



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XV, Issue 5—AUG & SEPT 2008

MAUREEN QUINN SHARES RESEARCH REGARDING THE CONNECTION OF CIVIL WAR MONUMENTS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WITH GETTYSBURG

A 1976 graduate of The Boston Conservatory of Music, Maureen Reigh Quinn holds a Bachelor of Music degree with a major in Piano Performance. After graduating, she spent the next 10+ years as a performer and teacher. During her years as a musician, her repertoire ran the gamut from opera and musical theatre to pop. However, her first love was – and remains – vocal accompaniment, especially in opera and the Art Song genre. Maureen left the field of music and teaching to work in the investment business, which led her to the field of Information Technology, and it is that profession that currently supports her REAL interest, American History.

Having grown up in the center of New York state, Maureen's earliest exposure to history was based in the Colonial era and the Revolutionary War period. In fact, her hometown, Herkimer, is named for General Herkimer, who fought in the Revolutionary War.

Maureen's interest in the Civil War came about, strangely enough, because of a hand injury while preparing for a piano performance. When the doctor advised complete rest of her hand, she needed something to do for a couple of weeks that didn't require moving her fingers. Reading a book seemed like a good activity at that point, and the book she happened upon was James McPherson's "Battle Cry of Freedom". That book would mark the beginning of her "Civil War adventure". And as we all know, once you start down that path, the journey takes you in many different directions. For Maureen, one of those directions happens to be the discovery and study of the Civil War monuments lurking around many corners in Washington, DC.

Currently a resident of Chantilly, VA, Maureen has been a Government contractor since arriving in the area in 1999. She has held IT positions at the USDA, the Washington Navy Yard and the Pentagon. Finally, last year, having suffered through enough daily commutes, she ditched the 50 mile-per-day round trips when she landed a job close to home in Chantilly. Not having the commute has allowed her the time to expand on old interests and to add some new pursuits as well. As an active member of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table for seven years, she has served as that group's

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING THURSDAY, AUG. 14

7:00 P.M. Centreville Library

GUEST SPEAKER:

Maureen Quinn

SUBJECT:

**Washington, D.C. to Gettysburg:
The Civil War in Marble and Bronze**

webmaster and newsletter editor. At the moment, Maureen is studying for the Licensed Battlefield Guide exam, which will be given in Gettysburg later this year, with the hope of becoming a Battlefield Tour Guide, specializing in – what else – the monuments!

Maureen's talk is titled "DC to Gettysburg: the Civil War in Marble and Bronze", but the REAL title might as well be "Maureen's Constant Treasure Hunt to Find Every Single Civil War Monument in the District"! During the evening, she will discuss, with the members of the Round Table, the Civil War monuments in Washington DC, and how many of those monuments are forever linked to Gettysburg. And she looks forward to sharing many of the stories of those "stone people" that she knows almost as well as her own friends and family!

**COMING LABOR DAY
September 1st, 10:00 AM
Ox Hill Battlefield Park
Dedication**

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**Executive Committee****President:** John McAnaw— [703.978.3371]**Immediate Past President:** Keith Young
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Newsletter Team:Nancy Anwyll, Dale Maschino, Ed Wenzel, Ken Jones,
Andy Kapfer and Janet GreentreeThe 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 each month.
For specific meeting dates and information,
please visit the WEBSITE:<http://bullruncwrt.org>**SUBMISSION DEADLINE**
For OCTOBER 2008 IssueE-mail Articles By 9:00 A.M. Thursday, Sept. 25 To
Sandra Cox at scox@capitalav.com**If you do not receive an acknowledgment of your
e-mail article by deadline**, please call Sandra at
703.675.0702 (cell) or 540.374.2011 (Capital AV)
as it may have been blocked by company soft-
ware.**In This Issue**

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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.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS****11 SEPTEMBER 2008****GUEST SPEAKER****Stevan Meserve****SUBJECT:****The Civil War in Loudoun County, VA****A History of Hard Times****NOTE: New Book Signing****9 OCTOBER 2008****GUEST SPEAKER****Dr. Benjamin Franklin Cooling, III****SUBJECT:****From the Peninsula to the Antietam****NOTE: New Book Signing****13 NOVEMBER 2008****GUEST SPEAKER****Dr. Joseph Whitehorne****SUBJECT:****The Battle of Auburn,
13-14 October 1863:
The Price of Gettysburg**



The President's Column

By John P. McAnaw

First, I extend my thanks to those who participated in BRCWRT-sponsored events in June and July 2008. The turnout for the two monthly Round Table presentations at the Centreville Regional Library was excellent. Both talks were very well received. For the record, attendance was as follows:

12 June – Gary Ecelbarger; *Stonewall Jackson's Fog of War: The Operational Triangle of 24 May 1862* – 72 attendees.

10 July – J. Michael Miller; *Blood on the Rails: The Battles of Bristoe Station and Kettle Run in Prince William County* – 82 attendees.



Thanks Gary and Michael!

Photo of Gary by Nancy Anwyll



Photo of Michael by Janet Greentree

On 12 July 2008, J. Michael Miller led 25 BRCWRT members on a superb, weight reducing tour of the Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields. It was an eye opening tour. (NOTE: Please read Patrick McGinty's After Action Report on page 10.)

On 2 August 2008, David Blake, the owner of Buckland Farm, led a large contingent of BRCWRT members on a tour of his historic estate; the Buckland Races Battlefield of 19 October 1863; and other nearby Civil War historic sites including Cerro Gordo. The status of historic preservation and development in western Prince William and eastern Fauquier Counties was also addressed. The highly informative and successful tour was attended by 28 BRCWRT members and friends. An After Action Report will appear in the October issue.

Field Trip Chairman Kevin Anastas has had to postpone the 'Retreat From Gettysburg Tour' to Saturday 11 October. More details will follow at future meetings and via email..

On 1 September 2008, the Fairfax County Park Authority will host the dedication and grand opening of the 4.9 acre Ox Hill Battlefield Park. For over 22 years, Ed Wenzel, a founding member of the Chantilly Battlefield Association and also a member of the BRCWRT has fought to preserve the key portion of the battlefield around the monument lot. Support in recent years from

Chairman Gerry Connolly, former Park Authority Director, Mike Kane and former Springfield Park Board Representative, Kenneth Feng materially assisted in making the Ox Hill Battlefield Park a reality. They have our thanks.

Further, I extend my gratitude to those members of our organization that took the time to repeatedly clean up the terrain that now comprises the battlefield. Two, in particular, deserve recognition – Ed Wenzel and Bob Hickey. Also for many years, on Memorial Day, Bob Hickey was responsible for the ceremony at the monument lot that honored all the soldiers that fought there on 1 September 1862. The sponsoring organization was the Father Corby Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Fairfax Station. Also present at these annual events were members of the VFW Blue and Gray Post 8469 in Fairfax Station and the BRCWRT.

See you at Ox Hill on 1 September, at 10:00 A.M.



NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF 2009 OFFICERS

By Ken Jones

This is a reminder to the membership of the BRCWRT. The election of officers for the next term will take place in December. Any member of the Round Table is invited to run for any of the following offices: President, Vice-President, Secretary/Adjutant, and Treasurer. Should you desire to run for office or wish to nominate a member, please notify Ken Jones at 703-385-8624, or see Ken at the AUGUST meeting. A final call for nominees will be made in November. The election will be held at the regular meeting on December 11th.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



David Blake
Bill Cratty
Maynard Creel
J. Michael Miller
Bill Vautour

146th Anniversary Commemoration of the BATTLE OF 2nd MANASSAS August 30-31, 2008



LIVING HISTORY at Brawner Farm

Visit with costumed re-enactors to learn about life on the front lines and in camp...

- Confederate Military Forces
- 1st Maryland Infantry (US)
- 2nd US Sharpshooters
- 5th New York Infantry (Zouaves)
- 4th Virginia "Black Horse" Cavalry
- 2nd US Cavalry
- "Manassas' Own" Artillery
(representing Grimes' Virginia Battery)

Cavalry

Mounted demonstrations and firing drill

11:00am and 1:00pm

Infantry and Musketry

11:30am and 1:30pm

Artillery

12:00N and 2:00pm

Guided Tours

Join noted historian, John Hennessy, author of "*Return to Bull Run*" for a series of guided battlefield hikes (Saturday only)...

Saturday

9:00am - Brawner Farm

2:30pm - Deep Cut

4:00pm - Wreath ceremony by 5th NY Zouaves

Tour of New York Ave and monuments

5:00pm - Chinn Ridge

Sunday (Ranger-guided tours)

10:00am - Unfinished Railroad

2:30pm - Deep Cut

4:00pm - Chinn Ridge

BRAWNER FARM HOUSE and

LUCINDA DOGAN HOUSE

Open daily 10am to 4pm

☐ Visit with park interpreters to learn about the history of these two historic sites.

☐ Learn about 19th c. medicine and medical practices in the field and view a private collection of medical-related equipment and supplies.

☐ Enjoy civil war era acoustic music by "the Civil War Comrades."

☐ Visit with the living history groups at their encampment on Brawner Farm.

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.

9-10 Aug – “Under Fire: The Battle of Harper’s Ferry,” living history and ranger programs highlight the 1862 battle at the National Historical Park. Programs at noon, 2 pm and 3 pm. Free with Park admission. Call 304-535-6029 or www.nps.gov/hafe.

9-10 Aug – “Technology of War,” at the Antietam National Battlefield near Sharpsburg. Programs begin at the visitor center. 1:15 pm. Free with park admission. Call 301-432-5124 or link to www.nps.gov/anti.

15 Aug – Walking tour of Chatham the historic mansion that served as the Union headquarters across the river from Fredericksburg. 7 pm. Free. Call 540-373-6122, or www.nps.gov/frsp.

16 Aug – Living history walking tour, “When Mosby Owned the Night”. Lantern light vignettes in Atoka, west of Middleburg off Route 50. 7:30 pm \$5/adult. Call 540-687-6681, or www.mosbyheritagearea.org.

16 Aug – Walking tours of the First Kernstown battlefield at the KBA site off Rte. 11 south of Winchester. 10:30 am and 2 pm. E-mail kba@kernstownbattle.org.

16-17 Aug – Living history and other activities at several locations in Fredericksburg including NPS sites. Call 540-373-6122 or www.nps.gov/frsp.

23 Aug – Driving tour, “Fleetwood Hill” on Brandy Station Battlefield at 10 am. \$10. Call 540-727-7718 or link to www.brandystationfoundation.com.

31 Aug – Lecture, “Cavalry Fights in Fauquier County,” at the Graffiti House on the Brandy Station Battlefield at 2 pm, \$5. Call 540-727-7718, or www.brandystationfoundation.com.

6 Sept – Kids living history program at Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal’s Gap Rd. in Sterling. Reenactors and artifacts featured in “The Civil War soldier’s Life”. \$5 for materials, Children ages 5 and older. Call 571-258-3700.

6-7 Sept – Special anniversary event at the South Mountain State Battlefield near Boonsboro. Tours, living history and demonstrations. Call 301-432-8065.

7 Sept – Artillery and infantry demonstrations at Fort Washington Park near the Washington Beltway. Free with park admission. Call 301- 763-4600 or, www.nps.gov/fowa.

12-14 Sept – Anniversary weekend for the Battle of Antietam. Special ranger programs, hikes, and more. Free with park admission. Call 301-432-5124 or, www.nps.gov/anti.

18-22 Sept – Bike tour, “The Battle of North Valley’s Hills”, a variety of family rides with a focus on the Northern Shenandoah Valley Civil War sites including Fisher’s Hill, New Market, Cedar Creek, and more. Go to www.forba.org.

20-21 Sept – “Anniversary of Freestone Battery” at Leesylvania State Park in Woodbridge. Camps and demonstrations at this important Potomac River Battery. 11 am-4 pm. Free parking. Call 703-583-6904.

26-28 Sept – Grand opening of the new Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center with the restored Cyclorama. Call 717-334-1124, or www.nps.gov/gett.

27 Sept – “Ship’s Company” the life of Civil War Sailors on the USS Constellation in Baltimore Harbor. 10 am-5 pm. Call 410-539-1797, or www.constellation.org.

TOUR FOCUSING ON THE CAMPAIGN LEADING UP TO THE 2ND BATTLE OF MANASSAS

Saturday, August 30th

8:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.

The Prince William County Historic Preservation Division is sponsoring a van tour focusing on the campaign leading up to the Second Battle of Manassas. The tour will detail Confederate General “Stonewall” Jackson’s famous flank march around the Union army in August 1862. This march led to the largest battle in Prince William County and Northern Virginia, resulting in over 18,000 casualties. The tour will visit sites along Jackson’s march such as Jeffersonton, Orlean, Marshall, Thoroughfare Gap, Bristoe Station, Conner House and the Brawner Farm on Manassas National Battlefield Park.

The cost is \$80 per person, which includes transportation, admission to all sites and a boxed lunch. The tour will run from 8:00am – 5:00pm. Space is limited and reservations are required. For more information, please call (703)365-7895 or contact our BRCWRT member Rob Orrison at rorrison@pwcgov.org.

**THE BRCWRT ‘RETREAT FROM
GETTYSBURG’ TOUR HAS BEEN POST-
PONED FROM SEPTEMBER TO
OCTOBER 11. MORE DETAILS WILL
BE PROVIDED AT THE MONTHLY
MEETINGS AND ON OUR WEBSITE
<http://bullrunncwrt.org>**

OX HILL BATTLEFIELD SITE-WORK CONTINUES; PARK BENCHES CAUSE STIR; CORNFIELD GETS SMALLER; DEDICATION ON TARGET FOR SEPTEMBER 1st

By Ed Wenzel

The transformation now underway at the 5-acre Ox Hill Battlefield Park is really something to behold. Members of the Round Table who have visited or toured the site in previous years will be amazed at the battlefield landscape that has reemerged from the long ago past. The removal of some eighty years of tree and brush cover from the two farm fields has created a whole new experience for students of Fairfax County's only major Civil War battle. And the best treat is walking across the undulating topography that rolls across the scene of the Union attack. This is a landscape that was virtually hidden in the tangle of vegetation that covered the southern and western portions of the park. The 79th New York and 28th Massachusetts regiments came directly across this ground at the height of Stevens' assault.

"Permea Pavers" instead. These are permeable paving blocks which allow water to drain between them while providing a more permanent, durable walkway. The color is Mojave Beige. The trail may be a bit much for battlefield purists, but it does look nice, especially around the Kearny and Stevens Monuments. I'm sure others will love it. It's a substantial upgrade over the other material.

The biggest surprise came near the end of July when heavy, stone benches were installed at three rest stops along the trail. The benches are beige-colored stone, seven feet long with decorative backs three feet high. They weigh 1,100 lbs. apiece and seem to have been made for a cemetery or a memorial garden. The decorative features have no association with the Civil War or the Victorian period. Park Authority Project Team Leader, Michael Rierson, defended the benches and extolled their virtues—no maintenance, can't be carried off, and their color matches the paving blocks. His decision is supported by other Park Authority Staff members. One of these benches is right across the trail from the Kearny/Stevens monument enclosure, and its presence there is distracting. The trustees will soon decide the fate of that bench. Simplicity and unobtrusiveness are what we wanted, but these benches call attention to themselves and evoke a different message. Some who have seen them say the theme looks gothic or possibly Indian. One person said they looked like they came from the lobby of the Luxor Hotel. The Park Authority should take another look at these benches and either find something better suited to the Civil War period, or grind off the discordant decorations.



View is northwest across the battlefield. The Union attack came left to right across this ground. Note that the cornfield is out of sight over the crest of the hill. The future Union monument will go on the crest near the silt fence on the left. This field will be planted in pasture grass in the fall. Photo by Jim Lewis

Also nearing completion is the quarter-mile interpretive trail, built to accommodate wheelchairs, that loops around the park past the monuments and wayside markers. The Park Authority originally planned to use "Grasspave" and "Gravelpave" to try to lessen the visual impact of this infrastructure on the historic landscape. However, the material's durability and maintenance became a last minute issue, and they decided to install



Battlefield or hotel lobby? Bench installed in the upper cornfield near the site of the future Confederate monument. Other benches are located in the lower pasture and at the Kearny & Stevens monuments. The style and decorative design of these benches are out of place on a Civil War battlefield. Photo by Jim Lewis

See OX HILL, Page 7

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER STEVAN MESERVE COVERS TRAUMATIC IMPACT OF THE CIVIL WAR ON LOUDOUN COUNTY

By John McAnaw

We are honored to have historian Stevan Meserve as our guest speaker for our 11 September 2008 meeting. He is well known to many members of the BRCWRT. He is currently the President of the Eastern Loudoun County Civil War Round Table, and has spoken to our membership in the past. Additionally, Stevan is a part-time tour guide for the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services. In this position, Stevan leads tour groups to local and regional Civil War battlefields and other historic sites related to that conflict.

Our guest speaker is the author of Civil War articles that have appeared in the following publications: *Civil War Times Illustrated*, *Civil War Magazine*, *The Skirmish Line*, *America's Civil War*, and *The Washington Times*.

Also, Stevan was a contributor to the Library of Congress *Civil War Desk Reference* and a photographic researcher for Time-Life's *The Civil War Images of an American Tragedy*.

In March 2008, Stevan's book on the Civil War in Loudoun County was published. Copies of this book, the subject of his presentation, will be available for purchase and autographing at our 11 September meeting. Also, in late 2008, a book edited by Stevan will be published. It is titled *In the Shadow of the Enemy: The Civil War Journal of Ida Powell Dulany of Oakley*.

Mark your calendar on 11 September 2008 and join us for a thoroughly informative account of the impact of the Civil War on Loudoun County.



OX HILL [Continued from Page 6]

Another surprise from the Park Authority was the color combination selected for the kiosk. Earth-tone colors were expected to help the kiosk blend more with the landscape, but the park staff chose blue and gray instead—blue for the roof structure and gray for the support columns. The staff maintains that the earth-toned, rustic finishes used by the National Park Service are “out of favor” and “dull”, and that visitors will associate the blue and gray colors with the Civil War. The park entrance sign on West Ox Road will be blue and gray to match.

Also not anticipated is the further diminishing of the small, surviving piece of the Reid cornfield. This came about because of a 10 to 15-foot increase in the width of the park's wooded buffers. The buffer widths were changed because a conditional waiver made them subject to a field decision by the county arborist. The arborist, after looking at the proximity of the adjacent condominiums, mandated that the buffers be increased from 35 feet to 45-50 feet. This took extra footage from along the cornfield's west side, making the interpreted area smaller and narrower. So the tiny section of cornfield that survived the condo construction twenty two years ago, has now, in effect, been diminished even further by that very same development.

There were also other issues attended to since the last newsletter—such as reviewing full-scale interpretive marker proofs sent by the fabricator; being on site with the surveyors as they staked the alignment for the cornfield fence; and mailing historical accounts and maps to Steve Stanley, the Civil War Preservation Trust's map maker. Steve is preparing an animated map of the Ox Hill battle for the trust's website. Also, Judy Pedersen, the Park Authority's Public Information Officer, is planning the September 1st (Labor Day) dedication. Ms. Pedersen's tentative plans envision a Civil War band to begin playing around 9:00 AM as people start to gather. At 10:00 AM, color guards and reenactment units would march into the park, followed by the official dedication. After a break for refreshments, infantry and artillery drills would begin around noon, with perhaps a surgical/medical demonstration, all of which would continue throughout the afternoon. These plans may change depending on which reenactment units the Park Authority is able to enlist. Many desirable units are already committed to other events and the time for planning is short.

So, if you are free this Labor Day and would like to witness the long awaited, official opening of the Ox Hill Battlefield Park, do come out and be a part of history. At long last, the people of Fairfax will finally be able to walk the historic ground and learn what happened on that stormy day in 1862. I think you'll like what you see.



JOIN US AT THE REDROCK CANYON GRILL

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.

We are currently meeting at 5:15 p.m. just across Lee Highway from the library. **Space is limited so RSVP** to Dale Maschino at smasch1@verizon.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 out quickly.

THE BOOK CORNER



By Ralph Swanson

It is unfortunate that few anthologies of critical essays compete for space on our Civil War history bookshelves. (They are too easily crowded out by the biographies and battle histories.) Luckily, the best volume of such analyses is still readily available. *Essays on the Civil War and Reconstruction*, edited by Irwin Unger (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc.) is a selection of research papers, many by our most important historians, that analyze key issues from the pre-war era through Reconstruction. This is not a complete history of the war, but a critical analysis of social pressures festering and building in our nation from about 1840 through Reconstruction (1870's). This is the thinking-persons Civil War history.

These papers represent the hard work of research, critical analysis and writing that these powerhouse historians do to earn their keep at our major universities. Virtually all were previously published in peer-reviewed journals of history, and have been selected by the editor for their scholarship and their contribution to his overall theme. We need to invest some of our reading time here to enlighten ourselves on the issues—social, political and military—that so shaped our nation in those years. More than any standard history, these essays will help you understand the political and social atmosphere in mid-19th century America. The efforts of our national leaders to preserve the union, as well as their tragic failures, are thoroughly dissected in these chapters. Forces larger than any one person, or any one political party, overwhelmed our society and swept us into war.

There are themes here that may be lingering in your own mind--the true influence of northern abolitionists on pre-war hysteria; the contrasting role of southern firebrand secessionists; the economic realities of slavery in the south. For those interested in widening their studies from the war itself into the tumult of the Reconstruction years, this book is a great start.

The volume opens with a powerful and enlightening essay by Arthur Bestor, "The American Civil War as a Constitutional Crisis" that should be required reading by every student of the war. Three particularly important papers deal with the Compromise of 1850, the Fugitive Slave Law (included in that 1850 legislation) and the Kansas Nebraska Act of 1854. These papers take a very large step beyond our standard histories and will deepen our understanding of these key preludes to war.

Allan Nevins summarizes the theme he expands in his multi-volume *War for the Union*, that has been lauded previously in this column. He argues that, in less than four years, the North organized every aspect of its industry, people and society on a scale that simply overwhelmed the South. These innovations in management,

production and distribution launched the industrial revolution that powered the United States to world leadership.

There is the inevitable paper on the causes of the war. Eminent historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. demolishes revisionist historians James Randal and Avery Craven who have written that war was brought on by "irresponsible emotionalization of politics" and not "cultural variations nor by economic rivalries nor by sectional differences," i.e., slavery. (No, people, it was slavery.) Schlesinger's paper will make you the acknowledged expert on this issue at your next cocktail party.

As students of the war, we seek to separate the truths from the lies, the myths from the realities. *Essays on the Civil War and Reconstruction* is an important resource for that study. New questions and perspectives are constantly being generated by thoughtful historical research, even 143 years after the war. New information needs to be combined with old to increase our understanding and appreciation of the past. That is how we best honor those who struggled and suffered for both sides in our Civil War.

Until next time, keep reading.



August 2, BRCWRT members, friends and host/tour guide, David Blake, pose in the shade at beautiful Buckland Hall following David's informative presentation and our brown-bag lunch on the veranda. All were pleasantly surprised with music by member, John De Pue, played on David Blake's Steinway piano.

See the October issue of the *Stone Wall* for the After Action Report.

Photo by Yvonne Knowles.

**IN MEMORIAM:
Deborah Fitts
1945-2008**



Deborah Fitts at Kearny monument, Ox Hill/Chantilly battlefield, November 1991. Photo by Ed Wenzel

By Ed Wenzel

Members of the BRCWRT and subscribers to the Civil War News were saddened to learn of the death of Deborah Fitts, the paper's distinguished reporter and assistant editor, who succumbed to cancer July 17th after a long battle. Ms. Fitts was the wife of Civil War historian Clark B. (Bud) Hall who has lectured the Round Table on the Brandy Station battle and led us on many tours of the field.

The writer first met Ms. Fitts in 1991 when the paper asked her to do a story on the Ox Hill/Chantilly battlefield. Ms. Fitts, a native of Connecticut, was passionate about historic preservation and Civil War history. Her article documented the struggle to save a tiny piece of Ox Hill and helped to spread the news that the battlefield was not entirely erased.

Ms. Fitts was a prolific writer and often had as many as 10 or 12 stories on Civil War topics or preser-

vation in the same issue. For a time in the 1990s she was also Communications Director for the Civil War Trust, an antecedent organization of today's Civil War Preservation Trust. In 1994 she wrote in-depth articles on Disney's America, the giant history theme-park planned just west of Manassas NBP. Disney threatened Virginia's entire northern piedmont and the Mosby Heritage Area with sprawling development, as well as artificial and sanitized versions of history. But Disney was no match for Deborah's pen.

Deborah's solid reporting and insightful writing was always fair, always thorough, and never biased. That was her hallmark. The BRCWRT and the Civil War community have lost a great reporter, and a real champion in the battle to protect our Civil War heritage. We mourn you Deborah, and we thank you for all you gave to the cause of American history. Our sympathy and condolences go to her family, and to her devoted husband. Memorial Donations may be made to The Nature Conservancy, 4245 N. Fairfax Dr. Arlington, VA 22203.



Deborah on Buford's Knoll, Brandy Station Battlefield on June 7, 2008. Photo by Mike Block

**Our sympathy and
condolences go to her family,
and to her devoted husband,
Clark B. (Bud) Hall.**

AFTER ACTION REPORT BLOOD ON THE RAILS: Tour of Kettle Run and Bristoe Station

by Patrick E McGinty

Saturday, July 12th, 2008 was a beautiful, sunny day in Prince William County, Virginia. The sky was a Columbia blue, and both the humidity and temperature were bearable---if not exactly comfortable. Twenty-four members of the Bull Run Civil War Roundtable (BRCWRT) assembled at the parking lot at the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park at 8:30am for a tour of the battlefield and its immediate surroundings. The tour guide was Mike Miller, archivist for the US Marine Corps at Quantico, Virginia. Mr. Miller is an acknowledged expert on many military topics, including the hostilities at Bristoe Station. Group interest in the topic was extremely high inasmuch as Mr. Miller had been the guest speaker of the BRCWRT the previous Thursday and had stimulated interest in the topic with a very interesting lecture that included numerous contemporary maps

After a muster of attendees was taken and final instructions concerning the use of insect repellants, the need to stay hydrated, etc. were given by President John McAnaw, the group walked a short distance up a hill from the parking lot to the site of the Rollins House (once a private residence, now the property of Prince William County). The view from the yard of the Rollins House affords a panoramic view of the battlefield with the key geographic points we were to visit: the village of Bristoe, the Norfolk-Southern Railroad tracks, and the vegetation concealing Broad Run and Kettle Run. Using the Socratic method of teaching Mr. Miller gave the group a general orientation of the area and noted that he would be emphasizing throughout the day the importance of knowing where we were relative to the key geographic points as well as understanding the importance of terrain and its impact on military operations, both large and small. The group then reassembled at the parking lot and proceeded by car to the village of Bristoe.

Leaving the cars at Bristoe, the group walked a short distance to the railroad tracks where Mr. Miller related the story that gave the name to the field trip: "Blood on the Rails" It seems that during the Second Manassas Campaign the Yankees had the misfortune of having their railroad supply line (then a single track and known during the Civil War period as the Orange and Alexandria Railroad) cut by Confederates and owing to the fog of war were unaware of this problem. The Confederates knew that the Federal supply trains, now emptied in Alexandria, would be coming back through Bristoe en route to the other end of their supply line. Even more to their advantage: the Confederates judged that the trains would be returning with several minutes between them---a time interval that would allow the Rebels to inflict uninterrupted serious

damage. Upon hearing the approach of the first train, the Confederates threw the switch at Bristoe so that the approaching train would be sidetracked onto a short siding. The siding was on a grade, and the train was moving at approximately fifty miles an hour. The laws of physics applied then as now, and the cars of the train accorded as expected. Wasting no time, the Confederates smashed out the red taillights on the very rear car, thus precluding any warning to the next train coming down the track, and history repeated itself. To quote a phrase, "the third time's a charm". The Federals caught on, and the Rebels' fun came to a halt.

The group then traveled by car to highway bridges straddling both Broad Run and Kettle Run. Disembarking from the cars, the group walked the banks of Kettle Run and once again gained an appreciation for the importance of terrain in military operations. The group then traveled by car to an area that was the scene of some of the most intense fighting during the Battle of First Bristoe Station/ Kettle Run (August 27, 1862). Parking the cars along the road, the group walked across what at first appeared to be a somewhat level field with waist-high vegetation. The field ---approximately two hundred yards wide and five hundred yards long---was the location of a skirmish between some Louisiana elements of Ewell's Division versus elements of Hooker's Division and our ambling both across and down the field proved once again that terrain can make all the difference in the outcome of a battle. The Confederates were able to take advantage of another aspect of military geography: cover and concealment. Several companies of Federal forces proceeded down the uneven terrain of the field against some Louisiana infantry troops who had capitalized on the cover provided by a shallow creek bed and concealment provided by the surrounding vegetation. The Union troops had neither cover nor concealment and paid a huge price in blood. Although not considered a large operation, the action at First Bristoe resulted in a Confederate victory in August of 1862 and was significant inasmuch as it provided additional time for Stonewall Jackson at Manassas to gather his forces in preparation for future hostilities.

The group then walked back to the cars and proceeded independently to any one of several nearby restaurants for lunch. The cold drinks and air conditioning were especially welcomed as the heat and humidity continued to rise.

The afternoon tour addressed the military operations during the period October 9-20, 1863, with particular emphasis to those occurring on October 14th, and known as the Second Battle of Bristoe Station. These actions occurred over essentially the same ground, but with a decidedly different outcome. Like the morning tour, the afternoon tour began with a short walk from the parking lot up to the Rollins House, again for a panoramic view of the area. After a brief reading of some highlights from the *Army Official Records*, the group

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followed rather closely the attack line of two North Carolina Brigades (Kirkland's Brigade and Cooke's Brigade) both of which were part of A.P. Hill's Third Corps. Prior to leaving the vicinity of the Rollins house each member was given a copy of the map: Bristoe Station Walking Trails, which is published by the Civil War Preservation Trust. The map illustrates many of the points of interest pertinent to the Battle of Second Bristoe. Mike Miller once again demonstrated his in-depth knowledge of the military actions that occurred on this hallowed ground and pointed out not only the skirmish points, but also such human-interest items as the Confederate cemeteries. Unlike First Bristoe, this time it was the Confederates who had to proceed in the open field against a well-protected enemy. (The Federals enjoyed the cover provided by a railroad bed). A contributing factor in the Yankees' success was A.P. Hill's failure to reconnoiter the Federal positions. Moreover, this time the Federal forces had artillery support, a valuable asset they lacked during the first battle. Conversely, Confederate personnel losses were very heavy, and they also suffered the loss of some invaluable supplies and equipment including five artillery pieces. It was here that Robert E. Lee, disappointed with the performance of A.P. Hill during this battle, was quoted as saying to General Hill: "Well, well General, bury these poor men and let us say no more about it." The tour concluded approximately at 2:30 P.M., and the members of the group returned to their vehicles having once again capitalized on one of the many benefits afforded to Civil War enthusiasts living in or near the national capital area.

On a personal note, as the afternoon wore on and both the temperature and humidity rose, I couldn't help empathizing with the plight of those brave men who fought on these grounds in bygone years. The previous Sunday I had donned my heavy wool re-enactor's uniform, grabbed my ten-pound Springfield rifle and accoutrements, marched approximately a mile in similar weather conditions, and charged "The Wall" at Gettysburg as a private in the Army of Northern Virginia, Company "D", 28th Virginia Voluntary Infantry Regiment. Less than six hours after having gallantly "died" on the field of battle, I had showered, changed into clean clothes, and was enjoying the pleasures afforded by a hot meal and cool drinks in the comforts of my own home. How did these people, suffering from hunger and thirst, bitten by insects and covered by wood ticks, find the strength to carry on in battle against opposing fire? They were truly remarkable men.

Tour participants included: Nancy Anwyll, Charlie Balch, Mike Block, David Born, Effie Bumbaca, Dom Bumbaca, Ron Colan, Sandra Cox, Howard Ewing, Silvia Holy, Jerry Holy, Ken Jones, Victoria Kennedy, Dale Maschino, John McAnaw, Brian McEnany, Patrick McGinty, Jim Meagher, Mike Miller, Randy Moller, Rose Nelson, Rob Orrison, John Pearson, Bud Porter, Patrick Quinn and Jeff Russell.

CIVIL WAR TRAVELS **WITH MS. REBELLE** **Fort Vancouver, Washington**

By Janet Greentree

Ms. Rebelle went off to the Pacific Northwest the first week of June and managed to find some Civil War related sites to share with you. My youngest daughter, Melanie, lives in Portland, OR so in addition to a road trip around the state, she took me to Fort Vancouver in Vancouver, Washington to see Officers Row and the Fort.

Fort Vancouver was part of the Hudson Bay Company if you can believe that. It was also known as Columbia Barracks, Fort Vancouver, or Vancouver Barracks. Dr. John McLoughlin was sent to find a location for the fort around 1825. He was the Fort's first manager and would later be called the "Father of Oregon." The site he selected was close to the Willamette River (pronounced Will-LAM-ette), where the land was flat, and there was access to the Columbia River. In 1849 the U.S. Army established a post just north of the Fort, and it was the first military post in the Pacific Northwest. It was used for trading, so no money changed hands. The Fort was named for Captain George Vancouver and is located on the northern bank of the Columbia River. In its heyday, it housed over 600 people from 30 Indian tribes to Hawaiians, French-Canadians, English, and the Scots. It became the Vancouver National Monument in June, 1948. The stockade was reconstructed as well as several buildings. Some knowledgeable docents tell the history of the Fort for visitors.

In 1879 the name of the post was changed to Vancouver Barracks and is still known as that today. It still houses some of the U.S. Army. We saw the barracks and parade field. Pearson Airfield is located there as well and is one of the oldest operating airfields in the U.S.

There are three houses on Officers Row of interest. World War II General George C. Marshall occupied one of them. The other two houses were the homes of Generals U.S. Grant and O.O. Howard. Grant didn't actually live in the house but he did live in a log cabin on the same site, and it is incorporated in the present day house. The houses are magnificent old structures. General O.O. Howard's house was named for him as the home's first inhabitant. Grant was stationed at the Fort in the 1850s as a Quartermaster. He spent 15 months as the regimental Quartermaster of the post. His house was called the Quartermaster's Ranch and was a large two-story home with a porch on three sides and high ceilings. The house was made in New England and shipped around Cape Horn in sections. When he returned to the Fort in 1879, after his Presidency, the pre

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sent day house was built in his honor. His house is the oldest building remaining on Officer's Row. For a time it was the Officers Club but now it is a restaurant. A nice young man gave us a tour and showed us Grant's desk upstairs. Ms. Rebelle got to sit at his desk.



Grant was sent there in 1852 with the 4th Infantry Regiment when he was a 30-year old Brevet Captain. In addition to his duties as Quartermaster, he found time to try to go into business for himself on the side. He and his fellow officers tried several things, but like most of Grant's business ventures, they didn't pan out. He tried cutting up the ice on the Columbia River and shipping it to San Francisco but it melted enroute. He tried to send cattle and pigs to San Francisco but that too failed. One of the docents told us about his stab at a potato garden. He tried very hard to grow potatoes but didn't succeed in that venture either. The Columbia River flooded his garden and his potatoes rotted. He did start growing his beard at the Fort. Grant missed his family terribly, and his time at the Fort was the start of his drinking to compensate for not being with his beloved wife Julia and the children. He did have one "first" to his credit. Grant, and future General Rufus Ingalls, were the first people to walk across the frozen Columbia River in January, 1853.

The first thing I do when going to a new place is research to see who of interest is buried there. I came across two of the 16th New York Cavalry who captured John Wilkes Booth and Davy Herold at the Garrett Barn in Port Royal, Virginia. I imagine the large sum of money (\$1,683.70) both of them received made the trip across the country to the Pacific Northwest easier to accomplish. They are not buried in the same cemetery but both are in Portland. It's just fascinating to me that both of them ended up there. It makes you wonder if they knew each other were there.

Private John W. Millington, Company H, 16th New York Cavalry is buried in the Grand Army of the Potomac Cemetery. He was born on February 27, 1843 in New York and died on November 11, 1914. He enlisted in Plattsburg, New York as a private. He was one of the two men who carried John Wilkes Booth out of the burning Garrett barn. His stone, as are many others in the

cemetery, is flat to the ground. It was a little difficult to find but one of my 'findagrave' friends met us there and showed us the spot.

Private Emory Parady, also in Company H, 16th New York Cavalry, is buried in Lincoln Memorial Park. This cemetery is huge and on many, many acres of land. I had a map but the sections weren't clearly marked so a stop at the office was a must. A nice gentleman led the way to the Columbine Section where Parady is buried. His tombstone reads in part: "Member of the 16th New York Cavalry, One of Twenty-Six Enlisted Men Who Captured John Wilkes Booth, the Assassin of President Abraham Lincoln." Parady was born in New York in 1844 and died on March 14, 1924 in Portland. Private Parady interviewed Davy Herold when he surrendered at the Garrett Barn. He was a shoemaker after the war.



This one is for our Ed Wenzel. Fort Stevens guarded the mouth of the Columbia River, and is named for our General Isaac Stevens, who was killed at the Battle of Ox Hill or Chantilly. The Fort is located in Warrenton, Oregon. This was my second venture there. General Stevens was named the first Governor of the Washington Territory in March, 1853. Fort Stevens was open for 84 years from the beginning of the Civil War to the end of World War II. The museum at the park has a collection of Civil War items. The only Civil War enclosed earthworks on the West Coast are located at the site as well as gun batteries. There is a magnificent shipwreck on the beach, the Peter Iredale, which my daughter and I love to photograph.

So, there are Civil War adventures outside of our Virginia. You just have to look for them. I must say that Oregon is a most diverse and beautiful state. It's pretty much only populated in the western third of the state. There aren't many towns or roads in the eastern part of the state. We drove down to Crater Lake where there was snow (that was the week it was 97 degrees here) on the ground and so much fog that we never saw the lake. We saw the Painted Hills, the Columbia River Gorge, lots of waterfalls, Mount Hood (snow there too), many mountains, prairies, beaches, and at least a million pine trees. At one point the terrain was absolutely flat, and you could see 360 degrees to the horizon. My daughter and I had quite an adventure together.

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www.longstreet.org.

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Sponsored by the Stuart - Mosby Historical Society

Tour Leaders will be

**Don Hakenson & Gregg Dudding (with
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We will be leaving the Truro Rectory at 8:30 and will be visiting various sites in Warrenton, Marshall, the Caleb Rector House, Miskell's Farm & Herndon and more (arriving back around 5-5:30).

\$40 members of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society

\$50 for non-members

To sign up for the tour contact

**Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984 or email him
at dhakenson@cox.net**

or contact

Gregg Dudding at wdudding@cox.net

INTERESTED IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION?

BRCWRT member, Tim Duskin, is as interested in the American Revolution as he is in the Civil War. In fact, for the past three years he has served as President of the American Revolution Round Table of the District of Columbia. The group currently meets at the Officer's Club at Fort Myer, on the first Wednesday of the months of September through spring. In addition to the American Revolution, the entire period from the French and Indian War to the War of 1812 is being covered.

For further information check out the ARRT website at
http://xenophongroup.com/patriot/arrt/arrt_web.htm



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