



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXIV, Issue 5, JUNE/JULY 2017

## FAMED NPS HISTORIAN EMERITUS EDWIN C. BEARSS SPEAKS ON "GETTYSBURG - DAY 3" AT THE JUNE 8<sup>th</sup> MEETING

The 3rd Day of the Battle of Gettysburg was the turning point of the war, and who could give us a better understanding of this critical engagement than National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss!

I don't have to tell you all that our speaker is a peerless Civil War historian, lecturer, tour guide and preservationist. It is so wonderful to see Ed at our meeting every year, and - 93 years young now - this appearance is quite a milestone for him. What an achievement it is for Ed to continue to speak, deep into his "retirement" (from the NPS) 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 7<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment.

While serving with the latter unit, he was severely wounded at Cape Gloucester on the island of New Britain in the South Pacific theater. Following a convalescence 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. Ed then enrolled at Indiana University,



Shown above: Cpl. Edwin C. Bearss as decorated Marine; at right: as popular Civil War guide.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7 p.m. Centreville Library

**THURSDAY, June 8, 2017**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**NPS Historian Emeritus  
Edwin C. Bearss**

**TOPIC:**

**"GETTYSBURG - DAY 3"**

**THURSDAY, July 13, 2017**

**Historian/Author Drew Gruber**

**TOPIC:**

**"BATTLE OF  
WILLIAMSBURG, VA"**



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 its chief historian. In that position, he gained the respect of innumerable congressmen and members of the Executive Branch for his vast knowledge of history, and his ability to passionately present it to the public (especially to Congressional funders of the Park Service!).

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

(con't on page 15)

## 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 **August/September 2017 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, July 24, to Nadine Mironchuk at: [nadine1861@hotmail.com](mailto:nadine1861@hotmail.com)

#### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **August/September 2017 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at: <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon on July 14, to Charlie Balch at: [BRCWRTads@gmail.com](mailto: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

**July 13th, 2017** - Drew Gruber - "Battle of Williamsburg, VA"

**August 10th, 2017** - David Powell - "Battle of Chickamauga, GA"

**September 14th, 2017** - Kevin Pawlak - "The Jewels of War: Robert E. Lee, George B. McClellan, and the Battle of Antietam"

**October 12th, 2017** - William Backus and Robert Orrison - "The Potomac River Blockade 1861-62"

**November 9th, 2017** - Wayne Motts - "Fighting the Civil War: Historical Treasures of the Conflict in the Collection of the National Civil War Museum"

**December 14th, 2017** - John Quarstein - "CSS *Albermarle*"

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## The President's Column

### By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members,

Summer is here and things are heating up for Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members. For 26 years, we have brought outstanding leadership to this region, providing the best in Civil War tours, education and preservation. The BRCWRT will continue to serve as a beacon of Civil War knowledge and as a 'base camp' of Civil War activity in the Northern Virginia region. We look to increase our membership every year, and are so happy that we enjoy a membership of over 210 folks. We look forward to hearing Ed Bearss at the June 8<sup>th</sup> lecture: "Gettysburg - Day 3" and Drew Gruber's July 13<sup>th</sup> lecture "The Battle of Williamsburg. VA"

As discussed last month, we will also be looking forward to participation at the Fairfax 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The BRCWRT is well represented at the 275<sup>th</sup> events planning;

updates on events and activities will be sent out to you as information becomes available. All-in-all, it will be a great year, with many events and great lectures to enjoy. I want to thank our May speaker, Dr. Gordon Dammann, for his excellent, informative lecture on: "General Civil War Medi-

cine." The lecture was so informative - presenting Civil War medical techniques, and also showing false or 'fake news' info we misunderstood as being the correct medical techniques at the time. As always, our question and answer period was superb, and I think Gordon could have gone on a few more hours had the library not closed. Thank you so much, Gordon, for an excellent program. Don't forget you can also "tune in" to all of our lectures, along with



Dr. Gordon Dammann, speaker at the May BRCWRT meeting.

Photo by Janet Greentree



Above, left to right: Sandy Iasiello & Deanna Bailey - affectionately (or maybe 'confection-ately') known as the "cake ladies." They add so much to each meeting they provide "munchies" for, and members are grateful for their kind donation of time and effort.

Photo by Janet Greentree

power point slides, at our Web site audio archives, located at the address:

[http://bullruncwrt.org/BRCWRT/AudioArchives/Audio\\_menu.html](http://bullruncwrt.org/BRCWRT/AudioArchives/Audio_menu.html).

We have come to the end of our 2017 BRCWRT membership drive; however, we are never done encouraging members to please continue to spread the word to your family and friends, including the younger folks, that the BRCWRT is the Northern Virginia hub for Civil War information and preservation, in addition to being a tremendous organization.

At our June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will get a report from our BRCWRT tour guide Scott Kenepp on how the BRCWRT 2017 Spring Tour, "On the Road to Antietam," turned out. Again, at our April and May meetings, many of you showed interest in attending another National Archives tour in Washington, D.C and Maryland, led by Kim Brace. Details will be forthcoming as a date is decided.

Also at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, you will also meet Alexander Hughes, our 2017 BRCWRT Scholarship winner. Our Scholarship Committee, led by Nancy Anwyll, will introduce you to him and his parents (see article on page 9). We are happy that our scholarship has been established to increase interest in and knowledge of our American history, with special emphasis on the Civil War, through an essay contest. We are so proud of Alex, and all our past winners, and we say "Job well done" to all of them!

(con't on page 16)





## PRESERVATION REPORT

BY BLAKE MYERS

### Bull Run Civil War Roundtable Members Conduct Tour of Seven Corners Historical Civil War Sites

On Sunday, May 21st, Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members Jim Lewis, Ed Wenzel and Blake Myers participated in a bus tour of notable Civil War sites located in and around Fairfax County's J.E.B. Stuart High School and Seven Corners. The tour, part of an educational program for students, parents, faculty and alumni of J.E.B. Stuart High School, local residents and other interested parties, was sponsored by an organization affiliated with the high school. As it turned out, at the 11th hour, Jim and Ed were called upon to step in and lead the tour when scheduled tour leader Don Hakenson fell ill and could not participate.

Tour participants arrived at the J.E.B. Stuart High School cafeteria, viewed videos on J.E.B. Stuart and the history of Munson's Hill, and then boarded a school bus (with audio capability) for the historical sites tour. The driving tour (conducted three times during the afternoon) included visits to and interactive discussions about several outposts and fortified sites that were alternately occupied by Confederate and Federal forces during 1861. Sites visited included Munson's Hill (Federal and Confederate outposts, J.E.B. Stuart Headquarters, Quaker Guns, Confederate cannons firing into federal troops located at Bailey's Cross Roads, November 1861 Federal Army of the Potomac Grand Review at Bailey's Cross Roads); Bluemont Park (location of Confederate outpost closest to Washington, DC); Upton's Hill (Fort Upton/Ramsay positioned to dominate the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad and Four Mile Run Valley, replica Quaker Gun); Fort Taylor Park (Taylor's Tavern & Thaddeus Lowe's use of observation balloon for aerial reconnaissance, Fort Taylor); and the site of Fort Buffalo (built by the 21st NY from Buffalo, NY).

Due to the time constraints and the non-

At right, (r to l): Jim Lewis, Ed Wenzel and Blake Myers conducted tours for those interested in the present proposal to rename the J.E.B. Stuart H.S. in Fairfax County, VA. The trio of Stuart experts placed the Confederate cavalry-



man in the context of Civil War activity in the area, which involved much maneuvering through the county.

availability of accessible parking, no walking tours of these sites were conducted; however, Jim and Ed kept up a running commentary and discussion on the historical chronology of the relevant Civil War military actions that occurred in the Seven Corners area, with a focus on 1861 – 1862.

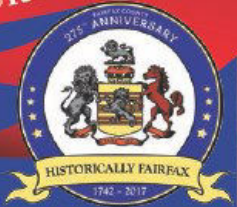
Beginning with the May, 1861, secession vote in Virginia, and the subsequent federal occupation of the high ground and bridgeheads on the Virginia side of the Potomac River, Jim and Ed expertly described the strategic importance of the hills (high ground) in and around today's Seven Corners for both Confederate and Federal forces. While no major battles were fought on or over this land, there was almost daily skirmishing between J.E.B. Stuart's 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Cavalry and supporting infantry, and Federal cavalry and infantry for control of this key terrain. Both sides valued the high ground in this area for keeping an eye on their nearby adversary and providing early warning of any enemy troop movements.

After the Battle of First Manassas (Bull Run) and the Federal army's retreat to the Defenses of Washington, the area encompassing Upton's Hill, Taylor's Hill, Perkin's Hill, Munson's Hill and Mason's Hill was a hotly contested area. Federal troops occupied Munson's Hill during the third week of August 1861, and began digging gun emplacements. Three days later, Stuart's force of cavalry and infantry drove the Federals from Munson's and Mason's Hills, and occupied both. Stuart established his headquarters on Munson's Hill and would remain in control of this area until Confederate forces withdrew to Fairfax

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HISTORIC FAIRFAX COUNTY COURTHOUSE



# Celebrate FAIRFAX COUNTY'S 275<sup>TH</sup> Birthday!

Saturday, June 17, 2017

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Historic Fairfax Courthouse**

The day's events, which are free and open to the public, will include:

- Family-friendly activities
- Entertainment
- History Exhibits
- Living History
- Performances

...and more!

*Meet the  
14<sup>th</sup> Lord and  
Lady Fairfax  
of Cameron!*



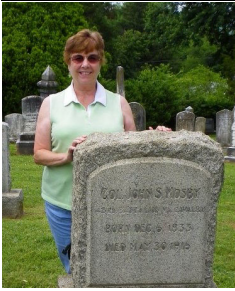
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Va., publication

Visit [Fairfax275.com](http://Fairfax275.com) for more information.



For reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-324-5421 or TTY Va. Relay 711





## CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

### Maj. Gen. Galusha A. Pennypacker, USA

By Janet Greentree

What do the names Romeyn, Absalom, Milledge, Egbert, Goode, Lysander, Jubal, Speed, Isham, States Rights, Elkanah, Pleasant, Theophilus, FitzHugh, Evander, FitzJohn, Galusha, Carnot, Americus, Green, Otho, Erastus, Strong, and Gouverneur all have in common? They are the decidedly different first names of American Civil War generals. My two personal favorites are Galusha and States Rights.

General Pennypacker also has the distinction of being the reason that people write me all the time from [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) asking if their family members buried in the National Cemetery in Philadelphia are related to me. My only connection to the cemetery is that, when researching Pennypacker, I posted a picture of the cemetery gate, which auto defaults onto any family member's grave memorial page. So we are still in Philadelphia for this month's article.



Gen. Galusha A. Pennypacker.

Galusha A. Pennypacker was born in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, on June 1, 1842. This date may or may not be true, however. Even the general himself tossed around different birth years. He was pretty much abandoned when he was 3-4 years old. He was the son of Joseph J. Pennypacker and Tamson Workizer Pennypacker. His father ran the Valley Forge Temperance House from 1843-1844. Unfortunately for Galusha, his Mom died of smallpox at the age of 22 in January, 1846. The family then moved to Philadelphia. After his wife died, Joseph left Galusha in the care of the Pennypacker family and joined the Mexican War as a wagon-master and

aide-de-camp. He later settled in California, starting a newspaper called the *Petulma Argus*. He married again to Mary Coley and had a daughter Lizzie. Joseph never returned to Pennsylvania and never saw his son again. One has to wonder if there was any correspondence between the two of them.

After his schooling at the Classical Institute in Phoenixville, PA, Galusha volunteered at the Fame Fire Company and later, like his father, worked for a newspaper, the *Chester County Times*. He had thought of attending West Point when the Civil War broke out. He instead enlisted on August 22, 1861 at the age of 16 or 17, and served as Quartermaster for the 9<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to major on October 7, 1861. The regiment saw action in South Carolina, Florida, and Georgia. He also served in Court Martial proceedings and trained officers.

Galusha served under General Benjamin Butler at Drewy's Bluff, Chester's Station, and Bermuda Hundred. He was wounded three times in his right arm at Bermuda Hundred. After recuperating, he fought at Deep Bottom, Weirbottom Church, and Petersburg. Leading a charge at Fort Gilmer, he was again wounded by a shell fragment in the right ankle, and his horse was shot from under him. His most severe wound was received at Fort Fisher, NC on



Depiction of Pennypacker leading his men in attack at Ft. Fisher, NC.

January 15, 1865. He placed the 97<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteers flag on the fortifications and was wounded again in the right hip and side. The upper

(con't on page 7)

## Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)

One of Gen. Pennypacker's uniform coats.



portion of his pelvic bone was fractured. He was evacuated on a ship bound for Chesapeake Hospital. Sgt. Jeptha Clark, 124<sup>th</sup> Regiment, stayed with him until he got to the hospital.

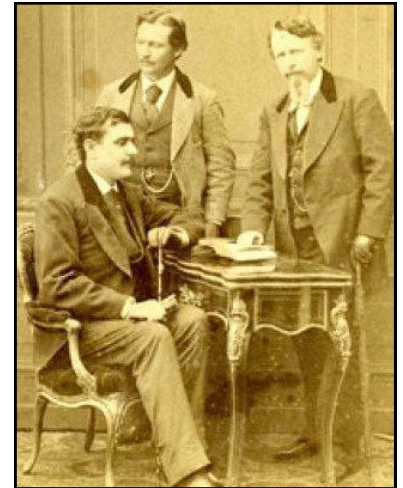
His men murdered the Confederate who shot him. In 1911, Pennypacker stated: "The horror of it has never gone out of my mind to this day." "I did see him – a big North Carolinian. I saw the man taking aim at me. He was about 20 feet away. I fell forward at the feet of the men who had fired. I kept my mind clear. I could see and hear, but could not move. I still could see the man who had shot me." Secretary of War Edwin Stanton watched the assault from a ship in Wilmington Harbor. He wrote to President Lincoln stating: "The conflict lasted for seven hours. The works were so constructed that every traverse afforded the enemy a new defensive position from which they had to be driven."

Pennypacker was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at Fort Fisher on August 17, 1891. The citation reads: "Gallantly led the charge over a traverse and planted the colors of one of his regiments thereon, was severely wounded." A reporter asked him in his later years – "You carried the standard? You? The commander of the brigade?" The general replied: "I was a boy, boys do those things." He was brevetted to brigadier general, and later in March, 1867, he was brevetted a major general of the U.S. Army. To this day, Pennypacker is the youngest officer to hold the rank of general, at age 20.

Directly following the war, he practiced law in West Chester, PA, before going back into the Army with the rank of colonel in the 34<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry in 1867. He was assigned to Mississippi. In March,

1867, he was assigned to the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry. After enduring all his wounds in the Civil War, he was involved in a train wreck where the train went off a trestle. He stated that he "was bruised all over, and had my wounded shoulder almost dislocated. I have suffered miserably, since. 'My time' hadn't come yet! I wonder when it will."

He served in the Army until 1871 when he took a year's leave of absence for his disabilities. At that time, he and his surgeon, Dr. John Everhart of the 97<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteers, toured Europe together. The general, who was one of eight boy generals of the Civil War, met the oldest general, Kaiser Wilhelm. After returning to the states, he went back in the Army, and was stationed at Nashville, commanded the Military Department of the South, served at Fort Riley, Fort Davis, Fort McKavett and Fort Concho. In 1883, he retired from the army because of his wounds.



Pennypacker (seated) with Dr. John Everhart, at right, on tour in Europe.



Galusha Pennypacker later in life.

Being in constant pain from his injuries, he tried therapy at Hot Springs, Arkansas. While he suffered from two other medical conditions, his death certificate states he died from a gunshot wound to the right hip. He died on October 1, 1916. He lived at 300 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Philadelphia until the end of his life. He was never married, and there are no direct descendants. Galusha was buried in the

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## Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

National Cemetery in Philadelphia in the Officers Section, grave 175. His date of birth on his marker shows 1844. He was raised a Quaker by his



Above: Gen. Pennypacker's Philadelphia home; at right: his grave marker in the National Cemetery in Philadelphia, PA. Marker photo by Janet Greentree



grandmother, and his funeral was performed with simple services by the Society of Friends.

A 97<sup>th</sup> PA Regiment monument was placed in West Chester, PA, commemorating the regiment. General Pennypacker attended the unveiling in 1887. A very modern statue was later designed by Charles Grafly, entitled "Timeless Warrior," sculpted by Albert Laessle. The statue stands at 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine Streets in Philadelphia. It was unveiled on May 13, 1934.

General Pennypacker was a member of the Society of Cincinnati, Loyal Legion, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. He was also a 5<sup>th</sup> cousin of General George Armstrong Custer.

*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](mailto:jlqtree@erols.com).*

## BRCWRT Represented at Winery at Bull Run Mother's Day Event

Photos courtesy of Jim Lewis



"Sacrificing" their time recently to tipple wine and enjoy the new pulled pork nachos from "The Bone BBQ" catering are, left to right: Jim Lewis and Ed Wenzel. They appeared at the Winery at Bull Run to promote the BRCWRT and to offer for sale Ed's book *The Chronology of the Civil War of Fairfax County*. Sadly, they were also close enough to the ice cream truck to also make a significant dent in their inventory,

**The Bull Run Civil War Round Table's Newest Recruit!  
Here's a grateful "Huzzah!" for new BRCWRT member:**

◆ W. Kevin Boland



## BRCWRT Announces Scholarship Winner for 2017

by Nancy Anwyll

The winner of the 2017 Bull Run CWRT \$1,500 Scholarship is Alexander David Frank Hughes, a graduating senior from Osbourn High School in Manassas and the Governor's School @ Innovation Park at the George Mason University Prince William Campus. Alex, the son of Christina and Lawrence Hughes of Manassas, was chosen for the Bull Run Civil War Round Table Scholarship because of his high academic achievement, his participation in a wide variety of extracurricular activities, and his strong interest in American History.

To be considered for the scholarship, Alex successfully completed the application process by: filling out an application form, sending his Grade Transcript Summary, writing an essay about a local Civil War historical site, getting a recommendation from an adult, and completing an interview with the BRCWRT Scholarship Committee. There were several things about Alex that caught the eye of the committee members.

By the end of the First Semester in Alex's senior year, Alex had achieved a 4.111 Grade Point Average, mainly as a result of several Advanced Placement courses that he completed over the course of his high school years (one of which was A.P. American History). He was given the opportunity to attend the Governor's School at Innovation Park every morning, where he earned high grades in several STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) courses. His afternoons were spent back at Osbourn High School where he took all of his non-STEM classes.

Equally impressive was his work in many extracurricular activities. He is Treasurer of the Honor Society; a member of the It's Academic Team; a violinist who won "superior" ratings; the president of the Competitive Math Modeling Club; and a member of the Chess Club. He and his team won First Place in the Environmental-Water Category for the Regional Science Fair in 2017.

One relevant activity outside of his school work that sparked our interest was his participation in living history activities with the 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, Stonewall's Brigade in the Manassas area. He became interested in reenacting when he attended the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run in 2011 with his parents. Since then, he has donned the uniform and learned the skills to enable him to participate in the 150<sup>th</sup> reenactments at Gettysburg and Cedar Creek. In addition to the reenactments,

Alex has helped at the Manassas City Museum when it needs a living historian at its various activities and programs.

Alex wrote his paper for the Bull Run CWRT Scholarship on the *Mayfield Fort: Its Past, Present,*



2017 BRCWRT Scholarship winner Alex Hughes in reenactor garb at the site of the subject of his essay, Mayfield Fort near Manassas.

and Future. The fort is located near where he lives in Manassas, and he has visited there often.

Mr. Doug Smith of the 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Brigade wrote the recommendation for Alex, and in it he wrote: "Alex is a hard worker, great listener, reenactor, student, athlete, and an all-round great young man. He understands the importance of teaching others about our past and keeping our heritage alive. . . . He is truly one of a kind!"

Alex was accepted by five universities, but he decided to enroll at George Mason University where he will major in engineering. As a result of his superior high school record, GMU granted him University Scholar status. According to GMU, this meant that "Alex has intellectual vision and creativity, an ability to solve problems and overcome obstacles, and has shown a commitment to contributing to his community." Only 15 – 20 students are accepted into the University Scholar program each year, and each student in the program will receive special classes and unique opportunities for learning, as well as full tuition reimbursement.

This is the fourth year that the Bull Run CWRT has granted a scholarship since 2013. Winners in the past were Taylor McConnell from West Springfield High School, Caroline Howard from Osbourn Park High School, Brooke Roberts from Robinson High School, and Aaron Pirnat from Herndon High School.

We say congratulations to Alex! Please plan to attend the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting to meet Alex and his parents.

# Memorial Day Observance Held at Ox Hill Battleground

by Ed Wenzel



Many members of the BRCWRT were present at the recent Memorial Day Observance at Ox Hill.

Photo by Mark Whitenton

As a Trustee of the Kearny and Stevens Monuments at Ox Hill battlefield, I substituted for John McAnaw as master of ceremonies at the recent Memorial Day program held there. The annual event is sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Fairfax County Park Authority. This is the first year *ever* that John has missed this little publicized ceremony. As many BRCWRT members know, John is battling cancer and was not up to attending. He sent his most sincere regrets.

Also, another individual was prominently absent. Bob Hickey, a member of the A.O.H. color guard and faithful organizer of the event each year since the early 90s, is continuing to recover from a serious surgery he had in April. Bob is now in a rehab center

in Fairfax. Please remember both Bob and John in your prayers. They are both long-time members of the BRCWRT, the AOH, and VFW Post 8469.

The ceremony came off in fine order. It was a beautiful day and Gen. Kavanaugh's address about the meaning of Decoration Day (later named Memorial Day) in the context of Ox Hill was excellent. Fred Parker, President of the Father William Corby Division, A.O.H., was a guest of honor. We had two color guards, the A.O.H. and the 28<sup>th</sup> MA Vols., Co. B. Two scouts from St. Leo's Catholic Church in Fairfax placed a wreath in the monument lot and a third scout, Miss Siobhan Murray, played "Taps" on her trumpet. Steve Morris played beautiful Irish and patriotic music, as usual.

Some 50 folks attended the ceremony, including, by Jim Lewis's count, 17 members of the BRCWRT. There were some empty chairs, but many people stood in the back. This was despite the fact that apparently none of the local newspapers printed any notices of the event.

Lemonade and cookies were provided after the event and the A.O.H brought cakes and cookies left over from an earlier reception. So there was plenty to eat and drink.

## Plans Announced for New Monuments Dedication at Ox Hill

New Signage Will Add to Interpretation of Battle

by Ed Wenzel



Ed Wenzel

Photo by Mark Whitenton

Following Gen. Kavanaugh's address at the Ox Hill Memorial Day observance, I made an announcement about the new monuments and the unveilings and dedications planned at the park on September 9, 2017.

To recap: The park's masterplan (approved by the Park Authority Board in 2005) calls for two additional monuments, one Union and one Confederate, to commemorate the ordinary soldiers of both sides who fought or fell on this hallowed ground. In the Ballard's 1915 deed of the monument lot for memorials to Gens. Kearny and Stevens, former Confederate John N. Ballard and his wife, Mary, made provision for additional monuments to commemorate "any Confederate or Federal soldier who fell in the battle..."

During the lead up to the Sesquicentennial, interest was renewed in fulfilling the Ballard's deed provision. When the park opened in 2008, signs were placed marking sites for future monuments. The Union monument (Chantilly) will be situated just to the south, beside the trail. This is the ground over which Gen. Isaac Stevens' infantry attacked. The Confederate monument (Ox Hill) will be located in the cornfield to the west, also beside the trail.

(con't on page 12)



# BRCWRT Spring Tour “Road to Antietam” a Great Success

Article and photos by Tom Jones

Scott Kenepp led our Bull Run Civil War Roundtable “Road to Antietam” tour on Saturday, May 20. Twenty members and friends of the Round Table joined Scott to learn the events and battles of the 1862 Maryland Campaign leading up to Antietam, on September 17, 1862, the bloodiest single day in American history.



Tour Guide Scott Kenepp describes the Harpers Ferry element (in background) of the Antietam campaign.

Scott led us to a series of tour stops highlighting the two armies' approach to Antietam. Our first stop was in Harpers Ferry, WV (then Virginia), at Bolivar Heights, the high ridge along which Union forces under Col. Dixon Miles defended the town. Scott explained the topography (Maryland Heights, Loudoun Heights, Camp Hill, Bolivar Heights, and



Scott explains the view from Bolivar Heights over to School House Ridge, background.

Schoolhouse Ridge that controlled the Confederate siege of the town.

We drove next to Schoolhouse Ridge, Stonewall Jackson's position, west of and slightly lower than Bolivar Heights. Here, Jackson put the cork in the

bottle containing the Union garrison at Harpers Ferry, while his artillery shelled the town and Union positions.

Next we moved to the Murphy-Chambers Farm, where A.P Hill moved his division to pass the Union left on Bolivar Heights, taking the Union position under fire from the left rear. This surprise move completed the Confederate siege of Harpers Ferry and led to the surrender of 12,000 federal troops on Sept. 15, 1862.

We enjoyed lunch at Gathland State Park atop South Mountain at Crampton's Gap, Maryland. Scott led us to the town cemetery in Burkittsville, MD, just southeast of the Gap. The battle for Crampton's Gap was one of the battles of South Mountain, as McClellan's Army of the Potomac threatened to cross



Main Street, view toward South Mountain, Burkittsville, MD, now (above) and then (below).



the mountain ridge and destroy Lee's scattered army. From Burkittsville, Scott explained the moves of Franklin's Union VI Corps as it advanced to seize the gap and try to force its way to the relief of the Harpers Ferry garrison on Sept. 14.

We drove back to the Gap to review the final Union rush that pushed Confederate forces from the mountain. Franklin slowly entered Pleasant Valley the following day, but the Union garrison at Harpers Ferry surrendered before the VI Corps could assist.

Scott next directed us to Fox's Gap, north on South Mountain, the site of the Union IX Corps

(con't on page 12)



## Road to Antietam – (con't from page 10)

advance under Reno, opposed by D.H. Hill's forces. At Fox's Gap, we walked the wartime Wood Road and Crest Road, viewing the stone walls and fields



At Fox's Gap, Scott Kenepp tells the story of the fighting along the Wood Road, where we stood next to a bloodily contested stone wall.



Scott explains the action in the Wise garden adjacent to Reno's Monument (seen at back, right).



Past the Reno Monument, out of photo on right, Old Sharpsburg Road was choked with Georgia troops trapped in a crossfire.

from where North Carolina troops defended against the uphill advance by Ohio regiments under Cox.

Outflanked, the North Carolina regiments under Garland were forced from the fields around the Wise Farm in Fox's Gap. Scott recounted the death of Gen. Garland on the morning of Sept. 14. Late on the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup>, Drayton's Confederate brigade was hit by a converging Union assault under Willcox, piling the Old Sharpsburg Road (our final tour stop) with rebel dead and wounded. Scott walked us through the Wise Farm field where, in confused fighting at dusk between Willcox and Hood's Texas division, Union IX Corps commander Jesse Reno was shot and mortally wounded.

From Fox's Gap, Scott reviewed the significance of the Harpers Ferry siege and South Mountain fighting for the struggle at Antietam. History, beautiful scenery, ground little-changed since 1862, and vivid stories of courageous Americans: a combination hard to beat. Thank you, Scott.

## Ox Hill Monuments – (con't from page 9)

The new monuments will be obelisks, eleven feet in height, with appropriate inscriptions. The monuments have been produced and are awaiting foundations and site preparation. Work will commence next month. Each monument will be surrounded by a plaza, around which will be small granite markers bearing the names of the States having troops on the field. In addition, a new panel will be unveiled in the kiosk (near the parking area). The panel is entitled "Who fought here: The Soldiers" and it highlights photographs and biographical information for eight soldiers, four Union and four Confederate, including Pvt. Daniel Hovis, 34<sup>th</sup> NC, whose family descendants live in Fairfax.



Kearny and Stevens Monuments, circa 1915. The Ballard farm fields are in the background. Additional monuments and signage will fulfill the Ballards' deed provision that soldiers of both sides be commemorated at Ox Hill.



# Coming This Summer to Prince William County Historic Preservation



The sites are open for tours Thursday-Monday from 11AM-4PM. The grounds are open from dawn until dusk. Come on out for a visit!

## 2nd and 4th Weekends of May

### Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park Tours

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Tours leave on the hour. Free.

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park is a 1,500-acre site of the Battle of Bristoe Station, fought on October 11, 1862. The park is located on Iron Brigade Unit Avenue. Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, 703-366-3049

Event Over

## Every Saturday May-October

### Yoga on the Lawn at Rippon Lodge

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. \$5 per class or 5 classes for \$20

Enjoy yoga on the lawn with amazing views of the Potomac River and historic Rippon Lodge. Beginning yoga students to well-versed devotees are welcome. Please bring a yoga mat, towel, and plenty of water. Offered most Saturdays, please call to confirm. Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 703-499-9812.



## June 10

### Potomac Blockade Boat Tour

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; \$45 per person

Cruise along the Potomac River shoreline and view sites that were critical to the Confederate forces' successful blockade of Washington D.C. from September 1861 through March 1862. Local historians will discuss the significance of the Blockade and of the gun batteries and camps that supported the Confederate efforts. The cruise will include the preserved batteries at Freestone Point and Possum Nose, as well as Evansport and Shipping Point. Tour includes lunch and departs from Leesylvania State Park in Woodbridge. For reservations call 703-792-4754.



## June 15

### Brews and Brains Series at Bad Wolf Brewery

6 p.m. - 8 p.m., free, donations accepted.

Northern Virginia has a rich social history throughout in which beer played a part. Join the Historic Preservation Division and Bad Wolf Brewery as we examine the role of beer throughout American History in this four-part series of lectures, artifacts, and activities. The series will take place at Big Bad Wolf Brewery, located at 8420 Kao Circle, in Manassas, VA. June's session will be about "The Portner Brewing Family" For more information call 703-367-7872.



## June 17-18

### Father's Day Weekend Tours

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free for children under 6 and for Fathers.



Does your Dad enjoy military history, learning about historic construction and preservation, or the great outdoors? Then treat him to a tour of Prince William County's historic sites! All fathers that visit during the Father's Day weekend will receive a complimentary tour!

## June 18

### Juneteenth Open House at Lucasville

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; \$5 suggested donation

Join us at Lucasville in honor of Juneteenth to learn about the celebration marking the emancipation of enslaved African Americans throughout the South. Visit the one-room schoolhouse to learn about the development of freedmen communities throughout Prince William County and the progression of education throughout Prince William County throughout Reconstruction and the Jim Crow Era. Lucasville School, 703-367-7872.



## June 19

### Museum Kids Monday!

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; \$5 per child, ages 2-7.

Bring your child to explore history through sight, sound, smell, and touch through hands-on activities and crafts. Topics vary each month and will include subjects such as farming, textiles, or 19th century toys and more! Adult must be able to participate with children. Please contact the site to learn about the subject of the month. Ben Lomond Historic Site, 703-367-7872.



## June 24

### Star Wars Celebratory Anniversary

Gates open at 7 p.m.; movies begin at 8:15 p.m., FREE admission, donations welcomed.

Come and enjoy the night sky while watching Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope. Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the movie's release, we encourage guests to come in their best Star Wars costume (audience appropriate please) for fun picture opportunities. Enjoy popcorn and beverages (available for purchase), and bring blankets and chairs to watch the movie. Movies cancelled in event of rain. Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 703-499-9812.



## July 8

### Bristoe Off the Park Battlefield Tour

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.; Free, donations encouraged

While Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park contains the site of some of the heaviest fighting at Bristoe Station, it does not contain all of it. Join park historians for a special walking tour of New Bristow Village to learn about the events that took place there. Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, 703-366-3049.



## July 8-9

### World War II Weekend at Rippon Lodge

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily; FREE

Admiral Black, the last owner of Rippon Lodge, was a WWII veteran and survivor of Pearl Harbor. Learn about daily life of soldiers in the European and Pacific Theatres from living historians portraying Axis and Allied soldiers. Learn about their equipment, armaments, historic military vehicles, and medical care on and off the battlefield. Also explore how citizens at home supported the war effort and view original WWII artifacts. Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 703-499-9812.



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NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM

Prince William County Department of Public Works

Historic Preservation Division



# Brentsville Jail Reopens as Museum

by Mark Whinton

The Historic Preservation Division of Prince William County held a ceremony on May 13<sup>th</sup> to officially open the renovated Brentsville Jail. Built in 1822 and under restoration since 2010, the Brentsville Jail is only one of a handful of 19<sup>th</sup>-century jails that have been restored, and the only one in the Washington, D.C. area.



The town of Brentsville, located roughly half-way between Manassas and Dumfries, VA, on what is now Bristow Road (Rt. 234), served as the fourth county seat of Prince William County, from 1822 to 1893.

According to the Prince William County Historic Site webpage: "In response to John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859, the Prince William Cavalry (later Co. A, 4th VA Cavalry) was formed here on the courthouse lawn in January 1860." The ladies of Brentsville made a flag and presented it to the company. Other Confederate units from Prince William County such as Ewell Guards (Co. A, 49th VA Infantry) were organized and drilled here.

"Like many Virginian towns, Brentsville suffered heavily at the hands of both armies. Confederate General Eppa Hunton, a Brentsville resident and lawyer, had his house and other buildings destroyed. The Hampton Legion, among other units, was posted here on scouting missions. Several homes and churches served as hospitals. The county clerk's office was torn down and its bricks used for camp chimneys. Part of the ca. 1822 courthouse roof was torn off and many county records were either destroyed or taken by soldiers as souvenirs. Capt. Andrew McHenry of the 13th Pennsylvania Infantry wrote of Brentsville in 1864: "the houses generally are in ruin.

"The Battle of Bristoe Station, fought three miles west on Oct. 14, 1863, brought combat to Brentsville's doorstep. During the battle, Federal General John Buford's cavalry was posted here to protect the Federal supply train. Confederate partisan units operated in Brentsville until the end of

the war."

While in Union hands, the Jail was used, in addition to holding traditional inmates, such as debtors and those charged with serious crimes, to house local civilians suspected of spying for the Confederacy.

Due to the damage Brentsville suffered during the Civil War and, with the growth of the community around Manassas Junction, Brentsville eventually lost its role as the Prince William county

seat to Manassas in 1893. At that time, the Brentsville Courthouse and Jail were converted to a school for teachers. Later, the Jail became a private residence and then office space for the Prince William County Park Authority. When the Prince William County Historic Preserva-

tion Division took over the responsibility for restoring the structures at the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre in 2005, it was recognized that a great deal of work had to be done to restore the exterior and interior of the Jail building to its Civil War-era appearance. Once work to restore the Jail began in 2010, exterior modifications included removal of the 20<sup>th</sup> century door, several windows, the second chimney, and an attached shed. Interior work to replace termite-infested wood and restoring the 19<sup>th</sup> century appearance has included replacing floor and wall framing using on-site milled oak planks, period



Second from left, BRCWRT Pres. Mark Trbovich takes part in ribbon-cutting. Other dignitaries present were: Brentsville Supervisor Jeanine Lawson (second from right) and Sheriff Glendell Hill (right), were present for the formal ribbon cutting just before noon.

Photo courtesy of Mark Whinton

(con't on page 16)



## Upcoming Meetings – (con't from page 1)

Pacific theaters of operation. We anticipate a full house for this lecture, so try to arrive early to get a good seat.

### **AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN DREW GRUBER SPEAKS ON "BATTLE OF WILLIAMSBURG, VA" AT THE JULY 13<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

The Battle of Williamsburg was fought on May 5, 1862. In the first pitched battle of the Peninsula Campaign, nearly 41,000 Federals and 32,000 Confederates were engaged. Following up the Confederate retreat from Yorktown, Federal Gen. Joseph Hooker's division encountered the Confederate rearguard near Williamsburg. Hooker assaulted Fort Magruder, an earthen fortification alongside the Williamsburg Road, but was repulsed. For the rest of the story, we are so happy to have a local historian, who also fights to preserve that battlefield, with us this month.

Drew Gruber has served as the executive director of Civil War Trails for the past year; he is responsible for all aspects of the placement of

interpretive panels at 1,550 participating historic sites in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and two counties in Pennsylvania. He replaced a dear friend of the BRCWRT, Mitch Bowman who has retired.

Drew holds a B.A. in Historic Preservation from Mary Washington College and a M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University. He was the 2013 Lawrence T. Jones, III Research Fellow in Texas Civil War History and is working on a biography of Decimus Et Ultimus Barziza. He has authored several articles about the Battle of Williamsburg and has been actively involved in the Williamsburg Battlefield Association. He was recently appointed by the Governor of Virginia to serve a four-year term on the Commonwealth's Board of Historic Resources. He resides in Williamsburg with his wife Kate.

Come on out prior to either (or both) of these meetings to join fellow members and the guest speaker for dinner at 5 p.m. at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Pkwy., Centreville, VA 20120: (703) 266-9755.

## Preservation Corner – (con't from page 4)

Court House in late September 1861. It is worth noting that J.E.B. Stuart's occupation of Munson's Hill and the almost daily skirmishing to retain possession of it, were of deep concern in Washington and were recorded in the pages of the major newspapers of the day.

Subsequent to the Confederate's withdrawal, Federal forces moved back into the area and began constructing forts and earthworks (Forts Buffalo, Upton/Ramsay, Taylor, etc.) to fortify and protect their new forward positions. While this area would remain under Federal control for the remainder of the war, it continued to see significant cavalry actions and raids during 1862 and 1863, including J.E.B. Stuart's Christmas Raid in December 1862 and his controversial advance into Pennsylvania in June 1863 (Gettysburg Campaign).

At the conclusion of each bus tour, the numerous participants (the bus for each tour was nearly filled to capacity) personally thanked

Jim and Ed for sharing their knowledge and perspectives on the civil war history and significance of this area, and specifically the key role J.E.B. Stuart played in that history.

While there remain almost no original Civil War era structures on the historic hills in and around Seven Corners, the history and stories of their significance, particularly during the early stages of the Civil War, is profound. It is definitely worth one's time to visit these sites, note the historic markers and signs, and visualize the terrain as it existed in 1861 (rural farmland with very few trees) – thereby gaining a better understanding of the military actions that occurred here and why. Ed Wenzel's *Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County – Part I*, and *A Virginia Village Goes to War – Falls Church During the Civil War* by Bradley E. Gernand are excellent references for detailed information on all these sites.

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

Throughout 2017, we will continue to offer for sale Ed Wenzel's *Chronology of the Civil War of Fairfax County*. This book is the perfect gift for the Civil War enthusiast on your shopping list. Six years in the making, 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. Ed Bearss wrote the Foreword, saying this book is a "gold mine of information...." Also, the BRCWRT

25<sup>th</sup> anniversary book will be on sale at the meeting and on the Web site - another great gift idea!

As the year moves forward, we will be here bringing you the best Civil War lectures, tours, events and newsletters in the region, with preservation and education as a solid part of our mission!

Let us never forget the people who served, and what they did for us. God Bless all of you.

## Brentsville Jail – (con't from page 14)

hardware, and building a stairwell typical of the period.

A contribution to funding the restoration of the Jail was provided by the Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation, which has accounted for over \$15,000 toward the renovations at the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre. The foundation's president is none other than BRCWRT president, Mark Trbovich.

At the ceremony, Mark said, "The Brentsville Jail has stood as a beacon to this community for law and justice for those who lived here. The Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation will support all the preservation efforts here and in the future. The Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation and the Prince William County Board of Supervisors have agreed on a plan for a room sponsorship program. This program will be an interpretation program for the inside of the Jail and each room will tell a story to the visitors. Also, please sign up for the Foundation's free membership program either on our website or at all County-owned historic sites."

On the Foundation website (<http://www.preservepw.org/>), Mark notes that the interior of the Brentsville Jail Museum will eventually house a number of period rooms such as the Jailor's Office, Maximum Security Cell, Debtor's Cell, Victorian era dormitory (reflecting the building's history as a school), and a Korean War era master bedroom (reflecting the building's history as a private residence). Each of the ten exhibit spaces will have a special focus. Some of the themes include 19<sup>th</sup>

century crime and punishment, the history of slavery and African American history, historic architecture and building techniques, and local history.

One of the old jail cells on the first floor recreates a furnished jail cell of the early 1800s. Brendon Hanafin, the county's Historic Preservation Division Chief, says, "We're going to make these rooms so they're like what they looked like then. They were dark. There was no ventilation. There was no heating, no cooling, little windows, and bars on the doors. So you're going to walk into these things, and you're going to be immersed in how horrible it would have been to have been in there."

Several dignitaries, including Brentsville Supervisor Jeanine Lawson and Sheriff Glendell Hill, were present for the formal ribbon cutting just before noon.

BRCWRT member Rob Orrison was at the event in his official capacity as the Prince William County's Historic Site Operations Supervisor. Rob has been an important factor within the County's Department of Public Works in pressing for the extensive renovation work on the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre.



Debbie Whitenton and Blake Myers check out the accommodations at the restored Brentsville Jail.

Photo courtesy of Mark Whitenton



# Explore Civil War History with Prince William County Historic Preservation



## Saturday, July, 8; 10 a.m.—12 p.m. Bristoe “Off the Park” Battlefield Tour

*Free, donations encouraged.*

While Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park contains the site of some of the heaviest fighting at Bristoe Station, it does not contain all of it. Join park historians for a special walking tour of New Bristow Village to learn about the events that took place there. Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, the parking lot is located off of Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow, VA. 703-366-3049.



## Saturday, July, 15; 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m. Stonewall Brigade Bus Tour

*\$80 per person, lunch included*

One of the most famous events of the Civil War was Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson’s changing the course of the 1st Manassas by leading his Stonewall Brigade in defense of Henry Hill, but how did this brigade get to their date with history? Join local historians for a special bus tour highlighting Jackson’s route from Winchester to the plains of Manassas. Stops include Winchester, Deplane, Mitchell’s Ford, and more! Reservations are required.



## Saturday-Sunday, July 22-23; 10am-4pm & 6:30-8:30pm Sat./ 10am –3pm Sun. The Aftermath of First Manassas Civil War Weekend

*\$5 per person during the day, children under 6 free; \$10 per person for evening tours.*

After the Battle of First Manassas, Ben Lomond served as a Confederate field hospital to treat the wounded. Visit Ben Lomond close to the 156th anniversary of the battle and learn from historians and Civil War reenactors how soldiers were treated during the Civil War and how the conditions of these hospitals differ from the hospitals we have today. The weekend will consist of demonstrations, tours, children’s activities, and a special evening program recreating the hospital on Saturday evening from 6:30pm - 8:30pm.



For information and reservations, please call: **Ben Lomond Historic Site 703-367-7872**  
10321 Sudley Manor Dr., Manassas VA 20109



Prince William County Department of Public Works  
Historic Preservation Division

[www.pwcgov.org/history](http://www.pwcgov.org/history)

[www.facebook.com/pwhistoric](https://www.facebook.com/pwhistoric)

[historicpreservation@pwcgov.org](mailto:historicpreservation@pwcgov.org)

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

***The Stone Wall***

**P.O. Box 2147**

**Centreville, VA 20122**

### **2017 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**

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