



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXIII, Issue 4, MAY 2016

DR. CHRIS MACKOWSKI SPEAKS ON THE "THE BATTLE AT THE MULESHOE SALIENT - MAY 12, 1864" AT MAY 12th MEETING

By Mark Trbovich

The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House began on May 8, 1864, when Union General Ulysses S. Grant attacked Confederate positions under Gen. Robert E. Lee's command. By May 12, the Confederates had established a long line of earthworks that featured a huge, half-mile bulge called the Muleshoe Salient. Building on Col. Emory Upton's attack on May 10, Grant massed the 20,000 men of the Second Corps opposite the tip of the Muleshoe. The battle was about to erupt as a point-blank slugfest between the two sides.

Expert on Spotsylvania, Dr. Chris Mackowski, will be appearing at our May meeting to bring you an action-packed lecture on the dynamics of the fight at the Muleshoe Salient. He was here at the BRCWRT last year with an outstanding presentation, so you don't want to miss this lecture.

Chris is the editor-in-chief of the blog *Emerging Civil War* and managing editor of *Emerging Civil War Series*, the ongoing publication of books providing more in-depth coverage of lesser-studied aspects of the War. He is a professor of journalism and mass communication at St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, NY, and historian-in-residence

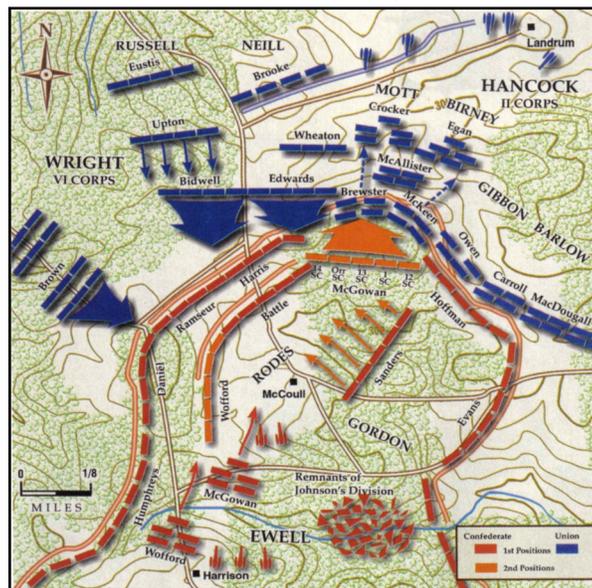
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS THURSDAY, May 12, 2016

7 p.m. Centreville Library

**GUEST SPEAKER:
HISTORIAN/AUTHOR
DR. CHRIS MACKOWSKI**

**TOPIC:
"THE BATTLE AT THE
MULESHOE SALIENT -
MAY 12, 1864"**

at Stevenson Ridge, a historic property on the Spotsylvania battlefield in central Virginia.



Troop placements at the start of the Battle of the Muleshoe Salient at Spotsylvania.

He has also worked as a historian for the National Park Service at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park, where he gives tours at four major Civil War battlefields (Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania), as well as at the home where Stonewall Jackson died. Chris also serves on the national advisory board for the Civil War Chaplains Museum in Lynchburg, Virginia. Come on out at 5 p.m. and meet Chris for dinner

at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Pkwy., Centreville, VA 20120: (703) 266-9755.

**BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
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 The Bull Run Civil War Round Table publishes the *Stone Wall*.

General Membership meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at:
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 **June/July 2016 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, May 23, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com

**NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT
SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

For the **June/July 2016 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon, May 13, to Charlie Balch at BRCWRTads@gmail.com

Support the BRCWRT in its important mission to educate and to commemorate the battles and events of the Civil War

- PLACE YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN THE STONE WALL -

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 12, 2016 - Chris Mackowski - "Battle at the Muleshoe Salient"
June 9, 2016 - Anniversary Meeting - Panel of Past BRCWRT Presidents
July 14, 2016 - John Hennessey - "Battle of 2nd Manassas Campaign"
August 11, 2016 - Ed Bearss - "Battle of 1st Manassas"
September 8, 2016 - Jon Hickox - "Historic Finds at Bull Run"
October 13, 2016 - William Backus - "Battle of Bristoe Station"
November 10, 2016 - Bruce Venter - "Kill Jeff Davis, The K&D Richmond, VA Raid"
December 8, 2016 - Dwight Hughes - "CSS Shenandoah"

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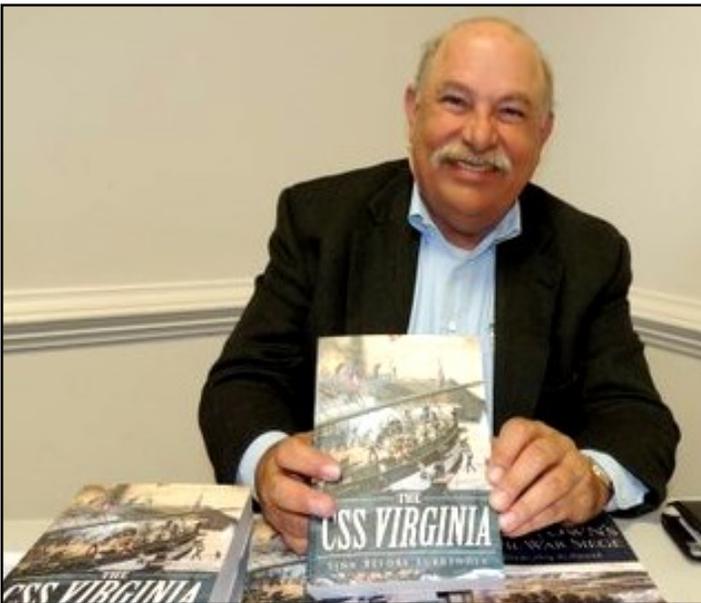


The President's Column By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members,

Spring is in full bloom now and those gardens are beginning to grow. We look forward to the warmer weather and continued membership growth as we move forward in our 25th year. Next month, our 25th anniversary celebration meeting is on June 9th. I am so looking forward to that! As we have discussed all year, 2016 will be a year of celebration events and lectures that will certainly be memorable for our members and friends.

Our membership drive concluded in April, so folks who haven't renewed their membership will no longer receive our award-winning newsletter. If you know of anyone in this situation, please encourage them to rejoin the BRCWRT on our Web site, or at the next meeting.



John Quarstein, April speaker at the BRCWRT, displays his newest publication, "The CSS Virginia - Sink Before Surrender."

Photo by Janet Greentree

Our April 2016 speaker, author and historian John Quarstein, brought our gathering an outstanding naval lecture, "the Battle of Mobile Bay," presented to a packed house. John has a wonderful way of bringing forth the battle as if you were there on the deck of the ship, 'damning those torpedoes'. What an educational and en-

tertaining night we enjoyed, and we will surely have John back next year for another great presentation. Thank you, John, for a job well done! I encourage everyone to visit John's home base - the Mariners Museum - this summer in Newport News, VA.

The BRCWRT is so glad to be a member in a stakeholder group for the Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields Preservation Study. The group's first meeting will be hosted by Prince William County Archaeologist Justin Patton on May 12th. BRCWRT Executive Committee member John De Pue will attend, representing the BRCWRT. The PWC Planning Office identified us as having an interest in the outcome of this study because of our interest in the Civil War, as well as our interest in preserving and managing the rural areas of Prince William County. The county was awarded a grant through the American Battlefield Protection Program, a division of the National Park Service, to complete this study. Our support for preservation of these battlefields has been ongoing for many years and will continue for many more.

As we discussed again at the April meeting, the BRCWRT is actively working with Alexandria's Advisory Group on Confederate Memorials and Street Names preservation initiative. Our Preservation leaders, Blake Myers and Rob Orrison, have attended three meetings to date and have reported back to us with their findings. Many members of the Executive Committee have written letters to appropriate authorities managing this matter, and we encourage all to express their opinions through written letters as well. Being reviewed by the council are: the status of the Appomattox statue on South Washington Street; the name of the Jefferson Davis Highway in the City of Alexandria; the names of the many streets within the city that are named after Confederate generals and military leaders; and a specific policy on the flying of any flags on property owned or under the control of the city. We will continue to update you as these council hearings progress.

Each month this year, we will be selling Ed Wenzel's "Chronology of the Civil War of Fairfax

(con't on Page 11)

History Happy Hour at Ben Lomond Historic Site



Friday
June 10, 2016
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
\$15 per person, ages 21 and up only

Looking for a fun and exclusive way to spend the evening? Take part in our new series of “Happy Hours!” Enjoy a few drinks and explore Prince William County’s unique historic sites. Event includes two drink tickets and light food and refreshments. Additional drinks available for purchase. Reservations suggested, but not required.

Activities Available Will Include:

- Exploring the Civil War Hospital
- Interacting with Living History Interpreters
- Seeing Musket Firing Demonstrations
- Drilling with a Civil War Soldier
- Enjoying Music by the Campfires



For more information about the series or to make a reservation:

703-367-7872

Ben Lomond Historic Site

10321 Sudley Manor Drive, Manassas, VA 20109



Prince William County Department of Public Works
Historic Preservation Division

Web: www.pwcgov.org/history Email: historicpreservation@pwcgov.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pwhistoric Twitter: @PWHPF



Bull Run Civil War Round Table

2016 Scholarships Awarded

by Nancy Anwyll

The winner of this year's Bull Run CWRT scholarship (\$1500) is Brooke Roberts, a senior at Robinson High School and the daughter of Jennifer and Charles Roberts of Burke.

In addition to the usual first place award, a special one-time scholarship of \$500 will go to Aaron Pirnat, a senior at Herndon High School

and the son of Lianne Pirnat of Great Falls. Both winners will attend our meeting on June 9th and receive recognition.

Brooke's application highlights her academic achievement, and aspects of her life that include a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Along with the description of her active life, a well-written essay and proof of an interest in American history were also included.

She has earned a GPA of over 4.0, and is a member of the National Honor Society. Her courses include several AP and Honors courses. Besides soccer and cross country sports, Brooke participates in Model United Nations activities, holds offices in more than one club, and has won an award for her National History Day exhibit.

Brooke's teacher recommendation, which was written by her AP Government and IB Geography teacher, Mr. Robert Garza, related that she "easily draws connections between the past and the present and grounds her understanding of current issues in the context of historical events." Brooke's scholarship essay topic is the Dogan House and its inhabitants during the Battle of Second Manassas, and added information about what happened to them after the war. Brooke will attend George Washington University in the fall where she'll major in Political Science.



BRCWRT Scholarship winners Brooke Roberts and Aaron Pirnat.

Aaron Pirnat impressed the scholarship committee with his keen interest in history, especially local history. After running into a BRCWRT member one day and asking him about the location of Rowser's Ford, and then learning that it wasn't that far from where he lived, Aaron decided to apply for the scholarship and to write his essay on J.E.B. Stuart's June 27, 1863,

crossing of Rowser's Ford on the Potomac River.

Aaron earned a grade of "A" in his AP U.S. History class in his junior year of high school and has earned a GPA of 3.36. Aaron helped a fellow scout who earned Eagle research a family cemetery near Herndon, and then later, Aaron achieved his own rank as Eagle Scout for creating a flag ceremony for the retiring of flags for the American Legion Post.

His Boy Scout leader, Mr. Roger E. Claff, wrote a recommendation that highlighted Aaron's work as an Eagle Scout. He said, "I can think of no one more deserving of a scholarship from an historical organization than Aaron."

Aaron lives with his mother and grandparents in Great Falls and will attend Northern Virginia Community College in the fall. He hopes to teach history one day.

This is the third year that the Bull Run CWRT has granted a scholarship since 2013. Unfortunately no scholarship was awarded last year due to too few qualified applicants. After a few changes to the rules, extending the deadline date and opening the award up to more schools, the number of qualified applicants increased in 2016. Past winners are: Taylor McConnell from West Springfield High School (2013) and Caroline Howard from Osbourn Park High School (2014).



CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

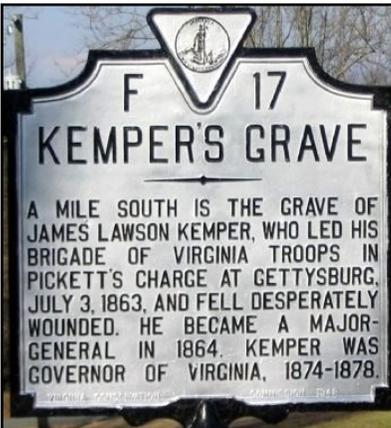
Major General James Lawson Kemper, CSA

By Janet Greentree

Sometimes, while doing historical research, you just have to request access to important sites to achieve the desired result, even if where you want to go is on private property. This story goes quite far back to June 2003, when the late Bev Regeimbal, Nancy Anwyll and I were out in Orange County, riding around. On Route 15, just north of Orange, there's a



Gen. James L. Kemper, CSA.



Kemper's Grave historical marker on Route 15, Orange County, VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

Not having my book *Generals at Rest* containing directions to all the Confederate graves with me, we took off on a road looking for where he may be buried. The first road wasn't the right one, and that fact was verified by a neighbor who told us where the estate of James Kemper is located.



Gen. Kemper's plantation home, Madison, VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

We drove down a long and winding dirt road and came upon a large plantation home named Walnut Hills. Several barking dogs came running into sight, so we weren't sure we even wanted to get out of the car.

A lovely woman came down the steps, and when we told her what we were looking for, she invited us into her home for some sweet tea. She showed us Kemper's clock and other items associated with him. She told us to walk through several pasture gates to find the Kemper Family Cemetery behind the house.

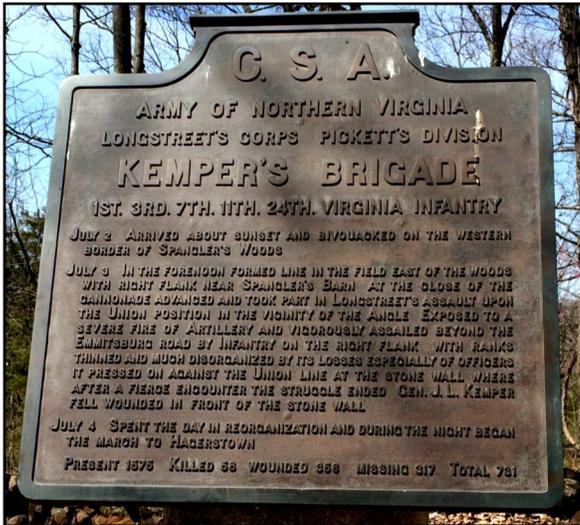
James Lawson Kemper is another one of my Gettysburg generals. His shield



Gen. Kemper's clock and various memorabilia are kept on display at Walnut Hills, Orange County, VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)



Gen. Kemper's brigade marker at Gettysburg, PA.

Photo by Lisa Tully

marker on West Confederate Avenue is located five markers down on the right side from Gen. Lee's statue. I have to thank my daughter Lisa Tully again for my never-ending photo requests to her of Gettysburg monuments and locations.

Kemper was born June 11, 1823, on his family plantation, Mountain Prospect, in Madison County, Virginia. His parents were William and Maria Allison Kemper. Kemper was the sixth of eight children. His father's family immigrated to Virginia from Siegen, Germany, during the 17th century. Governor Alexander Spotwood's Germanna colony had recruited Kemper's great-grandfather as a miner for the colony. Kemper has quite an interesting ancestral lineage. Colonel John Jasper Stadler, his maternal great-grandfather, served as a civil engineer on George Washington's staff and engineered fortifications in Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina during the Revolutionary War. John Stadler Allison, his grandfather, was an officer in the U.S. Army during the War of 1812.

His father and Henry Hill of a neighbor-

ing plantation started the Old Field School on Mountain Prospect to educate the children in the area. One of James' classmates was future Gen. A.P. Hill, who became a lifelong friend. Kemper attended both Locust Dale Academy and Washington College, and also took engineering courses at VMI. Kemper graduated Washington College first in his class and gave the commencement address in 1842. The subject of his speech was "The Need of a Public School System in Virginia." He returned home after college and read the law under George W. Summers of Kanawha County. Kemper earned a Master's Degree in June 1845, and was admitted to the Virginia Bar on October 2, 1846.

That same year, the Mexican War began. Kemper was appointed as quartermaster and captain under Colonel James F. Hamtramck in the First Regiment of Virginia Volunteers. His unit arrived after the battle of Buena Vista, but maintained defenses in the Coahuila province. After being discharged from the U.S. Army in August, 1848, Kemper returned to Madison County to practice law. He became interested in politics, proclaiming his platform as being pro-slavery, anti-abolitionist and pro-states rights. He was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1853. In 1861, he became Speaker. By 1858, he was a brigadier general in the Virginia Militia.

In 1853, Kemper married Cremora "Belle" Cave who was 11 years his junior. They would have seven children.

Jimmy Kemper started out at the Civil War's outbreak as a colonel of the 7th Virginia. He led the 7th under Jubal Early at First Manassas (at Blackburn's Ford). He and his friend A.P. Hill were both as-

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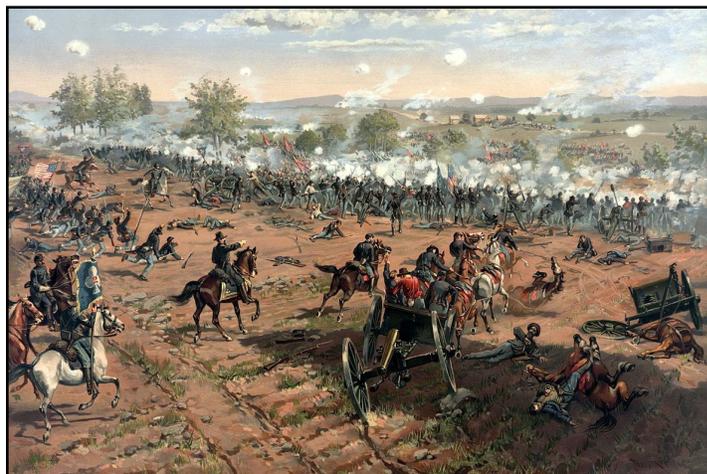
Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

signed to Gen. James Longstreet in June of 1861. He fought at the Battle of Seven Pines and the Seven Days Battles. He became a division commander when the Confederate Army was reorganized by Gen. Robert E. Lee. He fought at the Second Battle of Manassas and against Burnside at Antietam. Old friend, A.P. Hill, saved the day by coming up from Harper's Ferry to assist Kemper.

Kemper missed the action at Chancellorsville, as he was with Longstreet in Suffolk. He was with Gen. Richard B. Garnett at South Mountain with only 800 men; Union Gen. Abner Doubleday reported (erroneously) that he had engaged 4,000 to 5,000 men there with his force of 3,500 men.

At Gettysburg, he was assigned to Pickett's Division. The 1st, 3rd, 7th, 11th, and 24th Virginia Infantry arrived in Gettysburg in the evening of July 2nd and camped at Spangler's Woods. His brigade was one of the main assault units on the right flank of Pickett's Charge on the 3rd of July. Fifty-six were killed and 673 wounded or missing in that iconic charge. The brigade made it across the Emmitsburg Road and was on the right of the copse of trees when Union Gen. George J. Stannard's Vermont men flanked him. Kemper urged the men forward and shouted: "There are the guns, boys, go for them." Kemper himself would be wounded by a bullet that traveled through both his groin and abdomen. He encountered Gen. Lee while being carried on a stretcher and told Lee that he thought the wound mortal. Kemper asked Lee to "do full justice to this division for its work today."

Kemper would be captured by the Union Army on the retreat to Hagerstown, survive his wounds and spend three



Pickett's Charge, Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.

months in a Union prison. His wife was told that she would not be able to see her husband, even though Kemper was badly wounded, because the Confederates had previously refused a Union officer's wife the right to see him. He was exchanged on September 19, 1863, for Gen. Charles K. Graham when Union surgeons surmised it would be unlikely that Kemper would recover and rejoin the fight. Recover he did, however, but would endure groin pain the rest of his life as the bullet could not be removed safely. Kemper spent the remainder of the war commanding the Virginia Reserves, since he was too ill for combat. He was promoted to major general on September 19, 1864.



James Kemper, post-war.

After the war, he went back to the practice of law in Madison, Orange and Culpeper Counties. He was elected

(con't on page 11)



PRESERVATION REPORT

BY BLAKE MYERS

Corduroy Road Logs Update:

Jim Lewis, Jenee Lindner and I met on April 20th at Historic Blenheim with Chris Martin and dendrochronologist Bill Callahan from Wyndmoor, PA, to assess the viability of dating the corduroy road logs found recently in Fairfax City and stored at Blenheim. Learning more about dendrochronology and the assessment process was a true education for Jim, Jenee, Chris, and me; Bill Callahan patiently took the time to explain the process that he and his firm use to date logs and wooden structures, and how the extensive wood growth database is actually used in the process.

Bill selected several of the most promising logs to study from the 40 stored at Blenheim, and Jim sawed

short end pieces off to allow for Bill's more detailed assessment/reading of the logs. To *cut* to the chase - so to speak - based on Bill's assessment, the logs recovered from the corduroy road site do not have a sufficient number of growth rings to accurately date them.

While the inability to accurately date these recovered logs is unfortunate, they still present a terrific opportunity to tell and depict the history and story of the corduroying of Ox Road (before, during and after the Civil War period), an initiative that remains one of our preservation goals.

During Bill's visit, Jim and I took Bill, Chris and Jenee to see the Braddock Road/Ox Road (Farr Crossroads) Redoubt on the GMU Campus. This was their first visit to this redoubt site, and they were impressed with the condition of the redoubt and with the overlook provided of the Ox Road (corduroy road) site.

BRCWRT Member Brian McEnany Wins Book Prize

The University Press of Kentucky announced in March that the New York Military Affairs Symposium has awarded the 2015 Eugene Feit award for Civil War Studies to *For Brotherhood and Duty: The Civil War History of the West Point Class of 1862*, a book written by BRCWRT member Brian McEnany.

Former winners of this prestigious award include:

- **2002** - Gary Gallagher for lifetime achievement
- **2003** - Archer Jones for lifetime achievement
- **2004** - *The Memory of the Civil War in American Culture*, edited by Alice Fahs & Joan Waugh.
- **2005** - *While in the Hands of the Enemy: Military Prisons of the Civil War*, Charles W. Sanders, Jr., Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press
- **2006** - *Arizona in the Civil War: The California Volunteers, 1861-65*, by Andrew E. Masich, University of Oklahoma Press
- **2007** - James M. McPherson for lifetime achievement
- **2008** - *Lincoln's Admirals*, by Craig Symonds, New York: Oxford University Press, 2008
- **2009** - *West Pointers and the Civil War: The Old Army in War and Peace*, by Wayne Wei-Siang Hsieh, Chapel Hill University of North Carolina Press, 2009
- **2010** - *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*, Eric Foner, New York, W. W. Norton & Co, and Eric Foner for his lifetime contributions to the field of 19th Century American, Civil War and Global History
- **2011** - *The Union War*, Gary W. Gallagher: Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press, 2011
- **2012** - No award
- **2013** - *Captives in Blue: The Civil War Prisons of the Confederacy*, Roger Pickenpaugh, University of Alabama Press, 2013
- **2014** - *Appomattox: Victory, Defeat, and Freedom at the End of the Civil War*, Elizabeth Varon, Oxford University Press, 2014

Prince William County Historic Bus Tours



Forgotten Battles of Northern Virginia

Saturday, June 18, 2016

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

\$80 per person, includes lunch. Reservations required.



Join local historians as we explore many of the smaller, hidden battles that took place in our region from 1861-1865. Tour stops will include:

-Middleburg -Unison -Aldie -Ox Hill -And many more!

For more information or to make your reservation, please call:

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park; 703-366-3049

"In Much Need of Service": Civil War Hospitals of First Manassas

Saturday, July 23, 2016

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

\$80 per person, includes lunch. Reservations required.



After the Battle of First Manassas, the horrors of battle continued in the numerous hospitals throughout the area. Commemorating the 155th Anniversary of the battle, join us as we visit the hospitals of Manassas and learn about Civil War medicine, the soldiers who were treated, the families whose homes were commandeered.

For more information or to make your reservation, please call:

Ben Lomond Historic Site; 703-367-7872

The Bristoe Station Campaign

Saturday, October 8, 2016

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

\$80 per person, includes lunch. Reservations required.



Enjoy a full day, in-depth tour of the sites and battlefields that made up the Bristoe Campaign. Historians will explain how this important campaign impacted soldiers, civilians, and its overall impact on the outcome of the Civil War. Participants will have the chance to see little known or visited sites.

For more information or to make your reservation, please call:

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park; 703-366-3049



Prince William County Department of Public Works
Historic Preservation Division

Web: www.pwcgov.org/history Email: historicpreservation@pwcgov.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/pwhistoric Twitter: @PWHPF



President's Column – (con't from page 3)

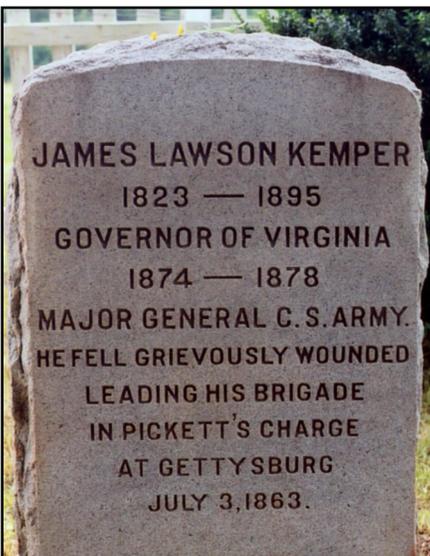
County.” This book was six years in the making, and I believe it is the greatest Fairfax County Civil War reference book ever written, or that ever will be written. You can purchase the book at the meetings or online. Don't miss buying this book - Ed Bearss wrote the Foreword, saying that this book is: “a gold mine of information...”

The 1st and 2nd Manassas Tours have been scheduled, as well as our 1st picnic (Sunday, October 9th) at the Bull Run Winery. We will be having “Bad to the Bone BBQ” that day, along with many other treats. Put that date on the calendar, along with other enjoyable events awaiting us, as the BRCWRT 25th Anniversary season begins. Let's make some memories together.

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

the first governor of Virginia after Reconstruction, serving from 1874 to 1878. He was known for his strong position on civil rights, public transportation and the public school system.

In 1882, he bought Walnut Hills in Orange County. He used a small log cabin



behind the main house at Walnut Hills for his law office. He also raised sheep there. His beloved wife Belle died in 1867 at age 33 after giving birth to her 7th

Kemper's grave marker, Kemper family cemetery at Walnut Hills.

child. Kemper stayed in the log cabin at night after she died because he couldn't stand to be in the house without her.

Kemper's health deteriorated in later years; and he died in his sleep at Walnut Hills on April 7, 1895. He was one of the longer surviving Confederate generals, even though his wound at Gettysburg was determined to be mortal at that time.

Ms. Rebelle is not advocating trespassing on private property, but this time it did work out. If you would like the directions to Kemper's grave, please contact me directly.

NOTE: Ms. Rebelle's hobby is traveling the country, finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008 Civil War generals. So far, she has located and photographed 412 - 169 Confederate and 243 Union. You may contact her at jlqtree@erols.com.

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

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

◆ Bob Meredith

◆ Jon Hickox

◆ Shirley Essertier

◆ Paul Terry

◆ John Babey

◆ Matthew Reynolds

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

2016 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. Family—\$25. Student (age 22 and under)—FREE.

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 _____

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