

THE FLAGBEARER

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

Please take note of the one time change of meeting location. We are doing this as we anticipate a larger than normal turnout for this very special presentation my Mrs. Kate Taylor.

We plan to gather in the NPS main auditorium. Refreshments to be served after her performance. Mrs. Taylor will be available to meet you and answer your questions about Mary Surratt.

Kate Taylor has been a tour guide for our 5 Days in May trip, and will be so again next May as we travel to Washington D.C. If you enjoy her performance in October, you may wish to sign up for the May' 2019 "5 Days in May" trip to Washington.

Please remit your 2018-2019 Round Table membership dues to our Treasurer this month.

Greater New Bedford Civil War Round Table

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 7:00 pm

We will meet at the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park (U.S. National Park) 33 Williams Street, New Bedford, MA

Please note this one time change of meeting location

Event is no charge and open to the public, - bring a friend

Kate Taylor is Mary Surratt, Lincoln Assassination Co-conspirator.

Her performance is titled "Beware the People Whistling-the Final Days of Mary Surratt"

Because we anticipate a large turnout in October, our meeting will be moved to the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, NPS downtown New Bedford, in the main auditorium. We thank the NPS for their support.

October 23, 2018 , Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Kate Taylor, Living Historian

Mary Surratt, Lincoln Assassination—Co-conspirator

Hung on July 7, 1865



Kate Taylor as Mary Surratt

In 1865 Mary Surratt was running a boarding house in Washington D.C. She was put on trial, as a co-conspirator in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and was the first woman to be executed by the United States government. Kate, as **Mary Surratt**, fills her final days, in Washington D.C. recalling memories of her family, the choices she made throughout the bloody American Civil War, and the man who brought her and her fellow prisoners to ruin, John Wilkes Booth.

If you need driving directions to the National Park Service location for the October 23rd Civil War Round Table meeting, please call me at 508-542-7630 Bob Lytle

2018-2019 Executive Board

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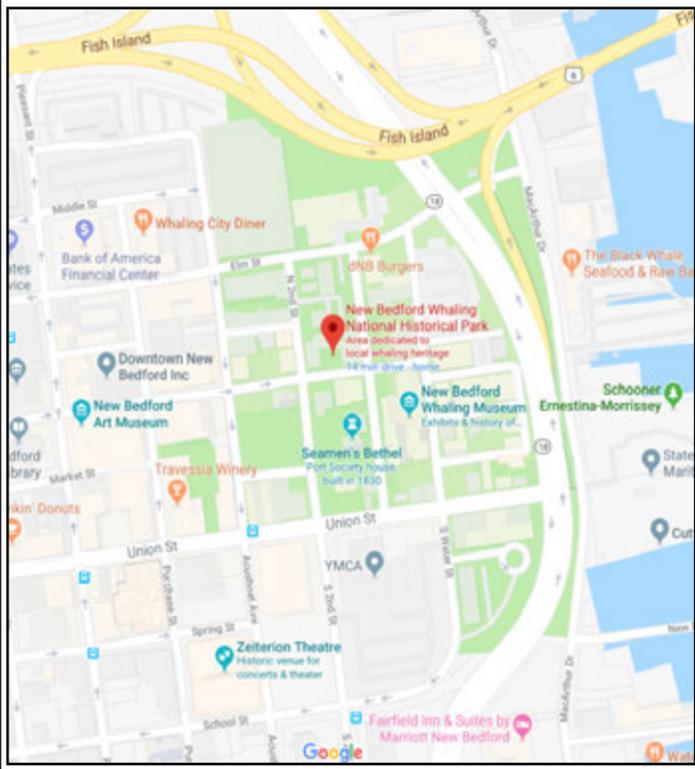
About our speaker / presenter for October 23rd

Kate Taylor

Miss Taylor is a 2017 graduate of St. Mary's College of Maryland where she earned her degree in History. She is a living historian with interest in 19th Century crimes and assassinations. She is a docent at the Dr. Samuel Mudd House Museum, in Maryland. She also offers guide services to tour groups following the escape trail of John Wilkes Booth, and she will be our guide for the 2019 "5 Days in May" trip as we tour Washington D.C. She was our tour guide for the 2017 "5 Days in May" trip sponsored by The Greater Boston Civil War Round Table. Kate impressed us with her vast Civil War knowledge and captivating presentation.



KATE RAMIREZ is now KATE TAYLOR



MEET OUR NOVEMBER SPEAKER

November 13, 2018 Meeting 7:00 pm at the Fort Taber~Fort Rodman Military Museum

Megan Kate Nelson returns.



Megan Kate Nelson is a writer and historian based in Lincoln, Massachusetts. Her book manuscript in progress, *Path of the Dead Man: How the West was Won - and Lost - during the American Civil War*, received a 2017 NEH Public Scholar Award, and will be published by Scribner in 2020.

Nelson has also written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Preservation Magazine*, *Civil War Times*, and *Civil War Monitor*.

Her blog, *Historista* (www.historista.com), examines the surprising, cool, and weird ways that people engage with history in everyday life. She earned her BA in History and Literature from Harvard University and her PhD in American Studies from the University of Iowa, and has taught at Texas Tech University, Cal State Fullerton, Harvard, and Brown.

What was happening in 1861—September and October?

In the East there was a call for more action. Much was expected of McClellan, but many wondered why the fine fall weather was being allowed to slip by. McClellan



was busy organizing “his” army, and at the same time was having difficulties with General-in-Chief Scott, the Cabinet, and even Mr. Lincoln. In Richmond and the Confederacy, likewise, there was wonderment over why the victorious army of First Manassas was not being put to better use.

And three years later.....1863

The significance of the capture of Atlanta was obvious to both North and South.



To the North it was helpful to Mr. Lincoln’s campaign for reelection, offsetting the stalemate at Petersburg and continual threat of Early in the Shenandoah.



To the South it was an intolerable incursion that must be eradicated, if possible. By the end of September Hood, after conferring with Jefferson Davis, moved out to try and sever Sherman’s lengthy supply lines.

The Union Soldier was a self contained logistics system. So, what did he carry and how much did it weigh?

- The .58 Caliber, Model 1855 Rifled musket—9.18 lbs
- Bayonet— 11.5 ounces
- Cap box—2.08 lbs
- Cartridge Box and Plate—5 lbs when filled
- Infantry shoulder strap and plate—10.08 ounces
- Belt and Buckle—8 ounces
- Blanket— 5-14 lbs
- Canteen— 3 lbs when filled
- Haversack— three days rations—5-3/4 lbs
- Knapsack— 6 lbs
- Change of clothing—2 lbs
- Overcoat—5-1/4 lbs
- Shelter half—1-3/4 lbs
- Poncho—2 lbs

A soldier marches, in common time, at a rate of 90 steps per minute (one step equals 28 inches), which equals 210 feet per minute or 2.386 miles per hour. A soldier occupies a front of 20 inches and a depth of 13 inches, without the knapsack. The interval between ranks is 13 inches. A regiment of 1,000 men , in a column of 4 , was 625 feet long, with a pass time of 2.98 minutes. (see me for the source—Bob)

Arlington Cemetery opens new section with Civil War burials.

.....From the Military Times.... Arlington National Cemetery returned to its roots as a resting place for the Civil War dead with a burial of two unknown soldiers.

The burials marked the dedication of an \$87 million expansion of the cemetery that officials hope will extend the life of the cemetery’s life by up to ten years.

The so-called Millennium expansion adds 27 acres and more than 27,000 spaces for burials and cremated remains to a cemetery where more than 400,000 are already interred.

The two Union soldiers recently buried at Arlington with full military honors were discovered at Manassas National Battlefield.

The soldiers remains were discovered at a surgeon’s pit in June when it was excavated and studied.

The decision was made at the time that two complete sets of remains would be buried at Arlington. They could not be identified, but from the location of the pit , it was decided that they were Union soldiers who died at the Second Battle of Bull Run in 1862.



The 3rd Infantry Regiment Caission Platoon carry the remains of two unknown Civil War Union soldiers to their grave at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018. (Cliff Owens/AP)

From the quarterly publication of the Gettysburg Foundation, - “Preservation and Progress”

For those of you that enjoy the guided tour battle walks led by Dr. Troy Harman at the Gettysburg battlefield, he will be doing a 4-12 hour walk on Saturday, Dec 1.

Title , - “How Active Was Lieutenant General Robert E. Lee during the Battle? “ On July 2nd , did he sit on a tree stump and let others carry out his orders? Maybe not. This tour will be eye opening.



New Bedford Civil War Round Table

2018- 2019 Membership Form

Membership is valid for 2018-2019 Program year, beginning September 1, 2018. Please fill out this form, along with check payable to "New Bedford CWRT" and send to:

New Bedford Civil War Round Table

C/O Martin Flinn, Treas.

39 Little Oak Road

New Bedford, MA 02745

Name(s): _____ (Please PRINT clearly)

Type of Membership: _____ Individual (\$25.00) _____ Family (\$30.00)

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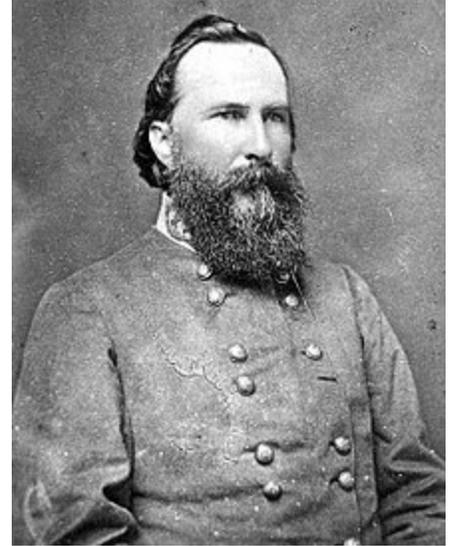
Date: _____

The New Bedford Civil War Round Table is a nonbiased, broad-based organization dedicated to the study of all aspects of the American Civil War, and organized exclusively for educational and charitable purposes.



Longstreet: In the War's Aftermath, by Peter Rioux

General James Longstreet is primarily viewed by Civil War historians through the lens of his experience as General Lee's primary field commander. Having commanded the Confederate Army's First Corps from 1862-1865, he played critical commanding roles at the battles of Second Manassas, Fredericksburg, the Peninsula Campaign, Gettysburg, Chickamauga and Antietam. Many military analysts view his wounding by friendly fire (shot in rear right shoulder exiting through his throat) at the Battle of the Wilderness in May 1864, preventing him from exercising command through the balance of the Overland Campaign in the fall of 1864, as even a more significant and pivotal loss to the Confederate military campaign as General Jackson's fatal wounding at Chancellorsville. However, he did eventually return taking command of the Third Army at Petersburg after General A. P. Hill had been killed.



Lee had referred to Longstreet as the “staff of my right hand” and as his “old war horse.” As a commander, Longstreet was often referred to as “Old Pete” by the troops. He earned their strong respect due to his leadership ability and dislike for unnecessarily losing men in battle. His strong disagreement with Lee regarding his decision to launch the third day Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg was an expression of this reluctance later earning him the scorn of post war Confederate loyalists.



Prior to the commencement of the war, Longstreet graduated from West Point in 1842. While at the military academy, Longstreet first met Ulysses Grant as a young cadet (Grant was one year behind). This friendship originated through their mutual love of horses and then grew as they jointly served during the Mexican War. Grant ultimately married Longstreet's fourth cousin, Julia Dent, and Longstreet served as one of the groomsmen during the wedding held at a small rented house in St. Louis. Longstreet had claimed that he was originally responsible for introducing the couple to each other.

In the immediate aftermath of the war, he engaged in extensive correspondence with Grant regarding the battle milestones of the war. He received a congressionally approved pardon at the strong urging of Grant and then embarked upon a business career as a cotton broker and later as president of an insurance company. In 1867, he was asked to comment on Union requirements for Southern states to be re-accepted. In urging a national reconciliation, he felt that Southern states should construct their state's constitutions in accordance with the policy of the victorious Union primarily adopting Negro suffrage.

Confederate loyalists labeled him a traitor and a deserter to his friends. He was shunned and ostracized and his insurance business subsequently failed as a result. This view of Longstreet would be sustained for many post war years with the refusal to invite him to attend many Confederate reunions. This view ultimately subsided after the Reconstruction.

Longstreet: In the War's Aftermath, (Con't) by Peter Rioux

In 1869, President Grant, as one of his first appointees, named him as Surveyor of Customs serving from 1869 to 1873. He subsequently served as Adjutant General of the Louisiana State Militia and police forces. In 1874, he was involved in an effort, assisted by Federal Garrison troops, to subdue the insurrection of a militant anti-Reconstruction white organization at Liberty Place that had overpowered the black police force and militia taking over the State House and City Hall. He later served as U.S. Marshall from 1881-1884.



Longstreet maintained an abiding respect for Grant, considering him to have been a great general and added that he viewed Grant's reputation for honesty as the "soul of honor itself." Upon learning of Grant's death in 1885, Longstreet said that Grant was the "truest as well as the bravest man that ever lived."

During the latter part of his life while semi-retired on a sixty-five acre farm in Gainesville, Georgia, Confederate animosity toward Longstreet subsided. He was loudly cheered and then embraced by Jefferson Davis when he unexpectedly appeared at a Confederate reunion held in Montgomery and later at reunions held in Richmond and Atlanta.



In the late 1890's, he experienced generally declining health, even suffering from a throat ailment attributed to the war wound he received during the Wilderness Campaign. He died in 1904 at the age of

83. Prior to his death, he was the longest surviving member of the Confederate high command and one of the few to live into the Twentieth Century. His second wife Helen, whom he married in 1897 (42 years his younger), died in 1962, fifty-eight years after his passing.



James Longstreet after the War