General Sherman, whom he highly respected. Upon the death of President Grant in 1885, he was asked to serve as a pallbearer along with Generals Sherman and Sheridan. During his time in Washington, he would often attend veterans' reunions and testimonials, receiving extensive and enthusiastic response. In 1887, his wife of forty-two years, Lydia, suddenly passed away.

Upon the death of General Sherman, while serving as pallbearer, he was cautioned by a spectator to put his hat on during the cold winter day. Johnston replied, "If I were in his place, and he were standing here in mine, he would not put on his hat." As a result, Johnston caught a severe head cold, resulting in his death at the age of 84 from pneumonia, five weeks later on March 21, 1891. He was buried at Greenmount Cemetery in Baltimore, Maryland, a service attended by military representatives of both the Union and the Confederacy.

Fierce Patriot, Robert O'Connor

Sherman, A Soldier's Life, Lee Kennett

Grant and Sherman, Charles Bracelen Flood

A Different Valor, Joseph E. Johnston, Gilbert Govan, James Livingwood

