

# THE FLAGBEARER

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## Greater New Bedford Civil War Round Table

### New Bedford, Massachusetts

Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 7:00

At the Low Tide Yacht Club Location

1000c Rodney French Blvd New Bedford

No charges or fees for the program

Ample parking Bring a friend

Patrick Donovan is Vice President of the Varnum Continentals, Inc, an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that owns and manages two museum properties: the James Mitchell Varnum estate and the Varnum Memorial Armory Museum.

As Armory Vice President, Patrick is responsible for the Varnum Armory facility and is executive director of the Varnum Armory museum which houses the largest collection of Rhode Island military history on display.

The Varnum Continentals mission since 1907 has been to preserve and share RI military history with the ultimate aim to educate and encourage patriotism and service – of all kinds – to our state and country.



Varnum Memorial Armory Museum



Patrick Donovan



Patrick Donovan is also a Senior Research Analyst and Project Manager in the Office of the Chief Technology Officer at Schneider Electric. He has over 25 years of global product line

management experience developing and supporting critical power and cooling systems for Schneider Electric's Secure Power Division including several award-winning power protection, efficiency and availability solutions.

*Patrick's topic..... Patrick will explain recent efforts to restore the historic armory, professionalize the care of the museum collection, and add professional conservation services to the Varnum Continentals historic, non-profit organization. He will also bring in some of the museum's latest and most special Civil War relic acquisitions and will share their amazing stories with the group.*

We welcome Patrick to the New Bedford Civil War Round Table

### 2021-2022 Executive Board

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Bob Lytle—Flagbearer

Cell # 508-542-7630

bobbylee76@comcast.net

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

- *The January 25 will be in-person at the Low Tide Yacht Club, 1000 Rodney French Blvd, New Bedford. This is a new location and it is next door to our old meeting room at the Ft Taber~Ft Rodman Military Museum. Parking is free and you should park where you always have been parking.*



- *We will be masked—even if you have both shots and a booster. It is a City of New Bedford building and this is City policy, - everyone is to be masked.*



- *Cancellation Policy. In the event of a snow storm—if the City School system is shut down, you can be sure we have cancelled the meeting. But check our Facebook page to be sure.*



- *This will be an in-person meeting at the Low Tide Yacht Club, located next door to the Ft. Taber~Ft Rodman Military Museum, located in Ft. Taber Park , south end of New Bedford.*
- *We will be making our first attempt at doing a video of this presentation and linking it to our Facebook page or to a You Tube Channel.*
- *If you are an out of town member, we wish to have you included in our monthly meetings via the internet.*
- *The Civil War Timeline*
- *New books for you consideration*

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Friends in the Civil War,

I think most of us are happy to put 2021 behind us and move on to what will hopefully be a better year. We will continue our track to a return to “normalcy” with our return to in person meetings this month. The Low Tide Yacht Club has graciously opened their facility to us. This new space will provide us with more room to spread out, enjoy each other’s presence, and continue to learn from our top-notch group of presenters.

Since the facility is owned by the City of New Bedford, we must abide by the city’s current mask requirements. Please remember to bring a mask with you. We are also keeping a close eye on the current COVID trends. As numbers continue to increase, we will continue to work with our upcoming speakers (some of which are traveling) to make sure they are comfortable with traveling. We will always have Zoom to fall back on, if necessary. Hopefully we won’t have to go that route, but it will continue to be an option as we work with this ever-evolving world situation.

If you don’t feel comfortable or cannot join in person, we will be filming our presentations and posting to social media as well as the meetings being broadcasted on New Bedford Public Broadcasting. This will provide everyone with an opportunity to continue to enjoy our monthly presentations. Keep your eye on the Flagbearer for more information about how to access the filmed presentations. Don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns about how to find our presentations.

Cheers to a brighter 2022!

Your obedient servant,  
Mark Mello  
President  
New Bedford CWRT



February 22, 2022

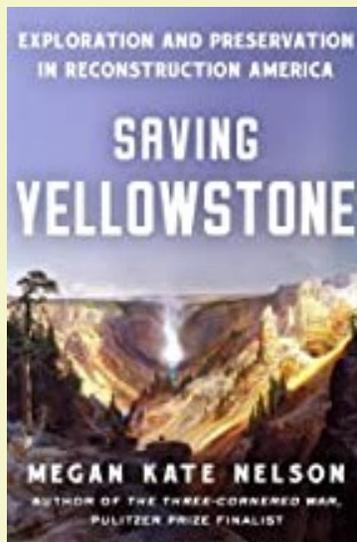
Megan Kate Nelson, Ph. D returns to the New Bedford Civil War Round Table.

She will introduce her latest book, "Saving Yellowstone"

Each year nearly four million people visit Yellowstone National Park, but few know the fascinating and complex 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.

Author Megan Kate Nelson examines the larger context of this American moment, illuminating Hayden's survey as a national project meant to give Americans a sense of achievement and unity in the wake of a destructive civil war.

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.



( Dr. Nelson—Con't )

A narrative of adventure and exploration, Saving Yellowstone is also a story of indigenous resistance, the expansive reach of railroad, photographic, and publishing technologies, and the struggles of Black southerners to bring racial terrorists to justice. It reveals how the early 1870's were a turning point in the nation's history, as white Americans ultimately abandoned the higher ideal of equality for all people creating a much more fragile and divided United States.

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April 26, 2022

Our speaker will be

David Prentiss

Long time member of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table

His topic:

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 in the spring of 1863 which led to the siege of the city was a masterful example of generalship that at the time was compared to Napoleon's greatest military achievements. David will examine the intricacies of Grant's operations and the critical decisions he made which led to the campaign's success.

David teaches part time at UMass Dartmouth in the Political Science Department. He has a B.A. in Philosophy from Assumption College, a M.A. in Political Science from Boston College, and a Juris Doctor degree from New England School of Law.

David has given several presentations to our Round Table, usually on the subject of Abraham Lincoln, as he is considered an expert on Lincoln.

He is currently the President of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra

We look forward to another interesting evening with David Prentiss



David Prentiss

March 22, 2022

Mary Gorman A.K.A. Gary Morgan

"The Andersonville Raiders"



The first book devoted exclusively to the Andersonville Raiders.

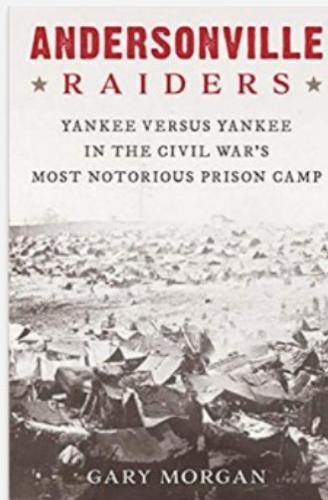
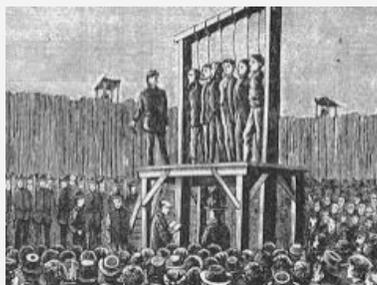
On the evening of July 11, 1864, six men were marched into Andersonville Prison, surrounded by a cordon of guards, the prison commandant, and a Roman Catholic priest. The six men were handed over to a small execution squad, and while 26,000 Union prisoners

looked on, the six were hung. The six, part of a larger group known as the Raiders, were killed, not by their Rebel enemies but by their fellow prisoners for the crimes of robbing and assaulting their own comrades.

Who were these men? Were they really guilty of the crimes they were accused of? Were they really, as some prisoners alleged, murderers? What role did their Confederate captors play in their trial and execution? What brought about their downfall?

Relying on military records, diaries, memoirs written within five years of the prison closing, and the recently discovered trial transcript, author Gary Morgan has discovered a version of events that is markedly different from the version told in later day "memoirs" and repeated in history book.

Here, for the first time in a century and a half, is the real story of the Andersonville Raiders.



May 24, 2022

Jamie Malanowski

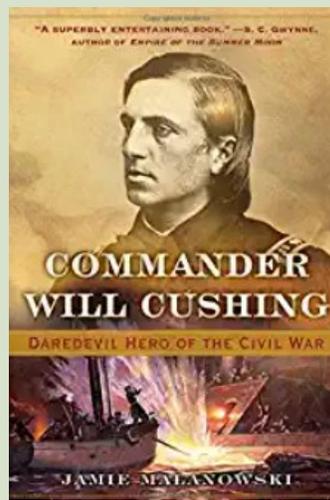
"Commander Will Cushing, U.S. Navy, Daredevil Hero of the Civil War"



It was October 1864. The confederate ironclad CSS Albermarle had sunk two federal warships and damaged seven others, taking control of the Roanoke River. Twenty-one year 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 Albermarle and Cushing's harrowing 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.



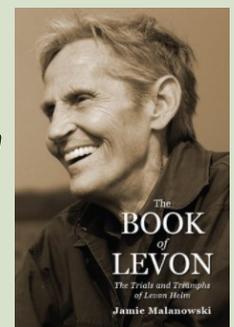
A thrilling narrative biography, steeped in tactics, weaponry, and battle techniques of the Union Navy, Commander Will Cushing brings to life a compelling but flawed figure. Along with three brothers, including the one that fell at Gettysburg, Cushing served with bravery and heroism. But he was irascible 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 official, engineers, and politicians scrambling to win the war.

We are pleased to be a part of Jamie's New England tour.

Please note Jamie's other book, for those that have followed music from The Band

Remember "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down"



## Timeline in History

### Jan 1861

Preparations were underway for a possible Civil War. The ship "Star of the West" left New York for Fort Sumter with supplies.

Jan 6, 1861 The Apalachicola, Fla Arsenal was taken over by the State of Florida. Mayor Fernando Wood of New York City proposed that if Civil War came, that New York City would be a "free" city, able to trade with both sides.

### Jan 1862

In the White House, Mr. Lincoln virtually had to take command of the armies, for his top general was seriously ill. Besides George McClellan, it appeared, had accomplished very little in five months.

Jan 6, 1862. President Lincoln conferred with General McClellan, recovering from typhoid fever.

### Jan 1863

President Lincoln had announced the "Emancipation Proclamation" For the abolitionists, it was not enough; for others, it was far too much. At Charleston, S.C. one Robert Yeadon offered \$10,000 reward for the capture and delivery of Ben Butler, dead or alive.

Jan 6, 1863 A day of light fighting along Linn Creek in Missouri, and at Fort Lawrence, Beaver Station, Mo. A British steamer was seized off Mobile by blockaders. Southern troops captured a Northern riverboat, Jacob Musselman, near Memphis.

### Jan 1864

Since November there had been no major fighting. The Federal Congress was becoming more conscious of the forthcoming elections. The Confederacy had command problems, particularly in the West.

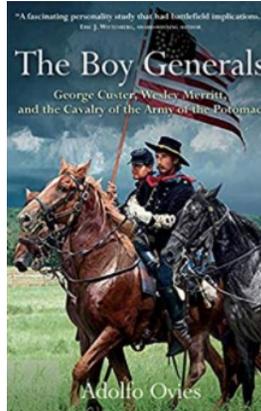
Jan 6, 1864 Federal troops under Kit Carson operated against the Navajo Indians from Fort Canby, N. Mex. Terr.

### Jan 1865

In the North constitutional abolition of slavery and reconstruction were paramount subject. Political victors in the election bombarded Washington for the spoils.

Jan 6, 1865 General Grant at Petersburg wired Mr. Lincoln asking that General Ben Butler be removed from command of the Army of the James. Grant felt a certain lack of ability to command a large army.

## New books for your consideration



**The Boy Generals: George Custer, Wesley Merritt, and the Cavalry of the Army of the Potomac**

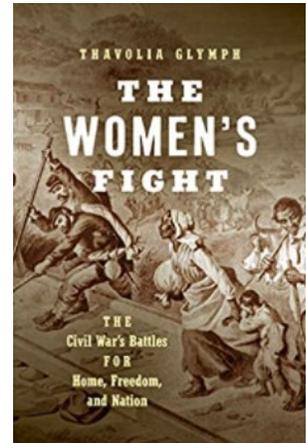
By Adolfo Ovies

Publisher: Savas Beatie

**The Women's Fight: The Civil War's Battles for Home, Freedom, and Nation**

By Thavolia Glymph

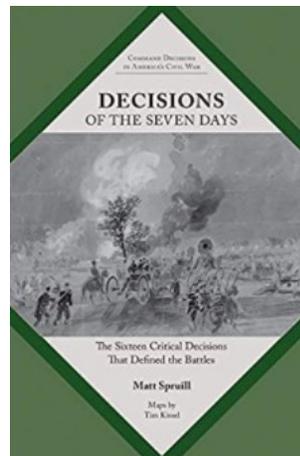
UNC Press



**Decisions of the Seven Day: The Sixteen Critical Decisions That Defined the Battles**

By Matt Spruill

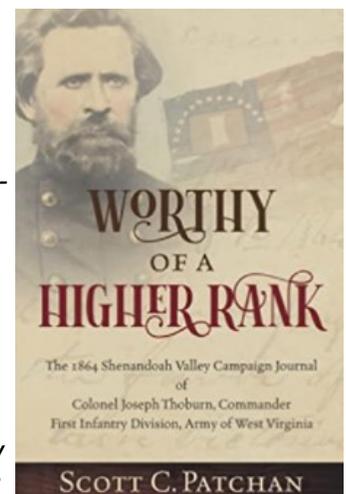
University of Tennessee Press



**Worthy of a Higher Rank—The 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign Journal of Colonel Joseph Thorburn, Commander First Infantry Division Army of West Virginia**

By Scott C. Patchan

Scott is an expert on the Valley Campaigns and a friend of our Civil War Round Table—he has led a couple battlefield tours for our "Five Days in May" excursions.



Dec 27, 2021 Richmond, VA ....

The long awaited recovery of the second time capsule at the Confederate General Lee Monument was opened and its contents examined and preserved by conservation experts from the Special Collections of the University of Virginia Library.

The 36 lb box contained books, newspaper, money, ammunition, pamphlets, and much more in Civil War era artifacts.

Records indicate that dozens of Richmond residents, organizations, and businesses contributed about 60 objects to the capsule, including Confederate memorabilia.



**New Bedford Civil War Round Table  
2021-2022 Membership Form**

**Program Year 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 (s) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell or Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for being a member of the New Bedford Civil War Round Table**

Al Smith of the Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston has announced his 2022 "4 Days in May" Field Trip. Please see the enclosed flyer.

## **AL SMITH'S 4 DAYS IN MAY TRIP**

The corona virus did not beat us. We are back and stronger than ever. Our trips have only been on a holding pattern but **WE ARE BACK**

The 2022 trip will be from May 12, 2022 to May 15, 2022 and will give everyone an opportunity to see some of the most beautiful views this country has to offer

The trip will include the following

We will depart Boston by air conditioned coach bus supplied by New Travel Transportation Co. Pickup will be at Riverside MBTA Station and the Sears parking lot at the Auburn Mall

Three nights hotel accommodations at the Inn at Saratoga Springs, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

All admission charges

Dinner on Saturday evening at Wheatfields Restaurant, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Tips and donations are included

We will visit the Robert Todd Lincoln mansion in Manchester Village, Vt.

Onward we go to visit the campus at West Point, N. Y. and museum

**A valid government ID or passport is required for entrance to West Point**

Continuing will be a visit to the Ulysses S. Grant summer home Wilton, N. Y.

Because of our history, I have included several Revolutionary War sites to visit

The cost of this great trip is \$855.00 for a single and \$600.00 for a double rate

So come join us for another great Civil War experience

A \$50.00 deposit will hold a reservation for you on this great trip. The total cost for a single reservation is \$ and for a double reservation is \$ Send your check payable to:

Civil War Roundtable of Greater Boston to Al Smith 11 Poplar St. Belmont, Ma. 02478 If you have any inquiries call Al at 617 – 484 5613 or at his E mail address [ohjudyoh@yahoo.com](mailto:ohjudyoh@yahoo.com)

**TRULY A SUPER TRIP**