



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXVI, Issue 5, JUNE-JULY 2019

AUTHORS-HISTORIANS DON HAKENSON AND CHUCK MAURO SPEAK ON "MOSBY IN FAUQUIER COUNTY" AT THE JUNE 13th MEETING

We are so fortunate to have two of our own Bull Run Civil War Round Table members and acclaimed John Singleton Mosby authors speaking at the June 13th meeting. Col. Mosby's actions in Fauquier County, VA, during the War will be the focus of the presentation. Don Hakenson was born in Washington, DC, but lived practically his entire life in Fairfax County, VA. Don is a Vietnam-era Air Force veteran; he retired from the federal government in 2008 after 37 years of service as a civilian with the Department of the Army.

Don has spent countless years researching the Civil War in Fairfax and Fauquier counties, especially regarding Colonel John S. Mosby and his rangers. For over a decade, Don has conducted Mosby and Fairfax County Civil War bus tours for the Stuart/Mosby Historical Society, the Franconia Museum and other Civil War-related organizations inside and outside of the State of Virginia. Don is a current board member and past president of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. He served as a History Commissioner for Lee District in Fairfax County for over five years. Don is also a founder and a member of the board of directors for the Franconia Museum and is a Civil War advisor for the Mosby Foundation in Warrenton, Virginia, as well as for the Friends of Laura Ratcliffe in Herndon, VA.

Don was a member of the sesquicentennial committees for Fairfax City and Fairfax County. Additionally, with many prior award-winning books on Civil War history, he has published three other books about Mosby and his men and co-authored the newly released "A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Operations in Fauquier County, Virginia." Don had two great-great grandfathers who served in the Confederate Cavalry of the Army of Northern

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**7 p.m. Centreville Library
THURSDAY, June 13, 2019**

**GUEST SPEAKER:
Authors and Historians
CHUCK MAURO
AND DON HAKENSON**

TOPIC:

"Mosby in Fauquier County"

THURSDAY, July 11, 2019

**GUEST SPEAKER:
NPS Historian Emeritus
~ ED BEARSS ~**

TOPIC:

"Battle of Fort Fisher, NC"

Virginia. Don also had various ancestral cousins and uncles who served in Mosby's Rangers.

Chuck Mauro is the author of and photographer for "A Southern Spy in Northern Virginia: The Civil War Album of Laura Ratcliffe;" "The Civil War in Fairfax County: Civilians and Soldiers;" "Herndon: A Town and Its History;" and "Herndon: A History in Images." He received the Nan Netherton Heritage Award for his historical research and writing of, and photography for "The Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill), A Monumental Storm." Chuck has also co-written with Don "A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Operations in Fairfax County, Virginia." He is also the writer and co-producer of the independent film, "The Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill)," based on his book.

In addition to the BRCWRT, Chuck is a member of the Civil War Trust, the National Center for Civil War Photography, the Louisiana Historical Association Memorial Hall Foundation,

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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 2019 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, July 22, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **August-September 2019 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at: <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon on July 12, to Charlie Balch at: BRCWRTads@gmail.com

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

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. We are currently meeting around 5 p.m. at Carrabba's Italian Grill located just across Lee Highway from the Centreville Regional Library.

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UPCOMING 2019 MEETINGS

June 13: Authors and Historians Chuck Mauro and Don Hakenson - "Mosby in Fauquier County"

July 11: Author and NPS Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss - "Battle of Fort Fisher, NC"

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

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 summer will prove to be an excellent season for lectures, events and fellowship with your Bull Run Civil War Round Table family. The BRCWRT will, of course, continue to serve as your region's headquarters for study of the Civil War. We will never rest on our laurels but will continue to bring to this region the high-quality Civil War lectures and tours that our members and guests are accustomed to enjoying. I am looking forward to the upcoming Mosby lecture in June and Ed Bearss' Ft. Fisher lecture in July. You won't want to miss them!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Paula Whitacre for her excellent presentation on Julia Wilbur and Harriet Jacobs: "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl" at our May 9th meeting. Her recaping the story of her 2017 book on Julia and Harriet was inspirational; this anti-slavery book/diary presentation about these brave women was just great. Thank you so much, Paula, and we hope to see you in the future, along with other visiting members of the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia. 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.

Our 2019 BRCWRT Scholarship Award candidate selection process, performed by Anwyll and her team, has concluded the candidate selection process! At our June 13th meeting, we will present a \$2,000 scholarship to Jack Tatum from Oakton High School.

We are happy that our scholarship has served for many years to increase interest in and knowledge of American history, with special emphasis on the Civil War, through the essay competition. We are so proud of Jack and of all

our past winners. "Job Well Done" to all 13 of the 2019 participants! We look forward to hearing great things from all of them as their lives in the world of history move forward.

We have come to the end of our 2019 BRCWRT membership drive; however, we are never done encouraging 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. As always, I'm afraid folks who didn't sign up won't be receiving our newsletter until we they do. I am always encouraging a "youth movement" for the BRCWRT, so that a future generation of Civil War historians and preservationists will continue our proud traditions here in Centreville, VA. As I often reiterate, I look forward to having 300 members signed up for 2019, which has been my goal for the last nine years (283 members in 2018).

Again, I am sorry to announce that we will not be having a Spring tour this year. We are also sad to hear that our wonderful Tour Director Scott Kenepf is leaving us, as he is retiring from government service. We are actively searching for a new tour director and hope to have one by this summer. We'll get you updates as soon as that position is filled.

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 continued to bring great lectures and events to the membership. Preservation chair Blake Myers and his team have been working on many projects this year and look to be involved with many more as the year unfolds. Our Marketing Committee chair, Stephanie Vale, needs some volunteers as she unveils our BRCWRT to a larger audience in the region. As a member, you can volunteer in many of our committee groups. Please contact a lead to get started. We can use your help.

As always, 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 fine folks with whom you can share great fellowship.

Lots of Civil War events are coming up this Spring and Summer...don't miss them!

As always, this month and every month in 2019, we will continue to offer for sale Ed

(con't on page 21)



May speaker Paula Whitacre displays her book on Julia Wilbur, called "A Civil Life in an Uncivil Time: Julia Wilbur's Struggle for Purpose."

Photo by Janet Greentree

BRCWRT 2019 Scholarship Awarded to Oakton High's Jack Tatum

by Nancy Anwyll

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table will award its 2019 Scholarship of \$2,000 at the June meeting to Jack Tatum from Oakton High School.

Jack was selected because he fulfilled all requirements for winning the scholarship, including proving a keen interest in American history, visiting a local Civil War history site, writing about that local site, and indicating that he will successfully complete higher educational pursuits.

The Scholarship Committee took notice of what Mr. Cory Williams, Jack's Advanced Placement (AP) History teacher, wrote in his recommendation. After listing several ways that Jack excelled in his class, Mr. Williams ended his letter with: "If I had an opportunity to recommend a student to promote leadership and learning, as well as to represent Oakton High School, Jack Tatum would be one of the top five students on my list."

Jack took four Honors courses and seven AP courses in a variety of subjects while attaining a Grade Point Average (GPA) over 4.0 at Oakton High School. So, is not surprising that he was inducted into the National Honor Society. He did well in all of his courses, but he showed a great interest in the subject of history, which no doubt motivated him to earn an "A" in all of his history courses. These included Honors World History/Geography, AP World History, and AP U.S. History.

As part of his pursuit in learning American history in grade school and in high school, Jack developed an appreciation for Civil War history. His parents, Greg and Mary Tatum, inspired him by including him on their trips to nearby Civil War battlefields. Asking Jack to reflect upon those visits, Jack said that

Gettysburg was his favorite because of its importance in the overall outcome of the Civil War. He's read many books, some of which were about the Civil War. After choosing to write about Stuart's 1862 raid on Burke Station, Jack went on to do research on the event and ended up becoming very

interested in what he found. Since the scholarship rules required him to find a local Civil War historic sign, he visited the village of Burke, where he found the historic sign about the raid. Jack's written essay was well constructed, interesting, and well-researched; its bibliography included several primary sources, one of which was the *"Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies,"* a fundamental source for any quality paper on the Civil War.

In addition to his classes at Oakton, Jack participated in extra-curricular and volunteer

activities. As a Model United Nations member, his committee assignments required him to research the histories of many countries in order to prepare for a variety of scenarios. Jack took four years of Latin, became interested in Ancient Roman history and became a member of the Latin Club, where he was elected to serve as Secretary. He played ice hockey for the Oakton Ice Hockey Club and received an award from the Northern Virginia School Hockey League (NVSHL) for maintaining a GPA over a 3.5 while playing for the Oakton team. Because of his hockey talents and his compassion for those less fortunate than he, Jack worked for a non-profit group in mentoring intellectually disabled youngsters

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Jack Tatum of Oakton High School — the BRCWRT's 2019 Scholarship awardee.



THE BOOK CORNER



Confederate General Edward Porter Alexander wrote two full-length histories of our American Civil War. Both books are highly regarded by critics as among the best ever written by a war participant. When **The Book Corner** hears that kind of endorsement, it goes in for the deep dive.

"Military Memoirs of a Confederate: A Critical Narrative," published in 1907, is the traditional history - objective, a bit dry, but thorough and filled with facts and analysis. *"Fighting for the Confederacy: The Personal Recollections of General E.P. Alexander"* was begun in 1897 as a personal memoir, written at his family's urging, and never intended for publication. As a result, the document was not uncovered until 80 years after Alexander's death. Still in a somewhat confused mess the 1,200-page handwritten manuscript was edited and finally brought to publication by Gary W. Gallagher in 1989. As students of our great national schism, we must have these things, however they come to us. There is no telling when a kernel of insight will inform, or even alter, our perspectives. As an eyewitness and excellent writer, Alexander does not disappoint with either of these books.

Alexander was first assigned to the Confederate Signal Corps, where he developed the wig-wag communication technique using flags and torches. From his signal station atop Wilcoxon Hill along Bull Run, he sent the famous message "Look to your left; you are turned" down to the Stone Bridge, alerting Confederate forces there to McDowell's flanking movement up at Sudley Springs, information crucial to the Confederate victory that day. Later, he became an ordinance officer (supervision and distribution of ammunition) in the First Corps (Longstreet's), Army of Northern Virginia, and ultimately became its Chief of Artillery with the rank of brigadier general. He remained with the First Corps throughout the war, attending even the surrender at Appomattox.

"Military Memoirs" is the more straightforward and focused war history. From the beginning, this

book is different - even unsettling. Alexander is brutally frank regarding the tactical mistakes of the Confederate Army, including those of Robert E. Lee, whom he clearly idolizes. Such blunt criticism is startling, thought-provoking and sets Alexander distinctly apart from other historians.

His analysis of Stonewall Jackson throughout the Seven Days campaign is so sharply critical that one might think he harbored a personal grudge. This is unlikely because he is effusive in praise of Jackson elsewhere. Likewise, Longstreet's errors before Seven Pines (Fair Oaks) were as crucial to the outcome of that battle as they were inexplicable. You will view the Seven Days, and other campaigns, in a whole new light based on Alexander's critiques.

We have generally accepted that the Seven Days was a great victory for Lee. Alexander writes that Lee was bitterly disappointed, believing he should have destroyed McClellan's army rather than merely pushing it away from Richmond and back to the safety of the James River. But the campaign was Lee's first army command. Moreover, Lee was attempting a complicated battle plan in difficult terrain, against superior forces, and with subordinates largely unknown to him and untested in major battle.

The very nature of Alexander's writing - its startling subjectivity - cautions us to read critically as well. For example, Alexander is unfair to Beauregard at Shiloh, a battle he did not witness. He labels Beauregard "over cautious" and throwing away "an excellent chance to win." But we have studied Shiloh, and we know better. Buell's timely reinforcement of Grant pushed the exhausted Confederates back on Day Two, after they had done all that was humanly possible to prevail.

Union ineptitude is not overlooked. McClellan, Meade and even Grant are ruthlessly criticized. In their most obvious flaws, Union commanders failed to follow-up victories, as at Gettysburg and Antietam, in a manner that might have ended the war after each of those battles. Union errors offset Confederate blunders and our violent, bloody and transforming national conflict was doomed to continue.

"Personal Recollections," as a book, is a bit

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CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

General Godfrey Weitzel, USA

By Janet Greentree

Have you all heard the quote "Like Grant took Richmond?" Did Grant take Richmond? Unfortunately, not, but the general listed above, the 6'4" Godfrey Weitzel, did on April 3, 1865, at 8:15 a.m. Our Gen. Grant never stepped foot into Richmond until after the Civil War ended. There are two historical markers honoring Gen. Weitzel - No. SA 40 located at the Osborne Pike (Rt. 5) and New Market Road, and No. SA 41 located at E. Main Street & Nicholson Street in the Richmond area.



Gen. Godfrey Weitzel

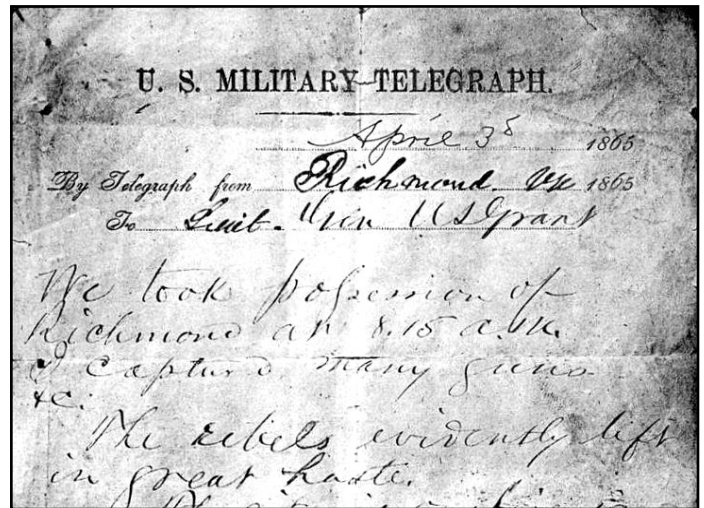
As his troops marched towards town, musicians played Yankee Doodle. Not only that, but Weitzel led the all-black 25th Army Corps into the burning city. Weitzel is credited with raising the Union flag over Richmond, but it was actually done by his aide, Lt. Johnston de Peyser. The flag was raised over the Virginia Capitol building.

Mayor of Richmond, Joseph C. Mayo, traveled along the Osborne Pike to find a Union commander to surrender the city to.



The burning of Richmond, VA, April 3rd, 1865.

He found Majors Atherton Stevens and Eugene Graves, who took his note to Gen. Weitzel. The surrender was accepted at City Hall by the general. Weitzel's first order was to quell the fires set by the Confederates, to save the city. By then, only about 20,000 people remained in the de-



Gen. Weitzel's message to Gen. Grant upon capturing Richmond.

serted city, about half of which were slaves. Gen. Weitzel sent a telegraph to Gen. Grant on April 3rd stating: "We took possession of Richmond at 8:15 a.m. I captured many guns and cannons. The rebels evidently left in great haste. The city is on fire in two places. I am using every effort to put out the fire." Within 24 hours, Weitzel's message was quoted in every Union newspaper.

His headquarters on the evening of April 3rd was Jefferson Davis' White House of the Confederacy, located at 12th and Clay Streets in Richmond. Davis' housekeeper was instructed to surrender the house for the occupancy of the commanding officer of the federal troops who would occupy the city. Gen. Weitzel was that man. The next day, President Abraham Lincoln and his son, Tad, traveled to Richmond. Lincoln, himself, would sit in the chair of Jefferson Davis in



Pres. Abraham Lincoln depicted entering Richmond, where formerly enslaved people surrounded and exuberantly cheered him.

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)

his office in the mansion. Gen. Weitzel had planned to meet Lincoln when he arrived, but Lincoln appeared early. Weitzel said: "I was therefore very much surprised to hear, just about the time I intended to get into my [carriage], that the president was already at my quarters. I drove over as hastily as possible and found the report correct." Weitzel queried the president as to what should be done with the citizens of Richmond. Lincoln replied: "If I were in your position, General, I think I would let them up easy, let them up easy." Later, when Godfrey heard his friend FitzHugh Lee was at the Lee house, he sent his purse to the residence, offering FitzHugh any sum that might be needed to secure the safety and comfort of the Lee family.

Gottfried Weitzel, later known as Godfrey, was born on November 1, 1835, in Winzlen, Germany, to Ludwig and Susanna Krummel Weitzel. His place of birth would be changed later to Cincinnati, Ohio, by his parents' wishing to fit into the "Over the Rhine" neighborhood in Cincinnati. Godfrey did not reveal this fact until late in his life. His parents changed his name to Godfrey to be more Americanized, as well. His father served in the German military, but wanted to achieve a better life by immigrating to America. They emigrated when Susanna was pregnant with their younger son, Lewis. Ludwig also changed his name to Lewis to fit in. Godfrey's father operated a grocery store in the Tenth Ward. He became a city commissioner and served on the local school board. Both Godfrey and Lewis would be educated in the local schools and attended the "new" Central High School located in the basement of the German Lutheran Church

on Walnut Street. Godfrey finished at the top of his class and was appointed to West Point by Ohio Congressman David Tiernan Disney. Young Godfrey had just passed his 15th birthday when he reported to West Point. He was the youngest cadet on campus.

At West Point, Godfrey would be known as Dutch. His roommates were Cyrus Comstock and Francis R.T. Nicholls. Robert E. Lee became superintendent of West Point when Godfrey was in his second year. Lee took interest in Godfrey, who was a top engineering and math student at the "Point." Godfrey spent much time at Lee's house and became friends with FitzHugh Lee. Godfrey Weitzel finished 2nd in his class (as did Robert E. Lee in 1829) out



Gen. Godfrey Weitzel and staff - Capt. Lewis Weitzel is third from left.

Photo by Matthew Brady

of 34 cadets in 1855. Weitzel's roommate, Cyrus Comstock, was first in his class. Comstock became a Union brevet major general and Nicholls a Confederate brigadier general.

Godfrey married Louisa C. Moor of Cincinnati on November 3, 1859. After only three weeks of marriage, tragedy would strike Louisa when her dress caught fire while preparing Thanksgiving dinner. Her husband tried to extinguish the flames, but she suffered severe burns and died within hours of the incident. On January 6, 1865, he married Louise Bogen. The Weitzels had three children, with only one surviving to adulthood.

Weitzel's first assignment was to help improve the defenses of New Orleans under Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard. In 1859,

(con't on page 8)

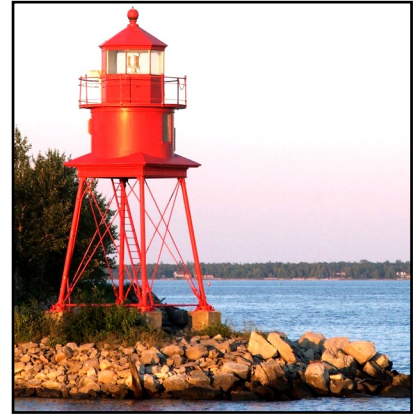
Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

Weitzel returned to West Point as an Assistant Professor of Civil and Military Engineering. In 1860, he was assigned to the Corps of Engineers in Washington, D.C. His unit served as bodyguards during the inauguration of President Abraham Lincoln. When the Civil War began, he was sent back to Ohio and served under Gen. George B. McClellan, constructing defenses in Cincinnati and Washington. He was attached to Gen. Benjamin Butler as chief engineer of the Department of the Gulf. In New Orleans, he was promoted to brigadier general in August 1862, and was made acting mayor of New Orleans. His knowledge of the area helped Admiral David Farragut sail his gunboats past Confederate forts guarding the Mississippi River south of New Orleans. He commanded the XIX Corps under Gen. Nathaniel Banks during the siege of Port Hudson. Port Hudson fell five days after Vicksburg on July 9, 1863. From May to September 1864, he was chief engineer under Gen. Butler, targeting the Confederate capitol at Richmond. He was engaged at Swift's Creek, Drury's Bluff, the Bermuda Hundred Campaign, and Deep Bottom. From September 1864, he commanded the XVII Corps. On November 7, 1864, he was appointed major general of volunteers and assumed command of the XXV Corps, which consisted of U.S. Colored Troops. After Richmond, he was assigned to Gen. Alfred Terry and fought at Fort Fisher. Towards the end of the war, Gen. Grant assigned him to command all Union troops north of the Appomattox River. Gen. Weitzel spoke to his men as follows: "Let history record that on the banks of the James, 30,000 freemen not only gained their own liberty, but shattered the prejudice of the world, and gave to the land of their birth peace, union, and glory."

After the war, Weitzel was given what he called his most difficult assignment – being sent to Texas to evict the French, who had occupied Mexico. He was in command of the District of Rio Grande until 1866, when he mustered out and reverted to his regular army rank of lieutenant colonel in 1882.

If you read Ms. Rebelle's article in the

April 2019 *Stone Wall*, you will see that Weitzel was closely aligned with Gen. Orlando Poe working on engineering projects in the Great Lakes area. He and Poe both worked on the Stannard Rock and Spectacle Reef Lighthouses. Weitzel worked on the Falls of the Ohio on the Indiana side. He also designed a massive lock at the St. Mary's Falls Canal at Sault Saint Marie. The lock was named the Weitzel Lock in his honor. In 1876, he designed a unique rear range light 2,300 feet from the Saginaw River in Bay City, Michigan called the Saginaw River Lighthouse. In 1881, he designed the 515-foot building lock at the Soo Canal, the largest canal lock in the world at that time. In 1897, he built a crib (wooden pier-like device filled with sand and sunk to hold the foundation of the lighthouse) for the Alpena Light.



Alpena Light at the Soo Canal in Michigan.

Weitzel was then sent to Philadelphia to be in charge of engineering projects in the Pennsylvania area, and was Chairman of the Commission Advisory to the Board of Harbor Commissioners. Unfortunately for Weitzel, he caught typhoid fever in Philadelphia. He was living near the University of Pennsylvania, and it was thought that the fetid water of the Aramingo Canal, five miles away, was to blame for his malady. He died in that city



Gen. Weitzel's grave marker at Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati, OH.

Photo by Janet Greentree

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Manassas Anniversary Features Ben Lomond as Field Hospital

In the aftermath of the First Battle of Manassas on Sunday, July 21, 1861, scores of Confederate wounded made their way from the battlefield towards several hospitals that had been established in the rear of their lines. One such hospital was the Pringle House, also known as Ben Lomond. From July 21 to August 25, the house and its occupants (the Pringle family was confined to one bedroom) witnessed the new horrors of Civil War. So many wounded filled the house that hospital steward Edward A. Craighill related, "There was no place under shelter for a well man."

On Saturday, July 20, and Sunday, July 21, Ben Lomond Historic Site will host an array of programs to commemorate the 158th anniversary of the First Battle of Manassas and the Pringle House's use as a hospital. On both Saturday and Sunday, the house will be open to visitors for tours and living historians will be camped on the grounds performing military and medical demonstrations throughout the day. The program is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free.

Visitors can attend an evening luminary

and candlelight tour of the grounds and hospital on Saturday. That program begins at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. There is a \$5 suggested donation.

Ben Lomond Historic Site is also pleased to welcome blogger and researcher Harry Smeltzer for programming throughout the weekend. Smeltzer operates the popular Bull Runnings blog. At 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Smeltzer will present "McDowell's Plan at Bull Run" at Ben Lomond. Admission to the talk is free. On Sunday, July 21, the anniversary of the battle, Smeltzer and site manager Kevin Pawlak will lead a bus tour of sites related to the First Battle of Manassas. The list of sites includes Blackburn's Ford, Signal Hill, the Stone Bridge, and more. The tour begins at Ben Lomond Historic Site at 9 a.m. and concludes at 3 p.m. Lunch is included in the registration fee. Seats are limited and tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets cost \$90 per person and can be purchased by calling Ben Lomond Historic Site at (703) 367-7872.

For more information see event advertisement on page 20, or please call (703) 367-7872.

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 8)

on March 19, 1884, at the age of 49 at his home at 102 South 36th Street, of complications after a month of being ill with typhoid fever. His body was taken back to Cincinnati for burial in Spring Grove Cemetery. The general is buried in the Moor family plot in Section 28, Lot 3, Grave 6. His wish was for a small funeral, but the city of Cincinnati wanted to honor him for his service and conducted one of the largest funerals for the general in many, many years. His service was held in the English Lutheran Church, which was packed with mourners. Thousands lined the streets to the cemetery. The general was survived by his wife Louise, their daughter Irene, his mother Susanna, and his brother, Ohio State Senator Lewis Weitzel. The U.S. Army, in tribute to the general, named one of the major streets in Arlington National Cemetery - Ord & Weitzel Drive. In the past history of the cemetery, there was a gate

with Ord and Weitzel's names on it. It was later removed for cemetery expansion. Gen. Weitzel was acknowledged to be one of the best engineers in the U.S. He was always found where difficult work was being performed. The *Cincinnati Commercial Gazette* honored Weitzel as follows: "In private life he was one of the most diffident and unassuming men. He was quiet in all his ways, and plain and practical in the discharge of all his duties. In his death the army and the Corps of Engineers loses one of its most capable officers, and society one of its best citizens."

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

Bull Run Civil War Roundtable

4th Annual Picnic

Sunday September 22, 2018

The Winery @ Bull Run

Event 11 am – 3 pm

BBQ Served 12-2 pm

Food Provided by...

THE B NE

hand-shredded pulled pork platter

(OR)

certified angus beef brisket platter

*platter 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.thebonebbq.com



The (3rd) Tennessee Invasion at Bull Run

by Mark Whitenton



Many folks, including BRCWRT members, volunteered to manage the influx of hundreds of Tennessee students to Manassas National Battlefield Park, including (from left to right): Drew Pallo, Debbie Whitenton, Bryan Holtzer, Mark Whitenton, Ben Holtzer, John Myers, Fred Eckstein, Greg Wilson (his first living history event), and potential BRCWRT members John Davis and Lillian Garland.

On May 31, over 1,000 Knoxville, Tennessee 5th graders visited Henry Hill after an over nine-hour bus trip. Managed for this third year in a row by Doug Horhota, this year's event was every bit as successful as his previous two. Once again, Doug's meticulous planning produced great results. And, the weather cooled off just in time for their arrival in late afternoon.

Many members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table responded to Doug's request for volunteers and provided the vast proportion of volunteers at this event. All but two of Doug's six living history

stations were manned by BRCWRT members. One of the other two stations was headed by veteran living history duo, Lillian Garland and her husband, John Davis, Jr., who are considering joining the RT.

In addition, BRCWRT members assisted with bus parking and in leading the tour groups: Blake Myers, Dave Button, Stephanie Vale, Scott Adkins, Sam Laundenslager, Pete Kirby, Larry Turner, and Crystal Wilson. As always, we enjoyed the event and wish to thank our partners - particularly the Manassas National Battlefield Park and new Park Ranger Liz Hokanson - for agreeing to host this tour.

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

Here's a grateful "Huzzah!" for these new members of the BRCWRT:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| ◆ Eric Sebastian | ◆ Claire Nykolyszyn | ◆ Pam Fruit |
| ◆ Carol Brotherton | ◆ Steven Bernstein | ◆ Jack Currie |
| ◆ Bob Brotherton | ◆ Eric Fruit | ◆ Ramona Currie |



BRCWRT Special Program

Unprecedented Discovery

Presentation

Sunday, August 11, 1:30 PM

Manassas National Battlefield Park
Henry Hill Visitor Center Theater



**Superintendent Brandon Bies will speak
about the discovery at MNBP of a field hospital
surgeon's pit and the remains of
two Civil War soldiers**

“We Will Always Remember Your Service” is Takeaway From ‘Centreville Six’ Sign Unveiling

by Blake Myers

Photographs provided by Janet Greentree, Chuck Mauro and Blake Myers

On May 18, 2019, a vibrant crowd of more than 130 history enthusiasts gathered to participate in the long-awaited dedication of the Civil War Trails (CWT) marker entitled, “Mystery of the Centreville Six.” The marker dedication ceremony took place at the McDonald’s Restaurant located at 5931 Fort Drive in Centreville, Virginia – the site of the Centreville Six graves discovered in the 1990s.



“Centreville Six” Marker Dedication Ceremony - May 18, 2019.

This fascinating story dates back to the earliest days of the American Civil War - solving the mystery of the Centreville Six required determination and a combination of forensic analysis and historical research. Jim Lewis, author of the CWT marker and master of ceremonies for the dedication, attributed the marker to the Bull Run Civil War Round Table’s efforts to bring closure to this story as part of its mission to stimulate interest in the American Civil War through remembrance, preservation and education.

Former Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey led off the program with remarks regarding Centreville’s rich history and its evolution from the original settlement of Newgate and colonial times, through the Civil War and its aftermath, and its development and growth during the 20th and 21st centuries leading to the Centreville we know today. Frey, the Sully District Supervisor at the time of the graves’ discovery, recalled his support of the 1997 graves excavation and his direct participation in the archaeological excavation. “It was one of the most amazing days in my career of 24 years on the Board of Supervisors. Spending three hours next to Dr. Owsley is something I will never forget. I thank you all for coming out today to show your passion for history and love of community.”

Jim returned to the podium and discussed the

sharp fight that took place two miles distant at Blackburn’s Ford on July 18, 1861, and the story of the Centreville Six began to unfold. The Battle of Blackburn’s Ford, a five-hour battle fought during a day of oppressive heat, was inconclusive, but a precursor to the much larger 1st Battle of Manassas/Bull Run fought on July 21, 1861. The day after the engagement at Blackburn’s Ford, Union forces retrieved their dead and wounded, burying some of the dead on this site. The war raged on, and during the fall and winter of 1861, upwards of 40,000 Confederate soldiers encamped in and around



Dedication Ceremony participants. Left to right: South Lakes High School Color Guard, Kevin Ambrose, Michael Frey, Jim Van Valkenburg, Glenn Maravetz, Jim Lewis, South Lakes High School Color Guard, and Drew Pallo.

Centreville, including units encamped on this site.

Kevin Ambrose, a long-time member of the Northern Virginia Relic Hunters Association (NVRHA) and the ceremony’s keynote speaker, recounted his May 1994 discovery of the first grave while searching for Civil War trash pits on this site. Kevin’s initial find using a metal detector was Civil War-era nails, potential remnants of a Civil War era coffin. Further digging exposed bone fragments, two parallel bones, bluish-gray cloth fragments and a line of eagle buttons, convincing Kevin that he had stumbled upon a soldier’s grave. After making this unexpected and surprising discovery, Kevin inconspicuously marked the site and duly reported it to the appropriate authorities, “I felt bad for disturbing a grave, but I didn’t want the soldier bulldozed, so I notified Fairfax County”.

Fast forward to 1996 when Jim Van Valkenburg applied for a permit to build the MacDonald’s Restaurant on this site. Jim’s permit application

(con’t on page 14)

Centreville Historical Sign– (con't from page 13)

triggered a series of meetings and actions, including Kevin meeting with Mike Johnson, Fairfax County Park Authority's senior archaeologist, and Doug Owsley, forensic anthropologist at the Smithsonian Institute's Museum of Natural History, to show them the grave he had discovered two years earlier. Intrigued by Kevin's discovery, Doug Owsley examined the ground around the grave and, using ground-probing techniques, located five additional



Marked Locations of the Centreville Six Graves at the Centreville McDonald's drive-thru lane.

graves adjacent to the grave discovered by Kevin. This led to a well-publicized site archaeological excavation.

During a three-day period in February 1997, a team of archaeologists, anthropologists, relic hunters and volunteers, under the direction of Mike, Doug and Kevin, carefully and methodically excavated the six graves, quickly determining that these were graves of soldiers. The remains and associated contents of each grave were recorded and exhumed for further forensic analysis and study. The excavation was well publicized and received lots of local attention. Many visitors came to watch the excavation in progress, parking along both sides of Route 28 and walking over to the site to watch the team at work. Union Mill Elementary School Principal Brenda Spratt brought many of her students to the site to observe the excavation. Several ladies, who



Some of the participants in the 1997 Excavation of the "Centreville Six" Graves.

participated as volunteers in the excavation, attended the marker dedication ceremony – an

added plus for all ceremony attendees.

Throughout the excavation, the thought on every participant's mind was "who were these soldiers?" The "mystery" surrounding the six graves arose as many thought the soldiers buried here were likely Confederate soldiers, given the Confederate Army's large winter encampment in this area during the fall and winter of 1861-1862. But, who were they? Forensic analysis conducted by the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History, combined with several years of historical research led by local historian and NVRHA member Dalton Rector, ultimately identified the soldiers as members of the 1st Massachusetts Infantry. These six soldiers were determined to be



Archaeological Excavation of the "Centreville Six" Graves in February 1997.

among the regiment's 24 casualties, who died fighting in the Battle of Blackburn's Ford. They were among the earliest casualties of the Civil War.

DNA analysis was not conducted due to the projected cost and the difficulty in identifying and locating potential relatives of the six soldiers. However, extensive research, including access to the 1st Massachusetts Regimental History and associated unit records, led to the consensus that the soldiers, whose remains and associated artifacts were recovered from the graves, were soldiers of Companies G and H of the 1st Massachusetts Infantry:

First Sergeant Gordon Forrest, age 32, Co. G
Private Thomas Roome, age 31, Co. G
Private James Silvey, age 23, Co. G
Private William H. Smart, age 21, Co. G
Private George Bacon, age 22, Co. H
Private Albert F. Wentworth, age 17, Co. H

The "mystery" had been solved, but what to do with the soldiers' remains was an open issue. Several attempts to determine a final resting place for these soldiers proved unsuccessful, but in 2004, Frank Haley, a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and a resident of

(con't on page 15)

Centreville Historical Sign– (con't from page 14)

Bellingham, Massachusetts became aware of the Centreville Six. Frank contacted Dalton Rector and Mike Johnson, initiating a discussion and ultimately a plan to bring the soldiers' remains home to Massachusetts. On June 10, 2006, the six soldiers' remains were reinterred with full military honors in the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, Massachusetts on Cape Cod. The authentic re-enactment of a Civil War-era burial was hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and was attended by more than 200 people. The burial included a horse-drawn hearse, a procession to the burial site led by a fife-and-drum corps, a period service and prayer, and a 21-gun salute fired with 1853 Enfield rifle muskets. Each of the soldier's remains were reinterred in a pine casket, constructed as it would have been in 1861, and covered with a 35-star United States flag during the burial service. Following the rendering of military honors, the honor guard folded each flag and presented the flags to key



"Centreville Six" reinterment Burial Procession in Bourne, Massachusetts - June 10, 2006.



Members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War prepare the caskets for Military Honors.

participants. The flag that covered 1st Sergeant Gordon Forrest's casket was presented to Mike Johnson, who later presented it to Michael Frey. This flag now resides in the Sully District Governmental Center.

The dedication of this Civil War Trails marker on the site of the soldiers' battlefield burial brings closure to the mystery of the Centreville Six, and to the efforts of those whose steadfast efforts during a 25-year period helped solve the mystery, honor the six fallen soldiers and bring this remarkable story to light.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table extends its sincere appreciation and profound thanks to all who were involved in and contributed to the discovery, excavation, assessment and analysis, historical research and re-interment of the six soldiers from the 1st Massachusetts Infantry. Without your interest, knowledge, expertise, support and perseverance this story would have been lost to history.

A special "thank you" and appreciation to the following for making the historical marker and the dedication ceremony a reality and a tremendous success:

- Jim Van Valkenberg - MacDonald's Restaurant franchise owner and operator, sponsor for the CWT marker, and dedication ceremony sponsor Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT):
- BRCWRT members John McAnaw (in memoriam), Bev Reginbal (in memoriam), Nadine Mironchuk, Mark Trbovich, Nancy Anwyll and John DePue – among the earliest advocates for commemorating the Centreville Six
- BRCWRT members Jim Lewis, Brian McEnany and Drew Pallo - authors of the CWT marker's content
- BRCWRT member Jim Lewis – dedication ceremony organizer
- BRCWRT member Jon Vrana – period music provider
- BRCWRT members Janet Greentree and Chuck Mauro – dedication ceremony photographers
- Dedication Ceremony speakers Jim Lewis - master of ceremonies and narrator, Michael Frey - former Sully District Supervisor, and Kevin Ambrose - keynote speaker
- Virginia Civil War Trails (CWT), Drew Gruber and Rob Orrison – marker production and installation, dedication ceremony sponsor
- South Lakes High School Junior ROTC Color Guard
- City of Fairfax Band member Glenn Maravetz – Taps
- BRCWRT members and others, who attended the ceremony in period dress

(con't on page 17)

The Shock of War Visits Small-town Chelsea, Massachusetts

by Nadine Mironchuk

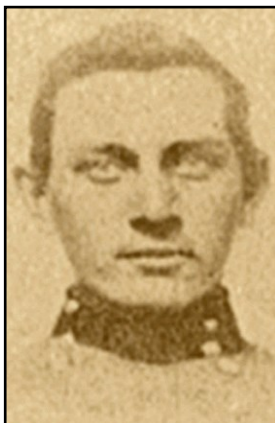
July 18th, 1861, was a hot, hot day in Centreville, Virginia – and the Union army gathering in the vicinity of Bull Run consisted of individual soldiers anticipating seeing a little action before their 90-day enlistments were up. Some, like Albert Wentworth and George Bacon from Chelsea, Massachusetts, were in it for the long haul – joining Co. H of the 1st Massachusetts – one of the first three-year-enlistment regimental units to be called up (on May 25th) to thrash an enemy they saw as having delivered a fatal blow to the country that they loved.

This day, so early into their whirlwind experience of kissing their mothers a tearful goodbye, marching to downtown Boston to receive accolades as they mustered into the army, traveling by train and ship to Washington, D.C., arriving on June 14th and viewing with amazement the convergence of thousands of men who were there in the nation's capital for like purposes, and then – finally – moving over the Chain Bridge, through to Vienna, on June 16th toward the faceless foe. Thence to Centreville on July 17th and on this day, their last on earth, July 18th, their lives having been taken in the Battle of Blackburn's Ford, three days before the shattering collision of Civil War armies at First Bull Run. Under the earth they would lie, until Kevin Ambrose made his discovery of their remains in 1994.

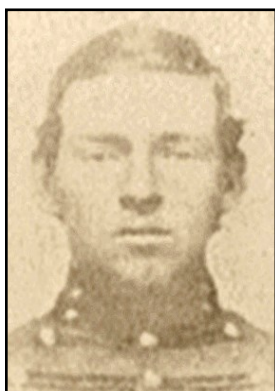


The historical sign unveiled May 18th at the Centreville McDonald's overlooks the drive-through lane, and the six graves of Union soldiers (permanently marked by the blue rectangles shown here at the upper left of the photo). The generosity of the local franchise's owner, Jim Van Valkenburg in embracing this historical inclusion to his property, cannot be overstated.

Photo by Janet Greentree



Albert Wentworth, left, top, was 17, a streetcar conductor when he mustered into Co. H. on May 23, 1861. George Bacon, left, below, also mustered in on May 23rd; he was 22, a pressman at an oil works. When they left their homes in Chelsea, some felt a dread that soon swept into grief after the Battle Blackburn's Ford. Six in all from Chelsea were killed in the battle (only two were buried at the Centreville site). The Mayor of Chelsea rushed from his desk and traveled south to the battlefield to determine what had happened and how to return these dead sons to their families in Chelsea. Only one of the dead, Philander Crowell, was returned for burial by his family. Because he was so very young, Albert's mother had a trouble petitioning the pension board to grant that he was her only source of income when he left for the war. George left a wife and children behind. They also left behind a community that mourned their loss, and does so still, to this very day.



Paul Goss (left) and Dalton Rector discuss the action at Blackburn's Ford while visiting the Stone House at Manassas, where some of the dead from the battle are buried. Dalton was the historian who determined the soldiers were likely from the 1st Massachusetts.

Photo by Nadine Mironchuk



Albert Wentworth's memorial stone in the Chelsea Garden Cemetery, where many members of Co. H, 1st Mass. are buried. The graves are lovingly tended by Nadine Mironchuk, resident of Chelsea, Massachusetts, member of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table and the editor of *The Stone Wall*.

Photo by Nadine Mironchuk


(con't on page 17)

Centreville Historical Sign- (con't from page 15)





Just some of the over 100 folks who came out May 18th to honor the service of the "Centreville Six," soldiers who were discovered in 1994 buried on land being redeveloped by the McDonald's located on Rte. 28 in Centreville, VA. Many members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table were on hand to support this great event - the BRCWRT has as its mission to educate all about the Civil War - the epic calamity that saw close to 750,000 killed, injured, maimed, and dead from disease. The sign will forever remind people just what may be under their feet as they go about their daily errands and chores here in Northern Virginia, where 'hallowed ground' might be anywhere.

Photo by Janet Greentree




MYSTERY OF THE CENTREVILLE SIX






The Long Road Home

In June 1994, a well-preserved male skeleton was found buried in a then-wooded area a few yards in front of you and reported to authorities. Remnants of a woolen uniform jacket with military-style brass buttons covered the upper half of the remains. Three years later, forensic anthropologists and archaeologists from the Smithsonian Institution and Fairfax County Archaeological Services explored the site further and found five additional burials, all in a row. Initial efforts to identify the men were inconclusive. Who were they, and why were they buried here?






Excavation team at work, 1997
Courtesy Mike Johnson, Fairfax County Park Authority.

Soldiers' remains identified as:

- 1st Sgt. Gordon Forrest, 32, Co. G, printer
- Pvt. Thomas Roome, 31, Co. G, currier
- Pvt. James Silvey, 23, Co. G, upholsterer
- Pvt. William H. Smart, 21, Co. G, wood turner
- Pvt. George Bacon, 22, Co. H, oil mill worker
- Pvt. Albert F. Wentworth, 17, a year younger than the minimum age, Co. H, conductor



Pvt. Albert F. Wentworth
Courtesy Dalton Rector

After the extensive examination of forensic data as well as genealogical and military records, researchers concluded that the men were among the earliest casualties of the Civil War. They died during or after the sharp fight about two miles in front of you at Blackburn's Ford on July 18, 1861, when Confederates under Gen. James Longstreet blocked a Federal column under Gen. Daniel Tyler that attempted to cross Bull Run. Three days later, the war's first large-scale battle took place—the First Battle of Manassas or Bull Run. Forensic evidence and records identified the remains as members of Companies G and H, 1st Massachusetts Infantry. On June 10, 2006, the six soldiers were reinterred with full military honors in the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne, Massachusetts.

(con't on page 18)

Centreville Historical Sign– (con't from page 17)



Kevin Ambrose, top, left, of the Northern Virginia Relic Hunters Association, who found the soldiers' remains; Jim Van Valkenburg (center), McDonald's franchise owner who generously allowed the commemorative sign to be posted on the restaurant's property (as well as a depiction of the gravesites); and Jim Lewis, of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, who moved to have the historical sign placed at the site of their burial. All three have made certain that these soldiers' sacrifices will never be forgotten.

John Vrana, musician of the Civil War era, set the mood for the commemoration of the historical sign.



The elegant Debbie and Mark Whitenton add an air of reality to the events that note our country's trials through the Civil War.



Nothing stirs feelings of patriotism more than viewing the posting of the colors of our country, done with precision by members of the South Lakes High School Junior ROTC Color Guard.

At right, BRCWRT member Gwen Wytenback views the photos presenting a chronology of the entire effort involving the discovery of the soldiers, their disinterment, and the eventual reinterment of the soldiers in their native Massachusetts. Gwen, earlier in life, had lived in the Greater Boston area, and gave birth to a daughter at the Chelsea Naval Hospital in Chelsea, Massachusetts. She seems to have been everywhere, and seen everything in life. If only her "campaign hat" could tell the tales.





Karen Lewis Lyddane and husband Denis Lyddane brought a touch of the "Olden Days" back to the Centreville scene for this most important commemorative event.



BRCWRT members (left to right) Charlie Balch, John De Pue and Drew Pallo, who gave the invocation, chat at the great showing of support for the Union soldiers who will be heralded now for posterity.



Left to right - the "Civil War Ladies" meet once again to participate in the activities and events that keep Civil War history in the public's mind. So much of the friendship shared by (left to right): Lynn Garvey-Hodge, Gwen Wyttenbach, Janet Greentree, Nancy Anwyll and Nadine Mironchuk is derived from a love of history and the lessons in human nature that it teaches.



Honor Roll of Those Killed at Blackburn's Ford

From the 1st Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry

Company G

2nd Lt. Washington (William) H. B. Smith, age 38, KIA- "seven rifle balls, at one time, two in the head, and five in the body."

1st Sgt. Gordon Forrest age 32, KIA- "instantly killed, by a ball from a rifled cannon."

Pvt. Ebenezer Field, age 27, KIA

Pvt. Thomas Roome age 30, KIA

Pvt. James S. Silvey, age 23, KIA

Pvt. William H. Smart, age 21, KIA

Company H

Sgt. Thomas Harding, age 29, KIA- "shot through the body by a musket ball"

Pvt. George L. Bacon, age 22, KIA- "shot through the body by a musket ball"; died instantly.

Pvt. Philander Crowell, age 22, wounded twice; second wound, shot "through his lungs"; died the next morning.

Pvt. James H. Murphy, age 23, KIA- gunshot, died almost instantly"

Pvt. Thomas Needham, age 22, died in a Confederate hospital on July 21st; *G. S.W. (gunshot wound) chest"

Pvt. Albert F. Wentworth, age 17, KIA- shot through the body"

Company I

Cpl. Oliver E. Simpson, age 24, "struck on the right leg by a cannon ball, shattering it to pieces." died 2:00 a.m., July 20th at the stone

church in Centreville.

12th New York Volunteer Infantry

Pvt. Liander Darling, Co. B, age 20, KIA- "shot through the lungs"

Pvt. Lemuel Ladd, Co. C, age 23, KIA

Pvt. William Lathrop, Co. K, age 44, died of wounds in Centreville, July 20th

Pvt. James Markham, Co. G, age 25, KIA

Pvt. John Melchior, Co. B, age 22, died of wounds in Centreville, July 20th.

Pvt. Michael Murphy, Co. I, age 23, KIA

Pvt. John W. Walter, Co. D, age 29, 5' 7 1/2", KIA- killed with skirmishers

Cpl. Julius O. Westgate, Co. F, age 24, KIA- "killed by a cannon ball which took off his face"

From the 3rd United States Artillery

Company E

Pvt. Benjamin Bayless age 21, 5'5", KIA

Pvt. William Wright age 21, 5'6", KIA

2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry

Pvt. Myron Gardiner, Co. B, age 19, struck in the leg by artillery, leg amputated, died in Centreville July 19th

Ben Lomond Historic Site Civil War Hospital Weekend

Commemorating the 158th Anniversary of the 1st Battle of Bull Run

Saturday, July 20, 2019

10:00 am - 4:00 pm: Military and Medical Living
History Demonstrations (FREE admission)

10:30am: Historian Harry Smeltzer presents "McDowell's Plan
at Bull Run" (FREE admission)

6:30 - 8:30 pm: Evening
Luminary of Ben Lomond
and Hospital
(\$5 suggested donation)



Sunday, July 21, 2019

10:00 am - 3:00 pm: Military
and Medical Living
History Demonstrations
(FREE admission)

Sunday Special Anniversary Bus Tour!

9:00 am - 3:00 pm: 1st Battle of Bull Run Bus Tour with historian Harry Smeltzer. Sites visited include: Blackburn's Ford, Signal Hill, Stone Bridge and more! (\$90 per person; includes lunch; tickets must be purchased in advance)



To request reasonable ADA accommodations, please call
(703) 792-8066.

Ben Lomond Historic Site
10321 Sudley Manor Dr.
Manassas, VA
(703) 367-7872



PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation

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



Upcoming Speakers – (con't from page 1)

Inc., the Bull Run and Capitol Hill Civil War Round Tables, the Stuart - Mosby Society, the Friends of Fort Ward, Historic Centreville Society, Ltd., Historic Fairfax City Inc., and the Historical Society of Fairfax County. Chuck is a member and past president of the Herndon Historical Society and Manassas-Warrenton Camera Club. Chuck has won numerous prizes for his photography. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in Business Administration from Temple University. He is currently a manager at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and lives with his wife, Nancy, in Herndon, Virginia.

AUTHOR AND FAMED NPS HISTORIAN EMERITUS EDWIN C. BEARSS SPEAKS ON "THE BATTLE OF FT. FISHER, NC – DECEMBER 1864" AT JULY 11th MEETING

By 1864, Wilmington, NC, was the Confederacy's last connection to trade with the outside world. Realizing the importance of this coastal city to the Confederate war effort, Union forces launched an amphibious attack on Wilmington's lone defensive structure, the heavily fortified Fort Fisher, during the winter of 1864. We are so honored to have our dear friend, National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss, speak on this critical engagement. 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 meetings every year, and - 96 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 National

Park Service - to audiences around the world on a wide variety of historical battles and events.

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

In 1955, Ed joined the National Park Service (NPS) and worked his way up the promotion ladder to become 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 fought, spanning the French and Indian War through World War II - both the European and Pacific theaters of operation.

We anticipate a full house for this lecture, so try to arrive early to get a good seat. Come on out to meet and dine with Ed prior to the meeting at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Parkway, Centreville, VA 20120: (703) 266-9755.

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

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. Also, the BRCWRT 25th Anniversary book will 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 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.



BRCWRT Scholarship – (con't from page 4)

to play ice hockey. And, despite the scarcity of any free time, he worked with his church to refurbish homes belonging to low-income veteran families.

Jack hopes to apply what he has learned from his study of history to his future career, following his grad-



Jack Tatum

uation from the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where he has chosen majors in finance and international business.

This is the seventh year that the BRCWRT has offered a scholarship to a graduating senior in the local area. Past winners were Tyler McConnell from West Springfield H.S., Caroline Howard from Osbourn Park H.S., Brooke Roberts from Robinson H.S., Aaron Pirnat from Herndon H.S., Alex Hughes from Osbourn H.S., and Joseph LaVigne from Seton Catholic H.S. Tyler, Alex and Joseph attended George Mason University; Caroline attended William and Mary; Brooke went to American University, and Aaron went to Northern Virginia Community College.

The Book Corner – (con't from page 5)

harder to find, but is the more enjoyable reading experience. It covers his early life and West Point career, topics excluded from *"Military Memoirs."* Its power is in Alexander's intimate writing style, very much like a personal diary, which gives the book immediacy and presence. Battle maps are hand drawn (lifted from his original manuscript) but are clear and informative.

"Personal Recollections" is a remarkable book, considering it was written, largely from memory, more than 30 years after events. It lacks none of analysis - or criticism - of *"Military Memoirs."* Alexander's own admitted failure to support Pickett with artillery on Day 3 at Gettysburg is heartbreaking. He was in a unique position to foresee the futility of that attack, but lacked the rank to alter the inevitable tragedy.

Even the greatest military commanders are not immune to mistakes. While a hundred errors can have no consequences, a single wrong move somewhere can determine the outcome of a great battle. That is the cruel nature of war, repeatedly demonstrated in the Eastern Theater. Alexander attributes most errors to a lack of sufficient staff officers and the subsequent inability of the commanding general to monitor the unfolding events in the field and make timely corrections. The

utility of a large and well-trained general staff, not one composed primarily of family friends and relatives, was not recognized in 19th century warfare. Complicated battle plans, such as the Seven Days or the 1864 Peninsula Campaign, could not be managed properly by the command structures then in place. Sanguinary disasters inevitably followed. When a commander is able to "see" the whole battlefield, even fortuitously, as at First Manassas, victory is close at hand.

Either of these books will be a challenge to the most committed reader. *"Personal Recollections"* exceeds 550 pages while *"Military Memoirs"* tops 600 pages. If you pick only one, make an effort to find *"Personal Recollections"* (try inter-library loan services at your local library). It bubbles with Alexander's humanity and personality. The backstory on how the book came to be, provided by Gary Gallagher in his Foreword, is, itself, a fascinating historical anecdote. E.P. Alexander should enlighten all our future discussions of the American Civil War.

Until next time, keep reading.

Note: *The Book Corner invites comment on these critiques and, especially, your personal recommendations for other outstanding books on the Civil War. Comments are always welcome at: renataralph@gmail.com.*

Coming this June 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 www.pwcparks.org or by calling the sites.****

Saturdays; May-October

Yoga on the Lawn at Rippon Lodge

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.; \$5.00 per class, or 5 classes for \$20.00

Enjoy performing yoga on the lawn with amazing views of the Potomac River and Rippon Lodge. Join certified instructor Christopher Glowacki for a Vinyasa yoga practice. Participants are encouraged to bring a yoga mat, towel and plenty of water; beginners may want to bring a block and/or strap. Those purchasing 10 classes will receive punch cards, which are good for the whole season. **Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.**



2nd and 4th Weekends; May-October Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park Tours

Tours leave at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.; Free.

Join Bristoe Station Battlefield historians for guided tours of the hallowed grounds that contain camps, cemeteries, and battlefields. Tours begin on the hour and depart from the kiosk **Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, 703-366-3049.**

Neabsco Creek Boardwalk

Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting
June 1



June 1 Neabsco Creek Boardwalk Grand Opening!

10 a.m.—4 p.m.; FREE

Wear your walking shoes and enjoy the 3/4 mile boardwalk! Join us and Science in the Park for tours on the boardwalk and

activities, food, tours, and more at Rippon Lodge! **Rippon Lodge, Woodbridge, Virginia. 703-499-9812.**



June 7 Walking Tour of Historic Prince William Towns: Haymarket

7 p.m.; FREE; donations welcome.

Join local historians on the first Friday of every month this summer for a special walking tour of historic towns in Prince William County. For June 7, please meet at the Haymarket Museum located at 15025 Washington St, Haymarket, VA 20169. Call 703-365-7895 for more information.

June 15 Juneteenth at Lucasville

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; FREE, donations welcome.

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 and the progression of education throughout Prince William County throughout Reconstruction. **Lucasville School, Manassas, VA. 703-365-7895**



June 15-16 Father's Day Tours

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; \$5.00 per person, Free for fathers and children under 6.

Does your Dad enjoy history, the outdoors or walking trails? Then treat him to a tour of one of Prince William County's historic sites for Father's Day! All dads that visit during the Father's Day weekend will receive a complimentary tour of one of our historic sites. Free refreshments available as well. All County owned historic sites. 703-792-4754.

June 15

Special Potomac Blockade Boat Tour

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$70 per person, reservations required

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 early March 1862. Tour includes lunch at Tim's Rivershore and a walking tour of the Possum Nose - Cockpit Point Gun Battery site. It departs from Tim's Rivershore Restaurant in Dumfries. The hike is steep in places so please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. For more information or to make a reservation call 703-792-4754.



June 17

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! Topics will vary each month and include subjects such as farming, archaeology, or 19th century toys. 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.**



June 20

Brews and Brains with Tucked Away Brewing Company

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.; FREE; donations welcome.

Northern Virginia has a rich history from the 18th century to today. Grab a pint and join us as we examine the gruesome, scandalous, and exciting little-known history of the area. In June, join local historians as we explore *The 75th Anniversary of D-Day*. Bring some food and meet us at 8420 Kao Circle, Manassas, VA. For more information, call 703-365-7895.



June 28

Rippon Lodge Revolutionary Readers – A Book Club Camp for Young Readers

9:30 a.m. – Noon; \$7.00 per child.

Do you like to read? Then join us on Fridays to explore books and topics connected to early American history through the eyes of young adults. Each session includes a discussion of the book, followed by interactive games, activities, crafts, food ways, and more. All titles are available at the local library and/or Amazon. Advance registration is required. This camp is designed for young readers (rising 4th to 6th grade). This session's book is *"A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal 1830-1832"* by Joan W. Blos. **Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.**

June 29-30

The 19th Century Living Experience at Brentsville

5 p.m. – 8 a.m.; \$75 per person; advanced registration required.

Leave modern times behind and experience what living in the 1800s! Join living historians at the Haislip-Hall house for an immersive experience where you will help cook dinner over an open hearth, enjoy the 19th century past-times, sleep in the 19th century log cabin, and more! Personal bedding material is required, and a light breakfast is included in the morning. Reservations are required for space is limited. **Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, VA. 703-365-7895.**



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Coming this July 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 www.pwcparks.org or by calling the sites.****



July 5
Walking Tour of Historic Prince William Towns:
Nokesville
7 p.m.; **FREE**; donations welcome.

Join local historians on the first Friday of every month this summer for a special walking tour of historic towns in Prince William County. For July 5, please meet at the Nokesville Church of the Brethren located at 13002 Fitzwater Dr, Nokesville, VA 20181. Call 703-365-7895 for more information.

July 8-12

Technology through the Ages Camp at Ben Lomond
9 a.m. – 12 p.m., \$80 per child ages 8-13, advanced registration required. Technology has been around since ancient times, it was just different than the technology we use today. Learn about the technologies used for hunting, cooking, warfare, health throughout Virginia's history with hands-on activities, crafts, games, and more. Registration for this camp can be completed on line at www.pwcparks.org or by calling 703-367-7872. Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.



July 13-14
World War II Weekend
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily; **FREE**

The Greatest Generation evolved during a time of war. Learn about daily life of World War II soldiers in the European and Pacific Theatres from living historians portraying Axis and Allied soldiers. Explore how citizens at home supported the war effort, view original WWII artifacts, and learn about Admiral Black, the last owner of Rippon Lodge, a WWII veteran and survivor of Pearl Harbor. Enjoy popcorn and beverages (available for purchase), historic house tours, crafts, demonstrations and more. Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.

July 15

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! Topics will vary each month and include subjects such as farming, archaeology, or 19th century toys. 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.

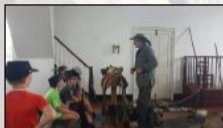


July 15-19

Civil War Basic Summer Camp at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre

9 a.m. - noon; \$130 per participant ages 8 to 12

The Civil War Basic Camp is a unique hands on approach to the history of the American Civil War. Activities include enlistment, drill and tactics, uniforms and equipment, flags, food ways and shelters used by both Union and Confederate Infantry. The camp includes a tour of the 1861 portion of Manassas National Battlefield. Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA. 703-365-7895.



2nd & 4th Weekends
May-October
Bristoe Station Battlefield
Heritage Park Tours

Saturdays
May-October
Yoga on the Lawn at
Rippon Lodge



July 20-21

Ben Lomond Civil War Anniversary Weekend

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.;
Sunday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturday: 10:30 a.m. Lecture by Harry Smeltzer

FREE; donations welcome.

After the Battle of First Manassas, Ben Lomond served as a field hospital to treat the wounded. Visit Ben Lomond on the 158th anniversary of the battle and learn from historians and Civil War living historians how soldiers were treated during the war. The weekend will consist of demonstrations, tours, children's activities, and a special evening tour. At 11 a.m., enjoy a featured lecture on "McDowell's Plan at Bull Run" by historian and blogger, Harry Smeltzer. In the evening, enjoy candle lit tours of the camps and hospital. Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.

July 21

Battle of Bull Run Bus Tour with Historian, Harry Smeltzer

9 a.m. – 12 p.m. \$90 per person. Advanced reservations required.

Join us for a special tour of the Manassas Battlefield for the 158th anniversary of the Battle of First Manassas. Historian and blogger, Harry Smeltzer, will lead an exclusive tour that will include Blackburn's Ford, Signal Hill, Stone Bridge, and more! Lunch and transportation are included. Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872



July 22-26

Civil War Homefront Camp

9 a.m. - noon; \$150 per participant ages 8 to 13

The Homefront camp is designed to give participants a feel for life as a young person while fathers and older brothers are off fighting the War. Activities will include farm chores, food ways to include substitutions, Court day, 19th century fishing, letters to loved ones, sewing and needle work. On the last day participants will have a community picnic and homemade ice cream. Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA. 03-365-7895.



July 27

Classic Movie Night at Brentsville Courthouse:

The Apple Dumpling Gang!

Movie starts at dark (8:30 p.m.); grounds open at 7:30 p.m.

Free, donations accepted.

Bring your blankets/chairs and meet us at Brentsville Courthouse for our annual **FREE** Movie Night! This year we will be showing the beloved 1975 classic, *The Apple Dumpling Gang*. Activities for children will be available starting at 7:30pm and concessions will be available for purchase. Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA. 703-365-7895.



July 29-August 1

Life at Historic Rippon Lodge Summer Camp

9 a.m. - noon; \$80 per participant, ages 8 to 15

What was it like to live at Rippon Lodge 270 years ago? Come encounter life at the Blackburn's home- stead during the Colonial era at Rippon Lodge's four-day camp. Each day, campers experience all new hands-on activities, crafts, chores, and more! Rippon Lodge Historic Site, VA. 703-499-9812.



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In August - Even MORE Prince William County Events!



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, what is made of the honey and wax, and see the way bees store honey at Rippon Lodge. During our Annual Bee Day, find out how you can contribute to protect this endangered species and view our working beehive on the hour. Purchase Rippon Lodge's very own honey from our hive in our gift shop. 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. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes; do not wear black or heavy perfumes, as it attracts bees. **Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.**

August 10 Prince William County African American History and Culture Bus Tour

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

Join local historians on a daylong tour exploring the unique and powerful stories behind the African American history of Prince William County. We will travel the county stepping back in time from the 1800s to the 1960s and stopping at many special and sometimes forgotten sites, to learn about the lifestyle, challenges, and the power of education. Sites will include Prince William Forest Park, Smoketown, Brentsville Courthouse, and much more! **Brentsville Courthouse Historic Center, Bristow, VA. 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
The Civil War Advanced Camp picks up where the Basic Camp leaves off. Participants will have the opportunity to speak with famous officer from the war, expand their knowledge of campaign foods and how they were prepared, learn about the cavalry, participate in artillery drill and build a sunshade. This camp includes a tour of 2nd Manassas battlefield sites 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 the Prince William area long before Europeans arrived. Interact with hands-on artifacts, learn some of the games children played, and compare how Native Americans lived close to 400 years ago to how we live today. **Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA 20136. 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 has a diverse history from being a Civil War hospital to the home of countless slaves. Today, many local residents claim that the house and grounds are haunted. Ben Lomond Historic Site is partnering with East Coast Research and Investigation of the Paranormal (ECRIP) to host a paranormal seminar and investigation at Ben Lomond. Learn about the current techniques of investigation, then work alongside members of ECRIP as you conduct your own. The seminar will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and the investigation will be held from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. Then settle in for the night 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 24-25

Battle of Kettle Run Anniversary Tours

1 p.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. The parking lot is located off of Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow, VA. 703-366-3049.



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BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

2019 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:

Bull Run Civil War Round Table, P.O. Box 2147, Centreville, VA 20122

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ **STATE**_____ **ZIP**_____

PHONE_____ **E-MAIL**_____