

Moderately



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# RECALL

The North Carolina Military Historical Society



VOLUME 20

FALL 2014

ISSUE 2

## THE MAP MAKER:

# MARION H. "GIB" GIBSON

BY WILLIAM NORTHROP

### Preamble

**T**here were approximately 16 million World War II veterans at war's end. Today, almost 70 years later, less than 2 million are still with us. They came back, went back to work, married and raised their families, but rarely, if ever, spoke of the war ... even to their wives. Although the phrase "War is hell" was never a cliché to them, they went about a spiritual and mental leveling and truly believed that it was all worth it.

It has taken our nation over 60 years to recognize the contribution of our "Greatest Generation" and to erect a fitting monument to them and their war. And, as we slowly become aware of losing them, they and their stories become more valuable to us. This is only one story.

Today everyone is familiar with the iconic Robert Rosenthal photograph of the flag raising on Iwo Jima that has come to symbolize the American victory in World War II. The importance of taking Iwo Jima as a "stepping stone" to the Japanese Home Islands has been professed as the strategic rationale for the battle. But, it was

the battle itself that deserves memorializing.

For the first time in the history of the US Marine Corps, they suffered more casualties than their vanquished enemy. There were 22,000 Japanese soldiers

defending Iwo Jima and a little over 200 survived. The Marines took almost 7,000 dead and another 20,000 wounded. The Japanese knew they would lose the island so their defenses were planned and constructed to inflict the maximum amount of casualties and they did.

And while the Japanese fatalism factored into the equation, Iwo Jima's importance was not lost on anyone and in March 1944 construction began on its defenses. Perhaps if the casualties were high enough, the Americans could be deterred from a subsequent invasion of the Home Islands. So, the game opened in June 1944 and from that

point onward the US Navy would show up periodically to attack with carrier aircraft and naval gunfire.

Iwo was indeed an important "stepping stone," but it was more, much more to the US Army Air Force. The island contained two airfields and was approximately



Robert Rosenthal photograph of the flag raising on Iwo Jima



**Iwo Jima today. The Japanese changed its name to Iwo To and it is off limits to tourists.**

halfway between the American air bases in the Mariana Islands and the Japanese mainland. Not only could the Japanese on Iwo warn the Home Islands of a raid enroute, but they often sent up fighter aircraft to intercept the bombers.

With Iwo in American hands, it was possible to base fighters there to escort the bombers all the way to Japan. Additionally, it served as a safe haven for damaged aircraft unable to make it all the way back to the Marianas. In fact, damaged American bombers utilized its runways while the fighting still raged.

Gib Gibson and his fellow Marines of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions fought hard against fanatical resistance, paid the price in blood and lives and took Iwo Jima.

According to the TO&E of a US Marine Battalion in World War II, Company D was normally a machine gun company. But, the Dog Company of this narrative was floating loosely around the 3rd Marine Division without a permanent home. It was a specialized unit of

map makers, specifically photo topographers and more engineers than infantry, although then as now, all Marines are trained infantrymen first.

Our particular D Company was transferred from the 3rd Marine Division to the 5th in late 1944 in preparation for their next invasion scheduled for February 1945. A twenty-two-year-old Tarheel, Marion



**5th Marine Division**

“Gib” Gibson, was a member of D Company and the story of how he came to be aboard an attack transport in the middle of the Pacific is typically long and interesting.

Gib Gibson was born and raised in Gibson, North Carolina, then a prosperous, rural farming community located down on the South Carolina line. “We had two banks, five grocery stores, four dry goods stores, a post office, three doctors and a dentist,” Gib remembered, “and of course cotton was our primary crop.”

After graduating from Gibson High School in 1940, Gib’s father decided he needed to “learn how to study” so, he spoke with the local dentist, Dr. Gardner. The dentist’s son, John M. Gardner (ORMI Class of 1942), was doing well at Oak Ridge Military Institute and the dentist swore by it.

So, in September of 1940, Gib Gibson reported to the military academy in Oak Ridge, which then had a strong junior college program and was also known for its athletics. Like all cadets, Gib was slated for an ROTC commission and surprisingly, was recruited to the varsity tennis team. It was the team coached by the legendary J. Roy Prince and had such tennis greats as Jim Turner, the Georgia State champion and the renowned Tarheel star, Brooks Webb.

On Sunday, 7 December 1941, Gib and one other cadet had accompanied Major Richard Larkins to a performance of Handel’s “Messiah” in High Point. On hearing the news of the Japanese attack, Gib remembered he did not even know where Pearl Harbor was,



but Major Larkins did. Additionally, Larkins, who was then posted to the military academy as the Commandant of Cadets, speculated that most of the cadets would be called into service during the following year.

Larkins was right, of course, and World War II would become the pivotal event in the lives of Gib Gibson and his schoolmates. The granite monument standing in front of the Alumni building on campus today memorializes the forty-two Oak Ridge alumni who fell.



the island was accompanied by a Japanese air raid. "Nice welcome," he commented.

Company D did not stay long on Saipan, nor did they stay in the 3rd Marine Division. Within a few weeks, Gib and his company were transferred to Guam and into the newly-activated 5th Marine Division. There in Guam, they staged for the next offensive, Operation DETACHMENT.

## Sulfur Island

Gib Gibson remembered the day he was handed aerial reconnaissance photos of "Sulfur Island." According to the briefing, it was located about halfway between the Marianas and the Japanese Home Islands and was scheduled for invasion the following February. The



Marine Corps needed topographical maps (1:20,000) of that small island, which later would be better known by its Japanese name: Iwo Jima.

Gib and his crew would prepare their initial maps for the assault, then land on the island to verify terrain features and enemy defensive positions. D Company arrived with the 450-ship invasion fleet around 16 February 1945 and after a three-day preliminary naval bombardment, the Marines went in.

D Company went in as scheduled on D+1 and they were greeted by the body of a dead Marine floating near the shoreline. A few yards inland, Gib recalled seeing a large foxhole containing the bodies of six Marines and the Navy Corpsman who was treating them when the Japanese artillery shell landed in their midst.

They spent the first day orienting themselves and digging in to support a 105 mm howitzer battery, utilizing empty shell casings to prop up the walls of their foxholes in the black, volcanic sand. Gib never forgot his first night on Iwo, which was not all that dark. The US Navy and the Japanese continually fired illumination rounds, which turned the darkness in to an eerily-lit twilight, punctuated by continuous artillery fire.

"You didn't get out of your hole at night," Gib noted, "or you drew immediate fire." That first night, between the artillery barrages, Gib heard strange noises of machinery beneath his foxhole. The Japanese had dug into the island to a depth of two to four stories underground with tunnels connecting all their defensive positions. The next morning, one of the Marines in his squad awoke to find the man he had shared his foxhole with was dead. Iwo was a place of strained juju, bent karma

and haunted by black nightmares.

"Those tunnels were a problem for us in the first few days. We were off-mission and fighting as infantry most of the time. When the first wave of Marines swept through an area, they knocked out the pillboxes with grenades and flamethrowers. But, the Japs would come back in through the tunnels and replace the crews. It was a nasty surprise for us in the second wave when we thought that a Jap position was down," Gib reflected. "We lost one of our guys that way."

Getting on with their primary mission of mapping the island, Gib and his fellow Marine cartographers established an operating base behind the 105 mm Howitzer battery. They dug in, constructed walls of empty shell casings filled with volcanic sand, and dragged discarded ammunition sleds to their hole for overhead. From this site, they would venture out to confirm their initial mapping efforts, return to add their findings to their working map.

Amid the scary adventures and close calls, Gib remembered their efforts to find the island's International Elevation Marker left there by the Coastal and Geodetic Survey. They eventually found it, along with some hornet-mad Japanese infantry. Followed then a nasty fight. "It didn't do us much good anyway; the marker was written in Japanese. Still, we copied it and brought it back to our captain."

One of his fondest memories, if one can be "fond" of any event on Iwo Jima, happened on his third day on the island. That was the day the Marines raised the flag on Mount Suribachi and Joe Rosenthal took his classic, if "accidental" photo of the second flag raising. "The first flag was small; you could barely see it," Gib remembered. "Still, everyone cheered and the ships offshore began to sound their horns, sirens and whistles."

"They told us we would take the island in three to five days," Gib stated, "We were still fighting over a month later." And, they were still fighting when the first damaged B-29 came in for an emergency landing.

"We were told that the bomber had wounded aboard. He circled the island and came in right over us, so we watched him make a belly landing. All the crew survived," Gib said.

Yet another time, a damaged B-29 returning from Japan flew over Iwo and was abandoned in mid-air by her crew. As the aviators parachuted to safety, the bomber continued to fly in circles over the island. Finally, it was necessary for fighters to be sent aloft to shoot down the errant bomber, Gib recalled.



The type of map prepared by Gib Gibson and D Company

Company D completed their work on the final maps of Iwo Jima and in early April were redeployed back to Maui with the rest of the 5th Marine Division. Before leaving the island, Gib policed up a Japanese rifle and bayonet, which he later donated to the Oak Ridge Military Academy Museum.

## Redeployment

Gib could not believe their luck. D Company was transported back to the Hawaiian Islands onboard the President Monroe, one of the luxury liners of the Presidential Line. “It was wonderful,” he recalled. “I had not shaved since landing on Iwo. It took me a whole pack of razor blades, but I got a good shave and a salt-water bath. They treated us royally.”

While enroute, it was announced that the Americans had invaded Okinawa. Then, a few days later, they were informed of the death of President Roosevelt in Warm Springs, Georgia. The sad news did not help the Marines who were trying to unwind after more than a month on Iwo Jima.

A mischievous Navy seaman decided to see what would happen if he slapped the steel deck with a wood-

en slat from an orange crate. It sounded like a pistol shot, Gib noted, and a nearby Marine instinctively jumped for cover ... right over the side of the ship.

The President Monroe had to stop and send a boat back to recover the now-angry Marine who, without a life preserver, had managed to stay afloat. This put the liner way behind the convoy and it was only able to catch up shortly before they made landfall at Maui. “That Marine never did find that swabbie,” Gib reflected. “If he had, he would have killed him.”

The 5th Marine Division went into camp on Maui and immediately began training for the anticipated invasion of the Japanese Home Islands. But, in August 1945, atomic bombs were dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. These attacks forced the surrender of the Japanese Empire, thereby negating the need for invasion.

In Maui, the word soon came down that the entire 5th Marine Division was slated for occupation duty in Japan. Within short weeks, they embarked for the Imperial Japanese Naval Base at Sasebo, on Kyushu Island, near the city of Nagasaki. Gib landed with the rest of his division on 22 September 1945.

Once in Sasebo, Gib was appointed to head the division’s payroll section. One of his detachments was based in Nagasaki and he visited them at least twice a month on official business. He got a good look at what was wrought by the atom bomb attack. Gib recalled, “I saw the terrible devastation made by the atomic bomb and yes, it was a mess.”

His overall impression of the Japanese people invoked a compassionate rise in Gib. “They were starving,” he remembered. He paid one family to do his laundry and smuggled food to them in spite of orders to the contrary.

“I couldn’t abide it when the people needed food. I’d go by the PX, buy some food and deliver it to them when I picked up my laundry.”

Gib spent Christmas of 1945 in Sasebo and in January 1946, he finally got his orders home. Asked to reflect on the war, Gib in a typical veteran’s reaction answered briefly, “Grateful,” he replied and all that implied.

## A Life Well Lived

Of course, Gib was anxious to get on with his life. He soon discovered that there was not a lot of call for photo cartography, but he had an uncle in the insurance business, so he joined Pilot Life and found a good fit. He retired in February 1985, almost 40 years to the day after the fight for Iwo Jima.



Nagasaki as Gib Gibson saw it.

Gib met Betsy Hobgood from Greenville, North Carolina in early 1947 and they were married that October. They had three children, Woody, Wayne and Elaine, and enjoyed a good life ... “pretty much all gravy.” There were low points, of course, sending his son, Woody, off to Vietnam, the flood of 1999 that left four feet of water in his home (Hurricane Hugo) and finally the loss of his

beloved wife, Betsy, in 2004. On balance, Gib admitted, he had a good life.

Marion “Gib” Gibson passed quietly in his home in Rocky Mount, North Carolina in June 2013. His eulogy was delivered by Major General John Admire, USMC (ret.).

*Once a Marine ...*

# THE IMMORTAL SIX HUNDRED

BY DON KOONCE

General Sherman was right. “*War is hell.*”

**D**uring wartime, those unfortunate enough to be taken prisoner usually come the closest to understanding the true meaning of Hell. The names are familiar to most of us - Andersonville, Belle Isle, Stalag 18A, Tanagawa, Camp O’Donnel – Battan, Camp 6 – Pyonyang, The Hanoi Hilton. These places among many others are synonymous with suffering, abuse, misery and sadness. Often the suffering is compounded by the captor’s desire for retaliation against perceived abuses by the other side, and manifested in increased cruelty, deprivation and unjust punishment.

But this is not to be a story of the horrors of prison camps but a fascinating human drama involving six hundred courageous men who were purposely placed in harm’s way, under orders of the United States Government, in retaliation for suspected abuses by the other side. It is a dark side of American history, rarely acknowledged and absent from most history books. Ironically, it took place the very year that the Geneva Convention met for the first time which would ultimately pass laws that would prevent such an unjust act.

The Dix-Hill Cartel agreed upon in 1862 set forth a system of laws that provided a civilizing influence to the horrors of war and limits to the natural inclinations towards brutality. According to these laws of war, any prisoner captured in an armed contest between two belligerent armies must be protected, entitled to proper quarters, clothing, bedding and camp equipment. He was also due the same rations as that of his captors and not required to labor on military works or menial jobs. If an escape attempt was made it was not considered a crime. On the contrary, it was accepted as a duty to try to escape and was not punishable. An exchange system was also called for, officer for officer, private for private or a certain number of privates for commissioned officers depending on rank. This policy, agreed to by most civilized governments, was complicated during the Civil War by one main factor – the United States government chose not to recognize the Confederacy as an independent belligerent. President Lincoln announced early in the war that the Southern states were “in rebellion” and therefore any prisoners taken were to be treated as traitors. To comply with the provisions of the 1862 Cartel would be recognizing the South’s status as a nation.

By the summer of 1864, Charleston, South Carolina was battered but still defiant. The Union forces had captured Fort Wagner at the harbor end of Morris Island so now they could shell the city from land as well as sea. Charlestonians persevered but the shelling was beginning to take its toll. The entire life and business of Charleston had retreated into a few blocks above Calhoun Street and along the Ashley. Though the Union now controlled Fort Wagner, they were also under constant fire from Fort Moultrie, Fort Sumter and Fort Johnson. Major General John G. Foster replaced Major General Quincy Gillmore as Commander of the Department of the South. In 1861, he had been inside Fort Sumter with Major Robert Anderson when the Fort was surrendered to the Confederates and he felt he had a personal stake in his mission against Charleston. After taking command, he had aimed a massive bombardment on Fort Sumter and a land attack on the Upper Stono River determined to be the one to take the fort and Charleston. The attack was a complete failure. Foster reacted in shock and frustration at the failure to take Sumter and literally became obsessed with making Charleston pay for his failure.

In the meantime, fifty high-ranking Union officers held as prisoners of war (five generals, forty-five colonels, lieutenant-colonels and majors) were transferred to Charleston in hopes of negotiating an exchange. The South desperately needed officers and was willing to make an even trade. General Grant, however, convinced Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton that exchanges must be forbidden. He felt that it was preferable to feed prisoners than to fight soldiers. The fifty Union prisoners were temporarily housed in a private home at 180 Broad Street near the location of Roper Hospital – out of range of most Federal shelling.

Confederate Major General Samuel Jones, a Virginian and West Point graduate, had succeeded General Beauregard in command of the Department of South Carolina and was concerned that the bombardment was threatening areas that were previously considered safe. Appealing to Foster's sense of honor, he notified him that no military targets were located in that part of town. Foster responded that "Charleston must be considered a place of arms ... and that the same situation occurs when a weak and strong party are at war." Jones concluded that Foster might reconsider if he knew that Union prisoners were located in this non-combatant part of the city. On June 13, 1864, Jones notified Foster of the presence of Union officers in Charleston and that they were being "provided with commodious quarters

in that part of the city occupied mostly by women and children." Foster was incensed and responded that he would place "an equal number of prisoners of equal grade ... in positions exposed to the fire of your guns so long as you continue the course stated in your communication." Jones was outraged and challenged Foster's allegations that Charleston was a legitimate target. After considerable discussion back and forth, Foster finally proceeded with retaliation measures and asked that fifty Confederate officers of like rank be sent to him from Fort Delaware prison. This action astounded all involved and five of the Union generals held on Broad Street even sent a letter to Foster asking that he reconsider his actions.

In early July, the fifty selected high-ranking Confederate officers were loaded into the hold of the cargo ship "Dragon", at Fort Delaware Prison, and taken to Charleston where they were anchored in the harbor under the guns of both sides. After three long weeks of suffering from reduced rations, oppressive heat and the stress caused by the close proximity of exploding shells, the situation was deemed so uncivilized by both parties that negotiations were started in hopes of reaching a conclusion to an embarrassing situation involving intentionally bringing harm to prisoners of war. On August 3, an agreement was reached and the fifty officers on both sides were exchanged and allowed to return to their homes or military units.

As Grant slowly tightened the strangle hold on Lee's army in Virginia and Sherman advanced steadily through Georgia, thousands of Union prisoners had to be relocated further south. An average of 400 men arrived daily at Andersonville prison and meager resources on hand were unable to provide for the numbers. Disease was becoming more prevalent due to poor sanitation and scores were dying every day. In August of 1864 Andersonville reached crisis conditions with 32,899 prisoners in the stockade. Something had to be done. To relieve overcrowding and remove prisoners from the reach of Union cavalry raids, the Confederate authorities decided to move some of the prisoners from Andersonville to new prison sites closer to Savannah and also to Charleston. General Jones, in Charleston, adamantly protested having more prisoners in the city, but his authority was overruled by sheer necessity. Once again several hundred Union prisoners of war arrived in Charleston. Jones located them in the old city jail behind Roper Hospital and at the race course on the Ashley River (which is where The Citadel is located today).

The new issues dealing with exchange of prisoners and atrocities deliberately committed were hotly debated in the U.S. Congress but as stories spread about the horrible and shocking conditions at Andersonville and other Southern prisons, emotions ran high. Despite the fact that it was never widely adopted, retaliation became Union policy, left up to the discretion of field commanders. It was implemented with a vengeance by Major General John Foster with the support of Secretary of War Stanton, and Generals Henry W. Halleck and Ulysses S. Grant. Indiana Senator Henry Smith Lane proposed a resolution to the 38th Congress endorsing retaliation in its most brutal form for all Confederate prisoners. He proposed to especially single out officers for mistreatment, stating that the private soldier had no choice but to serve the rebellion, while the officers were actual instigators in secession who should be severely punished for their treason. The preamble to this resolution stated:

*“Rebel prisoners in our hands are to be subjected to a treatment finding its parallels only in the conduct of savage tribes and resulting in the death of multitudes by slow but designed process of starvation and by mortal diseases occasioned by insufficient and unhealthy food and wanton exposure of their persons to the inclemency of the weather.”*

The more moderate senators strongly opposed this resolution but General Order No. 100, issued by the Secretary of War, did address retaliation if used as a weapon to redress grievances.

When General Foster was informed of the presence of more Union prisoners in Charleston, he assumed that General Jones had brought in Federal officers for the express purpose of placing them under fire. He immediately notified authorities of the situation and requested 600 Confederate officers be picked and sent to him. He then notified Jones on September 4, “I demand the removal from under our fire of any prisoners of war who might be held by you in confinement in Charleston ... I have therefore to inform you that your officers, now in my hands, will be placed by me under your fire, as an act of retaliation.” Jones shot back a reply that Federal prisoners were in the city only temporarily, denying any wrongdoing, and that he was trying to arrange their removal. He also explained that they had been moved to the racetrack which was not under Federal fire.

At Fort Delaware, there was great excitement among the prisoners. The roll had been called and 600 officers were selected and told that they were to be transported to Charleston for exchange. Each man said a silent prayer that his name would be called. Afterwards, many of those who were not selected attempted to purchase a position or barter to switch with a member of the 600. The 600 men on the list became somewhat of a celebrity group in the prison. At first they were simply called “the Six Hundred” to distinguish them from the other prisoners. Rumor was that they were to be sent to Charleston like the fifty officers the previous month, to be placed under fire but everyone knew that these fifty had been exchanged and that was the accepted expectation of the Six Hundred.

On the morning of August 20 the Six Hundred were ordered to be ready to go immediately and they hurriedly packed what few belongings they had – ragged clothes, tattered blankets, books, letters, a few pots and pans, toiletries. They struggled aboard the Crescent City, an old sidewheel steamship, previously used as a cargo freighter in New Orleans. The ship had been pressed into service by the Union and outfitted specifically as a prisoner transport. The second deck between the hold and top deck, consisted of a series of “shelves” built around the sides, four tiers high, to serve as berths for the prisoners to sleep. It was uncomfortably crowded, four men to a bunk, with only two feet of space between tiers. The trip to Charleston was brutal. The heat was stifling and there was almost no ventilation, with only four ports to the outside and these had to be closed often due to high waves. They were allowed very little if any water and some of the prisoners attempted to relieve their thirst by lowering small containers into the sea. Not only were the conditions at sea intolerable but the unnecessary delays at Fortress Monroe and Hilton Head caused great suffering. During these delays in port, the prisoners were confined to their miserable quarters between decks with little water and no exercise. While at Hilton Head forty of the prisoners were sent to the Federal Military Hospital at Beaufort. These consisted of some of the most severely wounded officers and twenty amputees all weakened severely by the cruel journey.

On September 1 they finally steamed into Charleston Harbor and anchored under the guns of Battery Gregg. General Foster specifically ordered that the ship be anchored under fire while a stockade on Morris Island was being completed. Captain Henry Dickinson, 2nd Virginia Cavalry remembered the time in his diary ...

*“We were fairly under fire and here we remained until the seventh of September, listless spectators of the idleness of the vessels around us, almost dead with heat and hunger and thirst, panting for air and liberty, denied every comfort on earth. Day after day we lingered, in hope that each succeeding day would bring us exchange, or even removal to Morris Island, for even the latter, under fire of our own forts, was preferable to the insufferable stench of the Crescent. Many of the men, I am certain, were almost crazed by mental and bodily torture they suffered during these long days and nights.”*

At last, on September 7, the 600 officers were landed on Morris Island. Their new home consisted of one and one-half acres of sand surrounded by a stockade of logs driven in the sand. This stockade was located in the most fired upon area of Morris Island, between Forts Gregg and Wagner. Five cartloads of shell fragments had been removed from the area as the prison was being prepared for its new occupants. Around the parapet, in each corner, sentry posts had been constructed with special roofs to protect the guards from falling shell fragments.

The 560 remaining prisoners were in rather rough shape as they stumbled off the ship after the long 18-day confinement and ordeal. Capt. Walter McRae with the 7th N.C. Infantry remembered the landing:

*“When we finally came out into the light of day and had a look at one another we were astonished to note the ravages made by the terrible heat and nauseous confinement. One could scarcely recognize his best friends. We were all badly damaged. Had we been consigned to any good businessman, he would have rejected the cargo and refused to pay the freight.”*

The 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Colored Regiment was assigned to guard the prisoners. The regiment had been on the island since occupying Fort Wagner in September 1863 and had bitter memories of the disastrous attack the preceding July. The prisoners were marched three miles along the beach to the stockade with the weakened men collapsing often in the sand. The guards were ordered not to help them and the point of the bayonet served as an incentive to stay on their feet. This new stockade was to be their home for forty-five days. There were eight rows of tents and four men

assigned to each tent designed for only two men. The rules and regulations were stringent. There could be no gathering of groups larger than ten men, which was difficult with 550 men confined in one and one-half acres – made smaller by the twenty feet taken up by a dead line. Fires were prohibited and the guards cooked the rations. No loud talking was allowed and the men were confined to their tents all night. Any violation of the rules was dealt with by being fired on by the sentries. A number of men were wounded by bullets being fired blindly into the tents by the sentries. Amazingly during this confinement, none of the 600 were killed by falling shells. Guards had been killed on the parapets and outside the stockade as well as at Forts Wagner and Gregg yet strangely enough, those in the most obvious place for execution had escaped even a scratch from falling shell fragments. They were convinced that only divine providence had saved them. Two prisoners did die of starvation and chronic diarrhea during this confinement.

Finally, the Union prisoners held in Charleston were moved to Columbia after General Jones succeeded in getting permission for their removal around September 21. Jones had notified Confederate authorities that the Union prisoners must be removed due to yellow fever in the city. However, Foster continued and even intensified the shelling of Charleston. Jones responded and the fight grew so intense that the guards and sentries at the stockade were pulled back into the safety of Fort Wagner, leaving the prisoners to fend for themselves. Toward the end of October, Foster was ordered by his superiors to dispense with the effort to shell Charleston into submission and to take up a defensive position. Now he was saddled with 555 prisoners, who had become a liability. Retaliation was no longer justifiable. They could not be exchanged because General Grant had completely stopped all exchanges and, to the man, they refused to take the oath of allegiance so they could not be released. It was decided to send them to Fort Pulaski, Georgia.

Fort Pulaski had been built on Cockspur Island at the mouth of the Savannah River in the 1850's as part of the same coastal defense system as Fort Delaware and Fort Sumter. The Confederate government had quickly seized the fort in 1861 but did not have sufficient troops to man it and in 1862 it fell to a Union bombardment. The fort comprising about two acres, is a pentagon-shaped structure of one level of casements covered by a parapet. At the time the prisoners arrived, the garrison had about forty guns mounted. A number of empty casements, on the south side of the parade ground,

were fitted with crude bunks for the prisoners. These old brick casements with huge arches vaulted above wooden or brick floors, were dungeon-like, damp and cold. The wind came directly off the sea, and blew steadily through the gun embrasures.

The suffering these men were to experience at Fort Pulaski was far worse than anything they had endured previously. Exposure, disease and malnutrition further weakened the men and thirteen officers died during their incarceration in this prison. During that hard winter, the continual challenge was to keep warm. Blankets were few and clothing very thin and ragged. The men slept three to a bunk, often in "spoon fashion" facing their bedfellow's back, knees bent into his for maximum warmth. Rheumatism, pneumonia and bronchitis made old men of the young. Scurvy and dysentery existed in the extreme, causing debility and making life unendurable. Ever increasing hunger forced the men to use more extreme measures to secure food. The fort's cats and dogs began to gradually disappear and finally rats and mice were added to the culinary fare. Still, regardless of the suffering, due to the retaliation status of these officers, exchange remained out of the question.

By the end of 1864, General Sherman had taken Savannah and was moving into South Carolina. The Confederate prisons in Florence and Columbia were captured and Union prisoners of war freed. No Union prisoners remained in South Carolina. General Foster was relieved of his duties and on January 5, 1865 General Grant finally declared an end to the retaliation and authorized the 600 to be exchanged. Medical inspectors were brought in to examine the Confederate officers and their findings so shocked the officials in Washington that it was decided to postpone the planned exchanges due to the possible embarrassment it might bring the government. Measures were immediately instituted to improve the general health and appearance of the prisoners. It was also decided that they should be transported to City Point, Virginia for exchange, which took more than six weeks to set into motion. On March 4, 1865, the Ashland, a two-masted, square rigger even smaller than the Crescent City left Fort Pulaski for City Point with the prisoners aboard. The men, already in delicate condition once again suffered greatly on the voyage and as they approached Hattaras the Ashland's captain was notified that General Grant had ordered that delivering prisoners to City Point be discontinued, presumably because of the military operations around Richmond. They were to continue north to their old home at Fort Delaware. Something had gone awry in

the agreement to exchange the Six Hundred, who were now down to 430 officers. There were prisoners being exchanged at City Point, at that time, despite the excuse of the military operations around Richmond. Bureaucracy, poor communications between commanders and government officials or a potential embarrassment to the U.S. Government ... whatever caused the confusion, the Immortal 600 were lost in the shuffle. The Confederate government had its own problems and was powerless to help these men so the Six Hundred were removed from the priority list.

They were returned to Fort Delaware where they were to remain until June of 1865. When the first roll was called upon arrival, only 295 of the original Six Hundred could physically stand to answer the call. They were promised exchange many times and offered release if they would sign the Oath of Allegiance. Very few signed. It appeared that the U.S. Government had no intention of exchanging them and the Confederate Government was crumbling. They were burdens to both sides and it seemed convenient to just overlook them. Local Union authorities expected them to surrender by taking the oath. Most of the Six Hundred, as was typical, refused. Would they be tried as traitors and executed or would they just be forgotten and left to die of starvation? Their anxiety deepened when the news was received of Lincoln's assassination. All negotiations for release were cancelled and they were once again considered under retaliation orders, with minimum rations and brutal living conditions.

Finally, by June, a full month after the capture of President Jefferson Davis and the fall of the Confederate government, all of the 600 agreed to take the oath of allegiance and were released. The United States government refused to pay their transportation home, so most walked, hundreds of miles in some cases, which was often dangerous and difficult considering their weakened physical condition.

Statistically, a total of forty-four died of the ordeal, two at Morris Island, thirteen lie in unmarked graves at Fort Pulaski, five died at Hilton Head, and twenty-three lie buried near Fort Delaware, having succumbed to their illnesses within days after the arrival from Pulaski. One died aboard ship on the return home. Seven successfully escaped, all of whom returned immediately to their regiments and finished out the war in service to the Confederacy.

In the immediate years following the war, life was especially hard for those that survived. For most, their health was severely damaged, making recovery a long

process. Some would not recover but returned home to die. Most were denied jobs with any responsibility or position, by the reconstruction government, and had to earn their living as clerks or hired hands. Even though most were in serious financial straits, the Six Hundred were famous across the South and from 1895 until around 1915 numerous articles were written about them. Many had written letters home describing their experiences and unjust treatment and several had kept detailed journals, written on scraps of paper and cloth. Captain John Cantwell, with the 3rd North Carolina Regiment kept a meticulous record of each member of the Six Hundred, including their unit, rank, home state, death and cause. He also listed the names of all of his guards and captors, in a small notebook which he kept on his person until the day he died, in case he should meet one of them on the street. His records provide the only accurate list of the Six Hundred. John Cantwell organized the first reunion of the Six Hundred even though the United States Government aggressively discouraged their meetings. In 1898, a committee of officers had a special medal struck, honoring the survivors of the Immortal 600 which those remaining wore with pride for the rest of their days.

In 1908 a bill was introduced to the U.S. Senate citing the treatment of the Six Hundred as a violation of international prisoner of war rules. At that time there were less than one hundred living members of the Six

Hundred and it was hoped that some government compensation could be won for them. The bill was not heard by the Committee on War Claims until March 28, 1914. The issue of retaliation was addressed but the committee was unwilling to believe the Six Hundred were ever placed under fire by order of Secretary of War Stanton. The bill was killed in committee and the statement was issued:

*“There was no instance in which retaliation, beyond the measure of severe confinement, took place in respect to prisoners of war.”*

In 1930, at age eighty-seven, Lieutenant William Epps, the last surviving member of the Immortal 600, was interviewed by a newspaper reporter and was asked how he felt about his country, sixty-five years after being imprisoned:

*“I am not untrue to my country. Every drop of my blood is pure American, and today, if America needed me, I should gladly give the few remaining years of my life to her service. The American flag is my flag. My fore-fathers followed it to the end of their lives. My heart still thrills to see its beautiful folds unfurl, but with that thrill comes an unspeakable sadness; for it was the Stars and Stripes that floated over Morris Island, Pulaski and Fort Delaware.”*

## LIST OF PRISONERS FROM NORTH CAROLINA

### The First Fifty (Exchanged August 3, 1864)

Col. William M. Barbour	37 NC Inf.
LTC William Lee Davidson	7 NC Inf.
LTC William Thomas Ennett	3 NC Inf.
LTC William Murdock Parsley	3 NC Inf.

### The Men of the Six Hundred

2LT George N. Albright	6 NC Inf.
CPT William J. Alexander	37 NC Inf.
1LT Thomas M. Allen	4 NC Inf.
2LT Montreville B. Allison	62 NC Inf.
2LT Henry C. Andrews	28 NC Inf.
CPT Robert W. Atkinson	2 NC Inf.
1LT George W. Avent	35 NC Inf.
Col John A. Baker	3 NC Cav.

2LT Thaddeus P. Barrow	3 NC Inf.
1LT Burwell W. Birkhead	22 NC Inf.
2LT John A. Blaine	16 NC Inf.
CPT John C. Blair	1 NC Cav.
2LT James H. Bludworth	4 NC Cav.
CPT Evander McN. Blue	35 NC Inf.
CPT Simon S. Bohannon	28 NC Inf.
CPT Nero G. Bradford	26 NC Inf.
1LT Joseph W. Brothers	67 NC Inf.
2LT Alexander H. Brown	30 NC Inf.
CPT Ozni R. Brumley	20 NC Inf. (died in captivity)
2LT David S. Bullard	18 NC Inf.
1LT John T. Bullock	23 NC Inf.
2LT John M. Burgin	22 NC Inf. (died in captivity)

SGTMAJ Charles M. Busbee	5 NC Inf.
CPT John L.P. Cantwell	3 NC Inf.
1LT Robert B. Carr	43 NC Inf. (died in captivity)
2LT Elias A. Carver	1 NC Inf.
1LT Alexander A. Cathey	34 NC Inf.
2LT William B. Chandler	13 NC Inf.
2LT George S.P. Coble	44 NC Inf.
CPT David S. Cockerman	54 NC Inf.
3LT Joseph B. Coffield	1 NC inf.
3LT Jeremiah Coggin	23 NC Inf. (died in captivity)
CPT Alexander T. Cole	23 NC Inf.
1LT David A. Coon	11 NC Inf.
1LT George W. Corbett	18 NC Inf.
CPT John Cowan	3 NC Inf.
2LT John C.C. Cowper	33 NC Inf.
2LT George M. Crapon	3 NC Inf.
CPT Andrew J. Critcher	37 NC Inf.
1LT Joseph H. Darden	3 NC Inf.
CPT William H. Day	1 NC Inf.
CPT William A. Dewar	31 NC Inf.
CPT Hugh M. Dixon	35 NC Inf.
3LT William F. Doles	32 NC Inf.
2LT Elisha W. Dorsey	11 NC Inf.
1LT Harris E. Earp	24 NC Inf. (died in captivity)
2LT John Q. Elkins	18 NC Inf.
3LT Nicholas E. Fennell	61 NC Inf.
3LT Francis F. Floyd	51 NC Inf.
COL George N. Folk	6 NC Cav.
CPT Hardiman D. Fowler	1 NC Inf.
1LT John O. Frink	18 NC Inf.
1LT John F. Gamble	14 NC Inf.
2LT Harvey Y. Gash	6 NC Inf.
1LT Jacob H. Gilbert	57 NC Inf.
2LT Robert A. Glenn	22 NC Inf.
2LT William C. Good	6 NC Cav.
CPT John C. Gorman	2 NC Inf.
3LT Benjamin A. Gowan	51 NC Inf. (died in captivity)
2LT Andrew J. Gurganus	3 NC Inf.
1LT John M. Guyther	1 NC Inf.
LTC Tazewell L. Hargrove	44 NC Inf.

CPL Edwin S. Hart	23 NC Inf.
CPT Lemuel H. Hartsfield	3 NC Inf.
1LT Jacob A. Heartsfield	1 NC Inf.
2LT James F. Heath	67 NC inf.
2LT Lewis J. Henderson	3 NC Inf.
1LT Thomas B. Henderson	3 NC Inf.
2LT Gilbert P. Higley	51 NC Inf.
2LT John C. Hines	5 NC Cav.
CPT Samuel H. Hines	45 NC Inf.
1LT James M. Hobson	2 NC Inf.
CPT James E. Hodges	32 NC Inf.
CPT Henry W. Horne	3 NC Inf.
2LT Absalom J. Houser	1 NC Inf.
3LT William H. Ivey	2 NC Cav.
1LT Henry J. Jenkins	15 NC Cav.
PVT William P. Johnson	1 NC Cav.
CPT Thomas L. Johnston	1 NC Inf.
1LT William T. Jones	35 NC Inf.
2LT John E. King	3 NC Inf. (died in captivity)
CPT William H. Kitchen	12 NC Inf.
CPT John G. Knox	7 NC Inf.
CPT John W. Lane	16 NC Inf. (died in captivity)
1LT Julian A. Latham	1 NC Inf.
1LT Albert N. Leatherwood	39 NC Inf.
CPT Thomas C. Lewis	18 NC Inf.
2LT George H. Lindsay	54 NC Inf.
3LT James B. Lindsey	31 NC Inf.
2LT Zemeriah H. Lowdermilk	3 NC Inf.
2LT Robert H. Lyon	3 NC Inf.
CPT Walter G. MacRae	7 NC Inf.
1LT Charles P. Mallett	3 NC Inf.
1LT John D. Malloy	51 NC Inf.
MAJ James R. McDonald	51 NC Inf.
1LT Franklin M. McIntosh	18 NC Inf.
1LT Murdoch McLeod	26 NC Inf.
1LT John J. McMillan	1 NC Inf.
CPT Julius W. Moore	3 NC Inf.
1LT Nathan S. Moseley	12 NC Inf.
CPT William F. Murphy	51 NC Inf.
CPT Samuel J. Parham	54 NC Inf.
1LT Frederick F. Patrick	32 NC Inf.

# THE 2ND NORTH CAROLINA REGIMENT AND THE BATTLE OF STONY POINT

By Richard M. Ripley

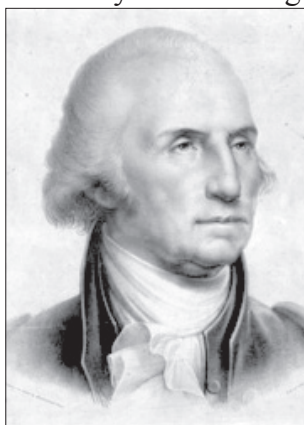
## Unit History

The 2nd North Carolina Regiment, an infantry unit, was organized on 1 September, 1775 for service in the Continental Army. Ten companies were raised in Edenton, New Bern and Salisbury, North Carolina during late 1775. Robert Howe was appointed Colonel, in command of the Regiment. At the end of 1775 he marched the Regiment to Virginia and fought the British at the Battle of Norfolk in December 1775. In January 1776, the 2nd NC Regiment was reorganized to the strength of eight companies. The 2nd NC was assigned to the Southern Department in February 1776 and there, together with the 1st and 3rd North Carolina Regiments, the 2nd NC participated in the successful defense of Charleston that culminated in the Battle of Solomon Island. At that time the three regiments were only about half of their normal strength. The 2nd NC was transferred north to the Main Army in February 1777, by order of General Washington. The 2nd NC became part of the North Carolina Brigade in July 1777. When the North Carolina Brigade arrived near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, it was so badly under strength that it was suggested to transfer all of the soldiers in the under strength regiments into the three senior regiments. However, this was not done until the following May when the other regiments were reduced to cadre numbers and returned to North Carolina to recruit and refit. The 2nd NC saw action at the Battle of Brandywine in September 1777 as part of the North Carolina Brigade, under Brigadier General Francis Nash. Later during October 1777 the 2nd NC, still part of the North Carolina Brigade, fought in the Battle of Germantown. It was during this battle that a cannonball killed one of the Aides and mortally wounded General Nash. During the winter of 1777-1778 the 2nd NC went into the Continental Army encampment at Valley Forge. After the loss of General Nash, Brigadier General McIntosh took command of the North Carolina Brigade and Colonel John Patten assumed command of the 2nd NC, while Lieutenant Colonel Selby Hardy and Major Hardy Murfree were promoted and assigned as Battalion Commanders. The Regiment fought in the Battle of Monmouth in 1778. During July 1779, the Regiment's

Light Infantry Companies participated in the Battle of Stony Point. In late 1779 the Regiment was assigned to the Southern Command and was ordered to march from its base at West Point, NY to help in the defense of Charleston South Carolina. In May 1780, two weeks after the 2nd NC arrived at Charleston, General Lincoln, commander of the Charleston defense, surrendered to the British. The 2nd NC was rebuilt and, in the Spring of 1781, fought well at Eutaw Springs South Carolina. The 2nd NC was furloughed in April 1783 and officially disbanded in November 1783.

## The Battle of Stony Point

The battle of Stony Point took place on July 16, 1779, during the Revolutionary war. It was a well-planned, brilliantly executed night attack conducted by a highly

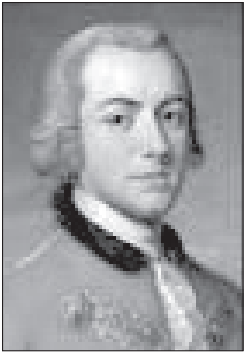


Gen. George Washington

trained Light Infantry force of General Washington's Continental Army troops under the command of General "Mad Anthony" Wayne. In a quick and daring assault, they defeated Clinton's Army at Stony Point, located approximately 30 miles north of New York City and about 15 miles south of West Point New York on the Hudson River. The Battle of

Stony Point was the only major battle fought in 1779. Thereafter the war around New York became largely an affair of raids, skirmishes, and constant vigilance on both sides.

The story begins in early spring 1778, after the terrible winter at Valley Forge, as General Washington and the Continental Army made ready to campaign against the British. The signing of America's treaty with France caused Britain to change its strategies. Sir Henry Clinton proceeded to move his base from Philadelphia to New York City. As the British Army moved toward New York, Washington's army engaged them in June 1778, with neither side winning, at Monmouth Courthouse. It was the last major battle of the war in the North. The British were able to escape to New York City. In its campaign



**Gen. Henry Clinton**

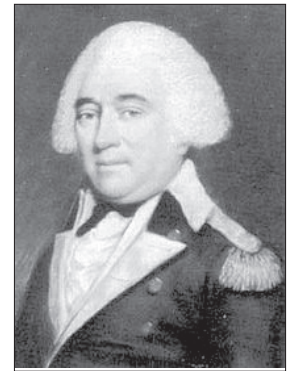
against the French, Clinton was forced to send 5000 troops to the Caribbean and an additional force to Georgia. The result was neither the American or British forces had sufficient strength to engage head on in any major battle. In order to protect the Hudson River supply access, Washington established his Army in a semicircle of strong points, with the center at West

Point, located in the New York Highlands above New York City.

Clinton wanted to capture West Point, which Washington regarded as the key to the continent. If Clinton could capture and hold West Point, a projected chain of British posts from there southward to New York City could effectively check the flow of men and supplies from New England to the Continental Army. New England was responsible for providing the core of the American army, as well as important food in material for the troops. At this point an order arrived from King George III and his minister Lord George German, whom ordered the British Army to plunder, burn buildings, and mistreat civilians in order to force them into submission. Clinton saw in this order a way to lure Washington out of the mountain fastness of the Hudson Highlands and engaged the Continental Army in a long battle. First he would put the British Army in a position to attack West Point. On May 10, 1779, Clinton personally led an expedition up the Hudson, capturing two small American posts at Stony Point and Verplanck Point, about 15 miles below West Point just at the entrance to the Hudson Highlands. Then he set his men to work building heavy batteries to control both the river and the surrounding land. The British posts were backed up by ships of the British Navy which sailed up the Hudson. In the second phase of Clinton's plan under his command was William Tryon, an experienced Army officer, who had served as royal governor of North Carolina and had been dubbed "the Wolf" by his suffering subjects. Subsequently Tryon had been appointed royal governor of New York and he had sought safety on a British ship in New York harbor when the revolution began. Now itching for revenge he raged against Greenwich, Connecticut by leading a British force which burned the town and plundered the inhabitants of everything valuable. Leading another expedition out of New York on July 3, Tryon in the course of just over one week devastated the Connecticut coast.

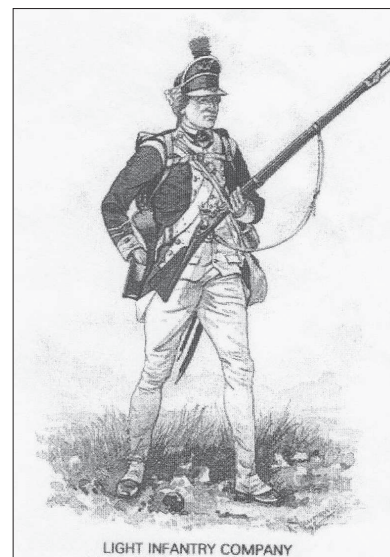
His attack force on the 5th plundered and burned New Haven and East Haven, on the 6th destroyed Fairfield, on the 8th and plundered and burned Norfolk on the 12th. The Americans felt bound to answer such lawless behavior by the British Army, but Washington did not react to the way Clinton had hoped. Washington had located his force at strategic positions in the Hudson Valley in case Clinton should try a direct attack on West Point and moved his headquarters up River to new Windsor. Then, he began to plan to recapture Stony Point.

Reconnaissance missions were sent out to assess the strength of the fortifications the British were building at Stony Point. Washington himself studied them with a telescope from nearby hills. He decided that the attack required the special talents of Brigadier General Anthony Wayne. Wayne was known for his audacity and bravery, and had just been named the commander of the Light Infantry Corps.



**Gen. Anthony Wayne**

The Light Infantry were highly trained special units composed of volunteers, ages 20 to 30, in good health, excellent riflemen, combat experienced and physically able to endure hard fighting and long marches. The term "light" has no relation to the weight of their equipment, but rather to the nature of their tactics and actions which required rapid movement and swift action such as raids, ambushes and skirmishers to harass the enemy in in advance of the regular troops. During the 1771-1781 period each Continental



**Light Infantry Soldier**

Army regiment was required to have two Light Infantry companies. During 1779 the Light Infantry Corps had drafted Light Infantry regiments as temporary units by combining existing Light Infantry companies detached from their parent units. General Wayne would use the Corps, consisting of some 1,400 men, for the attack. The Corps

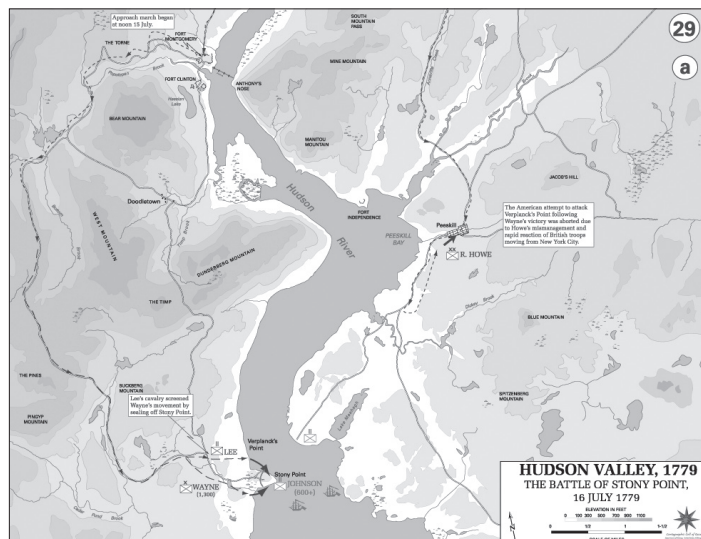
was organized into a Brigade of four regiments, each composed of two battalions of four companies, with the following order of battle:

1st Regiment, commander Col. Christian Febiger, six companies of 2nd Virginia Regiment and two companies of Pennsylvania troops.

2nd Regiment, commander Col. Richard Butler, four companies each from Pennsylvania and Maryland.

3rd Regiment, commander Col. Return Jonathan Meigs, eight companies 6th Connecticut Regiment.

4th Regiment, at time of the battle was in process of organization. Temporary commander Major William Hull, six companies 5th Massachusetts Regiment and one battalion, two companies 2nd North Carolina Regiment, Major Hardy Murfree commander. The 4th Regiment was fully organized in August with Col. Rufus Putnam assigned as commander.



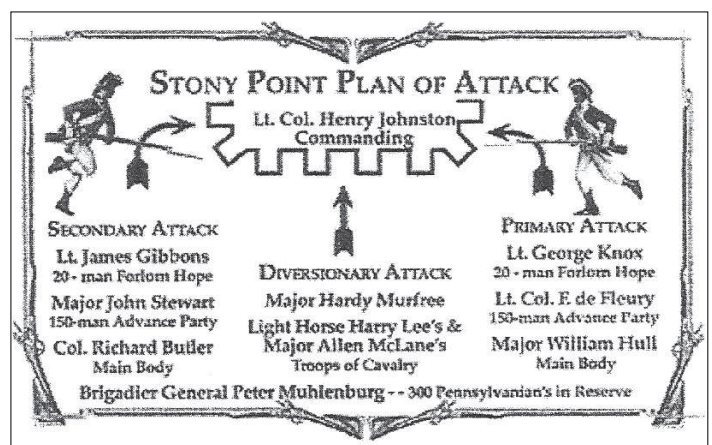
**Map of Battle of Stony Point**

On July 6, while Tryon was burning East Haven, Washington took Wayne with him to the top of Buckberg Mountain, a mile northwest of Stony Point, where they observed by telescope the hill. Washington and Wayne prepared a plan for the attack and capture of Stony Point. The topography of Stony Point greatly favored the defenders. Stony Point was and is a steep, rugged promontory which rises at 150 feet above the water and just about half a mile into the Hudson River. The Hudson at this location is an estuary not a river. A marsh, which went underwater at high tide, protected the promontory from any advance from the shore. The British had felled all the trees at the base of the hill to protect against a surprise attack. Trenches, earthworks and emplacements for its gun batteries were thrown up, making the position extremely strong. The positions were guarded by a double row of abates, sharp-

ened tree trunks which one could impede any invading force. Lt. Col. Henry Johnston, an experienced officer, was the British commander. Johnston's command included the 17th Regiment of Foot, a Grenadier company of the 71st Highlanders, a large detachment of the Loyal American Regiment, and 15 pieces of artillery manned by members of the Royal Artillery -- a total of 625 battle hardened Regulars. Additionally, Navy ships guarded any approach from the river. The British soldiers dubbed the promontory "little Gibraltar."

The attack was conducted with complete surprise at midnight July 15, 1779. The weather favored the attackers. Dark clouds covered the moon while rain and strong winds obscured noise. On the evening of July 15, Wayne's Light Infantry Brigade moved out of their encampment near Fort Montgomery, 7 miles north of Stony Point, and marched to Springsteel, a mile and a half from the objective. Security was extremely tight. Each man had a piece of white paper in his hat to identify him from the enemy. It has been written that local dogs were killed to prevent them from barking and alerting the British. Just before midnight on July 15th the attacking Americans moved forward. To prevent an accidental firing of a musket or friendly fire incidents, the troops were ordered not to load their weapons and to use only their bayonets. Major Hardy Murfree's Light Infantry Battalion, 2nd North Carolina, was exempted as they were to make a diversionary attack on the center of the fortifications. To encourage the men, a bounty was offered by General Washington. The first man to enter the fortification would be awarded \$500,000, the second man \$400,000, the third man \$300,000, the fourth man \$200,000, and the fifth man \$100,000.

General Wayne's attack plan called for a diversion at the center of the British lines, with two other columns flanking the fortifications from the North and South sides. Both of the flanking attacks preceded by a 20-man "Forlorn Hope" to cut gaps through the abatis and eliminate



the advance sentries. These parties were followed by 150 light infantry to actually storm the fortifications at bayonet point. The northern attack force was led by Lt. James Gibbons of the Pennsylvania "Forlorn Hope" followed by Maj. James Stewart's 150 men storming party from the 2nd Regiment, with Col. Richard Butler's Regiments supporting, and Brig. General Peter Muhlenberg's 300 Pennsylvanians in reserve. This would form the secondary attack. The primary assault was from the South. Lt. George Knox of the 9th Pennsylvania would lead the 20 man "Forlorn Hope" followed by the 150 men from Lt. Col. Francis Lewis Teisseydre, of Marquis de Fleury's 1st Regiment. The Main Body was followed by Maj. William Hull's 4th Regiment, including Major Murfree's Battalion. General Anthony Wayne would personally lead the primary assault.

At the appointed time Major Murfree started the diversionary attack, and being the only American detachment to fire their muskets attracted the attention of British Col. Johnson. Johnson immediately ordered a counter attack and a bayonet charge with six companies of the 17th Regiment of Foot, half of his entire force. Their charge was stopped by Major Murfree's Light Infantry and with some help from the flanking forces,



**Gen. Hardy Murphree**

preventing Johnson's retreat back to his fortifications. He and all of the survivors of this charge were captured. His absence from the fort left the remaining defenders without central leadership to coordinate the defense. Johnson's decision was a fatal mistake.

Reports from the attackers say that they had to wade through 4 feet of water to reach the Stony Point Peninsula. Both the attacking forces encountered British outposts almost simultaneously. Lt Gibbons' and Knox's "Forlorn Hope" wielded their axes to cut the needed gaps in the abatis while under wicked fire, sustaining horrific losses. The light infantry charged through the gaps routing the British defenders at bayonet point. Lt. Gibbons' "Forlorn Hope" was reduced to three men. Lt. Col. Fleury was the first into the fortifications, personally tearing down the British flag. He was followed by Lt. Knox/ then Sgt. Baker of the Virginia line who had received four wounds in the attack. Baker was followed by Sgt. Spencer of the Virginia line who had been wounded twice; then Sgt. Dunlap of the Pennsylvania line who also



**Assault on Stony Point**

had been wounded twice. The record of the payment of these monthly awards confirms the order they entered the British fort. Fleury divided his award of \$500,000 among his advance party who were just behind him.

Leading the primary attack from the south, General Wayne was struck in the forehead by a British musket ball. Anyone seeing him hit would have considered the wound fatal. However, it was only a very painful graze leaving him a permanent reminder of the assault in the form of a large scar. He rose to his knees and called to his men. His two Aide-de-Camps, Majors Henry Archer and Benjamin Fishbourne, were quickly at his side. The blood soaked general immediately ordered his men to "carry me into the fort. I want to die at the head of the column." Major Stewart's attacking column charging into the north side of the fortifications within seconds of four days detachment. The ferocity the band at wielding light infantry was too much for the British defenders who surrendered. The success of the three prong night attack was a credit to general Wayne and his planning, as well as being able to maintain strict security and a lot of luck. In spite of which had to be a disabling wound found his will, general one Wayne penned his following to general Washington dear general the Fort and Garrison with Col. Johnson are hours our officers and men behaved like men were determined to be free. Yours respectively Anthony Wayne.

General Clinton, shocked at the loss of the entire Garrison and his little Gibraltar ordered his army mobilized and moved up the Hudson River. A large detachment was ordered to reinforce Verplanck, while an even larger force was sent to recapture Stony Point. General Washington, not wanting a general engagement, pre-

ferred to abandon Stony Point and retreat north to his fortified position at West Point. The attack at Stony Point proved to be the last major action in the North. Washington was so pleased with the victory that on July 18, he personally rode to Stony Point and shook hands with every man that participated in the attack. Joining him was Major General Baron Von Steuben who had organized the Light Infantry at Valley Forge.

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From a strategic point, the loss, recapture and abandonment of Stony Point has little military value. But, from a psychological point of view, it was extraordinarily valuable. The storming of Stony Point could be remembered as the beginning of the end of the Ameri-

can Revolution. The significance of the battle was not lost by Congress. They appraised the value of the captured British military stores and artillery at \$158,000 which they awarded the officers and men, in proportion to rank, in the same manner as prize money was awarded to privateers. General Henry Knox appraised the captured stores and artillery at \$111,000. Three officers were awarded special medals by Congress. All the officers involved in the battle, including Major Murfree, were promoted one rank. Because of the Continental Army's rapid capture of the fortification, the British Commander of Stony Point, Colonel Johnston, was court martialed in New York City charged with inadequate defense.



## HISTORY'S VOICE:

### Dr. Lee S. Harford, Jr., 1951-2014

by Timothy Hale

*A founding member of the recently formed Fayetteville Chapter of the NCMHS, Dr. Lee Harford, passed away in March. The article below was originally published by the Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS). (Used with permission.) The article outlines Dr. Harford's military career. His stay in North Carolina was a brief one, only 3 years. In that short amount of time, he became active in the military history community. When he passed away, he was the current president of the Sons of the American Revolution, and had participated in several military living history events.*

As the last note of Amazing Grace echoed from the bagpiper outside of St. John's Episcopal Church, here, March 19, friends, co-workers, and family gathered inside to pay their final respects to Lee S. Harford, Jr., Ph.D.

Harford, 62, passed away after a sudden and brief illness having served as the first Director of History for the U.S. Army Reserve starting in March 1992.

"He could make history real, today, and apply the lessons of the past to the challenges that we experience, right now, in our Army and our nation," said Lt. Gen. Jeffrey W. Talley, Chief, U.S. Army Reserve and U.S. Army Reserve Command commanding general. "He made it real for me and that's what was important."

Talley said it was Harford's ability to teach history that made it easy to learn.

"I wanted to learn from him and he was eager to teach me," Talley said

His fellow history colleagues described Harford as enthusiastic when it came to history and a man who

paid attention to the little details in order to bring history to life

"When I first met him in 1991, he brought a great deal of enthusiasm for history. You could always count on him to do more," said Dr. Richard Stewart, U.S. Army chief historian.

"He created the Army Reserve history program, creating history offices in the field (regional support commands) and a special history shop within the U.S. Army Reserve Command."

Stewart said it was Harford's commitment to Army history that allowed him to show how the past affects today's Soldiers through living histories and staff rides.

Chris Kowlakowski, the director of the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Va., knows this commitment all too well.

Harford hired Kowlakowski in Nov. 2008 to be the chief curator of the National Museum of the Army Reserve when USARC was based at Fort McPherson, Ga.

*continued on page 21*

# NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Annual Meeting and Symposium**  
**May 9, 2015 • 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

## Climactic Year, 1865: The War in North Carolina

The annual symposium and general membership meeting of the “North Carolina Military Historical Society” is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, 2015 in Raleigh, in the Long Leaf Pine Room of the North Carolina Museum of History. The symposium is free of charge to any who wish to attend, and no prior registration is required unless you wish to reserve a \$5.00 sub-sandwich lunch. Meals will only be available for those who reserve one no later than Monday, May 4th by emailing the Society at [ncmilhistsoc@yahoo.com](mailto:ncmilhistsoc@yahoo.com), or calling the Society President at (910) 897-7968. Meals will be payable at registration.

The theme of this year’s symposium is “Climactic Year, 1865: The War in North Carolina.” The meeting will last from 9:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and feature five outstanding speakers offering presentations on various events in our State during the climactic year 1865. The ramifications of North Carolina’s participation in the defining American war of the Nineteenth Century continue to shape the history and destiny of the United States to this day.

Though the attention of past historians has focused primarily on events in Virginia in 1865, the battles and other events that took place in North Carolina were of equal, if not superior importance. Our excellent slate of speakers will guide us through selected major events of 1865 in North Carolina and explain their significance.

Dr. Chris Fonvielle, Associate Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, will guide us through the all-important “Wilmington Campaign.” Colonel Wade Sokolosky, published author and historian, will discuss the oft overlooked “Battle of Wyse Fork.” A presentation on the South’s last best chance to stop General Sherman’s advance, “The Battle of Bentonville,” will be offered by retired attorney and historian Mr. Dean Harry. Following our lunch break, Mr. Chris J. Hartley will present a talk on “Stoneman’s Raid” that tore through mountains and western Piedmont of North Carolina at the end of the war. Closing out the day will be Mr. Chris Meekins of the State Archives who will provide insight into life in “Presidential Reconstruction in North Carolina.”

Living historians of the 1861-1865 period will be on hand displaying uniforms, weapons, and accoutrements. They are an invaluable historical resource and will be able to discuss not only the recruitment, training, and fighting tactics of the day, but the life of the common soldier and sailor, as well.

Several potential lunch-time or post-symposium activities are available. Attendees may visit the Capitol Building built in 1840, across the street from the Museum of History; the North Carolina Museum of Natural Science, adjacent to the Museum; the State Archives a half block to the east of the Museum; or, remain at the Museum and take a self-guided tour of the North Carolina Museum of History’s first floor “Chronology” exhibit containing various military and civilian items, and its permanent North Carolina military history gallery, “A Call to Arms,” located on the 3rd floor.

The Society will sponsor raffles throughout the day for donated items. Funds generated from the sale of raffle tickets help defray the cost of the symposium, publication of the Society’s semi-annual magazine “Recall,” and support the Society’s own “North Carolina Military History Museum” at Kure Beach, North Carolina. Donations for the raffle are greatly appreciated and may include books, magazines, prints, figures, uniforms, artifacts, and like items. If you have items you wish to donate they may be hand-carried to the meeting, or mailed to/dropped off with the North Carolina Military Historical Society, c/o Sion H. Harrington III, 503 South 11th Street, Erwin, North Carolina 28339-2715. Questions regarding potential donation items may be directed to the Society via email at [ncmilhistsoc@yahoo.com](mailto:ncmilhistsoc@yahoo.com), or by calling (910) 897-7968.

Free parking is plentiful and adjacent to the museum.

A meeting of the Society’s Board of Directors will follow the close of the symposium.

The North Carolina Military Historical Society cordially invites you to attend our free symposium and learn about the Civil War in North Carolina in 1865. Mark your calendar and join us for a day of interesting speakers, fascinating information, and good fellowship!

# NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Meeting and Symposium  
May 9, 2015 • 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## *Schedule of Events*

<b>9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9:30 a.m.-9:35 a.m.</b>	Welcome and Administrative Announcements
<b>9:35 a.m.-10:00 a.m.</b>	Business Meeting: President's Report, Treasurer's Report, Membership Report, Old Business, New Business, Election of Directors, Adjourn; 1st Raffle
<b>10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.</b>	Dr. Chris Fonvielle, "The Wilmington Campaign" (Associate Professor of History, UNC-Wilmington)
<b>10:45 a.m. -11:00 a.m.</b>	2nd Raffle/Break
<b>11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.</b>	COL (Ret.) Wade Sokolosky, "The Battle of Wyse Fork", (Historian and Author)
<b>11:45 p.m.-12:00 p.m.</b>	3rd Raffle
<b>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.</b>	Mr. Dean Harry, "The Battle of Bentonville" (Retired Attorney; Battlefield Guide; and Historian)
<b>1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</b>	Chris J. Hartley, "Stoneman's Raid" (Marketing and Communications Professional and Historian)
<b>2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.</b>	4th Raffle Drawing/Break
<b>2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.</b>	Chris Meekins, "Presidential Reconstruction in North Carolina" (Historian and Archivist, NC Division of Historical Resources)
<b>3:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.</b>	Final Raffle / Closing Remarks.
<b>4:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.</b>	Board of Director's Meeting (Board members only)

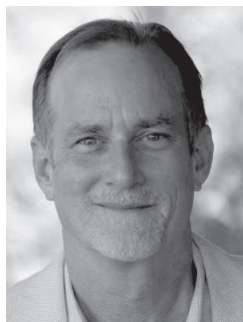
### *Administrative Notes:*

The NC Museum of History military exhibit "A Call to Arms" is open on the Third Floor of the Museum, as well as the new First Floor chronology exhibit containing military items.

We extend a special welcome to the living historians of the Carolina Living History Guild.

Feel free to take breaks as needed. Enjoy refreshments in the refreshment area or meeting room, but please do not take them outside of these two areas. Refreshments courtesy of Trudy Conrad.

# NCMHS 2015 Symposium Biographies



Dr. Chris E. Fonvielle, Jr. is a native born and bred Wilmingtonian. He attended local schools, including UNC Wilmington from where he graduated with a B.A. in Anthropology. He was the last curator of the former Blockade Runner Museum at Carolina Beach, N.C., before going off to graduate

school. He received his M.A. in American history at East Carolina University and his Ph.D. in Civil War studies from the University of South Carolina. Since 1996, Dr. Fonvielle has been teaching in the Department of History at his undergraduate alma mater. He is the author of books and articles on the Civil War and North Carolina, including *The Wilmington Campaign: Last Rays of Departing Hope*. He and his wife Nancy live in Wilmington, and have two daughters.

Native North Carolinian Chris Meekins grew up in Elizabeth City. He developed an interest in history while visiting historic places in the region. Chris' interest in the Civil War grew out of his academic studies. His thesis on the Civil War in northeastern North Carolina was published as Elizabeth City, North Carolina and the Civil War. When he is not serving the citizens of North Carolina as an archivist, Chris enjoys being with his family in Apex.



Colonel (Ret.) Wade Sokolosky was born and reared in Beaufort, NC. He is a graduate of East Carolina University and a 25-year veteran of the United States Army. Wade is the co-author of *No Such Army Since the Days of Julius Caesar*; *Sherman's Carolinas Campaign*; *Fayetteville to Averagesboro*; and the author of *Final Roll Call: Confederate Losses During the Carolinas Campaign*. An avid historian of

the campaign, he is currently writing a full length study of the Battle of Wyse Fork. Wade serves as Vice President of the Friends of Bentonville Battlefield and currently works for the NCDOT Ferry Division. Wade and his wife Traci reside in Beaufort, NC.

Dean Harry, a retired Attorney at Law and avid historian, was born in Waynesboro, Virginia in 1951, and lived in Virginia until 1975 when he moved to Raleigh, North Carolina.



Educated at Washington and Lee University and the North Carolina Central School of Law, Mr. Harry managed and co-owned a wholesale wine and beer distribution business from 1975-2010, and was a member of the North Carolina State Bar from 1993-2012.

He first became interested in the Civil War during the 1961-1965 Centennial Anniversary. He began re-enacting with Company D, 27th Regiment, North Carolina Troops, in 1993 and is still active. Mr. Harry has been a licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania since 2010 and at Bentonville, North Carolina since 2012.

He was a founding Member of the Friends of Bentonville Battlefield since, and has served as its President since 2011.



Chris J. Hartley has worked in marketing and communications for several large companies. On the side, he chases the history that has fascinated him since childhood. He has published several articles and is a frequent speaker about the Civil War. His 2010 book on Stoneman's Raid was selected for the 2011 Willie Parker Peace Prize from the N.C. Society of Historians and was a finalist for the Ben Franklin Award in History, given by the Independent Book Publishers Association. Chris lives in Pfafftown, NC.

# HISTORY'S VOICE

*continued from page 17*

“He was a real scholar,” Kowlakowski said. “He was conversed in many different eras of history. He loved the subject and he loved teaching. When we were in Georgia, he was an adjunct professor teaching history. I learned a lot from him, both from a professional and historical aspect.”

Kowlakowski feels that one of Harford's biggest contributions to Army and Army Reserve history is the training of combat historians

“He had been teaching the combat historian course for about five years at the Catoosa Training Center and later when it moved to Fort Knox, Ky.,” Kowlakowski said.

“They learned how to go out in field and collect all of the documents, artifacts, and raw materials to write the history of the current conflicts,” he said.

One of those combat historians trained by Harford is Chad Rogers. Now medically retired, Rogers deployed to Iraq (2010-2011) with the 322nd Military History Detachment from Birmingham, Ala.

Rogers, who is now working on his Masters degree in Museums and History at Tusculum College, Greenville, Tenn., said it was Harford who taught him about the integrity of the work – following along with the same Army value.

“He tried to get us away from the ‘history is written by the victors’ mentality and get us to the realities of what actually took place in any given operation,” Rogers said. “It wasn't about making a particular unit look good on paper, it was about telling what really happened.”

During his time training with Harford, Rogers said he also learned how to be a researcher and an archivist to examine how history relates to the present day. He added that Harford's love for history could be contagious.

He was enthusiastic about history. As a historian, you have to live in the past,” Rogers said.

It was this commitment and passion to bringing the past forward to the present that set him apart from his peers, said Stephen Harlan, 99th Regional Support Command historian.

“He elevated the role of combat historians to be value-added in theater,” said Harlan, who is also a lieutenant colonel and commander of the 314th Public Affairs Operation Center.

Harlan said that Harford made sure the combat historian teams had the right people for the right jobs.

“He stood on the soap box and was our bullhorn with senior leaders to show the value of military history,” Harlan said.

Stewart, Kowlakowski, Rogers, and Harlan agreed it was Harford's devotion to military history and his determination to share that history is what set him apart from his peers

“He devoted himself for 20 years to the history program,” Stewart said. “Win, lose, or draw, he was a forceful advocate for the Army Reserve history program.”

Throughout his career, Harford taught U.S. History, world civilizations history and military history courses at the United States Military Academy, the Virginia Military Institute, the Georgia Military College and the Georgia Institute of Technology, educating more than 3,000 college students in history. He also served as the Command Historian of the U.S. Army ROTC Cadet Command at Fort Monroe.

He graduated from Bordentown Military Institute in New Jersey, before enrolling at Norwich University in Vermont, where he successfully completed ROTC. He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts in history and commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers in 1974.

## MEMBER NEWS



On January 17-18, the NCMHS had a presence at Ft. Fisher's Sesquicentennial Commemoration of the fall of the Civil War Confederate fort, which effectively closed Wilmington's port and thereby the supply lines to Robert E. Lee's troops; the bitter end was near. The event hosted 20,000 visitors just south of Kure Beach, N.C. Information and applications for membership in the society were presented to the public.

Members who manned the display tent all weekend - Dale Lear, John Winecoff, Bob Cook, Brad Holland, Tim Winstead and John Bolger - welcome new member Linda Lashley.

# Barrie Spilman Davis

December 22, 1923 - August 19, 2014

## A true ACE by any standard

*The following contribution to his memorial service was written by his great-nephew, Jim Matheny.*



Barrie with his P-51 Mustang.

I grew up in Zebulon just one block away from Barrie. As a child, I knew Barrie was a World War II Fighter Ace, had a printing company, and did some things at the hometown newspaper. Other than that, most of what I could tell you about Barrie was always in the context of a dominant personality who lived two blocks in the opposite direction from my home: Major General Ferd Davis, my grandfather and Barrie's older brother.

For much of my early life, my thoughts of Barrie were always shaped by Ferd. Usually, "Barrie is the exact opposite of Ferd."

Ferd can be so mean. Barrie is always so nice.

Ferd is completely bald. Barrie has a full head of wavy hair.

Ferd is always angrily gritting his teeth. Barrie is always flashing a happy smile.

Ferd defined Barrie.

As an adult, I grew to know Barrie from an entirely different perspective. I became friends with an individual who was much more than Ferd's brother. And what a remarkable individual Barrie Davis was.

He was a gentleman. He was intelligent. Barrie was honest with himself and honest about himself with others.

He literally made his life an open book. He wrote a lengthy and detailed account of his time before, during, and after World War II. The book was not written to make money or to become the next bestselling novel. It was written specifically to share with his family.



Sluder-Davis

Barrie was being asked more and more about the war as time passed, so he wanted to document for his loved ones the personal joys, embarrassments, flaws, and victories he experienced. It includes details of manhood many of us would be too

modest or bashful to share at the family reunion, but it was heart-felt and honest.

The book could be a best-seller. It is a fantastic read. It showcased Barrie's talents as a wonderfully talented writer and storyteller. It also revealed a trait that was identical to his older brother Ferd: Their brains were engines from the same genetic factory with incredible power that could process, retain, and recall much more than the rest of us. Their minds also fortunately remained well-tuned and sharp to the end.

Unlike his stubborn brother (Ferd was known to use a typewriter for post-it notes), Barrie's mind was constantly willing and able to evolve with modern advances. He loved to learn new things. Recently, I've seen people marvel at Barrie's use of technology because he was active on social media as a 90-year-old. If only they knew. Just a couple of years ago, Barrie learned how to operate very complex flight simulator software that is mostly utilized by computer nerds around the world who are aviation enthusiasts. To put it mildly, 99.9 percent of the people on Facebook do not have the technical savvy to do this on their computers.

The point of the flight simulator software was simple: He was able to fly his P-51 Mustang again. More importantly, Barrie was able to fly again with an old friend he fought alongside during the war who now lived in California (and was also an ace fighter pilot). He was online to share friendship. He also shared his knowledge and personal time with history buffs. They treated Barrie like a celebrity, but he was usually too humble to accept such adulation without some form of self-deprecation. Whether it was online or in-person, Barrie was always able to connect with people.



Barrie in 1944

## North Carolina Military Historical Society

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Through it all, Barrie kept learning. By doing so, he kept teaching the rest of us lessons about humility, courage, and honesty.

To those who treated him like an intrepid war hero, Barrie was always candid about bravery and heroism. He said he was lucky. He said he was scared. He said that was a good thing.

To directly quote Barrie, "I think a brave man is someone who has fear, but overcomes that fear. If you have no fear, you are not brave. You are just sort of stupid. But if you have fear and you overcome that fear, that is what bravery is. That is what they need to give awards for."



Barrie in uniform.

Few of us will ever live as long or accomplish as much as Barrie Davis. But in the time we have, we can all remember to be as brave, honest, and kind as Barrie Davis.

And we should tell others about Barrie. Not with exaggerated reverence or false sainthood so often associated with eulogies. For Barrie Davis, the candid truth is already extraordinary enough.

His intelligence, grace, kindness, and brave honesty were as good as it gets. He loved and cherished his family. He celebrated their success and forgave their failures.

And today, in my mind, there is only one meaningful way Barrie should ever be defined by Ferd or any of his other siblings: In addition to all of Barrie's remarkable achievements, he was also a loyal and loving brother.

Those of us who knew Barrie Davis are better people because of it. I am a better person because of Barrie Davis.



On his 85th birthday, Barrie was presented The Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

## Biography

Barrie Spilman Davis was born on December 22, 1923 in Lenoir County, N.C. to the Rev. Theodore B. Davis, a Baptist minister, and Elizabeth "Bess" Farmer Davis, a teacher and writer. In 1924, the family moved to Zebulon, where Barrie lived his entire life except for when he served during WWII.

He attended Wake Forest College until he enlisted with the U.S. Army in June 1942 at age 18 and was 19 when he started pilot training. He served with the 12th and 15th Air Forces in Africa and Italy in WWII, first flying a P-47 Thunderbolt and later a P-51 Mustang named Honey Bee in honor of his mother. He completed 70 missions, and his six aerial victories qualified him as a Fighter Ace. His awards included a Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, an Air Medal with 13 clusters, a Purple Heart, and the European Theater of Operations medal with five campaign stars.

In 1949, Barrie was appointed captain in the Field Artillery for the Army National Guard. He chaired a successful effort to acquire an Army National Guard unit in Zebulon. He left the Air Force Reserve to serve for five years as battery commander of the unit. He served 28 years in the Guard, retiring in 1976 with the rank of colonel.

In December 2008, during a celebration of his 85th birthday, the Adjutant General of the N.C. National Guard presented Barrie with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by the state of N.C., the highest award the governor can bestow.

Some friends referred to Barrie as "Mr. Rotary" because of his dedication to the organization. He joined the Zebulon Rotary Club in January 1946 and remained a member until his death. He served three terms as club president and also was a Rotary District Governor in 1983-84, and Director of Rotary International in 1993-94. In addition, he was District Chairman of the PolioPlus campaign which raised more than \$800,000 to help eradicate polio throughout the world. As a Rotarian, in cooperation with the Zebulon Women's Club, he helped provide and equip the building for the Zebulon Library.

Barrie also was dedicated to his church. He was an active member of Zebulon Baptist Church and served as vice chairman of the Sanctuary Building Committee, as a Sunday school teacher, member of the Building Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

Barrie loved to be a part of organizations he considered worthy, and the list of his contributions and accomplishments is long. He helped organize the Zebulon Chamber of Commerce and served three terms on the board of directors. He was the charter treasurer of Zebulon Industrial Properties which brought to Zebulon companies such as Devil Dog, Omark and ITW Hi-Cone. He also was

*continued on page 24*

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**EDITOR'S TACK ROOM**

By Richard M. Ripley

Barrie S. Davis and I, together, published Recall twice a year since 1996. I would collect, edit and send the articles to Barrie, who would do the Desk Top Publishing (DTP) and put Recall in final form ready for printing.



After we took a final look at the draft, I would give Barrie the ok to send it to the Printers for publication. Barrie's last Recall was the Spring, 2013 issue. Barrie passed away August 19, 2014. We lost a World War II hero, an Ace Fighter Pilot and a dear friend. He lives in our hearts.

Getting the Fall 2014 Recall ready for publication has been a tough challenge. Thanks to some authors, including Bill Northrop and Don Koonce, I had plenty of articles but not a prayer for a Desk Top Publisher. One day Diane Pentz, a relative of Barrie Davis, offered to do the Desk Top Publishing and help finalize the publication. She worked many hours of her personal time to complete the work. We all owe Diane a very special thanks for the Fall 2014 Recall.

**Contribute Articles to Recall**

Readers are invited to submit material to Recall. In choosing material for publication, the editor of Recall will give preference to articles of unusual significance and transcripts or abstracts of difficult-to-locate records.

Material submitted for publication will be reviewed by persons knowledgeable in the areas covered for validity, significance, and appropriateness. All material will be edited for clarity and conciseness. Manuscripts should be sent to the Editor, 4404 Leota Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27603. Tel. 919-772-7688. E-mail: rripley@nc.rr.com.

**Barrie Davis**

*continued from page 23*

charter chairman of the Zebulon Community Relations Council which seeks to build understanding and harmony among all segments of the population in the community, and he was a member of the East Wake Business Alliance which seeks to improve educational opportunities for public school students in east Wake County.

Barrie was a Scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts for three years, and he helped organize CLEF, which provides a summer day camp for underprivileged children. He was a tutor/mentor for eight years at Zebulon Middle School and was director of Wake County Communities in Schools for five years. He was honored in 1998 with an award from CIS named "The Barrie Davis Walk-the-Talk Award" which is given annually to the outstanding volunteer working with Communities in Schools.

He was a member of the Capital Area Workforce Development Board, serving as board chairman for four years and as treasurer. He was vice chairman of the Better Business Bureau, trustee for the NC State University Design Foundation, on the advisory committee for the Department of Business at Louisburg College, and was a member of the Woodmen of the World, American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Fighter Aces Association, the Zebulon Masonic Lodge, the Zebulon Shrine Club and Amran Temple.

During his printing career, Barrie was on the board of directors of the Printing Industry of the Carolinas for 12 years. He served as president of the organization and as chairman of The Printing Industry of the Carolinas Foundation for four years.

In 2001, the Zebulon Chamber of Commerce named him Citizen of the Year. Barrie continued to give even after his death. He donated his body for medical training at the UNC School of Medicine in Chapel Hill.

**In this issue ...**

The Map Maker: Marion H. "Gib" Gibson .....	1
The Immortal Six Hundred .....	6
The 2nd NC Regiment & the Battle of Stony Point ...	13
History's Voice: Dr. Lee S. Hartford, Jr. ....	17
Annual Meeting and Symposium .....	18
Member News .....	21
Barrie Davis: An Ace by Any Standard .....	22
Editor's Tack Room .....	24