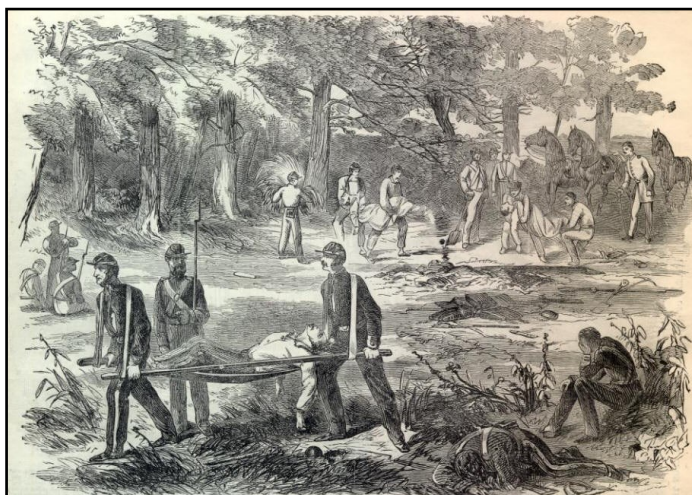




The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXVI, Issue 8, NOVEMBER 2019

AUTHOR/HISTORIAN PAIGE GIBBON BACKUS SPEAKS ON "THE CHAOS AND CARNAGE IN THE HOSPITALS OF FIRST MANASSAS" AT THE NOVEMBER 14th MEETING

The Battle of First Manassas revealed how unprepared both Civil War armies were to handle the resultant number of wounded. The Ben Lomond Historic Site, a pre-Civil War plantation that was transformed into a Confederate hospital after the Battle of First Manassas, will be discussed at this lecture.



An illustration of the wounded being removed from the battlefield of First Manassas, July 21st, 1861.

The main focus of the talk on this Prince William County 1861 historic site will be the state of medicine at the start of the war; the lack of modern clinical knowledge; and the different types of new technology and advancements made in medicine throughout the Civil War. It is so wonderful to have a Bull Run Civil War Round Table member join us to present this intriguing study.

A native of Wisconsin, Paige Gibbons Backus graduated from the University of Mary Washington with a bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation, and George Mason University with a master's degree in Applied History. She has been in the field of public history for close to 10

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

7 p.m. Centreville Library

THURSDAY, November 14, 2019

GUEST SPEAKER:

**Author/Historian
Paige Gibbon Backus**

TOPIC:

**"The Chaos and Carnage in the
Hospitals of First Manassas"**

years, focusing on educational programming and operations, working at several historic sites throughout Northern Virginia, including Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Sully Historic Site, and Eleanor C. Lawrence Park. She currently serves Prince William County as the historic site manager at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Site; is a former site manager at Ben Lomond (a Civil War hospital); and Lucasville School (a one-room African American schoolhouse).

When out of the office, Paige spends her time serving on the board of the Virginia Association of Museums, exploring, being outdoors or researching her interests, which includes women's history, as well as the more morbid side of history, such as death, disease, medicine, murder, or scandal. Her published works include *"Witness to Peace and Strife: The History of Ben Lomond in Manassas, Virginia,"* as well as numerous articles appearing in a variety of publications, such as *Emerging Civil War*, the Virginia Association of Museum's *Voice Magazine*, *Civil War Traveler*, and *Prince William Living*. She currently lives in Brentsville, VA, with her husband, Bill, and their two dogs, Barley and Bernard.

Come on out at 5 p.m. and meet and dine with Paige at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Parkway, Centreville, VA 20120: (703) 266-9755.

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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 **December 2019 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, November 25, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **December 2019 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at: <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon on November 15, 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. 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 2019/2020 MEETINGS

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

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

January 9: Author and Historian Jan Croon - "The War Outside My Window"

February 13: Author and Historian Terry Heder - "The Burning of the Shenandoah Valley"

March 12: NPS Historian Jim Burgess - "JEB Stuart's Raid on Catlett Station - August 1862"

April 9: Historian Deborah Mueller - "Clara Barton"

May 14: Author and Historian Steve Ditmeyer - "Railroads, Herman Haupt, and the Battle of Gettysburg"

June 11: Author and Historian Richard Quest - "I Held Lincoln; A Union Sailor's Journey Home"

July 9: Author and NPS Emeritus Ed Bearss - "Civil War Question and Answer Session with BRCWRT Membership"

August 13: Author Historian Chris Mackowski - "Grant's Last Battle - Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant"

September 10: Historian Kristen Pawlak - "Battle of Wilson Creek, MO - Aug 1861"

October 8: Professor of History Noah Cincinnati - "The Political Crisis of Slavery - a Crisis in American Capitalism, 1830-1860"

November 12: Historian David Dixon - "The Lost Gettysburg Address"

December 10: Historian Ron Beavers - "Arlington House, The Last Battle of the Civil War"

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The President's Column By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members -

I really love November, as it is a wonderful month to enjoy the late Fall, with its leaves turning to their beautiful colors, and - of course - giving thanks at the end of the month. What a wonderful year we have had for events and speakers. I truly give thanks for all our blessings and look forward to so many more in 2020. At our October meeting, Dan Clendaniel, from the Marine Corp Museum, gave us an outstanding presentation of the U.S. Marines fighting in land battles during the Civil War.

Known for serving mainly at sea, those Marines fought from Harpers Ferry to Ft. Fisher, taking to the land throughout the war. Thank you, Dan, for an excellent lecture, and we hope to have you visit us again in the future. Don't forget, members - 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.

November is also the second month of the process for the 2020 election of BRCWRT officers, according to our by-laws. Voting on the 2020 BRCWRT roster of officers will take place at the December meeting. We are happy to report that John De Pue and Ed Wenzel will head up our nominating committee again this year. As stated last month, I will be stepping down after 10 years as your President. It was truly an honor to serve you. What a decade we had!

Our 2020 BRCWRT membership drive has begun to take early membership dues. I am so happy to announce that a final 2019 count of 351 members was achieved! This tremendous

accomplishment was attained by hard work from BRCWRT Executive Committee Members, member volunteers. All the credit goes out to YOU! 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 - 351 members strong and climbing. Fantastic effort, everyone, and job well done!

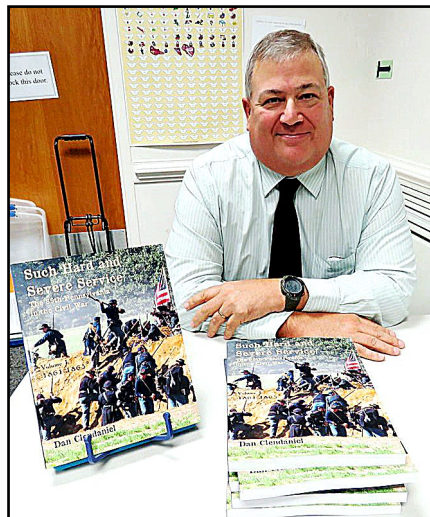
Our 2019 BRCWRT Scholarship Award program, led by Committee Chair Nancy Anwyll, as well as her team, has concluded their work for the year, but Nancy and the team will start the process for 2020 as soon as the school year begins! We are so happy that our scholarship has been established, and has continued for many years, as a way to increase interest in and knowledge of our American history, with special emphasis on the Civil War. Please feel free to donate to the Scholarship Fund throughout the year. We truly appreciate your support.

I am so happy to report that, thanks to BRCWRT Tour Director Doug Horhota, our members very much enjoyed the October 26th "Prelude to 2nd Manassas (Bull Run)" tour! An outstanding job was done by Doug, as well as the historic site speakers who assisted in presenting this awesome tour. Congratulations!

On November 20th, your Executive Committee will meet again at our 5th annual Vision Meeting. They have been working overtime on new initiatives for constantly improving the 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 committee members have been working on many projects this year, and look to be involved with many more as the new year unfolds. Marketing Committee Chair Stephanie Vale needs some volunteers to help out as she unveils our BRCWRT to a larger audience in the region. As a member, you can volunteer on any of our committees. Please contact a chair to get started. We can use your help.

Please try to make it out to each meeting, as

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Dan Clendaniel, with his book "Such Hard and Severe Service: The 85th Pennsylvania in the Civil War."

Photo by Gwen Wyttenbach

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

we will have so much local Civil War information to get out to you, and also to friends with whom to enjoy fellowship. As always, this month and every month in 2020, 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 newsletter 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.



Fairfax County History Conference Draws BRCWRT Members

Last week's Fairfax County History Conference was well attended by members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, including, l to r: John Browne; Tim Duskin; Janet Greentree; Nancy Anwyll; Gwen Wytttenbach; Lynne Garvey Hodge (Chair of the Conference); Mark Whitenton; Debbie Whitenton; Charlie Balch; Kim Brace; Dan Lundeen; and David Dexter. Members not in the photo are Charles Sneiderman, Mary Shine and Jenee Linder. The conference's theme this year was "50 Golden Years of Historic Preservation in Fairfax County: 1969 – 2019 and 400 Years of African American History in Fairfax County." In addition to John Browne, also signing up as new members were six of the West Springfield High School students who attended the conference.

Photo courtesy of Janet Greentree

VOTE!

VOTE!

BRCWRT Annual Elections Coming in December

The members of the Executive Committee have designated a slate of nominees to be officers of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table for 2020; the recommended slate is as follows:

- ◆ President -- Mark Whitenton
- ◆ Vice President -- Greg Wilson
- ◆ Treasurer -- Joseph Young
- ◆ Secretary -- John Pearson.

However, if you would rather, any member of the BRCWRT in good standing can nominate himself or herself (or another member in good standing) to serve in an elected office. Any such nomination should be addressed to the nominating committee, consisting of John De Pue (jfdpue@comcast.net) or to Ed Wenzel (ew136@verizon.net). Such nominations should be made no later than the November 14, 2019, membership meeting, at which time nominations will close.



CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

Gen. William Hicks Jackson, CSA

By Janet Greentree

Are you interested in horses? The cavalry in the Civil War? Thoroughbred racing? Then this man will be very interesting to you. Most Confederates went back to being planters after the Civil War, but Gen. William H. Jackson went on to bigger and better things. This article came about due to my daughter Lisa and her husband Paul Tully's recent trip to Nashville, Tennessee.



Gen. William H. Jackson

Lisa texted me that she was at Belle Meade Plantation in Nashville and wrote, "Guess what?" The plantation was owned by Civil War Gen. William Hicks Jackson. She told me she gets extra points for visiting a Civil War general's home. What do you think? It just so happens that his grave was already found by me (and Yankee Nan – Nancy Anwyll) in Mt. Olivet Cemetery (in Nashville) in 2007. His original grave was in a mausoleum on the Belle Meade property.

"Hicks," "Billy" and/or "Red" - William Hicks Jackson was born October 1, 1835, to Dr. Alexander Jackson and Mary W. Hurt in Paris, TN. Both Alexander and Mary were born in Virginia, but migrated at a young age to Tennessee. In addition to being a medical doctor, Alexander was in the 28th and 29th General Assemblies for Madison County. He moved to Paris in 1827 and practiced medicine there until 1840, when he retired to farm. Red's older brother, Howell Edmunds Jackson, was an attorney, politician, U.S. Senator, and a Supreme Court Justice.

A Little History of Belle Meade

Native American tribes first used the property to hunt. A trail developed which eventually became the old Natchez Road. John Harding, the first owner, was born in Goochland Co., VA, and moved his family to Tennessee



Belle Meade Plantation, Nashville, TN.

Photo by Lisa Greentree Tully

after the Revolution. In 1807, he purchased land on the Harpeth River in Tennessee, which would be later known as Belle Meade. Being from Virginia, John was interested in thoroughbred horses and began stabling horses. In 1816, *Boaster* became the first sire to stand at the stable. He registered his maroon racing silks with the Nashville Jockey Club in 1823. John's son, William Giles Harding, purchased more land, called Dunham's Old Station, along Richland Creek. William continued to purchase more land, and bought slaves to help with the farm. His operations included cotton gins, grist mills, a blacksmith shop and a sawmill in addition to farming.

By 1860, Belle Meade had grown to 3,500 acres, with 136 enslaved people working for the family. William Giles Harding married his second wife, Elizabeth McGavock, daughter of Randal McGavock, who built Carnton (where six Civil War generals were laid out on the porch, dead, after the battle of Franklin). (Another "you can't make this stuff up" comment.)

William and Elizabeth's daughter Selene married William Hicks Jackson. He proposed to her at Belle Meade on his 33rd birthday, with the marriage hinging on the condition that they live at Belle Meade.

Red Jackson attended West Tennessee College (now Union University) and was accepted into West Point, graduating in the class of 1856. This is the same class as Orlando Metcalfe Poe, Lunsford Lomax, James Forsyth, William Woods Averell, and others.

(con't on page 6)

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 5)

The name to remember here is classmate William Woods Averell. After West Point, Red studied along with Averell at the cavalry school at Carlisle Barracks. Both were on frontier duty at Fort Craig in 1857 in the New Mexico Territory when an Indian uprising took place. Red's good friend Averell saved his life when Red was in a desperate fight with a Kiowa chief. Now comes another "you can't make this stuff up" comment - Ms. Rebelle just went to Bath, New York, and found the grave of William Woods Averell. Averell's story and the anecdote about the Indian fight will be profiled in the next *Ms. Rebelle* installment.

When Red heard of Tennessee's secession from the Union, he resigned his Army position (on May 16, 1861), went back to Tennessee and joined the Confederate Army as captain of artillery. He served as aide-de-camp to Gen. Gideon Pillow at the battle of Belmont, where he was severely wounded by a Minnie ball. He carried the ball in his body the rest of his life. He served under Gen. John Pemberton as chief of cavalry of the 1st Tennessee. He also served under Gens. Earl Van Dorn and Sterling Price. He became a brigadier general on December 29, 1862. Confederate Pres. Jefferson Davis bestowed his generalship.

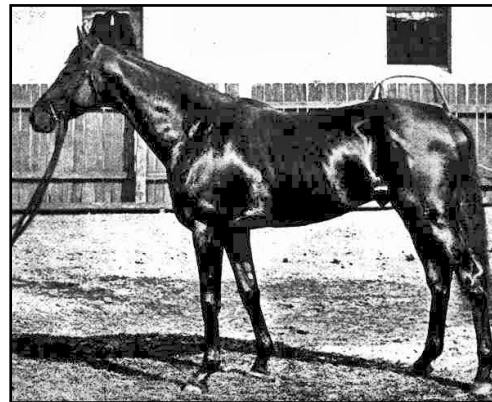
Jackson's Civil War service was in the Western Theatre, including Vicksburg, the Atlanta campaign and joined in the victory against Union Gen. Hugh Judson Kilpatrick at the battle of Brown's Mill in Georgia. He commanded the cavalry at Corinth, Vicksburg, and in the Meridian Campaign. He led his troops through the Nashville and Murfreesboro campaigns. In February 1865, he assumed command of the entire cavalry operation in Tennessee. After the Appomattox surrender, he served as commissioner for the parole of Confederate soldiers, and along with Union Gen. Elias Smith Dennis, paroled troops at Gainesville, AL, and Columbus, MS.

Red left the military after the Civil War and went back to Tennessee. On December 15, 1868, he married Selene Harding, daughter of William Giles Harding, on Harding's Belle Meade Plantation. Red and Selene had four children - William Harding, Eunice, Mary Elizabeth, and Selene. Red became co-manager of Belle Meade, learning the trade of thoroughbred racing horses. Meanwhile, Red's older brother Howell married Selene's

younger sister Mary after the death of his first wife. Somehow, William Harding was able to keep his horse breeding enterprise alive during the Civil War, when other farms were raided for their horses. From 1867-68, Harding won more purses with their horses than any other person living in the United States. William owned many successful studs including Epsilon, Jack Malone, Vandal, Bonnie Scotland, Great Tom, Enquirer, Bramble, and Luke Blackburn. To this day, every Triple Crown Winner but three can trace their bloodlines to Bonnie Scotland. As a side note, my daughter said that the hoof of Bonnie Scotland is displayed in a case inside Belle Meade's living room.



Selene Harding Jackson



At left - Bonnie Scotland was the premier horse of the day. Every Triple Crown Winner but three can trace their bloodlines to Bonnie Scotland.



At right - Luke Blackburn is one of the great money-making horses of the Belle Meade Plantation; he represents the heyday of prosperity that visited the family after the Civil War.

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)

His father-in-law, William Giles Harding, would die in 1879. Both brothers took over the running of Belle Meade. Rather than just raising racehorses, Red would get interested in the breeding of racehorses, as well. In 1886, he purchased the stallion Iroquois. Iroquois was the first American winner of the British Epsom Derby in 1881. Red demanded \$2,500 as a stud fee for Iroquois. Red also began to sell yearlings in New York. In 1892, his most successful year, he sold a record 53 yearlings for \$110,050. Shortly thereafter, the nation experienced a financial crisis and Belle Meade kept losing money. An evangelical reform also took place and horse racing was suspended, as well as gambling on horseraces. Belle Meade horses were auctioned off in 1902, making \$172,665. The sale was considered the most successful sale ever of thoroughbreds in America. *The Philadelphia Record* remarked about the sale: "the most remarkable breeding establishment in the world, closed after almost a century of unparalleled growth and success."

Belle Meade attracted many famous visitors, including President and Mrs. Grover Cleveland; Robert Todd Lincoln; Gens. U.S. Grant, William T. Sherman, and Winfield Scott Hancock; and the grandfather of Adlai E. Stevenson – Adlai E. Stevenson, I. Prior to the foregoing visitors, in 1814, Gen. John Coffee stopped at Harding's blacksmith shop to have his horses reshod on his way to aid Gen. Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812. William Giles Harding was heard to say that his fondest childhood recollection came when



The Jackson family in 1892 the most prosperous year of the Belle Meade Plantation breeding stables.

Gen. Andrew Jackson rode by Belle Grove after the battle of New Orleans.

William Hicks Jackson died on March 30, 1903, at Belle Meade. He was buried in the mausoleum on the grounds and, later, the whole family was moved to Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Nashville after Belle Meade's sale in 1906. Mt. Olivet has the famous graves very well marked and each Civil War general has a historical plaque near his grave.

Some of the interesting comments in two obituaries are as follows: *The Boston Herald*: "Nashville, Gen. William Hicks Jackson, a noted Confederate cavalry leader, and the joint proprietor, with Richard Croker, of New York and Wantage, of the Belle Meade stock farm, died at his home, Belle Meade, near here this afternoon. He was sixty-eight years old, and had been in failing health for more than a year and dangerously ill for several weeks past." From *The Minneapolis Journal*: "Gen. W.H. Jackson, a noted confederate officer, died last night at his home near Nashville...Before the civil war he was a frequent visitor in Minneapolis, which was at that time a favorite summer resort for wealthy southerners...Gen. Jackson was a picturesque figure, an ideal exponent of the courtly, affable and aristocratic spirit of the old south...The Belle Meade stock farm, near Nashville, was the apple of Gen. Jackson's eye."

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 426 - 169 Confederate and 257 Union. You may contact her at jlgtree@erols.com.



Above, left, the mausoleum at Belle Meade, where the Jacksons were originally laid to rest. Photo by Lisa Greentree Tully. Above, center, is the marker at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Nashville, TN, noting the general's service. Above right, the family marker at Mt. Olivet.

Photos at center and right by Janet Greentree

BRCWRT Fall Tour "Prelude to Second Manassas" a Blast

by Mark Whinton and Blake Myers

On Saturday, October 26, Bull Run Civil War Round Table members were treated to a combined tour of the Cedar Mountain and Thoroughfare Gap battlefields. Doug Horhota, the BRCWRT's new Field Trip Committee Chair, arranged for knowledgeable guides to present at each battlefield. Although Doug had a last-minute change in plans and was unable to attend, Blake Myers filled in for Doug and managed the tour. The weather was perfect -- cool and dry.

For the morning portion of our tour, we drove to the Cedar Mountain Battlefield. We were greeted by The Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield volunteer Bradley Forbush, who gave us a brief, but detailed tour. Even those of us who had been to the battlefield numerous times learned new facts about the battle as we "walked the ground" along the Confederate line. Bradley began the tour by setting the stage for the battle – describing how Robert E. Lee, having turned away the Union threat to Richmond (McClellan's Peninsula Campaign), was concerned over Maj. Gen. John Pope's newly forming army in northern Virginia; Pope's proclamations against southern civilians, and Pope's move on Culpeper Court House, which posed a threat to Lee's supply base at Gordonsville.

Lee dispatched Maj. Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson with his wing of the Army of Northern Virginia to protect Gordonsville and to "suppress the miscreant Pope." Having arrived in Gordonsville and finding no direct threat, Jackson pressed forward to Culpeper in the oppressive summer heat. On August 9, 1862, Jackson's lead forces encountered Union cavalry and artillery from Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Banks' Second Corps blocking the road to Culpeper along Cedar Run.

When Bradley completed his background for the battle, we walked the Cedar Mountain Battlefield trail to the "Gate" on Crittenden Lane and along the Confederate line. Bradley discussed the artillery duel between Confederate artillery firing from Cedar Mountain, the Cedars, and the Gate on Crittenden Lane, with Union artillery firing from Mitchell's Station Road – a duel described by its participants as

some of the finest artillery firing they ever witnessed.

We next examined the Union attacks by Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Augur's division (Geary's and Prince's brigades) across the cornfields into Jackson's line along Crittenden Lane, and by Crawford's Brigade (Brig. Gen. William's Division) across the wheat field that nearly achieved a breakthrough against Jackson's loosely organized line near the Gate. The arrival of Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill's Division and Jackson's personal rallying of his retreating troops restored order and sent the Union forces reeling back across the fields over which they had advanced. Key takeaways were how fiercely the outnumbered Union forces fought, coming close to winning this battle against Jackson's forces, and the tide-turning arrival of A.P. Hill's division.



Cedar Mountain Battlefield Tour participants (l to r) Mark and Debbie Whinton, Alan Day, Dan Lundeen, Michael Patterson, Blake Myer, and Joe Rogers, with Cedar Mountain in the background.

Photo provided by Mark Whinton

After Bradley's tour, it was off to link up with a few Round Table stragglers, head north on Route 29 for lunch, and then on to the Thoroughfare Gap battlefield at the Beverly/Chapman's Mill Historic Site and Bull Run Mountains Preserve, located at Thoroughfare Gap. (Access to the Thoroughfare Gap battlefield is via the trail network maintained by the Bull Run Mountains Preserve and currently only accessible to the public Friday to Sunday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. However, the historic mill and its grounds are currently closed to public access.) At the Bull Run

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Fall Tour – (con't from page 8)

Mountain Preserve entrance, we were greeted by our guide for the second half of our tour, none other than Jim Burgess, BRCWRT member, Manassas National Battlefield Park Ranger, and renowned Civil War historian.

Jim provided a brief overview of the actions that occurred after the Battle of Cedar Mountain and which lead up to the battle of Thoroughfare Gap, including Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart's surprise at Vediersville; Stuart's ride around Pope's Army; Stuart's raid at Catlett Station; Jackson's flank march; Maj. Gen. Longstreet's march following Jackson's route; Jackson at Bristoe Station; Jackson's raid on Manassas Junction, and Maj. Gen. Ewell's defense at Kettle Run. Having set the "big picture," Jim began a comprehensive description of this small, but important battle fought on August 28, 1862. Known as both the Battle of Thoroughfare Gap and the Battle of Chapman's Mill, this fierce engagement cleared the Gap of Union forces, enabling Longstreet's wing to link up with Jackson's wing near Groveton, culminating in the Second Battle of Manassas (Bull Run).

Next, Jim provided us with a description of Thoroughfare Gap in 1862 – a very narrow gap (significantly wider today due to the construction of John Marshall Highway and I-66) through the Bull Run Mountains, flanked by Pond Mountain on the south; Mother Leathercoat Mountain on the north, and traversed by Broad Run, the Manassas Gap

Railroad and Thoroughfare Road. (The current road running from the Bull Run Mountains Preserve Building to the Beverly/Chapman Mill lies on the



Chapman's Mill, Thoroughfare Gap, Broad Run, VA.

Photo provided by Mark Whitenton

historic Thoroughfare Road roadbed.)

We were then led down the Preserve's trail across the railroad tracks (then the Manassas Gap Railroad, now the Norfolk Southern Railroad) and parallel to the railroad tracks to the ruins of Meadowland (the Chapman Family home) and it's very large ice house (a very deep and wide dry well). At that point, we stopped so Jim could provide a quick overview and history of the Chapman family and Chapman's Mill. The original mill was built circa

(con't on page 10)

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

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

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| ◆ Dr. Jim Giragosian | ◆ Kevin Gilbert | ◆ Ronaldo Melgar |
| ◆ Margaret Giragosian | ◆ Grace Taylor | ◆ Alexandra Castro |
| ◆ David Huxsoll | ◆ Chris Stoops | ◆ Yunki Cho |
| ◆ Beatrice Garcia | ◆ Joseph Widikowski | ◆ Genevieve Perrella |
| ◆ Roger Dallman | ◆ Jonathan Walberg | ◆ Jessica Nast |
| ◆ Bryan Ross | | |

Fall Tour – (con't from page 9)

1742 and was continually owned and operated by the Chapman family until John Chapman's mental deterioration after the Civil War. The original mill burned in the 1850s and was rebuilt in 1858 by John Chapman, who added two stories to the existing four, which made it the largest stone grist mill in the area, if not the country. In fact, John Chapman had put all his money into rebuilding the mill in 1858, hoping to get a return for his investment in the years to come. However, the mill was all but destroyed during the Civil War, leading to John Chapman's descent into insanity and his eventual placement in an asylum in Staunton. He died in 1866 - broke with no heirs. A plaque still visible atop the north wall of the mill celebrates its rebuilding, with this inscription: From Johnathan, Nathaniel, Pearson, John, George to John Chapman, Rebuilt A.D. 1858. (Photo of the ruins of Chapman's Mill viewed from the Bull Run Preserve Trail provided by Blake Myers. Note the plaque high up on the north wall of the mill).

Jim then returned to describing the 1862 actions at the Gap. In response to Jackson's raid on Manassas Junction, Union Maj. Gen. Irwin McDowell set out from Warrenton, moving to Manassas Junction. To protect his army's left flank, McDowell dispatched Brig. Gen. James B. Ricketts' division (2nd Division, III Corps) and the 1st New Jersey Cavalry under Sir Percy Wyndham, to Thoroughfare Gap. Ricketts stopped at Gainesville, while Wyndham's cavalry occupied the Gap. Meanwhile, Longstreet's wing, following the route of Jackson's march, was approaching the Gap from the west late on the evening of August 27. Wyndham sent word to McDowell and Ricketts of Longstreet's approach, and Ricketts rushed his Division -- a half-day's march away in Gainesville -- to the Gap, to block the Confederate movement through the Gap. Longstreet's vanguard (Maj. Gen. D.R. Jones Division, led by Col. George T. Anderson's Brigade) brushed aside Wyndham's 1st NJ Cavalry, but was then confronted by the arrival of Col. John Styles' 3rd Brigade (11th PA, 83d NY, 12th MA, 13th MA). Anderson's Brigade (1st G, 7th GA, 8th GA, 9th GA, 11th GA) deployed on the north side of the Gap,

traversing the rugged terrain leading to Mother Leathercoat Mountain, with sharpshooters from the 9th Georgia, who occupied the upper floors of Chapman's Mill, while Brig. Gen. Henry L. Benning's Brigade (2nd GA, 15th GA, 17th GA, 20th GA) deployed on the south side of the Gap, crossing over Pond Mountain.

Our tour continued on past Chapman's Mill, to the lower end of the "quarry trench" along the



Photo of the beginnings of the quarry trench atop the middle ridge leading to Mother Leathercoat Mountain. Note, it is much deeper than it appears in this photo!

Photo provided by Blake Myers

middle ridge leading to Mother Leathercoat Mountain, a key feature of the Thoroughfare Gap battlefield. This sizeable trench was created by the quarrying of the indigenous stone used to construct (without the use of mortar) the Chapman family's mill, house, barn, and other structures on and surrounding this site. The quarry trench,

(con't on page 11)

Fall Tour – (con't from page 10)

running straight up the ridge, proved to be a daunting physical barrier that separated Style's 11th Pennsylvania and Anderson's 9th Georgia, as they fought for control of the high ground (the middle ridge) on the north side of the Gap.

We continued to hike along the Preserve trail, with a short stop at the Chapman family cemetery, and then onward, up and up the incline, to the top of the middle ridge and the upper end (the beginning) of the quarry trench.

Countering successive Union attempts to gain control of the high ground involved some heavy firing. Eventually, Anderson's 1st and 8th Georgia were successful in denying Style's 11th Pennsylvania and 84th Pennsylvania the ability to advance across the quarry ditch, thereby maintaining Confederate control of the north side of the Gap.

Benning's 20th Georgia and 2nd Georgia, on the south side of the Gap, succeeded in pushing Styles' 12th and 13th Massachusetts back down Pond Mountain, maintaining Confederate control of the south side of the Gap. Advances by Col. Evander M. Law's brigade over Mother Leathercoat Mountain and a flanking movement by Brig. Gen. Cadmus M. Wilcox's Division through Hopewell Gap (six miles to the north) forced an out-flanked Ricketts to withdraw to Gainesville, leaving the Gap open for Longstreet's advance to Groveton.

Jim completed the tour by summarizing the battle's outcome. In terms of casualties, the battle was comparatively small, with approximately 100

battle casualties (total), but it had major strategic consequences. Ricketts failure to fully comprehend the importance of keeping the two wings of the Confederate army apart led to the Confederate victory and Union defeat at the Battle of 2nd Manassas (Bull Run).

BRCWRT tour participants thanked Jim for a terrific "walking the ground" tour and his insights



The BRCWRT tour group, reinforced by Joe Imler and family at the left; Mike Buckley, Tim Dunkin and his father, standing at the edge of the quarry trench on the middle ridge. Jim Burgess in the center, with a blue hat and blue sweater.

Photo provided by Mark Whinton

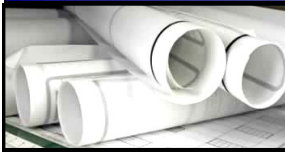
into the battle, the strategies, the units and the leaders who fought there on August 28, 1862. All-in-all, another superb outing for the BRCWRT members who participated and gained a better appreciation for the Battles of Cedar Mountain and Thoroughfare Gap. Thanks to all participants; a huge thanks to our tour guides, Bradley Forbush and Jim Burgess; and to Doug Horhota, for organizing a wonderful day!

November Gettysburg Commemoration Schedule

Dedication Day: On November 19, 2019, the 156th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address will be commemorated and the Dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery will take place. The ceremonies begin at the cemetery with a wreath-laying; the annual event typically features a keynote speaker. The date was formally designated as Dedication Day by a joint resolution of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in 1946. This event is sponsored by the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg College, and the Gettysburg Foundation.

Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremonies *New parade date this year. The parade will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 23rd. Join us in honoring the soldiers and civilians of the American Civil War in this special annual parade. The parade will line up on Middle Street and then proceed to Baltimore Street and then turn onto Steinwehr Avenue. The annual event is sponsored by the Sons of Veterans Reserve, the Military Department of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. Military units and civilians interested in participating in the parade should contact Brig. Gen. Henry E. Shaw, Jr., Deputy Commander SVR by calling 740-369-3722 or email hshaw@columbus.rr.com.

Remembrance Day Illumination: Sponsor a Candle in Honor or Memory of a Loved One: Gettysburg Foundation presents the 17th Annual Remembrance Day Illumination on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019 from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Gettysburg Soldiers' National Cemetery. The commemoration features a luminary candle on all 3,512 Civil War soldiers' graves. The fallen soldiers' names are read throughout the evening. Guests may enter the cemetery through the gate at Taneytown Road or the gate at Baltimore St.



PRESERVATION REPORT

BY BLAKE MYERS

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT) Preservation Committee remains actively engaged and busy in many local preservation activities and projects. The following are updates on a number of the ongoing activities and projects in which the BRCWRT is involved.

Route 28 Bypass / Widening Study

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 valuation:

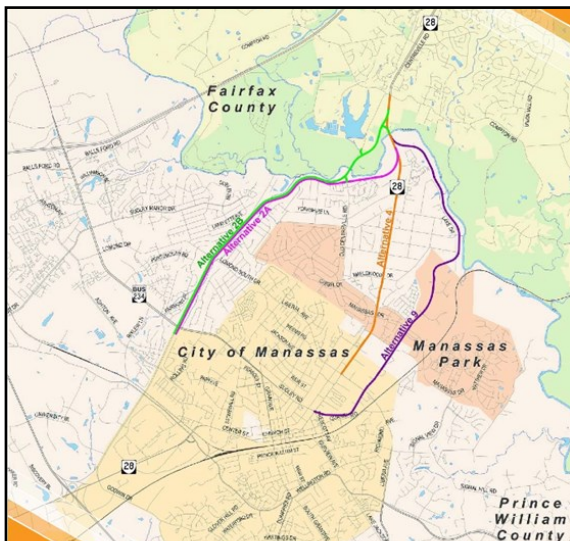
Alternative 2A: Godwin Drive extended to existing Route 28 south of Bull Run

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

(www.Route28Study.com)



Prince William County Department of Transportation (PWC DOT), in coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) to assess the potential social, economic, and environmental effects associated with the alternatives 2A, 2B and 4.

The plan for the EA envisions completion 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 on December 5 (in Prince William County) and December 6 (in Fairfax County) 2018. Information presented included an overview and discussion of Alternatives 2A, 2B and 4 (Alternative 9 was eliminated as it did not score high enough on technical feasibility), and an overview and discussion of the Environmental Assessment Timeline.

On September 19, Prince William County Department of Transportation conducted a Technical Committee Meeting on the Route 28 Corridor Environmental Assessment (EA).

Parsons (PWC DOT's consulting firm) provided an update on the ongoing EA; key points presented included:

- EA began in the summer of 2018 to determine if Route 28 corridor improvements under consideration would result in 'significant impacts/effects', warranting an Environmental Impact Statement

- ◇ EA is evaluating three alternatives, 2A, 2B and 4

- ◇ Completion of the EA will result in either a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI), or a determination that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is necessary

- A NEPA Section 106 consultation process has been initiated with Virginia DHR; two reports (by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group) were submitted on September 16, 2019

- ◇ A Phase I Architectural Survey identified

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102 above ground resources that will be 50 years old by 2024) within the APE

- ◆ Four (4) post WWII – era neighborhoods that were recommended as not eligible for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

- ◆ Ninety-three (93) other individual buildings that were recommended as not eligible for HRHP

- ◆ Mitchells Ford Entrenchments, previously listed in NRHP in 1989 retain sufficient integrity and should remain listed on NRHP

- ◆ A Civil War Battlefields Assessment identified four battlefields within the APE. (assessment based on the Battlefield Study Areas described in the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) July 2009 report, and the potential National Register (PotNR) boundaries developed by the ABPP)

- ◆ Blackburn's Ford Battlefield areas within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) are assumed to be eligible for NRHP and will be treated as historic property, with the exclusion of several areas that have lost integrity due to disturbance and development.

- ◆ First Manassas (Bull Run) Battlefield areas within the APE are assumed to be eligible for NRHP and will be treated as historic property, with the exclusion of several areas that have lost integrity due to disturbance and development.

- Refinement of Alternatives 2A and 2B (see diagram below)

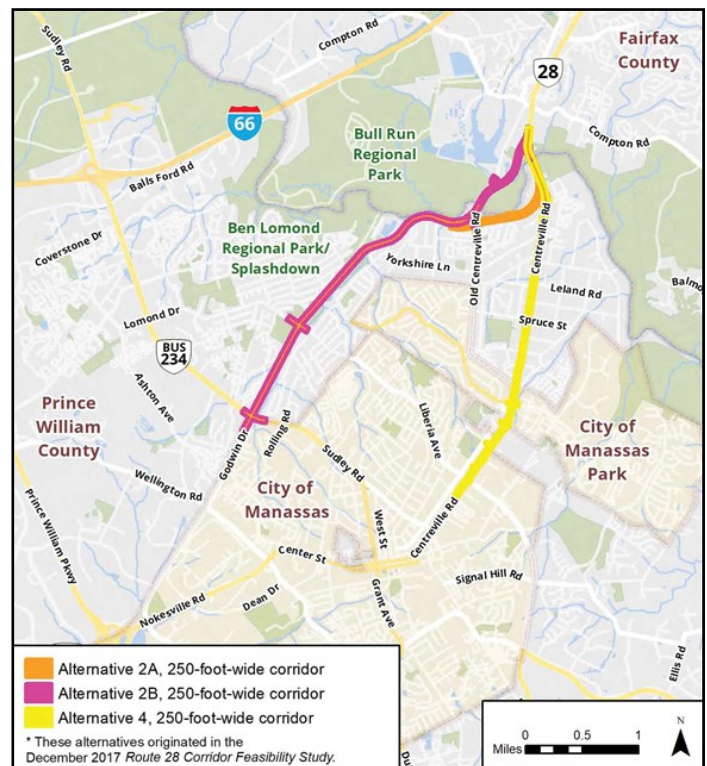
- ◆ Alternative 2A alignment has been shifted south to avoid Mitchell's Ford Entrenchments and Bull Run Regional Park, and to minimize impact on wetlands area

- ◆ Alternative 2B alignment has shifted to overlap with the existing right-of-way along Ordway Road (Old Centreville Road), crossing Bull Run at the existing bridge and connecting to Rt 28 north of Bull Run, minimizing impacts on Bull Run Regional Park and the Blackburn's Ford and First Manassas (Bull Run) Battlefields

- Next Steps

- ◆ Public Meetings in October 2019
- ◆ Completion of Alternatives Development Technical Memorandum
- ◆ Prepare EA and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation (for FHWA decision)
- ◆ PWC Transportation Bond Referendum (November 2019)

On October 9, PWC hosted a Public Meeting



that provided an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Alternatives Update at Yorkshire Elementary School (7610 Old Centreville Road, Manassas). During this meeting Parsons and PWC DOT provided an EA and Alternatives update, and Yorkshire Supervisor Nohe and PWC DOT Planner Belita provided updates regarding the project plan and answered attendee questions. Most questions were from home and business owners along the alternatives under consideration and involved concerns such as drainage, flooding, increased traffic through residential neighborhoods, and impacts on businesses along Rt 28. As design work has not yet begun, answers could not be provided but concerns were recorded so they

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could be addressed in follow-on planning. It was also noted that the meeting with property owners held October 23 was designed to discuss/address many of the concerns raised by potentially affected homeowners – design engineers will be present at that meeting to talk with individual property owners.

The Route 28 (Centreville Road) STARS Corridor Improvement Study is a simultaneous Route 28 study that does not directly involve BRCWRT preservation concerns or activities. On September 30, Delegate Danica Roem and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) hosted a public information meeting regarding this study. The STARS [Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions] Program is a program developed by VDOT to develop comprehensive, innovative transportation solutions to relieve congestion bottlenecks and to solve critical traffic and safety challenges). The Rt. 28 STARS study, focused on the Yorkshire (Manassas) area of Prince William County, administratively implements Delegate Roem's Route 28 alternative intersection design legislation - HJ 68 (2018) and HB 2466 (2019).

The study is administered by VDOT, and will examine replacing stoplights with alternative intersection designs such as roundabouts, overpasses, flyovers and other concepts along the Virginia State Route 28 corridor between Blooms Quarry Lane in the City of Manassas Park and the Bull Run bridge at the Prince William/Fairfax County Line. A second Public Information Meeting is planned for November 20, 2019, with study completion expected by the end of 2019.

Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project (Manassas National Battlefield Park)

As part of a larger I-66 improvement project, Dynamic Tolling Express Lanes will be extended from the Capital Beltway to Gainesville. Project segment 1 (Gainesville to Centreville) includes design aspects that negatively impact the Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNB), specifically express lane Elevated Access Ramps (EARs) on both ends of Portici Plantation MNB

property bordering I-66, from Vandor Lane/ Battleview Parkway intersection to Vandor Lane east of the Virginia Welcome Center – locally known as 'Annie's Dip'. Specific concerns include the view-shed impact resulting from EARs and the removal of evergreen trees located between Vandor Lane and I-66 (widening of I-66 and increased median space) and increased levels of traffic noise that will result from the EARs. These concerns have been the basis of discussion during the ongoing (since 2017) Section 106 consulting process involving MNB, VDOT, Virginia DHR, and multiple consulting parties, including the BRCWRT.

On May 8, VDOT provided Segment 1 design plan updates to consulting parties for review. Consulting parties' comments, 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 (MOA pp 3-4). As of October 7, no additional consulting party meetings have been scheduled, and are not anticipated until the 90% design plans are provided for consulting party review later in 2019.

Limb Pit Discovery at Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNB)

During a planned MNB utility excavation in October 2014, human bone fragments consistent with the use of the site as a field hospital were discovered. In October 2015, the National Park Service (NPS) conducted further testing at the site and discovered two nearly intact sets of skeletal remains mingled with amputated limbs.

In April 2016, the NPS transferred the recovered remains to the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) for forensic analysis, resulting in findings that the remains were associated with Union casualties from the Second Battle of Manassas. The two sets of remains were determined to be Union soldiers from the New England area, and likely from upstate NY. The two sets of remains were transferred from NPS to The

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U. S. Army and Arlington National Cemetery on June 19, 2018, and were interred as 'unknowns' at Arlington National Cemetery on September 6, 2018, as part of the dedication ceremony for the new Arlington Millennium Section. Disposition and interpretation of limb pit and pit artifacts remain under discussion and are to-be-determined.

On September 6, 2019, the National Park Service (NPS) proposed an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed in June 2018, to address the disposition of amputated limbs discovered at Manassas National Battlefield Park and the in situ archaeological resources located at the discovery site. The proposed amendment reflects the discussions that occurred at the consulting party meetings held on December 3, 2018, and March 7, 2019.

The BRCWRT submitted comments on September 17 "...amendments proposed to MOA Stipulation II accurately reflect the consulting parties' discussions during the March 7 meeting. We fully support the research, analysis and interpretation of the site and the associated in situ archaeological resources."

The Headquarters' Department of the Army (HQDA), response submitted on September 17 contained the U.S. Army's formal notice of non-concurrence with the proposed amendment based on the NPS not conveying how the Army's concerns were taken into account, and the MOA failing to take into account the Army's comments and concerns provided during previous consultation.

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources' (DHR) response submitted on September 20, 2019, provided recommended edits to the proposed amendment. The next Section 106 consulting party meeting was held October 31.

Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields Broad Run Station Project

On June 28, the BRCWRT received a letter from VRE, with enclosures describing the project and its various elements, which provided 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 modifying 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 to be constructed under the rail tracks to the parking area. The project, as described in the June 28 letter, does not encroach on the Bristoe Station Battlefield, including the presumed Brown's Battery site.

In our response of July 30, the BRCWRT concurred with the FTA's recommendation that the project's components, as enumerated in their June 28th letter, has no adverse effect on any of the Civil War-related cultural and historic sites identified within the Project Area of Potential Effects (APE).

Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields Preservation Study

On June 18, the Bristoe Station Preservation Study Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA2018-00002) hearing scheduled for the Board of Supervisors meeting was deferred to September 3. The deferral, requested by Supervisor Lawson (Brentsville District), was 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. The 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. CPA2018-00002 can be

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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) were conducted on July 30 and September 14 at the Hilton Performing Arts Center in Manassas. At the July 30 Public meeting, PWC Planning Office staff members discussed and explained the components of the Rural Area Study Update begun in 2016, including a draft vision for conservation and preservation in Prince William County, alternative Rural Area land-use policies, transfer of development rights programs, Agritourism and Arts Overlay District, and land use valuation.

Revisions to the Comprehensive Plan based on recommendations from the Rural Area Study update (CPA2018-00009) will have no direct impact on the recommendations being considered in CPA2018-00002. According to PWC Planning Office personnel, the Rural Area Study Update and CPA2018-00008 will not be completed and considered by the Planning Commission until 2020 (dates/timeline to be determined). A Planning Commission Rural Area Study Working Session was conducted on October 23, to be followed by a Planning Commission Hearing that is yet to be scheduled.

The Board of Supervisors' consideration of CPA2018-0002 was deferred beyond September 3 to a date to be determined. In its June 2019 decision to defer consideration and discussion until the September 3 meeting, the Board of Supervisors directed the PWC Planning Office to meet with affected landowners to gain a better understanding of their concerns with the draft CPA and to recommend any appropriate adjustments. As yet, that meeting has not occurred.

On September 19, the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) closed on the purchase of two land parcels on the Bristoe Station Battlefield (118 acres bordering Bristow Road, Broad Run and the current railroad (old O&A Rail Road), and adjacent to Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. These

parcels include the Rickett's Battery site and where Heath's Brigade (MA, ME and NY regiments) was positioned along the railroad embankment. ABT plans to transfer these saved parcels to PWC in the near future. These 118 acres, combined with the adjoining 34 acres preserved by ABT in 2017, will more than double the size of Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, adding significant acreage on the Union portion of the battlefield.

Ox Hill (Chantilly) Battlefield Park

During the January 23 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.

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, the BRCWRT sent a letter to the FCPA Executive Director in response to the Board's action regarding the monuments. This letter outlined the 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.

At the May 8 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 today, no additional members have been appointed to the subcommittee, no subcommittee charter had been established, and no meetings have been scheduled or conducted.

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In a July 30 letter from the BRCWRT and Kearny-Stevens Monuments Trustees to William G. Bouie, Chair Park Authority Board (cc - Park Authority Board members, Fairfax County Supervisors, FCPA Executive Director, Chairman Fairfax County History Commission), the BRCWRT requested “that the Board: 1) clearly identify the specific wording and/or inscriptions on the monuments that it deems inappropriate, and 2) establish the subcommittee to resolve the specific wording and/or inscriptions deemed to be inappropriate and to complete the disposition (installation) of the monuments.” While FCPA’s executive director has assured us that the subcommittee will be established and that the BRCWRT will be represented on the subcommittee, as of today, the BRCWRT has received no response to its request, and we are aware of no actions taken regarding this issue or our request.

In an October 8 e-mail to Park Authority Chairman William Bouie, the BRCWRT requested 1) acknowledgement of receipt of this email, 2) acknowledgement of receipt of the BRCWRT July 30, 2019, letter and 3) a response to our initial request that the Board: a) clearly identify the specific wording and/or inscriptions on the monuments that it deems inappropriate, and b) establish the subcommittee to resolve the specific wording and/or inscriptions deemed to be inappropriate and to complete the disposition (installation) of the monuments. As yet, the BRCWRT has received no response from Chairman Bouie.

Related Activities: the BRCWRT is partnering with other like-minded heritage and historical organizations in encouraging Fairfax County to raise Ox Hill Battlefield Park to a top-tier park and a key component of the County’s wide variety of heritage tourism destinations for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike. Specific activities/projects are described below.

Battle of Ox Hill Battle “App”

Led by historian, author and BRCWRT member Greg Wilson, a small group of BRCWRT members is currently working with the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) to develop a web-based

Battle of Ox Hill/Chantilly battle “app,” similar to the battle apps ABT has developed for the Battles of First and Second Manassas/Bull Run.

Leveraging digital technology, the Ox Hill Battle app will allow anyone and everyone who is interested to gain a more complete educational and virtual experience of the battle and its place in Fairfax County’s history. The battle app will enable the user to explore beyond the physical limits of the 4.9-acre park to learn about, appreciate and understand the full expanse of the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly).

Developing the historical and educational content for the app is underway. The BRCWRT has also begun a fund-raising campaign to raise the funds necessary to pay for development of the app. This initial investment will cover the costs for app development, as well as app maintenance and future upgrades.

Enhanced Park Maintenance and Infrastructure Sustainment

As with all parks, Ox Hill Battlefield Park is a continuing work in progress. The park must be preserved, updated and continually maintained to ensure that it provides a welcoming and effective environment where visitors can learn, and better understand, the history associated with the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly). As noted above, components of the park’s infrastructure is deteriorating and the perimeter (some of which is in a conservation easement) and fence line vegetation is overgrown and poorly maintained – the result is a battlefield park that gives the appearance of neglect and a park that is not adequately maintained.

In conjunction with the Battle of Ox Hill Annual Commemoration initiative (below), the BRCWRT is compiling an inventory of infrastructure maintenance/repair needs and grounds maintenance needs, with recommendations for a more proactive maintenance and sustainment program for the park. Once completed, this inventory, with recommendations, will be provided to the FCPA. Our submission will include a request for feedback from FCPA on how it intends to address the items cited and to ensure the park’s

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viability as a place of reflection and learning, as well as a welcoming green-space park.

Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly) Annual Commemoration

The BRCWRT is partnering with the Ancient Order of Hibernians (Father William Corby Division) and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum to conduct an annual commemoration of the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly) in conjunction with related commemorations at St. Mary of Sorrow Church and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Commemorations are envisioned to be scheduled so that the Battle Commemoration is conducted at Ox Hill Battlefield Park on the anniversary day of the Battle (September 1), or on a mutually agreed-upon day that is close to September 1. The commemoration conducted on September 1 of this year, the 157th Anniversary of the Battle, was the inaugural commemoration of this initiative. The event was well attended, successful and set an appropriate standard for future commemorations. Discussions are ongoing to explore the possibility of using the 160th Anniversary Commemoration (September 1, 2022) as a focus event to return the park to the superb condition it was in for the September 1, 2012 Sesquicentennial.

Farr's Fort at George Mason University (GMU)

On June 5, Dr. Brian Platt, Chair of the History and Art History Department, and Blake Myers of the 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 for preserving and interpreting 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 with "by end of year."

Based on this decision, the core preservation team (Dr. Brian Platt, Erich Miller, Chris Sperling, Blake Myers, Jim Lewis and Brian McEnany) met on June 25 and conducted a site visit, followed by review and discussion of the Initial Draft Treatment Plan to guide the preservation and interpretation of Farr's Fort. The plan was updated and revised on June 27.

Based on guidance from GMU VP Facilities, Frank Strike, Dr. Brian Platt and Blake Myers met with GMU Facilities Management leaders to discuss project planning for the preservation and interpretation of Farr's Fort. During our discussion we learned that Facilities Management does not do project planning – their functional responsibility with respect to projects is project scheduling and project execution management. Project planning falls under the purview of Doug Lipscomb in the Department of Campus Planning. We agreed that the Facilities Management Director would send a follow-up email to Frank Strike and Doug Lipscomb to: 1) clarify development of the detailed treatment plan and specifically the site & infrastructure plan for preserving and interpreting Farr's Fort in accordance with the concept outlined in the Draft Treatment Plan and 2) recommend a meeting be scheduled with Doug Lipscomb to discuss the planning requirements. Facilities Management agreed to have three signs made and installed around the redoubt Resource Protection Area - Do Not Enter or Walk on the Redoubt; Ground Disturbance and Digging Prohibited (GMU has the capability to design and produce the signs.). The signs were installed in early October.

On September 24, Dr. Brian Platt and Blake Myers met with Frank Strike, VP Facilities, and Doug Lipscomb, Assistant VP Campus Planning, to discuss implementation of the Draft Farr's Fort Treatment Plan. Doug informed us that he had discussed the site and treatment plan with Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR), and DHR strongly recommended that a site archaeological assessment be conducted prior to any site disturbance, including preservation or

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interpretation project work. As GMU has no archaeological department, its plan is to include the site archaeological assessment in the cultural resources assessment planned as part of the development of the Mason Master Plan, which this Fall.

From a 'big picture' perspective this is a good development, as it gets this project back into and under control of GMU Facilities (specifically Campus Planning) where it will be integrated into GMU's formal planning and budgeting process. It also ensures that an archaeological assessment is completed (potentially discovering other historical, cultural and archaeological resources on the site) before any more site disturbance occurs. While this will extend the timeline for preserving and interpreting the site, it is the appropriate course of action. We reiterated to Doug Lipscomb the BRCWRT's interest in remaining involved in the project and its availability to meet with the Mason Master Plan development consultants and

to provide any and all information it has that would be useful.

The BRCWRT is continuing its support of GMU's Department of History and Art History (Dr. Brian Platt – Department Chair, 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 (HIST 373) course. The 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 October – November time frame. The class covers the history of Farr's Cross Roads, including the Farr family and its connection to GMU, the history of the two historic 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. This year's class was conducted on October 28.



PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation

November Events and Programs

The grounds of the historic sites are open daily from dawn until dusk and the sites are open for tours during special events and by appointment. Call (703) 792-4754 to schedule your tour day.

Upcoming Event at

Neabsco Regional Park

15125 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA 22191
(703) 499-9812

Native Americans Of Prince William Walking Tour

Nov. 23 | 11am–12pm | FREE EVENT | Ages 5+

Nov. 23 | 1–2pm | FREE EVENT | Ages 5+

Before Europeans came to the land that is now known Prince William County, the Doeg Nation inhabited the local region. For Native American Heritage Month, join us as we rediscover the Algonquian nation that lived and thrived here in Prince William County and what happened to them European Settlement.

Visit Prince William County Historic Preservation Website

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**_____