

The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXVI, Issue 6, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2019

## AUTHOR/HISTORIAN RICHARD LEWIS SPEAKS ON "CLOAKED IN MYSTERY: THE CURIOUS CASE OF THE CONFEDERATE GENERAL'S COAT" AT THE AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

"Cloaked in Mystery: The Secret of Gen. Lovell's Coat" - the uniform coat of Confederate General Mansfield Lovell stands proudly on display in a museum in New Orleans. At first glance, it appears to be simply what it is - a uniform; but this coat is unlike any other of its kind. Let's just say it "got around" and ended up in some very surprising places with very surprising people.

This coming presentation was inspired by Richard's discovery that a number of Confederate generals and colonels posed for studio portraits wearing the same uniform coat. His research expanded to include a look at the regulation uniform for Confederate general officers, the many variations that resulted from uniforms being made by private tailors, family members or admirers; and the story of how he tracked down the single uniform used in the aforementioned portraits.

This presentation has been described as "lively and fun for the audience."

Richard Lewis, from Richmond, Virginia, is the retired Director of National Media Relations for the Virginia Tourism Corporation and Secretary and board member of Civil War Trails, Inc. He received a Bachelor's degree in History from Louisiana State University in 1978, studying under Pulitzer Prize-winning Civil War scholar Dr. T. Harry Williams.

Richard served as liaison to the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the Civil War Commission from 2010 to 2015 and is the former marketing director at Pamplin Historical Park. He has authored articles in *Civil War Times* and *Hallowed Ground* magazines and has appeared multiple times on the History Channel.

(con't on page 18)

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS 7 p.m. Centreville Library

THURSDAY, August 8, 2019

**GUEST SPEAKER:** 

Author/Historian Richard Lewis

**TOPIC:** 

"Cloaked in Mystery: The Curious Case of the Confederate General's Coat"

# Special Event:

SUNDAY, August 11, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

MANASSAS BATTLFIELD PARK HENRY HILL VISITOR CENTER

**GUEST SPEAKER:** 

**MNBP Supt. Brandon Bies** 

## **TOPIC:**

"UNPRECEDENTED DISCOVERY AT MANASSAS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK"

THURSDAY, Sept. 12, 2019

**GUEST SPEAKER:** 

Authors/Historians Rob Orrison and Kevin Pawlak

## **TOPIC:**

"To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland Campaign, 1862"

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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 **October 2019 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, September 23, to Nadine Mironchuk at: <u>nadine1861@hotmail.com</u>

#### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **October 2019 issue,** advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at: <u>http://bullruncwrt.org</u> and e-mail ads by noon on September 13, to Charlie Balch at: <u>BRCWRTads@gmail.com</u>

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

## **JOIN US AT CARRABBA'S**

Do you come directly to the monthly meeting from work and look for a place to eat, or would you just like to come early to dinner? Join BRCWRT members and their monthly guest speakers for good food and camaraderie. Currently, we gather prior to each meeting around 5 p.m. at Carraba's Italian Grill, located just across Lee Highway from the Centreville Regional Library.

## **UPCOMING 2019 MEETINGS**

August 8: Author and Historian Richard Lewis - "Cloaked in Mystery: The Curious Case of the Confederate General's Coat"

August 11: SPECIAL EVENT: at 1:30 p.m. at Manassas National Battlefield Park Henry Hill Visitor Center - MNBP Supt. Brandon Bies - "Unprecedented Discovery at Manassas National Battlefield Park"

**September 12:** Authors and Historians Rob Orrison and Kevin Pawlak - "To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland Campaign, 1862"

September 22: - 4th Annual BRCWRT Members' Picnic - at The Winery at Bull Run, - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**October 10:** Author and Historian Dan Clendaniel —"The U.S. Marine Corps: John Brown's Raid & the Civil War"

**November 14:** Author and Historian Paige Gibbon Backus—"The Chaos and Carnage in the Hospitals of First Manassas"

**December 12:** Author and Historian John Quarstein - "Battle of Big Bethel, VA, June 1861"

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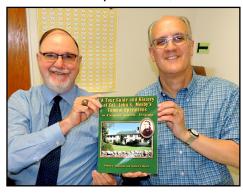


The President's Column By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members -

This August and September is an excellent season for lectures, events and fellowship with your BRCWRT family. Hopefully, not too hot! The BRCWRT will, of course, continue to serve as your region's headquarters for study of the Civil War and preservation. I am so looking forward to the upcoming added "special" meeting and lecture from Manassas National Battlefield Park Superintendent Brandon Bies on Sunday, August 11th at the MNBP Henry Hill Visitor Center at 1:30 p.m. We'll be so happy to hear this amazing story, as circumstances beyond our control forced Brandon to put off this lecture in January. Our regular (2nd Thursday) meetings will see on August 8th Richard Lewis and on September 12, both Kevin visit us Pawlak and Rob Orrison. Both lectures will certainly be entertaining, so don't miss them!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Chuck Mauro and Don Hakenson, who presented a lecture on their new book "Mosby in Fauquier County" at the June 13th meeting. Boy, it was excellent, as they took us on some Mosby raids in Fauquier County not heard of by most of us in the room. Great research went into this, so it's a *must* book to purchase, for sure.



Don Hakenson (left) and Chuck Mauro display their new book "Mosby in Fauquier County" at the June meeting.

Photo by Janet Greentree

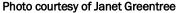
At the July 11th meeting, we had our dear friend and National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss come out to speak on the Battle of Ft. Fisher, NC, which occurred in December 1864. As Ed always does, he took us on the battle campaign trail, and led us up to the battle to stop blockade runners in late 1864. What a great evening, seeing Ed at 96 years young. We all look forward to your visit next

### year, old friend!

Don't forget, you can also "tune in" to all of our lectures and follow along with PowerPoint slides, at our Web site audio archives located at the address: http://bullruncwrt.org/BRCWRT/ AudioArchives/Audio\_menu.html.



NPS Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss can rely on his avid fans to greet him each year as he speaks to the BRCWRT. The July meeting was no different! Making sure Ed knows that he is appreciated to the max are, left to right, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Janet Greentree, Ed, Gwen Wyttenbach, Nancy Anwyll and Debbie Page-Whitenton.





Ed Bearss, left, enjoys a chat with Dan Paterson, great-grandson of Gen. James Longstreet. What a conversation that must have been!

### Photo by Janet Greentree

It's been a few months since we came to the end of this year's membership drive; however, at the July 11th meeting, we hit the 300 paid membership total to the BRCWRT!! This is a goal I have wanted to attain as your President, ever since 2010. This goal was met because of hard work from BRCWRT Executive Board Members

# Scholarship Winner is Honored at June Meeting

### by Nancy Anwyll

Members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, who attended the June 13th general membership meeting, were able to meet Jack Tatum, the winner of the BRCWRT 2019 scholarship. Jack is a recent graduate of Oakton High School and will soon be a freshman at the University of Wisconsin, where he will use his \$2,000 scholarship toward tuition expenses. In addition to the scholarship, the Round Table feted him and his parents to a complimentary meal at Carrabba's Restaurant prior to the meeting. This was added to other gifts he accepted at the meeting, including a BRCWRT cap, four years of membership in BRCWRT, and a certificate suitable for framing.

Jack was selected for the award based on his interest in both American History and the Civil War, as well as his high academic achievements and extra-curricular activities. Some highlights from his years in high school include: GPA of 4.0, Honor Society member, Latin Club officer, ice hockey team member, Model United Nations delegate, and volunteer with his local community. Jack will major in Finance and International Business at the Madison Campus of the University of Wisconsin.

Before Jack was introduced to the members, Nancy Anwyll introduced his parents, Mary and Greg Tatum. After photos were taken, Jack briefly addressed the membership. He began by thanking the BRCWRT for his award and telling us that, when he researched the 1862 Burke Raid event, he became more interested in the Civil War history of the local area. He especially appreciated examining primary documents, which opened up to him a wider perspective of the surrounding historical events of that time.

Awarding this year's scholarship to a deserving student was another addition to the list of accomplishments for the BRCWRT. A total of seven scholarships now have been distributed to deserving

students over the past years. The Committee Scholarship repeats its thanks for every member of the organization that has offered support, especially those who contributed directly to the Scholarship Fund. Although most of the funding for the scholarship is budgeted from the general fund, donations are accepted from those who wish their donations to go directly to the scholarship. The donations for the 2020 scholarship are welcome at any time and can be directed to Treasurer Joe Young. Make your check out to BRCWRT and write "scholarship" in the memo line.



June meeting to thank them for their generosity in supporting his college education.

Photo by Janet Greentree



Scholarship winner Jack Tatum (center) is flanked by his proud parents, Mary and Greg Tatum.

Photo by Janet Greentree



In photo above, left, Scholarship Committee Chair Nancy Anwyll (left) makes the award of a certificate to Essay Contest winner Jack Tatum. In photo above, right, BRCWRT Pres. Mark Trbovich (left) congratulates Jack on his attainment of the scholarship award.

# Bull Run Civil War Roundtable

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic

Sunday September 22, 2019

The Winery @ Bull Run Event 11 am – 3 pm BBQ Served 12-2 pm Food Provided by...

# THE BOKANE

# hand-shredded pulled pork platter (OR) certified angus beef brisket platter

<u>platter</u> includes sandwich + two homemade sides: cole slaw, potato salad, ranch beans And a drink (coke, diet coke, sprite, water)

# All Members @ No Cost Family Memberships : Immediate family @ No Cost Guests: Pork (or) Beef brisket platter @ \$11

\* Meal tickets will be provided to all members and their immediate family at the event



Locations in Gainesville & Manassas, VA

www.thebonebbg.com





Your Preservation Committee remains actively engaged and busy in many local preservation activities - the following are updates on a number of ongoing preservation actions in which BRCWRT is involved.

## Route 28 Transportation Study & Project

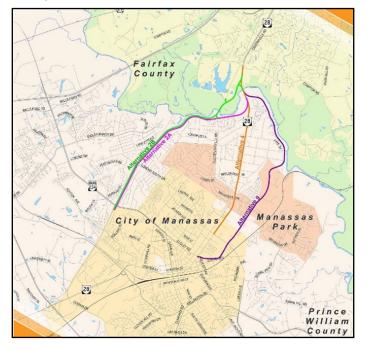
The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) in 2017 completed a Route 28 Corridor Feasibility Study, with the goal of identifying infrastructure projects that will improve travel times and network reliability within the Route 28 Corridor through Prince William County, the City of Manassas and the City of Manassas Park. The Feasibility Study considered four alternatives for technical evaluation:

Alternative 2A: Godwin Drive extended to existing Route 28 south of Bull Run

Alternative 2B: Godwin Drive extended to existing Route 28 north of Bull Run

Alternative 4: Widening Route 28 on existing alignment between Liberia Avenue and the Fairfax County Line

Alternative 9: Euclid Avenue extension north to Route 28 near Bull Run and south to the Sudley Road/Route 234 intersection



William County Prince Department of Transportation (PWC DOT), in coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), currently conducting an Environmental is Assessment (EA) to assess the potential social, economic, and environmental effects associated with the alternatives 2A, 2B and 4. The EA is due to be completed during the summer of 2019, followed by an Environmental Assessment Public Hearing in the Fall of 2019, and a final decision on the EA by FHWA in the Winter of 2019.

PWC DOT conducted an Environmental Assessment Public Meeting #1 on 5 December (in Prince William County) and 6 December (in Fairfax County) 2018. Information presented included an overview and discussion of alternatives 2A, 2B and 4 (Option 9 was eliminated as it did not score high enough on technical feasibility), and an overview and discussion of the Environmental Assessment Timeline. BRCWRT representatives attended the public meeting and submitted the following comments on December 25, 2018:

- In recognition of the existing historical and cultural resources, waterways and wetlands that exist in the Route 28 corridor, recommend the following be added at the end of the goal statement, "..., without negatively affecting historical, cultural and archaeological resources and sites and/or wetlands in the project area."
- Alternative 2B would significantly threaten the historic character of the Bull Run Regional Park and would significantly degrade the integrity of the quality of the visitor experience, as well as the area's scenic and historic viewshed. Moreover, by crossing Bull Run Regional Park, Alternative 2B threatens prehistoric and historic archaeological resources that may be present in the path of this proposed alternative.
- Alternative 2B would have a significant negative impact on significant acreage within Bull Run Regional Park associated with the Battle of Blackburn's Ford and the Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run. The Battle of Blackburn's Ford, fought on June 18, 1861, and one of the first notable engagements of the (con't on page 7)

# Preservation Report - (con't from page 6)

Civil War with 151 estimated casualties, preceded the first major land battle of the Civil War, the Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run fought on July 21, 1861. The acreage through which the northern part of Alternative 2B would cut is located well within the "core" battlefield boundary of both battles as determined by the federal Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) and its Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields.

- Alternative 2A would have a significant negative impact on the Battle of Blackburn's Ford core battlefield area, and specifically the extant confederate earthworks located north of and overlooking Bull Run on the northern edge of the core battlefield boundary.
- Any changes to the existing Route 28 bridge crossing over Bull Run Creek could negatively impact the existing vehicular access from southbound Route 28 to the small parking area and the Bull Run Occoquan Trail, Blackburn's Ford and the Civil War Trails signs. The 19-mile Bull Run Occoquan Trail has only five vehicular access points, and this is the only one in this vicinity.
- Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 prohibits the use of federal highway funds for projects that adversely impact publicly owned parks and historic sites unless there is no feasible alternative to the use of such land. Insofar as the Route 28 Corridor Feasibility Study presented a number of feasible options, it would seem that this statutory criteria cannot be satisfied.
- For all of the reasons noted above, the Bull Run Civil War Round Table strongly recommends Alternative 4 as the preferred option among the three alternatives (2A, 2B, 4) currently under consideration.

For more information, visit www.Route28Study.com

## Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) letter of September 27, 2018, to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) accepted DHR's opinion as the basis for resolving the adverse effect of Alternative Technical Concept (ATC) 30/Option 6 (express lane elevated access ramps [EARs]) in the vicinity of Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBP).

VDOT issued MOA on January 17, 2019. Stipulations within the MOA included the following with respect to the design of ATC 30/Option 6:

- Design as described in June 4, 2018, Alternative Evaluation Memorandum, including relocation of eastbound EAR outside of MNBP's viewshed
- Incorporate aesthetic treatments to westbound EAR, including use of a color compatible with that of eastern red cedar hedge along Vandor Lane
- Lighting on westbound EAR to be integrated into the parapet and not placed on poles or other elevated fixtures
- Overhead sign structures will not be placed on the bridge structure of westbound EAR
- Overhead sign structures will be located in areas that have reduced visibility from MNBP
- Reduce the typical section of Vandor Lane along the MNBP boundary to create a greater area within the VDOT right-of-way for screening vegetation
- VDOT to install screening within the following areas along Vandor Lane where I-66 is visible:
  - East of and surrounding the horse trailer parking lot
  - ◊ Southwestern perimeter of MNBP east of Battlefield Parkway
- Consulting Parties design review of ATC 30 / Option 6 at 60% and 90% development levels

   includes review of details such as clearing, landscaping, signage, lighting, roadway geometry and proximity of features

On May 8, 2019, VODT provided design plan updates to consulting parties for review. Comments submitted by the consulting parties based on their review of the plans provided highlighted the inability (based on the level of detail provided in the 60% design plans provided for Segment 1B) to assess design compliance with the stipulations included in the MOA. As of July 21, 2019, no additional consulting party meetings (con't on page 21)



# CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

## Gen. Alexander Robert Lawton, CSA

By Janet Greentree

The process whereby Ms. Rebelle chooses her subjects encompasses a lot of different inputs. Sometimes I hear a name in one of our lectures and remember that I have visited his grave. Other times, I see a birthday tribute to a general on Facebook and realize I have found his grave as well. Or, a general's name just pops into my head, and I decide to write about him. This time, my oldest granddaughter, Sarah Greentree, gets my thanks for giving her Grandmom the idea to do Gen. Alexander R. Lawton.



Sarah recently texted me that she was in Savannah at Bonaventure Cemeterv. She said "Grandmom, there are a few Confederates here, so I keep thinking of you. Ί told her there was a really pretty arch marker down by the river for a Civil War general. She walked down there, took a picture of it, and sent it

Gen. Alexander R. Lawton

back to me.

General Alexander Robert Lawton is buried in Section H by the Wilmington River in Bonaventure Cemetery. Bonaventure is really



Gen. Lawton's elaborately carved grave marker in Bonaventure Cemetery, Savannah, GA. Photo by Sarah Greentree

a lovely cemetery with the trees covered in Spanish moss and beautiful markers. Sarah was right, there are four other Civil War generals buried there, including Robert Houston Anderson, Henry Rootes Jackson, Hugh Weeden Mercer (see Stone Wall June/July 2014 article), and Claudius Charles Wilson. There are lots of other officers and enlisted men interred there, too. Lawton's daughter Corrine died of yellow fever at age 31 and has a

very poignant marker near her father's marker. Her monument is a very popular stop in the cemetery. The marker's designer Benedetto Civiletti portrays her sitting at the foot of the cross, with a flowers crown of that has fallen from her hands, looking up to heaven with a sad, resigned expression. Lawton's



The grave marker for Gen. Lawton's daughter, Corrine, at Bonaventure Cemetery, Savannah, Georgia.

marker has a very large statue of Jesus at Heaven's Gate (standing by the arch).

Gen. Lawton was born November 4, 1818, at St. Peter's Parish in the Beaufort District of Georgia to Alexander John Lawton and Martha Masse. His father was a planter and the family lived at Mulberry Grove Plantation outside of Savannah. Mulberry Grove was the former home of Revolutionary War Gen. Nathaniel Greene, who died there on June 12,



A depiction of Mulberry Grove plantation in 1794.

1786. The home was given to Greene in thanks for his service to Georgia during the Revolutionary War. Eli Whitney was the Greene family's tutor; he invented the cotton gin at Mulberry Hill. The Lawtons also had a home in Savannah, opposite Forsyth Park. Lawton's grandfather, Joseph Lawton, fought in the Revolutionary War in Col. John Bull's Regiment.

Lawton attended West Point and graduated 13<sup>th</sup> out of 31 in the class of 1839. Seven of his classmates would become Civil War generals including: Isaac Stevens, Henry Halleck, Jeremy Gilmer, James Ricketts, Edward Ord, Henry Hunt, and Eleazer Paine.

On November 5, 1845, Lawton married (con't on page 9) BRCWRT – Vol. XXVI, Issue 6, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2019

woman

## Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 8)

Sara Gilbert Alexander (and here's another one of those connections) - sister of General Edward Porter Alexander. Sara was the granddaughter of



Sara grew up at the Fairfield Plantation in Washington, Georgia. The Lawtons would have four children -Corrine, Louisa (another connection - she married a Mackall (see Stone Wall May 2019 article)), Nora, and Alexander. Alexander went on to fight in the

Sarah Porter Hillhouse,

the first woman editor, printer, and business-

in

Georgia.

Sarah Gilbert Alexander Lawton

Spanish-American War and his son, Alexander, fought in World War II.

Alexander Lawton graduated as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant at West Point with a position in the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Artillery. He resigned his position in 1840 and attended Harvard to become an attorney, graduating in 1842. He went back to Savannah to open a law practice, was involved in politics and railroad administration. From 1849-1854, he was president of the Augusta and Savannah Railroad.

When there was talk of a civil war, Lawton favored secession and was appointed colonel of the 1<sup>st</sup> Georgia Volunteers. He was the commander of the troops that seized Fort Pulaski on January 3, 1861, the first conflict of



An illustration of Ft. Pulaski under siege.

the war in Georgia. His troops included the Chatham Artillery, Savannah Volunteer Guards, and the Oglethorpe Light Infantry. On April 13, 1861, Lawton was commissioned a brigadier general in the Confederate Army. He was placed in command of Savannah and the Georgia coast until May 28, 1862, when he was ordered by Gen. Robert E. Lee to move his Georgia brigade to join Jackson in Virginia. Lawton telegraphed his reply: "My men are ready to march at once and I earnestly request that I be ordered to Virginia with them." His request was approved. Approximately 700 more men were added, and all were transported by rail as fast as trains could carry them." Lawton's brigade fought with Jackson's division in the Seven Days and with Gen. Richard S. Ewell's division at Brawner's Farm where Ewell was severely wounded.

Lawton commanded Ewell's division at 2nd Manassas, Ox Hill, and Antietam. Δt at Gen. "Stonewall" Antietam, he was Jackson's right, with his division extending from the Hagerstown Pike through a pasture south of the cornfield between the East Woods and West Woods off the Smoketown Road in the early morning hours of September 17, 1862. Lawton was severely wounded in the leg in this encounter. He was sent home to Savannah and recuperated until the Spring of 1863. Even though he wished to be sent back into combat, his wounds prevented him from doing so. In August 1863, he was appointed by Jefferson Davis to be Quartermaster-General of the Confederate Army. Through the Lawton's management, Confederate soldiers received their supplies, and transportation was improved. He arranged for Gen. James Longstreet's corps to travel from Richmond to Chickamauga – one of his greataccomplishments as Quartermasterest General.

Following the surrender at Appomattox, Lawton returned to Savannah to practice law at the firm of Jackson, Lawton, and Basinger. From 1870-1875, he served in the Georgia He ran in 1880 as a state legislature. Democratic candidate for the senate but was He was elected president of the defeated. American Bar Association in 1882. He later formed his own law practice - Lawton and Cunningham with his son Alexander and his son-in-law Henry C. Cunningham (his daughter Nora's husband). President Grover Cleveland nominated Lawton as minister to Russia in 1885, but he declined. Cleveland did appoint Lawton as minister to Austria-Hungary in 1887-1889 and Lawton served.

His obituary from the Savannah Morning (con't on page 10)

# Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 9)

News on July 3, 1896, reads in part: "Surrounded by his wife, all of his children and grandchildren, Gen. Alexander Lawton passed peacefully away at Clifton Springs, New York, yesterday morning at 10 o'clock.... His services to the south, to his country, to his state and, by no means least of all, to his city, have made him known everywhere and beloved by all, and the regret at his death, therefore, may well be said to have been universal. Gen. and Mrs. Lawton went to Clifton Springs about two months ago. Gen. Lawton had been in ill-health all through the spring, his mind being materially affected, and though at no time confined to his bed, he was lacking in physical vigor. A month ago, Capt. Cunningham was there with him, and together they walked a mile and a half and back. He was able to be about until Sunday, when he was seized with a stroke of paralysis. It did not appear serious.... Monday, however, he took a turn for the worse, and sank gradually until he passed peacefully away.... The funeral services will take place at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the Independent Presbyterian church, of which Gen. Lawton has been a In 1885, Gen. Lawton member for years... was nominated by President Cleveland as Upon reference of the minister to Russia. nomination to the Senate the claim was made that he was ineligible by reason of the fact that having in early life held commission in the regular army he had during the war between the states done service as an officer of the confederate army. No objection was made to confirmation, except the technical his objection which raised a doubt as to his legal eligibility under the Constitutional amendment. The question was referred to the Attorney General, who submitted the opinion

that 'Mr. Lawton is to aualified hold civil office under the government of the United States.' Before the Attorney General's opinion had been communicated to Gen. Lawton, wishing to relieve the President of all embarrassment, he requested him to withdraw his name and bestow the appoint-



Lawton Memorial Hall, Savannah, GA.

ment elsewhere, which the President reluctantly did."

Lawton's wife Sara built the Lawton Memorial Hall at 14 West Anderson Street at the corner of Bull Street in Savannah in memory of her husband and daughter. The building was used as an opera house but now houses St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church.

Ms. Rebelle has traveled to Clifton Springs, New York, in the past to locate the grave of Gen. John Wesley Frazer, who is also buried there.

As a tidbit for a description of the general before passport pictures, his 1867 passport application states that he was 5'8", high forehead, grey eyes, dark hair and a florid complexion.

*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 pho*-*tographed 420 - 169 Confederate and 251 Union. You may contact her at jlgrtree*@*erols.com.* 

# Hagerstown Civil War Round Table Hosting Tour of South Mountain Battlefield

The Hagerstown Civil War Round Table will sponsor a tour of the South Mountain Battlefield on Saturday, October 26. This program will explore the events that caused Robert E. Lee to reconsider his plans for the continued 1862 Maryland Campaign and to concentrate his army at Sharpsburg, thus setting the stage for the Battle of Antietam, three days later. We will visit Turner's, Fox's, and Crampton's Gaps, examine the terrain and discuss the situation on the night of September 13, the major combat on September 14 and the far-reaching consequences of the battle. Updates on battlefield preservation and newly acquired property will also be provided. Anyone interested in participating in this very informative jaunt can contact George Franks at: gffranks3@yahoo.com

# History Happened Here Program

## by Brian McEnany

Last year, the Round Table began a program with the sixth grade Social Science teachers at Bull Run Elementary School called "History Happened Here." It was envisioned as a class about some particular event that occurred during the Civil War, with the possibility of an essay contest written about the

event during the course of the student's study of the Civil War. We worked closely with Theresa Nolan and the other members of her sixth grade teaching team.

The first part of the program was conducted on April 10<sup>th</sup>, with focus on the First Battle of Bull Run. The school property lies astride one of the major routes used by both sides during that battle. I was joined by two other Bull Run Civil War Round Table members. David L to R: David Welker, Brian McEnany and Welker portrayed his ancestor, Mark Whitenton reenact Civil War personages for the sixth-grade class at Bull Run Private Sumner Austin of the 13<sup>th</sup> Elementary School. New York Volunteer Infantry, who fought at the Stone Bridge, and Mark Whitenton, who first portrayed Col. Nathan "Shanks" Evans, commander of the Confederate units defending the Stone Bridge. Later, he shifted to a of Brig. portrayal Gen. Joseph Johnston. to describe how the Confederates created the chaos at Cub Run during the Union retreat. narrated the program as a Union officer.

The class was delivered in the Bull Run Elementary School's cafeteria to one hundred students in the 6th grade. They were respectful, quiet and raised their hands to answer our questions as

we proceeded. We covered the initial events in Virginia at the beginning of the Civil War, and focused on telling stories about how Confederate and Union soldiers made their way to Bull Run

Т

before and during the battle.

Subsequent to our class, and before mid-May, the sixth grade teachers required their students to write an essay about the First Battle of Bull Run. A collection of 134 essays were reviewed by the teachers and a finalist in each class was selected.

> The Round Table then reviewed the six finalists and selected Adriana Gatillon as the winner of the First Battle of Bull Run essay contest.

The sixth grade students graduated on Thursday, June 13. They and their families crowded into the school gymnasium – about three to four hundred of them - as the principal, teachers and staff orchestrated a graduation ceremony. It was complete with music, lots of awards, and a school song written by one of the teachers that, in one verse, alluded to its location on the grounds of the Civil War.

David Welker, re-enactor and part of our three-person crew that created "History Happened Here," presented Adriana with a certificate and a \$50 check from the Round Table. Theresa Nolan assisted in making the presentation.

After the ceremony, I introduced myself to Mr. Pensler, the principal, and expressed our thanks for offering the Round Table the opportunity to help encourage the study of the Civil War with the sixth graders.

Later, I made contact with Theresa by e -mail. She told me, in part, "... the most

important thing to me was your introducing yourself to our principal Mr. Pensler! He told me a few moments ago, after our end-of-year luncheon, that he'd

(con't on page 12)



Photo courtesy of Brian McEnany

From left to right, reenactor

David Welker and teacher

Theresa Nolan present award to student Adriana Gatillon, who

wrote the best essay on local

Photo courtesy of Brian

**McEnany** 

Civil War history.

# "Bearss' Brigade" Makes the History Honcho's 96th a Memorable Event!

by Gwen Wyttenbach

The Hilton Hotel in Ballston, VA, was the "place to be" on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, with friends and members of the "Bearss Brigade," to celebrate the birthday of national treasure Ed Bearss, Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service. Heralded far and wide as *THE* expert on American history – and particularly Civil War history, the colorful lecturer and indefatigable battlefield guide turned 96 years young



Shown (I to r) enjoying the nonagenarian's birthday are: Wendy Swanson, Patrick and Joan Falci, Gwen Wyttenbach, the fabulous Ed Bearss, and Janet Greentree.



Photo by Gwen Wyttenbach

and all who are lucky enough to be counted as members of the "BB" made sure it was a very merry event.

Wendy Swanson, who has been the long-time coordinator of Ed's birthday celebrations, did her usual fine job of providing a great evening for all, attended by Bull Run Civil War Round Table members myself, Janet Greentree and Harriet Condon, as well as renowned actor Patrick Falci (who played Gen. A.P. Hill in the movie "*Gettysburg*") and his lovely wife Joan.

All who brought well-wishes to Ed were able to partake of a delicious cake inscribed with "Ed is Our Champion" and especially

relished by the honoree, while wearing his very appropriate birthday gift – a "Captain America" cape!

A special mention was made of the bronze plaque recently dedicated to his preservation work in saving the Battle of Vicksburg's Champion Hill Battlefield. A move is on to petition Congress for Ed to be awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his efforts to preserve this country's historic lands. If you would like to support this, visit: https://www.battlefields.org/help-ed-bearssreceive-congressional-gold-medal.

At left, Ed delights in seeing the inscriptions on the cakes the "Bearss Brigade" provided to cheer on the champion of the history community. Photo by Gwen Wyttenbach

# History Happened Here – (con't from page 11)

indeed met you and thinks our collaboration is a fantastic opportunity for our school community! Our work together next year will be even smoother and aligned and I'm excited for yet another group of kids to have the opportunity to learn from our Round Table!" It is our intention to continue these education efforts in the future and to invite any BRCWRT members who would like to help to please contact me at bmcenany@cox.net to find out more about Round Table education programs that encourage the study of Civil War history.

## Notice to the Membership Concerning a Proposed Amendment to BRCWRT Bylaws -

### Dear Members of the BRCWRT,

It has come to the attention of the Executive Committee that the BRCWRT Bylaws lack a provision permitting the appointment of a Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer, in the event that one of these elected officers is unable, for some reason, to complete his or her one-year term. At its June 2019 meeting, the Executive Committee proposed the following amendment to Article II, Section 3 of our Bylaws to remedy the omission. A new Paragraph 1 to that Section would, if adopted by the membership, provide as follows:

"In the event that the office of the Vice President, the Secretary, or the Treasurer should become vacant for any reason, the President shall appoint a successor from the membership who will complete the officer's unexpired term."

The proposed bylaw will be read to the membership at two successive monthly membership meetings following publication. It must be approved by a two-thirds majority of those attending the second meeting in order to become adopted. Should any member have a question or concern concerning the proposed bylaw amendment, he or she can contact the undersigned.

John F. De Pue Member, Executive Committee jfdepue@comcast.net

# New Historic Signage for 'Centreville Six' Site Gets the 'Bearss Seal of Approval'





National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss recently stopped by the site of the new signage marking the location of discovery of the remains of six Union soldiers, presumed to be from the battle of Blackburn's Ford, and buried on land now occupied by the parking lot of a McDonald's restaurant in Centreville, VA (see the June-July 2019 issue of *The Stone Wall* for the story of the soldiers, and the sign dedication).

Ed was quite impressed by the markings of the graves by means of blue painted rectangles that are placed at the disinterment site of each of the soldiers.

Following his viewing of the signage and the site of the excavation of the soldiers' remains, Ed investigated the marker that identifies the site of the terminus of the first military railroad, which is also located in Centreville.

A historical sign nearby notes "Half a mile west is the terminus of the Centreville Military Railroad, the first railroad in the world constructed exclusively for military purposes. Built by the Confederate army late in 1861 because of impassable roads, it supplied the soldiers in their winter camps at Centreville. Trains from Manassas Junction ran here until March 1862 when Confederate forces withdrew southward. Nearby on 9 Dec. 1862, Privates Michael O'Brien and Dennis Corcoran of Maj. Chatham R.

Wheat's "Louisana Tigers" were court-martialed for mutiny, executed by a firing squad from their own company, and buried. In 1979 their remains were reinterred at St. John's Episcopal Church cemetery in Centreville.

Ed was treated to the historic stops by BRCWRT member Ed Wenzel, who provided the photos for this article.

# Descent Into Civil War

by Randy Ferryman

The ongoing debate over the proposed removal of Confederate statutes from prominent places has refreshed the dialogue about why the Civil War erupted in the first place.

While acknowledging the reasons for the war are complex, University of Richmond professor Edward L. Ayers, in his *A New History of the South*, points out that many historians divide into two general schools of thought. The fundamentalist school concludes the intractable issues of slave versus free labor, deep social and cultural conflicts, and which section would shape America's future led inevitably to war.

Revisionists, however, conclude leaders, legislators, and the elites failed to manage the problems by not compromising, mishandling discrete events, operating flawed political parties and structures, and wallowing in layers of white ideology and politics that buried the slavery problem.

Historians draw on several credible histories telling the story of what happened. Certainly among them are David M. Potter's Pulitzer Prize winner, *The Impending Crisis: America Before the Civil War, 1848-1861,* and William W. Freehing's, *The Road to Disunion, Secessionists at Bay, 1776-1854,* then his *Secessionists Triumph, 1854-1861,* which paint a broad and rich portrait of the path to separation.

Whether intractable issues or management failures, or a combination of both, caused the war, central to disunion was a constitutional crisis. Until civil war, elected officials could find in the constitution a pathway to protect the way of life and diverse interests of Americans during an expansionary period. The Constitution was designed to give substantial voice to minority views and guard against oppressive majority rule, while stipulating that a virtuous majority vote on issues would decide national policies and federal Even leading Federalists Alexander laws. Hamilton and James Madison acknowledged that civil war was an option for states to check the abuse of power by the majority.

The constitution worked well for decades, but

general provisions within it left the rights and sovereignty of individual states unclear, leading to many protracted and furious debates in and outside of the U.S. Congress over the power of the federal government. While a common heritage, hard working ethos, and strong belief in democracy had forged a tight bond among Americans north and south, different views of how to expand and grow the nation were separating them.

Despite being a decided minority in terms of voters, the South, with help from nationally unified Democratic and Whig parties, often successfully promoted and defended its interests at the federal level during the antebellum years. Southerners enjoyed substantial sway before the war, and slave-holding presidents would occupy the White House for 50 years.

But by 1850, cracks appeared in southern power at the federal level, foremost among them the majority Democratic Party split over whether to make slavery legal in all states or allow new states to enter the U.S. as either free or slave according to the voters in the new states. Adding new states to the Union almost certainly meant less pro-slavery representation in the U.S. Congress, and, eventually, the Presidency and U.S. Supreme Court. As with the majority of Western Civilization, most Americans outside the South increasingly disfavored, for various reasons, extending slavery beyond the existing slave states.

The Democratic Party rift decidedly shifted political power, culminating in the election of an anti-slavery expansion Republican President Abraham Lincoln in 1860, leaving southern leaders without an option to grow their way of life within the expanding U.S. and to fear increasing Northern pressure to end their "peculiar institution." With dim political prospects in the Union, southerners interpreted the divisions between the north and the south as a break of the constitutional compact, conveying to them the explicit right to opt for state sovereignty and disunion.

## Rolls Royce Owners Club Civil War-Themed Summer Picnic

Bull Run Civil War Round Table member and Fairfax County History Commissioner Lynne Garvey-Hodge recently hosted a Civil War-themed picnic for an association of Rolls Royce owners at her home in Clifton - yes, it was a great learning experience all around and an enjoyable way for members of the RR Owners Club to take advantage of Lynne's superior hosting skills.

Members wandered around the property, hiked a trail, visited the gazebo, enjoyed good food, good company and EXCELLENT Civil War History, given by guest re-enactors Captain John Rice, 1862, 17th New Hampshire, Volunteer Infantry, (Portrayed by John Myers, The Benson-Rice Storytellers). He



Picnicers and Civil War portrayers - left to right: Debbie Page-Whitenton, Mark Whitenton, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Gregory Wilson, John Myers, and Kevin Knapp.

Photo courtesy of Lynne Garvey-Hodge

ohn Myers, The Benson-Rice Storytellers). He served in both Bull Run I & Bull Run II, then headed south to New Orleans. He spoke of his experiences at Manassas, as well as the history of the federal troops guarding the O&A Railroad at Union Mills.

Jonathan Roberts, (Portrayed by Greg Wilson, Fairfax County History Commission) was a peaceful farmer and surveyor from Accotink, a pro-Union, anti-Slavery man, who was persecuted by his secessionist neighbors in 1861, threatened with hanging, and ordered arrested by G.T. Beauregard, Brigadier General Commanding.

Thaddeus Lowe, portrayed by Kevin Knapp is a retired Army officer and professional balloonist who lives in Virginia. Knapp is regarded as one of the nation's top experts on Lowe and

military use of balloons during the Civil War. Knapp was inducted into the U.S. Ballooning Hall of Fame at the National Balloon Museum in 2017. Thaddeus Lowe demonstrated to President Lincoln how a gas-filled balloon might be used to spy on the enemy—thus helping the Union Army and establishing the earliest "air force."

Lt. General Joseph E. Johnston and his wife, Lydia Johnston, were portrayed by Mark & Deborah Whitenton, members, Bull Run Civil War Roundtable. Joseph E. Johnston (1807 – 1891) was a U.S. military officer who served as a Confederate general during the Civil War (1861 – 1965). A veteran of

the Mexican-American War (1846 – 48), Johnston entered the Civil War as one of the South's senior officers and was appointed a full general. He won an early victory at the First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas) in July, but



Several editions of the Rolls Royce motor car lined the drive for the RR Owners Club picnic. Photo courtesy of Lynne Garvey-Hodge.

was later criticized for being quick to retreat during the early stages of the Peninsula Campaign in the spring of 1862. Johnston was severely wounded at the Battle of Seven Pines in May 1862, and was subsequently replaced by Robert E. Lee. He later commanded Confederate forces in the Western

## Amazon's List of Recent and Upcoming Civil War Books

Lincoln's Spies: Their Secret War to Save a Nation Douglas Waller - \$35.00 - Release Date: August 6, 2019

**Reconstruction Era: A History from Beginning to End** Kindle Edition - \$2.99 - Release Date: July 8, 2019

**The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution** Eric Foner - \$25.60 - Release Date: September 17, 2019

Searching for Stonewall Jackson: A Quest for Legacy in a Divided America Ben Cleary - Hardcover - \$20.18 - Release Date: July 16, 2019

Horace Greeley: Print, Politics, and the Failure of American Nationhood James M. Lundberg - Hardcover - \$34.95 -Publication Date: November 19, 2019

**Searching for Black Confederates: The Civil War's Most Persistent Myth** Kevin M. Levin - Kindle Edition - \$20.49 - Release Date: September 9, 2019

**To the Bitter End: Appomattox, Bennett Place, and the Surrenders of the Confederacy** Robert M. Dunkerly - Audible Audiobook - \$0.00 Free with Audible trial - Publication Date: July 9, 2019

**The Indian War of 1864** Eugene Fitch Ware - Audible Audiobook - \$0.00 Free with Audible trial - Publication Date: June 29, 2019

After Appomattox: Military Occupation and the Ends of War Gregory P. Downs - Paperback - \$18.95 - Release Date: August 13, 2019

From Manassas to Appomattox: Memoirs of the Civil War in America (Illustrated) James Longstreet - Kindle Edition - \$3.99 - Release Date: July 30, 2019

**The Confederacy's Last Hurrah: Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville** Wiley Sword - Audible Audiobook - \$0.00 Free with Audible trial - Release Date: September 3, 2019

Lions of the Dan: The Untold Story of Armistead's Brigade J.K. Brandau - Paperback - \$13.37 - Release Date: September 3, 2019

**An Everlasting Circle: Letters of the Haskell Family of Abbeville, South Carolina, 1861-1865** Karen Stokes - Hardcover - \$35.00 -Publication Date: October 1, 2019

**The Maps of the Cavalry at Gettysburg: An Atlas** Bradley M. Gottfried - Hardcover - \$24.47 - Release Date: December 3, 2019

**The Confederacy's Most Modern General: James Longstreet and the American Civil War** Harold M. Knudsen LTC (Ret.) -Hardcover - \$23.07 -Release Date: November 2, 2019

Lincoln on the Verge: Thirteen Days to Washington Ted Widmer - Hardcover - \$27.00 -Release Date: April 7, 2020

# Rolls Royce Picnic - (con't from page 15)

Theatre, where he clashed with President Jefferson Davis over his cautious strategy during the Vicksburg and Atlanta Campaigns. Johnston surrendered to General William T. Sherman in North Carolina in April 1865.

Civil War Widow Anna McAnally, portrayed by Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Fairfax County History Commission & proprietor of 'The Hidden Gem.' Widow McAnally told the story of The Battle of Sangster Station, which occurred near Union Mill and the town of what is now called Clifton on December 17, 1863. She reviewed Victorian Mourning customs which will be shared through the use of a fun trivia Quiz, "Weeping Weeds & Widows Veils."

# **Coming this August to Prince William County Historic Preservation**

Take advantage of the warm weather and join us at your county historic sites! The grounds are open daily from dawn until dusk and the sites are open for regular tours Thursday-Monday 11am-4pm.

\*\*Registration for programs can be completed online at <u>www.pwcparks.org</u> or by calling the sites.\*\*

#### August 2

Walking Tour of Historic Prince William Towns: Colchester p.m.; Free; donations accepted



Join local historians for a special walking tour of historic towns in Prince William County. For August 2, meet at the Enyedi House located at 10605 Furnace Rd. Lorton, VA 22079. Please carpool if possible for parking is limited. Call 703-365-7895 for more information.

#### August 10 Annual Bee Day at Rippon Lodge Historic Site



11 a.m. – 3 p.m.; \$5 per person, children under 6 are free In honor of National Bee Day, come learn about honeybees, how a hive works, and more at Rippon Lodge. Find out how you can help protect this endangered species, view our working beehive, and get some local honey from Rippon Lodge's hive. Please note: bees are temperamental and may sting. If you are allergic to bees or honey, please make sure you use extra caution or do not attend. Do not wear black or heavy perfumes, as it at-tracts bees. Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA, 703-499-9812

#### August 10

#### PWC African American History & Culture Bus Tour

9a.m.-4p.m.; \$70 per person, lunch is included. Reservations Required.

Join local historians on a day long tour exploring the unique and powerful stories behind the African American history of Prince William County. Travel the county stepping back in time from the 1800s to the 1960s and stop at many forgotten sites, to learn about the lifestyle, chal-

lenges, and the power of education. Sites will include Prince William Forest Park, Brentsville Courthouse, and much more! Brentsville Courthouse Historic Center, Bristow, VA 20136. 703-365-7895.

#### August 12-16

#### Civil War Advanced Camp at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre 9 a.m. - noon; \$150 per participant, ages 8 to 13

Experience the life of a Civil War soldier as campers interact with famous officers from the war, expand their knowledge of campaign life, learn about the cavalry, participate in artillery drill and build a sunshade. This camp includes a tour of 2<sup>nd</sup> Manassas at Manassas National Battlefield. Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA, 703-365-7895.

#### August 16

## Native American Campfire at Brentsville Courthouse

6:30 p.m.; \$5 per person, free for children under 2 Enjoy a campfire and roasted marshmallows at Brentsville

Courthouse Historic Centre as you learn about the native peoples who lived in Prince William long before Europeans arrived. Interact with hands-on artifacts and compare how Native Americans lived close to 400 years ago to how we live today. Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA 703-365-7895.

#### August 17-18

#### Paranormal Investigation and Overnight at Ben Lomond Hospital

7 p.m. – 8 a.m.; \$75 per person, advanced registration is required Ben Lomond Historic Site is partnering with East Coast Research and Inves-tigation of the Paranormal (ECRIP) to host a paranormal seminar and investigation. Learn about the techniques and then work alongside members of ECRIP to conduct your very own until midnight. Settle in for the night in the Civil War hospital and sleep in the same space you searched for paranormal activity. Light refreshments served in the morning and bedding material is required. Reservations are required for space is limited. Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.



#### August 19

#### Museum Kids Monday!



10 a.m. -11 a.m.; \$5 per child, ages 9 and under. Bring your child to Ben Lomond this summer to explore history through sight, sound, smell, and touch through hands-on activities and crafts! Adult must be able to participate with children. Please contact the site to learn about the subject of the month. Reservations are not required. Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.



August 24-25 **Battle of Kettle Run Anniversary Tours** 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Free, \$5 suggested donation



Join Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park staff and volunteers on the 157th anniversary of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's capture of Bristoe Station and the Battle

of Kettle Run – the opening round of what would become the Second Battle of Manassas. This August 27th battle, while small, was bloody and took a heavy toll on the regiments that fought there. Visit the park on the actual anniversary for specialized in-time walking tours that will make this forgotten battle come to life in vivid detail. Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow, VA. 703-366-3049.

#### August 24 **Rippon Lodge Car Show**

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.; \$5 Suggested Donation

\$5 suggested donation.

Enjoy a display of vintage and classic cars on the lawns of Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Ask questions and take pictures of the beautiful vehicles, and cast your vote for your favorite. Listen to music while eating some delicious food, available for purchase. Period lawn games available for kids to play. Guided tours of the lodge, conducted on the hour, are \$5 per person. Car clubs and individual participants must register. Call site offic-Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.



Car Show Movie Night - Bullitt Gates open at 7:30 p.m. movie starts at 8:30 p.m.



The Th

"An all guts, no glory San Francisco cop becomes determined to find the underworld kingpin that killed a witness in his protection. The muscle car motion picture, "Bullitt" with Steve McQueen is a great way to end a classic car day. Bring the family or your auto enthusiast to watch this cool movie under the summer stars at Rippon Lodge. Popcorn and beverages available for purchase. Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA, 703-499-9812.

#### August 30

#### History by Campfire: Shepherdstown Comes to Manassas 7:30 p.m.; \$5 per person, free for children under 2 Join us for a campfire and roasted marshmallows at Ben Lomond while you learn some history! On July 21, 1861 Ben Lomond was inundated by hundreds of young men who were



wounded at the Battle of First Manassas. A good number of these boys were the area around Shepherdstown (now West Virginia). Join us for a talk about these people, who they were and the trying days and nights they spent at Ben Lomond impacted their lives. Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.



www.pwcgov.org/history historicpreservation@pwcgov.org 703-792-4754

Saturdays May-October Yoga on the Lawn at **Rippon Lodge** 

> CIVIL WAR \* \* \* UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM

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# **Upcoming Speakers** – (con't from page 1)

MNBP SUPT. BRANDON BIES SPEAKS ON "UNPRECEDENTED DISCOVERY AT MANASSAS NAT'L BATTLEFIELD PARK" AT A SPECIAL MEETING SUNDAY AUGUST 11TH, 1:30 P.M., MANASSAS BATTLFIELD PARK, HENRY HILL VISITOR CENTER

The National Park Service (NPS) discovered the remains of two Civil War soldiers and a battlefield surgeon's pit at Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBP) in the summer of 2018. This was the first time that a surgeon's pit at a Civil War battlefield has been professionally excavated and studied. It is also the first time that killed-in-action Civil War soldiers have been found in an amputated limb burial pit. The two soldiers were interred at Arlington National Cemetery in coffins constructed from a downed tree from the battlefield.

As MNBP superintendent, Brandon manages the historic meadows and woodlands of the 5,000-acre park, which draws more than 500,000 visitors annually. Before taking the helm at Manassas in March 2017, he was the legislative coordinator for the National Capital Region of the NPS. From 2014 - 2017, he also served as the regional project manager for the rehabilitation of Arlington House, Robert E. Lee's historic home, made possible by a \$12.35 million donation from David M. Rubenstein. He began his NPS work in 2001 as an archeologist at Monocacy National Battlefield. He has served as the cultural resources specialist for George Washington Memorial Parkway; site managed Great Falls Park; was in the NPS headquarters Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs, and held the position of Site Manager of Arlington House from 2010-2014. Brandon holds a master's degree in applied anthropology and bachelor's degrees in American history.

### AUTHORS AND HISTORIANS KEVIN PAWLAK AND ROBERT ORRISON SPEAK ON "TO HAZARD ALL: A GUIDE TO THE MARYLAND CAMPAIGN, 1862" AT THE SEPTEMBER 12TH MEETING

BRCWRT members Robert (Rob) Orrison and Kevin Pawlak trace the routes both Civil War armies traveled during the Maryland Campaign, ultimately coming to a climactic blow on the banks of Antietam Creek. We are so proud both men are members of the BRCWRT.

Kevin Pawlak was born and raised in western New York and became interested in the Civil War following a trip to Gettysburg at age nine. He graduated in 2014 from Shepherd University with a major in Civil War and 19th Century America and a minor in Historic Preservation. Kevin has worked at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and serves as a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Antietam. He held internships with the Papers of Abraham Lincoln project at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Illinois, and at the Missouri Civil War Kevin wrote his first book. Museum. "Shepherdstown in the Civil War: One Vast Confederate Hospital," which was released in September 2015. He also authored "The Heaviest Blow Yet Given the Confederacy: The Emancipation Proclamation Changes the Civil War." He is now the Director of Education for the Mosby Heritage Area Association; sits on the Boards of Directors of the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association and the Save Historic Antietam Foundation. He is also on the advisory board of the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War at Shepherd University, his alma mater. He currently works for Prince William County Historic Preservation as a site manager.

Robert (Rob) Orrison has enjoyed a career in history for more than 25 years. Born and raised in Loudoun County, Virginia, Rob has a Bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation at Longwood College (now University) and a Master's Degree in Public History from George Mason University. Rob is now the Prince William County Historic Preservation Division Manager. He is treasurer of the Historic House Museum Consortium of Washington, D.C.; a member of the Board of Directors of the Mosby Heritage Area Association; a member of the Board of Directors of Virginia Civil War Trails; and serves as the vice president of the Virginia Association of Museums. His published works include: "A Want of Vigilance: The Bristoe Station Campaign;" "The Last Road North: A Guide to the Gettysburg Campaign 1863;" and "In A Single Blow: The Battles of Lexington and Concord and the Beginning of the American Revolution, April 19,1775."

Come on out before each meeting to dine with our speakers at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Parkway, Centreville, VA 20120: (703)266-9755.

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

and volunteers. All the credit goes to them! I always encourage you and other members to please continue to spread the word to your family and friends that the BRCWRT is the Northern Virginia hub for Civil War information and preservation, in addition to being a tremendous organization. Well, it happened - 300 members strong and climbing. Fantastic effort everyone, and job well done!

Our 2019 BRCWRT Scholarship Award program, led by Committee Chair Nancy Anwyll, along with her team, has concluded work for the



The BRCWRT Scholarship Committee really enjoys the task of conveying the award to our essay contest winners - as they did at the June meeting. Shown here, left to right, are: Greg, Jack (student) and Mary Tatum; RT Pres. Mark Trbovich, and Committee members Nancy Anwyll (Chair), Brian McEnany and Charlie Balch. Photo by Janet Greentree

year, but Nancy and the team will start the process again soon, as the 2020 school year begins! We are so happy that our scholarship has been established for many years 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 our past winners, and look forward to hearing from all of them as their lives move forward.

Not least of all, I am so happy to announce that we have a new BRCWRT Tour Director, Doug Horhota, who took over from Scott Kenepp, who has left the area. Doug spoke to the members at the July 11th meeting and will continue to provide more information on upcoming tours, when available. Thanks again, Doug, for volunteering; we will stay tuned.

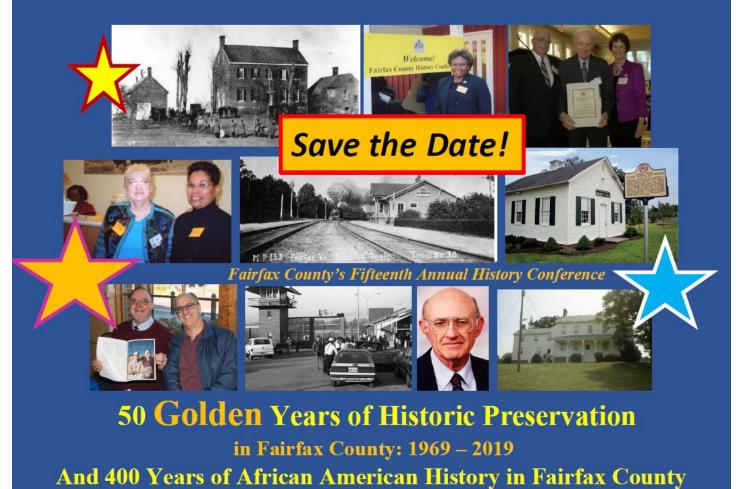
As always, your Executive Committee has been working overtime on new initiatives for constantly improving our round table's vision and mission. This year will be another tremendous year for us at the BRCWRT, as we brought and continue to bring great lectures great lectures and events to the membership. Preservation Chair Blake Myers and his team have been working on many projects and look to being involved with many more as the year unfolds. Marketing Committee Chair, Stephanie Vale, always needs volunteers as she unveils our BRCWRT to a larger audience in the region. Being a member, you can volunteer on many of our committees. Please contact a chairperson to get started: we can use your help. This coming Fall will bring up our election process and the popular Fall picnic! You don't want to miss that BRCWRT picnic on Sept. 16th at The Winery at Bull Run.

Please try to make it out to each meeting, as we will have so much local Civil War information to get out to you, and also many friends with whom to share fellowship in history. As always, every month we will continue to offer for sale Ed Wenzel's "Chronology of the Civil War of Fairfax County." The BRCWRT 25th anniversary book will also be on sale at meetings, and on the Web site. As the year moves forward, we will be here bringing you the best Civil War lectures, tours, events, picnic 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.



## BRCWRT — Vol. XXVI, Issue 6, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2019





Saturday – November 9, 2019; 8:30am – 3:30pm Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, Fairfax, Virginia

Robert Stanton, Director, National Park Service (Retired),

Panel Presentations, Re-enactors, Past, Present & Future Discussions, Breakfast, Lunch, Trivia & Swap & Drop Table: \$25.00

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/history-commission/ for further information, please call: Lynne Garvey-Hodge, 571-655-5630

# **Preservation Report** – (con't from page 7)

have been scheduled, and are not anticipated until the 90% design plans are provided for consulting party review.

## **Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields** Broad Run Station Project:

The Virginia Railway Express (VRE), in coordination with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), is continuing cultural resource consultation associated with improvements at its existing Broad Run Station and Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) to support Manassas Line service growth (VRE Broad Run Expansion project) in Prince William County and the City of Manassas. The project is also being coordinated with the Federal Aviation Administration because of its proximity to the Manassas Regional Airport.

On June 28, 2019, BRCWRT received a letter from VRE, with enclosures describing the project and its various elements, and providing the cultural resource studies completed to date with associated projected effects. The VRE Broad Run project includes modifications to the existing VRE Broad Run Station, including the storage track to accommodate the addition of 10 new passenger cars to the Broad Run-based fleet, constructing an expanded employee welfare building, increasing parking capacity, adding a third main track from the Broad Run Station to Wellington Road, shifting the station platform to the east to accommodate the yard expansion and adding a pedestrian tunnel that will go under the rail tracks to the parking area. The project, as described in the June 28, 2019, letter does not encroach on the Bristoe Station Battlefield, including the presumed Brown's Battery site.

## Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields Preservation Study:

In March 2019, the Prince William County (PWC) Planning Office submitted to the PWC Planning Commission CPA2018-00002, Bristoe Station and Kettle Run CPA – A Comprehensive Plan Amendment to incorporate recommendations from the 2016 Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields Preservation Study into the County's Comprehensive Plan. BRCWRT supported, both in writing and in speaking at Planning Commission meetings, adoption of the CPA. During their April 17, 2019, meeting the Planning Commission voted unanimously in favor of the amendment, which now goes to the PWC Board of Supervisors for final decision.

BRCWRT members Kim Brace, Blake Myers, John Pearson and John DePue met with Supervisor Lawson (Brentsville District) on June 3, 2019 to discuss the CPA and BRCWRT's strong support for its adoption. Supervisor indicated her support for adopting the CPA, thanked us for meeting with her, and requested our attendance at the June 18, 2019, Board of Supervisors meeting to speak in favor of the CPA. Representatives from the American Battlefield Trust had also met with Supervisor Lawson and expressed their support for the CPA.

On June 18, 2019, the Bristoe Station Preservation Study CPA hearing scheduled for the Board of Supervisors meeting was deferred to September 3, 2019. The deferral, requested by Supervisor Lawson (Brentsville District), was apparently based on a letter submitted by the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association (NVBIA) requesting that the Board of Supervisors reject the CPA2018-00002 and handle the issue through the Rural Area Preservation Study Implementation (CPA2018-00009).

The two preservation studies (Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields Preservation Study, Rural Area Preservation Study) have completely different purposes and focus and no direct inter-relationship. BRCWRT's Preservation Committee is continuing to work with the Prince William County Planning Office and the Prince William County Historical Commission in sustaining support for the Board of Supervisors to adopt CPA2018-00002 at its September 3, 2019, meeting. CPA2018-00002 can be reviewed and comments submitted at the link: http:// www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/planning/ Pages/Comprehensive-Plan-Update.aspx

Public meetings on the Rural Area Preservation Study Implementation (CPA2018-00009) are scheduled for July 30, 2019, (5:30 p.m.) and September 14, 2019, (5:30 p.m.) at the Hilton (con't on page 22)

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Performing Arts Center in Manassas.

### Ox Hill (Chantilly) Battlefield Park

As previously reported, the installation of the *Chantilly* and *Ox Hill* monuments at Ox Hill Battlefield Park and the dedication ceremony initially scheduled for September 2017, was "postponed indefinitely" by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) on July 11, 2017.

Since August 2017, BRCWRT members Blake Myers, Ed Wenzel, Charlie Balch and Mark Trbovich have been engaged with the FCPA Executive Director and the Park Authority Board, working to ensure the installation of the monuments. These members have met with the FCPA Executive Director and staff members, provided substantial information on the history, background and timeline for the establishment of the park, the Ox Hill Battlefield Park General Management Plan and Conceptual Development Plan, and the design and production of the monuments. They attended multiple meetings of the Park Authority Board and its Committee of the Whole, speaking during the public comment segment at these meetings and providing relevant information to Board members.

During the January 23, 2019, Park Authority Board meeting, the Board voted to approve the following: The Park Authority Executive Director recommends to not install the monuments in their current form; and recommends that the Park Authority Board establish a subcommittee to work on the disposition of the monuments, as discussed by the Committee of the Whole on January 9, 2019.

In taking this action the Board stated that it was not changing the *Master Plan*, but deemed the monuments, in their current form, to be inappropriate. No board member identified the specific content in the inscriptions that they considered inappropriate. On January 31, 2019, BRCWRT sent a letter to the FCPA executive in response to the Board's action regarding the monuments. This letter outlined BRCWRT's concerns with the Board's decision, our commitment to remaining a collaborative partner in resolving the issue of 'monument inappropriateness' and recommendations for subcommittee membership.

The monuments are included in the Ox Hill

Battlefield Park General Management Plan and Conceptual Development Plan (the Master Plan) that was approved by the Park Authority Board in 2005. The monuments' design and inscriptions are typical of monuments located on battlefields and battlefield parks throughout the United States. They include the battle's name (Chantilly and Ox Hill), the military units that fought in the battle, and a stanza from Francis Finch's 1867 poem, *The Blue and The Gray* - a poem focused not on glorification but on reconciliation.

At the May 8, 2019, Park Authority Board meeting, Board chairman William Bouie initiated discussion of the subcommittee, and the Board voted to establish the subcommittee with Board member Cynthia Jacobs-Carter (Lee District) as Chair, Board member Linwood Gorham (Mount Vernon District), and other members from the FCPA staff and outside entities to be determined. As of July 26, 2019, no additional members have been appointed to the subcommittee, no subcommittee charter has been established, and no meetings have been scheduled or conducted. BRCWRT remains actively engaged in this endeavor, with the goal of ensuring the *Chantilly* and Ox Hill monuments are installed in the Ox Hill Battlefield Park as called for in the approved Master Plan.

BRCWRT is partnering with other like-minded heritage and historical organizations in encouraging Fairfax County to make Ox Hill Battlefield Park the best park it can be and a key component of the county's wide variety of heritage tourism destinations for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike. BRCWRT member, author and historian Greg Wilson, recently appointed Dranesville District representative on the Fairfax County History Commission, is leading a BRCWRT collaboration with the American Battlefield Trust to develop an Ox Hill Battle 'App' that will be linked to Ox Hill Battlefield Park. In addition, we are in discussions with the Ancient Order of the Hibernians (AOH), Father William Corby Division, to re-institute the annual commemoration of the Battle of Ox Hill/Chantilly and wreath laving at Ox Hill Battlefield Park. A commemoration and

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wreath laying is tentatively scheduled for noon on Sunday, September 1, 2019, (the 157<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle). Stay tuned for additional information on these initiatives....and others in the works.

## Farr's Fort at George Mason University (GMU)

On June, 5, 2019 Dr. Brian Platt, Chair of the History and Art History Department at GMU, and, and Blake Myers, BRCWRT, met with Carol Kissal, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, and Frank Strike, Vice President -Facilities, to discuss the Farr's Fort site and the potential to preserve and interpret the site. Based on our discussion and the history associated with the site. Carol made the decision that GMU would preserve and interpret the site under the purview of the Facilities Department, with two components to the project: 1) A near-term component to preserve and interpret Farr's Fort, and 2) a long-term component to include the broad historical aspects of the Farr's Cross Roads/Farr's Fort site in the development of the Mason Master Plan, scheduled to begin in late 2019.

On June 25, 2019, the core preservation team (Dr. Brian Platt, Erich Miller, Chris Sperling, Blake Myers, Jim Lewis and Brian McEnany) conducted a site visit and discussed development of the detailed treatment plan necessary to guide the preservation and interpretation of Farr's Fort. Discussions are continuing with GMU's Facilities Management and Campus Planning departments regarding GMU's development of its plan to implement the essential components of the preservation and interpretation concept: stabilize and prepare the redoubt, establish access area and access trail, design and produce interpretive markers at the access area and at the redoubt, develop augmented reality interpretive elements, and conduct site management.

BRCWRT is continuing its support of Dr. Brian Platt, Chair, Department of History and Art History, and Professor Christopher Hamner by providing an annual Farr's Cross Roads/Farr's Fort on-site class for students in Professor Hamner's Civil War and Reconstruction class. This on-site class, planned and conducted by BRCWRT members Brian McEnenay, Jim Lewis and Blake Myers, began in 2016 and is typically conducted in the Fall of each year. It covers the history of Farr's Cross Roads, including the Farr family and its connection to GMU, the history of the two roads that intersect at the Cross Roads, the history of the corduroy road discovered along Ox Road in 2014 and 2015, and the history of the Farr's Fort redoubt.

## **Emerging Civil War Introduces New Blog Post on Civil War Women**

"Dedicated to the Study of Women's Roles in the Civil War" – An Interview with Janet Whaley is the great new blog post on the Emerging Civil War's Web site – it's a very interesting conversation with ECW Editor Sarah Kay Bierle, who had a chance to ask some interview questions with Janet Whaley, a Board Member at the Society For Women And The Civil War. ECW is pleased to share this snippet of the conversation and spotlight this special organization.

Q: Can you tell us a little about Society for Women and the Civil War? What makes this group unique from other CW history organizations?

A: In 1997 a few women got together and discussed the fact that women interested in the Civil War had lots of documentation and knowledge, but few ways to express that information other than to write a book. So, they got together and decided to use a conference format to do that. This was the beginning of the Society, which was then called Conference for Women in the Civil War.

In 2010, we reorganized into a membership organization and became the Society for Women and the Civil War. Our mission has always been to provide Civil War historians a platform to provide information on women's roles during the American Civil War to today's audiences.

To read more of this post, visit: https://emergingcivilwar.com/2019/06/10/dedicated-to-the-study-of-womens-roles-in-the-civil-war/

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