

# In the time of *Will and Dena*...

A Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century Seminar

by Bob Rogers

*“Entertaining to Educate”*

Based on the novel, *Will and Dena*, by Bob Rogers





# Seminar Outline

- Part I
  - Creating story context and characters
  - Introducing protagonist: Will Wallace, Jr.
  - Creating Oakton, Cardinal County, NC
  - Illustrative dialog (times, accents, mores)
  - Roles of Baseball and the KKK
- Part II
  - Role of Judges:
    - William T. Stevens (fictional character)
    - J. Waites Waring (non-fiction)
  - 366<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment
  - The WWII Italian Campaign
  - WWII Heroic fighting men



## Seminar Mission: Return to 1943-1945

- Outcomes for your audience:
  1. Understand the creation of characters and plot for *Will and Dena*.
  2. Recognize that succeeding generations of American generals and press asserted that "coloreds won't fight."
  3. Recognize the four freedoms that FDR promised to the world.



## Seminar Mission: Return to 1943-1945

- Outcomes for your audience:
  4. Experience mid-20<sup>th</sup> century life through the eyes of young lovers.
  5. See life as “common folk” saw it under jim crow law and “peculiar US southern customs.”
  6. Learn the truth about the fate of the 366<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.

