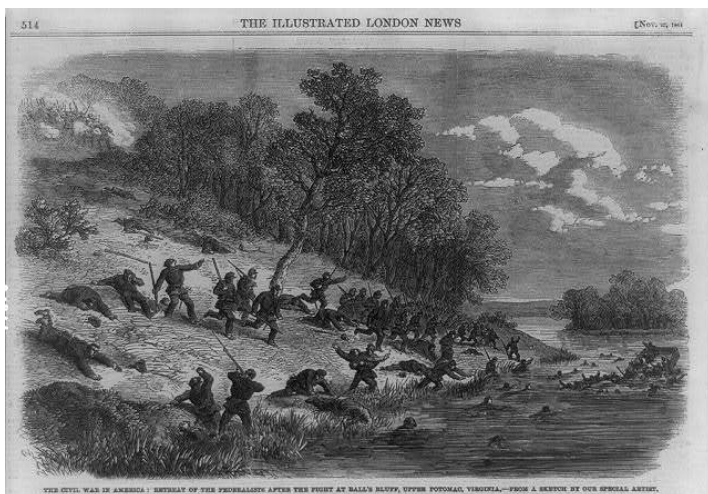




The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XVIII, Issue 7, OCTOBER 2011

JIM MORGAN SPEAKS ON THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF

By Mark Trbovich



**Retreat of the Federalists after the fight at Ball's Bluff, upper Potomac, Virginia
(Library of Congress)**

We are so honored to have historian James A. Morgan III, to discuss the Battle of Ball's Bluff at our Thursday, October 13, meeting. October marks the sesquicentennial anniversary of that battle. Jim will also be one of the tour guides for our October 29th Ball's Bluff battlefield tour.

Jim hails from New Orleans, LA, and was raised in north Florida. He currently lives in Lovettsville, VA, in Loudoun County.

His Confederate ancestors served in the Pointe Coupee (LA) Artillery, the 6th Louisiana Battery, and the 41st Mississippi Infantry.

Jim is past president of the Loudoun County Civil War Round Table and a member of the Loudoun County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee. He is a volunteer battlefield guide at Ball's Bluff and has recently joined the advisory board of the Mosby Heritage Area Association.

His tactical study of Ball's Bluff titled *A Little Short of Boats: The Battles at Ball's Bluff and Edwards Ferry, October 21-22, 1861*, was published in 2004 and has been called "the definitive account of Ball's Bluff." Jim has also written for *Civil War Times*, *America's Civil War*, *Blue and Gray*, and *The Artilleryman*,

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2011

7:00 P.M. Centreville Library

GUEST SPEAKER:

James A. Morgan, III

TOPIC:

Battle of Ball's Bluff

among others. His accounts of Ball's Bluff appear on the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority Web site (nvrpa.org) and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Web site (hallowedground.org). Jim is currently researching the biography of Union Brig. Gen. Charles P. Stone.

Jim holds a master's degree in political science from the University of West Florida and a master's in library science from Florida State University. He works as the acquisitions librarian for the State Department's Office of International Information Programs in Washington, D.C.

You won't want to miss Jim's lecture and tour on this hallowed ground in Leesburg. Meet Jim for dinner at 5:00 p.m. at the Copper Canyon Grill across Route 29 from the library before the 7:00 p.m. meeting. Hope to see you then.

**DON'T MISS THE
BRCWRT FALL TOUR
TO FORT EVANS
AND BALL'S BLUFF**

See Page 3 for details.

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Andy Kapfer, Janet Greentree and Jill Hilliard

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>.

**BRCWRT BOOK
DONATIONS**

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

**UPCOMING
MEETINGS****NOVEMBER 10, 2011****SPEAKER****Craig Swain****TOPIC****Western Civil War Theater
Battle of Belmont, Missouri****DECEMBER 8, 2011****SPEAKER****Mark Trbovich****Topic****The Battle of Dranesville****NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

For the **November** issue, e-mail articles by 9:00 a.m., Thursday, October 27, to Sandra Cox at scox@capitalav.com. If acknowledgement of your article is not received by deadline, call Sandra at 703.675.0702 (cell) or 540.374.2011 (Capital AV).

NEWSLETTER AD SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For **November** issue advertisers, click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon, Monday October 17, to Charlie Balch at BRCWRTads@gmail.com.

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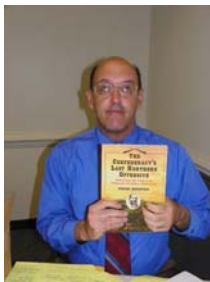
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The President's Column

By Mark Trbovich

The August and September general membership meetings were outstanding in their own way if you had a chance to attend them. One was in the height of vacation season, and one was during a hurricane's flood. I personally want to thank all the folks who came out during the September flood to hear Wally Owen's lecture on the book he and Frank Cooling co-authored, *"Mr. Lincoln's Forts: A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington."* Twenty-five brave souls made it to the library despite some members being stuck in traffic for over three hours. Thank you, Wally, for hanging in there while braving the weather, and for an excellent presentation on the Washington area defenses.



A special thanks to our August speaker, Steve Bernstein, and to our September speaker, Wally Owen. Photos by Janet Greentree and Gwen Wyttenbach.

August brought us Steve Bernstein and a lecture on his book *"The Confederacy's Last Northern Offensive: Jubal Early, the Army of the Valley and the Raid on Washington."* Steve gave us an in-depth look at the Early raid on Washington. The question and answer portion of the lecture was outstanding making it a very successful night. We were so happy to meet Steve and hope his book tour is very successful.

Following our meeting on 1st Manassas in July, the month of October gets us back on track with the 150th battle calendar where each month's meeting is an anniversary of a 1861 battle. You are in for a special treat this month with Jim Morgan's Battle of Balls Bluff lecture. You don't want to miss this lecture and our October 29 tour. Details for the tour are available on this page of the newsletter, our Web site, and at the October 13th meeting.

What a Web site we have! It keeps getting better with each new innovation that is added. We have a great Webmaster in Ken Jones. A huge thank you, Ken, for all the work you do!

Election season for BRCWRT officers is upon us. Our nominating committee lead, John DePue, will be accepting nominees at the October and November meetings. The membership will vote for the slate of officers at the December meeting. Please see John if you would like to run for president, vice president, treasurer, or

secretary of our Executive Committee for the upcoming 2012 BRCWRT season.

We anticipate a large turnout for all of the next three lectures as these are Sesquicentennial anniversary battles...Balls Bluff, VA (Oct), Belmont, MO (Nov) and Dranesville, VA (Dec). I can't wait to hear them.

As always, there is no friendlier, knowledgeable or hospitable bunch of Civil War folks than the 2011 Civil War Trust's "Round Table of the year," the BRCWRT. Bring a friend, keep coming out and stay active with all upcoming events and lectures. Note--Come visit our booth at St. John's Episcopal Church in historic Centreville on October 22nd for Centreville Days!

God Bless, and see you at the meetings,

BRCWRT 2011 FALL TOUR

BALL'S BLUFF BATTLEFIELD

DATE: Saturday, October 29

ASSEMBLY LOCATION & TIME:

7: 45 a.m. Centreville Library with an 8:00 a.m. car pool departure.

8:45 a.m. Sheetz — McDonald's Service Center, Route 15 Bypass & Edward's Ferry Road. [965 Edwards Ferry Rd, NE, Leesburg, VA 20176

SITES: Join us for this unique opportunity to tour Fort Evans and the Ball's Bluff Battlefield with two Civil War Loudoun County experts, **Craig Swain and Jim Morgan**. Visit one of the best preserved field fortifications in the State of Virginia. Carefully maintained by a corporate owner, Fort Evans, is ordinarily inaccessible to the public. Then on to Ball's Bluff Battlefield. Time permitting, we will explore either the "Masked Battery" field fortifications or those overlooking Route 7 and Goose Creek.

TOUR DURATION: 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

LUNCH: Brown bag or nearby fast food restaurant.

EXERTION: Moderate. Wear comfortable shoes. Optional walk down the steep embankment to the Potomac River.

SIGN UP: Please sign up for the tour using the link on the BRCWRT home page. A signup sheet will be passed at the October meeting.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: We will send out a weather cancellation notice via e-mail the morning of the tour. If you do not have e-mail, please call John DePue at (703) 791.3389..



150 YEARS AGO

OCTOBER 1861

By Nancy Anwyll

Oct. 1, CSA Pres. Jefferson Davis and his generals held a conference on grand strategy at Fairfax Courthouse in the Willcoxon Hotel. After Davis vetoed Gen. Beauregard's proposal to attack Washington, the main topic focused on the future of the Confederate army in Virginia.



**Willcoxon Hotel/Tavern, circa 1932
Fairfax Court House (Source: Historic Fairfax)**

Oct. 3, Federal troops occupied Pohick Church south of Alexandria and became involved in a skirmish at Springfield Station west of Alexandria. The Springfield foray netted 32 car loads of wood and sleepers for the Federal army.

Oct. 8, The Union army garrisoned Minor's Hill north of Falls Church (located today near Williamsburg and Powhatan Streets). Six hundred men from New York and Michigan regiments flattened trees and made the hill defensible.

Oct. 10, After Union troops vandalized the abandoned home of naval hero Commodore Thomas Catesby Jones located near Langley Fork and Lewinsville, BG Smith established headquarters at nearby Salona Mansion.

Oct. 15, After Gen. James Wadsworth made Congressman Upton's house his headquarters, construction of a

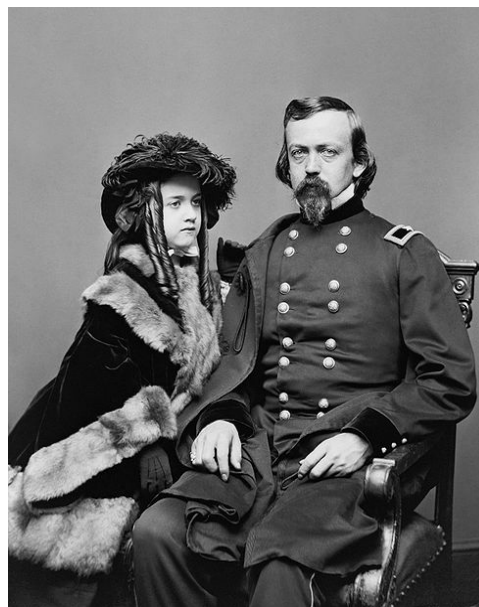
fort began in front of the house. It became known as Fort Upton or Fort Ramsey (now located at modern Wilson Blvd. and McKinley St. near Seven Corners).

Oct. 16, Confederates began their withdrawal from their outposts near Falls Church, Munson's Hill, and Vienna back to their camps at Centreville.

Oct. 18, The Federals reconnoitered toward the Occoquan River. Foreign ministers from Great Britain, France, and Spain visited Munson's Hill and inspected the view of Washington. BG J.E.B. Stuart moved his headquarters to the Millan House, now the site of the County Fire Department Training Academy on West Ox Road west of Fairfax City.

Oct. 20, Gen. George McClellan ordered BG Charles P. Stone to keep a good look out in the Leesburg area, including Conrad's Ferry and Ball's Bluff on the Potomac.

Oct. 21, The Confederates inflicted a defeat upon the Union troops at the Battle of Ball's Bluff northeast of Leesburg. BG Charles P. Stone was made a scapegoat and blamed for the results. Many Union soldiers drowned, and their bodies were retrieved down river as far as Washington.



Union Brig. General Charles P. Stone and daughter Hettie (Source: Library of Congress)

Oct. 22, The Federal Navy announced that Confederate batteries commanded all major points on the Potomac River below Alexandria. Washington was blocked from receiving troops or supplies along this southern route and was forced to rely on northern and western routes.

Oct. 24, Fort Buffalo was completed by the 21st New York Inf. It was located at the crossroads of the Leesburg Turnpike and today's Sleepy Hollow Road near today's Seven Corners.

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.

6-9 Oct – North-South Skirmish Association featuring live-fire shooting of Civil War weapons, dress competition and more at the NSSA grounds at 480 Chalybeate Spring Rd., Winchester. Parking fee. For information call 540-888-4334 or go to www.n-ssa.org.

8 Oct – Battlefield Hike, ranger-led 5.4 mile walking tour of the First Manassas Battlefield. Begins at the Manassas Battlefield Park visitor center, 1-4:30 p.m. Free with Park admission. For information go to www.nps.gov/mana.

8 Oct – Guided walking tour of the Kernstown Battlefield begins at the visitor center, 610 Battle Park Drive, south of Winchester just off RT 11. Starts at 11 a.m. Free. For info go to www.kernstownbattle.org.

8 Oct – “An Evening with the Painting,” a special program at the Gettysburg Cyclorama. 6-7:30 p.m. \$30. For information go to www.gettysburgfoundation.org.

8-9/15/22-23 Oct – Walking tours at the Bristoe Station Battlefield at the Battlefield Park, 10708 Bristow Road, Bristow (near Manassas). 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$5/adult. Call 703-792-5546.

8-9 Oct – “Aftermath of Battle,” at the Antietam National Battlefield. Burying the dead, photography, soldier and civilian life and much more. Free with Park admission. For info go to www.nps.gov/anti.

15 Oct – Walking tours, “Middletown in the Civil War,” NPS Ranger guided tour begins at the Farmer’s Market 11 a.m. Free. Call 540-860-3051 or go to www.nps.gov/cebe.

15-16 Oct – The 1861 Battle of Bolivar Heights, living history and ranger programs at the Harpers Ferry National Park. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free with park admission. For info go to www.nps.gov/hafe.

19 Oct – Car-caravan tour, in-depth anniversary tour of the Battle of Cedar Creek south of Middletown. Meets at the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation across from Belle Grove. Free. For info go to www.nps.gov/cebe.

22 Oct – Battlefield hikes on the Monocacy National Battlefield. Two-hour walks focus on different areas of the battle at 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 2 p.m. Free. For info go to www.nps.gov/momo.

22 Oct – Ranger-led 6.2 mile walking tour of the Second Manassas Battlefield. Begins at the Manassas Park Visitor Center, 1-4:30 p.m. Free with Park admission. Go to www.nps.gov/mana.

22 Oct – Lecture, “Johnny Reb and Billy Yank” at the Dolly Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean.

2:30 p.m. Free. Call 703-356-0770.

22-23 Oct – Reenactment, “The Battle of Balls Bluff,” at the NVRPA park and Morven Park near Leesburg. Saturday includes a march to the battlefield from Morven Park at noon, reenactment at 2:30 p.m. with evening activities at the battlefield and Morven Park. Camps and demonstrations 9 a.m.-noon Sunday. Tickets. For info go to www.150thballsbluff.com.

29 Oct – Living history, “Ship’s Company,” see Union seamen at work on the *USS Constellation* in Baltimore Harbor. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free with admission. For info go to www.historicships.org.

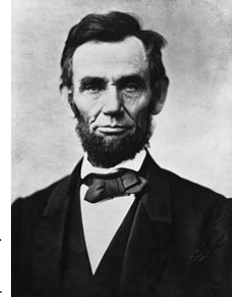
29 Oct – “Fort Ward Museum Hosts Artillery Day”. Learn about army life for Union artillerymen stationed in the defenses of Washington at Fort Ward. This free event will be held on Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The program is weather dependent. For info call 703-746-4848 or go to www.fortward.org.

29-30 Oct – Civil War Weekend at the Sky Meadows State Park near Delaplane. Camp and demonstrations plus a wide variety of other activities. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Parking fee. Call 540-592-3556.

29-30 Oct – Living history, “The Battle of Harpers Ferry 1862” artillery camp and demonstrations at the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Demos at 1, 2, and 3, p.m. Free with Park admission. Call 304-535-6026 or go to www.nps.gov/hafe.

GRAND REVIEW AT BAILEY’S CROSS ROADS OFFICIALLY CANCELLED

By Ed Wenzel



The Grand Review reenactment scheduled for November 12, 2011 on Leesburg Pike (Route 7) at Bailey’s Cross Roads has been cancelled. According to the promoters, they lack \$40,000 to pay for police, road closure barriers and directional signs. They hope to hold a “mini-version” at Fort Myer on the scheduled date but do not as yet have approvals from the Army.

Still planned as scheduled is the November 11, 2011 conference “At the Crossroads of History: Bailey’s Through the Centuries.” The conference will be held during the day at the Alexandria Campus of NOVA. Also scheduled is the “Grand Civil War Ball” to be held the same evening (November 11) at the Hilton Hotel Alexandria Mark Center. Look for a further update in next month’s issue of this newsletter.



THE BOOK CORNER

By Ralph G. Swanson



In this our sesquicentennial, it is appropriate to re-examine the causes that compelled the separation of our nation into warring factions. In fairness, we offer the first courtesy to a most prominent speaker on the matter, Mr. Jefferson C. Davis, late of the Confederate States government. His book *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*, published in 1881, was not the first attempt at Confederate history, nor is it particularly gripping reading (this tome rambles on for well over 1400 pages). It is, however, the unvarnished view of the supreme disciple of Confederate philosophy and, as such, deserves our attention. He speaks to us over the ages on issues that, unfortunately, still detain us today (about which, more later). We at the BRCWRT have a special responsibility--an obligation even--to consider these issues openly and objectively. (Then argue, of course.)

A decade and a half had passed since the guns had fallen silent. "Lost Cause" authors were growing in number and stridency in the 1870's. Aggrandizement of Lee and Jackson came with (perhaps required) criticism of Davis' leadership. Never one to let the slightest criticism pass, Davis was motivated to pen his own version of the truth. He would exhaust his critics (and us readers) with the sheer weight of his legalistic and self-righteous verbiage.

Rise and Fall begins with 25 chapters devoted to making just two points: 1) The Constitution, being a voluntary compact among sovereign states, did not establish a perpetual union and, thus, did not debar secession, and 2) the Federal government had no constitutional authority to compel (by force) seceding states to remain in a union that no longer served their purposes. His arguments are tedious, pedantic and utterly unconvincing. He argues legal minutia in an empty courtroom of public opinion, pleading for a ruling that will not be forthcoming. The judge of brutal armed conflict had long since decided this matter. Poor us. We just do not appreciate the subtle legal nuisances behind Davis' obvious truths.

An ancillary, but very important, point in these opening chapters: secession was not compelled by the issue of slavery. Davis is so adamant on this point that it appears in his very first sentence. Slavery was merely the excuse trumped up by northern demagogues seeking economic and political domination of the south. Davis's supporting arguments here are simply laughable: expansion of slavery into the territories was not a legitimate

issue because every slave taken west would be one less in the south. Therefore, there could be no "expansion" (i.e. net increase) in slavery. Anyway, emancipation would naturally follow western expansion because such slaves would be house servants rather than agricultural workers and so beloved by their masters that they would be freed out of simple fraternal affection. Oh, please! If slavery was not the cause of civil war, certainly the seeds of war were all about slavery: the 1850 Compromise, the Kansas Nebraska Act, bleeding Kansas, John Brown, and Dred Scott.

Davis was not the last to cloud the issues of war with "States Rights" arguments. *Time Magazine* (April 11, 2011) reported a recent Harris poll of 2500 adults nationwide where the majority, including 2/3 of adults in the 11 Confederate states, identified "States Rights" as the cause of our Civil War. Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell did not mention slavery in a prepared statement commemorating a recent Confederate History Month. (Under criticism, he later revised his statement.) As *Time* stated, there seems to be a current national "need" to deny that slavery was the cause of our Civil War. I think we at the round table can accept that "States Rights" was the primary cause, so long as we understand that the right in question was the right to hold another human being as chattel property.

In fairness, let's recognize a couple of important facts, neither of which, unfortunately, come from Davis. First, E.A. Pollard (editor of the *Richmond Examiner* during the war and a bitter Davis critic) in his 1866 book *The Lost Cause* points out that Lincoln was elected on a platform that had been ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case (Federal control over slavery in the territories). Second, the above cited issue of *Time* reported that slaves were the single largest economic asset in the United States in 1860. At \$3.5 billion+ of worth, the 4 million slaves in this country exceeded the combined value of banks, factories, railroads and ships. Think how such an ominous national atmosphere must have frightened southerners in 1860! Their economic well-being--their entire society--was suddenly and inexplicably in jeopardy. They tried negotiations. Davis was a leader in many efforts at compromise prior to 1861. A 21-state peace conference convened in February 1861 in an effort to reach accommodation on, mainly, the slavery issues. Nothing worked. Finally, there must have seemed no other choice. Southerners hoped for peaceful separation; we got war. How would we react to a similar situation today?

Despite its obvious flaws there is much to recommend *Rise and Fall* as an exposition of 19th Century southern thinking on our nationhood. The right of secession had been hotly debated since the Louisiana Purchase (1803). Davis reprints many important Congressional speeches, including his own, that review the entire history of slavery and union, ranging through the Northwest Ordinance

See BOOK CORNER, Page 9

CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE West Point, Orbs & Connections

By Janet Greentree

Fellow BRCWRT member Gwen Wyttenbach, her daughter Debbie, and I made our journey to West Point June 24-26. Gwen has coined the phrase "it was military Disneyland." What an apt description. It was like Disneyland for all of us. Debbie is into World War II so there are lots of things to see pertaining to that. She devoured the museum running up and down the stairs to make sure she saw everything. She was especially interested in General Patton's statue and his memorabilia in the museum. Gwen and I were in awe of all the Civil War connections, and of course, the twenty-eight Civil War generals buried in the West Point Cemetery. We had never been in the presence of so many great men in one spot before. Every grave we came to was more famous than the last. Kevin Anastas loaned us his favorite movie, *"The Long Gray Line."* We recognized many places from the movie and even found Marty Maher's grave. My plan for writing this month's article was to be dedicated entirely to General George Armstrong Custer, but we had some amazing things happen to us in the cemetery, so my article is about the connections of the men and the orbs we found on our pictures when they were uploaded to our computers.

An orb is a round or oblong white spot colored around the edges in rainbow colors. Supposedly, the orbs are spirits who are showing themselves to you in this manner. A couple of years ago my good Boston friend Nadine Mironchuk and I went to Devil's Den in Gettysburg after dark to "find" ghosts. Little did we realize that we probably did find some, because on a very dark night, there were many orbs in my photos. One has to be somewhat skeptical, but there is no other way to explain these circles of light on a dark night. The three of us, however, arrived at West Point around 4:30 p.m. It was summer and daylight savings time was in effect. It was somewhat cloudy, but it was very much still light outside. In all my years of going to cemeteries, I have never had orbs appear in my pictures before. In thinking about these orbs over and over, perhaps it is me that may be the connection to these orbs at West Point. If you read my article of February, 2010 in the *Stone Wall*, my trip was to Auburn, New York, to find the graves of Colonel Myles Keogh (who died with Custer at Little Big Horn), General Andrew Alexander, plus Generals Emory Upton and William Seward. There is no connection with the latter two but there is a definite connection with Keogh and Alexander.

The first orb appeared while I was placing a flag on the grave of General John Buford. The orb is next to my left knee and quite large. Buford has always been my favorite Union general. Myles Keogh was on Buford's staff. General Buford was staying at the house of General George Stoneman in Washington, in December, 1863 when he died in the arms of Myles Keogh. Captain

Keogh accompanied Buford's body to West Point for burial. Keogh was so distraught that he transferred out west after the Civil War and was assigned to the 7th Cavalry under Custer. President Lincoln appointed Buford a major general for meritorious service at the Battle of Gettysburg while Buford was on his deathbed. When General Andrew Alexander gave Buford his commission, Buford replied, "It is too late, now I wish I could live." General Buford died December 16, 1863.



**Ms. Rebelle and the orb [at her knee]
at the grave of General John Buford**

Next to the grave of John Buford is Lt. Colonel Alonzo Cushing who held Buford's high ground at Gettysburg. Cushing was born in Wisconsin in 1841 and graduated from West Point with the class of 1861. On June 30, 1863, Alonzo wrote some exciting news to his Navy Lt. Commander brother William "Will" that he and his unit, Battery A of the 4th New York Artillery, were getting ready to march to Pennsylvania as part of the Gettysburg Campaign. Gwen, Nancy Anwyll, and I had just been to the Naval Academy in Annapolis and found the grave of William Cushing on a hill overlooking the Severn River. Alonzo and Will are the only two family members to be buried in the service academies of West Point and Annapolis. Alonzo stayed on the high ground with his guns even though he was terribly wounded during Pickett's Charge. His last earthly act was to fire his cannon. He was then struck in the mouth by a bullet killing him instantly. Cushing died July 3, 1863.

Just left of the grave of Alonzo Cushing is buried Colonel Benjamin Franklin "Grimes" Davis. Gwen is kneeling next to Cushing's grave placing a flag there. On Davis' maker is another orb. Davis was killed on June 9, 1863, at the Battle of Brandy Station in the Gettysburg Campaign under General Buford's command. Davis was a southerner born in Alabama and raised in Mississippi. He graduated from West Point with the class of 1854. When the Civil War broke out, he chose to stay

See MS. REBELLE, Page 8

Ms. REBELLE [From page 7]

with the Union and was colonel of the 8th New York Volunteer Cavalry. Davis was one of the most skilled and aggressive cavalry commanders in the Civil War. While rallying his regiment, he was shot off his horse by Lt. Owen Allen of the 6th Virginia Cavalry and died instantly. Sadly Davis' men mistook Sergeant John Stone for Allen and split his head with a saber blow. Now there are three connections to General Buford – Keogh, Cushing, and Davis.



Gwen places flag at grave of Brevet Lt. Col. Alonzo H. Cushing while orb appears to the left on the marker of Col. B. F. Davis.

Gwen looked through her pictures for orbs and found a very large orb in a tree over the grave of General Robert Anderson, the Union general who surrendered Fort Sumter. In researching Anderson I have not come up with a connection to Buford, Cushing, or Davis but his orb is the biggest one we have captured. Perhaps it is General Custer wondering what we are doing. Gwen has been to Little Big Horn. Custer's grave is very near Anderson's marker. Perhaps they all wonder why I spend my time going around the country placing flags on graves to honor these men who fought so valiantly in the Civil War. It certainly is a lot to think about. It so happens that we were at West Point on June 25, 2011, exactly 135 years from June 25, 1876, when General Custer and Colonel Keogh were killed at Little Big Horn. Now that gives Gwen and me the chills.

Not to digress too far, John Buford was born a southerner near Versailles, Kentucky on March 4, 1826. The family soon moved to Rock Island, Illinois, when John was 8 years old. Buford's father was a Democratic opponent of Abraham Lincoln. The family has had a long military tradition. Buford's grandfather and his great uncle both served in Virginia regiments during the Revolutionary War. His half-brother, Napoleon Bonaparte Buford was a major general in the Union Army. His cousin Abraham Buford was a Confederate general. (Abraham Buford is one of my Confederate graves in

Lexington, KY.)

General Buford first attended Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, and then transferred to West Point and graduated with the class of 1848. He graduated 16th out of 38 graduates and was commissioned a brevet second lieutenant in the First U.S. Dragoons and then later the Second U.S. Dragoons. He served in Texas, fought the Sioux, kept the peace in Bleeding Kansas, and fought in the Utah War. He was stationed at Fort Crittenden, Utah, from 1859-1861. When the Civil War began, even though he was a southerner, he chose to stay with the Union. Many of his relatives fought for the Confederacy. In July, 1862 he was given the rank of brigadier general of volunteers after serving several months in Washington. He fought with General Pope at Second Manassas and was wounded in the knee by a spent bullet. After recuperating he was chief of cavalry for Generals McClellan and Burnside. During the Maryland Campaign, he fought at South Mountain and Antietam. After Chancellorsville, General Pleasanton was given command of the cavalry. Buford led his First Division of Cavalry at the Battles of Brandy Station and Upperville. At Gettysburg Buford was promoted to command the 1st Division and arrived in Gettysburg on June 30, 1863. He knew right away that it was imperative to hold the high ground from the Rebels. After Gettysburg, Buford was sent to Emmitsburg to resupply. His division pursued the Confederates to Warrenton and was engaged in many operations in central Virginia. He also fought in the 1863 Bristoe Campaign.

John Buford became ill with typhoid fever in November, 1863, after the Rappahannock Campaign. He died at age 37 on December 16, 1863. His last words were: "Put guards on all the roads, and don't let the men run to the rear." Buford's pallbearers included Generals Silas Casey, Samuel Heintzelman, Daniel Sickles, John Schofield, Winfield Scott Hancock, Abner Doubleday, and Gouverneur K. Warren. His friend General George Stoneman led the procession that included Buford's old white horse Grey Eagle that he rode at Gettysburg. President Lincoln was among the mourners.

In addition to seeing Grant's Tomb in New York City, we stopped briefly at Oakland Cemetery in Yonkers, NY, to find two graves of men connected to the Lincoln assassination. A very kind woman at the cemetery, Katie Hoffnagle, left me a map scotch-taped to the door giving me the exact location of the graves. We found General Thomas Ewing, Jr., who represented the conspirators Dr. Samuel Mudd, Michael O'Laughlen, and Samuel Arnold in the conspiracy trial. The second grave was Dr. Charles Augustus Leale, the first doctor to reach President Lincoln in the box at Ford's Theatre.

Even though many of you saw my PowerPoint presentation of West Point, I do hope this article explores other interesting things that happened to the three of us at West Point. It was a most exciting trip for

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us, and we can't stop talking about the chain that went across the Hudson during the Revolutionary War, twirling General Sedgwick's spurs, the museum, the new cadets, the beauty of the Hudson River, and of course, all the famous people buried in the cemetery. This visit brings my total to 355 Civil War generals' graves located. Unfortunately, I missed two generals while at West Point even though I had section lists and photos of all the graves. Just too much excitement. It was AWE-SOME!



PRESERVATION OF CONFEDERATE "SUPER BATTERY" SITE OFF STONE ROAD IN SULLY DISTRICT

By John McAnaw

BACKGROUND

The five plus miles of Confederate fortifications west of Little Rocky Run that protected Centreville and Manassas Junction were aligned like the number 7. Two of the most impressive surviving sites along the length of the earthworks are the following:

- 1) Apex Fort located where the east-west sector of the defense line meets the north-south portion
- 2) "Super Battery" site situated east of Stone Road and north of Battery Ridge Lane. The surviving section of this fortification contains ten embrasures.

The terrain comprising the Apex Fort is either privately owned or the property of the Fairfax County Park Authority. Regarding the so-called "Super Battery" site, it and the narrow wooded belt immediately north of the fortifications are now owned by the Sully Station II Community Association.

The physical deterioration of both sites described above is clearly visible to visitors. Erosion vicinity the earthworks is a serious problem. There is little ground cover present to impede further deterioration. Also, it is only a matter of time before trees on the berm topple over and dislodge large amounts of earth. Immediate action is needed to preserve both sites.

Now shifting specifically to the "Super Battery" site off Stone Road. On 14 March 1861, Union 1st Lt. M.D. McAlester conducted a reconnaissance of the Confederate fortifications at Centreville. On the map that he subsequently prepared, McAlester wrote: "That portion of line fronting east, generally very roughly constructed. Portion of line facing north – very carefully and neatly constructed, especially the Batteries and their embrasures."

The best surviving example of what McAlester described concerning the "Line facing north" is the "Super Battery" site off Stone Road.

PENDING REZONING OF PROPERTY NORTH OF SUPER BATTERY SITE (SU-RZ 2011-SU-006)

This proposed development will be on 1.9 acres located north of the "Super Battery" earthworks and the wooded tract owned by the Sully Station II Community Association. According to the agent for the developer, current plans are to build six single family homes and four townhouses in the property. He stated that neither the fortifications nor the forested belt to the north will be threatened by this development. Information obtained from the helpful staff of the Sully District Supervisor also indicate there is no direct threat to the Community Association property addressed above.

The County Planning commission will meet on 29 September 2011 to discuss the rezoning request of 1.9 acres off Stone Road. This subject is on the agenda of the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting slated for 18 October 2011. At the meeting the physical deterioration of the "Super Battery" site should be brought to the attention of the BOS. A monetary donation by the developer to commence restoration of this historic site would be welcomed. Action must be initiated to restore this site and the Apex Fort.



BOOK CORNER [From page 6]

of 1787 and the Articles of Confederation. He includes a selection of other interesting documents such as the CSA Constitution, the original surrender terms negotiated between Sherman and Joe E. Johnston that were repudiated by Lincoln, and more. Speaking of Johnston, the origins of Davis's war-long feuds with Generals Johnston and Beauregard are, perhaps inadvertently, revealed. The diplomatic disputes over Fort Sumter and the prisoner exchange issue, from the Confederate perspective, are covered in reprints of letters, reports and government communiqués prepared during and after the war. This fascinating primary source material is not found elsewhere.

Even the South largely ignored Davis's book in 1881. We should not. Davis raises key questions at the heart of our mission as a round table. What happened to the sentiments of fraternal brotherhood expressed in Lincoln's first inaugural address? What caused the "tide of reckless fury" which so soon after that speech compelled violent civil war? Maybe Lincoln said it all in a post-election letter to friend Lyman Trumbull on the extension of the slavery issue. "Stand firm. The tug has to come, & better now than anytime hereafter."

Until next time, keep reading.

FAIRFAX COUNTY 150th COMMITTEE HOLDS COUNTY- WIDE MEETING IN CHANTILLY

By Ed Wenzel

After a busy summer of local 150th events, the Fairfax County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee held a scheduled county-wide meeting September 17 at the Chantilly Regional Library. Three subcommittees were represented. The following items and activities were discussed:

History Subcommittee: Chairman John McAnaw presented for discussion "Draft Version #4" of the Civil War Trails marker list. We are committed to erect sixteen markers during FY 2012-2014. Twelve markers are currently identified. Five others have been deleted or switched for various reasons as follows:

- 1) African-Americans on the O&A Railroad—lack of information and photos.
- 2) Union 1861 winter encampment (vicinity of Mount Vernon District Park)—lack of information/photos.
- 3) Camp Michigan (vicinity of South Kings Highway/Lee District Park/ Huntley)—lack of information/documentation.
- 4) Goodings Tavern (west of Annandale)—county marker recently erected.
- 5) Confederate "A" Fort and Redoubt (on Balmoral Greens Avenue)—replaced by "Forts protecting McLean's Ford." See marker #12 below.

Funding for nine markers has been appropriated by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for fiscal year 2012. These markers are to be "in the ground" by next June 30. Tentative planning for fiscal year 2013 includes funding for five additional markers. In fiscal year 2014 the last two markers will be placed. The current status for twelve of the markers is as follows (names in parentheses are the text writers):

- 1) Laura Ratcliffe: Status: not started. (Chuck Mauro) Location: Hunter Mill District.
- 2) Widow Violet: Status: 1st draft completed. (Don Hakenson) Location: Lee District
- 3) St. John's Church: Status: gathering information/photos. (Cheryl Repetti) Sully District
- 4) Apex Fort/ Covered Way/Middle Fort/West Fort: Status: documentation and maps gathered. (John McAnaw) Sully District
- 5) Freedom Hill Fort: Status: data in FCPA computer, text not written. (C.K. Gailey) Hunter Mill District
- 6) Pohick Church: Status: not started yet. (Ron Beavers) Mount Vernon District
- 7) Lewinsville Actions: Status: text completed. (Carole Herrick) Dranesville District
- 8) Salona/Camp Griffin: Status: text completed. (Carole Herrick) Dranesville District
- 9) Anne Frobel/Wilton Hill: Status: not started. (Don Hakenson and/or William Connery) Lee District
- 10) Grand Review: Status: text written and graphics at hand. (Kim Holien) Mason District

- 11) Confederate Winter Encampment, 1861-62: Status: gathering photos/documentation. (Cheryl Repetti or Mike Shumaker) Sully District
- 12) Confederate Forts Protecting McLean's Ford: Status: draft completed. (John McAnaw) Springfield Dist.

Another marker under consideration is the Battle of Grigsby's Hill or Little Rocky Run. This battle was the only Union "victory" on July 21, 1861. The battle site is on the slope of Grigsby's Hill along Compton Road in the Little Rocky Run valley. Further discussion is required.

It is the desire of various entities in Fairfax County to erect at least one Sesquicentennial marker in each county supervisor's district. Civil War actions, however, have not been identified for Braddock or Providence districts. The writer will examine the new district maps and the draft "time-line" (up to July 1, 1863) to see if any appropriate incident or event has been identified thus far within the districts' re-vamped boundaries.

Concerning the so-called "time-line" or "chronology of the war in Fairfax," the writer/compiler (Ed Wenzel) reported that as of September 7, Part I of the chronology (Prelude (1859-60), 1861 and 1862) consisted of 197 pages and contained 1,036 entries. Part II (1863-1865) thus far has 26 pages and 227 entries. By agreement, the BRCWRT will hold the copyright and will publish the chronology in two parts, with Part I due out as soon as it is finished. Any proceeds will go to Civil War preservation and historical projects. The target date for Part I is early 2012. Part II will not be completed until 2014 or 2015.

Attendees: In addition to subcommittee chair, John McAnaw, the following individuals took part in the marker discussions: Liz Crowell (co-chair, Fairfax County 150th Committee), William Connery, Cheryl Repetti, Mike Shumaker and the writer. The next History Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26, 2011, 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Historic Cabell's Mill in E.C. Lawrence Park.

Marketing and Education/Public Outreach Subcommittees: These two subcommittees held a joint meeting because the agenda items affected both. Patrick Lennon of Visit Fairfax and co-chair of the Fairfax County 150th Committee called the subcommittees to order. First on the agenda was a lengthy discussion of the logistics and details of the photo contest being planned by Education and Public Outreach. The scheduling and the rules for the contest were finalized. The photo contest will run from January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 and the winners will be announced September 1, 2012 at the 150th Commemoration of the Battle of Ox Hill. The contest will be open to all photographers and will seek to highlight Civil War related sites in Fairfax County. More details will be coming soon, such as prizes and where the entries will be displayed. This effort has marketing implications since it will give the Fairfax Committee and Visit Fairfax something else to promote through on-line and public relations efforts.

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Members of the Marketing Subcommittee stressed the usefulness of publicizing events through free social media avenues such as Facebook www.facebook.com/fairfaxcivilwar with 3,742 followers; Twitter www.twitter.com/fairfaxcivilwar with 602 followers; and YouTube www.youtube.com/fairfaxcivilwar150 with 1,249 channel views. Also, the current email program (archives and signup found at www.fxva.com/150/email) which is run by Visit Fairfax, has over 36,000 subscribers and is sent out on a monthly basis.

The Marketing Subcommittee also discussed the following:

- 1) Making sure that the reprint of our 150th brochure, "Conflict and Courage in Fairfax County," will be ready for distribution in 2012. This reprinting will ensure that all brochures that are distributed in the run up to Ox Hill's 150th commemoration will have the latest and correct information.
- 2) Reaching out to local television media to spread the word about the Ox Hill signature event. Also, utilizing local media such as *Patch*, the *Connection* Newspapers, and the *Fairfax Times* to promote all of our events and raise public awareness.
- 3) Possibly coming up with a logo and tagline for Ox Hill's 150th event in order to galvanize public interest.
- 4) Figuring out a way to maintain momentum/awareness through all 4 years of the commemoration.

Attendees: The following persons took part in the discussions of this group: Patrick Lennon (chair), Paula Elsey, Jim Lewis, Mark Trbovich and Kerry Worsham. Also, many thanks to Patrick who provided the Marketing and Public Outreach information cited here.

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FOR SALE RT member offering for sale a validated carte d'visite of Col. John Singleton Mosby purchased at the annual Fredericksburg, VA Civil War relic show from reputable dealers Brian & Maria Green of Kernersville, NC. The image is a shoulder view of Mosby as a Major with one star on each jacket lapel; the pose is familiar. The image and card are in sepia tones. Publisher's mark on back is E.&H.T. Anthony, 501 Broadway, NY \$275 firm. Contact: gwen1863@cox.net or at monthly RT meeting.

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