



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XVI, Issue 5—June/July, 2009

## MEET OUR JUNE SPEAKER MARC LEEPSON

By Nancy Anwyll

Marc Leepson is a journalist, author, and historian whose most recent work is *Desperate Engagement*, a history of the July 9, 1864, Civil War Battle of Monocacy, which is often called the battle that saved Washington, D.C. This battle near Frederick, Maryland was between 12,000 battle-hardened Confederate troops led by General Jubal Early and 5,800 troops, many of them untested in battle, under the leadership of Gen. Lew Wallace, who is best known as the author of *Ben Hur*. Despite Wallace losing 1,200 Union troops at Monocacy compared to Early losing 800 casualties, the delay in Early's march to D.C. caused by the battle of Monocacy allowed President Lincoln and the military leaders of Washington, D.C. time to rush troops from the Petersburg area to fill the forts and entrenchments along the northern edge of the city.

Marc Leepson graduated from George Washington University in 1967. After serving in the U. S. Army from 1967 – 69, including a year in the Vietnam during the war, he received his honorable discharge and went on to earn a masters Degree in history from George Washington University in 1971. He was a staff writer for *Congressional Quarterly* and has been a free-lance writer since 1986. For the past 23 years, he has been arts editor and columnist for the *VVA Veteran*, the newspaper published by Vietnam Veterans of America. He currently teaches U.S. history at Lord Fairfax Community College in Warrenton.

In addition to writing *Desperate Engagement* (Thomas Dunne Books/St. Martin's Press, 2007), he has written *Flag: An American Biography* (Thomas Dunne Books, 2005) and *Saving Monticello: The Levy Family's Epic Quest to Rescue the House that Jefferson Built* (Free Press/Simon & Shuster, 2001). He has written for many newspapers and magazines, such as the May 2009 edition of *America's Civil War* in which he wrote the feature article on "Capital Defense, 68 Forts: Why the Confederates Never Could Have Taken Washington." He has been interviewed many times on radio and television, including *The Today Show*, *CNN*, *Fox News*, and *All things Considered*. He has presented papers and chaired panels at academic conferences at such institutions as the University of Notre Dame, College of William and Mary, and the University of Massachusetts. He has given presentations on Vietnam War films to students at American University, Georgetown University, the University of Maryland, as well as others. His speaking engagements about the Monocacy battle have included several Civil War round tables and an appearance on C-SPAN Books TV.

Praise for *Desperate Engagement* comes from Jay Stafford of the *Richmond Times Dispatch* who calls the book "enlightening and engaging" and Jonathan Yardley of the *Washington Post* who wrote that "*Desperate Engagement* will be of interest to Civil War buffs and to many other readers as well." *Publishers Weekly* wrote that "Leepson lucidly narrates the campaign, a hard-fought dramatic episode that he brings vividly to life." Kristopher White, a Fredericksburg historian, wrote that "you will walk away with a better understanding of why and where these events took place."

Please join us at the June general membership meeting to hear a writer who has much to tell us about the Battle of Monocacy and the defense of Washington, D.C. in July, 1864.

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**JUNE 11, 2009**

**7:00 P.M.**

**Centreville Library**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Marc Leepson**

**TOPIC:**

**Desperate Engagement:  
Battle of Monocacy**

## BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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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 each month at the

**Centreville Regional Library**  
14200 St. Germain Drive  
Centreville, VA 20121-2255  
703.830.2223

For specific meeting dates and information,  
please visit the web site:

<http://www.bullruncwrt.org>

### SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009 Issue

E-mail Articles By 9:00 A.M. Thurs., July 30  
to Sandra Cox at [scox@capitalav.com](mailto: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 software.

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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

**JULY 9**

**SPEAKER:**

**Doug Wicklund**

**TOPIC:**

**Sharpshooters During the Civil War:  
Their Weapons and Accoutrements**

**AUGUST 13**

**SPEAKER:**

**Larry Gordon**

**TOPIC:**

**Last Confederate General:  
John C. Vaughn and His  
East Tennessee Cavalry**

**SEPTEMBER 10**

**SPEAKER:**

**Michael Kauffman**

**TOPIC:**

**American Brutus and the Lincoln  
Conspiracies**

[Note: Speakers are subject to change.]



## The President's Column

### By Nancy Anwyll

Thanks to everyone who attended the May general membership meeting. John Hennessy, author of the classic *Return to Bull Run* and now the chief historian at Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania NMP, addressed a full house of 112 people. His talk evolved into a question and answer format that kept our audience interested and ready to hear more. Hennessy concentrated on why the Battle of Second Manassas mattered, included several aspects of why the battle happened, and discussed the leadership abilities of several officers involved, such as General John Pope and General James Longstreet.



**It was great to have John Hennessy back with us again!**

Photo by Janet Greentree

Hennessy later told me that addressing our group "was great fun—a program unlike any I had ever done, and I doubt I could have done in front of any other audience."

Before the start of the meeting, everyone enjoyed cake, cookies, and soda, as we celebrated the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the round table. Thanks to Deanna Bailey and Sandy Isasiello for their work in setting up and serving refreshments and also thanks to the Executive Committee for providing the beverages.



**Thanks Sandy and Deanna!**

Photo by Janet Greentree

We were happy to honor all past presidents in attendance, including Dan Paterson, Keith Young, and John McAnaw. We were happy to see some members who hadn't been able to attend our meetings in a long time, such as Mary Ahrens, Karen Fojt, and Ann Collins,

all past members of the Executive Committee.

The tour of Second Manassas on May 16 that was led by our own Kevin Anastas was a huge success with 46 people in attendance. You can read more about the tour elsewhere in the newsletter. We are planning one or more tours for the summer with the help of members. The latest information on these tours is provided elsewhere in the newsletter.

Two of our members have been appointed by Fairfax County officials to help the county to recognize the sesquicentennial remembrance of the Civil War. Currently John McAnaw and Ed Wenzel are working with a panel to compile a list of Civil War historical events and sites within Fairfax County. They will have more information for us later. Two new members are also serving on the panel, Don Hakenson, Mosby expert, author and tour guide, and Paul Herbert, Historical Society of Fairfax County. So with Don and Paul, all four members of the subcommittee are now BRCWRT members.

I want to thank Mark Trbovich and Rob Orrison for distributing at the general membership meeting a copy of a large foldout flyer that they helped to develop. The flyer lists historical sites and events in Prince William County. Likewise, I'd like to recognize the work of Mike Block who keeps us updated on developments at the Graffiti House at Brandy Station as well as events in Fauquier County.

We will be learning a new routine as we use the library as an after-hours activity beginning in July and in the following months. This will require us to enter and leave the library by the far left side door in the front of the building because the main library entrance will be locked at 6:00 p.m. With your assistance, I know we will have no problems. I hope to see you at the next meeting!

### BRCWRT PAST PRESIDENT DIES

By Nancy Anwyll

The round table was saddened to hear belatedly of the death of Armando Mancini, the second president of the round table who served from 1992 to 1993. Armando passed away in November 2007 at Fairfax Hospital from a short bout with cancer. He was instrumental in organizing the round table, provided leadership when it was most needed, and worked in many supportive roles after his year as president.

Dr. Mancini served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a graduate of West Virginia University, American University, and Georgetown University. He was a scientist with the U.S. Government and was a long standing senior executive for the Defense Mapping Agency, retiring in 1982.

Armando's son, Larry, informed the current president of the round table, Nancy Anwyll, of his father's death. Larry said "his interest in the Civil War and the joy he got from it was a big part of his life after retirement. We are grateful he had the opportunity."

## MEET JULY SPEAKER DOUG WICKLUND

By Nancy Anwyll

The speaker for the general membership meeting of the BRCWRT on July 9, 2009, will be Doug Wicklund, one of the nation's top firearms experts and the senior curator of the National Firearms Museum in Fairfax, Virginia. Doug is responsible for the National Rifle Association's nearly 5,000-piece collection of extremely valuable weapons that represent various eras of our American history.

Doug has worked with the National Firearms Museum for over 22 years now, helping the museum to grow since it was first established in Washington, D.C. and then transferring with the museum when it relocated to its new site on Waples Mill Road in 1998. Doug's main job is to interpret and maintain the NRA's extensive collection, which is now the third largest display of firearms in the country and gets about 30,000 visitors each year. His work as curator requires that he research weapons, travel throughout the country to evaluate firearms at area gun shows, and speak about the history of weapons to various community groups.

Doug Wicklund grew up in a military family that traveled throughout the Orient and Pacific. His interest in weapons derived from his childhood visits to battlefields and from his learning American history not only from his schoolteachers but also from his parents and grandparents. When his father was stationed in Okinawa for five years, Doug walked the World War II battlefield on the island. Like three generations before him, Doug became a lifetime member of the NRA.

Besides working as an intern for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., Doug worked as a museum technician with the National Park Service where he worked with noted arms collections, selecting significant pieces that would go to historic sites, like the Manassas National Battlefield in Virginia or the Springfield Armory in Massachusetts.

Doug was one of the primary commentators for the *Guns of the Civil War* video series and was featured, along with Ed Bearss, on the History Channel's *Tales of the Gun*.

Doug is an avid collector and conservator of weapons. He often travels to search for new acquisitions, but he also searches for artifacts, such as diaries, that help to explain the history of a particular piece. His work is evident in the displays at the museum, which are extensive and interesting to all ages. For our meeting on May 9, Doug will speak about the weapons from the Civil War, and he hopes to show several examples. Please join us in learning about the Civil War from the perspective of a weapons expert.

**DON'T FORGET! In July we enter the far left side door in the front of the building as the library closes at 6:00 p.m.**

## BRCWRT TOUR JUNE 20, 2009

### **AFTER THE BATTLE OF MONOCACY JULY 11 & 12, 1864**

### **Fort Reno, Fort DeRussy, Fort Stevens, Battleground Cemetery, Blair Mansion, & Rockville**

**DATE:** June 20, 2009,

**ASSEMBLY LOCATION/TIME:** Centreville Library parking Lot at 7:45 a.m. Depart 8:00 a.m.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Car pool.

**TOUR LEADERS:** Ranger Ron Harvey Jr., and Nancy Anwyll

**TOUR DESCRIPTION:** Join us on a tour in Northwest D.C. of Fort Reno, Fort DeRussy and Fort Stevens, which were important in repelling Confederate Gen. Jubal Early's attack on July 11 and July 12, 1864. NPS Ranger, Ron Harvey, Jr., winner of the NPS 2007 Regional Freeman Tilden award and an expert on these sites, will meet us at the Rock Creek Nature Center (located at Military Rd. and Glover Rd in Northwest DC), guide us to the forts and explain their construction and their action during the Civil War.

After lunch, we'll drive to the site of Gen. Jubal Early's headquarters, the home of Francis Preston Blair in Silver Spring. We'll then follow Gen. Jubal Early as he retraced his route from Silver Spring back to Rockville, Maryland on July 12, 1864. At Rockville, we'll learn of the cavalry battle between Early's rear guard and the Union cavalry before the Confederate Army escaped across the Potomac River. The tour will end in Rockville about 3:00 p.m.

**EXERTION:** Wear walking shoes and bring water, insect repellent, snacks, etc. We'll eat fast food along Elsworth Street and Georgia Ave. in Silver Spring.

**SIGN UP:** At the general membership meeting on June 11 or on the web site.

If you have questions about the tour, call Nancy Anwyll, (703) 866-2230 or [njanwyll@verizon.net](mailto:njanwyll@verizon.net)



## 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](mailto:smasch1@verizon.net)*

**6 Jun** – Manassas Railway Festival in downtown Manassas. Special \$1 admission to Manassas Museum. Call 703-368-1873 or [www.manassasmuseum.org](http://www.manassasmuseum.org).

**6 Jun** – Living history and open house at the Stonewall Jackson headquarters in Winchester commemorating Confederate Memorial Day. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Memorial at Mt. Hebron Cemetery at 7 p.m. Free. Call 540-662-6550 or link to [www.winchesterhistory.org](http://www.winchesterhistory.org).

**6-7 Jun** – Living history and tour, "Cannoneers to Your Posts". Artillery demonstrations all weekend. Auto tour of the Monocacy National Battlefield on Sunday at 1 p.m. Free. Call 301-662-3515 or [www.nps.gov/mono](http://www.nps.gov/mono).

**7 Jun** – Walking tour; two-hour, two-mile hike covering John Brown's Raid at the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. 11 a.m. Free with park admission. Call 304-535-6029, or [www.nps.gov/hafe](http://www.nps.gov/hafe).

**13 Jun** – "Civil War Canoe Float Trip" on the Rappahannock River near Fredericksburg, led by an NPS historian. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$30 per person. Registration required. Call 540-373-3448, or [www.riverfriends.org](http://www.riverfriends.org).

**14 Jun** – Lecture, "Second Battle at Bristoe Station," at the American Legion, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. \$5. 7 p.m. email [stringfellowbuva@worldnet.att.net](mailto:stringfellowbuva@worldnet.att.net).

**20-21 Jun** – Living history, "The Struggle for Fox's Gap," on the South Mountain Battlefield near Middletown, MD. Free. Call 301-432-8065.

**26 Jun** – Walking tour of Chancellorsville battlefield at sunset. Begins at stop No. 8. Free. 7 p.m. Call 540-373-6122 or link to [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp).

**3-5 Jul** – Authors, historians and NPS rangers present perspectives on the Battle of Gettysburg at the national park visitor center. Call 717-338-1243 or [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org).

**11 Jul** – "The Civil War Comes to Morven Park," in Leesburg, VA. Civilian and military camps and demonstrations. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$7/adult includes house tours. Call 703-777-6034 or [www.morvenpark.org](http://www.morvenpark.org).

**18-19 Jul** – Summer Open House at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton, MD. Free. Noon-4 p.m. Call 301-868-1121 or [www.surratt.org](http://www.surratt.org).

**18-19 Jul** – Anniversary activities (First Manassas) at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Special Ranger tours, living history camps and demonstrations. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. Free with park admission. Call 703-361-1339, or [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).

**31 Jul** – Walking tour, "War Comes to the Wilderness and the Chewing Family" part of the Fredericksburg NPS History at Sunset Series. Begins at Stop 5 on the Wilderness Battlefield. 7 p.m. Free. Call 540-3736122 or [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp).

### BRANDY STATION FOUNDATION TOURS

**JUNE 13** Kelly's Ford and Stevensburg - Tour begins with a discussion of the Union river-crossing at Kelly's Ford, and then follows the route of march of the Union cavalry division commanded by Colonel Alfred Napoleon Duffie, a deserter from the French army, to Stevensburg. The fighting at Stevensburg, a neglected aspect of the Battle of Brandy Station, is presented in detail. This tour concludes with a description of the mortal wounding of Captain William Farley, JEB Stuart's volunteer aide de camp.

**JUNE 27** Fleetwood Hill - Tour focuses on the fighting for Fleetwood Hill, the most intense and prolonged combat on June 9, 1863. At one point 12 regiments - 6 Union and 6 Confederate - struggled for control of the hilltop. Unlike most Civil War battles, the troopers fought from the saddle, mostly with sabers. One frustrated Rebel was heard to shout at his Yankee opponent, "Why don't you Yankees put away your sabers, draw your pistols, and fight like gentlemen!"

**JULY 11** Buford Knoll & Yew Ridge - Tour presents the fighting that took place later in the afternoon of June 9 between General Buford and General W.H.F. "Rooney" Lee's brigade. During the fighting, Rooney Lee, Robert E. Lee's second son, was shot in the thigh and carried from the field. Colonel Solomon Williams of 1st North Carolina Cavalry, commanding his regiment in battle for the first time, was shot in the head and killed. He had been married just two weeks earlier.

**JULY 25** Beverly Ford and St. James Church - Tour covers the early morning fighting between troops under the command of Union General John Buford and those commanded by his West Point classmate, Confederate General William E. "Grumble" Jones. Incidents examined include the death of Union Colonel Benjamin Franklin Davis in a one-on-one encounter with a Confederate lieutenant on the Beverly Ford Road, and the charge of the 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry (better known as "Rush's Lancers") against Confederate artillery at Saint James Church.

For additional information, see [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com) or call 540.547.4106

## AFTER ACTION REPORT: SECOND MANASSAS 16 May 2009



**Tour group in front of the Brawner farmhouse**  
Photo by Ken Jones

The weather was questionable when we started but the sprinkles soon stopped, and by the end of the tour the sun was shining. John Pearson took on the quartermaster role by provisioning the group with several boxes of fresh donuts. Morale was high as we crossed the line of departure.

A total of forty-six people joined us for the spring tour. The group included 15 guests from Falcon's Landing and my son Capt Matt Anastas USAF (flight instructor at N.A.S. Whiting Field FL) and his friend Erin Ebels (school teacher, Cary NC). The Falcon's Landing bus came in handy when we had to shuttle drivers to pick up our cars before lunch. After finishing off the last donut, I gave a short overview of the tour and we headed off to our first stop.

We began the tour on the site of the Brawner farm engagement on the evening of 28 August 1862. In this fight John Gibbon's black hat brigade (soon to be known as the Iron Brigade) stood toe-to-toe with the famous Stonewall Brigade for over an hour. The outstanding performance of this unit in its first action was a tribute to Gibbon and his regular army approach to training. After taking the group photo in front of the farmhouse, we moved out to cover the action on 29 August.

Our second stop was the drop off point for the extended walking portion of the tour. We discussed the famous "Joint Order" in which John Pope ordered his corps commanders to "move forward," "halt" and "fall back" all in the first several sentences. There is little wonder that Fitz-John Porter did not understand what Pope wanted him to do.

The highlight of the tour was a two-and-a-half mile walk along the unfinished railroad bed. We cut through the woods along the path of BG Cuvier Grover's famous bayonet charge that took place around 3:00 PM on 29 August. From the point that he penetrated A.P. Hill's line, we turned left (southwest) and followed the trace of Jackson's defensive position. We covered the disjointed, piecemeal attacks launched throughout the day by Pope

to fix Jackson while Porter was supposed to be preparing the main attack. Porter's attack never happened.

When we reached the area of the Deep Cut, a reenactment group representing the 9<sup>th</sup> Louisiana regiment (Stafford's brigade) appeared on cue to put on a firing demonstration for our group (I'd like to take the credit, but it was pure luck). Seeing the unit crouch behind the protection of the cut while passing their rifles to the front rank gave us a real appreciation of how the Confederates defended the position.

When we reached the Deep Cut proper the importance of the Battlefield Park efforts to cut the trees back to the 1862 configuration was obvious. With the removal of 140 acres of trees, we can now view the fields of fire open to the massed guns of Shumaker and S.D. Lee. We completed our walk back at the Brawner Farm, and the group broke for lunch.



**9<sup>th</sup> Louisiana reenactors open fire from the unfinished RR near Deep Cut**

Photo by Capt. Matt Anastas

After our break we reconvened on NY Avenue and picked up the action with Longstreet's afternoon flank attack. This attack was the largest assault launched by Lee during the war. Longstreet's 30,000 men rapidly overwhelmed the two regiments of Zouaves opposing them and moved rapidly towards Chinn Ridge.

On Chinn Ridge the desperate fighting by Col. Nathaniel McLean's brigade gained the Federals 30 precious minutes. This time allowed Pope to feed in a series of brigades one at a time. These units delayed Longstreet long enough to allow an organized defense of Henry Hill to be established. The Chinn Ridge delay and the stout defense of Henry Hill prevented Pope's Army from being routed like the Federals at First Manassas. In the end Pope was soundly defeated, but he did manage to save his army from annihilation.

Many thanks to Ken Jones for setting up the online sign-up list, to Dale Maschino for bringing the nametags and to Bill Carritte for once again lugging the maps around the battlefield. Special thanks to John Pearson for printing the maps on his plotter. This saved me hours of work in preparing for the tour.

Once again we accomplished our mission on time and under budget. We hope to see you all at our fall tour to Harper's Ferry.

Very Respectfully, Kevin Anastas, Chief Tour Guide

## FAIRFAX COUNTY SESQUICENTENNIAL PLANNING UNDERWAY

By Ed Wenzel

The General Assembly of Virginia created the Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission in 2006 to oversee planning and commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Virginia's participation in The War Between the States, 2011-2015. Ninety-four Virginia cities and counties are participating including Fairfax County.

Del. William J. Howell, speaker of the house, and Chairman of the State Commission, has said that "...the goal of Virginia's sesquicentennial commemoration is to better understand our past by examining multiple facets of the Civil War from multiple perspectives: Union, Confederate and Afro-American; battlefield as well as home front; and military tactics as well as cultural and social topics."

To that end, Fairfax's Civil War Sesquicentennial Steering Committee held its first meeting in late February. The Steering Committee assembled for this effort includes the following individuals: Patrick Lennon of Visit Fairfax (The Committee voted that Patrick lead the group and coordinate with the Virginia Commission in Richmond); Liz Crowell, Judy Pedersen and Karen Lindquist of the Fairfax County Park Authority; Paul Herbert, Historical Society of Fairfax County and BRCWRT; Sam Clay, Director, Fairfax County Public Library; Brandon Bies, Cultural Resource Specialist, National Park Service; Don Hakenson, Mosby Tour Guide, author and BRCWRT; and John McAnaw and the writer, BRCWRT.

At the February meeting, also distributed were lists of all county and regional Civil War parks as well as other sites and attractions in the county having to do with the war; also, lists of local historical societies, history groups and similar organizations in each supervisor's district including the towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton. To tap the wide range of knowledge at institutions of higher learning, potential relationships are being sought with researchers and professors associated with George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College.

To assist the Steering Committee in identifying the many events of the war in Fairfax County, Don Hakenson, Paul Herbert, John McAnaw and the writer agreed to form a subcommittee to research and develop a timeline of all battles, skirmishes, incidents and events that occurred in the county during 1861-65. To date, the subcommittee has met seven times and produced 29 pages of chronological material from the Secession Convention of April 1861 to August 31, 1862. And while 1861 and the week of August 28-September 3, 1862 are the most eventful of the war in Fairfax County, there are a large number of incidents and skirmishes in 1863-65 yet to be compiled.

At its March meeting, the Steering Committee voted unanimously to make the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly) the Signature Event of the Sesquicentennial for Fairfax County. Additionally, other significant incidents will be identified for public observance for each year of the commemoration.

Sam Clay reviewed the materials provided by the State Commission and drew up a draft charter outlining the goals and purpose of the Fairfax Committee. He noted that the State Commission makes clear that the Sesquicentennial is an opportunity to entice tourists to visit the Commonwealth and to increase attendance at local Civil War sites, museums and battlefields. Underscoring this, the suggested membership list for local Sesquicentennial committees includes tourism and visitors organizations, the education community (teachers, libraries, historical societies, round tables etc.); Civil War battlefields, sites, museums and related facilities; battlefield park personnel; Civil War Trails coordinators; and all public and private nonprofit organizations engaged in commemorating Civil War events.

Accordingly, the Fairfax County Sesquicentennial Committee proposes to:

- Develop a four-year plan for 2011-2015 and initiate programs and activities to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War
- Represent all groups and organizations having an interest in the Sesquicentennial
- Serve as a coordinating body, working with local authorities and institutions, to assist in the development of, and marketing of, commemorative events
- Focus on activities that will enhance attendance at local Civil War sites and events and will draw visitors to Fairfax County
- Establish a series of committees to assist the Steering Committee in its planning efforts
- Solicit funding and in-kind contributions to support the efforts
- Prepare a series of annual plans detailing events and activities for each 12-month period
- Sanction those programs that wish to be included in the Committee's offerings
- Communicate with and work with local Northern Virginia Sesquicentennial organizations to encourage cooperation, prevent duplication of efforts, and share resources

On April 29, the Virginia Sesquicentennial Commission held its 2009 Signature Conference at the University of Richmond to kick off the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary observance of the American Civil War. An estimated 2,100 people from 26 states registered for the free daylong conference, with perhaps 1,500-1,800 in actual attendance, and with the proceedings carried live on the

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## SESQUICENTENNIAL [Continued from Page 7]

Internet. Entitled "America on the Eve of the Civil War," the conference's four sessions dealt with "Taking Stock of the Nation in 1859," "The Future of Virginia and the South," "Making Sense of John Brown's Raid" and "Predictions for the Election of 1860." Chaired by Dr. Edward L. Ayers, President of the University of Richmond, a panel of 16 distinguished professors and other experts from across the country presented lively and informative discussions, addressing only what was known in 1859 of the political, social, economic and constitutional questions of the day. The archived conference proceedings can be found at [www.VirginiaCivilWar.org](http://www.VirginiaCivilWar.org).

The Virginia Commission will hold a Signature Conference each year through 2015. The coming Conferences, to be held in the spring of each year, will examine the following topics:

2010: *African-Americans and the Civil War* (Hampton University)

2011: *American Military Strategy and the Civil War* (Virginia Tech)

2012: *Leadership and Generalship in the Civil War* (Virginia Military Institute)

2013: *The Home Front and the Civil War* (College of William and Mary)

2014: *The Civil War in a Global Context* (George Mason University)

2015: *Memory of the Civil War* (University of Virginia)

### "BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELDS"

#### Civil War Sites In Prince William County Van Tour

Saturday, August 1, 2009, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.,  
\$80 per person.

**Space is limited, reservations required.**

Prince William County witnessed three major battles and many skirmishes, but the impact of the war reached far beyond the battlefields. Homes, businesses and towns were ravaged by the armies. This tour will highlight the plight of citizens in the County and share their stories of hardship and survival. Sites and activities include a walking tour of Occoquan, visits to Brentsville, Liberia and Chapman's Mill. Cost includes admission to sites and a boxed lunch.

Proceeds go towards the preservation and restoration of Prince William County owned historic sites.

Contact BRCWRT member Rob Orrison at 703-365-7895 or [rorrison@pwcgov.org](mailto:rorrison@pwcgov.org) for more information & reservations.

## ED WENZEL SPEAKS ON MEMORIAL DAY AT OX HILL

By Nancy Anwyll



**ED WENZEL**

Photo by Ken Jones

A small but dedicated crowd, consisting of Boy and Girl Scouts, BRCWRT members, and VFW Post members, gathered at Ox Hill on Memorial Day to hear the battlefield's main preservationist and fellow round table member, Ed Wenzel, tell about the bravery of General Isaac Ingalls Stevens at that site on Sept. 1, 1862.

After reading the Civil War poem, *The Blue and the Gray*, from a *McGuffey Reader* and originally published in the *Atlantic Monthly Magazine* in September of 1867, Ed told the crowd about General Stevens who wore a conspicuous straw panama hat at Ox Hill. When his men hesitated in the face of galling fire, Stevens rallied his men, carried the flag and charged ahead leading them toward the Confederate line. Lt. Benjamin of the artillery feared for his general's safety, commenting that the hat made Stevens too easy of a target. General Stevens was killed in that attack very close to where Ed and the small Memorial Day crowd assembled.

Scout leader Garland E. Corse DeCourcy spoke about her ancestors and why we should remember the fallen on Memorial Day. She explained her interest in the Civil War by being descended not only from Brigadier General Montgomery D. Corse of the 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment but also from Wilbur McLean. In addition, she lives on the original battlefield, which today is adjacent to the current preserved park.

Capping off the ceremony, DeCourcy led scouts from Cub Scout Pack #1863, Boy Scout Troop #30, and Girl Scout Troop #2629 as they placed the wreath at the monuments for Generals Stevens and Kearny. Others who participated in the program were John McAnaw, BRCWRT past president, who gave a short history of the founding of Decoration Day after the Civil War, and Nancy Anwyll, current BRCWRT president, who explained what the BRCWRT is all about.



## UPCOMING BRCWRT FALL EVENTS



Mark your calendar for two tours this fall. More information will be provided later.

Sept 19, 2009

The Battle of North Anna

Tour guide: J. Michael Miller

Oct. 17, 2009

Harper's Ferry and  
the Antietam Campaign

Tour guide: Kevin Anastas

Also mark your calendar for **Centreville Day**, Sept. 26, in the historic area of Old Centreville. The BRCWRT will have a booth where visitors can obtain information about the round table. If you can help, contact Charlie Balch 703-242-7277.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**James Anderson**

**Don Hakenson**

**Paul Herbert**

**Paul Meade**

**David Meisky**

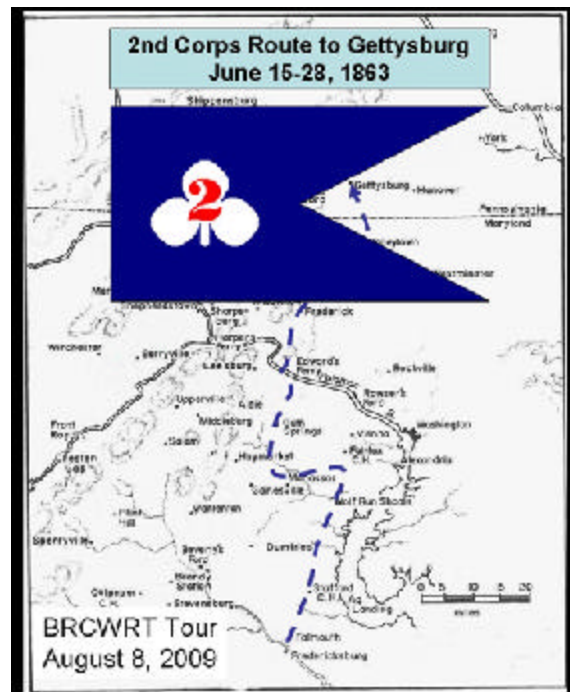
**David Mendoza**

**Cheryl Repetti**

### COURTESY NOTE

If you sign up for a BRCWRT tour or event and your plans change, please notify the tour guide or event coordinator as soon as possible. Many of our tours and events are limited in space and someone may want to take your place...and it's just common courtesy.

## FOLLOW THE 2<sup>ND</sup> CORPS THROUGH NORTHERN VIRGINIA ON THE WAY TO GETTYSBURG



### AUGUST 8 TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Follow the Union 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps during the Gettysburg Campaign on its way from the Occoquan to the Potomac River and crossing at Edwards Ferry. Experience the march northwards while trying to endure the excessive summer heat in mid-June 1863. See the old towns and villages through which the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps passed and the fields where they encamped. Learn about Hooker's plan to defend Washington while also being pressured to locate and pursue Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Finally, stand on today's private land where the pontoon bridges were installed and 100,000 men crossed the Potomac River in two days.

Please meet at 8:15 a.m. in the Burke Centre Shopping Center, located just off the Fairfax County Parkway at the intersection of Route 123 and Burke Centre Parkway in Burke, Virginia. As you enter the Shopping Center, turn left near McDonalds and find your way to the parking area on the left of the Burke Centre Automotive Goodyear store.

The driving tour will end at approximately 3:00 p.m. and cover roughly 60 miles. Lunch will be handled in a local restaurant and walking requirements include a five-minute walk over an uneven forest path to the Occoquan River. Any questions regarding the tour itself, please contact **Brian McEnany at 703-734-1936** or **Jim Lewis at 703 620-2956**.

## CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

By Janet Greentree



**THE CASHTOWN INN**

Ms. Rebelle's first cousin is Alan Norris, our Ohio member. His very lovely wife, Carol, is the sweetest person ever, and she loves the CW too. My father and his mother were brother and sister. My family's annual vacation was to go to Ohio and stay with the Norris family. Alan is the middle son and has an older brother Jim and a younger brother Dave who is my age. Alan is also named for my father, our family's first CW enthusiast. President Reagan appointed Alan as a Federal Judge and he sits in Cincinnati.



**ALAN & CAROL NORRIS**

At a very sad occasion, his Mom's funeral, we discovered we had this mutual CW interest. Some how I think his Mom arranged that. They have been coming out here for quite a few years now mostly making Gettysburg their headquarters and branching off on other trips around the area including the Booth escape route. That's another one of Alan and Carol's passions. Since I had been on several Booth escape route tours, I mapped out the roads for their tour. Alan is a diligent researcher, and I'm sure could have done it all on his own. For my help though, they knew I had always wanted to stay at the Cashtown Inn, so they gave me a free overnight there.



**ROAD UP THE CASHTOWN PIKE**

So in April, Ms. Rebelle stayed in the General John Daniel Imboden Room in the haunted Cashtown Inn. Imboden was my Confederate ancestor's commanding officer so I requested that room. It fronts on the Cashtown Pike, and my room was on the left second floor corner. One of windows looks right up the road where Lee came down with his troops to converge on Gettysburg. If you close your eyes, you can almost see the dust and troops coming down that road in late June of 1863. The only thing different is that it is paved now. It was truly a thrill to stay there. The Inn is now a bed and breakfast run by Jack and Mary Paladino. Mary does the greeting and business end, and Jack is the excellent cook. He made a fantastic breakfast for me the next morning.

The Inn has been there since 1797. The Innkeeper in June of 1863 was Jacob Mickley. He said it looked as if the entire force under Lee had passed within twenty feet of his barroom. General A.P. Hill made the Inn his headquarters. General Henry Heth stayed there too. A.P. Hill's room was next to mine in the front. General Hill was under the weather when he arrived at the Inn. There is a spring that runs through the cellar that was supposed to be very healthy for those who are sick. The cellar also had two very large brick ovens where the Confederates baked bread. The waitress at breakfast said she hates to go down in the cellar, as it is very, very creepy. The name Cashtown came from the first innkeeper, Peter Marck, who insisted on only cash payments for the services, goods, and tolls he collected. The current Innkeeper says the cellar is also the site of the first death in the Gettysburg campaign. It seems that locals Henry Hahn and David Powell drew a line across the Cashtown Pike at Gallagher's Knob daring any Rebs to cross over the line. They laid in wait for the Rebs. One of Jubal Early's Georgia boys came over the line, was mortally wounded, and then was taken to the Cashtown Inn. *Blue and Gray*, however, claims the man died in the A.P. Hill room upstairs.

After the battle, General Imboden made the Inn his headquarters for the march back to Virginia. The 17-mile long wagon train began at the Cashtown Inn at 4:00 p.m. on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**See MS. REBELLE, Page 11**

**MS. REBELLE****[Continued from Page 10]**

The Inn was featured in the movie *Gettysburg*. Several of the actors stayed there during the filming including General Buford, a/k/a Sam Elliott. There are several pictures in the front room from the movie. I'm sure you remember the scene shot there with A.P. Hill, a/k/a Patrick Falci, coming out in his red shirt to greet General Lee. The Inn was also featured in Mark Nesbitt's book *Ghosts of Gettysburg* and a cover story in *Blue and Gray*.

Ms. Rebelle spent somewhat of an uneasy night there. There is no TV so I decided to read the journals left in the room. Everyone writes something about their stay in the room. I must say some of the things are a little suspect, but some are downright spooky. I kept smelling roses. There was no potpourri in the room. I had a very strange dream that I've never had before and woke up saying "You're not going to do that to me." Whatever it was, stopped when I woke up. The next morning Innkeeper Jack said there is a woman Mary that haunts that room. The smell of roses comes from her. She was there during the battle trying to protect her family. He said a lot of people wake up feeling like someone is patting them or smoothing out their hair. I asked him if he had had any experiences there, but he says he's not susceptible to those things. He did say he was standing in the bar area once and felt someone push him. He turned around and no one was there. Lots of people wrote of the creaking floors and stairs, of things falling off tables in the room, the feeling of someone walking back and forth at the end of the bed, and the strange closet that won't open in the room. It was an OK experience in a haunted inn, and a most interesting adventure for Ms. Rebelle. I would stay there again.

One of cousin Alan's passions is the list of "140 Things every Battlefield Guide Should Know." He has found 55 of the 140 already. Every time we get together, and sometimes with Yankee Nan, a/k/a Madame President Nancy Anwyll, we try to find some of the things on the list. This time we found the name A.C. Coble, 1<sup>st</sup> NC Reg., etched in a rock on Culp's Hill. Alan & Carol's research found that Coble created the only carving by a Confederate soldier on the battlefield. He was a private in Company E and the unit's color-bearer at Gettysburg. The rock marks the spot where he held his regiment's colors during the battle. I absolutely couldn't wait to get home to send the photo to Kevin Anastas to see if he knew where that was. He did. We were all crestfallen. We got Kevin on another one though. General John Rutter Brook carved an "X" in a rock in another area of Culp's Hill. We found that one and Kevin didn't know about it. He said he's adding it to his tours now. If I can ever get Alan & Carol out here on a meeting date, he would be an excellent speaker. He does a presentation for his fellow Judges and CW enthusiasts of all his tours when he gets back home. It's pretty neat to have relatives with whom to share CW interests and information. We have such fun together.

## **THE ART OF COMMAND IN THE CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE**

### **"The 1862 Valley Campaign"**

The Mosby Heritage Area Association will sponsor the 12th Annual Conference on the Art of Command in the Civil War on October 2-4, 2009 at the Middleburg Community Center in Middleburg, Virginia.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Registration, Reception and Book Browsing

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Scott Patchan

"Robert H. Milroy and the Battle of McDowell"

6:15 – 7:15 p.m.

Gary Ecelbarger

"Stonewall Takes the Stand: the Battle of Kernstown and Court Martial of Richard B. Garnett"

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Gary Ecelbarger

"The Role of the Union and Confederate War Departments on the Campaign"

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Stephen Lee Ritchie

"General Turner Ashby: Knight of the Black Prince"

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Roderick Gainer

"Nathaniel Banks: Commissary to Competent – the Unfortunate and Unlucky Journey of Major General Banks and His Command in the Shenandoah, 1862" 12:00 – 12:45 p.m. Lunch

12:45 – 1:45 p.m.

Kim Holien

"Dick Ewell: Jackson's 'Strong Right Arm' in the Valley" 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Robert K. Krick

"The Metamorphosis in Jackson's Public Image"

3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

Jeffrey Wert

"Honest Abe, Little Mac and Stonewall: Union Response to the Valley Campaign"

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Panel Discussion and Book Signing

7:00 p.m.

Dinner at American Legion Hall

8:00 p.m.

Irvin E. Hess, M.D.

"The Story of the Widow Pence Farm: My History and My Heritage"

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Bus Tour of the 1862 Valley Campaign

For further information, contact MHAA at 540.687.6681 or [www.mosbyheritagearea.org](http://www.mosbyheritagearea.org).

**BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

**The Stone Wall**

**P.O. Box 2147**

**Centreville, VA 20122**

**2009 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—\$20.00. 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, BRCWRT Treasurer, 169 Applegate Drive, Sterling, VA 20164**

**NAME\_\_\_\_\_**

**ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_**

**CITY\_\_\_\_\_STATE\_\_\_\_\_ZIP\_\_\_\_\_**

**PHONE\_\_\_\_\_EMAIL\_\_\_\_\_**