

# THE BATTLE CRY



## NEXT PROGRAMS

- 4/10/18-Gordon Balme-  
2nd Manassas in Maps.
- 5/8/18-TBA
- Summer Break until Sept.  
meeting.

## HE IS RISEN!

### HE IS RISEN, INDEED!

Spring, Easter, and Christ. A new beginning, new growth in gardens, crispness in the air, one has to feel the change [even in Florida!]. Do you ever wonder what the Civil War soldier was feeling at this time of year? As for the weather, at least in Virginia, Robert K. Krick can tell you Day by Day what the weather was like in his unique and thoroughly researched work, *Civil War Weather in Virginia*, (University of Alabama, 2007.) For example, April 10, 1865, a Monday, “rain thru the night, drizzly all day” “High 50, Low 44 at 7am. Sunrise 5:35, Sunset 6:25.”

Soldier’s tended toward prayer on special occasions, holidays away from home, and on the eve of battle. Found in my own collection is an anonymous prayer to share with you:

### PRAYER OF UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,

I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey ...

I asked for health, that I might do greater things,

I was given infirmity, that I might do better things ...

I asked for riches, that I might be happy,

I was given poverty, that I might be wise ...

I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,

I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God ...

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,

I was given life, that I might enjoy all things ...

I got nothing that I asked for — but everything I had hoped for,

Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.

I am among all men, most richly blessed.

### Officers

President: Gordon Balme  
Vice President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Rebecca Hines  
Newsletter Editor: M. Bruce Maxian

### TRIVIA LITE

- What Federal official succeeded in preventing Confederate purchase of English-built rams, in Sept, 1863?
- For what purpose was the specially designed USS Alligator constructed?
- What civilian was the first female casualty of all-out battle?
- What kind of weapon was a “coffee mill”?
- What was the occupation of Edward Maynard, who invented the Maynard carbine issued to many U.S. troops?

# April, Speaker Bio

**GORDON BALME:** Hails from Rhode Island. Was a candidate as a pitcher for the Major leagues until an injury prevented it. Baseball and Civil War are hot topics for him. Long standing President of the Sarasota Civil War Round Table. His presentation, a guided map tour of Second Manassas will use projection so that all can see the terrain.



## SOME EASTER COMMENTS

### FROM USA AND CSA SOLDIERS

April 20, 1862 USA

“This is Easter and a pretty day. We had 2 eggs a piece this morning” Alexander Gwin (Campbell, Joseph, Judy Gowen. *Marching Orders: The Civil War Diary of Alexander*)

April 5, 1863 CSA

“The snow is about seven or eight inches deep. I don’t think we will have a very gay Easter today, as game is skearce, and we can get no eggs.” Jer Coggin (Taylor, Michael. *The Cry is War, War, War*. Winston Salem: Morning Side Press)

March 27, 1864 USA

“The beautiful Easter Sunday finds us all O.K. for it is as pretty and warm day, but we have no eggs. We could have them at 40 cents per doz. but I guess we will do without this time- Daniel Chisholm (Menge, W. Springer Menge, J. August Shimrak. *The Civil War Notebook of Daniel*)

From: *Civil War Talk*

#### A GUN SAFTEY LESSON

#### CIVIL WAR RIFLE GOES OFF

Special to the Herald Tribune

MONTCLAIR, N.J. MARCH 13, 1946

Rodney Odell purchased a rifle used by Union soldiers in the Civil War. He put it above the fireplace in a sitting room in his home at 2 Nassau Road.

Yesterday, fourteen-year-old Rodney Odell, jr. took the rifle off the wall, playfully aimed it at the television set and pulled the trigger. It went off, and pellets smashed into the television set, hit an eighteen inch bronze figure of a Union soldier on top of the set and demolished a window.

Police are till trying to determine whether the shot and charge had been in the rifle since the Civil War.