



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XVIII, Issue 9, DEC. 2011—JAN. 2012

## **BRCWRT PRESIDENT TO SPEAK ON THE BATTLE OF DRANESVILLE, DECEMBER 20, 1861**

Our speaker for the December general membership meeting is BRCWRT President Mark Trbovich. His topic is a local battle, the Battle of Dranesville. Though small in comparison to other Virginia battles, it had its effect on the area. It must not be forgotten and understanding it in more detail is our goal.

Mark is a Navy veteran and attended George Mason University and Kennedy Western University where he graduated with a business administration degree. Mark resides with his family in Prince William County. For the past two years he has been working for TASC, Inc. in Indian Head, Maryland. The previous 29 years, Mark worked for Raytheon Company in Falls Church, Virginia, as the test manager for Intelligence and Information Systems.

Around 2000, Mark voluntarily began to research and write text for the well-known Civil War Trails program. This program began in Virginia and now has erected over 800 markers in Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina. Mark has helped Prince William County and Manassas to erect 16 of their 24 markers. Mark's first Civil War Trails marker was erected at Blackburn's Ford. He credits the BRCWRT, especially members John McAnaw and Dan Paterson, for inspiring him in that endeavor. Additionally, Mark helped Fairfax County erect three markers. One of these was installed at Sully Plantation with the help of BRCWRT member Rob Orrison. Not content with just getting Civil War Trail's markers installed, Mark initiated the idea of creating a countywide tour which combined seeing Civil War Trails markers with a self-guided brochure that allows residents and visitors to drive to and visit all of the Civil War sites in the county. With the help of other Prince William County staff, the Prince William Civil War Heritage Trail brochure was completed last spring and was distributed to each of the BRCWRT members who attended our general membership meeting last summer.

In 2006 Mark was appointed to the board of the Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc., a group committed to finding funds for the acquisition and preservation of significant historic landmarks in Prince William County. He has served as its president for the past three years and is a valuable volunteer for Prince William County.

## **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**DECEMBER 8, 2011**

**7:00 P.M. Centreville Library**

### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Mark Trbovich**

### **TOPIC:**

**The Battle of Dranesville, VA,  
December 20, 1861**

**6:30 P.M. Come early for  
Christmas/Holiday  
Refreshments**

In 2009, he joined the Fairfax County Sesquicentennial Committee and worked with a team to produce the Fairfax County Civil War Heritage Trail brochure which was released in 2010.

Let's bring in the holiday season together and learn about a Civil War struggle which took place in a cold Fairfax County 150 years ago.

Mark truly enjoys serving as your BRCWRT president, and he looks forward to the future to accomplishing as much as possible to making the BRCWRT second to none. Stop by before the meeting at 5:00 p.m. at the Copper Canyon Grill across Route 29 to have dinner with Mark, other BRCWRT friends and guests. Don't forget to come to the library early to enjoy some holiday goodies and fellowship before the meeting.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**HAPPY HANUKKAH**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



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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://bullruncwrt.org>.

### NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **FEBRUARY 2012 issue**, e-mail articles by 9:00  
a.m., Thursday, January 26, 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).

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For **FEBRUARY 2012 issue** advertisers, click on  
"Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org>  
and e-mail ads by noon, Monday, January 16 to Charlie  
Balch at [BRCWRTads@gmail.com](mailto:BRCWRTads@gmail.com).

## BRCWRT BOOK DONATIONS



Please remember to bring your  
unwanted Civil War books to our meet-  
ings to aid in our ongoing book event.  
Besides raising money for the BRCWRT, these books in-  
crease our members' understanding of the Civil War.  
Thank you.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**JANUARY 12**

**SPEAKER:**

**E. B. Vandiver, III**

**TOPIC:**

**The Civil War in Western  
Virginia, 1861**

**FEBRUARY 9**

**SPEAKER:**

**Paul Gilbert**

**TOPIC:**

**Lead like a General**

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## The President's Column By Mark Trbovich

Happy Holidays, everyone. We conclude our 2011 Civil War Sesquicentennial year and begin our new year 2012. As you know, 2011 was certainly unique for this area's Civil War legacy. Many of us attended and participated in the Battle of 1st Manassas events in July. The 2011 objective of the BRCWRT lecture series was to line up lectures to coincide with a battle's 1861 commemoration month. Battles of Fort Sumter, Big Bethel, 1st Manassas, Ball's Bluff, Belmont, MO and this month's Battle of Dranesville were presented. Civil War events of 1861 were also commemorated such as the June 1, 1861, Fairfax City raid, the construction of the defensive forts around Washington and the effects of 1861 events on the West Point Class of 1862. What a year it was considering how heat, heavy rain, and hurricane flood conditions affected our events and meetings. We made it through the year together and really looking forward to the 2012 schedule.

What a pre-Christmas present we received in November from Craig Swain on the anniversary month of the Battle of Belmont, Missouri. You requested Western Theater Civil War battles through our online 2011 Membership Survey, and Craig delivered an excellent talk on one of U.S Grant's early actions on the Mississippi. I certainly learned a tremendous amount on this area of the Civil War, and I need to continue to research and explore. Thank you, Craig, for opening my eyes to new Western Theater research possibilities. You can bet we will continue to pursue Western battle lectures during the Sesquicentennial period.

Our December meeting promises to be memorable as I will bring you the Battle of Dranesville, Virginia. Rob Orrison and I created and placed a Virginia Civil War Trails marker at Dranesville Tavern in 2006. The idea for the marker came after a BRCWRT meeting outside in the parking lot from a member who had a Civil War ancestor with the 9th Pennsylvania "Bucktails" Regiment. The 9th fought with distinction at Dranesville, and today tourists see an overview of the battle at the Virginia Civil War Trail sign and learn about the battle that took place this month.

Our 2012 BRCWRT elections will be held at the December 8 meeting. We will be holding officer elections for president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. Members are encouraged to come out and vote. Bring in the holidays with fellow BRCWRT members and friends. We will have some holiday goodies prior to the meeting so come early. Don't miss this last meeting of 2011. Bring a friend to enjoy it with you.

As this amazing year comes to an end, I want to first thank our entire BRCWRT Executive Committee for making 2011 such a successful Civil War Sesquicentennial year. Launching new initiatives has made us the Civil War education and preservation leader in the

area. As you know, it was my honor to accept the Civil War Trust 2011 Round Table of the Year award on your behalf in May, and we look forward to working in 2012 to maintain and remain worthy of that honor. I would also like to thank you, the membership, who are the backbone of this great round table, 220 strong and still growing. Our newsletter, tours and Web site are second to none. Each volunteer makes us so proud of what you have accomplished this year at numerous events.

Again as last year, 2012 is your time to shine. Embrace the Sesquicentennial, volunteer, or attend the numerous events, and do all you can to make it memorable for you, your family and the community. In 1862, this area was again totally surrounded by troops and fighting. We will be participating in and supporting local events throughout the year to commemorate that year with the Battle of Chantilly/Ox Hill as the signature event for Fairfax County in September. Together, we are the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, and we will lead the way into the 2012 Civil War Sesquicentennial as a beacon for all to learn about the Civil War and the much needed preservation of sites...lest we forget them and what they did for us! Never Forget!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to every one. God bless all of you.



**Thank you, Craig Swain, for speaking to us about the Battle of Belmont, Missouri.**

Photo by Janet Greentree

## THE BRCWRT PARTICIPATES IN CENTREVILLE DAY

A special thanks to members Dale Maschino, John Briar, Mike Buckley and Blake Myers for manning our BRCWRT tent at Centreville Day on Saturday, October 22, at historic St. John's Episcopal Church. Blake brought and displayed interesting artifacts for visitors to view. Thanks also to Mark Knowles for setting up early Saturday morning. This volunteering on Centreville Day is just an example of how our BRCWRT members are participating in local events.

## E. B. VANDIVER, III, SPEAKS ON THE CIVIL WAR IN WESTERN VIRGINIA, 1861, AT OUR JANUARY MEETING

By Mark Trbovich

I can't think of a better way to bring in the new year than to wrap up 2011 with Civil War Sesquicentennial action and battles in Western Virginia. Our speaker is quite well known throughout the BRCWRT as a member and historian. E. B. has researched this area and will bring a great presentation for our further knowledge on these battles.

E. B. was born in Kennett, MO. In 1956, he graduated from Culver Military Academy, Culver, IN. He then attended the University of Missouri at Columbia where he received a B.S. degree in physics in June 1960. Having successfully completed the Senior ROTC program, upon graduation he was also commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. E.B. then continued his education at "Ole Mizzou" where he was awarded a M.S. degree in physics in 1962. Since then, he has pursued university studies in military history, Russian history, and computer science. He is a graduate of the Senior Executive Education Program run by the Federal Executive Institute and also the Harvard University Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security.

From 1962-1964, E.B. served on active duty as a lieutenant, U.S. Army Chemical Corps at Fort McClellan, AL, with the CBR Combat Developments Agency. After leaving active duty he became an operations research analyst for the Combat Operations Research Group (CORG) at Ft. Belvoir, VA. Since then (except for a three-year period) E. B. has been in active federal service. He is an individual of rare merit and many accomplishments.

At the present time, E.B. heads the U.S. Army Center for Army Analysis (CAA). The mission of this influential field operating agency of the Chief of Staff, Army, is to conduct analysis of Army forces in the context of joint and combined operations. He has been the director of CAA located at Fort Belvoir, VA, since 1984.

Please come out for a lecture that you will remember as we honor Western Virginia's 1861 actions. Also, join E. B. and other BRCWRT friends and guests at 5:00 p.m. for dinner at the Cooper Canyon Grill across Route 29 from the Centreville Library.



### GUNSTON HALL FEBRUARY 12 CIVIL WAR LECTURE AND FILM

Gunston Hall's 5th annual Seeds of Independence program for Black History Month 2012 focuses on the Civil War. An illustrated lecture titled "On Uneven Ground: Finding Freedom in the Civil War Chesapeake" will be given by GWU's Director of Museum Studies, Kym S. Rice. Professor Rice curated the Museum of the Confederacy's exhibit "Before Freedom Came, African-American Life in the Antebellum South."

A short film will also be shown: "Between the Lines: Free Blacks Living on Mason's Neck during the Civil War." The film documents the impact of the Civil War upon this community situated between Accotink and Occoquan.

Sunday, February 12, 2012, 2 P.M.  
at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck,  
VA 22079. For additional information: 703-550-9220  
or [www.GunstonHall.org](http://www.GunstonHall.org). Suggested donation: \$9,  
Adults; \$8, Seniors; \$5, 6-18 years. Program includes  
film, lecture, Sweet Potato Pie Reception, and a  
guided tour of George Mason's mansion.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Lane Brooks  
Chris Kern  
Tom McGinlay  
Nadine Mironchuk  
Al Smith

## BRCWRT MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN AND ATTEND GETTYSBURG REMEMBRANCE DAY NOVEMBER 19, 2011



Photos L to R: Gen. Ewell (Chris Godart) marches to the right of Gen. Lee; Col. John Singleton Mosby (Jimmy Flemming), Gwen Wyttenbach, Dan Paterson, Nancy Anwyll and Janet Greentree

### CHRISTMAS 1964

We're sure many young future BRCWRT members requested the set below in their 1964 letters to Santa. Member Mark Knowles discovered this ad in a 1964 Sears Christmas Catalog. Too bad the person who arranged the display didn't know as much about the Civil War as Mark. He found some errors. Can you find any? See Mark's comments at the bottom of page 6. You'll have to be looking at the *Stone Wall* in color online to distinguish blue from gray.

### Civil War Battle of Blue and Gray

Mortar and cannon really shoot play shells  
 . . bunker explodes with a direct hit

200 pieces \$7<sup>97</sup>      167 pieces \$4<sup>97</sup>

Choose sides, recreate famous Civil War battles. 51 Union, 50 Confederate soldiers, about 2 in. high. Realistic-looking trench unit, bridge, boulders, building ruin, split-rail fence, trees, tents, collapsible cots, stretchers and flags. Plus horses, caissons and 33 pieces of fighting equipment, "Ammo". Set includes 4 Civil War figures . . . Lincoln, Grant, Lee and Davis. Plastic soldiers, accessories. Steel plantation house, 10½ inches wide. Unassembled.  
 79 N 6001C—Shipping weight 3 pounds. . . . . Set \$7.97  
 79 N 5959C—167-pc. set similar to above but fewer pieces. Wt. 5 lbs. . . 4.97

**Battlefield Layout Base.** Detailed printed terrain on 42x36-in. plastic sheet.  
 49 N 6096—Shipping weight 3 ounces. . . . . 49c

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



If you plan to attend an event, please verify the information given. Advance reservation and fees may apply. If you would like an event posted, please e-mail Dale Maschino at [fsainc@netzero.net](mailto:fsainc@netzero.net).

**2-3 Dec** – Candlelight tour and open house, a Confederate Christmas at Stonewall Jackson's Headquarters Museum in Winchester. 7-9 p.m. Friday, 1-5 p.m. Saturday. For information call 540-662-6550 or go to: [www.winchesterhistory.org](http://www.winchesterhistory.org).

**3 Dec** – "Christmas on the Farm," 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Shenandoah Valley Traditions at the New Market State Historical Park in New Market. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Free with park admission. Call 866-515-1864 or go to [www.vmi.edu/newmarket](http://www.vmi.edu/newmarket).

**3 Dec** – Memorial Illumination on the Antietam National Battlefield. Popular annual display of 23,000 candles representing battle casualties. Driving tour begins at 6 p.m. on Rt. 34 East of Sharpsburg. Free. Living History 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Pry House Field Hospital. Note: Visitor Center and several Park roads close at 3 p.m. For info go to [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti).

**3 Dec** – "An Evening With the Painting," a special program at the Gettysburg Cyclorama. 6 – 7:30 p.m. \$30. Go to [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org).

**3-4 Dec** – "Victorian Christmas at the Dr. Samuel Mudd House in Waldorf, Md. Decorations, refreshments and more. 11 a.m.- 8 p.m. Call 301-645-6870.

**4 Dec** – Living History, "Christmas in Camp," holiday customs at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax. Noon – 4 p.m. Free. Call 703-591-0560.

**7 Dec** – Lecture, "Inside Civil War Washington DC," Smithsonian event at the S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive SW, Noon. \$25. For info go to "Lectures & Seminars" at [www.residentassociates.org](http://www.residentassociates.org).

**10 Dec** – Get into the holiday spirit and learn how Christmas was observed during the Civil War by attending Fort Ward Museum's annual "Christmas in Camp" open house, from 12 – 4 p.m. Meet a patriotic Santa Claus at this popular family-oriented event that also features living history presentations, Victorian decorations, refreshments, tours, and crafts. Ft. Ward is the best-preserved fortification in the defenses of Washington,

built to protect the Union Capital during the Civil War. The suggested donation is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. For more information, call 703-746-4848 or go to [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org).

**10-11 Dec** – Anniversary activities, Battle of Fredericksburg, special tours and ceremony at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park (near main visitor center). Free. For information go to [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp).

**10-11 Dec** – "Civil War Santa Visits Ben Lomond," at the Ben Lomond Historic Site, 10321 Sudley Manor Road, Manassas. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. \$5. Call 703-367-7872.

**17 Dec** – "The Legend of Civil War Santa," at the Suratt House Museum in Clinton, MD. 12 – 4 p.m. Free with admission. For information go to [www.suratt.org](http://www.suratt.org).

**17-18 Dec** – A Civil War Christmas at Leesylvania State Park in Woodbridge. Decorating, Santa Claus, refreshments. 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. \$5 parking fee. Call 703-730-8205.

**19 Jan** – Lecture, "General Lee Takes Command," at the Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas. 7p.m. Free (Donations welcome). For information call 703-792-4754.

**26 Jan** – Book review "The Life of General Richard S. Ewell," with author Don Pfanz at the Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas. 7p.m. Free (Donations welcome). For information call 703-792-4754.

**29 Jan** – Bus tour, "Fredericksburg In The Civil War," a Smithsonian tour with Ed Bearss. Leaves from Washington 8 a.m. \$161. For info go to [www.residentassociates.org](http://www.residentassociates.org). Click on study tours.



'Merry Old Santa Claus', an engraving by Thomas Nast

**It's time to re-enlist for 2012!**

**Please send your check to the address on the mailer (page 12) or pay your dues at the December meeting.**



**CHRISTMAS 1964...On the right side, in front of the plantation house, there is a single Union soldier amidst the Confederates. Both flags are on the same side of the river. Majority of Federals are across the river, opposite their Headquarters.**

## DECEMBER 1861

By Nancy Anwyll



150 YEARS  
AGO

In the first few days of December, there were small skirmishes at Annandale, Vienna, and Burke's Station. Confederate General D. H. Hill replaced Nathan G. "Shanks" Evans as commander of Confederate forces in Loudoun County. Elijah V. White of Leesburg, a hero of Ball's Bluff, started recruiting a company of Confederate cavalry in Loudoun which he called his "Comanches."



Elijah V. White

**Dec. 9**, following a lengthy discussion of military disasters, the U. S. Senate approved setting up a Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War, whose investigations caused great furor and criticism as well as considerable approval.

**Dec. 20**, there was a sharp fight at Dranesville, Virginia. BG JEB Stuart led a Confederate foraging party consisting of several wagons and cavalry of 150 troopers from Centreville to Dranesville where he was confronted by BG E. O. C. Ord's cavalry, infantry, and battery. The Confederates extricated themselves but lost 43 killed, 143 wounded, 7 captured, and 1 missing. The Union lost 7 killed, 61 wounded.

**Dec. 24**, a skirmish occurred near Pohick Church and Fairfax Court House.

**Dec. 25**, six to eight inches of snow fell on the camp of the 40<sup>th</sup> NY of Sedgwick's Brigade on Franconia Road east of Alexandria.

**Dec. 26**, Brig. Gen. Philip St. George Cocke, a Confederate officer who had distinguished himself earlier near Manassas, committed suicide at his home in Powhatan County, Virginia. Over 150 horses died in a fire in the government stables near the Washington Observatory.

By the end of the month, both armies settled in for winter by building cabins and quarters.

Concerned over the lack of action by his Army, President Lincoln learned that his military commander, Maj. Gen. McClellan, was ill with typhoid.



Centreville winter huts

## JANUARY 1862

**Jan. 1**, President Lincoln in Washington and President Davis in Richmond held traditional New Year's Day receptions in their homes. Lincoln invited the public as well as most of the government officials to the White House. One guest, a politician from Illinois, had his pocket picked of \$50. In the Richmond White House, bands played and thousands shook Davis' hand.



**Jan. 15**, the first snow of the New Year made it possible for the men at Camp Pierpont at Langley near McLean to do some sleighing and catch rabbits. The U.S. Senate confirmed the appointment of Edwin M. Stanton as Secretary of War.

**Jan. 18**, two companies of the 8<sup>th</sup> Illinois Cavalry stopped at Ravensworth on Braddock Road east of Annandale where the widow Fitzhugh showed Gen. Oliver O. Howard a written "protection" signed by Gen. Scott and others. The order protected her home and property from damage by the military forces.



Wade Hampton

Sometime in January, Col. Wade Hampton and his detachment of four cavalry companies avoided an ambush near Pohick Church after they were warned by a Texas scout that a Union infantry and artillery was hidden in the woods at the foot of Potters Hill (on Telegraph Road near today's Fort Belvoir). Hampton's men withdrew successfully from the trap after suffering several wounded.

**Jan. 25**, before the snow began falling, Professor Lowe launched his balloon a few times at Pohick Church. He observed the enemy's earthworks from Colchester to Aquia Creek.

**Jan. 27**, Pres. Lincoln took an unprecedented step by issuing the President's General War Order No. 1, ordering a general movement of all Union armies on 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 1862. The Order was a result of Lincoln's frustration with inaction of the Union army's leadership.

**Jan. 28**, a skirmish occurred at Mrs. Lee's near Colchester on the Occoquan River in southern Fairfax County. Fifty men of the 37<sup>th</sup> NY and some Texas Rangers exchanged gun fire.

**Sources including photos:** Library of Congress; [www.Virginia.org](http://www.Virginia.org); *Day by Day* by Long; *Time Line of the Civil War in Fairfax County* (Unpublished Manuscript) by Ed Wenzel.

## PRINCE WILLIAM—MANASSAS FOCUS ON 2012 EVENTS AROUND SECOND MANASSAS CAMPAIGN

By Rob Orrison

As 2011 winds down, many of us on the 150<sup>th</sup> Committee in Prince William breathed a sigh of relief and reflected on the craziness that was 2011. Attendance at all Civil War-related programs in Prince William County and the City of Manassas was fantastic. We feel a diverse offering of programs was provided. As we plan for 2012, most of our focus will be on the actions leading up to and including the Second Battle of Manassas. This was the largest one of the Civil War at the time and was one of the masterpieces of Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson.

Some events will include lectures, living history programs at Thoroughfare Gap, Bristoe Station Battlefield Park, Manassas National Battlefield Park, a Civil War weekend at Manassas Museum focusing on the Confederate raid there in 1862, and in-depth bus tours covering all the actions in the area. It will be an exciting time, and we look forward to offering unique perspectives into Prince William County's role in the Civil War.

Finally, our annual winter lecture series begins in January. In 2012, we will be offering two lectures a month. Most of these will focus on Civil War-related topics. January and February lectures are described below.

### JANUARY 19

#### General Lee Takes Command

Historian and actor David Palmer will present a unique 1<sup>st</sup> person program as General Robert E. Lee during the time leading up to the Second Manassas Campaign.

### JANUARY 26

#### Prince William County's Civil War General – Life of Gen. Richard S. Ewell

Historian and biographer Don Pfanz will give a detailed overview of the life Confederate General, Richard S. Ewell. Raised in the Nokesville area of Prince William County, Gen. Ewell had a distinguished career in the U.S. Army before the Civil War and was one of Robert E. Lee's trusted lieutenants during the war. Mr. Pfanz's book *"Richard S. Ewell: A Soldier's Life"*, is considered the authority of the life of this much overlooked but influential Civil War general.

### FEBRUARY 9

#### Longstreet's Attack and the Struggle for Chinn Ridge

On the afternoon of August 30, 1862, General Robert E. Lee glimpsed an opportunity to destroy a Union

army on the field of battle. Much is known about how General James Longstreet's men rolled over a gallant brigade of New York Zouaves and headed for the Union rear. What happened next is the subject of this lecture as Prince William County Historic Preservation Division hosts author and historian Scott Patchen.

**Lectures will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave., Manassas, Virginia. Lectures are free but donations are accepted and appreciated. For more information, call 703-792-4754**



## SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION OF LINCOLN'S GRAND REVIEW

By Brian R. McEnany

One hundred and fifty years ago, the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac started moving at dawn on November 20, 1861, to participate in a Grand Review for President Lincoln. The review was conducted on two hundred acres of open ground, some two miles east of Munson's Hill at the intersection of the Columbia Turnpike, Seminary Road and the Leesburg Turnpike. It was a cold, blustery day with a bit of snow on the ground. Throughout the morning, units approached the area from different directions. One observer noted that for over an hour, the grounds were covered with moving masses of men, bands and ambulances. Before General McClellan, the President and his cabinet arrived, close to 70,000 men in seven divisions, seven regiments of cavalry, and twenty batteries of artillery covered the area near the crossroads. The review began at 1:00 p.m. and lasted for some three hours. Some twenty to thirty thousand spectators observed the spectacle.

"A magnificent display" read the headline in the *New York Times* the next day. The President and many veteran officers saw a fully equipped and disciplined army – a far cry from the untrained volunteers that returned from Bull Run or were scattered at Ball's Bluff. It was "the largest body of troops ever reviewed on this continent," and perhaps, was the crowning achievement of General George Brinton McClellan. He had organized, equipped, and drilled the almost 160,000 men into a real army, the Army of the Potomac, in the four months since Bull Run.

**See GRAND REVIEW, Page 9**

## GRAND REVIEW [From Page 8]

But the Grand Review of 2011 was not held at Bailey's Crossroads. Instead, the anniversary of the event was conducted at Fort Leslie J. McNair in Washington, D.C. on November 12, 2011. The weather was cold, and windy with a bright blue cloudless sky overhead.



Originally the fort at Greenleaf Point, it is now the site of the National Defense University and the headquarters of the Military District of Washington. The fort, the third oldest military post in the country, included the grounds of the Washington Arsenal during the war. Used by the arsenal, the old penitentiary was the site of the Military Tribunal and hanging of the Lincoln conspirators. Against the current day backdrop of brick, white columned, three-story quarters that housed the most senior military officers in the country, the Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance presented a Sesquicentennial Commemoration of the event.

Some 200-300 spectators seated themselves on four small, raised stands around a platform to listen and watch the proceedings. On the platform were the featured speakers: Major General Michael Linnington, Commanding General, Military District of Washington; Colonel Carl Coffman, commander of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall; President Abraham Lincoln (James Getty); and Frank J. Williams, – author of many Lincoln books, head of the Lincoln Forum and retired chief justice of Rhode Island Supreme Court; and Ed Bearss as the Grand Marshal. Finally, the Bailey's Crossroads Baptist Church Choir provided a stirring rendition of the *National Anthem* and *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*.

There were a number of persons in period dress – the ladies in hoop skirts, bonnets and capes; the men in gray trousers, vests, overcoats and soft hats. One represented Julia Ward Howe, and she gave a short presentation before each of the four stands. She explained how after hearing the troops singing *John Brown's Body* two days earlier as they marched away from another review, she was asked to write new words for that song. Early the next morning at the Willard Hotel (Nov. 19), the words tumbled onto paper, and she later submitted her work to the *Atlantic Monthly* which titled the verses the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. It quickly became the Army's best known Civil War marching song.

I was disappointed to find there were no civil war troops that would parade that day. Instead, the Military District of Washington added The Old Guard Fife



and Drum Corps and the joint color guard. There were just six persons in civil war uniform – three cavalry and three infantry – that represented the 70,000 men that paraded 150 years before. I am certain there was a reason for no unit participation, but it was not clear why at the ceremony. It is likely that lack of resources to adequately fund the event was the reason it failed to attract civil war units or come up to the expectations expressed on its Web site over the past two years. It was the first parade I have ever attended with no troops.

The military speakers provided an excellent backdrop for featured speaker, Frank Williams. President Lincoln (James Getty) discussed the events leading up to the review and expressed hope for an early end to the rebellion. Frank Williams provided about ten minutes of military and political background and focused on the momentous event that President Lincoln witnessed one hundred and fifty years ago. He ended his remarks by emphasizing that the well-disciplined army at Bailey's Crossroads needed to raise the hopes of the country. The soldiers participating in the review at Bailey's Crossroads could see they were part of something greater than just their unit. Indeed, one colonel with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania cavalry noted that, "In the realization of all observers even the most experienced officers, the Army was born that day."



**SOURCE:** Harpers Weekly, December 7, 1861; Jeffery Wert, *The Sword of Lincoln* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2005), 49-51; Kim Holien "Brilliant Beyond Description," *On Point* (Arlington, VA: Army Historical Foundation, Vol. 17, No.1), 6-13. *New York Times*, November 21, 1861. Julia Ward Howe, "A Note on the Battle Hymn of the Republic", *Century magazine*, Vol. XXXIV (1887), 629-630. Note that the dates differ from Holien's article as to what review she attended. Commemoration Program quote attributed to Colonel William Averell, 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania Cavalry.

## CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

### GENERALS GOUVERNEUR K. WARREN AND JOSHUA LAWRENCE CHAMBERLAIN

By Janet Greentree

Before arriving in Boston, Massachusetts, and enjoying the trip I told you about in last month's *Stone Wall*, my sister and I started our New England tour at West Point. John Milton Brannan and Eugene Asa Carr, the two generals I missed on the West Point trip in June with Gwen Wyttenbach, were found this time. These two bring the total of Civil War generals' graves I located at West Point to 28. We crossed over the Hudson River to Beacon, New York, and found General Henry Eugene Davies at St. Luke's Church. The next general to be found was Joseph K. Finno Mansfield in Middletown, Connecticut. Our next stop was Island Cemetery in Newport, Rhode Island. What a beautiful and charming little town Newport is. The ocean is so blue and the mansions along the ocean are truly spectacular.

Island Cemetery has three generals buried there – Generals Thomas West Sherman, Isaac Ingalls Stevens, and **Gouverneur Kemble Warren**. General War-



**U.S. Gen. Gouverneur  
Kemble Warren**

ren, known as the Hero of Little Round Top at the Battle of Gettysburg, was born January 8, 1830, in Cold Spring, New York, on the Hudson River just across from West Point. Warren was named for Gouverneur Kemble, a local congressman, industrialist, and diplomat. He entered West Point at the age of 16 and graduated in 1850 second in his class out of 44 cadets. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Corps of Topographical Engineers.

Before the Civil War, he worked on the Mississippi River, did transcontinental railroad surveys, and created the first map of the United States west of the Mississippi in 1857. He also surveyed the Minnesota River Valley. The River Warren in Minnesota was named in his honor after his death.

When the Civil War began, he was a mathematics professor at West Point. He raised a local regiment and was appointed lieutenant colonel of the 5<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry in May, 1861. His regiment saw their first combat at Big Bethel. Assisting General Andrew Humphries, he commanded his regiment at the Siege of Yorktown in 1862, in the Peninsula Campaign. Warren drew detailed maps for the army to follow on the penin-

sula. He was wounded in the knee at Gaines Mill and refused to be taken from the field. His brigade stopped the attack by the Confederates at Malvern Hill near Richmond. He was promoted to brigadier general in September 1862.

Warren's star shown at Gettysburg. He quickly realized the importance of the position of the left flank of the Union Army on Little Round Top, which was left unoccupied. He instructed Col. Strong Vincent to occupy the position just minutes before being attacked and saved the small hill. Warren assumed command of the V Corps after General Hancock returned from medical leave. Warren's statue by Karl Gerhardt has a commanding presence on a rock on top of Little Round Top at Gettysburg. The statue was dedicated in 1888. In addition to Gettysburg, Warren saw action at Fredericksburg, Bristoe Station, the Wilderness, and outside Petersburg.



Generals Sheridan and Warren clashed at the battle of Five Forks on April 1, 1865. Sheridan believed that Warren moved too slowly in the attack. Sheridan relieved Warren of his command immediately. After being humiliated by Sheridan, the general resigned his commission on May 27, 1865. He served as an engineer for 17 years building railroads and the Rock Island Bridge over the Mississippi, and making harbor improvements along the Mississippi, the Atlantic Coast, and the Great Lakes. Warren unsuccessfully tried to have General Grant exonerate him for Five Forks. Warren's requests were either refused or ignored. Later during the administration of President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1879, another court of inquiry was held. This time Warren's dismissal by General Sheridan was deemed unjustified. Sadly, Warren died of acute liver failure related to diabetes in Newport, Rhode Island, on August 8, 1882, at the age of 52. The results of the inquiry were not published until after his death. Warren was buried in civilian clothes and without military honors per his request. The last words he uttered were: "The flag! The flag." Warren left an extensive collection of papers, maps, and letters.

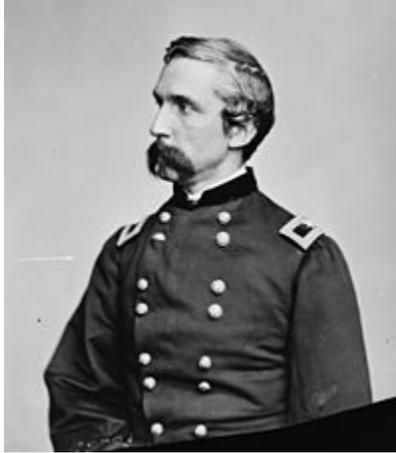
Of the 25 generals' graves found on this trip, General Chamberlain means the most to me. General Warren was called the Hero of Little Round Top, but Colonel Chamberlain (at the time) was called "the Lion of the Round Top."

**Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain** was born in Brewer, Maine on September 8, 1828. His father named him for sea Captain James Lawrence who was famous for his quote: "*Don't give up the ship.*" His great

## MS. REBELLE [from Page 10]

grandfathers were soldiers in the American Revolution. His great-grandfather Franklin fought in the battle of Yorktown as a sergeant. His grandfather Joshua fought in the War of 1812 as a colonel. His father served in the Aroostook War (a non-violent confrontation with England over the Maine/Canada border) in 1839.

Chamberlain entered Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine in 1848. To pass the entrance exam to Bowdoin, Chamberlain taught himself ancient Greek. His professor's wife was Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Chamberlain graduated in 1852. He went on to study three more years at the Bangor Theological Seminary in Bangor, Maine. He then returned to Bowdoin College as a professor of rhetoric. During his tenure there, he taught every subject but science and mathematics. He was fluent in nine languages: Greek, Latin, Spanish, German, French, Italian, Arabic, Hebrew, and Syriac (a literary language of the Middle East between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries).



Even though Chamberlain had no military background, he believed the Civil War to be just. In a letter to the governor of Maine, he said: *"I fear, this war, so costly of blood and treasure, will not cease until men of the North are willing to leave good positions, and sacrifice the dearest personal interests, to rescue our country from desolation, and defend the national existence against treachery."* He was granted a leave of absence and enlisted in the Union Army without telling his family or the college of his plans. He was appointed the lieutenant colonel of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine under Colonel Adelbert Ames after refusing to take on the colonelcy stating he preferred to *"start a little lower and learn the business first."* His younger brother Thomas was also an officer in the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine. His brother John was a chaplain in the U.S. Christian Commission.

Chamberlain's 20<sup>th</sup> Maine first fought at Fredericksburg. His unit missed Chancellorsville due to an outbreak of small pox in their ranks. At Gettysburg, like Warren, Chamberlain's star shown. The 20<sup>th</sup> Maine was the extreme left flank of the Union Army on Little Round Top. He was told to hold the hill at all costs. The 15<sup>th</sup> Alabama under Colonel William C. Oates charged the hill. The action went back and forth. In desperation Chamberlain ordered a bayonet charge after their ammunition was depleted. The 20<sup>th</sup> Maine charged down the hill with their bayonets capturing 101 of the Confederates and saving the hill. He was given the Medal of Honor for his

brave charge at Little Round Top. The citation reads: *"Daring heroism and great tenacity in holding his position on the Little Round Top against repeated assaults, and carrying the advance position on the Great Round Top."* He was wounded several times; the most serious wound at Petersburg would eventually end his life but not until 1914. At the surrender at Appomattox, he was given the honor of presiding over the parade of Confederates. He fought in 20 battles, many skirmishes, was cited for bravery four times, wounded six times, and had six horses shot out from under him.

After the war, he went back to Maine, was elected and served as Maine's governor for four one-year terms. He returned to Bowdoin College in 1871 as president and kept that position until 1883 when he had to resign due to poor health. He wrote his memoirs *The Passing of the Armies* as well as books about Maine and education. His Medal of Honor was awarded to him in 1893. General Chamberlain died in Portland, Maine, on February 24, 1914 at the age of 85. His surgeon, Dr. Abner Shaw, who operated on him in Petersburg fifty years prior, was beside him when he died. The Minnie ball that wounded him in Petersburg is displayed at his home on Maine Street across from Bowdoin College.



Chamberlain home on Maine Street across from Bowdoin College



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