



## THE FIRST SHOT

*Dedicated to the Study of the War Between the States*

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*Monthly Newsletter*

*December 2012*

### CWRT Officers

**President – Joe Firetti; Vice President – Charlie Hiers;  
Treasurer – Brenda Winstead; Secretary – Jeanne Weil;  
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- ❖ The December 2012 meeting of the Charleston Civil War Roundtable is scheduled for Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> 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 AND TOPIC:** This month's speaker will be Mr. Eugene Stouch. The subject of his presentation will be the Confederate Ironclad Program.
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### ❖ **MAJOR EVENTS IN DECEMBER DURING THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES**

#### **1861**

- ★ **December 6<sup>th</sup>** – the Federal Senate voted 36-0 to expel Senator John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky

- ★ **December 9<sup>th</sup>** – U.S. Senate, after discussing “military disasters”, establishes the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War
- ★ **December 10<sup>th</sup>** – Kentucky is admitted as the thirteenth state in the Confederate States of America by act of the Confederate Congress
- ★ **December 11<sup>th</sup>** – A fire sweeps through the business district of Charleston, SC east of King Street and near the Cooper River
- ★ **December 26<sup>th</sup>** – The U.S. releases Confederate commissioners Mason and Slidell to the British

## 1862

- ★ **December 7<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas
- ★ **December 11<sup>th</sup>** – Federals under Burnside occupy Fredericksburg, VA by nightfall, following an intense bombardment of the city
- ★ **December 13<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Fredericksburg, VA
- ★ **December 18<sup>th</sup>** – General Forrest defeats Union cavalry at Lexington, TN
- ★ **December 20<sup>th</sup>** – General Earl Van Dorn’s Confederate troops attacked Grant’s supply depot at Holly Springs, MS. His troops captured at least 1500 Federals and destroyed approximately \$1.5 million dollars worth of supplies
- ★ **December 23<sup>rd</sup>** – President Davis issued a proclamation calling Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler a felon and an outlaw who, if captured should be hung immediately
- ★ **December 29<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Chickasaw Bayou, MS
- ★ **December 31<sup>st</sup>** – Battle of Murfreesboro {Stone’s River} TN; Lincoln approves act to admit West Virginia into the Union as the 35<sup>th</sup> state

## 1863

- ★ **December 2<sup>nd</sup>** – the Army of the Potomac withdraws North of the Rapidan River in Virginia after the abandonment of the abortive Mine Run Campaign
- ★ **December 16<sup>th</sup>** – Joseph E. Johnston is appointed to command of the Army of Tennessee
- ★ **December 25<sup>th</sup>** – Federal gunboats operated on the Stono River in South Carolina and Confederate artillery damaged the U.S.S. *Marblehead*

## 1864

- ★ **December 10<sup>th</sup>** – Sherman’s army arrives in front of Savannah, GA
- ★ **December 13<sup>th</sup>** – Union forces capture Fort McAllister on the Ogeechee River below Savannah
- ★ **December 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Nashville, TN
- ★ **December 20<sup>th</sup>** – Confederate forces evacuate Savannah, GA
- ★ **December 24<sup>th</sup>** – Federal bombardment of Ft. Fisher, NC begins
- ★ **December 25<sup>th</sup>** – Federal landings at Ft. Fisher, NC fail leaving the Confederates in control of the entrance to the Cape Fear River.

**1865**

- ★ **December 1<sup>st</sup>** - President Johnson revokes the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus for all of the United States with the exception of the former Confederate states