



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXIII, Issue 9, NOVEMBER 2016

HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR DR. BRUCE VENTER TO PRESENT "KILL JEFF DAVIS: THE KILPATRICK-DAHLGREN RAID INTO RICHMOND, VA" AT THE NOVEMBER 10th MEETING

The main goal of the controversial Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid on Richmond, VA (February 28–March 3, 1864) was to free some 13,000 Union prisoners of war being held in the Confederate capital; to capture or kill Confederate President Jefferson Davis, and to set Richmond ablaze. What really happened - how and why - will be presented by Author/Historian Dr. Bruce Venter at our November 10th meeting.

Bruce's major interest is Civil War cavalry, with an emphasis on the career of Union General Judson Kilpatrick. He frequently lectures on the cavalry and has led bus tours on the Kilpatrick-Dahlgren raid, which is also the focus of his book, *"Kill Jeff Davis."*

He is a past president of the Richmond Civil War Round Table and currently serves as first vice president of the Goochland County Historical Society. Bruce has published articles in *Blue and Gray*, *Civil War*, *Patriots of the American Revolution*, *Goochland County Historical Society Magazine*, *The Washington Times* and numerous professional journals. He is also the author of *"The Battle of Hubbardton: The Rear Guard*



Gen. H. Judson Kilpatrick (left) and Col. Ulric Dahlgren (right) are the controversial characters at the center of a failed raid on Richmond, VA to perform the "special operation" to wreak havoc on the government of the Confederacy.



MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

7 p.m. Centreville Library

THURSDAY, November 10, 2016

GUEST SPEAKERS:

**HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR
DR. BRUCE VENTER**

TOPIC:

**"KILL JEFF DAVIS:
THE KILPATRICK-DAHLGREN RAID
INTO RICHMOND, VA"**

Action that Saved America."

Bruce spent 36 years in public education before his retirement, mostly as an assistant superintendent in school systems in New York, Virginia and Maryland. He holds a B.A. in history from Manhattan College, a Master's Degree in public administration and doctorate in educational administration from the University at Albany. Bruce is the president of America's History, LLC, a tour and conference company he founded in 2010.

Bruce lives in Goochland County, Virginia, with his wife Lynne. Come on out at 5 p.m. and meet Bruce for dinner at Carrabba's

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

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: Mark Whitenton, mark.whitenton@gmail.com
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Secretary: John Pearson, brcwrt2009@gmail.com, 703.475.1943
At Large: Charlie Balch, John De Pue, Brian McEnany
25th Silver Anniversary: Brian McEnany and Jim Lewis
Communications/Media: Jim Lewis, antietam1862@verizon.net
Membership: Rob Orrison, orrison76@hotmail.com, 703.431.2869
Preservation: Blake Myers, jb11thva@cox.net
Student Scholarship: Nancy Anwyll (njanwyll@verizon.net) and Rob Orrison (orrison76@hotmail.com)
Field Trips: Rob Orrison, orrison76@hotmail.com, John De Pue
Webmaster: Alan Day, webmaster@bullruncwrt.org
Graphic Design: Drew Pallo, dpallo3@verizon.net
Newsletter Editor: Nadine Mironchuk, nadine1861@hotmail.com
Newsletter Team: Sandra Cox, Eric Fowler, Janet Greentree, Jill Hilliard, and Andy Kapfer.
 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 **December 2016** issue, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, November 21, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **December 2016** issue, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon, November 11, to Charlie Balch at BRCWR-Tads@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
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 10, 2016 - Bruce Venter - "Kill Jeff Davis, The K&D Richmond, VA Raid"

December 8, 2016 - Dwight Hughes - "CSS Shenandoah"

BRCWRT ELECTION of OFFICERS

During our December 8th meeting, the Round Table will conduct its annual election of officers. Each of our four incumbent officers has expressed willingness to run for another term. They include: Mark Trbovich, President; Mark Whitenton, Vice-President; Mark Knowles, Treasurer; and John Pearson, Secretary. However, any member in good standing can throw his hat in the ring for an officer in position or can nominate another member for such a position.

Any such nomination should be transmitted to the undersigned at: jfdepue@comcast.net or to Ed Wenzel at: ew136@verizon.net no later than November 10, 2016. We will also accept nominations from the floor during our November 10th meeting.

John F. De Pue
Member, Nominating Committee

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The President's Column

By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members,

November begins the holiday season, when the cold starts to move in, but we will surely be warm and happy inside with family during the Thanksgiving holidays, taking time to observe Veterans' Day coming up this week.

The fall schedule of speakers was excellent this year; in fact, our visiting speakers have been outstanding all year long. At our

October meeting, Bill Backus gave us a new and different view of the Battle of Bristoe Station as he led us through the research he conducted for his book "A Want of Vigilance: the Bristoe Station Campaign" (coauthored with Robert Orrison). It was a real treat for the 85 folks who attended this lecture. We

received a comprehensive view of the elements of the action, from battle maneuvers to the wide variety of resources utilized in writing this book. Great job, Bill - we hope to see you again soon down the road at the BRCWRT.

November is also the second month in the process of choosing our 2017 BCWRT officers, according to our by-laws, and we will be bringing you information regarding this process at the meeting. Voting on the 2017 BRCWRT roster of officers will take place at the December 2017 meeting. We are happy to report that John De Pue and Ed Wenzel will head up our nominating committee this year.

Although our membership drive concluded months ago, I encourage everyone to continue bringing new folks to join the Round Table through our Web site, or at the next meeting. I am always encouraging a youth movement for the BRCWRT, to ensure that a future generation of Civil War historians and preservationists will continue our proud traditions for the next 25 years, and beyond.

The BRCWRT is currently supporting and/or providing consulting for several preservation efforts, on which our excellent preservation lead, Blake

Myers, is keeping everyone updated, both at the meetings and in this wonderful newsletter.

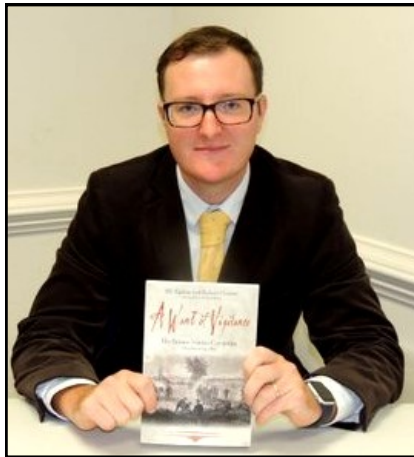
We are consultants to officials who are considering the proposed new cell phone tower near the Signal Hill memorial in Manassas Park. Blake Myers and Kimball Brace are heading up the BRCWRT efforts to assist the Prince William County Historic Commission seeking to keep the view shed clear for the important Civil War historic sites that can be seen from Signal Hill. We will keep you informed as we get more details as we attend future meetings.

The BRCWRT is actively working with Alexandria's Advisory Group on Confederate Memorials and Street Names on its preservation initiative. We were fortunate to have Ms. Debbie Mullins, Daughters of Confederate Veterans' lead person on Alexandria Civil War preservation, to speak at our October meeting. She apprised of us the latest in the ongoing preservation effort happening there, including: the status of the Appomattox statue on South Washington Street (if it will be moved); the name of the Jefferson Davis Highway in the City of Alexandria (that name will change); the names of the many streets within the City that are named after Confederate generals and military leaders (Alexandria already has a name changing policy in place). We will continue to update you as Alexandria council decisions are released to the public.

We have recently turned our attention to the Featherbed Lane Virginia Department of Transportation study, as the state decides how to refurbish the remaining unimproved road in the Manassas Battlefield. This is due to us now being a consulting group regarding preservation efforts at the Manassas Battlefield. More information on these issues will be provided as they move forward.

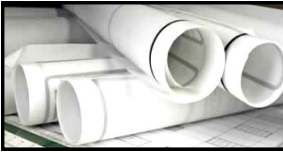
The BRCWRT meetings continue to feature the sale of Ed Wenzel's "Chronology of the Civil War of Fairfax County." This book was six years in the making, and I believe it is the greatest Fairfax County Civil War reference book ever written, or that ever will be written. You can purchase this unique resource at the meetings, or purchase it online. You don't want to miss buying this book - Ed Bearss wrote the Foreword, calling this book a "gold mine of information...." We believe it will be the perfect Christmas gift!! Also on sale at meetings and online is the BRCWRT 25th year anniversary book. Again, another great gift idea!

Have a great Veterans Day and Thanksgiving holiday, everyone. Let us never forget the people who served, and what they did for us. God Bless all of you.



Bill Backus' knowledge of the Battle of Bristoe Station was presented to us at the October meeting, and is available in his book on the engagement.

Photo by Janet Greentree



PRESERVATION REPORT

BY BLAKE MYERS

Preservation Update

City of Alexandria - Confederate Memorials and Street Names

There are no substantive updates – we will continue to monitor actions adopted by the City Council, particularly those regarding movement of the ‘Appomattox’ statue.

Proposed Cellular Communications Tower at Signal Hill Park

Milestone Communications is in discussions and planning with the municipality of Manassas Park for the installation of a cellular communication tower (monopole) in Signal Hill Park, located along Signal View Drive.

Of primary concern is the proposed monopole location’s impact on the historical view shed from the 1861 signal station located on what is now known as Signal Hill (in 1861 known as Wilcoxon Hill) toward the 1861 signal station sites located at Yorkshire, the Van Pelt House, on Matthews Hill and Centreville.

The BRCWRT, in a *Consulting Party Status*, continues to work with the other interested parties, led by Prince William County’s Historical Commission and the city of Manassas Park in developing strategies for mitigating any adverse impact of the proposed monopole and preserving Signal (Wilcoxon) Hill.

Stay tuned for future developments.

George Mason University (GMU)

Ox Road/Braddock Road Intersection (Farr’s Crossroads) Redoubt & Corduroy Road (Ox Road) – There are no substantive updates, however we remain in contact with GMU and Friends of the Historic Courthouse for collaborative future planning efforts.

Civil War History at “Farr’s Crossroads”

BRCWRT members Brian McEnany and Jim Lewis will conduct a class for GMU history students on the civil war history of Farr’s Crossroads. The class is scheduled for the afternoon of November 7th and will include on-site instruction and discussion at the historical redoubt site. We welcome this terrific opportunity to work with GMU’s History Department and to engage with and help educate GMU history students!

Featherbed Lane Study

Recently, the BRCWRT became aware of a traffic and engineering study conducted to identify various roadway improvement options for Featherbed Lane. Featherbed Lane, an unpaved road with limited two-way traffic, is the sole unimproved roadway remaining within Manassas National Battlefield Park and traverses key terrain of the 2nd Manassas Battlefield. Potential concerns regarding the impact of improvements under consideration includes the paving and straightening the roadway on the historic character of Featherbed Lane within Manassas National Battlefield Park, and increased use by commuters as an alternative to Route 234.

The Prince William County Department of Transportation (PWCDOT) conducted a Community Work Group Meeting on October 25th at the Haymarket Gainesville Community Library to gather public opinion on the options presented in the roadway study. The meeting included an overview of the study’s findings and results, and collection of community input and feedback on potential roadway improvement options. While no BRCWRT members were able to attend this meeting, BRCWRT Secretary John Pearson was able to obtain a copy of the study documents from PWC. We will review the study and weigh in, accordingly.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table’s Newest Recruits!
Here’s a grateful “Huzzah!” for someone
who has recently joined the BRCWRT:

♦ James Saunders

LeVar Burton to Present the Keynote Address at the 153rd Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address

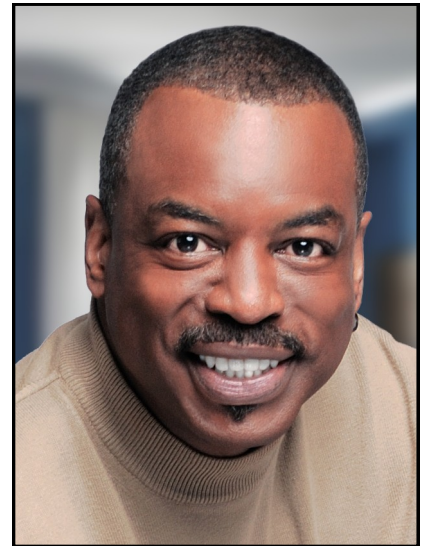
LeVar Burton, actor, director, producer, writer and speaker, will deliver the Dedication Day keynote address on Saturday, November 19, 2016, in Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg National Military Park. When asked to speak at the 153rd Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, Burton responded: "I am both delighted and honored to be this year's Dedication Day speaker. Lincoln is and always will be a towering figure in the story of America and his Gettysburg Address, one of the most enduring and eloquent testimonies to the true purpose of our Democracy."

On November 19, 1946, the Gettysburg Address anniversary date was formally designated as "Dedication Day" by a joint resolution of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

Carried on now by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, "Remembrance Day" technically refers to honoring those who gave their lives in the war. The parade ends at the memorial of the last surviving Union soldier, Albert Woolson. The term "Dedication Day" refers to honoring the Gettysburg Address. These events have blended together over the

years, and now this annual event held in conjunction with the Gettysburg Address anniversary.

A parade of Civil War living history groups steps off at 1 p.m. from LeFever Street and will follow the traditional route to Liberty Street, turning left onto Middle Street, left again onto Baltimore, and finally onto Steinwehr Avenue. The parade will end at the Gettysburg National Military Park. Earlier events will include: 9:30 a.m. - Wreath Laying Ceremony; 10 a.m. - Dedication Day Ceremony; 12 noon - Luncheon, Wyndham Hotel (\$30/person).



Actor LeVar Burton

Visit to Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary Cupola a Treat for BRCWRT Members on "Both Sides" Tour



Bull Run Round Table members were able to enjoy the special treat of climbing up into the cupola of the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary for a great view of the battlefield, when we were on Franconia (Alexandria, VA) Museum's "Both Sides" tour last month.

The Seminary building served as a lookout on July 1st, 1863, the first day of battle. From the cupola, Brig. Gen. John Buford, commanding First Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac, observed both the opening battle west of Seminary Ridge and saw the arrival of the I Corps under Maj. Gen. John Reynolds marching to his relief from the south.

As things looked most desperate, Buford's signal officer spotted Reynolds' advance, and reported it to Buford. Buford ascended the cupola again and said, "Good, now we can hold the place." He sent for a meeting with Reynolds, who called out, "What goes, John?" Buford replied, "The Devil's to pay!" and pointed out advancing Confederate infantry. Reynolds then asked whether Buford could hold, to which the cavalryman responded, "I reckon so."

Shown here, left to right, are BRCWRT members: Matt Reynolds, Gwen Wyttenbach, Bob Meredith, Sam Laudenslager (behind), Pam Unger, Pete Andrews, Nancy Anwyll and Codie (our Lutheran Seminary Docent).

Photo by BRCWRT member Wayne Wakefield

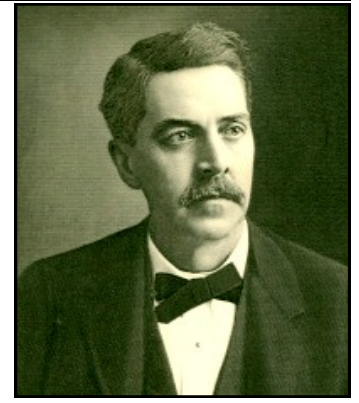
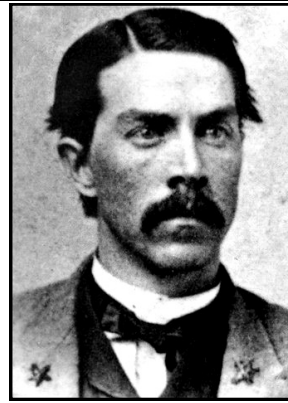


CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

Dr. Hunter Holmes McGuire

Confederate Surgeon

By Janet Greentree



Two images of Dr. McGuire - at left, during the Civil War and, at right, later in civilian life.

There seems to be a process Ms. Rebelle goes through each month to pick who to profile for her articles. This month took a visit by our editor Nadine Mironchuk plus a visit to Ben Lomand to decide on Dr. Hunter Holmes McGuire. Each time Yankee Girl Nadine comes down from Boston, Nancy Anwyll, Gwen Wyttenbach, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, and I take her to some Civil War place



Ben Lomond today, with red hospital banner affixed to entrance.

Photo by Janaet Greentree

she has not been before. This time it was Ben Lomand in Manassas. This was my first time there as well. We had a wonderful docent who took us on a tour of the house. It is quite impressive

how they have made it look and smell like a hospital inside. Dr. McGuire tended the wounded there after First Manassas.

Dr. McGuire was born in Winchester, Virginia, on October 11, 1835. His father was Dr. Hugh McGuire and his mother Ann Eliza Moss.

Hunter was one of seven children. The McGuire house still stands in Winchester

but has been converted to law offices. He showed an interest in medicine at an early



Dr. McGuire's childhood home - Winchester, VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

age when accompanying his father on his rounds. Young Hunter began his studies at the age of 17 at the Winchester Medical College, graduating in 1855. In 1859, following the hostilities at Harpers Ferry, the school was given a corpse to study and dissect. The corpse was Owen Brown - son of John Brown. Papers in Owen's clothing identified him.

After practicing with his father for a time, he then went to the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia for more medical training but the Civil War interrupted his studies. Southern medical students became an unwelcome presence in the school. Hunter McGuire inquired if the Dean of the Medical College of Virginia would accept him and his fellow students. The dean was more than happy to accommodate. Hunter had saved \$2,000

from teaching and paid the fare of 300 students to transfer to the Richmond school.

All were armed, and marched as a body to their departure point. McGuire and his fellow southern students were met by the school's dean;

(con't on page 7)



Medical College of VA in 1845.

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)

Virginia Governor Henry A. Wise, and also the Mayor of Richmond. He graduated in 1860 from the MCV now holding his second medical degree. He then went to the Medical College of New Orleans, later renamed Tulane University.

When the Civil War broke out, Hunter enlisted on April 17, 1861 in the 2nd VA Infantry, Company F, as a private. It was soon realized that he was more valuable as a surgeon than a foot soldier, so he was made brigade surgeon and ordered to report to General Thomas J. Jackson at Harper's Ferry. Jackson would become very close to McGuire, as well as his other young aides, Sandie Pendleton and James Power Smith. When Stonewall was wounded by a spent bullet at Manassas, an assistant surgeon wanted to amputate Stonewall's hand. McGuire intervened and saved the hand.

During the Civil War, McGuire created the Confederate Ambulance Corps, revamped the Infirmary Corps, and implemented the Reserve Corps consisting of mobile hospitals, supplies, and personnel. After First Manassas, he established the Confederate Medical Department. Stonewall rewarded him with a captured Union saber inscribed "Medical Staff." He and Jackson often shared the same tent, and rode together.

When Jackson was mortally wounded at Chancellorsville by friendly fire coming from the 18th North Carolina Infantry, McGuire found that Stonewall had an open fracture of the proximal humerus (the arm bone joined at the shoulder), with arterial bleeding. The stretcher he was carried on is now displayed in the Gettysburg Museum. Stonewall was placed in an ambulance and taken to Guinea Station for treatment. Dr. McGuire amputated his arm about 2" from his shoulder. Jackson was subsequently diagnosed with pleuro-pneumonia. Dr. McGuire heard and recorded Jackson's last words: "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees" when he died on May 10, 1863. McGuire was a pallbearer at Jackson's funeral.

After Jackson's death, McGuire served



The actual stretcher that carried "Stonewall" Jackson, wounded from the field, whereupon he had his arm amputated by Gen. McGuire; the appendage was subsequently buried on the property of a home called Ellwood, near Chancellorsville. A fall from this stretcher while being transported may have bruised his lungs, creating conditions for the pneumonia that took Stonewall's life. It is displayed at Gettysburg.

Photo by Janet Grentree

under General Richard Ewell. Ewell was a patient of McGuire's as well, at the time McGuire amputated Ewell's leg. He also amputated General Trimble's leg during the Gettysburg campaign. McGuire continued to serve as surgeon during the rest of the war. He was captured by General Phillip Sheridan shortly before the surrender at Appomattox. Sheridan himself had McGuire paroled.

McGuire borrowed \$300 from his father to start a medical practice in Richmond after the war. To supplement his income, he trained students of medicine at the former Chimborazo Hospital in Richmond. He also taught at the Medical College of Virginia.

He was introduced to Mary Stuart of Staunton by his friend and tent-mate, Sandie Pendleton. Mary was the daughter of the Honorable Alexander H.H. Stuart, Secretary of the Interior under President Millard Fillmore. Miss Stuart needed a tall escort to take her to Sandie's wedding and McGuire, at 6'3", filled the bill. Hunter and Mary were married on December 19, 1866. They had nine children – three sons and six daughters. Hunter told his children never to all congregate on the porch of their house, as passersby would think the house was an orphan asylum.

He was acutely interested in modern methods for surgery. In 1868, he was recognized for his surgery on abdominal aortic aneurysms. His record during the war was

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

that of a skillful surgeon with very low complication rates. He published 60 articles on medical procedures. He created the Retreat Hospital in Richmond in 1877, which still exists today. He also created St. Luke's Hospital for the Sick in 1882 - one of the first



Modern image of the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond.



Statue of Dr. McGuire located at the Capitol building in Richmond, VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

nursing schools in the south. The Medical College of Virginia named the school The Hunter Holmes McGuire Medical College of Virginia. He was president of the Richmond Academy of Medicine in 1869, founder of the Medical Society of Virginia in 1870, and served as its

president in 1881. He was president of the American Medical Association in 1893. He

received an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of North Carolina and Jefferson Medical College.

At the Capitol Building in Richmond, a large statue of him is located behind the building. He shares this space with other notables, including Generals "Extra" Billy Smith and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson; Edgar Allen Poe, and Governor Harry Flood Byrd, Sr.

While being driven to the hospital in a buggy on March 19, 1900, Dr. Holmes suffered a paralytic stroke. He alerted his driver, who took him home. His wife and his physician found him at home at his desk, crying and pointing to the left side of his head.

McGuire lived for another six months, but was never able to speak again. He died on September 19, 1900 at his country home in Henrico County and is buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond. Funeral services were held at St. Paul's Church in Richmond.



Dr. McGuire's monument, at gravesite in Hollywood Cemetery, in Richmond, VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

NOTE: Ms. Rebelle's hobby is traveling the country finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



**25th Anniversary
Commemorative
Publication**

Get Your Copy of the BRCWRT 25th Anniversary Commemorative Book!

Now available - the 25th anniversary of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table is here, and this Commemorative Publication will be a "keeper" souvenir of this milestone event!

The book is a trip down *Memory Lane*, featuring the many great accomplishments and events that have been shared by members over the years. Not only will you reminisce about the many wonderful people you've met and enjoyed being with as we all learn so much about history, but you will be proud to see the highlights of all the preservation and education the dedicated members of the BRCWRT have put forward year after year.

Copies are \$15 - visit our Web site (www.bullruncwrt.org) for details regarding online ordering.

Dedication of Soldier Monuments at Ox Hill Scheduled for Spring, 2017

by Ed Wenzel

Next spring, monuments for Union and Confederate soldiers will join those of generals Kearny and Stevens at the Ox Hill Battlefield Park. The thrice delayed dedication of the new monuments is now planned for April or May, 2017. Whether the ceremony will be held on April 9 (Lee's Surrender) or May 29 (Memorial Day) is still uncertain, but the Park Authority is weighing both dates. Most BRCWRT members are aware that these two monuments have been in the works for many years. Pulling it all together and making it happen was a long, involved process for the volunteer committee chaired by Round Table member Paula Elsey. Paula's Ox Hill Memorial Committee evolved from the county's Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee, which planned the successful Ox Hill 150th anniversary event in 2012.

To fully inform our membership about the new monuments and why they're being erected now, here's the important background: In July 1915, John and Mary Ballard, who owned the farm where the Ox Hill battle was fought, deeded a 50 x 100 ft. lot for monuments to six trustees, three from New Jersey and three from Virginia. The Ballards' deed states: "This conveyance is made for the specific purpose...of allowing any person or persons the privilege of erecting monuments or markers commemorating the death of any Confederate or Federal soldier who fell in the battle fought on the Fruit Vale Farm...being known as the Battle of Ox Hill or Chantilly..." In October of 1915, the First New Jersey Brigade Society dedicated two granite monuments honoring fallen Union generals Philip Kearny and Isaac Stevens.

The Kearny and Stevens monuments are located in the southeast corner of the monument lot. This location was undoubtedly chosen in order to reserve space in the remainder of the lot for a Confederate monument, or other monuments, as provided for in the Ballards' deed. However, as the years passed, no other monuments were ever erected. Then, as a

forest grew up on the former farm fields, the site gradually disappeared from view, hidden deep in the woods and surrounded by private land. The Kearny and Stevens monuments were largely forgotten and newer residents were unaware. Thus by the 1960s, many old-timers began to refer to the site as the place where "Yankee generals" were memorialized. Indeed, the site was later referred to by that term in county documents.

It is the belief of this writer (now one of the monument trustees) that the reputation of the site as a memorial place for "Yankee generals" was likely one reason that Fairfax officials were uninterested in preserving any of the battlefield in the decades following the Civil War Centennial. The "Yankee" reputation and the disinterest of Fairfax's historical groups probably sealed the fate of the battlefield in the 1970s and 80s. Had Confederate Gen. A. P. Hill been killed and memorialized there, or perhaps Gen. William D. Pender (name sake of the Pender crossroads, store and post office), interest in preserving some part of the battlefield as a Civil War historical park might have been different.

The resultant development and loss of the battlefield are well known. After a vigorous campaign by the Chantilly Battlefield Association in the late 1980s, 4.8 acres surrounding the Kearny/Stevens monument lot was salvaged for the Ox Hill Battlefield Park. When master planning for the park was conducted in 2004, the citizen task force advising the Park Authority was cognizant of the Ballards' provision for a Confederate monument at the site and noted that the two Federal generals were not the only ones who fell there. Accordingly, in 2005, the Park Authority Board approved a master plan reserving two sites within the battlefield park to memorialize the soldiers of the Blue and the Gray who bore the brunt of battle. Thus, when the park opened in 2008, two small signs marked sites for future monuments - one for Union soldiers on the

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Battle of Dranesville Marker Rededication

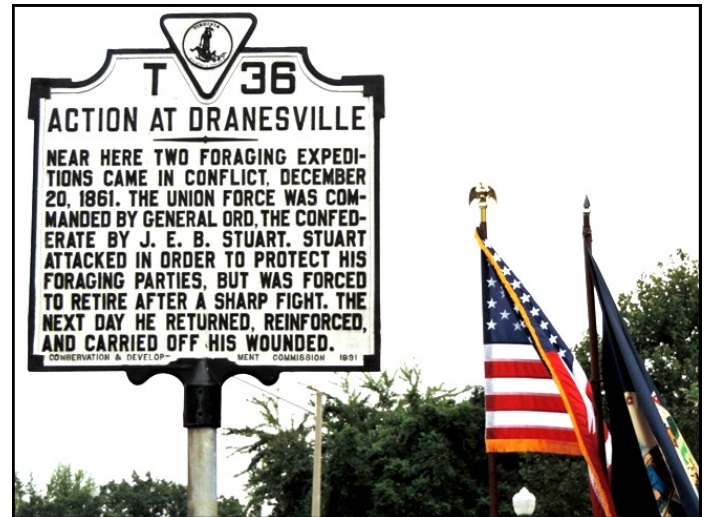
After Action Report

by Mark Whitenton

Bill Canis, a recent BRCWRT member, concluded his most recent Civil War project on September 24th by presiding over his successful effort relocate to a proper site a roadside marker describing the Battle of Dranesville. The Battle of Dranesville, which occurred on December 20, 1861, was a large skirmish between Brigadier General J.E.B. Stuart's forces foraging from Centreville, VA, and a large body of Pennsylvania soldiers stationed in what is now McLean, VA.

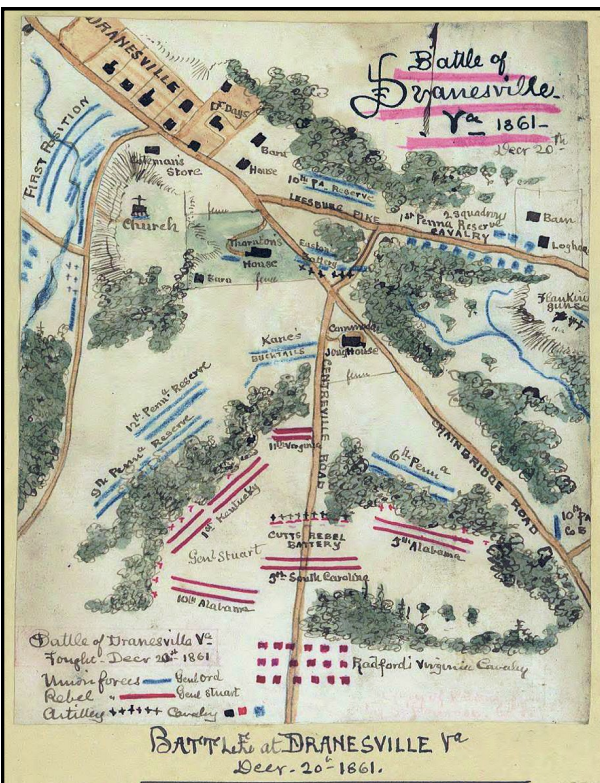
At the request of the Great Falls, VA, community, The circa 1931 marker (seen below) was moved from its obscure and historically incorrect position on Leesburg Pike (Rt.7) to the Georgetown Pike, near the intersection with Leesburg Pike, which is roughly where the center of the Union battle lines were formed. BRCWRT historical marker guru, Jim Lewis, provided location advice to Bill and the Great Falls community's ceremony organizing team.

The recent ceremony began at the Dranesville Church of the Brethren on Leesburg Pike in Great Falls, just around the corner from the new marker site. This church, built in 1912, is located on the north side of Leesburg Pike, just in front of where the Union artillery was set up to fire on JEB Stuart's foraging



The Battle of Dranesville historical marker was moved recently to a more accurate location along the Leesburg Pike, thanks to project director Bill Canis and the community of Great Falls, VA, who are proud to have brought accuracy and attention to the commemoration of this small but important skirmish at the end of 1861.

Photo by Raymond Merrill



party as it came north up Centreville Road (now Reston Avenue). Bill Canis arranged for both the current pastor of the Church of the Brethren, Doug Wantz, and the pastor of the nearby Salem Baptist Church, Roland Smith, to speak at the ceremony.

In his opening remarks, Bill Canis modestly stated that, "This event is unique in that it was not sponsored by just one group or individual," but that "it came about as a result of a spontaneous uprising of local residents who wanted to see our local history recognized and commemorated."

A big take-away was the line included in Bill's summary of the Battle of Dranesville: "The small engagement gave a boost to northern morale, which had taken a hit during the summer and fall [of 1861]."

Bill arranged for a number of local politicians to participate in the marker unveiling, including local County Supervisor John Foust, and Mike Gleasman from the VA Department of Transportation (critical to relocating the marker). A representative of Rep. Barbara Comstock also attended, and presented the Church of the Bethren with a plaque of her Congressional Record remarks commemorat-

(con't on page 11)

Dranesville Marker – (con't from page 10)

ing the marker rededication.

Prior to the unveiling, local historians John Waggoner and Karen Washburn brought the conflict into perspective with remarks delivered in the sanctuary of the Church of the Brethren to more than 70 residents and guests. Few now know that at the time of the Civil War, Dranesville was a prosperous town midway between Leesburg and Alexandria, with some 60 wagons passing each day along the pike. Its residents bore the brunt of marauding war parties throughout the war, leaving the Dranesville and Great Falls area in economic difficulties for more than a decade after the war. The Battle of Dranesville was one such conflict to beset the farmers and merchants in the area.

Following a coffee reception and the historians' remarks, musician Jon Vrana led the attendees out the door of the church playing his concertina, moving on along a new trail next to Leesburg, and then up and around the corner to the marker site on Georgetown Pike. The Color Guard and crossing guards for the event included local Boy Scout Troops 55 and 673 and a dedicated group from both the Fairfax Rifles (Co. D, 17th VA Inf.), and Company D, 99th New York.

Fairfax Rifles members included Jon Vrana, Captain Chris Hoehne, Ms. Kecia Wolf, Pvt. Albers, Cpl. Brian Whitenton, and Jackson Albers. BRCWRT members Jenee Lindner, Debbie Whitenton, and Pvt. Mark Whitenton (as part of the color guard) also participated in the ceremony, while Jim Lewis and several other BRCWRT members also attended.

Once at the site, Supervisor John Foust and VDOT's Mike Gleasman gave remarks. Mr.



Bill Canis, left, calling for the marker unveiling by (l. to r.) Ms. Karen Washburn, Supervisor John Foust, Pastor Doug Wantz, and Rev. Roland Smith.

Photo by Raymond Merrill

Gleasant was particularly touched to be included in the ceremony because his ancestors fought in the Civil War and, in his remarks, he paid tribute to their service to the Union cause. The Fairfax History Commission lent its marker covers for the unveiling; the marker was revealed as the historians, pastors, and Mr. Foust, joined in the tug of the cord, producing applause from the audience.

Two boy scouts brought forth a simple wreath with red, white and blue ribbons and placed it at the foot of the marker, while Jon Vrana played "Home Sweet Home" on his harmonica. At the close, participants returned to the church for refreshments and to enjoy some fellowship.

Ox Hill – (con't from page 9)

ground of Stevens' attack, and one for Confederate soldiers in the once muddy cornfield—the cornfield's rail fence to be a symbolic divide between the two sides.

Next March or April, about a month or so before the dedication ceremony, memorial committee chair, Paula Elsey, will write about the difficult task of deciding upon the right monument style and appropriate inscriptions, the coordination of planning and design work, contractors, selection of the quarry and stone cutters, site preparation, and many other details, including the consulting role of a special BRCWRT committee last summer. Please stay tuned for Paula's article. The long-awaited dedication of these soldier monuments will finally fulfill the Ballards' 1915 deed and complete the master plan for the Ox Hill Battlefield Park. Stay tuned for updates as they occur.

BRCWRT's First Annual Picnic a Tasty End to 25th Anniversary Year Activities

by Nancy Anwyll

The BRCWRT held a successful picnic October 9th at The Winery at Bull Run to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the BRCWRT. The winery is located east of the Bull Run and adjacent to the eastern edge of the Manassas Battlefield Park on Route 29 (the old Warrenton Turnpike).

Plans called for eating and socializing on the grounds of the winery, but a change in the weather forced picnic planners to change the venue slightly. Although the skies were clear, strong winds motivated the chief picnic organizers to ask the winery management to allow the BRCWRT to use

the ground floor of the main winery tasting building. Luckily, the room was available and the managers gave their OK. Several volunteers quickly set up tables and chairs, and within minutes, the room was ready. Most people in attendance agreed that moving indoors was more convenient for everyone.

The picnic provided time for members to get more acquainted with each other and to enjoy good (free!) food, paid for from their BRCWRT treasury. Eighty-seven members and guests enjoyed barbecue sandwiches and side dishes provided by The Bone, a well-known eatery with locations in Manassas and

(con't on page 17)



Above, left to right, are Mike & Nancy Buckley, and Chris Kern & Scott Diezman. Photo by Nancy Olds.



At right, left to right, are Harlan and Sharon Lenius & Patrick McGinty. Photo by Janet Greentree.

Below, The Bone food truck served up a heck of a delicious meal!



Above, relocation from the outside grounds to the inside tasting room due to the swirling winds required a reposting of the BRCWRT banner. At left, member Gwen Wytenbach was certainly happy to relocate indoors, out of the ferocious wind!

Photo by Nancy Olds



THE RAILROAD STRUGGLE

by Karl Reiner

Prior to the Civil War, railroads had made a major impact on the economy of the United States. Land transportation costs had plunged; the time it took to move freight from New York to Cincinnati had been reduced from 50 to five days. Passenger travel time between New York and Chicago had been cut from three weeks to three days. Abraham Lincoln was one of country's leading railroad law attorneys. The railroads were improving the quality of life in the United States even though train wrecks at the unheard of speed of 25 miles per hour were becoming a leading cause of accidental death.

In geographical area, the 11 Confederate states were virtually the same size as the 18 states remaining in the Union. To defeat the Confederacy, Union armies would have to conquer a large territory and effectively utilize railroads to move troops and supplies farther and faster than ever before. The wartime use of this new transportation technology would prove to be a curse as well as a blessing because bridges, buildings and water tanks could be burned and tracks ripped up.

As a first step, Union troops occupied Alexandria in May 1861. From Alexandria, the Orange and Alexandria Railroad ran through Manassas Junction to Culpeper Court House, then on to Gordonsville where it connected to a line to Richmond. At Manassas Junction, the Manassas Gap Railroad branched off, going to Strasburg and the Shenandoah Valley. The Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad ran from Alexandria to Leesburg. After the occupation, the Union Army connected Alexandria to Washington by laying tracks on the Long Bridge which stood on the site of the present 14th Street railroad bridge.

On June 17, 1861, the Confederates drew first blood in the struggle for the rails when they ambushed a train carrying Union soldiers on a reconnaissance mission about a quarter of a mile from Vienna. The engine was at the rear of the train pushing the cars. When the shooting began, the engineer panicked, he uncoupled the engine and one passenger car and rapidly withdrew to Alexandria.

The Union soldiers had to walk, carrying the wounded back. This first tactical use of a railroad in the Civil War cost the North approximately 20 casualties.

The second round also went to the Confederates when the Manassas Gap Railroad helped them win the first battle of Manassas (Bull Run) in July 1861. Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston slipped away from the Union forces supposedly holding him in the Shenandoah Valley and brought his troops to Manassas by rail. His railroad riding reinforcements turned the tide against the Union.

During the winter of 1861-62, the Confederate built the first railroad line dedicated solely to military purposes when they constructed a spur line from Manassas to supply their troop camps and fortifications around Centreville.

There were approximately 30,000 miles of track in the United States in 1861. Of that total, about 9,500 miles were controlled by the Confederacy. The Lincoln administration established the United



USMR Engine.

States Military Railroad (USMR) on January 31, 1862, to operate captured Southern railroad lines. Under the control of Secretary of War Stanton, the USMR would utilize more than 2,000 miles of track in the occupied South by the end of the war.

The federal military rail system was a muddle in early 1862. Army quartermasters did not unload cars speedily, delaying train departures and tying up badly needed freight cars. There were shortages of

(con't on page 14)

Railroad Struggles – (con't from page 13)

wood for locomotives because troops appropriated it for campfires. The soap used by soldiers fouled steam water so badly it could not be used in locomotive boilers. Troops had to be reminded to break step on railroad bridges because the concentrated pounding of hundreds of feet hitting a bridge at the same time could shake it to pieces.

In April 1862, Herman Haupt, a brash, honest, inventive and organizational genius was called to



Brig. Gen. Herman Haupt

Washington. Haupt, who preferred field service to the office, was born in Pennsylvania in 1817. He graduated from West Point in 1835 at the age of 18 and shortly thereafter resigned from the Army to work in railroad construction.

By the time the war began, Haupt had earned a reputation as one of the best railroad construction engineers in the country. Although he

served only from April 1862 to September 1863, he radically improved the operation of the USMR, turning it into a formidable instrument of war.

He installed toilet facilities in the freight cars used to haul troops. When Haupt needed trained work crews, he organized a Construction Corps (CC) composed primarily of former slaves who had fled to the federal lines. They were trained to work as a team with ax men, teamsters, framers, raisers, and surveyors. Each member of a crew had a specialty. The CC worked with enthusiasm and was spectacularly successful in laying track and bridging streams in record time. Beginning with a contingent of 300, the Construction Corps numbered 10,000 by the time the war ended.

Haupt developed new technologies to support the construction effort. He designed prefabricated, standardized, interchangeable parts for bridge building and repair work, reducing construction time

by more than 50 percent. Replacement parts and spare rails were stockpiled at depots. Train schedules were revised to avoid idle time. An efficient courier service utilizing the telegraph and horsemen was instituted to keep trains on schedule. Supplies were forwarded only when needed and quartermasters were compelled to punctually unload and return cars. When guerrilla attacks became a threat, the CC received training as a defense force.

Haupt and his Construction Corps soon had their hands full. On August 26, 1862, Confederate General Stonewall Jackson captured Bristoe Station. His soldiers opened a switch and sent an oncoming engine and a half a train of cars plunging down an embankment. A second train smashed into the cars still standing on the tracks and was also wrecked. The next day, Jackson captured the large Union supply depot at Manassas Junction which contained more than 100 USMR boxcars and a square mile of warehoused army supplies. It was quite a haul. Jackson burned what he could not use or move.

General Pope's Union army was defeated at the second battle of Manassas on August 30, 1862 and his troops struggled to regroup at Centreville. Haupt's crews moved 500 tons of ammunition to Sangster's and Fairfax stations to keep the army supplied during the battle and re-supply it during the retreat.

A Union field hospital had been established on the Warrenton turnpike (Lee Highway). As the army withdrew, the hospital was moved to St. Mary's church. Doctors operated in the church because it was the only dry place available. Approximately 3,000 wounded soldiers were placed on the hill between St. Mary's and Fairfax Station.

On September 2, as the Confederates were advancing near Fairfax Courthouse, Union forces withdrew leaving Haupt's crews in an exposed position. He instructed them to load the wounded, burn what supplies could not be removed and evacuate. Clara Barton, the founder of the Red Cross, departed with the wounded on the last train.

(con't on page 15)

Railroad Struggles – (con't from page 14)

It had been rough going. The USMR lost more than 300 pieces of rolling stock, miles of track and many bridges were destroyed.

General J.E.B. Stuart, leading a cavalry force of 1,800, raided Burke's Station in December 1862. He captured 200 prisoners and a large number of supply wagons, ripped up the track and cut the telegraph. While there, he sent a snide message to Union Quartermaster General Meigs complaining about the poor quality of the mules he had just captured.

John S. Mosby and his rangers were a major impediment to the Union war effort in Northern Virginia because the federals could not stop Mosby's attacks. To the dismay of Gen. Lee, however, Mosby was never able to halt rail traffic for much more than a day before the CC had the wreckage cleared and the line repaired. To protect its facilities, the CC built defensive positions around the railroad machine shops and yards in Alexandria. They ran from the foot of Duke Street to Hunting Creek and were visible for many years after the war.

During the Gettysburg campaign in June and July 1863, the CC rebuilt 19 bridges and installed water stations and sidings on the rail lines supplying the army. Under normal circumstances these lines handled three trains per day. The CC increased the capacity to 30 trains per day and kept Gen. Meade's army well-supplied.

Herman Haupt's influence eventually extended across all the war fronts. Many of his subordinates served Generals Grant and Sherman in the campaigns of 1864-65. They had received their training from Haupt and applied his system wherever USMR trains moved. Thanks to the standards and practices developed by Haupt, Sherman's Georgia campaign is considered a classic in efficient military railroading. From a base 360 miles away, the USMR supplied 100,000 men and 60,000 animals over a single track line running deep in enemy territory. By 1864, the CC crews were so efficient that the Confederates were never able to cut Sherman's tenuous supply line for any length of time.


Herman Haupt died on December 14, 1905 of a sudden heart attack while on a train to Washington,



Haupt and his crew at work during the Civil War.

DC. In his later years, he often complained that historians had overlooked the contributions the Construction Corps had made to the war effort. Herman Haupt had high praise for the former slaves who exhibited so much endurance and valor in keeping the military rail supply lines in operation.

St. Mary's Church is often open to the public. The rebuilt Fairfax Station was moved up the hill and is a museum and community center. The Loudoun and Hampshire line is gone. Modern trains run on the route of the old Orange and Alexandria. The rails are a silent memorial to the members of Haupt's Construction Corps. It was their adaptability, speed and innovation that helped President Lincoln's armies bring the Confederacy down.

<p>CHRONOLOGY OF THE CIVIL WAR IN FAIRFAX COUNTY PART I</p>  <p>EDWARD T. WENZEL</p>	<p>Get your copy of Ed Wenzel's great</p> <p>Chronology of the Civil War</p> <p>For sale at the Bull Run Civil War Round Table meetings</p> <p>Or online at:</p> <p>www.bullruncwrt.org</p>
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Coming This November to PWC's Historic Sites!



While the historic sites are closed to regular tours from November to April, we are still open by appointment! To schedule a tour please call 703-792-4754 for more information.

November 12

Early Days of Prince William County at Rippon Lodge

11 a.m. - 4p.m.; Free



Prince William County's rich history begins in 1731 when it was founded by the Virginia House of Burgesses. One of the County's oldest homes will host a special event to highlight the history and culture of Native Americans and the colonial peoples of the area. Living history demonstrations of Native American culture, colonial life and military encampments will be available all day. Tours of the house are also included.



Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA 22192. 703-449-9812

November 12

Brentsville Campfire

6 p.m.—7:30 p.m.; \$5 per person, reservations recommended



Enjoy a warm campfire at Brentsville Courthouse and learn how Confederate soldiers lived during the American Civil War. Practice drilling with a Civil War soldier, see a musket firing demonstration, and learn about the rations given to Confederate soldiers. Try the cornpone that Confederate soldiers commonly ate during the Civil War and compare it to the s'mores we enjoy today.

November 12

Paranormal 101

7 p.m.—midnight; \$100 per person for seminar and investigation; \$40 for just the seminar; reservations required



Brentsville has a diverse history as the County seat for Prince William County. Today, many local residents claim that the jail, courthouse and grounds are haunted by spirits from the past. Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre is partnering with East Coast Research and Investigation of the Paranormal (ECRIP) to host a paranormal seminar and investigation at Brentsville. Participants will first attend a seminar about various theories and techniques. Afterwards, participants will work alongside members of ECRIP in a paranormal investigation. The seminar will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The investigation will be held from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA 20136. 703-365-7895



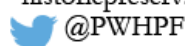
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Prince William County Department of Public Works

Historic Preservation Division

historicpreservation@pwcgov.org



@PWHPF



PWC_History



NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM

BRCWRT Picnic – (con't from page 12)

Gainesville. Wine from the winery was optional at cost for anyone who wanted it.

As a fitting ending to the meal, diners enjoyed the specially frosted cakes and cookies assembled by the BRCWRT Cake Crew of Sandy Iasiello and Deanna Bailey (see photo below).



Above, Janet Buck (with wine) & Pam Unger took the opportunity to sample the wares at the BRCWRT picnic.

Photo by Janet Greentree



The "Cake Ladies" (left to right - Sandy Iasiello and Deanna Bailey) never fail to bring cheer (and goodies) to any BRCWRT event!

Photo by Janet Greentree

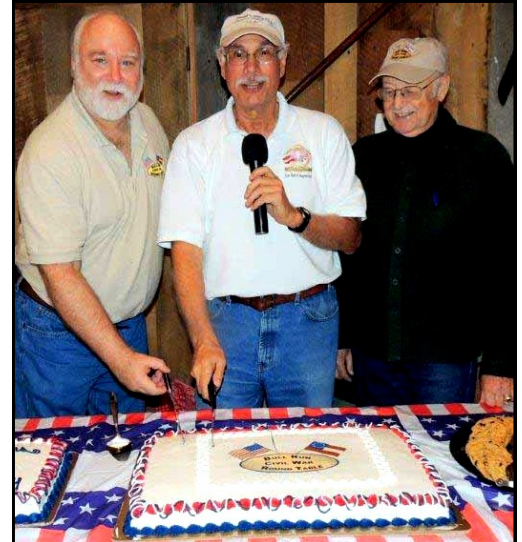


Pres. Mark Trbovich (left) and VP Mark Knowles unwind and enjoy the picnic, as did all who attended, thanks to Mark T's perseverance!

Photo by Janet Greentree

A picnic had been proposed by BRCWRT President Mark Trbovich ever since he took office in 2010, but not until the 25th Anniversary Committee took on the project did the picnic actually materialize.

Jim Lewis and Brian McEnany were co-chairs of various BRCWRT 25th Anniversary projects that included publishing a special 25th Anniversary book, a meeting in June that included a panel of past presidents, and Bull Run Battlefield tours in July and August. Both Brian and Jim then took over plans for the picnic which they regarded as the grand finale to



At right (left to right), Mark Trbovich, Jim Lewis and Brian McEnany join in cutting the 25th Anniversary cake to dish out to many waiting members!

Photo by Janet Greentree

a year of celebration. Other members of the 25th Anniversary Committee and the Executive Committee gave valuable help.

During the picnic, BRCWRT members were encouraged to participate in a silent auction organized by member Charlie Balch for an exclusive limited-edition framed print donated to the round table a few months ago. The print was done by the famous artist, Dale Gallon, and was titled Not a Man Wavered.

The print depicts the 1st Minnesota Regiment at Gettysburg in July of 1863, in its charge along the southern edge of Cemetery Ridge. The regiment made a gallant effort while incurring huge losses, and in so doing, gave the Union army time to strengthen that part of the



Buddies Brian McEnany (left), Kim Brace (middle) and Charlie Balch (right) are first to volunteer for any BRCWRT project, and first to enjoy the fruits of their labors!

Photo by Nancy Olds

(con't on page 18)

BRCWRT Picnic – (con't from page 17)

line. The winner of the auction was member Tom Jones, and the proceeds from the auction (\$225) went into the BRCWRTScholarship Fund.

Two members traveled great distances to attend the picnic. Lyle Loveall came from Blufon, South Carolina and Nadine Mironchuk came from Chelsea, Mass. And, of course, Sandra Cox, the keeper of the name tags, and her husband Doug drove over an hour from their home in Stafford County for the picnic.

All who attended the picnic



Scholarship Committee Chair Nancy Anwyll is delighted that the silent auction was so very successful, bringing added funds to the great support the BRCWRT gives to high school seniors going on to attending college.

Photo by Nancy Olds



At left, Sandra Cox and Pete Andrews get amoment to chat at the picnic. Below, Nadine Mironchuk and Lyle Loveall chat about their commutes from Chelsea, MA and Blufon, SC.

Photos by Janet Greentree

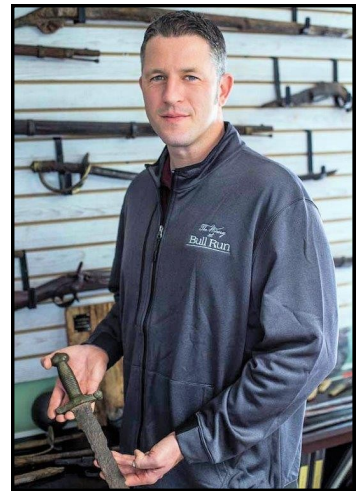


are grateful for Jon Hickox's generosity, the owner of The Winery at Bull Run. Several months ago, Jim Lewis approached Jon and asked him to both speak at the September 2016 membership meeting, as well as provide special accommodations at his winery for our anniversary picnic, which was arranged. Jon is

an avid Civil War relic hunter and American history fan. He displays several of his finds in display cases inside the winery where customers can easily view them.

The grounds surrounding the winery hold the ruins of a Civil War era house used as headquarters and camp grounds for both Union and Confederate armies in both First and Second Battles of Manassas.

Jon has preserved the foundation ruins of the house, and many couples use the site as a backdrop for their outdoor weddings. A few signs placed nearby tell the history of the site during the Civil War. Winery customers are encouraged to walk the grounds and dine overlooking the nearby Bull Run stream and the



Jon Hickox with some of his artifacts dug from the winery property. Below, a case at the Winery is full of wonderful items that bring to life the conflict that took place around the grounds.

Bottom photo by Nancy Olds



fields where the Winery's grapes are grown.

After all members had eaten, they gathered outside for a large group photo managed by our photographers, Nancy Olds and Janet Greentree. Some

(con't on page 19)

BRCWRT Picnic – (con't from page 18)

members lingered to view the grounds and reflect on the Civil War history that occurred there. It was a great way to end a first-ever BRCWRT picnic, and also a good way to end the official festivities of the 25th Anniversary of the BRCWRT.



The beautiful view of the winery's grapevine fields belies the horror of war that made Manassas, VA hallowed ground. Today, the peaceful use of lands just outside the Bull Run battlefield seems to validate the study of its history and the comprehension of how much is lost when savage conflict takes earnest efforts from society.

Photo by Jim Lewis



Thanks to BRCWRT photographers Janet Greentree (left) and Nancy Olds (right), our events are always re-enjoyed throughout the years.

Janet's photo by Nancy; Nancy's photo by Janet!



The BRCWRT First Annual Picnic was a tremendous success, as shown by the number of members and friends who attended - thanks to all who joined in to enjoy barbeque and wine, and each other's company!

Photo by Janet Greentree

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_____

ADDRESS_____

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PHONE_____ **E-MAIL**_____