



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XVII, Issue 1—FEBRUARY 2010

RONNIE A. NICHOLS TO SPEAK IN FEBRUARY

By Nancy Anwyll

Our speaker for the Feb. 11th general membership meeting will be Ronnie A. Nichols, an artist, historian, genealogist and Civil War reenactor. His topic will be "The Changing Role of Blacks in the Civil War." Because his native state is Arkansas, he will use many illustrations from the Civil War that occurred west of the Mississippi River.

Ronnie A. Nichols has a B.A. from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. His Master of Fine Arts degree is from Otis/Parsons Art Institute in Los Angeles, and he is a W. K. Kellogg National Fellow Recipient.

He has more than 30 years experience in the museum field. He was the director of the Delta Cultural Center in Helena, Arkansas. After serving as the director of Audience Development for the Old State House Museum in Little Rock, Arkansas' largest historical museum, he was made the head of the Old State House Museum. He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Little Rock/Central High Visitor Center and Museum as well as the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Arts Center.

After doing much research on the Civil War in Arkansas and after collecting information on more than 2,500 soldiers and sailors, Nichols conducted workshops and did professional research in African American genealogy. He wrote a number of articles and presented papers on the role of troops of African descent in the Civil War serving west of the Mississippi River. A key motivation in his research was sparked by his discovery that his ancestor, Aaron Hurvey, a Mississippi slave, escaped bondage to join the Union Army in Arkansas in 1864. In 1997 Nichols founded the Arkansas Chapter of the Afro-American Genealogical and Historical Society.

In early 2009 he was selected by the Federation of Genealogical Societies to present the James Dent Walker lecture to genealogists who attended the annual Little Rock Conference in September. In addition to the Walker lecture, he presented two other talks, one on African-Americans in the Battle of Big Creek or Wallace's Ferry, Arkansas, on July 26, 1864, and another on John Hanks Alexander, a native of Helena, Arkansas, who went on to be the second Afro-American to graduate from West Point.

While working on genealogy and museum work in Arkansas, Nichols began reenacting with an African-

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, FEB. 11

7:00 P.M. Centreville Library

GUEST SPEAKER:

RONNIE A. NICHOLS

TOPIC:

**THE CHANGING ROLE OF
BLACKS IN THE CIVIL WAR**

American group, the 1st Arkansas Regiment, led by Gregory J. W. Urwin, associate professor at the University of Central Arkansas. In 1988 Urwin, called upon Nichols to help him recruit students from the university to portray black soldiers of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment for the movie *Glory*.

In March of 1989, Nichols traveled with Urwin and six young men from Arkansas to Jekyll Island for the filming of the movie in which Nichols portrayed the First Sergeant of Company E of the 54th Massachusetts. The movie went on to win awards and has been ranked by many critics as the best movie made about the Civil War. The October 2009 issue of the magazine *North & South* includes an article written by Urwin about the filming of the movie in which he references Nichols' work on the movie and includes a photo of Nichols on the set.

Mr. Nichols currently is the owner of Nichols Consulting in North Potomac, Maryland, where he lives with his family. His business provides planning, research, and technical advice for documentaries, publications, programs, and exhibits. You won't want to miss hearing Ronnie A. Nichols speak about African Americans in the Civil War west of the Mississippi. And no doubt, he will be pleased to answer questions about his work in the movie *Glory*. See you at the next meeting.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

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>

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

MARCH 11

SPEAKER: Gloria Swift

TOPIC: Secrets at the Lincoln Museum

APRIL 8

SPEAKER: David Goetz

TOPIC: Some Exciting & Fascinating Stories of John Singleton Mosby & the 43rd Battalion, VA Cavalry

MARCH SUBMISSION DEADLINE

E-mail articles by 9:00 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 25 to Saundra Cox at scox@capitalav.com. **If acknowledgement of your article is not received by deadline**, call Saundra at 703.675.0702 (cell) or 540.374.2011 (Capital AV) as it may have been blocked by company software.

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DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR BRCWRT MEMBERSHIP!

INCLEMENT WEATHER Standard Operating Procedure



If adverse weather conditions exist or are imminent, you may determine if the meeting will be held by calling the Centreville Regional Library at 703.830.2223.



The President's Column

By Mark Trbovich



It was truly an honor to preside over my first BRCWRT meeting on January 14th. I would like to thank Nancy Anwyll for taking the time to assist me in making this transition smooth and organized. Nancy and the entire Executive Committee worked with me for two months prior to this transition. I am very grateful and thankful for all of their efforts. We are truly blessed to have these folks in the leadership of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, and we are gearing up for an outstanding 2010. I want to thank all of you who have encouraged and made me feel so at home in this new position. One of my goals is to make everyone feel at home when they visit us each month and join us to strengthen our round table with their unique talents, heritage and backgrounds.

BRCWRT member Mike Block was our January speaker, and he filled in at moment's notice when called upon that week due to the illness of the scheduled speaker. I take my hat off to him for a superb job with his picture presentation of Brandy Station Battlefield and surrounding camps throughout the war. He certainly proved that the Brandy Station area during the Civil War was the most photographed and sketched community of any theater throughout the war. Thank you, Mike, and I'm sure we'll be reading about your upcoming lectures real soon.

As your new president, I want to reach out and encourage all of you to start to think about the 150th Civil War Anniversary (Sesquicentennial) and where you have ideas and vision to make it the success it deserves. We need your ideas, time and effort to serve this community for the next five years. In the Prince William and Fairfax County 150th Civil War Anniversary Committees, the 2011 Battle of 1st Manassas/Bull Run and 2012 Battle of Ox Hill/Chantilly commemorations have been confirmed as the two signature events in our counties. The BRCWRT is already represented in both committees, but there is so much more work to be done. The BRCWRT will be a place for folks to gather, to fellowship, to learn, to embrace heritage, to be inclusive to all and to make our tours second to none.

This is your 150th Civil War anniversary. I pray I'll see the 200th at 103, but this is all of our time now! Embrace it, get involved, and at the end of the day you

will have a forever feeling that you were there and served your community for all who made the ultimate sacrifice for us on the battlefields of our great land. We must remember them and honor them by doing the best job we can as a pillar of the Civil War community to educate everyone in this region on what happened here. The Bull Run Civil War Round Table has just begun this journey. Won't you join us?

Please don't forget to invite a friend to our meetings, for these are exciting and fun times, and please contact me and the Executive Committee at any time. Thank you.



Thanks to Deanna Bailey and Sandy Isasiello for holiday refreshments at the December meeting.



Thanks to our December speaker and Civil War Santa, Kevin, Rawlings, shown here with Janet "Ms. Rebelle" Greentree, and to BRCWRT member Mike Block for his very interesting January presentation.

Photos by Janet Greentree.

BRCWRT TOUR OF CONFEDERATE & UNION FORTIFICATIONS VICINITY McLEAN'S FORD

By John P. McAnaw

The morning of Saturday, 14 November boded ill for a high turnout of those who signed up for the tour. The weather was uninspiring, cold and drizzly. Only 50% of the 26 who signed up arrived at the assembly location (the McDonalds at the Colonnade Shopping Center) by start time (8:30 a.m.). In one sense the no-show rate was good. It meant double rations for those that did participate.

Widely circulated Union Civil War maps by Union cartographers of the Confederate fortifications vicinity Centreville showed only those earthworks west of Little Rocky Run. The east facing sector of the main Confederate defense line ran along a broad ridge on the west side of Little Rocky Run. On our tour we focused on the Confederate fortifications east of Little Rocky Run. Additionally we visited one Union position near the confluence of Bull Run and Little Rocky Run.

Before continuing, I should point out that the Confederate defenses east of Little Rocky Run were also very extensive. Thankfully, some of these impressive earthworks have survived.

A brief summary of our tour stops follows:

Stop 1. Lengthy segment of Confederate breastworks south of New Braddock Road and located west of and parallel to Union Mill Rd. Most of it is well preserved.

Stop 2. Large Confederate earthwork called locally the "A-Fort." Nineteenth century French military engineers would have designated it a "pan coupe redan." It's a very impressive, favorite tour stop, and fenced-in county park, located on the east side of Balmoral Greens Ave. The A-Fort is surrounded on three sides by the Westfield Golf Course at Balmoral.

Stop 3. Compact Confederate Artillery Redoubt, a.k.a. the "Artillery Fort". Well preserved county park located about 500 yards south of the Confederate "pan coupe redan". It is situated on the northeast side of Balmoral Greens Ave. This redoubt is well within supporting range of the larger fortification to the north.

Stop 4. After departing the Confederate Artillery Redoubt, our tour group trekked northwest through Fairfax County parkland, and further down slope, terrain owned by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. Our objective was a low ridge near the confluence of Bull Run and Little Rocky Run. The clearly visible fortifications on this ridge covered the Bull Run crossing from Prince William County at wartime McLean's Ford. Of note, on 27 February 1863, Col. Alexander Hays, USA, disarmed the soldiers of the famous "Bucktails" a.k.a. the 13th PA Reserve Regiment, for slow response to orders, and marched them to McLean's Ford to pull fatigue duty on these very fortifications. Very humiliating! The next day Col. Hays restored the weapons to the Buck-

tails. Col. Hays believed that some of the officers were the cause of the unit's disciplinary problems. The Bucktails left Col. Hays' command on 24 March 1863.

Stop 5. The wartime crossing at McLean's Ford was just below the confluence of Bull Run and Little Rocky Run. In December 1861 Jubal Early, then a brigade commander, was directed to build a bridge across Bull Run at this point and another one over Little Rocky Run, upstream from the confluence previously cited. Riffles, caused by a line of rocks across Bull Run are located at the site where the wartime ford and bridge were located.

The BRCWRT participants were Nancy Anwyll, Dom Bumbaca, Effie Bumbaca, Dennis Feldt, Larry Gordon, Dale Maschino, John McAnaw, Pat McGinty, Theresa Meade, Rose Nelson, John Pearson, Ed Wenzel and Patty Wheeler. After the tour, eight participants had lunch at Rosemary's Bistro at the Colonnade Shopping Center (next to McDonald's). We had an enjoyable time. The tour ended three minutes early.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Mark Knowles



It is time to reflect on how we spent your money last year. Our business model continues to serve us well (cheap & proud). We had a strong financial year under extremely challenging economic circumstances. There was growth from new membership, generous donations, and continued success with our book recycling (book sales) program.

A couple of extraordinary expenditures furthering a positive BRCWRT experience are noteworthy. The executive board approved the non-budgeted expenditure of \$500 to purchase 500 lapel pins for members and guest speakers. The proposition was announced at the November general meeting with all members in attendance voting their approval of the expenditure. We also invested in several two-way radios to increase the quality of our carpool touring.

Our round table raised \$1,923 in 2009 for the preservation of our country's historic buildings, battlefields and museums. We distributed funds to the following organizations (alphabetically): Brandy Station Foundation, Bristoe Station Battlefield, Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, Central Virginia Battlefield Trust, Civil War Preservation Trust, Friends of Laura Ratcliffe House, Historic Centreville Society, Memorial Hall Foundation, Ox Hill Battlefield via Fairfax County Park Authority, Stones River NPS, and White Oak Museum.

The books are now closed on the first decade in the new millennium. How proper and fitting to report that in the past ten years your round table raised and donated over \$10,126 for Civil War preservation. Well done!

We look forward to providing you with another year of the finest thought provoking presentations and touring destinations.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



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

10 Feb – Book talk, “A Southern Spy in Northern Virginia: The Civil War Album of Laura Ratcliffe,” at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. 7:30 p.m. 703-425-9225 or www.fairfax-station.org.

11 Feb – Lecture, “Danger Between the Lines: the Civil War History of Hunter Mill Uncovered”. At the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike. 7 p.m. Call 703-759-7680 or link to www.gfhs.org.

13 Feb – “The Underground Railroad Network to Freedom,” at Leesylvania State Park in Woodbridge. Includes story of escaped slaves helping Union forces in the area at start of the war. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Parking fees apply. Call 703-583-6904.

13, 20, 27 Feb – Lecture, “Perspectives on the Battle,” at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. 1:30 p.m. Free. Call 717-334-1124 ext. 8023, or www.nps.gov/gett.

14 Feb – Illustrated talk “Love and Legacy – The Civil War Romance of Antonia Ford and Major Joseph C. Willard,” at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center. 2 p.m. Free. Call 703-385-8414.

14 Feb – Living History, “Frederick Douglass,” at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. 2:30 p.m. Free. Call 301-739-5727, or link to www.wcmfa.org.

17 Feb – Lecture, “War Stories By Megan Hicks” includes “What Was Civil About That War?” at Hanover Tavern in Hanover Courthouse. 7 p.m. Free. Call 804-537-5050 or www.hanovertavern.org.

20 Feb – Living history tour, “Cavaliers, Courage and Coffee,” in Atoka. Lantern tours and tales of Mosby’s Confederacy. Tours begin at the Rector House, 1461 Atoka Road (just off Route 50 on Route 713). 7:30 p.m. \$5. Call 540-687-6681.

27 Feb – Book sale, local authors discuss, sell and sign their Civil War books at Historic Blenheim & the Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Free. Call 703-591-0560.

27 Feb – Seminar, “The Cavalry: Weapons, Leaders, and Battles,” at Wygal Auditorium, Longwood University in Farmville. Topics include JEB Stuart, Phil Sheridan, the Battle of Brandy Station and more. Doors open at 9 a.m. Free. Call 434-395-2220 or www.nps.gov/apco.

27 Feb – “An Evening With the Painting,” a history of the Cyclorama painting at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. 5-7:30 p.m. Tickets. Call 877-874-2478 or

www.gettysburgfoundation.org.

28 Feb – Walking tour, “Freedman’s Farm Tour and Confederate Winter Camp Site,” at Montpelier, home of James Madison near Orange. 2 p.m. Site admission applies. Call 540-672-2728 or www.montpelier.org.

**Prince William County’s Historic Preservation Division Presents the 2010 History Lecture Series
At the Old Manassas Courthouse,
9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110
Free but Donations are appreciated!**

The Birth of Virginia’s Aristocracy
February 11th, 7:00pm

Author and noted historian James Thompson will highlight events and individuals connected with the birth of Virginia’s aristocracy, a process that began in 1620 and ended in 1700. The discussion will be animated with a fascinating collection of illustrations and portraits of the scoundrels and heroes who carried the process forward including Thomas, 2nd Lord Culpeper, Col. Richard Lee and Thomas, 5th Lord Fairfax. Signed copies of Thompson’s new book, *The Birth of Virginia’s Aristocracy*, will be for sale.

The Underground Railroad in Northern Virginia
February 25th, 7:00pm

Dr. Deborah Lee will speak about the Underground Railroad in Northern Virginia, specifically sites along the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area. Dr. Lee will highlight people and places that showed how many in the region resisted slavery or assisted others in their escape to freedom. Dr. Lee recently authored *Honoring Their Paths: African-American Contributions along the Journey Through Hallowed Ground*, which highlights African-American contributions to American history along the Journey Through Hallowed Ground.

If They Build It, Supplies Will Come – The Centreville Railroad and Its Importance During the American Civil War
March 25th, 7:00pm

Local historian Art Candemquist takes us back to the early days of the American Civil War when Prince William County found itself in the front lines of the conflict. He will discuss the creation and usage of the Confederate Centreville Railroad, the first military railroad in US history. This railroad was used to send supplies from Manassas Junction to the troops in the Centreville area and was crucial to them in the winter of 1861-1862.

Faces of the American Civil War
April 29th, 7:00pm

Historian, author and lecturer Ron Coddington will discuss photography and its role in capturing images of common soldiers who fought for the Union or the Confederacy. Mr. Coddington has written *Faces of the Civil War: An Album of Union Soldiers and Their Stories* and *Faces of the Civil War: An Album of Southern Soldiers and Their Stories*. He will have copies of his recently published scholarly works available for sale.

**Prince William County
Department of Public Works
Historic Preservation Division
17674 Main St., Dumfries, VA 22026
703-792-4754**

SESQUICENTENNIAL PLANNING MOVES FORWARD

By Ed Wenzel

Planning for Fairfax County's Sesquicentennial of the Civil War took a big step forward in January with a meeting of interested county historical groups and citizens at Frying Pan Park. The meeting was organized by the co-chairs of the Fairfax County Steering Committee, Patrick Lennon (Visit Fairfax) and Liz Crowell (Fairfax County Park Authority). Among the topics presented were an overview of the Commonwealth's and Fairfax County's visions and goals for the commemoration, themes for 2010-2015, and coordination with neighboring jurisdictions, historical groups and interested citizens. Steering Committee members present were Patrick Lennon, Liz Crowell, Sam Clay III (Fairfax County Library System), John McAnaw (BRCWRT), Jo Bilicki (Fairfax County History Commission) and the writer (BRCWRT). All attendees and groups were introduced, and each stated their interests and what events they thought could or should be commemorated. Sixteen local historical groups were represented.

The agenda included three presentations:

John McAnaw addressed selected Civil War sites in the county and showed historical photographs of Centreville's earthworks and fortifications, the Confederate forts along Balmoral Greens Avenue and Bull Run, the Bull Run Railroad Bridge, and winter huts of both Union and Confederate troops.

Next, I discussed the **Chronology** now being compiled of Fairfax County's battles, skirmishes, incidents, and events. Thus far, our researchers Don Hakenson (Stuart-Mosby Society/Franconia Museum), Paul Herbert (Historical Society of Fairfax County), John McAnaw and the writer have found documentation for county Civil War events and troop movements in 162 different published sources. We have compiled 65 pages of events and source listings from April 17, 1861 (Secession) to September 20, 1862 (post Antietam). As the Sesquicentennial moves into 2011, we intend to post these events weekly on the Visit Fairfax web site, and, when the document is completed, publish it in booklet form as a product of the Fairfax County Sesquicentennial Committee.

The writer also addressed our **"Signature Event", the Battle of Ox Hill or Chantilly**, highlighting the many reasons why the county's only major Civil War battle is so designated. But no Ox Hill events or ceremonies have been planned as yet, and no decisions have been made on what group will take the lead. Several event suggestions have been put forward but nothing has been decided.

Of various events discussed, the one that's a real eye opener and the farthest along in planning is **"Lincoln at the Crossroads"** which is being organized by the **Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance**. Maria Schacknies of Bailey's Crossroads is the Alli-

ance's president, and Kim Holien, U.S. Army military historian and author, is a board member. This event, which will take place along Leesburg Pike near Bailey's Crossroads in November 2011, is really amazing in its scope and accomplishments thus far. It will commemorate the "Grand Review" of 70,000 Union troops staged by MG McClellan for President Lincoln, cabinet secretaries and foreign dignitaries on November 20, 1861. The parade ground extended on both sides of Columbia Pike from today's Culmore to Skyline Towers. The review was witnessed by Julia Ward Howe and tens of thousands of civilians who journeyed out from Washington. Mrs. Howe returned that night to the Willard Hotel and penned the famous words to the "Battle Hymn of the Republic".

The **Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance** is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization. Their mission is to reenact the Grand Review and to unveil Ron Tunison's life size, bronze, sculpture of Abraham Lincoln and a bas relief of Union troops marching in review.

The Alliance is planning the following:

Have five thousand soldiers, Civil War civilians and local citizen organizations divided into five marching divisions, all passing in review on Leesburg Pike. Each division will be headed by a ceremonial detachment and marching band representing each of the five uniformed services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. The Parade will include a large contingent of active personnel from the U.S. Armed Forces and the Virginia National Guard. They will march from the Alexandria campus of NVCC up the Leesburg Pike to Skyline Towers and the monument site. The Lincoln sculpture and bas relief will be unveiled on land donated by Target Corporation. Associated with this event will be two grand balls for the reenactors, an art exhibit, a concert, lectures at NVCC's Alexandria campus, and a reception for the artists and the sculptor. The Alliance has already held a major fundraiser at the Kennedy Center and has applied to VDOT for \$700,000 in federal transportation funds to spruce up Route 7 in vicinity of the Lincoln and Grand Review monument site. They have also petitioned the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee for the issuance of a stamp on the Grand Review and Julia Ward Howe's Battle Hymn of the Republic. Further, they plan to facilitate the placement of six Virginia Civil War Trails markers along Rt. 7 between Alexandria and Falls Church and on Columbia Pike between the Air Force Memorial and Anandale.

Whew!! How's that for a busy group of private citizens! They are endorsed by the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, the Virginia Sesquicentennial Commission and the Fairfax County History Commission among others. For more information about this event or to make a donation, please see their web site at www.latcra.org. After short discussions with Ms. Schacknies and Mr. Holien, the Fairfax Committee decided on the spot to designate a "Signature Event" for each year of the war and to make **"Lincoln at the Crossroads"** the Signature Event for 2011.

See **SESQUICENTENNIAL, Page 7**

SESQUICENTENNIAL [Continued from Page 6]

Following this, the attendees broke up into committee groups, i.e.: Publicity/Marketing, History, Public Outreach/Education, Finance/Fundraising, and Signature Events. Various ideas were put on the table and follow up meetings were scheduled. Stay tuned!

Note: If any BRCWRT members would like to volunteer their time or ideas for Sesquicentennial committees or events, or to learn which historical groups are represented, please contact Patrick Lennon at plennon@fxva.com, or Ed Wenzel at ew136@verizon.net.

MOSBY DOCUMENTARY BEING FILMED IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

Part II [Continued from the *Stone Wall*
December 2009/January 2010 Issue]

Submitted by Chuck Mauro

The first article on Chuck Mauro and Don Hakenon's production of "Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County" discussed the planning effort for the making of this documentary. The next phases of the documentary include the on-site filming, in-studio narration, selection and video recording of historical pictures, writing the original soundtrack, and the writing and narration on the intro and the outro.



**Bert Morgan filming Don
Hakenon at St. Mary's Church**

The on-site filming commenced in July 2009. We chose Don Hakenon to be the first historian to be filmed on-site. We chose Don because we were going to be feeling our way a bit and Don is an accomplished speaker on Mosby and wouldn't be fazed by a little trial and error.

We started at St. Mary's Church where Mosby completely routed the Thirteenth and Sixteenth New York Cavalry units on August 8, 1864. We chose St. Mary's as everyone knew the site. The production crew consisted of Bert Morgan doing the filming with me overseeing the process. "Overseeing" means choosing appropriate backgrounds with Bert and holding up filming while cars passed by to eliminate the noise. I became very adept at keeping an eye on the road and yelling "Go" when a car passed out of earshot.

We quickly established the on-site filming as a short introduction stating where we were, what happened there, and when it happened. The balance of the story will be narrated in the studio while showing available historical pictures of the participants and the site.

We spent the better part of the day filming

across Fairfax County for the sites Don was presenting. These included Gooding's & Padgett's Taverns, Machen's Farm (where Mosby men captured Boston Corbett), the Broders' Farm (Oak Grove), Lieutenant Joseph Nelson's attack of a school house on the Franconia Road, the Rose Hill raid and Mosby's two attempts to capture the bogus governor Francis Pierpont. Look for some raindrops on Don's shirt as we were determined to film him that day!

Working with each of our schedules we filmed both my and Tom Evans' intros in August. I primarily covered the Herndon area including operations along Centreville Road including Mosby's Rock, incidents at Frying Pan Church and Laura Ratcliffe's Civil War house site. We were extremely pleased to get permission from the Fairfax County Park Authority to film inside Frying Pan Church. In case you think it is easy to talk into a camera, it took each of us up to a half dozen takes to get everything delivered smoothly. It also took me three weeks to memorize my lines, but I was still never far from my trusty notes!

Tom covered the area along Hunter Mill Road including the junction with the former Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad where Mosby, acting as Stuart's scout, crossed the tracks leading Stuart's cavalry to Herndon on the famous Christmas Raid of 1862. The Federal picket post on a nearby hill overlooking the junction which was attacked by the Rangers three times was filmed. Mosby's horse collection point was visited, and Bert was able to film it although hampered by underbrush. The execution site of the Rev. John D. Read was also filmed.

It was one of those wonderful hot and humid days. I cooled off in the car's air conditioning between sites. We were interrupted while filming Tom in the afternoon by a heavy downpour and decided to quit for the day. As Bert and I drove off together, the sky cleared, and we went back to Tom's house, picked him up, and were able to finish his filming.

We then filmed Stevan Meserve and Mayo Stuntz in October. Stevan covered the execution of Pony Ormsby at Ayr Hill in Vienna among other stories. We were very pleased to have 94 year old Mayo join us at Flint Hill and Springfield House cemeteries. We plan to use Mayo to close the documentary as cemeteries provide "finality" for all of Mosby's men.



**Mayo Stuntz at
Flint Hill Cemetery.**
Photo by Jim Lewis

As simple as it sounds, working with all of our schedules to do the filming can sometimes prove challenging. Our first stumbling block came as we were unable to get all of us together with Gregg Dudding's

See MOSBY FILM, Page 8

MOSBY DOCUMENTARY [Continued from Page 7]

schedule, so we asked Eric Buckland to join the crew to help us finish. Quite the opposite of Chuck and Tom's day in August, we filmed Eric on a cold day in December just after the big snow storm. So we have some sites with snow on the ground!

Eric Buckland being filmed in Fairfax



Eric covered the Fairfax Court House Raid where Mosby made his fame capturing Brigadier General Edwin Henry Stoughton. We were able to film at a number of sites associated with this raid. Eric also covered the capture of a notorious Mosby guerilla, Jack Barnes, at Hope Park, and the capture of the sutlers' wagons known as the 'ice cream raid'.

One of the things Bert taught us all to do was how to walk and talk as we delivered our lines. Bet you didn't think we could do that!

With the on-site filming now complete, we will finish collecting the historical photos to be used as illustrations and then move into Bert's studio for recording the narration to finish the stories.

Talk to you again soon.
Chuck Mauro



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: If you would like to help financially with the documentary, donations from individuals of \$50 or more and donations from organizations of \$200 or more will be acknowledged in the credits.

For further information contact Chuck at cmauro10@aol.com or Don at Dhakenson@cox.net or send a check made out to Don Hakenson and write in the memo area of the check 'Mosby doc,' and mail it to: Don Hakenson, 4708 Lillian Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22310.



LINCOLN'S 200TH YEAR BIRTHDAY EXHIBIT

By Chuck Mauro

In honor of President Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday, the National Gallery of Art is presenting the original 6-foot-high plaster working model of the seated Lincoln statue designed for the Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall by Daniel Chester French. The model — used for the carving of the final 19-foot-high figure from 28 blocks of Georgia marble—is being lent to a museum for the first time by Chesterwood Estate and Museum, French's country home and studio in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

To complete the exhibit, the wood model of the Lincoln Memorial, completed on the Mall in 1922 by architect Henry Bacon, is also on display. Both are located in Lobby C. The exhibition ends April 4, 2010.



It is certainly quite a different experience to stand in front of the smaller version of Lincoln than seeing it on the Mall. Without the size, the model isn't quite as imposing or awe inspiring, but one can walk right up to it to see the detail. What I noticed about

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HUNTER MILL MARKS ITS HISTORY



L to R Charlie Balch, Tom Evans, Jim Lewis, Steve Hull and Bob Eldridge

By Chuck Mauro

On a warm, partly cloudy day on the 21st of November, the Hunter Mill Defense League (HMDL) of Northern Virginia unveiled six historic markers before more than 150 people at the intersection of Hunter Mill Road and the Washington & Old Dominion Trail. Five of the markers document the importance of the area during the Civil War. The sixth documents the history of the Hunter Mill Train Station on the Alexandria, Loudoun & Hampshire Railroad (today's Washington & Old Dominion Trail).

The unveiling culminated the efforts by HMDL with four different organizations: the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, the Department of Historic Resources of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Civil War Trails, Inc., and the Fairfax County History Commission. A congressman, representatives of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and members of key local organizations made introductions for each marker.

Hunter Station was presented by Paul Gilbert, executive director, of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. This marker tells the story of the small train station along the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire railroad from 1860 to 1968. The small station was a "flag stop" as passengers would wave a flag to stop the train when they wanted to ride. The station also provided a mail stop for the railroad. After the demise of the railroad, the road came back to life as the Washington and Old Dominion trail, a linear park for runners, walkers, bikers and others who enjoy its benefits today.

Crossroads To War was presented by the Honorable Gerry Connolly, U.S. House of Representatives, 11th District. This marker tells of the use of the railroad track bed heading east/west by both Confederate and Union soldiers as well as north/south on the road to some of the major battles in the war such as Antietam and Gettysburg. Confederate General Wade Hampton used the road while providing right flank protection for Lee's Army of Northern Va. on the way to Antietam after the battles of Second Manassas and Ox Hill (Chantilly). Portions of the Union Army of the Potomac under Major General Joe Hooker ate breakfast at Hunter's Mill and bivouacked on the road in the opening phase of the Gettysburg campaign. Ironically, Hooker and his HQ's staff used the road just 30 hours ahead of Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart. Two of Hooker's brigades also used the road on their way to Gettysburg in June of 1863.

Hunter's Mill was presented by Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Hunter Mill District. The marker tells the story of how the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps camped in the area in March of 1862 as the troops prepared for the Peninsula Campaign. The 15,000 man Corps consisted of three brigades under Gens. George C. Meade, Edward O.C. Ord, and John F. Reynolds. These troops and others devastated the area with their drain on its resources, which took decades to recover.

Hunter Mill Road was presented by Supervisor Linda Smyth, Providence District. This marker will be located near the new Oakton Community Park across from the Oakton Library. It tells of the rich farmland and water resources used by both Confederate and Union forces on their way to the battles of First and Second Manassas, the Peninsula Campaign, Antietam, and Gettysburg. HMDL has documented sixty current or soon-to-be generals in the Hunter Mill Road Corridor. The road was well known as the "main road" and most direct route from Fairfax Court House heading northwards to the Dranesville/Leesburg areas where armies, artillery and cavalry could ford the Potomac River.

Strategic Junction was presented by Chairman Sharon Bulova, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. This marker tells of the significance of this particular junction where the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad's and Hunter Mill Road intersect. Early in the war, Confederate General Robert E. Lee knew he could not control this area so he ordered the tracks torn up west of Vienna; however, troops and cavalry from both sides of the conflict continued to travel the track bed throughout the war. The marker details fourteen significant events that occurred here including Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby's continual attacks on an observation post overlooking this important junction. Herman

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HUNTER MILL

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Melville (of *Moby Dick* fame) even passed through here on a scouting mission with the 2nd Mass. Cavalry out of Vienna in April of 1864 looking for Mosby, resulting in his well-known poem "The Scout Towards Aldie."

Terror by the Tracks was presented by Steve Hull, HMDL history committee chairman. This marker is located by the Piney Branch Bridge near mile marker 13.5 on today's Washington & Old Dominion Trail heading east from Hunter Mill Road towards Vienna, Virginia. It tells the story of the execution style demise of the Union spy Reverend John B. Read on October 18, 1864 by Confederate Captain Richard Mountjoy of Mosby's Rangers. It also includes a little poem sung by school children for many years after the war: "Isn't any school, Isn't any teacher, Isn't any church, Mosby shot the preacher."



Volley by the 17th VA Infantry & Brady's Michigan Sharpshooters

The program began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Cub Scout Pack 32 and ended when re-enactors from the 17th Virginia Infantry Regiment and Brady's Michigan Sharpshooters, who had stood guard along the trail during the ceremony, firing several volleys in honor of the citizens who lived here and endured our nation's greatest tragedy as well as the soldiers/raiders who traveled the road.

Research of the area began six years ago by a core group consisting of Steve Hull, Charlie Balch and Tom Evans, who found many relics in the corridor over the years. Jim Lewis and Bob Eldridge joined the group three years later and the project morphed into one that exceeded everyone's initial expectations. Of the event, Jim Lewis, said, "This is really the culmination of six years of intense research, documenting our findings, fund raising and working through a variety of historical marker application processes." Bob Eldridge added,

"Having the markers in place will insure that future generations are aware of the incredible history that took place in their own backyards. Ken Burns, who was our role model for making the DVD, spoke for us when he said, 'if you want to know about this thing called the United States of America, you have to know about the Civil War.'"

Jim and Bob live on a ridge very close to Hunter Mill Road and the Washington & Old Dominion Trail. They joined as a result of a discussion about what appeared to be some very unnatural "holes" and "ditches" in their backyards. They decided to do some research and attended the first Fairfax County History Conference in November of 2005, where they fortuitously met Charlie Balch who asked them to join the effort. The result, a DVD documentary called "Danger Between the Lines" was introduced at the well-known Bull Run Civil War Round Table in Centreville, Virginia in June of 2007 to resounding applause. This 78-minute documentary chronicles what it was like to live along Hunter Mill Road during the Civil War Years and is primarily told through the eyes of the neighbors in this hotly contested area. The DVD was honored in September of 2009 when it was shown on WETA PBS TV and attained a very high rating. Jim has since completed a companion "*Hunter Mill Road Civil War Self-Guided Tour*" book. Because of continued demand for tours to see the sites in the corridor, Jim is currently conducting bus tours including Vienna where the secession vote took place and Oakton where three forts/stockades were located.

Jim and Bob believe the 1st S. C. Infantry built the "rifle pits" and series of "trenches" overlooking the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad in the fall of 1861 when the Confederates took control of the area and were in position to halt Union troops coming from the east. An artillery placement was also identified on the ridge along with a 12 pound cannonball. Bob commented, "There was a perfect alley from the gun to the railroad, which the Union forces had been using."

The Hunter Mill Defense League is a non-profit civic association that promotes the welfare of 5,000 people who live along the historic 7.2-mile Hunter Mill Road. HMDL volunteer's track issues, inform local residents, and advocate policies that preserve and enhance the scenic and historic character of the community.

The DVD "*Danger Between the Lines*," produced by Steve Hull & OneWeaver Productions and The "*Hunter Mill Civil War Self-Guided Tour*" by James G. Lewis Jr., along with other products are available on the Hunter Mill Defense League website at www.hmdl.org.

As to why the opening of this article refers to the partly cloudy sky? It was Blue and Gray.

CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

Travels to New York State

By Janet Greentree

Ms. Rebelle, the Confederate at heart she is, traveled into Yankee territory in New York state recently for a Thanksgiving visit with her son, Mark and family. Mark is the son that lived in the Land of Lincoln for 19 years. The family has now moved to Ithaca, New York. Ms. Rebelle immediately began studying maps planning the way up there. My New York map is now circled with 33 little orange circles noting all the cities and towns where Civil War Generals are buried. My plan was to take off on my own to find "my guys" but my son ex-



Victorian family home and statue of William Seward, Lincoln's Secretary of State, in Seward Park, Auburn, New York.



pressed a desire to come along. I was very proud of him. He helped to find "my guys" in New York.

Ithaca sits at the mouth of Cayuga Lake, one of the Finger Lakes in New York. There are no bridges over the lakes so you have to drive the length of them before going down the other side. Auburn, New York, is about 45 minutes north of Ithaca. Coming into the town, we saw a magnificent Victorian mansion with a statue of William Seward, Lincoln's Secretary of State, in front of it. It turns out that it was Seward Park and the house belonged to the Seward family. Then it was off to Fort Hill Cemetery in Auburn on a very, very cold day to find the Seward family, his son, General William Seward, Jr., Lt. Colonel Myles Keogh, General Emory Upton, Brevet General Andrew Alexander, and Harriet Tubman. One can look and study cemetery maps, but when you get inside the gates, it looks so very different. Some cemeteries have famous people's graves marked very well. Other cemeteries have no directions, no street names, and no section names. We took off on foot when we got to the general area, and Mark found the Seward family. They are all buried in a row.

William Seward, of course, is also famous for surviving the attack of Lewis Powell during the Lincoln assassination. His daughter Fannie and son Frederick, who were slashed by Powell, are buried there as well. Seward was a governor of New York and then a U.S. senator before taking the Cabinet post under Lincoln.

He stayed in his Cabinet post under President Andrew Johnson and was later ridiculed for Seward's Folly, the purchase of Alaska.



Lt. Colonel Myles Keogh and "Ms. Rebelle" at Keogh's burial site at Fort Hill Cemetery, Auburn, NY.

Our next stop in the cemetery was really fortunate as Keogh, Upton, and Alexander are all buried together in a semi-circle. Myles Keogh is a close second "want" for me to Custer, since I've been unable to get into West Point to find George Armstrong Custer's grave. Keogh was killed with Custer at Little Big Horn.

Keogh, an Irishman, was born in County Carlow, Ireland in 1840. His maternal aunt, Mary Blanchfield, willed him the family estate, Clifden Castle. Myles craved adventure though so at age 20 he joined the Papal Guard donning the green uniforms of the Company of Saint Patrick. Secretary Seward began recruiting experienced European officers to serve with the Union during the Civil War. Keogh resigned his commission in 1862 with the Company of Saint Patrick and sailed to America with two friends who were all given the rank of captain through Seward's intervention.



Major General John Buford (seated) and Staff with Keogh on the far left.

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NEW YORK [Continued from Page 11]

Keogh served in the Valley Campaign, Port Republic, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Brandy Station, Upperville, and Gettysburg alongside General Buford. When Buford became ill with typhoid fever in the fall of 1863, Keogh stayed with him in Washington at the home of General George Stoneman until Buford died on December 16, 1863. The general died in Keogh's arms. After the funeral service at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, Keogh accompanied General Buford's body to West Point where he was buried alongside Lt. Alonzo Cushing, who died defending General Buford's high ground at Gettysburg. Keogh was devastated by Buford's death and transferred to the Western Theatre. The rest is history. Keogh's body was found at the center of several troopers at Little Big Horn. He was stripped but not mutilated most likely because he wore the *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God) around his neck on a chain. His horse, Comanche, was the only survivor (man or animal) of the battle.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Hank Elliott
Jeff & Shari Rendall
Mark Whitenton

JOIN US AT THE COPPER CANYON GRILL [formerly Red Rock Canyon]

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, other members, and our monthly guest speaker for good food and camaraderie.

We are currently meeting around 5:15 p.m. just across Lee Highway from the library.



There always seems to be connections to those in our past, and General Andrew J. Alexander is no different. He was a Southerner born in Kentucky. He fought for the Union. He served under General McClellan and later with General George Stoneman. He received brevets for gallantry in the 1862 Peninsula Campaign for scouting, and for reconnaissance before and during the battle of Gettysburg. He was brevetted to brigadier general on March

13, 1865. Alexander had the honor of bringing General Buford his major general's commission on his deathbed. He held Buford's hand as he signed the papers making him a major general. He became friends with Myles Keogh when he served under Stoneman and Buford. In 1883 Alexander began to have serious health problems. On May 4, 1887, while on a train going to Auburn, New York, Alexander died unexpectedly at the age of 54. He and his very good friend, Myles Keogh, are buried side by side in Fort Hill Cemetery in Auburn, New York.

Stay tuned for the rest of my adventure in next month's issue.



DON'T FORGET TO NOTIFY OUR
TREASURER MARK KNOWLES IF YOU HAVE AN
EMAIL OR ADDRESS CHANGE!

See newsletter mailer on Page 14 or call Mark at
703.787.9811.



STONE WALL ADVERTISEMENTS

The *Stone Wall* is accepting ads.

For additional information, please see the December 2009/January 2010 Issue of the *Stone Wall*, Page 8 or click on "Place Ads in Newsletter" on the BRCWRT Web site home page.

LITTLE KNOWN INCIDENTS OF THE CIVIL WAR LECTURE AT MORVERN PARK

Sponsored by Preservation Virginia
SATURDAY, MARCH 27 AT 1:00 p.m.

Join local historian Don Hakenson for a **free** lecture about lesser-known Civil War actions in the Northern Virginia region. Mr. Hakenson will also focus on the actions of Confederate partisan raider John S. Mosby. The lecture will be part of the annual meeting of the Northern Virginia Branch of Preservation Virginia. Along with the lecture, tours of the newly restored Morvern Park mansion will be offered. The meeting/lecture will take place on March 27, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at Morvern Park in Leesburg, VA (17263 Southern Planter Lane, Leesburg, VA 20176) For more information contact Rob Orrison at 703-431-2869 or orrison76@hotmail.com

BRISTOE STATION NEEDS YOU!

The Prince William County Division of Historic Preservation is looking for enthusiastic tour guides for Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. Bristoe Battlefield is a 133-acre historic site located in Bristow, Virginia.

Guided tours will be offered two weekends each month from May - October. We are looking for Civil War enthusiasts and/or nature lovers who can make a minimum of a once per month, four-hour commitment. Training will be provided.

For more information please contact Becky Super at 703-792-5546 or via e-mail at rsuper@pwcgov.org. Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park 10708 Bristow Road, Bristow VA 20135. www.pwcv.org/historicsites

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2010



See Treasurer Mark Knowles at the meeting or use the mailer on Page 14.

LINCOLN

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the model of the Lincoln Memorial is that the names of the 36 states are engraved around the top of the building, something that is almost impossible to see on the actual building.



If you do get the chance to visit this exhibit, take a walk a little further to Gallery 66 and visit the Augustus Saint-Gaudens Memorial to Robert Gould Shaw and the Massachusetts Fifty-fourth Regiment. The sculpture depicts the black 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment marching through the streets of Boston on May 28, 1863, on their way to fight in the Civil War led by Colonel Shaw, a white officer. The march was witnessed by the largest crowd in Boston's history!

The memorial is also a model for the actual sculpture dedicated in 1897 in Boston. It is truly a striking sculpture that almost takes you back to the moment the men were marching. These are the men whose story was presented in the movie "Glory."

To take pictures, bring a camera with a flash; no tripods or monopods. As the exhibits are already lighted, my flash just overpowered them. (I used ISO 200 for the Lincoln exhibits and ISO 400 for the Shaw exhibit on my digital SLR). So, take your camera or just go back in time and enjoy!

The West Building of the National Gallery of Art, located on the National Mall at 7th Street at Constitution Avenue NW, is open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For information call (202) 737-4215, or go to www.nga.gov.



BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

2010 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 Treasurer at the General Membership meeting, or mail it to:

Mark Knowles, BRCWRT Treasurer, 169 Applegate Drive, Sterling, VA 20164

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