



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol XIII, Issue 6—August/September 2006

GREG MERTZ TO SPEAK

By John P. McAnaw

The guest speaker for our General Membership Meeting for August is well known to Round Table members. Greg Mertz has spoken to our group in the past and has also conducted tours for many of our members visiting the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park as well as Brandy Station. He last spoke to the Round Table in October 2003 when he discussed "Artillery During the Fredericksburg Campaign." Worthy of note, Greg was also a favorite tour guide of members of the "Harsh Brigade" when Dr. Joseph L Harsh of George Mason University conducted his summer field courses back in the 1990s. He is a talented and selfless historian who has the ability to communicate effectively with his audience.

Greg Mertz was born and raised near St. Louis, MO. His interest in the Civil War developed as the result of the annual hiking and camping trips his Boy Scout Troop made to Shiloh National Military Park in Tennessee. Greg earned the rank of Eagle Scout while in his Troop. He was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Recreation and Park Administration from the University of Missouri (Columbia) in 1978. Six years later, while working for the National Park Service, he received a Master of Science degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania. Greg began his National Park Service Career in 1980 as a Park Ranger at Gettysburg National Military Park and the Eisenhower National Historic Site. Four years later he was reassigned to the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park (F&SNMP). He initially served as the site historian at the "Stonewall" Jackson Shrine at Guiney Station. His next assignment was as site historian and museum curator at the Chancellorsville Battlefield Visitor Center. At present he is the Supervisory Historian at the F&SNMP in charge of visitor services operations.

While assigned to the F&SNMP, Greg has authored a number of superb Civil War articles including: *Confederate Veteran Magazine* (July-August, 1987) "Command Decisions made by

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

7:00 P.M. Centreville Library

GUEST SPEAKER:

GREG MERTZ

SUBJECT:

"I'LL BE DAMNED IF I WILL COOPERATE"

MG GOUVERNEUR K. WARREN AT SPOTSYLVANIA COURT HOUSE

Generals Lee and Jackson during the Chancellorsville Campaign"; *Blue and Gray Magazine* (April and June, 1995) Two articles on the Battle of the Wilderness plus the "General's Tour."; *Civil War Regiments* (1996) Article on Jackson's artillery during the Battle of Fredericksburg titled "Blood on the Rappahannock: The Battle of Fredericksburg"; *Blue and Gray Magazine* (Summer 2001) "Upton's Attack at Spotsylvania Court House"; and *Blue and Gray Magazine* (Summer 2004) "General G.K. Warren and the Fighting at Laurel Hill During the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, May 1864".

Additionally, Greg Mertz wrote the texts for Virginia Civil War Trails markers at four (4) locations: The Town of Orange, Brandy Station Battlefield, Town of Culpeper Court House and Cedar Mountain Battlefield.

Greg was instrumental in the formation of the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table, serving as the first president of that organization. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Brandy Station Foundation. Don't miss the opportunity to listen to another stirring talk by a very talented historian and friend of the BRCWRT at 7:00 pm, 10 August 2006.

ROUND TABLE BOOK SALES

Please remember to bring your used Civil War books to our meetings to aid in our ongoing book sales. Besides helping to raise money for the BRCWRT, these books help raise our members' understanding of the Civil War. Thank You.



JOIN US AT THE BORDER CAFE

Do you come directly to the monthly meeting from work and look for a place to eat, or would you just like to come early for dinner? Join the BRCWRT board and our monthly guest speaker for good food and camaraderie.

Due to the closing of The Lone Star, we are currently meeting at The Border Cafe at 5:15 p.m. just across Lee Highway from the library. **Space is limited so RSVP** to Dale Maschino at smasch1verizon.net or 703.734.3244 no later than Tuesday before each meeting.

Of course, it's always Dutch treat for the 'cheap and the proud!' Bring cash to get us in and out quicker.



THIS IS A STONE WALL DOUBLE ISSUE

In This Issue

Bristoe Station	Page 4, 5
Ox Hill Update	Page 6
Upcoming Tours	Page 7, 9
Events	Page 8
Book Reviews	Page 9, 13
September Speaker	Page 10
Connecting To Our Past	Page 11
Union Soldiers Finally Home	Page 11

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The Bull Run Civil War Round Table publishes the *Stone Wall*.

General Membership meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at:

The Centreville Regional Library
14200 St. Germain Drive
Centreville, VA 20121-2299
703.803.2223

For specific meeting dates and information, please visit the WEBSITE:

<http://bullruncwrt.org>

SUBMISSION DEADLINE For OCTOBER 2006 Issue

E-mail Articles By 9:00 A.M. Monday, Oct. 2

To scox@capitalav.com

If you do not receive an acknowledgment of your e-mail article, please call Sandra at 703.675.0702 (cell) or 540.752.9500 (Capital Audio Visuals) in Fredericksburg as it may have been blocked by company software.

The President's Column

By John P. McAnaw

The first point I want to make is that this issue of our acclaimed newsletter will cover two months, August and September.



Photo by J. Greentree

Thanks Brian!

Secondly, I want to thank Brian McEnany for his talk on the "The West Point Class of 1862" at our 13 July meeting. With technical support from our editor, Sandra Cox, Brian's PowerPoint presentation was very impressive. A total of 62 individuals attended this monthly meeting.

Our guest speakers for our 10 August and 14 September general membership meetings are two National Park Service historians that are well known and respected by BRCWRT members – Greg Mertz and Jim Burgess. If you read the biographical articles on both of these talented individuals, you will understand why they are held in such high regard. Both will be speaking on topics of great interest to civil war buffs:

The performance of MG. G.K. Warren, U.S.A., during the costly combat in the vicinity of Laurel Hill and Spotsylvania Court House during the Union Overland Campaign of 1864, and;

The significance of the Battle of Thoroughfare Gap on 28 August 1862.

Copies of Greg's great article on the above subject, printed in *Blue & Gray Magazine* (Summer 2004) will be available at our meeting on 10 August. Donations for this Blue & Gray issue will be given to the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust.

Next, I want to remind members of two upcoming tours sponsored by the BRCWRT:

12 AUGUST 2006: Battle of Sailor's Creek (6 April 1865) and other historic sites associated with the tail end of the Appomattox Campaign (5-9 April 1865).

23 SEPTEMBER 2006: Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg). This is our feature Fall Tour.

As soon as details are finalized for other single day tour dates for October 2006, they will be publicized for Round Table members.

Lastly, on 11 September 2006, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) will again consider a rezoning request by NV Properties to rezone 3.68 acres

in the proposed Centreville Historic Overlay District (CHOD). This tract is commonly known as the "Rice Property". A good part of the last remaining Confederate regimental winter camp in the Centreville area is located on this tract. The BRCWRT is adamantly opposed to the destructive rezoning request. Rather, we support the creation of the Gateway Heritage Park which encompasses the surviving Civil War sites in historic Centreville.

In 1935, the National Park Service (NPS) published documents, including maps, that recommended the inclusion of Civil War sites in Centreville as part of the National Parks System. Every part of the proposed Gateway Heritage Park was listed by the NPS for inclusion. Our vision of this park includes such remaining fortifications as the Middle Fort, the Covered Way, the Apex Fort, and the West (Wharton Rd.) Fort, the last remaining Confederate winter camp; the Mount Gilead property (already owned by the County) and other Civil War sites within the boundaries recommended by the NPS in 1935.

The proposed Gateway Heritage Park will include areas set aside for the following purposes:

1. Drill field for Civil War re-enactor units.
2. Ceremonial section to honor all Americans who served during our Nation's wars.
3. Camp life during the Civil War, (this should be on the site of the last Confederate regimental winter camp, and several authentic winter-huts should be reconstructed).
4. Civil War fortifications.
5. Structures in the village of Centreville that survived the Civil War and are present today.
6. A County museum featuring the Civil War in Northern Virginia.

In conclusion, I have no doubt that the proposed Gateway Heritage Park will be a popular tourist attraction. I ask all concerned members of the BRCWRT to join us on 11 September 2006 (time yet unknown) at the Fairfax County Government Center, in opposing the request by NVP for the rezoning of the Rice property and supporting the creation of a first class, County Gateway Heritage Park.

"CRAZY LIKE A FOX" MOVIE

In the last issue of "The Stone Wall," BRCWRT Member Tim Duskin provided a comprehensive review of the movie "Crazy Like a Fox." At the time of the publication of this newsletter, plans are being made for a showing at the Cinema Arts Theatre at Fair City Mall in Fairfax. The planned times of its showing is 10 AM and 12 Noon on Saturday, September 9. More details will be forthcoming.

BRISTOE CAMPAIGN TOUR AFTER ACTION REPORT

By John De Pue

On Saturday, 17 June twenty-two hardy members of the BRCWRT braved 90 degree weather to recall the military actions comprising the fall 1863 Bristoe Campaign and visit several of its principal conflict sites. Our tour commenced at the Old Town Manassas, VRE station where the undersigned summarized the changes in leadership and unit organization in both the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia in the wake of casualties suffered during the Gettysburg campaign. Mark Knowles then provided an overview of the activities of both armies following their return to Virginia at the conclusion of that campaign, and the events that precipitated the 14 October 1863 battle.

To reach our initial stop, the hamlet of Auburn, we traversed the line of the Orange and Alexandria railroad, which constituted the line of march of the First, Fifth and Sixth Corps of the Army of the Potomac as it withdrew from the Rappahannock River toward the abandoned Confederate defenses at Centerville. That route took us past the villages of Catlett Station (now Catlett) and Warrenton Junction (now Calverton) where we turned north on the Carolina Road, traversed Three Mile Station (now Casanova) and passed by Castle Murray, used as a headquarters and point of reference during the campaign.

Arriving at Auburn, we bivouacked at the now-restored Auburn mill where, after describing the local road network, John De Pue recounted the October 13, 1863, cavalry action at that location between Lomax Brigade of Jeb Stuart's cavalry and the van of the Union Third Corps as it proceeded toward Greenwich. That discussion was followed with a description of events on the following morning when the Union Second Corps clashed with two cavalry brigades of Stuart's command and Rodes' Division of the Confederate Second Corps. A highlight of the Auburn stop was John Pearson's description of the hamlet at the time of the Civil War which he illustrated with an enlarged copy of a contemporary drawing of Auburn mill and "Coffee Hill."

After executing a carefully orchestrated parking scheme at the "Stuart Bivouac Site" (and suffering the ire of a motorcycle-mounted homeowner), your guides described the events that resulted in Stuart's concealment at that location on the night of 13-14 October, and the cavalry action on the morning of the 14th that enabled him to withdraw safely to Confederate lines.

Our tour then proceeded up the St. Stephens Church Road and at the church turned toward the Village of Greenwich, thereby departing from the Second Corps' line of march as it proceeded south toward Catlett Station. During a brief stop at Greenwich, John Pearson described the movements of the Confederate Second (Ewell) and Third (A.P. Hill) Corps on the morning of October 14th, as they pursued the Army of the Potomac.

Our stop at Greenwich also enabled us to read the Civil War Historic Trails Marker placed there through the efforts of BRCWRT member, Mark Trbovich, and visit the grave of Bradford Smith Hoskins, a British officer who was killed at the Grapewood Farm (Vint Hill) fight while serving as a private soldier in J.S. Mosby's 43d Virginia Cavalry Battalion.

We then proceeded down the Vint Hill Road, noting the land clearing operation that has effectively eliminated the hill-top gun platform site of Poague's Artillery Battalion during the October 14th battle. Stopping at the site of the Civil War-era Broad Run Bridge and the now-extinct village of Milford, John Pearson described the Army of the Potomac's withdrawal across the Run; the pursuit of the Fifth Corps by elements of A.P. Hill's Corps; and the ensuing rear guard action there.

After a fast-food lunch, we resumed our march, parking at the Southern Railway change station. After John Pearson led a discussion of the opening phase of the battle of Bristoe Station and the assault of Cook's Brigade on the Union deploying right flank, we tramped into the poison ivy-laden woods to view the clearly-visible remains of numerous hut sites constructed and later abandoned by the moving armies well before the 1863 battle.

After the tour group conducted a carefully orchestrated flanking movement across Route 619, John Pearson recounted the assault by Kirkland's upon the railroad embankment, and the capture of McIntosh's Artillery Battalion during the Union counterattack. The last several preplanned "stops" were addressed in the comfort of the brick ranch house that Prince William County Historian David Born graciously made available, air conditioned and stocked with cold water. There, after John Pearson addressed the closing phases of the battle, John McAnaw discussed the withdrawal of the Union wagon trains to Centerville and the establishment of a defense line by reversing the former Confederate earthworks.

The success of this expedition was greatly enhanced by the presence and participation of David Born, who not only made facilities available to us but provided insights as to what Prince William County's long-term vision for exploiting this valuable resource would be. We also appreciate Maureen Quinn's efforts in developing a computerized sign-up system and keeping us apprised of the "head count." It totally eliminated delays resulting from waiting for "no shows."

In addition to your three guides, those who braved the 90+ degree heat to participate in the tour included: President John McAnaw, David Born, Nancy Anwyll, Kevin Anastas, Charlie Balch, Howard Ewing, Dennis Feldt, Janet Greentree, Joe Inzerillo, Ken Jones, Glenn King, Jim Lewis, Lyle Loveall, Dan Lundeen, Dale Maschino, Harold Matthias, Jack Nance, Bud Porter, Bev Regeimbal, Fred Schmidtmann, Chuck Segal, Ed Wenzel, Patty Wheeler, and Gwen Wyttenbach.

BRISTOE STATION THEN AND NOW

By John De Pue

Shortly after moving to my present home approximately 12 miles east of the Bristoe Station Battlefield, I was astounded to read in the local paper that the Prince William County Board of Supervisors was giving serious consideration to moving the county sanitary landfill to that property. It apparently thought nothing of defiling land – then virtually unchanged from its 1863 appearance – that had witnessed the effusion of American blood and comprised the final resting place of American soldiers who were killed during two military actions or died of disease while encamped there. Save for the objections of a few preservationists -- some of whom we number within our ranks – and that of an elementary school student who wrote an editorial for the Potomac News highlighting the significance of the property at issue and shaming the Board of Supervisors for entertaining such an outrageous proposal, the silence of the local community was deafening. When one of our officers attempted to testify against adoption of the proposal during a Board of Supervisors' hearing, he was bluntly told by the incumbent Chairman that his views were irrelevant because he was not a county resident.

Although the landfill proposal was not ultimately adopted for reasons unrelated to historic preservation, the Bristoe battlefield continued to be the target of development schemes and other indignities at the hands of local landowners and developers. Designated a Virginia State Historical Landmark, the recognition was subsequently rescinded at the behest of property owners who claimed that "they weren't consulted," and erroneously asserted that the designation amounted to a legislative taking of their land. One of the landowners claimed that the property had no historical significance and that Ed Bearss and others had it all wrong. And a local realtor, writing a Potomac News editorial, railed that the nomination was a "scam" calculated "to devour private lands at the hands of few radical hobbyists."

Given this sorry track record, when the CENTEX Corporation announced plans in 2002 to purchase the 341 acre Rollins tract, which embraced much of the battlefield, for the purpose of erecting several hundred residences, the general consensus of the historic preservation community was that the rear guard action it intended to launch would ultimately prove futile; that the Bristoe Station Battlefield would be lost forever; and that known graves of several hundred Confederate soldiers would be consigned to the same fate as those of their comrades who fell at Ox Hill. These potential consequences were highlighted by the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) which designated the Bristoe Station Battlefield among the 20 most endangered Civil War battlefields in the nation.

In view of these expectations, most of us were delighted to learn that when CENTEX sought to have the Rollins tract rezoned to permit high density housing, a

newly-aligned Board of Supervisors brokered the negotiation of an arrangement between CENTEX and the CWPT. The proposed agreement contemplated that CENTEX would deed to CWPT 127 acres of the core battlefield property it had contracted to purchase. With the proffer of that property, the Board would support CENTEX' rezoning application enabling it to erect high density housing on its remaining land. The agreement also contemplated that CENTEX would assist in the development of trails within the battlefield's boundaries, and it also agreed to afford members of the historic preservation community, the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, and volunteer archeologists 120 days to search for graves on the portion of the tract that would undergo development following its conveyance to CENTEX. While that endeavor (in which many of our members participated) did not result in the discovery of battlefield graves, the artifacts that were unearthed during the process will forever put the lie to repeated assertions that "no battle was ever fought here."



CWPT President, Jim Lighthizer, signs over deed for Bristoe Station Battlefield to Prince William County Chairman Sean Connaughton.
Photo by Keith Young

On Tuesday, June 27th, Keith Young, Mark Trbovich and I were privileged to witness the culmination of this process – a ceremony during which Jim Lighthizer, the President of the CWPT transferred title of the tract it had acquired from CENTEX, plus several acres it had subsequently purchased, to Prince William County. Accepting title on behalf of the County, Supervisor Chairman Sean Connaughton stressed the importance of preserving physical evidence of our past despite the pressures exerted by development and expanding urbanization. He observed that the preservation of the Bristoe Station Battlefield could not have been accomplished without the cooperative efforts of the County's political leaders, its planning staff, CENTEX, and CWPT. Of particular interest, Mr. Connaughton capped his remarks by mentioning that the County was exploring the possibility of acquiring additional property on the "Union" portion of Bristoe Battlefield where several federal artillery battery sites were located. Additionally, he noted that the County was pursuing the acquisition of property or access to historic sites at Thoroughfare Gap, Buckland and the Possum Point earthworks.

See BRISTOE THEN & NOW, Page 12

Ox Hill Battlefield Park Interpretive Meetings Continue

By: Ed Wenzel

Since our last newsletter, the Fairfax County Park Authority's Ox Hill Interpretive Planning Team has met twice, on June 20th and July 14th. Team leader Mike Henry, Paula Eelsey and the writer met on both occasions, first to work on remaining Interpretive Plan issues, and then to look at wayside marker and kiosk panel text. Team member Liz Crowell could not attend but worked with Paula between meetings. The following matters were addressed:

More Subject Matter for the Kiosk:

An important decision at the first meeting was the agreement to increase the number of topics presented at the visitor's kiosk. The park staff had originally wanted only three subjects on three panels. But because Ox Hill is rich in interesting material, Mike Henry agreed to the increase. Two additional topics were approved: The ferocious thunderstorm, featuring an illustration and soldiers' vivid descriptions; and the ordeal of Sgt. Fletcher and the Union wounded left behind at the Millan House. These are both non-battle subjects that will appeal to all visitors. Thus, the kiosk will now provide information on the following six topics: An introduction, an overview of the battle, a current aerial photograph of the Fair Oaks area showing Ox Hill troop positions, the thunderstorm, Sgt. Fletcher and the wounded, and other Civil War sites in Fairfax County and nearby areas (this last was requested by Fairfax County Board Chairman, Gerald Conolly).

Off-Site Markers:

Also discussed at the June meeting were the off-site markers that will be located beyond the park. Texts for five have now been written with one remaining. The park staff does not want these markers enumerated or identified in the interpretive plan because of concerns about various homeowner associations. Most of the markers would be located in the public right-of-way beside Monument Drive's connector trail, which is a "linear park". The nature of the concerns was not expressed.

"Evaluations"

A long discussion ensued on the merits of annual evaluations of the park's interpretation, as called for in the Interpretive Plan. I said again that annual evaluations were unnecessary; that polling the public and soliciting opinions on an annual basis, forever, was a waste of money. We have to tell the story at some point and not worry about "opinions". I reiterated that nobody objects to evaluations of the accuracy, content and effectiveness. Omissions, errors or newly discovered accounts or artifacts that would alter the interpretation, or change the maps, should most certainly cause corrections to be made. But calling for permanent annual evaluations and polls that could change the interpretive message, and perhaps even the Interpretive Plan itself, seems quite unnecessary and illogical.

However, Mike said that the evaluations have to be conducted annually because it's Park Authority policy and an "industry standard". He said society and perceptions change. The Park Authority has to provide for possible changes that they can't foresee. Therefore, the requirement for annual evaluations will stay in the Interpretive Plan.

Paula suggested that we could guard against "politically correct" changes by inserting a provision in the evaluation statement. The provision would require that local Civil War groups, such as the park's "partnership organizations" be consulted before any interpretive changes could be made. The Kearny-Stevens monument trustees, the Chantilly Battlefield Association and the Bull Run Civil War Round Table are "partnership organizations". All agreed that this provision be inserted into the language.

Also, there was talk of doing a "beta test" and making "beta signs" for the park. Beta signs are *temporary* signs made inexpensively and installed at the park for several years until the polls and evaluations are processed. Then changes would be made as necessary and permanent markers and panels installed. However, the annual evaluations would *continue*, and additional changes could still be made at any time!

If the Park Authority actually installs beta signs, then the park could be officially dedicated and opened to the public with only temporary markers and panels in place. Either way, this reluctance to commit to an authoritative interpretation is truly mystifying. The interpretive plan and the texts will be reviewed by at least a dozen Civil War historians, college and university history professors and various Civil War groups and round tables prior to manufacture of the markers and panels. So if the interpretation passes historical muster, what's to worry about?

Wayside Marker Text:

At the July meeting, Paula presented text for eight wayside markers that she and Liz Crowell had reviewed and are recommending for approval. These markers have site-specific information appropriate for eight locations within the park. The texts were written during the past year by the writer with help from others in the BRCWRT. This is the same text language that was referred to last March when the Round Table voted 91-0 in favor of substantive marker text at the park. This is a clear win for the Ox Hill battlefield.

Kiosk Panel Text:

Texts for two kiosk panels were also presented. These were put together and synthesized from previously written material. Panel #1, the "Introduction", was excellent. It presented a few key facts to engage visitors and introduce them to the park. Only a few minor changes are recommended and I think these will be accepted.

MARCHING ORDERS

SAILOR'S CREEK BATTLEFIELD

OF 6 APRIL 1865

(PLUS OTHER SITES OF 5-9 APRIL 1865 PORTION
OF APPOMATTOX CAMPAIGN)

DAY ONE (12 AUGUST)

ASSEMBLY LOCATION/TIME: Centreville Regional Library,
at 7:55 A.M., Saturday 12 August 2006.

TOUR DURATION: From 8:00 A.M. on Saturday 12 August to
1:00 P.M. on Sunday 13 August.

CHIEF TOUR GUIDE: David Born, Historic Program Coordi-
nator, P.W. County.

TRAVEL ROUTE TO START POINT OF TOUR:

Strip maps will be provided to all drivers. NOTE: Route will
be south on I 95 to Richmond, then Southwest on US 360 to
town of Amelia Court House.

ASSEMBLY POINT FOR TOUR/TIME: In front of Court
House in town of Amelia Court House on Business U.S. 360 at
11:30 A.M. on Saturday 12 August.

LUNCH: Brown bag or nearby eateries at Amelia Court
House.

12:15 P.M. to 6:20 P.M. Tour of Sailor's Creek Battlefield
and other related Appomattox Campaign sites.

DINNER SITE FOR 12 AUGUST: TBA

LODGING FOR NIGHT OF 12 AUGUST: The availability of
rooms in the Farmville and Appomattox area is limited. Some
rooms in cited towns have been reserved by John McAnaw for
participants. Mention his name when making your reserva-
tion. They are:

1. COMFORT INN – (One N/S double and three N/S king).

2108 South Main Street
Farmville, (Next to Mexican Restaurant)
Tel. No. 1-434-392-8163.

2. SUPER 8 MOTEL – (Seven N/S double and three
Smoking allowed king).

7571 Richmond Highway (On U.S. Hwy 460)
Appomattox
Tel. No. 1-434-352-2339.

Tour Headquarters Will Be The Super 8.

There are also rooms available in Appomattox at the:

BUDGET INN
1924 Confederate Boulevard
Appomattox. Tel. No. 1-434-352-7451.

Other motels in the cited area are reported to have been
booked for weeks. The only nearby area with a supply of mo-
tel rooms is Lynchburg, about 20 miles west of Appomattox.
Participants are responsible for making their own reservations
promptly, as John McAnaw will cancel unused reservations
early on 8 August.

DAY TWO (13 AUGUST)

BREAKFAST

ASSEMBLY TIME AND LOCATION:

8:30 A.M. in front of the SUPER 8 MOTEL.

CONTINUATION OF TOUR:

8:40 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

END OF TOUR AND RETURN HOME:

1:00 P.M. to 4:20 P.M.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Good walking shoes, insect re-
pellent, sun screen, and plenty of water. Physical exertion will
be dependent on weather conditions. No long hikes planned.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: Amelia C.H., Jetersville, Painesville,
Saylor's Creek Battlefield, Farmville and Appomattox Station/
C.H.

RESERVATIONS: Contact John McAnaw at 703-978-3371 or
sign up online at <http://bullruncwrt.org>.

BRCWRT 2006 Fall Tour

ANTIETAM: THE BLOODIEST DAY



The Dunker Church

DATE: Saturday, 23 September 2006

ASSEMBLY LOCATION: If you would like to carpool
to the battlefield, please linkup at the Centreville library
parking lot at 7:15 A.M. We will depart at 7:30 sharp.
If you plan to drive on your own, please meet us at the
Antietam Visitor Center at 9:00 A.M. Driving time to
Antietam from Centreville is approximately 1 hour and
20 minutes.

TOUR DURATION: 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

LUNCH: Bag lunch on the battlefield. There are very
few opportunities for fast food in Sharpsburg.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: We will send out a weather
cancellation notice via e-mail the morning of the tour.
If you do not have e-mail call Kevin Anastas.

TOUR GUIDES: Kevin Anastas kka2@cox.net (703)
431-2569 (Cell).

PHYSICAL EXERTION: Light to moderate. We will do
some extensive walking on the tour but we will be on
roads/trails most of the time.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS: You are responsi-
ble for paying your own park entrance fee. The fee is
\$4.00 per person or \$6.00 per family. Seniors, Don't
forget your Golden Eagle Pass! Bring insect repellent.
The gnats are always bad at Antietam.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: We will visit the sites of all the
major actions during the battle. These include the
West Woods, Bloody Lane, Burnside's Bridge and A.P.
Hill's flank attack. I'm also working on some added
attractions. Stay tuned!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: If you plan to attend an event, please verify the information given. Advance reservation and fee may apply. If you would like an event posted please e-mail Dale Maschino at smasch1@verizon.net.

4 Aug – Wilderness battlefield, “Ellwood by Candlelight,” part of the National Park’s History at Sunset series. Meets at the Ellwood house, 8 pm. Free. Call 540-373-6122 or www.nps.gov/frsp.

5-6 Aug – Monocacy, “Communication in the Civil War,” Signal Corp encampment will offer special talks and hands-on demonstrations all weekend. Free. Call 301-662-3515, or www.nps.gov/mono.

6 Aug – Montpelier, Walking tour, Civil War Encampment and Freedom Farm site, at James Madison’s home near Orange. 2 pm. Free with admission. Reservations suggested. Call 540-672-2728 or www.montpelier.org.

11 Aug – Chancellorsville, “Jackson’s Wounding by Moonlight,” Part of the National Park’s History At Sunset” series. Meets at the visitor’s center, 8 pm. Free. Call 540-373-6122 or, link to www.nps.gov/frsp.

12 Aug – Living history, “Cavaliers, Courage, and Coffee: Mosby Owned the Night”, lantern-light Civil War stories from the Mosby Heritage area. 8 pm at the Rector House at Atoka, 4 miles west of Middleburg. Free. Call 540-687-6681, or www.mosbyheritagearea.org.

12 Aug – Tour of the Kelly’s Ford and Stevensburg area of the Brandy Station Battlefield. 10 am to noon. \$5. Begins at the Graffiti House Visitor Center. Call 540-547-4106, or www.brandystationfoundation.com.

12-13 Aug – Fredericksburg, living history program at the “Sunken Road,” near the Park visitor center. Firing demonstrations, talks and tours. Free. Call 540-373-6122, or www.nps.gov/frsp.

13, 20, & 27 Aug – New Market, “Boys, Bugles and Skirts: The Civil War in a Small Town,” living history walk with Civil War stories. 5:30 pm at the Apple Blossom Inn, 9317 N Congress. \$10 Adults. See tour website for other Civil War walk dates and times.

www.new-market-virginia-walking-tours.com.

19-20 Aug – Civil War Weekend at Sully Historic Site. Encampments, demonstrations, skirmishes, period games and more. 10 am-4 pm Saturday, 10 am-3 pm Sunday. \$6 Adults. Call 703-437-1794 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

26 Aug – Battle of Second Manassas at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Living history and demonstrations, special ranger programs and exhibits. 9 am-5 pm. Free with admission. Call 703-361-1339 or www.nps.gov/mana.

3 Sept – “The Morning Battle at South Mountain” walking tour, meets at 2 pm at Fox Gap. For details call 301-432-8065.

9 Sept – Tour of the Buford Knoll and Yew Ridge area of the Brandy Station Battlefield. 10 am to noon. \$5. Begins at the Graffiti House Visitor Center. Call 540-547-4106, or www.brandystationfoundation.com.

9 Sept – Tours of Liberia Mansion, a Confederate headquarters in Manassas undergoing restoration. 10 am-4 pm. \$20. Call 703-368-1873 or, www.massasmuseum.org.

15-17 Sept – Winchester, weekend-long program commemorating the Third Battle of Winchester. Includes events and tours on the battlefield, museums, and more. Call 888-689-4545 or, www.shenandoahatwar.org.

23 Sept – Bus Tour, “John Wilkes Booth Escape Route,” popular 12-hour tour sponsored by the Surratt Society in Clinton, MD. \$50 fee. Call 301-868-1121, or www.surratt.org.

23-24 Sept – Woodbridge, Leesylvania State Park at Freestone Battery, the Confederacy’s northernmost battery that helped to blockade the Potomac in 1861. Tours, demonstrations and more. 10 am-4 pm. Call 703-670-0372.

30 Sept – Oct 1 – “Breaking the Siege,” battles for Richmond and Petersburg in the fall of 1864. New Market Heights, Ft. Harrison, and Peebles Farm. Presented by Richmond and Petersburg national parks. Free. www.nps.gov/rich. Or www.nps.gov/pete.



OX HILL

Continued From Page 6

However, Panel #3, the battle’s “Overview”, was much too brief and left out important information that visitors should know in order to understand the situation – things like the Confederates being victorious at Second Manassas, Pope retreating to Centreville, Jackson moving down the Little River Turnpike, Pope sending troops to Germantown, Pope’s and Lee’s troop strengths, etc.

Accordingly, the writer recently wrote to all team members and recommended that the Overview text include basic information about the preliminary movements and other aspects, as well as the battle; and that the Overview be divided into three parts: Preliminary Action, the Main Battle, and the Aftermath. This will require *three* Overview panels, not just one, and would make a total of eight panels in all. These panels are entirely justified given the importance of telling the Ox Hill story clearly, correctly *and* briefly.

To house the panels, a new, custom designed, covered, visitor shelter is needed to replace the current “kiosk”. The pre-fabricated kiosk, with three hexagonal sections bolted together, was planned when the prevailing wisdom was that three topics and three panels would be sufficient. This is no longer the case. And problems have already cropped up with the addition of the other three panels. Adding two more will almost certainly require another structure or design. I’m very hopeful that the other Interpretive Team members will see and understand this problem, and that with the agreement of the Project Team, we can obtain a specially designed “visitor information shelter” for Ox Hill.

Stay tuned.

BRCWRT Potomac River Cruise



Potomac Belle

DATE: Saturday, 30 September 2006

ASSEMBLY LOCATION: We will meet at the boat dock in Alexandria. The Potomac Belle is located on the Alexandria City docks behind the Torpedo Factory in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. There is public parking directly in front of the Torpedo Factory as well as under the Chart House Restaurant. Walking out on the City Dock, the Potomac Belle is located directly in front of the Chart House. The boat will depart at 12:00 sharp.

TOUR DURATION: 12:00 PM. – 3:00 P.M.

Reservations and Fees: You must sign up and pay in advance to reserve your seats on this tour. The cost is \$38.50 per person. The maximum number of passengers for this tour is 35 and we expect to sell out the tour. Seats will be given out on a first come first served basis. A sign up list will be passed at the 10 August meeting. Immediately after the meeting, we will open up the on-line sign up on the BRCWRT website. If you would like to have a catered lunch on the tour, the cost is \$15 per person (minimum of 20 people).

LUNCH: The menu for the catered lunch is as follows: Barbequed Brisket of Beef with Traditional Potato Rolls, Rockland's Original BBQ Sauce, Honey Jalapeno Cornbread Triangles, Homemade Cole Slaw, Southwestern Black Bean Salad, Dessert is a combination of Chocolate Chip Cookies and Homemade Chocolate Brownies. You may also bring your own picnic lunch and cooler on board if you choose.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: We will send out a weather cancellation notice via e-mail the morning of the cruise. If you do not have e-mail call Kevin Anastas. If we have to cancel the tour on 30 Sept, we will reschedule for a later date

TOUR GUIDES: Lyle Loveall Loveall@msn.com (Lyle is also the skipper) and Kevin Anastas kka2@cox.net (703) 431-2569 (Cell).

PHYSICAL EXERTION: None. Just sit back and watch the scenery go by.

HIGHLIGHTS: Fort Foote and Fort Washington viewed from the river.

THE BOOK CORNER

By Ralph G. Swanson



All right, I admit it. I love Washington, DC. I know, it's humid and crowded; the street layout is nuts and the traffic is crazy. But it is the most beautiful and exciting city in the world. From the cherry blossoms ringing the Tidal Basin to the vistas along the Mall and from Arlington, Washington takes my breath away. I have been privileged to read actual correspondence from Stonewall Jackson in the stacks at the National Archives and gaze into the (empty) Oval Office so closely that I expected the Secret Service at any moment. Who can fail to be moved by such experiences? Most of all, Washington DC is the very heart of our Civil War history. Is it any wonder, then, that the best book about the Civil War is the history of our wartime capital? ***Reveille in Washington 1861-1865* by Margaret Leech is, quite simply, the single best book ever written about the Civil War.** If you read only one book about the war--if you re-read only one book--make it *Reveille*.

"Reveille" (French) is a military term, the morning call to awaken the troops. And *Reveille in Washington* is Leech's history of a sleepy, swampy, virtual cesspool of a capital wrenched from its somnolence and forced to rescue itself and our nation from utter dissolution. Other authors have attempted renditions of Civil War Washington (**The Book Corner** has recommended two in past columns), but none better than *Reveille*. Leech's delightful writing style will capture you; the sheer beauty of this read will carry you away. Listen:

Uneasily in the Presidential chair sat James Buchanan of Pennsylvania, like a nervous gentleman on a runaway horse, longing for the ride to be over. A commonplace politician of nearly seventy, he was conscientious, evasive and irresolute. He was a staunch Democrat; Southerners were his friends and closest political associates. He had belatedly become aware that his allegiance might carry him into presiding over the disruption of his country.

Of course the country was to explode upon the election of Mr. Lincoln, and Washington would awaken to military and political intrigue. A Union capital surrounded by Confederate Virginia and a teetering Maryland, secession tendencies were strong in Washington. As eminent historian Allan Nevins has written, many of the greatest Civil War battles were fought in the cabinet offices and conference rooms of Washington.

From cover to cover, this book is filled with distinctive and entertaining prose that conveys the alternate despondency and euphoria of wartime Washington. Listen once more:

**See REVELLE IN WASHINGTON
1861-1865, Page 12**

JIM BURGESS SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

By John P. McAnaw

The founding date of the BRCWRT by historian Bill Miller was 9 May 1991. Would you like to hazard a guess as to who was the guest speaker at the first membership meeting? This meeting was held at the Central Library located at 8601 Mathis Avenue in Manassas. It was none other than our 14 September speaker, Jim Burgess, who spoke on "Artillery at First Manassas." Many years later, Jim spoke again to our Round Table on the same subject.

Jim is a native of the Nutmeg State who earned a B.A. Degree in History from Southern Connecticut State College. While in the military, Jim served with the highly regarded 1st Battalion, 3rd Infantry (The Old Guard), at Fort Myer, Virginia. During this tour of duty, he became a bonafide, double rectified Civil War buff. Consequently Jim decided to pursue a career with the National Park Service (NPS) following his discharge from the Army.

Jim's first assignment with the NPS was a four-year stint on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. In 1980 he transferred to the Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBFP) where he has been stationed for the past 25 plus years. Jim served initially as a park ranger coordinating the park's living history program. More recently he assumed the duties as a museum specialist, responsible for managing and protecting the park's museum collection.

During his extensive period of service at the MNBFP, Jim Burgess has earned the professional respect and gratitude of innumerable Civil War historians, students of that conflict and tourists. He has a depth of knowledge about the history and resources of the park that is matched by very few, if any, of his NPS colleagues. When it comes to questions about the First and Second Manassas Campaigns, Jim Burgess is the "Go to Guy" at the park.

Jim is recognized as a superb researcher. During the course of his "detective work" he continually has come up with new information about the Manassas Battlefield and the soldiers that fought there. As an example, he discovered that a wartime photograph of the Thornberry House had been misidentified. His findings were published in the March/April 2004 issue of *Military Images* magazine.

Of interest, Jim currently serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Prince William County Historical Commission and is currently working on a guidebook to Civil War sites in the county. He is also the Vice-President of the Virginia Gun Collectors Association. Further, he has been active in the North-South Skirmish Association since 1972 competing with various small arms of the Civil War.

Join us on 14 September at the Centreville Regional Library for what will be a very informative presentation by a recognized authority on the Second Manassas Campaign – Jim Burgess. The discussion will focus on the small but strategic victory at Thoroughfare Gap on 28 August 1862.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

14 SEPTEMBER 2006

GUEST SPEAKER:

Jim Burgess

TOPIC:

**Thoroughfare Gap: Pathway to Lee's
Greatest Victory**



12 OCTOBER 2006

GUEST SPEAKER:

Gregg S. Clemmer

TOPIC:

**Old Allegheny: The Life and Wars of
General Ed Johnson, C.S.A.**

ATTENTION RESEARCHERS

By Tim Duskin

On Wednesday, June 14, the House of Representatives passed the appropriations bill for Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, and the District of Columbia. In order to increase funding for a drug interdiction program against methamphetamine by \$8 million, the House cut \$8 million out of the budget for the National Archives and Records Administration. This is having an adverse affect on the National Archives. The agency has begun to deal with this cutback in its budget by eliminating evening and Saturday hours for its research rooms and also reducing hours for the Rotunda, which displays the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution. It is also enacting a hiring freeze and offering buyouts for its employees. Being a small agency, such a big reduction in its budget is greatly affecting the Archives. And who knows what other adverse affects this may have upon the National Archives in the wake of the flooding damage. This can be reversed if the Senate restores funding and takes the \$8 million from somewhere else.

CONNECTING TO OUR PAST.....

By Janet Greentree

Meet Dan Paterson



It seems like it is only fitting that Dan is the subject of the first column profiling our members and their Civil War ancestors. **Dan is the great-grandson of Lieutenant General James Longstreet.** It doesn't get much better than that. He's descended from Fitz Randolph Longstreet (1869-1951), the General's youngest son. His mother is Jamie Louise Longstreet Paterson, the granddaughter of the General. His grandmother was F.R. Longstreet (Zelia) who was interviewed by *Blue and Gray* magazine in 1983 for an article entitled "Daughter-in-Law of a General." His uncle, William Longstreet (1897-1973) was the last male descendant to carry the name of Longstreet. He is also related to a Union Lieutenant Gardner on his father's side.

Dan is a graduate of the University of Maryland and is a network engineer for Long & Foster in Fairfax, a Civil War reenactor for both the North and the South, a member of the Longstreet Camp 1247 Sons of Confederate Veterans in Richmond, a board member of the Longstreet Society, member of the Pickett Society, and a member of the John Bell Hood Historical Society. He graduated from the University of Maryland in 1981 with a BA in Behavioral & Social Sciences. He is married to Sherry and has one son, Shane.

Awards include the Jefferson Davis Award for Preservation of our Confederate Heritage and recipient of the 2001 Helen Dortch Longstreet award presented by the Longstreet Society to those who work to defend and preserve General Longstreet's reputation.

Dan's many speaking engagements include the Longstreet Birthplace Monument Ceremony in Edgefield, SC, 1998, Longstreet Memorial Fund Service in Gettysburg, PA, 1998, Confederate Memorial Services in Manassas, 1999, Charlottesville, 2000, Fairfax, 2000, Fairfax Chapter of Daughters of American Revolution, 2001, Longstreet Camp SCV, Richmond, VA, 2001, Military Order of Stars & Bars, Powhatan, 2001, Longstreet Monument Dedication, Gainesville, GA, 2001, BRCWRT, 2002, 2003, Loudoun County CWRT, 2003, Gilmore Camp, SCV, Timonium, MD, 2002, Ad Fontes Academy History Department, Centreville, VA 2002, Longstreet Society Seminar, Manassas, 2002, Manasota CWRT, Sarasota, FL, 2004, DAR/SAR Joint Meeting, 2004, Onondaga CWRT, Syracuse, NY, 2005, Gettysburg CWRT, Gettysburg, PA, 2005, Lakeway CW Preservation Association and the Bradford-Rose Camp 1638 SCV fundraiser for restoration of Longstreet's headquarters in Morristown, TN, 2006.

Dan has been interested in the Civil War and history ever since he was old enough to understand it. He says that his 4th grade teacher wrote that he was a Civil War nut on one of his report cards, but aren't we all.

He has visited all the Civil War battlefields except a few in the Valley and some out west. The last Civil War book he read was *Nothing But Victory* by Steven Woodworth. He's currently reading *Generals in Bronze* by William Styple, a recent speaker to the Roundtable in October, and *Before Manassas and After Appomattox* by Gordon Sawyer.

Dan was BRCWRT President in 1999 and 2000 and on the executive board in the late 90's.

He recently returned from a trip to Morristown, Tennessee during the Memorial Day weekend to visit the headquarters of his great-grandfather there. Longstreet spent the winter of 1863-1864 in Morristown near where the battle of Bean's Station was fought. Dan toured the house known as "Longstreet's Billet" complete with a historical marker in the front yard in Rogersville, Tennessee. [See his article in last month's *Stone Wall*.]

Lt. Gen. James Longstreet



1821-1904

Helen Dortch Longstreet's "Lee and Longstreet at High Tide" To Be Republished!

Lee and Longstreet at High Tide, Helen Dortch Longstreet's book about Gettysburg in light of the Official Records is now available again with a forward by Dan Paterson, General Longstreet's great grandson and a director of the Longstreet Society, and some additional photographs also supplied by Dan.

The book was originally published in 1904 by Helen, James Longstreet's second wife, who began writing her defense of her husband prior to his death in 1904 and completed them afterwards. They are notable primarily for the fact that they include brief glimpses into the General's personal life and offer commentary from others such as Dan Sickles, Teddy Roosevelt, and other admirers of Longstreet who wrote to her after James' death.

Delivery time will be about eight weeks. The price will be \$30 for Longstreet Society members and \$40 for all others. We will sell this first printing on a first come-first served basis and we will order a second printing only after the first sells out, so better order now. Add four dollars for shipping. Orders can be placed by mail to the **Longstreet Society, PO Box 191, Gainesville, GA 30503** or on-line at www.longstreet.org under the secure order tab on the left of the screen.

BRISTOE THEN & NOW

[Continued from Page 5]

We sincerely hope that Mr. Connaughton's recent nomination by the President to become head of the U.S. Maritime Commission and his impending resignation as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors will not diminish the Board's commitment to these projects, and that his successor will follow his example. It is a hopeful sign that all of the County supervisors were in attendance at the deed-signing ceremony, and that several of their number warmly endorsed the process that resulted in saving a portion of the battlefield. But while we wish Mr. Connaughton well, thank him for his efforts on behalf of preservation and congratulate him, we must convey to his successor and to the remaining board members our steadfast commitment to the preservation of what remains of our heritage in Prince William.

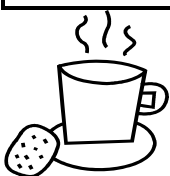
1862 McDOWELL MAP

If you missed the opportunity at the June meeting to order an enlarged copy of the map of our area commissioned by Union General Irwin McDowell, you have another chance. Bring your \$10 to the August meeting! You can pick it up at the September meeting.

All orders must be prepaid and profits benefit the BRCWRT Round Table.



Bristoe Campaign Tour Participants at Greenwich
Photo by Janet Greentree



MORE THAN A BOOK SALE

Members have become creative with their donations for our monthly 'Book Sale'. In addition to the appreciated Civil War books, we have received videos and a Don Stivers Civil War print from **Dick Ford**. Most recently **Tom Courtney** donated tin cups and packages of hardtack which were quickly purchased by members. Thanks!

REVELLE IN WASHINGTON

1861-1865

[Continued from Page 9]

Again, the wounded cumbered the Washington wharves, but few sightseers gathered to see the transports arriving, day after day, with the men from Chancellorsville. Now, each of these prostrate young bodies seemed the very figure of the Union itself, and people turned away from the heartsickening, habitual scene....There had been a time when the loss of one young Ellsworth had thrown the capital into mourning. Now from the silver-mounted rosewood of the higher officers to the cheap pine slats of the ordinary soldier, the business of death was plied like any other prosperous trade.

It was the indomitable spirit of Lincoln that pervaded Washington back then, as it does this book. He was our first President since Andrew Jackson to be the master of the executive branch, to impose his will upon the government and the events of his time. Leech's colorful descriptions of Lincoln's struggles with his generals, cabinet, and Congress over war policy, border state politics, emancipation and more will hold you to the last page.

Never in our history did we face such momentous issues. Even the challenges of today do not compare to 1861-1865, because none threaten the fabric of our society and our future as a nation. The vision, courage and leadership that brought us safely through make Abraham Lincoln our greatest President. That is why the excitement that was Civil War Washington will never wear thin for me.

What else can I say to get you to read this book? Oh, yes. It won the Pulitzer Prize for Leech in 1941. So there must have been a few other literary notables who were also impressed with her work.

You will be sadly disappointed to finish this book. Not only because it ends in the way you know it must, but because you are departing from an entertaining and informative friend. But keep it on your bookshelf because you will want to read it again in a few years.

Until next time, keep reading.

Let's go over that one more time: *Reveille in Washington 1861-1865* is the single best book ever written about the Civil War. That provocative opinion is my own for reasons just given. Nevertheless, **I am interested in your nominations for the one--and only one--best Civil War book, be it battle history, biography, novel or other. Roundtable members are invited to submit their suggestions to rmsrgs@earthlink.net.** If they are exceptional contributions to the literature, they will receive praise in **The Book Corner**.

TAKE RALPH'S CHALLENGE!

UNION SOLDIERS FINALLY HOME

June 10, 2006, *Boston Herald*.

Bourne [Mass.]: The remains of six Union soldiers are finally home, 145 years after the men died on a Civil War battlefield in Virginia. The remains were interred Saturday at the Massachusetts National Cemetery alongside 40,000 other veterans and their spouses, including fallen veterans from the Iraq war.

The soldiers were discovered by Civil War relic hunters on a site slated for the construction of a McDonald's restaurant in Centerville [sic], Va. They were later identified as members of the 1st Massachusetts Infantry Regiment. On Saturday, A hearse carrying the six caskets led a fife and drum procession through a line of American flags. About 200 people attended a ceremony to honor the men. "For them, it has been a long journey home," Cemetery Director Paul McFarland. "The journey started here in Massachusetts. To borrow a phrase often used between our Vietnam veterans, 'Welcome home.'" The men were killed in a battle with Confederate forces a few days before the first battle of Manassas, on July 18, 1861. McFarland said the remains were tentatively identified as William A. Smart of Cambridge, Albert F. Wentworth of Chelsea, Thomas Roome of Boston, George Bacon of Chelsea, Gordon Forrest of Malden, and James Silvey of Boston. "They have names, but they couldn't match who was who," he said in an interview before the ceremony. No descendents have been found yet. The men will be buried as unknown soldiers, McFarland said.

Article provided by Barbara Welch

GREENTREE PHOTO SELECTED



BRCWRT Member, Janet Greentree's winter photograph of the Devil's Den at Gettysburg National Military Park was selected by the Friends of Gettysburg during a recent contest for their upcoming annual calendar. Congratulations Janet!

FRIENDS OF MANASSAS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK SPONSOR ANNUAL BEARSS TOUR



Don't miss Ed's tour of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville on October 30 and 31. Check out the 'Friends' website at <http://www.fmnp.org> for full details.

Photo taken by Sandra Cox during the FMNP '05 2nd Manassas Tour.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY

BRCWRT Member Barbara Welch is a volunteer in the Virginia Room of the Fairfax Library and tries to read every new Civil War book she comes across. She wanted to alert other members to what's new at the Fairfax Library. You can probably find this book at the Centreville Regional Library or one near you.

Upon the Altar of the Nation: A Moral History of the Civil War by Harry S. Stout, a professor of American religious history at Yale, was published in 2006 by Viking Press. Stout's book is a different perspective of Civil War history, one often overlooked by writers of military histories. He ponders the question of whether the Civil War was a moral war and provides examples that both support and dispute this statement. Also covered are the role of religion in the lives of soldiers and the part chaplains and civilian clergymen had in bolstering the belief that God was on their side. Stout compares the personal faiths of Lincoln and Davis and how these influenced their decisions. For example, we learn why Lincoln chose adding "In God We Trust" on American coins instead of supporting a Republican movement to add a Constitutional amendment recognizing God's place in our national identity. There are mistakes in this book as any well-read Civil War enthusiast will easily spot, mostly in describing military campaigns, but the book is still a worthwhile read and perhaps will give the reader a way of looking at other past and present wars to question their morality or justice.

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

2006 Bull Run Civil War Round Table — MEMBERSHIP FORM

We are delighted that you are interested in joining our organization and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting and at our upcoming events!

Annual dues are:

Individual—\$15.00. Family—\$25.00. Student (age 22 and under)—\$10.00.

Make checks payable to: BRCWRT (Bull Run Civil War Round Table). This form may be given to the President or Treasurer at the General Membership meeting. Or mail it to:

Mark Knowles, Treasurer

169 Applegate Drive

Sterling, VA 20164

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

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PHONE_____EMAIL_____