

Commemorating American Sacrifice and Heroism from the Civil War to September
11 and Beyond

...We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth. A. Lincoln

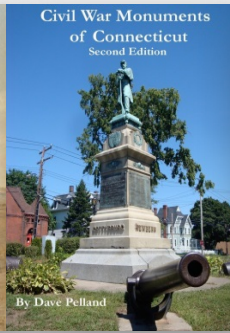
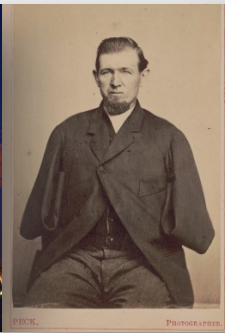


Connecticut Civil War Symposium

September 11, 2021 – 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

West Haven Veterans Museum & Learning
Center Honoring All Americans Who Sacrificed
and Served

SPEAKERS PROGRAM





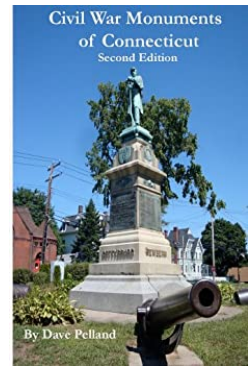
Bob O'Brien was born and raised in New Haven, CT. He attended Saint Michael's College in Colchester, VT receiving a B.A. in 1969. He attended the University of Connecticut School of Law; obtaining a Juris Doctor degree in 1973. Bob was employed at the Superior Court for the Judicial District of New Haven from 1973 until 2011. Initially he was the Criminal Case Coordinator for the Superior Court Clerk's Office. In December of 1977 he was appointed an Assistant States Attorney and from 1987 until his retirement in May of 2011 he was the Supervisory Attorney in the office's Career Criminal Division. Since his retirement Bob has been able to devote much of his time to researching and giving presentations to Civil War Roundtables, Historical Societies, and the Irish History Roundtable. Bob's primary focus is on Connecticut regiments and individual soldiers. Bob is an advisory Board member of the South Central Connecticut Civil War Roundtable in Hamden as well as a member of the Housatonic Civil War Roundtable, the Irish History Roundtable, the Connecticut Irish American Historical Society, the Connecticut Historical Society and a number of local Historical Societies.

George Washington Warner was born in Glastonbury, Connecticut on May 9 1832. He would marry a recent Irish immigrant, Catherine Doherty, on July 4, 1853. When the Civil War broke out they were living in Oxford, Connecticut. In August of 1862 George Warner enlisted as a private in the 20th Connecticut, Company B (the Derby Company). On the morning of July 3, 1863 at the Battle of Gettysburg the 20th was attempting to retake some trench works from the Confederates under cover of Union artillery fire. A shell from the Union artillery fell short and George Warner was hit and lost both his arms. He was discharged for disability and returned to Connecticut where he moved his family to New Haven. He and Catherine would have three more children. He supported his family by supplementing his pension by selling books and CDVs with the help of his son, William. When the veterans of the 20th Connecticut returned to Gettysburg to dedicate their monument on Culp's Hill on July 3, 1885 they chose George Warner to have the honor of unveiling the monument. In New Haven George Warner was a very active member of the Admiral Foote GAR Post. He attended meetings, parades, reunions and any other functions the Post was involved in. George Warner would outlive his wife and five of his children. When he died on October 13, 1923 at ninety-one years old his obituary was on the front page of the New Haven Register. The man who lived for over sixty years with no arms is buried in the Warner family plot in Evergreen Cemetery in New Haven.



Dave Pelland is a business writer who produces thought leadership and social media content for professional services firms. More interestingly, Dave is a tour guide for Bushnell Park Foundation in Hartford and the author of two local history books – his guidebook, Civil War Monuments of Connecticut, and Faith and Freedom, which highlights the National Monument to the Forefathers in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

American Memorials and Memory from the Civil War to 9/11: From the Civil War to the World Wars and 9/11, memorials play an important role in helping us honor those we have lost. Dave Pelland's program will explore how we choose to memorialize and remember the great triumphs and tragedies of our collective history.



Philip Vitiello Sr. is a lifelong resident of New Haven, CT. He attended the University of New Haven, majoring in law enforcement administration. He is currently employed for the last 22 years as the Director of Operations for the food broker “Northeast Food Marketing” headquartered in Stamford, CT. Phil is a Civil War historian and re-enactor. For 40 plus years he has studied and visited Civil War eastern theater battlefields. He is currently Vice President of the Civil War Round Table of South Central Connecticut and a charter member of “Friends of the Hunley,” the first submarine in world history to sink a ship in combat. Since 1998 Phil has been a charter member of “**TIGHAR**” The International Group for Historical Aircraft Recovery and for over 24 years, a member of the original Titanic Historical Society of Indian Orchard MA.

The H.L Hunley: Few people know that there were submarines during the American Civil War. They were built by the North and the South. For the South they were desperate attempts to break the strangle hold of the Union blockade. This presentation is about one very special submarine, the H.L Hunley. On the night of February 17, 1864 at about 9:00pm the Confederate Hunley made history by becoming the very first Submarine to sink a ship in combat. This feat was so advanced for its time that it would not occur again for another 50 years! *Innovation, Ingenuity, Courage, Dedication, Death, Romance, Adventure, Mystery, and Legend.* All of these words describe the saga of the Hunley, one of the most amazing stories of the American Civil War and American history for that matter. This program tells the story of the Hunley’s conception, her accomplishments, the sub’s underwater discovery, conservation, and the historic burial of her last crew.





Carolyn Ivanoff Carolyn Ivanoff is a retired high school administrator and educator. She writes and speaks frequently on American history at local, state, and national venues. In 2003 Carolyn was named Civil War Trust's (now American Battlefield Trust) Teacher of the Year. In 2010, 2011 and 2013 her education programs received Awards of Merit from the Connecticut League of History Organizations. In 2016 Carolyn was honored by the Connecticut Council of Social Studies with the Bruce Fraser Friend of the Social Studies Award. In 2018-19 Carolyn served as project coordinator for the 17th Connecticut Flagpole preservation and rededication project on Barlow’s Knoll at Gettysburg National Military Park. This project was honored

with a 2019 Award of Merit from CHLO for preservation. She is currently working on a Manuscript titled of unpublished first-hand experiences by members of the 17th Connecticut Regiment at Gettysburg. Webpage: <https://sites.google.com/site/carolynivanoff/>



Clara Barton is best known as a nurse in the Civil War, The Angel of the Battlefield. But that’s only part of her story. By the time of her death in 1912 her life’s work would touch millions of people world-wide and it continues to do so. She was born into and lived in Victorian America, where a women’s place was limited to her home. Women did not have many legal rights and did not have careers. During her lifetime Miss Barton had several careers, any one of which would have brought a man fame and perhaps fortune. She was a wartime relief worker, she went to the battlefields of the Civil War and nursed under fire, she identified 23,000 missing soldiers for grieving families. She was a world class lecturer, author, and founder of the American Red Cross. She the 19th century. If you have trained female nurse, if you blood donation, if you have relief efforts to help people natural disasters or war, if you course or if you have a first or boat, if your community



was the most decorated woman in ever received the care of a have ever given or received a participated in or donated to who have been brutalized by have participated in a first aid aid kit in your home, office, car, has an ambulance corps—then

her life's work has touched your life.