



THE FIRST SHOT

Dedicated to the Study of the War Between the States

Monthly Newsletter

May 2012

CWRT Officers

**President – Joe Firetti; Vice President – Charlie Hiers;
Treasurer – Brenda Winstead; Secretary – Jeanne Weil;
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- ❖ The **May 2012** meeting of the Charleston Civil War Roundtable is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 8th** at Ryan's Family Restaurant on Highway 61 (St. Andrews Blvd). The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM with the Call to Order followed by a discussion of any new business.
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- ❖ **THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER & TOPIC** : Ms. Heather Welch will give a talk on **the civilians in the Military during the Civil War.**
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❖ **MAJOR EVENTS IN MAY DURING THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES**

1861

May 6th – Arkansas and Tennessee secede from the Union becoming the ninth and tenth states to do so. The Confederacy recognizes that a “state of war” exists with the U.S.

May 13th – U.S. troops occupy Baltimore, MD.

May 20th – North Carolina secedes from the Union.

May 23rd – Virginia votes to secede from the Union.

1862

May 3rd – The Confederate army under Joseph E. Johnston evacuate their positions at Yorktown, VA.

May 5th – The Battle of Williamsburg occurs.

May 8th – The Battle of McDowell, VA is fought resulting in a Confederate victory. This battle was the second engagement of Stonewall Jackson's famous Shenandoah Valley Campaign.

May 9th – Confederate forces evacuate Norfolk, VA. One result of this withdrawal was to require the destruction of the *CSS Virginia* (Merrimac)

May 11th – *CSS Virginia* is scuttled by Confederates off Norfolk, VA.

May 23rd – The Battle of Front Royal, VA

May 25th – The Battle of Winchester, VA -

May 31st – The Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks), VA. Confederate commander, Joseph E. Johnston, was severely wounded in this action and was succeeded by Gen. R.E. Lee.

1863

May 1st to 4th – Battle of Chancellorsville, VA

May 10th – Gen. Stonewall Jackson dies from complications of a wound received during the Battle of Chancellorsville.

May 16th – Battle of Champion's Hill, MS

May 18th – The siege of Vicksburg, MS begins.

1864

May 5th to 7th – Battle of the Wilderness, VA

May 7th – Sherman begins his march on Atlanta, GA

May 8th to 19th – Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, VA

May 14th to 15th – Battle of Resaca, GA

May 15th – Battle of New Market, VA

May 16th – Battle of Drewry’s Bluff (Fort Darling), VA

May 23rd to 26th – Battle of the North Anna, VA

1865

May 4th – Gen. Richard Taylor surrenders the Confederate forces in the Department of Alabama, Mississippi and East Louisiana.

May 10th – President Jefferson Davis is captured by Federal troops near Irwinville, GA

May 12th – The last significant land engagement of the war occurred at Palmetto Ranch, TX

May 26th – Gen. S. B. Buckner surrenders the Confederate Army of Trans-Mississippi marking the surrender of the last significant Confederate Army.

❖ **TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:** How would you answer the following questions about Civil War Navies?

- Who was selected as the Secretary of the Navy by their respective governments?
- Can you identify the commanding naval officer in the following naval engagements?
 - Hampton Roads
 - Red River
 - New Orleans
 - Mobile Bay
 - Fort Fisher
 - Charleston Harbor (Ft. Sumter)
 - Port Royal Sound
- Can you name the major Confederate commerce raiders?
- **Bonus Question:** Although the American Civil War is typically viewed as a domestic affair, there were several naval engagements involving foreign nations. Can you identify these engagements?