

2011 WCWRT Newsletters

Jan



*Williamsburg Civil War
Roundtable*

Meeting Place:

**WILLIAMSBURG
LIBRARY THEATRE**

Newsletter address:

Scott Bowers

28 Banister Dr.

Hampton, VA 23666

Volume XXXV, Number 6

February 22, 2011

**“SEND ME A PAIR OF OLD BOOTS AND
KISS MY LITTLE GIRLS: CIVIL WAR LETTERS OF
RICHARD AND MARY WATKINS 1861-1865”**

By JEFF TOALSON

7:00PM TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2011

Williamsburg Community Library Theatre --

Williamsburg, Virginia

Note we will be at Williamsburg Community Library

In February we will once again be visited by author Jeff Toalson. Author of two books on the War: Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls - The Civil War Letters of Richard and Mary Watkins, 1861-1865, which was published in

2009, and his first book "No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion - A Composite Diary of the Last 16 Months of the Confederacy. He will perform a reading of selected letters in character as Richard Watkins. □□

Richard Watkins, a Prince Edward County, Virginia lawyer and farmer, was a Captain of Co. K of the 3rd Virginia Cavalry during the Civil War. Toalson, portraying Richard, sits on his front porch in 1890 and recalls stories of the recent "great unpleasantness" from the 300 letters that he and Mary wrote to each other during the conflict. Richard and Mary's letters chronicle both detailed information about the war, and its affects on those who lived through the time, and also paint a touching love story as the two endured hardship and separation. Mary remained in Meherrin, Virginia during the war, managing the family farm and raising their three daughters, while Richard fought in campaigns throughout Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

January's speaker was George Callis who spoke on "Union and Confederate Cavalry: Myths & Facts I Didn't Know". A specialist in cavalry, he gave information on use of bugle calls, weapons, flags and information on Jeb Stuart at Gettysburg.

Upcoming Speakers:

March 28th: guest speaker is Will Mollineux. Will's presentation is from his book "A Young Virginia Boatman Navigates the Civil War", drawn from the journals of George Randolph Wood of Hampton who saw the war from a unique perspective, a supply barge on the James and Appomattox rivers.

The Roundtable's fiscal year is from September through May. Member dues for the 2010-2011 year are payable in September (\$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family). Please plan to bring a check to WCWRT with you to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer, John Hale at 2315 West Island Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

2010-2011 Officers

President: Norman Cooper

Vice-President/Program Coordinator: John Marsh 

Secretary: Teri Toepke □

Treasurer: John Hale □

At Large – Gene Danko and Susan Moorman

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members will include Ken Sage, Dick Cooper, John Marsh, Norman Cooper, and permanent member, Willard Gilley.

WEBSITE: Be sure to frequently visit the site for newsletter info, announcements, future and past speakers, and an up to date calendar of events in the Civil War world. It's available anytime you need the info. <http://www.wcwrt.org>.

****Peggy Vogtsberger has asked me to make members aware she is selling off some of her Civil War library. They can e-mail for the list pvogtsberger@hotmail.com**



*Williamsburg Civil War
Roundtable*

Meeting Place:

**WILLIAMSBURG
LIBRARY THEATRE**

Newsletter address:

Scott Bowers

28 Banister Dr.

Hampton, VA 23666

Volume XXXV, Number 7

March 22, 2011

**“A YOUNG VIRGINIA BOATMAN
NAVIGATES THE CIVIL WAR”**

By WILL MOLLINEUX

7:00PM TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

Williamsburg Community Library Theatre --

Williamsburg, Virginia

Our speaker is Will Mollineux. In April 1861, when Virginia’s Secessionist Convention passed an ordinance to withdraw from the Union, the harbor pilots of Hampton Roads, who held state warrants, evacuated from Hampton to City Point, at the confluence of the James and Appomattox rivers. Among them was George Randolph Wood, who was 14. He spent much of the next three years aboard river boats and barges in the service of the Confederacy. Will's book "A Young Virginia Boatman Navigates the Civil War" is drawn

from the journals of George Randolph Wood of Hampton who saw the war from a unique perspective, a supply barge on the James and Appomattox rivers. Molineux, a graduate of William and Mary where he was a history major, is a retired journalist who spent the majority of his career with the Daily Press. He has transcribed three collections of Civil War letters, which have been privately circulated. He is the great grandson of Edward Leslie Molineux, a native of London, England, who served in the Union army, rising from private to brigadier general.

In February we were treated by author Jeff Toalson, author of two books on the War: *Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls - The Civil War Letters of Richard and Mary Watkins, 1861-1865*, which was published in 2009, and his first book “*No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion - A Composite Diary of the Last 16 Months of the Confederacy*. Jeff gave a reading of selected letters in character as Richard Watkins. □□

March 19, 2011 - Hampton, Virginia Hosts Hunt For Hampton History. Hampton marks the sesquicentennial of the Civil War with *The Hunt for Hampton History: The Civil War 1861*, a historical showcase taking place at the Hampton History Museum, Rupert Sargent Building, and along Old Hampton Lane in downtown Hampton. 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Explore, and share the city’s historic past. Absolutely free! For more information on the *Hunt for Hampton History: The Civil War 1861*, interested parties are encouraged to contact the Hampton History Museum at 757/727-1610.

April 1-3, 2011 The 18th Annual Conference of the Society of Civil War Surgeons is in Williamsburg, Virginia. Its relative closeness to you will not happen in the near future. We urge your roundtable not to miss this opportunity. The conference has both exciting speakers and a great Saturday tour of the National Maritime Museum. Our special tour will not only focus on Naval Medicine but will allow us to experience seeing the USS Monitor pieces that have been recovered from the sea. The Society even has a special rate for first time participants of only \$130. Please [click here](#) for details and [here](#) for the registration form.

The Roundtable's fiscal year is from September through May. Member dues for the 2010-2011 year are payable in September (\$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family). Please plan to bring a check to WCWRT with you to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer, John Hale at 2315 West Island Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

2010-2011 Officers

President: Norman Cooper

Vice-President/Program Coordinator: John Marsh

Secretary: Teri Toepke

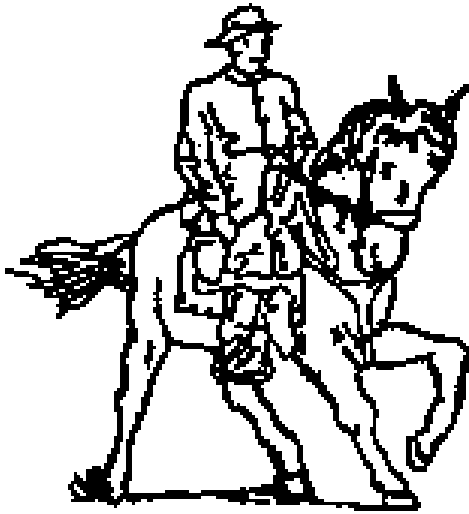
Treasurer: John Hale

At Large – Gene Danko and Susan Moorman

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members will include Ken Sage, Dick Cooper, John Marsh, Norman Cooper, and permanent member, Willard Gilley.

**WEBSITE: Be sure to frequently visit the site for newsletter info, announcements, future and past speakers, and an up to date calendar of events in the Civil War world. It's available anytime you need the info.
<http://www.wcwr.org>.**

****Peggy Vogtsberger has asked me to make members aware she is selling off some of her Civil War library. They can e-mail for the list
pvogtsberger@hotmail.com**



*Williamsburg Civil War
Roundtable*

Meeting Place:

**WILLIAMSBURG
LIBRARY THEATRE**

Newsletter address:

Scott Bowers

28 Banister Dr.

Hampton, VA 23666

Volume XXXV, Number 8

April 26, 2011

**“COUNTER-ESPIONAGE AND LAW
ENFORCEMENT IN THE CIVIL WAR”**

By: JOHN BRAY

7:00PM TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011

Williamsburg Community Library Theatre --

Williamsburg, Virginia

Note we will be at Williamsburg Community Library

This month's guest speaker is John Bray who will discuss "Counter-espionage and Law Enforcement during the Civil War". The enforcement arm of the Federal Government during the Civil War, then known as the National Detective Service, is the forerunner of what became the United States Secret Service. The man who ran this organization through most of the war was Lafayette Baker. Originally a branch of the State Department, this agency was transferred to the War Department and Baker was given

the rank of Colonel. Mr. Bray will outline some of the more virulent and dangerous conspiracies and little known figures at the heart of the efforts to create turmoil in the Northern States and foment secession in the “northwestern states”, Michigan, Illinois and Ohio.

MARCH SPEAKER: Will Mollineux spoke on the narrative of George Randolph Wood, who at 14 spent much of the war aboard river boats and barges in the service of the Confederacy. Will's book "A Young Virginia Boatman Navigates the Civil War" is drawn from the journals of George Randolph Wood of Hampton who saw the war from this unique perspective. Will had copies of the book available for sale and stayed to talk and autograph them.

The Roundtable's fiscal year is from September through May. Member dues for the 2010-2011 year are payable in September (\$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family). Please plan to bring a check to WCWRT with you to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer, John Hale at 2315 West Island Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

2010-2011 Officers

President: Norman Cooper

Vice-President/Program Coordinator: John Marsh

Secretary: Teri Toepke □

Treasurer: John Hale □

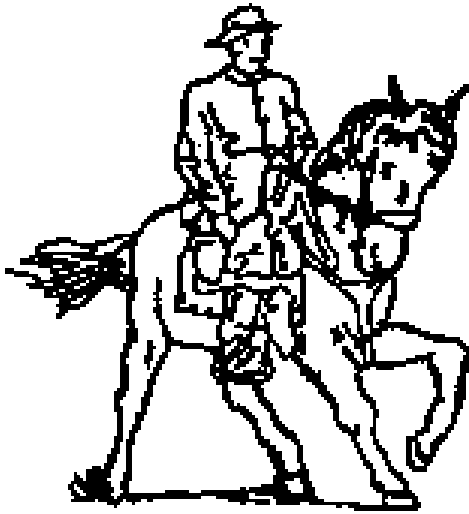
At Large – Gene Danko and Susan Moorman

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members will include Ken Sage, Dick Cooper, John Marsh, Norman Cooper, and permanent member, Willard Gilley.

May 21, 2011 Virginia Tech and the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission are offering a signature conference at Cassell Coliseum. We would like to invite you to attend this important event. The General Assembly of Virginia created the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission in 2006 to prepare for and commemorate the sesquicentennial of Virginia's participation in the American Civil War. Visit the website for more information: <http://www.virginiacivilwar.org/2011conference.php>

WEBSITE: Be sure to frequently visit the site for newsletter info, announcements, future and past speakers, and an up to date calendar of events in the Civil War world. It's available anytime you need the info. <http://www.wcwrt.org>.

****Peggy Vogtsberger has asked me to make members aware she is selling off some of her Civil War library. They can e-mail for the list pvogtsberger@hotmail.com**



*Williamsburg Civil War
Roundtable*

Meeting Place:

**WILLIAMSBURG
LIBRARY THEATRE**

Newsletter address:

Scott Bowers

28 Banister Dr.

Hampton, VA 23666

Volume XXXV, Number 9

May 24, 2011

**“CIVIL WAR MEDICINE
IN THE 21ST CENTURY ”**

**** **By: GEORGE WONDERLICK**

7:00PM TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011

Williamsburg Community Library Theatre --

Williamsburg, Virginia

Note we will be at Williamsburg Community Library

The May 24th guest speaker is George Wonderlick the director of the Civil War Medical Museum. He will discuss “Civil War Medicine in the 21st century”. The battle of Antietam may be the single bloodiest day in our nation's history, but few know it for an even deeper meaning to those alive today. It is also the birthplace of modern emergency medicine. This is the final program and meeting of the season so be sure and come on out.

Elections will take place at the May meeting. The following slate of candidates has

been put forth by the Nominating Committee:

President: John Marsh Vice-President: Gene Danko

Secretary: Teri Teopke Treasurer: John Ha

April's guest speaker was John Bray who presented "Counter-espionage and Law Enforcement during the Civil War". The enforcement arm of the Federal Government during the Civil War, then known as the National Detective Service, is the forerunner of what became the United States Secret Service. The man who ran this organization through most of the war was Lafayette Baker.

The Roundtable's fiscal year is from September through May. Member dues for the 2010-2011 year are payable in September (\$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family). Please plan to bring a check to WCWRT with you to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer, John Hale at 2315 West Island Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

2010-2011 Officers

President: Norman Cooper

Vice-President/Program Coordinator: John Marsh

Secretary: Teri Toepke □

Treasurer: John Hale □

At Large – Gene Danko and Susan Moorman

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members will include Ken Sage, Dick Cooper, John Marsh, Norman Cooper, and permanent member, Willard Gilley.

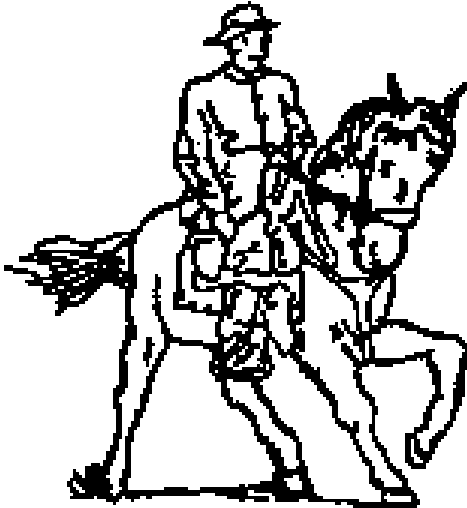
Upcoming Meetings and Speakers

The September 27th guest speaker is Robbie Smith of the National Park Service

The October 25th guest speaker is Art Grant who will discuss Grant and Meade
The November 22nd guest speaker is David Corlette who will discuss the New Mexico campaign

WEBSITE: Be sure to frequently visit the site for newsletter info, announcements, future and past speakers, and an up to date calendar of events in the Civil War world. It's available anytime you need the info. <http://www.wcwrt.org>.

****Peggy Vogtsberger has asked me to make members aware she is selling off some of her Civil War library. They can e-mail for the list pvogtsberger@hotmail.com**



*Williamsburg Civil War
Roundtable*

Meeting Place:
WILLIAMSBURG

LIBRARY THEATRE

*Newsletter address: Scott Bowers
28 Banister Dr.
Hampton, VA 23666*

Volume XXXVI, Number 1

September 27, 2011

"VICKSBURG"

**By: Robbie Smith
National Park Service
7:00PM Tuesday, September 27, 2011
Williamsburg Community Library Theatre
Williamsburg, Virginia**

Welcome to another season of Williamsburg Civil War Round table. The September 27th meeting will feature a talk by Robbie Smith of the National Park Service. Robbie will talk about Vicksburg.

We will be meeting in the Williamsburg Library theatre at 515 Scotland Street in Williamsburg at 7 PM.

The May 24th guest speaker was George Wonderlick, the director of the Civil War Medical Museum. He discussed "Civil War Medicine in the 21st century". The battle of Antietam may be the single bloodiest day in our nation's history but few know it for an even deeper meaning to those alive today. It is also the birthplace of modern emergency medicine. This was the final program and meeting of the season.

Elections took place at the May meeting. The following slate of candidates has

been elected:

President: John Marsh

Vice-President: Gene Danko

Secretary: Teri Teopke

Treasurer: John Hale

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members will include Ken Sage, Dick Cooper, Norman Cooper, and permanent member, Willard Gilley.

. The Roundtable's fiscal year is from September through May. Member dues for the 2011-2012 year are payable in September (\$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family). Please plan to bring a check to WCWRT with you to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer, John Hale at 2315 West Island Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

Upcoming Meetings and Speaker

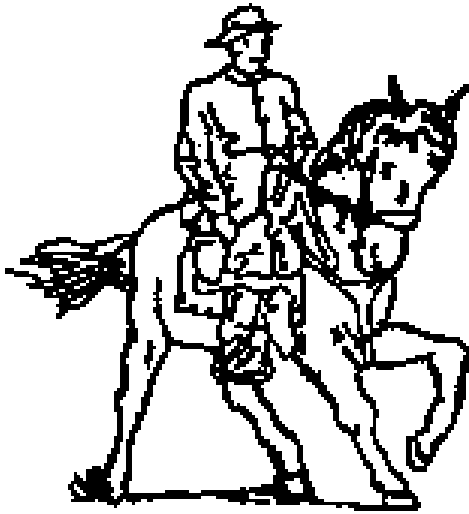
The October 25th guest speaker is Art Grant who will discuss U.S. Grant. Meeting will be held at Stryker Building.

The November 22nd guest speaker is David Corlette who will discuss the New Mexico campaign

The December 13th guest speaker is Teri Toepke who will discuss Christmas customs and connections--then and now.

WEBSITE: Be sure to frequently visit the site for newsletter info, announcements, future and past speakers, and an up to date calendar of events in the Civil War world. It's available anytime you need the info. <http://www.wcwrt.org>.

WCWRT's Jeff Toalson announces that in addition to the "one man play" that he presented to our Roundtable he is now in production on the first of four plays (one for each year of the Sesquicentennial) based on his book. Attached please find a "Save the Date!" reminder of the October dates for the October premier of "Boots & Kisses 1861." This will be the first of four plays based on the letters of Richard and Mary Watkins and the four productions will span the Sesquicentennial. You will be impressed by the marvelous work Robert Ruffin has done in molding Richard and Mary's letters into a wonderful and emotionally moving performance. This play will be presented, in the round, in Gloucester, Virginia at the new Arts on Main Theatre. Please see www.bootsandkisses.com for details.



*Williamsburg Civil War
Roundtable*

Meeting Place:

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
STRYKER BUILDING**

Newsletter address:

Scott Bowers

28 Banister Dr.

Hampton, VA 23666

Volume XXXVI, Number 2

October 25, 2011

“THE MILITARY GENIUS OF U.S. GRANT”

By: ART GRANT

**7:00PM TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2011
COUNCIL CHAMBERS-STRYKER BUILDING**

Williamsburg, Virginia

Art Grant will present “The Military Genius of U.S. Grant”. By the way, Art says he is not related to General Grant. Art graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering and was commissioned in the Armor Branch. His military service included tours with combat arms units both overseas and in the Continental United States including two combat tours in the Republic of Vietnam. He has held staff positions at all levels of command from squadron through the Department of the Army. Art retired from the Army at the rank of Colonel in May 1991. Following retirement from the Army, he joined

the staff of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He has been a member of the faculty of the U.S. Army Infantry School and was an Assistant Professor of History at the U.S. Military Academy, an Adjunct Professor of History at George Washington University, and a Professor of Military Strategy at the National War College. He has authored several books and articles on the American Civil War and on current military strategy.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: We began another season of Williamsburg Civil War Roundtable and for the September meeting the feature was a talk by Robbie Smith of the National Park Service. Robbie discussed "Fruits of Leadership: Vicksburg and Chancellorsville." She has been with the National Park Service for 12 years.

2011-2012 Officers WCWRT:

President: John Marsh Vice-President: Gene Danko

Secretary: Teri Teopke Treasurer: John Hale

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members will include Ken Sage, Dick Cooper, Norman Cooper, and permanent member, Willard Gilley.

. The Roundtable's fiscal year is from September through May. Member dues for the 2011-2012 year are payable in September (\$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family). Please plan to bring a check to WCWRT with you to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer, John Hale at 2315 West Island Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

Upcoming Meetings and Speaker

The November 22nd guest speaker is David Corlette who will discuss the New Mexico campaign

The December 13th guest speaker is Teri Toepke who will discuss Christmas customs and connections--then and now.

WEBSITE: Be sure to frequently visit the site for newsletter info, announcements, future and past speakers, and an up to date calendar of events in the Civil War world. It's available anytime you need the info. <http://www.wcwrt.org>.

Patriotism: Civil War Style

Have you ever heard of cockades, soldiers' aid societies, and sanitary fairs? The people of the 1860s, whether they supported the Union or the Confederacy, were

equally as patriotic 150 years ago as we are today. On November 12, 2011 from 1-2 p.m. the staff at Dabbs House Museum, 3812 Nine Mile Road, will share how Civil War era people showed their patriotic spirit for their country and their soldiers. This free event will examine the material culture (objects) of the period providing a great window into the past.



*Williamsburg Civil War
Roundtable*

Meeting Place

Williamsburg

Library Theatre

*Newsletter address: Scott Bowers
2200 ...*

Volume XXXVI Number 3

November 22, 2011

CONFEDERATE NEW MEXICO CAMPAIGN

By: DAVID CORLETTE

The November 22nd speaker is David Corlette who will discuss "The Improbable Invasion: The Confederate New Mexican Campaign 1862."

Mr. Corlette graduated from Gonzaga University in 1994 with a degree in history, after writing a thesis on Civil War chaplains. After serving in the military, he worked on his graduate studies at William and Mary, writing a Master's thesis on early American warfare and then a Ph.D. dissertation on early Indian Wars in New England Revolutionary War, and Encyclopedia of American Military History.

Mr. Corlette is currently the Assistant Director of the National Institute of American History and Democracy, an organization dedicated to teaching American history through a multidisciplinary approach of history, archaeology, anthropology, and public history. Since 2002, he has taught colonial American, Atlantic World, and modern US Military History for NIAHD, William and Mary, and the University of Virginia. Of particular note is a course David teaches with NIAHD, From the Revolution through the Civil War, which analyzes trends in American history by teaching on historic sites and at museums. He can frequently be found leading classes over regional battlefields, along the canals of Richmond, or through the ramparts of Fort Monroe.

October Meeting: Art Grant was the presenter of "The Military Genius of U.S. Grant". Art, who says he is not related to General Grant. Brought great insight to the general's persona and skill.

2011-2012 Officers WCWRT: President: John Marsh

Vice-President: Gene

Danko Secretary: Teri Teopke

Treasurer: John Hale The Executive

Committee consists of the elected officers, the immediate past president and other members appointed by the incoming president. Those members will include Ken Sage, Dick Cooper, Norman Cooper, and permanent member, Willard Gilley.

The Roundtable's fiscal year is from September through May. Member dues for the 2011-2012 year are payable in September (\$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family). Please plan to bring a check to WCWRT with you to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer, John Hale at 2315 West Island Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

****The December 13th guest speaker is Teri Toepke who will discuss Christmas customs and connections--then and now.**

The January 24th guest speaker is Catherine Wright who will discuss portions of her book, "Lee's Last Casualty: The Life and Letters of Sgt. Robert W. Parker, Second Virginia Cavalry"

WEBSITE: Be sure to frequently visit the site for newsletter info, announcements, future and past speakers, and an up to date calendar of events in the Civil War world. It's available anytime you need the info. <http://www.wcwrt.org>.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Capital of the Confederacy Show: November 19th & 20th, 2011 - Civil War Show at Richmond Raceway, 600 E. Laburnum Ave. Hrs Sat 9-5 and Sun. 9-3. Adults \$8 and under 12 free. Free appraisals and free parking.