



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XX, Issue 4, MAY 2013

**WORLD-RENOWNED HISTORIAN  
EDWIN C. BEARSS SPEAKS ON THE  
"BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG - DAY 2"  
AT MAY'S 22nd ANNIVERSARY MEETING**

By Mark Trbovich

Happy Anniversary BRCWRT - 22 years of serving this Northern Virginia region so well in Civil War education and preservation. It wouldn't be May without another outstanding lecture by Ed Bearss. I don't have to tell you that our guest speaker is a matchless Civil War historian, lecturer, tour guide and preservationist.

This month Ed will be speaking on the "Battle of Gettysburg - Day 2," which may have been the heaviest day of casualties in the entire war. While the aggregate totals for the three-day bloody struggle have placed doubt on this statistic, July 2, 1863 was, without question, the pivotal moment of this great struggle for the fate of this country. This is a sesquicentennial event you won't want to miss!

This meeting also gives us the opportunity to celebrate Ed's birthday, slightly ahead of the event. This June, Ed will be 90 years young. What a milestone for Ed as he still speaks to audiences around the world on a wide variety of historical battles and events. We are indeed fortunate to have an American legend as a friend of the BRCWRT.

During World War II, Ed served with distinction in the U.S. Marine Corps, first with the 3rd Marine Raider Battalion commanded by Col. Harry (The Horse) Leversedge, and then with the 7th Marine Regiment. While serving with the latter unit, he was severely wounded at Cape Gloucester on the island of New Britain. Following a convalescent period of 26 months, he entered Georgetown University. After earning an undergraduate degree at that institution, Ed spent three years working at the U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office in Suitland, MD. He then enrolled at Indiana University where he received a Master's Degree in History.

In 1955, Ed joined the National Park Service (NPS) and worked his way up the promotion ladder to become the Chief Historian of the NPS. In that position, he gained the respect of innumerable con-

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**THURSDAY, May 9, 2013**

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

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**NPS Historian Emeritus**

**Edwin C. Bearss**

**TOPIC:**

**"BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG - DAY 2"**

**BRCWRT 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Party  
at 6:30 p.m.—prior to meeting  
Cake and Refreshments!**



**Join us early  
as we also  
celebrate  
Ed Bearss'  
90<sup>th</sup> birthday!**

gressmen and members of the Executive Branch.

Following his retirement in 1998, Ed became a much sought-after guest speaker and tour guide to battlefields where Americans have fought, including the French and Indian War through World War II, both the European and Pacific theaters of operation.

We anticipate a large turnout for Ed's presentation of the "Battle of Gettysburg - Day 2" to our Round Table on May 9th at 7:00 p.m. Members are encouraged to come early, meet Ed at the Copper Canyon Grill (5815 Trinity Parkway) at 5:00 p.m. and enjoy supper and some fellowship. If, unfortunately, you can't make the dinner, please come early to the Centreville Library for fellowship and to enjoy some cake, cookies and beverages at our pre-meeting celebration. Hope to see you then!

## BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE Executive Committee

**President:** Mark Trbovich, civilwarnut@comcast.net,  
703.361.1396

**Past President:** Nancy Anwyll, njanwyll@verizon.net

**Vice-President:** Rob Orrison, orrison76@hotmail.com,  
703.431.2869

**Treasurer:** Mark Knowles, 703.787.9811

**Secretary:** John Pearson, brcwrt2009@gmail.com,  
703.475.1943

**At Large:** Charlie Balch, John De Pue, Brian McEnany

**Communications/Media:** Jim Lewis,  
antietam1862@verizon.net

**Membership:** Rob Orrison, orrison76@hotmail.com,  
703.431.2869

**Preservation:** John McAnaw, 703.978.3371

**Sesquicentennial Fairfax:** Ed Wenzel, ew136@verizon.net

**Sesquicentennial Prince William:** Rob Orrison,  
orrison76@hotmail.com

**Field Trips:** Kevin Anastas, KKA2@cox.net

**Webmaster:** Ken Jones, kjones111@cox.net

**Newsletter Editor:** Nadine Mironchuk,  
nadinem@mindspring.com

**Newsletter Team:** Ed Wenzel, Andy Kapfer, Janet Greentree,  
Jill Hilliard, Eric Fowler and Sandra Cox  
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>.

### NEWLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **June 2013 issue**, e-mail articles by 9:00 a.m.,  
Thursday, May 30, to - Nadine Mironchuk at:  
[nadinem@mindspring.com](mailto:nadinem@mindspring.com).

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **June 2013 issue**—advertisers please click on  
"Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org>  
and e-mail ads by noon, May 20 to Charlie Balch at  
[BRCWRTads@gmail.com](mailto:BRCWRTads@gmail.com).

**Support the BRCWRT in its important mission to  
educate and commemorate the battles and events  
of the Civil War**  
**- place your advertisement in the *Stone Wall* -**

## 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

**May 9, 2013:** Ed Bearss, Historian - "*Gettysburg, Day 2 - July 2, 1863*" BRCWRT 22nd Anniversary

**June 13, 2013:** Mike Block, Historian - "*Battle of Brandy Sta-  
tion, VA - Largest Cavalry Battle on American Soil - June 9,  
1863*"

**July 11, 2013:** Matt Atkinson, National Park Service Ranger -  
"*Battle Of Vicksburg, Miss. - July 1863*"

**August 8, 2013:** Angela Atkinson, Author and NPS Ranger  
"*Battle of Chickamauga, TN - Sept. 1863*"

**September 12, 2013:** Ronald Nichols, Author and Historian  
"*Battle of Ft. Wagner, SC and the 54th Massachusetts* "

**October 10, 2013:** Bradley Gottfried, Author and Historian  
"*Battle of Bristoe Station, VA - Oct 14, 1863*"

**November 14, 2013:** Gregory Mertz, Author and NPS Histori-  
an "*Battle of Mine Run, VA - Nov. 1863*"

**December 12, 2013:** Dr. Robert Neyland, Author and Histori-  
an "*CSS Hunley - CW Submarine 1863/1864* "

### In This Issue

<b>Upcoming Meetings</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>The President's Column</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>The Book Corner</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Calendar of Events</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Ms. Rebelle</b>	<b>Page 6</b>
<b>Green Mountain 2nd VT</b>	<b>Page 8</b>
<b>Vote for Colvin Run Mill</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>Digital Public Library</b>	<b>Page 11</b>

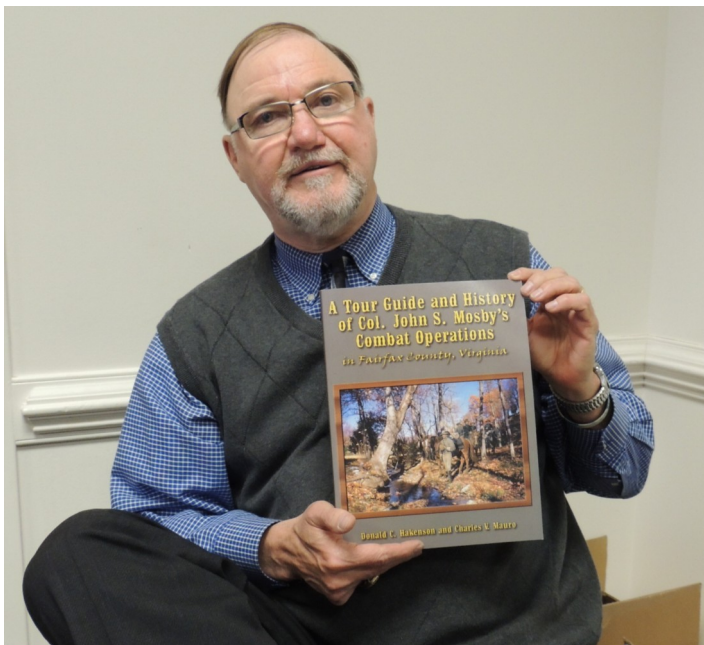


## The President's Column By Mark Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members,

Greetings and Happy Anniversary for 22 years of outstanding leadership in this region, providing the best in Civil War tours, education and preservation. I am so honored to serve as your President (my fourth year) and to watch the BRCWRT continue as a beacon of Civil War knowledge, and to enjoying respect amongst our many peers throughout this great country. Together we have so much more we can do, and I again want to thank you for your membership support in 2013. We will not rest on our laurels but will continue to strive to bring this Northern Virginia region high-quality Civil War Sesquicentennial lectures, tours, newsletter and support of the various local Civil War events and preservation efforts.

May has finally brought warmer weather, and spring is here in full bloom. Our May meeting will surely be memorable with Ed Bearss featured. But first, a big thank you to Don Haken-son for speaking on "John Mosby's Fairfax City Raid - March 1863 and Much More" at our April meeting.



Don Haken-son, co-author with Chuck Mauro of "A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County, Virginia," was March's guest speaker.

Photo by Janet Greentree

Don was kind enough to provide for sale his and Chuck Mauro's new book "A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County, Virginia," and what an excellent book it is. The lecture was outstanding. Don took us through the extremely memorable Fairfax Raid and events prior to and after that incident. The audience was blessed with Don's powerful presentation style, and we'll never forget his humorous "God Bless America" inserts at timely points in the lecture. God Bless you Don, and thank you for an outstanding evening!

Our 2013 BRCWRT membership drive is over and I feel badly for folks (2012 members) who will not be receiving this newsletter until they sign up again. I sure hope they do, because this newsletter is world-class! We can now boast having over 210 members and hope to grow even more during the rest of the year. As always, reach out to others to join and receive this excellent publication. The BRCWRT can't operate without your yearly support, so we truly appreciate your membership.

I am happy to announce we are making excellent strides in finding our new Webmaster and Audio/Visual lead positions. Hopefully, I will be able to announce at our May meeting that these positions are filled. Again, a big thanks to Ken Jones for interviewing our candidates; we truly appreciate your efforts in keeping things running. Ken is moving to Richmond, so 'God Speed' Ken, and we'll hope to see you when you are back in town.

As we have been discussing for the past months, the 2013 BRCWRT Scholarship Committee has voted, and has decided to give our first scholarship to a deserving West Springfield High senior. You'll have a chance to meet this fine young person at the June meeting. I want to thank Nancy Anwyll, Scholarship Committee lead, Rob Orrison, Charlie Balch and Mark Knowles for participating in and supporting the Scholarship committee in selecting this candidate. This is Civil War education at its finest – reaching out to help worthy students interested in history. We are so looking forward to doing this again in 2014 as these programs moves forward.

(Con't on Page 4)





## THE BOOK CORNER



by Ralph G. Swanson

I am not a reenactor, but I have always enjoyed attending Civil War reenactments and, especially, touring the camps and talking with the participants. Committed living historians strive for authenticity in their regalia and enjoy discussing the rudiments of life in the Civil War armies. Since reenacting became popular, there have been many sources for authentic reproduction firearms, uniforms, and personal accouterment. Now there is help for those who wish to make the after-action camp life as realistic as the battlefield. *Civil War Woodworking* by A.J. Hamler (Linden Publishing, 2009) includes designs for 17 pieces of Civil War camp equipage.

Working from period photographs and actual museum specimens, Hamler has developed all the necessary guidance for the home carpenter to reproduce many common, and functional, camp items. The simplest piece is the lowly tent peg and the most elaborate is an officer's field desk. In between are rough camp stools, tables and a remarkably comfortable-looking sling chair. Ammunition boxes and army bread (hardtack) boxes appear often in the old photos but are rarely seen around a living history camp. All items copy historic pieces and are accurate in design and dimensions.

Hamler's discussions of period lumber, materials and carpentry offer fascinating supplemental history lessons. Step-by-step instructions and great color photos provide all the assistance needed to outfit the camp with any number of pieces to improve the living history experience for reenactors and visiting public, alike.

Hamler's great contribution is his scrupulous attention to small details of the construction and appearance of these camp items. Period-authentic nails, rivets and tacks are, fortunately, still available and source lists in the appendix provide the necessary information. Hamler has even matched historic paint colors to products available today. His stencil templates for army

bread and ammunition boxes can be copied from the text and transferred onto the reproduction boxes for absolute authenticity. Other design elements, such as curved furniture parts are ready to be made into templates for accurate cutting.

Even simple games, appearing in old camp photos, are not neglected. A rudimentary checkers set and the peg board game then known as "Fox and Cheese" are included. (You can still play "Fox and Cheese" in any Cracker Barrel restaurant.)

All of these items would have been common in any Civil War army camp, but being wooden, are long lost to the campfires and to history. Their reappearance in today's encampments will stimulate and inform more discussions with the interested public and help draw the visitor into the Civil War experience.

Until next time, keep reading.

*Note: The Book Corner welcomes your comments and, especially, your recommendations for outstanding books on the Civil War. Send your comments to [renataralph@gmail.com](mailto:renataralph@gmail.com).*

## The President's Column

(Con't from Page 3)

Our June 22nd Gettysburg tour trip sign-up sheet is going around; please sign up quickly, as seats are going fast on the bus. Thank you, Kevin Anastas, for your excellent work putting this together. This will be our cornerstone tour for the year. Don't miss it!

In closing, please continue to bring a friend to our gatherings, especially younger folks, in order to increase the Civil War awareness in the region and to promote future Civil war historians and preservationists. As always, see you at the Copper Canyon Grill (5815 Trinity Parkway) at 5:00 p.m., prior to our 7:00 p.m. meetings. Come for fellowship at the library, buy some books and get ready for another excellent lecture.

The 2013 Civil War Sesquicentennial is in full swing. Come be a part of it - let us never forget those who endured this tragic event, and what they did for us.

God Bless all of you,  
Mark Trbovich  
President Bull Run CW Round Table

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**Now through January 12, 2014 - New Civil War Exhibitions at City of Fairfax Sites** - Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street. Daily: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Free. Civil War Fairfax 1863 explores the lives of soldiers, civilians and newly emancipated slaves in war-torn Fairfax. Highlights include items related to Col. John S. Mosby, Union soldier identification discs, Major Joseph C. Willard's uniform and original letters from Fairfax's Antonia Ford to Willard.

**Ongoing - "Currency in Conflict - Union and Confederate currency during the Civil War." "Abraham Lincoln: A Legacy in Numismatics - Images of Lincoln on currency and coins."** Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. Open Tuesday - Saturday, noon - 4 p.m. Tour at 1 p.m. Free.

**Now through October 26 - "Dr. Kate Waller Barrett: Mother to Many."** Historic Ratcliffe-Allison House, 10386 Main Street, Fairfax. Open for the Season - Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Discover the lives of Ratcliffe-Allison House's many residents and owners - from nineteenth-century tradesmen to a twentieth-century newspaper columnist. Free. 703-385-8414. To book youth or adult group tours (\$25) Monday through Friday, please call 703-385-8415.

**May 10, 2013 - D.H. Hill: "The Man Behind the Stone Wall - General Jackson's Brother-in-Law"** - Mt. Zion Church, 40309 Mosby Highway, Aldie. Guest speaker Doug Batson returns to Mt. Zion as General D.H. Hill to discuss his relationship with his brother-in-law, Stonewall Jackson. Time: 7:30 PM; admission Fee: See website for details: [nvrpa.org/park/mt\\_zion](http://nvrpa.org/park/mt_zion).

**Saturdays - May 11, June 15, July 27, August 24, and September 14 - Historic Fairfax City's Guided Walking Tours of Old Town Fairfax.** The 90-minute guided walk will step off at 11 a.m. from Ratcliffe-Allison House, 10386 Main Street, and include a tour of the historic house. Tours last approximately 90 minutes and include stops at the Fairfax County Courthouse (1800) and several antebellum buildings. Cost: \$5/adults; \$3/youth, ages 6-12, under 6 free. Family rate: \$15. Reservations: 703-385-8414. Tours will be cancelled due to inclement weather.

**May 11 - 12, 2013 - 2013 SPRING CONCERT: "A Remembrance of the Civil War and the Sesquicentennial of the Battle of Chancellorsville."** Rappahannock Choral Society, Spotsylvania County, Virginia - at Chancellor High School, 6300 Harrison Road, Fredericksburg. May 11 at 8 p.m.; May 12 at 3 p.m. See website for details: [www.rappahannock-choral-society.org](http://www.rappahannock-choral-society.org).

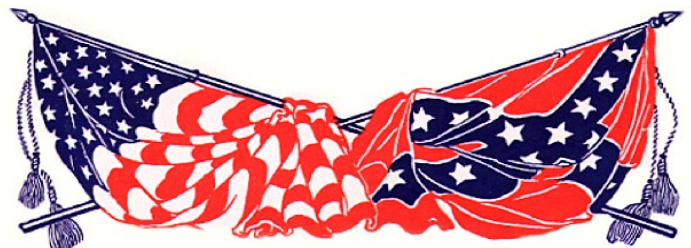
**May 11, 2013 - Opening Day at Kernstown Battlefield** - Visitor Center, 610 Battle Park Drive, Winchester. Follow the Kernstown Battlefield walking trails for insights into the events of the First and Second Battles of Kernstown. Browse the battlefield Visitor Center to learn details of the history, and see the 1854 Pritchard House where the family of Samuel and Helen Pritchard huddled in the cellar waiting for quiet to return to their farm. This and more await visitors to this pristine 315-acre Civil War battlefield park. Open: Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sun. Noon - 4 p.m. Guided tours of the Pritchard House are offered each second and fourth weekend May through October. \$3 admission (12 and over).

**May 12, 2 p.m. - "Women's Fashions of the Civil War Era"** - Illustrated talk and "show and tell" of period clothing with Mary Doering, costume historian and George Mason University professor. Note: This is a joint program with Historic Blenheim. Location: The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. 703-591-0560. *A tour of the first floor of the Historic Blenheim House will be offered at 1 p.m.*

**May 14, 2013 - "The Battle of Gettysburg-Day Three"** - Civil War Lecture at Sully Historic Site in Chantilly, Virginia. Wrapping up the Civil War lecture series on May 14, Matt Atkinson, a ranger at Gettysburg National Military Park, will discuss the final day of this most famous and important battle. Light refreshments. 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Time: 7 p.m., admission: \$5 suggested donation. Call to reserve a seat as space is limited. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/) for information.

**May 23, 2013 - Bicycle tour of Manassas** - Visit Civil War sites where Confederate and Union soldiers camped, learn how the topography of the area has changed, and discover some little-known history. Bring your own bicycle. 9101 Prince William St., Manassas. Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Admission: \$4.50/person includes day pass to the Manassas Museum.

**May 27, 2013 - Guided Civil War Walking Tour of Old Town Winchester** - Experience the Civil War as a civilian in Old Town Winchester! Learn about the citizens and the events that took place in Winchester during that stirring period of time. Make your reservation by calling 540-542-1326. Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Admission: \$5.00 per person, payable to your guide, and meet your guide at 2 N. Cameron Street, Winchester. For more information, visit: [www.visitwinchesterva.com](http://www.visitwinchesterva.com).







## CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

### Charleston

By Janet Greentree

Ms. Rebelle had the distinct pleasure of driving to Charleston, South Carolina with my sister Kathe and Gwen Wytttenbach over Easter weekend to see this beautiful city and all the Civil War aspects we could fit in during our three-day visit. This was my third time visiting the city. We spent much time driving up and down Meeting and East Bay Streets to see all the sights. The houses on the Battery are truly beautiful. We stayed on the Mount Pleasant side of town and ended up crossing and re-crossing the Arthur Ravenel, Jr. Bridge which has to be an engineer's dream.

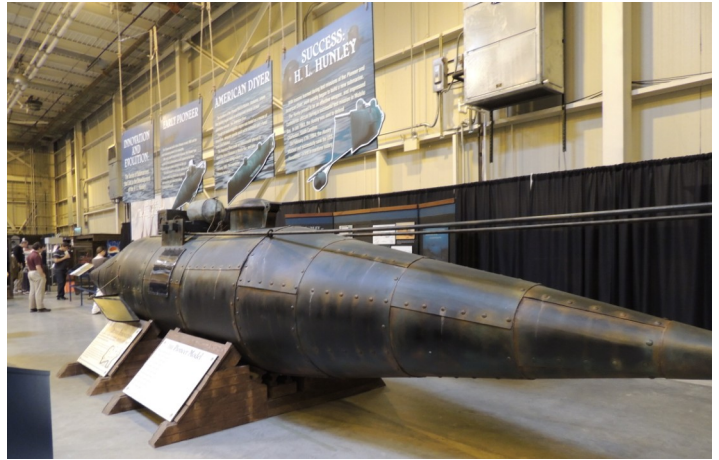
### The Hunley

Prior to the trip we bought tickets for visiting the Warren Lasch Conservation Center, formerly the Charleston Navy Yard, to see the recently recovered *Hunley* submarine. This turned out to be a really good decision as the facility was extremely crowded. Seeing the *Hunley* was the highlight of our trip. The submarine is now upright from the original condition of listing to the right (starboard) in a tank of water.

The *Hunley* is observed by looking down on it from a platform. Unfortunately, NO pictures are allowed to be taken of the submarine. Our tour guide told me that National Geographic owns the rights to all the photos. Another docent told me that people had dropped cameras and cell phones into the tank so the no photography rule went into effect. We are just going to have to remember the way it looked. It was actually in remarkable con-

dition.

Prior to entering the room where the *Hunley* is displayed, there is a replica of the submarine. We were surprised how



C.S.S. *Hunley* replica.

Photo by Janet Greentree

very small and narrow it was. It was 40 feet long and the highest point of the hull was 4' 3". There is another mockup where a visitor can sit inside the submarine and turn the crank to make the submarine go. What an incredibly hard thing that was to do. It takes every muscle in your body to turn the crank. I can't imagine how hard that must have been when



Janet Greentree (r) with fellow shipmates Gwen Wytttenbach (c) and unidentified lad (l) aboard replica *Hunley*, showing that, although she can be 'cranky,' it's all in good fun!

(Con't on Page 7)

**Ms. Rebelle** (Con't from Page 6)

A display shows the reconstructed heads of the men of the *Hunley* whose bodies were retrieved.

Photo by Janet Greentree

in the water or submerged under it.

There is also a display showing how small the hatches were – 14" by 15  $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Some people, mostly children, tried to fit inside the hatch. The taller men must have really had a tight fit in the small submarine. Some of the crew was relatively tall: Lieutenant George E. Dixon (KY, 5'9"), Arnold Becker (Germany, 5'5"), C. Lumpkin (European born, 5'10"), Frank C. Collins (Fredericksburg, VA, 6'), J.F. Carlsen (Germany, 5'8"), J. Miller (GA, 5'10"), James A. Wicks (NC, 5'10"), and Joseph F. Ridgaway (Talbot Co., MD, 5'10"). The

taller men must have really had a tight fit in the small submarine.

Dixon's crew was the third crew to pilot the *Hunley*. Both prior crews (21 men) died as well except for four men from the first crew who escaped. All three crews are buried in Charleston's Magnolia Cemetery along with the creator of the submarine, Horace L. *Hunley*. Horace *Hunley* also died along with his second crew. Dixon had to convince General Beauregard to allow him to try once again to pilot the *Hunley*. Dixon said his crew was the best he ever had.

The *Hunley* was built in Mobile, Alabama and launched July 1863. It was shipped by rail on August 12, 1863, to Charleston. It sunk the first time during a training exercise on August 29, 1863. It sank again on October 15, 1863. The *Hunley* was raised both times and returned to service. The sub had two watertight hatches, forward and aft, two short conning towers with portholes, and triangular cutwaters.

The *Hunley* set sail February 17,

(Con't on Page 9)

Photo # NH 97356-12-KN Raising submarine Hunley, 8 Aug. 2000





## THE GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> VERMONT BRIGADE

by Brian McEnany

Howard Coffin, the author of several books about Vermont's contributions during the Civil War, gave several lectures in the Virginia area during the week of April 16 to 19. Funded by three of the local historical societies, he talked about the Vermont brigade while it was located at Wolf Run Shoals and its experience at Gettysburg. I attended his final lecture at the Clifton Baptist Church on the evening of April 19 after a harrowing drive from Vienna in a heavy rain storm.

The evening lecture was sponsored by the Clifton Historical and Preservation Society and Coffin was introduced by Margo Khosravi, the current chair of the Society. Margo introduced him by reading a passage from the introduction to Coffin's "Nine Months to Gettysburg" – a humanist opening that Coffin really liked. The lecture was given to a sizeable crowd – the pews in the old church were two-thirds filled. BRCWRT member Ed Wenzel also attended, and local historian, Bill Olsen, was also present.



Howard Coffin

His lecture traced the history of the nine month volunteers – their camps – their commanders – and was interspersed with extracts from soldiers letters attested to the rigors of camp life, sicknesses, families and the voices of children from visiting officer's wives. He spent a few minutes describing Brigadier General Edwin Stoughton, their first commander, as a womanizer and not liked by his soldiers. He did not immediately come forward from Washington to Fairfax Court House to live with the brigade while his men endured the campsites of Virginia. Brigadier General George Stannard was well liked after he took command, made his headquarters at Union Mills, and shared the life of his soldiers. Coffin quoted extensively from the letters of Lt. Col. Farnham's wife, Mary, who spent time with him at Wolf Run Shoals.

Coffin finished his lecture by describing the trip to Gettysburg. On June 25, the regiments assembled at Union Mills to begin the long trip north. By June 30, they were at Emmitsburg, but it was not until late evening of July 1, that they finally joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Corps on Cemetery Hill. Three regiments (13, 14 and 16) were shifted to the middle of the Union line on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The other two regiments (12 and 15) were guarding the 1<sup>st</sup> Corps wagon trains. In the late afternoon of July 2, one regiment

pushed forward to recapture Weir's guns near the Emmitsburg Pike.

Coffin's remarks then detailed the actions of the brigade during Pickett's charge on July 3. The brigade lined up in the Union center and faced the advancing ranks of Pickett's division around 3 p.m. on that fateful afternoon. After Pickett's men crossed the Emmitsburg Pike, they made their final flanking movement to close on the clump of trees, presenting the Green Mountain Boys with a perfect target as it marched by. After firing steadily, Gen. Stannard ordered his brigade over the wall to come up on the right flank of Pickett's men as they closed on the Angle. The brigade marched forward, formed a long line, swung to the right and moved forward, stopping 12 times to fire, reload and move again. Finally, one of the regimental commanders called for a cease fire when it became obvious that the rebel attack had failed. The brigade then began taking prisoners, flags and moving wounded to the rear.

The final attack took place two days from the end of their volunteer service. Their next assignment was to the burial detail on the field. When the Army left Gettysburg on July 5, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vermont brigade only marched a short distance, camped and watched as the rest of the Army marched past. They soon returned to Vermont and their lives as farmers, husbands and merchants. Coffin then related what happened over the next few months – the care of the wounded, the disposition of dead and animals, and ended with a description of the ceremony at the new National Cemetery. He ended his lecture with a spirited rendition of the Gettysburg address. As he began to describe Lincoln's short talk, he became quite emotional – his voice rose and fell as he reiterated the words that so long ago were almost confined to the dust heap, but now adorn the walls of the Lincoln Memorial.

After his lecture, Coffin offered to answer questions. My question related to Stannard's order to cross the wall on July 3. There has been a controversy over whether Hancock ordered him to cross or did Stannard give the order. Coffin's response was that Stannard issued the order. Stannard and Hancock argued over that point for years. He stated that on his death bed, Stannard said: "I gave the order." Coffin also stated that Hancock finally admitted that Stannard did so.

All in all, it was a great evening for Civil War enthusiasts. Coffin's lecture offered a brief glimpse into the lives of the Vermont volunteer soldiers, and I was glad to have had the opportunity to listen to him.





U.S.S. Housatonic

### Ms. Rebelle (Con't from Page 7)

1864 at night and rammed her long metal barbed spar with a 135 pound torpedo containing 90 pounds of black powder into the *U.S.S. Housatonic* in Charleston Harbor off of Sullivan's Island. After firing, the men of the *Hunley* were to back up the sub, but there is speculation that the 150' rope was still attached to the *Hunley* when the *Housatonic* blew up. The men were found at their stations and most likely died from the impact of the explosion, sinking of the *Housatonic*, or loss of oxygen and suffocated. Some say the *Hunley* was only twenty feet from the *Housatonic* when the ship exploded. Witnesses on the *Housatonic* claim that the sub was 100 feet away. The sub did manage to surface and flash their blue magnesium light to their crew on Sullivan's Island. There is also a possibility that the *Hunley* was unintentionally rammed by the *U.S.S. Canandaigua* who was aiding the *Housatonic*. The *Hunley* was the first submarine to sink an enemy ship.

Dixon was found with a misshapen \$20.00 gold coin close to his body given to him by his sweetheart Queenie Bennett. The coin was in his pants pocket at Shiloh when a bullet struck the coin saving his life and his leg. Dixon had the coin engraved "*Shiloh April 6, 1862 My Life Preserver G.E.D.*" A diamond ring and broach were also found on his body. All three are

displayed in the museum.

Following the Civil War, efforts were made to find the *Hunley*. P.T. Barnum offered \$100,000 as a reward to anyone finding the *Hunley*. It was not until 1995 that Clive Cussler found the *Hunley* buried in silt. The sub was found 100 yards from the *U.S.S. Housatonic* in 27 feet of water. It had been protected by several feet of silt for over 100 years. On August 8, 2000, the *Hunley* was raised from the Atlantic Ocean 3.5 miles from Sullivan's Island. The sub broke the surface of the Atlantic Ocean at 8:37 a.m. 136 years after it went down. The sub was rotated to its upright position in June, 2011.

On April 17, 2004 a large funeral was held for the eight member crew of the *Hunley* in Charleston. The funeral cortege proceeded 4.5 miles from East Bay Street on the Battery to Magnolia Cemetery. Six thousand reenactors and 4,000 civilians wearing period attire were in the procession. There were color guards from all



The funeral for the *Hunley* crew members makes its way down East Bay St. in the Battery, Charleston, SC on April 17, 2004.

five branches of the U.S. armed services in the procession. The coffins were covered with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Confederate flag. All crew members were buried with full Confederate military honors.

(Con't on Page 10)

## Ms. Rebelle (Con't from Page 9)

Lieutenant Dixon's caisson was first in the procession followed by a caparisoned riderless horse with boots turned.

Each caisson was pulled by four horses, two ridden, and two riderless and a mounted escort. After each caisson a



Graves of the C.S.S. Hunley crewmembers at Magnolia Cemetery.

Photo by Janet Greentree

reenactor carried the individual's Medal of Honor on a red pillow. When the procession arrived at Magnolia Cemetery, all eight men were buried side by side in a large plot. The pallbearers for each man were retired submarine veterans. Lieutenant Dixon had full Masonic last rites before his burial. Dixon belonged to Mobile, AL Lodge #40.

There was a fifty cannon salute and Freeman's Battery, Forrest's Artillery fired an 1862 Howitzer. Before the funeral all eight men lay in state on the *U.S.S. Yorktown*, John Wesley United Methodist Church, Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, and Church of the Holy Communion. Descendants of Frank Collins, James A. Wicks, Joseph F. Ridgaway, and Queenie Bennett were honored guests.

Of course no trip is complete without a visit to a local cemetery so Gwen and I went to Magnolia Cemetery to visit the

*Hunley* graves. All three of the crews are buried together. Dixon and his crew are buried in a row in the order they were found. Horace L. *Hunley* is buried there as well. It is a very impressive site.

We also visited the grave of recently profiled Micah Jenkins. A gentleman in Ireland contacted me through [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) and asked if I could find and photograph the grave of his ancestor, Captain John C. Mitchel. Mitchel was the commander of Fort Sumter on July 20, 1864, dying on the parapet during the bombardment. Ms. Rebelle placed a Confederate flag on his grave at his descendant's request. Mitchel's last words are etched on the stone: "I willingly gave my life for South Carolina. Oh! That I could have died for Ireland." He was in the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, South Carolina Artillery.

Stay tuned for part two of our glorious trip next month.

*NOTE: Ms. Rebelle's hobby is travelling the country finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008 Civil War generals. So far she has located and photographed 385....169 Confederate and 216 Union. You may contact her at [jlqtree@erols.com](mailto:jlqtree@erols.com).*

### The Bull Run Civil War Round Table's Newest Recruits!

Here's a grateful "shout out" for these folks who have recently joined the BRCWRT:

- ♦ Pete Kirby
- ♦ Lauren Kirby
- ♦ Gavin Green

## Help to Fully Restore Colvin Run Mill !

Colvin Run Mill is a **finalist** in a web-based contest sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and American Express – of the many historical sites featured in this contest, Colvin Run Mills is running fifth with 193,200 votes!

Go to [www.PartnersinPreservation.com](http://www.PartnersinPreservation.com) and vote daily - the site with the greatest number of votes will receive \$100,000 in preservation prize money. Share often on the social sites - sharing photos, video and the link via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and FourSquare – this adds more votes for the Mill.

Polls are open now through May 10<sup>th</sup>.

What your votes will accomplish: for the past four decades, only the basement and first floor of the Fairfax County mill have been open to the public. Colvin Run Mill would use the prize money to fully restore the second and third levels, complete with functioning equipment to dry and sift flour and meal the old-fashioned way. Then visitors can see how the mill works from top to bottom!

Login, Link up and Vote for Colvin Run Mill !

## Digital Public Library of America Launched

Millions of digitized books, pictures, and manuscripts from the nation's top public and academic libraries are now available in one spot. It isn't Amazon or Google, and it's free.

The privately funded Digital Public Library of America was launched Thursday and provides users with access to the digital archives of institutions ranging from national the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution to local historical societies.

Among 2.4 million works, visitors to the site, [dp.la](http://dp.la), can find a Boston Public Library picture of Babe Ruth in a Red Sox jersey taken in 1915 or more than 32,000 maps from collector David Rumsey in San Francisco.

"What's wonderful about digitization and this library is for the first time this stuff can get out into the public," said Dan Cohen, executive director of the nonprofit created to oversee the digital library. "People don't normally have access to a lot of the content."

The project began two years ago under the guidance of Harvard University's Berkman Center for Internet and Society, with more than \$5 million in funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation of New York.

The goal is to create a vast, open-access online network of items from American libraries, universities, archives, and museums to advance the spread of information and knowledge.

"It's a gold mine for students, teachers, researchers, or anyone in the public that is curious about their own roots," said Doron Weber, Sloan Foundation vice president of programs.

Dozens of the nation's leading scholars and librarians have helped steer the project, and more than 500 institutions are providing content. The ARTstor, for example, submitted digital images of 10,000 pieces.

Google Inc. made a similar, perhaps more grandiose, attempt to create an electronic database of all the world's books in 2011. But a federal judge halted the company's efforts, saying it would give the search engine giant an unfair hold on digital copies and violate copyright laws.

To avoid a similar fate, Cohen said his database allows viewers to download only content that it has permission to reproduce or is not covered by copyright. Protected items, such as a picture of a bed George Washington slept in at the Taft Tavern, are listed in the database and when users click to view the images they are redirected to the owner's website.

Now software developers and others can download and use much of the content into their own projects, such as smartphone applications or websites, for free.

Most of the participating institutions provided works that are already in electronic form. Cohen and the nonprofit are gathering funding to digitize more items and continue the database. The collection so far doesn't even scratch the surface of the project's potential, considering that partners such as the Smithsonian have more than 130 million items in inventory — only 1 percent of which are on display in its museums at a given time.



---

## **BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

***The Stone Wall***

**P.O. Box 2147**

**Centreville, VA 20122**

### **2013 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**

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

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

**CITY**\_\_\_\_\_ **STATE**\_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP**\_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE**\_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL**\_\_\_\_\_