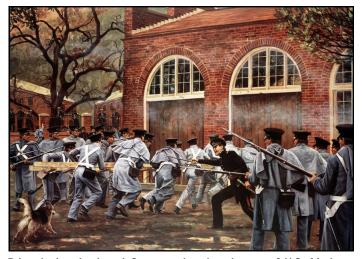


Stone Wall

The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXVI, Issue 7, OCTOBER 2019

AUTHOR/HISTORIAN DANIEL CLENDANIEL SPEAKS ON "THE U.S. MARINES AT HARPER'S FERRY & DURING THE CIVIL WAR" AT THE OCTOBER 10th MEETING

The U.S Marines did play a big part in many arenas during the Civil War. Perhaps the greatest contribution of the Marines to the war effort was their manning of guns on Navy ships and guarding Union positions on America's rivers, helping ensure the success of the Anaconda Plan. They also fought in some land battles, some of which will be studied at our



Print depicts Lt. Israel Green and a detachment of U.S. Marines storming an engine house where John Brown and a band of abolitionists are holding hostages - October 18, 1859. Pritzker Military Museum & Library digital archives.

upcoming meeting.

Dan Clendaniel grew up in California, PA, and graduated from California University of Pennsylvania in 1978. He is a retired history teacher, having taught in Prince William County for 34 years. For his last year as a teacher, he was a teacher-in-residence at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va.

In retirement, he continues to visit local classrooms for so-called "trunk" programs, where he discusses the U.S. Marines in World

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS 7 p.m. Centreville Library

THURSDAY, October 10, 2019

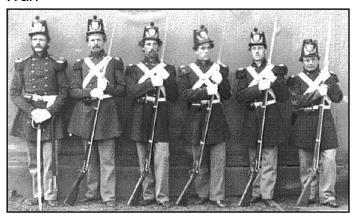
GUEST SPEAKER:

Author/Historian Dan Clendaniel

TOPIC:

"The U.S. Marine Corps: John Brown's Raid & the Civil War"

War I, World War II and the Cold War. He also conducts a trunk program on the Civil War, as well as genealogy. He recently completed a history of his great-grandfather's Civil War regiment, entitled "Such Hard and Severe Service: The 85th Pennsylvania in the Civil War."



The U. S. Marine Corps in 1861 consisted of 1,892 officers and men, about half of whom were stationed aboard U.S. Navy vessels. There, Marines performed guard duty aboard ships, service as sharpshooters and in repelling boarders, and heading landing operations.

Dan lives in Manassas with his wife of 37 years, Mary, a retired hearing-impaired teacher.

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

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE Executive Committee

President: Mark Trbovich, civilwarnut@comcast.net,

703.361.1396

Past President: Nancy Anwyll, njanwyll@verizon.net Vice-President: Mark Whitenton, mark.whitenton@gmail.com

Treasurer: Joe Young, 703.281.7935

Secretary: John Pearson, brcwrt2009@gmail.com,

703.475.1943

At Large: Charlie Balch, John De Pue, Brian McEnany

Communications/Media: Jim Lewis,

antietam1862@verizon.net

Marketing: Stephanie Vale, mustangkoala@yahoo.com Membership: Mark Whitenton, mark.whitenton@gmail.com

Preservation: Blake Myers, jb11thva@cox.net

Student Scholarship: Nancy Anwyll (njanwyll@verizon.net),

Brian McEnany and Charlie Balch

Education: Brian McEnany, bmcenany@cox.net; Nancy Anwyll

Field Trips: Doug Horhota

Webmaster: Alan Day, webmaster@bullruncwrt.org Graphic Design: Drew Pallo, dpallo3@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor: Nadine Mironchuk,

nadine1861@hotmail.com

Newsletter Team: Saundra Cox, Ed Wenzel, Eric Fowler, Janet

Greentree and Andy Kapfer.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table publishes the Stone Wall.

General Membership meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at:

Centreville Regional Library 14200 St. Germain Drive Centreville, VA 20121-2255 703.830.2223

For specific meeting dates and information, please visit the Web site: http://bullruncwrt.org

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **November 2019 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, October 21, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **November 2019 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at: http://bullruncwrt.org and e-mail ads by noon on October 11, 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 MEETINGS

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/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 -"Shenandoah During the War"

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

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The President's Column By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members -

Fall is my favorite time of the year, as the weather cools and foliage colors emerge. I look forward to enjoying the great outdoors just a bit more before the winter chill sets in. The end of summer was an excellent time for the BRCWRT. as we held our 4th annual picnic on September 22nd. The outing was an outstanding event, and well-attended (close to 90 members). I would like to thank Jim Lewis, picnic coordinator, and all the folks who helped to make it outstanding in every way. We have steadily increased our event attendance over the years, and it's all because of the great volunteers who give the effort to make it happen. I must offer a huge 'thank you' for all who helped this summer at our battlefield and historic Civil War event participation.

Our speakers for August and September brought us the outstanding presentations we always expect. In August we hosted Richard Lewis, who spoke on "Cloaked in Mystery: The Curious Case of the Confederate General's Coat." This is a very entertaining lecture on the

background of the many Confederates generals who happened to wear the same photographer's prop coat for formal pictures.

Rave reviews came in for the fun and informative lecture, and we thank you so much, Richard, for your visit!

A very special



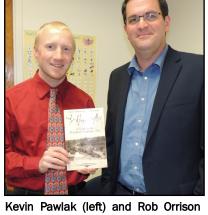
Richard Lewis, BRCWRT speaker for August, gave a terrific lecture on an odd circumstance of the Civil War.

Photo by Janet Greentree

meeting, our annual "thirteenth," was hosted at the Manassas National Battlefield Park by Superintendent Brandon Bies, who gave an outstanding technical, analytical and detailed presentation. Titled "Unprecedented Discovery at Manassas National Battlefield Park," it was highly attended, and was a gem of an event for all who attended. Thank you so much, Brandon; and we are and always will be in full support of our namesake battlefield.

In September, we hosted BRCWRT members and historians Rob Orrison and Kevin Pawlak, who brought us a lecture on their new book "To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland"

Campaign, 1862." Rob and Kevin took us on a journey showing us many sights the way to Antietam that folks may not have visited, known even about. It certainly was a very informative and enjoyable presentation. Thank you, guys, and see you at upcoming meetings!



spoke at the BRCWRT in September, describing the 1862 Maryland campaign, as outlined in their new book "To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland Campaign, 1862."

Photo by Janet Greentree

"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.

Don't forget -

also

can

you

October is also the first month of the Round Table's process for the 2020 election of BRCWRT officers, according to our bylaws. We will be bringing you information regarding this matter at the next meeting. Voting on the 2020 roster of BRCWRT officers will take place at the December 2019 meeting. We are happy to report that John De Pue and Ed Wenzel will head up our nominating committee again this year. It has been such an honor for me to serve as in the top slot, but it is time for a change in leadership, so I will be stepping down after 10 years as your president. However, I will

still be included as a part of the Executive Committee for 2020, continuing to serve you throughout the year. What a decade we had!

Our 2020 BRCWRT membership drive will begin in October to take early membership dues for the 2020 season. A goal I have wanted to attain as your President since 2010 was to reach

(con't on page 4)

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

300 members. I am so happy to announce that a final 2019 count of 335 members was achieved! This goal (and beyond) was met by hard work from BRCWRT Executive Board members and many volunteers - all the credit goes to you! I always encourage 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 - 335 members strong and climbing. Fantastic effort, everyone, and a job well done!

Our 2019 BRCWRT Scholarship Award program, led by Committee chair Nancy Anwyll and her team, has wrapped up for the year, but they will soon start the process for 2020, as the present school year begins! We are so happy that our scholarship, established for many years now, will continue to increase interest in and knowledge of American history, with special emphasis on the Civil War.



Mark Knowles (right) was not going to be getting through a meeting where he is passing on the torch as treasurer of the BRCWRT without getting the recognition he deserves for the 23 years of service he has given to the organization, serving with high integrity and sharp pencils in this critical post. Awarding him with a token of the membership's gratitude is Charlie Balch (left) and Mark Whitenton (middle).

Photo by Janet Greentree

Also, we are so happy to announce that we have a new BRCWRT Tour Director, Doug Horhota, who will host the tour "Prelude to 2nd Manassas (Bull Run)" on Saturday October 26th at 10 am. This sounds like a wonderful tour; you can sign up on our website at http://bullruncwrt.org/tour_signups/October19/signup.html. You don't want to miss this one!

As always, your Executive Committee has been working overtime on new initiatives for constantly improving our round table's vision and mission. This year will be another tremendous year for us at the BRCWRT, as we continued to bring great lectures and events to the membership. Preservation chair Blake Myers and his team have been working on many projects, and look to be involved with many more as the year unfolds. Marketing Committee chair Stephanie Vale needs some volunteers as she unveils our BRCWRT to a larger audience in the region. Please consider giving her a hand. As a member of our group, you can volunteer to help on many of our committees. Please contact a committee chair to get started. We can use your help.

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



Volunteerism by members such as Mark Knowles, who took on the responsibility of keeping the books of the BRCWRT straight for many years, is why the Round Table is an exemplary organization. All members should consider utilizing their talents and assisting in the wide variety of committee spots available.

Photo by Janet Greentree

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

Let us never forget the people who served, and what they did for us.

Ralph Swanson Remembered

by Charlie Balch

It is with a very heavy heart that we inform our members that Ralph G. Swanson, long-time member of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, passed away on August 17 at Prescott, Arizona, following a lengthy illness. He was born Aug. 11, 1949, in Juneau, Alaska.

Ralph was a fish and wildlife biologist with the U.S. Department of Interior for 37 years, receiving an honor award from the agency upon his retirement. He and his wife, Renata, lived in the NoVa area for many years, before moving to Utah for Ralph's work. They retired to Prescott in 2013.

He had a great love of the outdoors and owned and adored boxer dogs, volunteering to care for local shelter dogs, and enjoyed horseback riding and a scuba diving, as well as being a Civil War enthusiast. He wrote for *The Stone Wall* at least as far back as 1992; founding member Tim Duskin is the only name that precede Ralph on the membership rolls of the BRCWRT.



Ralph G. Swanson

For many years, members were able to enjoy Ralph's remarkably articulate, insightful and comprehensive Civil War book reviews that appeared in *The Book Corner* of the *Stone Wall*. Not just comprehensive in his capturing of many aspects of an author's point of view as expressed in the books he reviewed, but also in the variety of books he chose to take under review. It is no easy accomplishment to write a successful literary critique - it is one of the most demanding forms of reportage. There is no passing over complicated or difficult concepts to produce a slick piece that aggrandizes the writer's own opinion, to the diminution of the author's point of view.

As your Round Table bookseller, I could not let the passing of Ralph Swanson go by without acknowledging him as a unique and wonderful co-member. Ralph contributed to the success of the Round Table in many ways, beyond his incomparable reviews; he was a regular contributor of books to our sales efforts. Ralph's efforts incented us to reach out for great reads.

The unique parts of Ralph's contributions are the little reviews he attached to each book that he sent to us for sale *and* did it all since 2013 from Prescott, Arizona. Ralph continued to support the Round Table just as if he lived in Vienna or Manassas.

What a learned and generous friend!

Ralph's inurnment took place without a service; however, friends and family may gather later this year for a celebration of his life. Memorial contributions may be made to Yavapai Humane Society.

Please read and enjoy his last review on page 6, submitted to *The Stone Wall* a just a week prior to his passing. Such was his dedication to his craft, and to we, his appreciative audience.



1625 Sundog Ranch Road Prescott, AZ 86301

https://www.yavapaihumane.org

Yavapai Humane Society is working to promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of all companion animals in our community. We work to reduce pet overpopulation and fight pet homelessness by offering affordable spay/neuter services, educating on responsible pet ownership, and providing community support services to keep pets in the home. Within our animal shelter we provide high quality medical and behavioral care and work hard to match adoptable animals with their forever homes.

Services/programs include: Animal Shelter, Low Cost Spay/Neuter & Wellness Clinic, Safety Net, New Hope, Second Chance Medical Program, Homeless Animal Medical Treatment, Behavioral Enrichment and Rehabilitation, and the Equine Center.





For several years now I have been collecting offhand references, from many sources, regarding the generalship of Henry Wager Halleck. My desk drawer is littered with scribbled factoids that, taken together, lead me to a big conclusion: Henry Halleck was one of the most capable and effective generals in the Union army. His prescient decisions about personnel, policy and strategies were uncannily accurate. Far from being a mere clerk, Halleck rendered greater service to the cause of our Union than any number of battlefield victories.

After 150+ years, it is hard to accept that any important person or event concerning our great national feud has been overlooked. But there are books on Halleck and no complete biographies. Thankfully, there is a dandy text available by one of America's most prolific and beloved historians. Halleck: Lincoln's Chief of Staff by Stephen E. Ambrose (Louisiana State Univ. Press, 1962, 1990) is a slim volume, but is packed with information and insights. Published in 1962, Chief of Staff was an early Ambrose effort and may not have sold well, which could be why it is now difficult to find. Oh, and one more thing: Ambrose concurs with my assessment of Halleck.

Probably because he was not a victorious battlefield commander, Henry Halleck has largely been ridiculed and dismissed by snide innuendo. Much has been withheld from us, leaving an unfairly colored view of this man and his accomplishments. That has been patently unfair to Halleck and to us. Thankfully, Chief of Staff fills a huge gap in our understanding of the Civil War. Every chapter will widen your admiration for the abilities and contributions of this man to the war effort.

In his day, Halleck was highly regarded for his intellect. He graduated third in his class at West Point in 1839 and in 1846 he published Elements of Military Art and Science, a text on Napoleonic military tactics that was adopted by the U.S. Army. He received favorable attention and assignments

but left the army in mid-career and went into business where he amassed a considerable fortune.

With the coming of war, he was appointed to lead a department in the west, where he commanded as lackluster a bunch of misfits as ever donned Union blue: Buell, Rosecrans, and, at the time, Grant and Sherman. The history of military operations in the Western Theater has always been confusing, largely due to the shifting commands, numerous armies and huge landscape. Ambrose presents an enlightening analysis where we can begin to appreciate Halleck's abilities.

Halleck ordered joint operations between the army and navy on the western rivers that led directly to victories at Forts Henry and Donaldson and, incidentally, the rise the Grant. Naval gunboat bombardments may again have saved Grant at Shiloh. Cooperation was a rare viewpoint in the hidebound military of the 1860s. Halleck saw clearly that joint military actions were needed and not petty inter-service rivalries.

After Shiloh, things were so chaotic that Halleck took field command himself. His slog to Corinth, Mississippi, is some of the best reading in Chief of Staff, not because of its tactical brilliance (it was the epitome of his outdated military ideas), but because it contrasts so strikingly with Halleck's true military genius---his insight into men and commanders.

He protected Sherman, sending him to a backwater command, when that general was deemed mentally unbalanced for suggesting that it would take 300,000 troops to subdue the Confederacy. Halleck had already removed Grant from command, pulling him out of the political firestorm after Shiloh.

Halleck and Sherman were long-time friends, which probably explains that favoritism, but there was nothing to recommend Grant. A slovenly officer, probably a drunkard, a failure in business all his life, Grant and Halleck would never have been natural friends. Yet Halleck saved Grant's career. Even Ambrose does not say why, but he leaves a hint: Grant moved and fought his army. He never complained and rarely asked for more resources. Buell and Rosecrans were inveterate whiners who often sat idle while continually

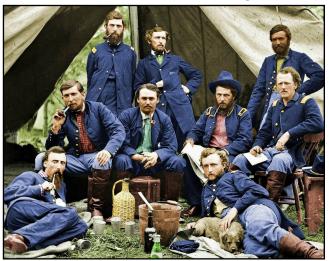


CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

Maj. Gen. James William Forsyth, USA

By Janet Greentree

How many of you have seen the picture below of Custer with his dog lounging in camp during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign? How many of you know who the officers are? These men are part of Gen. Fitz John Porter's staff. Of course, Custer is at the right, bottom.



James William Forsyth (seated, left) poses during the 1862 Peninsula campaign with fellow officers, including (in front, right, George Custer).

He was only a lieutenant at the time. The man seated on the left is Lt. William G. Two future generals are in the second row. To the far right is Wesley Merritt. At the far left is Ms. Rebelle's subject this month - James William Forsyth. The others are unidentified. Did you know there is another brevet general Forsyth? His first name was George. He and James were friends, as George was an aide-de-camp for Gen. Sheridan and James served under Sheridan as well. To distinguish between themselves, James called himself Tony and George called himself Sandy. George Forsyth would later say: "It would have been difficult to have found a more enthusiastic soldier in the whole corps than its popular and efficient chief of staff."

This little tidbit of an article in the

Cleveland Plain Dealer on October 18, 1867, "Α entitled Wedding in 'High' Life" just called out to be mentioned first in profiling Tony. It says, in "The part: event of the season was the marriage last night at Trinity Church, when General James



Both Forsyths (George at left, James at right) with Gen. Philip Sheridan (middle).

W. Forsyth was united in the holy bonds of wedlock to Miss Lizzie, eldest of Hon. Wm. Dennison (governor of Ohio and Lincoln's Postmaster General). The church was filled to repletion long before the hour appointed for the ceremony - 8 o'clock by a vast concourse of gentlemen and ladies anxious to see what the bride wore and how she deported herself under the, to her, novel situation. The bride..... looked as all other brides do, very interesting, as she advanced down the She was dressed in a robe of aisle.... white satin, low-necked and sleeved. Over the dress she wore a white bertha (a deep collar of lace attached to a dress with a low neckline) trimmed with satin piping......The groom, attended by General Sheridan and his brother officers, was dressed in full military uniform, as were all the officers present." Don't you just love the flowery and descriptive language of long ago? Then add General Sheridan to the mix!!!

Now to get to the nitty gritty of this man's life; it seems like most people don't know who he is. As my research has documented, he was sort of lost in time as to what he did during his life and, especially, during the Civil War and after. James William Forsyth was born on August 8, 1834, in Maumee City, Ohio, south of Cleveland. He was the son of James Henry and Charlotte Templeton Jackson Forsyth. His mother's Jackson side were

Ms. Rebelle - (con't from page 7)

related to Andrew Jackson. He was one of eight children. His brother George was in the 100th OVI from Ohio and died as a POW at Libby Prison in Richmond. George was shot in the head and killed by a quard. He had been captured at Limestone Station, TN. That fact is even stated on his tombstone in Toledo, OH. His grandparents were from Detroit, MI, and his great-grandfather William Forsyth was from Blackwater, Ireland. William fought at the siege of Quebec under Gen. James Wolfe in 1759 in the French and Indian Wars.

Tony attended local schools in Ohio and was appointed to West Point in 1851 at age 16. He graduated 28th in his class as a 2nd lieutenant, attached to Co. D, 9th U.S. Infantry, in 1856. He and 10 of his classmates would achieve the rank of general, including: George Bayard,

Samuel Carroll, William H. Jackson, Fitz Hugh Lee, Lunsford Lomax, Hylan Lyon, James Major, Orlando Metcalfe Poe, William Price Sanders, and Francis Vinton. After graduation, he was sent to San Juan Island, WA, serving under Capt. George Pickett. He also served at Fort Bellingham in the Washington Territory, and his Gen. James William (Tony) 9th U.S. helped Pickett built the fort.



Forsythe

After making the rank of lieutenant in 1861, he was sent East to command Union forces in the Civil War. He was assigned to the 64th Ohio Infantry. In 1862, he transferred to the Army of the Potomac and was assigned as aide-de-camp to Gen. Joseph Mansfield. When Mansfield was killed at Antietam, Forsyth became provost marshall. In 1863, he was assigned to the western theatre again under Gen. Philip

Sheridan as adjutant at Chickamauga. He staved with Sheridan when transhe ferred to the Cavalry Corps served as his chief of staff. He was brevetted to lieutenant colonel at Cedar Creek, colonel at Five Forks, and brigadier general in the Shenandoah Valley Campaign



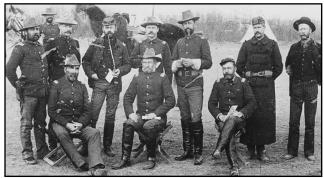
Sheridan and Forsythe (undated).

for gallant and meritorious services at the battles of Opequan, Fisher's Hill, and Middletown, VA. Forsyth was present at the surrender at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

After the Civil War ended, President promoted him Johnson brigadier general on January 13, 1866. Forsyth would continue to serve with Gen. Sheridan, along with Gens. Wesley Merritt, Thomas Devin and George Custer. would become well known as Indian fighters. In 1867, he was with Sheridan in Missouri as department secretary and He was appointed to the inspector. cavalrv fought the Comanche, and Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Kiowa Indians during 1868-69. In 1870, he was sent to Europe to observe the Franco-Prussian War. He was with the 1st U.S. Cavalry in 1878 during the Bannock War. In 1885, he was the commander of Fort Maginnis, Montana, where the troops observed the Crow, Cree and Gros Ventres Indians. In July 1886, he assumed command of the 7th U.S. Cavalry (Custer's command) at Fort Meade, South Dakota. At Fort Riley, he worked on organizing developing a system of instruction for light artillery and cavalry. He organized the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry while at Fort Riley.

Ms. Rebelle - (con't from page 8)

Now for the biggest "did you know" of the whole story – did you know that James William Forsyth was in command of the 7th Cavalry at Wounded Knee on December 29, 1890? Approximately 150-300 Lakota Sioux men, women, and children were killed. Twenty-five soldiers were killed and 39 were wounded. The 7th surrounded the Lakota, who were



The 7th Cavalry at Wounded Knee.

doing the Ghost Dance, led by Chief Big Foot in response to the death of Sitting Bull. Tensions were high and a shot was fired from an unknown source, killing a U.S. soldier. Fighting broke out and the brutal massacre occurred. Chief Big Foot was also killed in the melee. The soldiers were armed with Hotchkiss machine guns.



"Ghost Dance" that sparked the Wounded Knee massacre (artist's rendering).

Forsyth was also present the next day at the Drexel Mission Fight, also on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Gen. Nelson Miles investigated Forsyth's actions. Forsyth was cleared of wrongdoing by the Secretary of War, but very much resented Miles' accusations. Gen. Miles stated: "I have never heard of a more brutal, cold-blooded massacre than at Wounded

Knee." Even in 1920, Gen. Miles went to Washington, along with Sioux descendants, in an attempt to discredit Forsyth. He failed to achieve his goal. Wounded Knee was the only black mark on Forsyth's reputation in his life-long military career. He was much loved by his troops and fellow officers.

The Bismark Tribune, on April 3, 1891, stated in part: "Noted for a long line of meritorious services in the field, commander of the largest government post in the United States, colonel of the Seventh cavalry, made famous by Custer, and in command of the regulars at the battle of Wounded Knee, the most severe engagement with Indians in recent years, William Forsyth James has been prominent figure in army circles during the past few months. His being relieved of his command by General Miles while in the field after the battle of Wounded Knee,... for alleged cruelty in ordering his soldiers to fire on the women and children, was discussed the nation over. investigation of the war department was followed by his reinstatement and the finding that "the evidence shows that great care was taken by the officers and men to prevent unnecessary killing of Indian women and children, and that Colonel Forsyth's conduct was well worthy of commendation." He at once resumed his place in command of Fort Riley, Kansas...... Colonel Forsyth is a man of fine personal appearance; his soldierly bearing and snow-white hair make him a marked figure in any gathering. He is a conversationalist, aenial with inexhaustible fund of reminiscence and anecdote. He is an excellent disciplinarian, and his regiment shows it."

Forsyth was promoted to brigadier general in December 1894 by President Grover Cleveland and commanded the Department of California. He was then promoted to major general in May 1897 by President McKinley while still in California. He retired after his appoint-

(Con't on page 10)

Ms. Rebelle - (con't from page 9)

ment to major general and lived the rest of his life in Columbus, Ohio. He and his wife Lizzie had four children – Elizabeth (Bessy), Mary, Marion, and William, who fought in World War I.

The general died on October 24, 1906 at the age of 71 in Columbus, Ohio. He is buried in Section 56, Lot 55 in Green Lawn Cemetery in Columbus. The Cleveland, Ohio Plain Dealer's headline was "Gen. Forsyth is Called by Death." "James W. Forsyth, major general U.S.A., retired, died at his home in this city (Columbus) this evening. He was stricken with paralysis Monday night and never rallied. He had been in apparently good health up to the time he was stricken."



Forsythe's grave marker in Green Lawn Cemetery, Columbus, OH

Photo by Janet Greentree

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.

Book Corner – (con't from page 6)

begging reinforcements. A close review of Grant's war record may be needed to strengthen this view-point, but it works for me. Regardless, Halleck could not foretell the future and know how vital these two men would be in eventually winning the war.

Halleck reappointed Grant to command when he (Halleck) was recalled to Washington to be General-in-Chief. Had he not done so, Grant would likely have left the army in spring 1862, and been forgotten to history. We have previously asked the question: what would this country be like today if Grant had left the army in 1862?

Late in the war Halleck was again quietly manipulating people and events. He deliberately delayed orders and paperwork from Grant relieving General George H. Thomas before the Battle of Nashville in December 1864. It was like he understood the battle situation in Tennessee, and he moved on his own to prevent an obvious military blunder.

Halleck seemed never to take counsel of his own ambitions. This is what originally attracted me to him. He could have ushered Grant, Sherman and Thomas from the army to make himself more prominent; he could have demanded another field command to burnish his own reputation. But he did not. Perhaps he understood that he was most effective behind the scenes where real power often resides?

After the war. Halleck did not return to private life but stayed in the army where he introduced numerous progressive reforms that, like his war record, are largely unappreciated. Ambrose does not dwell on these achievements, but you will be amazed at how many still characterize our modern army.

He was not popular like McClellan nor a great leader of men like Sheridan. He was not handsome like McPherson, nor martyred like Jackson. But Henry Halleck could take a desk at the Pentagon today and fit right in. In fact, I hope there are 100 more just like him in our Army right now.

Until next time, keep reading.

NOTE: I mentioned Interlibrary Loan services in my last column. Interlibrary Loan connects member libraries all across the country and essentially makes your library card good nationwide. I was only able to find Chief of Staff through Interlibrary Loan. Without it, I would have been unable to indulge my curiosity about Henry Halleck. See with your local librarian about Interlibrary Loan and widen your search for those great books you want to read.

BRCWRT Occupies the High Ground at (The Winery at) Bull Run Fourth Annual Picnic a Resounding Victory

Warm September Day Provides Clear View of BBQ Repast by 'Bad-to-the-Bone' Reknowned Searcher Addresses the Troops—is Lauded for His Intrepidity



Many members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table fell into parade rest to raise a grand "Huzzahl" to the indefatigable picnic planners and to the Winery at Bull Run, which provided the venue for the grand time that was had by all.

Above photo by Mario Lucero - all photos by Janet Greentree



Charlie Balch, left, guarded the gates and only let pass those who would be branded as eating either pulled pork or beef, according to the general order of the day. Gwen Wyttenbach is allowed to take her position on the skirmish line, in front of the cole slaw.



L to R: Drew Pallo, Norma Cunningham, Ed Wenzel, and Janet Buck anticipate joining in formation of the BBQ chow line, which cheers the day of all regulars who have been stockpiling their hardtack to throw at the enemy.



Montgomery Meigs has nothing on Jim Lewis, organizer of the picnic, who massed the troops for a feast that far eclipsed the comradery that might have been enjoyed at any ol' Rebel shad bake.



Days in camp are less lonely when you can bring Mom along to entertain the troops - Julie Holtzer provides accompaniment to son Ben, whose plaintive tune reminded us that we all owe our Moms a dinner.



Servers - L to R: Drew Pallo, Stephanie Vale, Dough Horhota, Brian McEnany, Mark Whitenton, and Blake Myers made sure that the canteen line moved smoothly and that all who foraged for BBQ went back to their bunks satisfied.

(con't on page 12)

Picnic - (con't from page 11)



'Noshing' on the old campground were Civil War mates (L to R) Nancy Anwyll, Janet Greentree, Nadine Mironchuk, and Gwen Wyttenbach. As taking the vineyard by aiming at the 'copse or tree' behind them seemed to require an effort, the foursome instead relaxed, some with a glass of wine, and caught up on the latest scuttlebutt.



L to R: Mary Concannon, Patrick McGinty, Saundra Cox, Lyle Loveall, and Doug Cox, a group that ranks us all, appreciated the chance to come up from the trenches of each hectic day to relax in the sun and take in the scenery of the lush vineyards and happening crowd at The Winery at Bull Run.



L to R: Janet & Alan Rems, and Winnifred & Carl Smith shared the fellowship of comrades, as well as the BBQ sauce, displaying unit cohesion and answering the call of duty.



Sandy & Eric Fowler enjoyed the day, the friends and the food at the BRCWRT Picnic, proving that the Daughter of the Regiment and her dashing cavalier are never too busy sparking to be present and accounted for at each great event the Round Table offers its legions.



Kevin Ambrose reports on his discovery of the nearby encampment location of a Texas regiment, accomplished despite difficult terrain and it being cleverly camouflaged by contemporary domiciles. His talent at reconnoitering the landscape as a member of the Northern Virginia Relic Hunters Association has led him to incredible finds, including the interment site of six Union soldiers in Centreville, VA.,



L to R: Blake Myers, Mark Whitenton, Debbie Whitenton, Scott Adkins, and Wendy Adkins compare hats, making sure that they didn't take it on the chin from the great sunshine that was ripening the grapes in the field.



L to R: Dr. Charles Sneiderman, David Holland and Clatie Cunningham hold the left flank of the picnic table, anchoring the dining fixture in the advent of a full-bore assault by benchmates on the right, who were up loading their plates with vittles in an attempt to tilt the course of the meal.

Picnic – (con't from page 12)



Newlyweds Andrew & Jennifer Beverage enjoyed the brief furlough Andy earned during his famous cavalry ride around the gridlock on 66. His amazing feat is celebrated in the song "Centreville Regional Library is a Long Road to Travel."



L to R: Lauren Kirby, Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Mike Kirby were tipped off to the answers to the trivia contest when they found them written on a paper that was wrapped around three cigars, laying on the roadway leading to the winery.



Dennis Lyddane (left) and Andrejs Lubkans on leave from the Whiskers Brigade to attend the Picnic.





Lyle Loveall & Nadine Mironchuk, intrepid travelers who covered a combined 1200 miles to converge on Manassas - Lyle from South Carolina, and Nadine from Boston. Preston Brooks and Charles Sumner never came up in conversation, to the relief of the Picnic-goers.



Mom Julie Holtzer (right) beams at son Brian, a young man who would make any parent proud!



L to R: Norrine Cup-Eckstein, Fred Eckstein, Doug Horhota, John Myers, and Debbie Whitenton discuss the best strategy to launch an assault on the cake table, ably defended by Cake Ladies Saundra Cox, Nancy Anwyll and Gwen Wyttenbach (below, L to R).





L to R: new recruits Bill & Rae-Ann Voelkner, Mark Magnussen, Ed & Pam Fruit, Charles Sneiderman, Jennifer Beverage, Mary Concannon, Mario Lucero, Claire Nykolyszyn, Gabriele van Lingen, and Barbara Baker have been mustered in to the BRCWRT for the duration - no bounty-jumpers here!

Rippon Lodge Historic Site 15520 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192 (703) 499-9812

Scary B-Movie Night

October 5 | 7-11pm | \$5 suggested donation | Ages 6+

Come for a Double Feature of spooky fun at Rippon Lodge! Families will enjoy the 70th anniversary showing of "Legend of Sleepy Hollow", then adults may view the 50th anniversary of, "House on Haunted Hill" (1969) with legendary actor Vincent Price. Two anniversaries of horror in one night. Bring blankets, chairs, and wear warm clothes as you sit on the lawn, in the dark, watching this great horror film. Popcorn and beverages available for purchase. Event canceled in case of rain.

Murder At Rippon Lodge

October 12 | 6-7pm | \$15 | Ages 18+

Do you have the detective skills to solve this mystery? Then come to Rippon Lodge and solve a 20th century crime! During a World War II evening gathering at Wade Ellis', a horrible crime is committed. One of his guests is found dead. Who's behind the sinister plot? Is there a saboteur amongst the guests; a double agent in disguise? Is anyone else in danger? For one night only, discover clues and solve the mystery of who committed the murder!

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park Corner of Iron Brigade Unit Avenue and Tenth Alabama

Way, Bristow, VA 20136 (703) 366-3049

Battle Of Bristoe Station Anniversary Weekend Tours October 12–13 | 11am–4pm| FREE EVENT| All Ages

Join Battlefield Park staff for the 156th Anniversary of the Battle of Bristoe Station. Tour a Civil War encampment, watch artillery firing demonstrations, and tour the site of the third and final battle that took place in Prince William County. Park historians will lead tours of a section of the battlefield never open to the public before!

Battle Of Bristoe Station Anniversary Luminary October 12 | 7–9pm | **FREE EVENT** | All Ages

Visit the battlefield to see nearly 1,000 luminary candles for every soldier who died at Bristoe Station. Living history vignettes will be located across the battlefield and guided tours will lead visitors to meet the men and women who made history here.

Fall 1863 Campaign Bus Tour: Bristoe Station to Mine Run October 19 | 8:30am–5pm | \$70 | Ages 10+

During Oct-Nov 1863, the Union and Confederate armies fought a hard long campaign across central Virginia from Orange to Manassas. Battles such as Bristoe Station, Buckland, Rappahannock Station and Mine Run solidified Union control of most of northern and central Virginia. Join historians and authors Dr. Chris Mackowski, Michael Block and Rob Orrison as we tour these sites and learn about how the chess match between Robert E. Lee and George Meade led to the end of the Civil War. Transportation and lunch is included.

The grounds of these sites are open daily from dawn to dusk and are open for tours
Thursday–Monday 11am–4pm.

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre

12229 Bristow Road, Bristow, VA 20136 (703) 365-7895

Campfire Ghost Stories

October 18 | 7-8pm | \$5, children 2 and under free

Join us for an exciting and eerie evening around the campfire to hear some of the ghost stories associated with the historic site.

Spirits Of Brentsville

October 19 | 7-10pm | \$10 | Ages 10+

Brentsville has a diverse and dramatic history as it served as the county seat for nearly 100 years. During this time, many strange and scary events have happened here, and many say that ghosts of long dead men and women still haunt the area. Come experience a spirited night as you explore the grounds and buildings where you may encounter the spirits of the past and hear their tales of sadness and triumph. Guided tours on the half hour. Not recommended for children under 10. Reservations strongly recommended.

Ben Lomond Historic Site

10321 Sudley Manor Drive, Manassas, VA 20109 (703) 367-7872

Fireside Ghost Stories

October 4 | 7–8pm | \$5 | Ages 13+

Ben Lomond has a diverse and grim history from being a Civil War hospital to the home of countless slaves. Over the years, many local residents claimed to have seen ghosts and other spooky happenings at the site, claiming the site as haunted. Join us for an exciting and eerie evening around the campfire to hear some of the ghost stories associated with the historic site.

Hospital Horrors At Ben Lomond

October 26 | 7-9:40pm | \$10 | Ages 13+

Ben Lomond has a grim history as serving as a Confederate Field Hospital after the Battle of First Manassas. Come experience a unique opportunity to tour the house and grounds in the recreated hospital and hear the stories of soldiers, doctors, and loved ones who were forever changed during the Civil War. Guided tours every twenty minutes. Advanced reservations strongly recommended.

Old Manassas Courthouse

9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110 (703) 792-4754

After Gettysburg: Meade And Lee At Bristoe Station Book Talk With Jeffrey Hunt

October 17 | 7-8pm | Free Event | Ages 10+

Join historian and author Jeffrey Hunt as he explains the complexities of command during the much over looked Fall 1863 campaign in Virginia between Union General George G. Meade and Confederate General Robert E. Lee. Copies of his new book, Meade and Lee at Bristoe Station: The Problems of Command and Strategy after Gettysburg, from Brandy Station to the Buckland Races, August 1 to October 31, 1863, will be available for sale.

The marina boat dock at Leesylvania State Park:

2001 Daniel K. Ludwig Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22191 (703) 792-4754

Potomac Blockade Boat Tour 2019

October 19 | 10am-1pm | \$50 | Ages 8+

Cruise along the Potomac River shoreline on the 50' pontoon vessel Miss Rivershore and view sites that were critical to the Confederate forces' successful blockade of Washington D.C. from September 1861 through early March 1862. The tour will motor past the preserved batteries at Freestone Point and Possum Nose, as well as Evansport and Shipping Point. Tour includes lunch and a 1.5 mile hike to Freestone Point.

Unprecedented Discovery at Manassas National Battlefield Park

by Brian McEnany and Blake Myers

MNBP Superintendent Brandon Bies presented an informative lecture on August 11 to 76 members and visitors to the Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBP). Originally scheduled for January on one of the Round Table's monthly meetings, he was unable to come due to the Government shutdown. His lecture at the Visitor's Center provided the replacement lecture for the Round Table.

As MNBP superintendent, Beis manages the historic meadows and woodlands of the 5,000-acre park which draws more than 500,000 visitors annually. Before taking the helm at Manassas in March 2017, Bies served as the legislative coordinator for the National Capital Region of the NPS. He began his NPS work in 2001 as an archeologist at Monocacy National Battlefield, followed by assignments as the cultural resources Washington Memorial specialist for George Parkway, the site manager of Great Falls Park and the site manager for Arlington House (Custis-Lee While serving in the NPS National Mansion). Office of Legislative Region Congressional Affairs, Bies also served as the regional project manager for the restoration of Arlington House, Robert E. Lee's historic home, made possible by a \$12.35 million donation from philanthropist David M. Rubenstein. Bies holds a master's degree in applied anthropology bachelor's degrees in American history and anthropology.

Bies' presentation covered a MNBP project begun in 2014 when the National Park Service conducted an archaeological survey prior to installing a replacement utility line at MNBP. No significant finds were identified during the initial survey; however, during construction of the trench for the utility line, the archaeologist monitoring the project observed bone fragments in the soil excavated by the backhoe. The bone fragments, initially thought to be from animal bones, were analyzed by the NPS laboratory and determined to be from human bones. Additional analysis by the forensics anthropology lab at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History confirmed the bones were human and revealed that the end of one bone had been sawed off an indication of amputation.

Additional archaeological assessment and excavation were conducted in October 2015. Initially

begun as a five-day project by an archaeology firm contracted by NPS to locate the origin of the bone fragments discovered in 2014, it evolved into an archaeological excavation. On day four of the project additional bones were discovered in a shallow pit, and because the five-day contract project was nearing its end, Bies was tapped by NPS to become part of the investigative team. Based on their findings, NPS contacted the Smithsonian's forensics anthropologists and within a short period of time, a full scale archeological excavation was underway with Bies a member of the archeological team. The resultant excavation uncovered 11 amputated limbs and two, nearly complete, sets of skeletal remains. Buried just ten inches below the surface of the ground, the team had discovered a battlefield hospital surgeon's pit. This was the first time in history that a surgeon's pit at a Civil War battlefield had been discovered, much less professionally excavated and studied. This unprecedented discovery was also unique because of the comingling of human remains and amputated limbs – a practice that was not the usual.

Bies spent some time explaining the process of how some of the fragmented skeletal bones and amputated limb bones were reconstructed, greatly aiding in the analysis of what killed the two soldiers and how the amputations were done. A .577 caliber Enfield bullet was discovered lodged in the upper thigh bone (femur) of one of the skeletal remains, and the second set of remains included a smashed shoulder joint and three lead buckshot from a buck and ball cartridge. In both cases, the attending field surgeon likely determined that the wounds were too severe to be operated on successfully, and both soldiers died from these mortal wounds. The presence of the Enfield bullet and the location of the surgeon's pit indicated that this unprecedented discovery was likely associated with the Battle of 2nd Manassas.

Forensic analysis of the skeletal remains indicated that one soldier was in his early thirties and one was in his mid-twenties. Isotope analysis of the bones pointed to northern New York or upper Pennsylvania as the area from which these two soldiers originated. No firm identification could be made based on forensic analysis, but comparisons to records, letters and official reports, narrowed the list

BRCWRT Recruits New Members at Recent Events

by Mark Whitenton

During late August and Labor Day Weekend, BRCWRT members attended two events in order to educate people on the goals of BRCWRT and encourage them to join our great organization.

Kettle Run: New BRCWRT member Kevin Pawlak, Prince William County Site Manager for Ben Lomond and Bristoe Battlefield Park, invited the BRCWRT to have a recruitment table and sell books at the Kettle Run Anniversary event at the Bristoe Battlefield Park held on August 24 and 25. Although spectator traffic was relatively light those two days, several Round Table members "manned" the BRCWRT table, recruited ten new members, and sold \$46 in used books. See photo (left, below) of the BRCWRT members who attended this event, including those who were serving as volunteers for the park. Not included in the photo is Sam Laudenslager, who helped recruit members, and Tom McGinlay who took the photo. Kevin Pawlak is in the center, front row.



St. Mary of Sorrows Church Annual Picnic: On Labor Day, September 2, BRCWRT was invited to have a booth to advertise the Round Table and seek new members at this well-attended event. Again using the

Round Table display board (originally designed by Jim Lewis and updated by Debbie Whitenton) and the new banner (initiated by Stephanie Vale and designed by Drew Pallo), the team was able to recruit seven more new members. See photo below of the key recruiters at this event. (Photo provided by visitor). Not pictured are Ed Wenzel and Jon Vrana.



From I.to r.: Debbie Whitenton, Mark Whitenton, Drew Pallo, John Myers, and Blake Myers,

Results: Thanks to the participation of many Round Table members during these two weeks, including the value added by Blake Myers' initiative in putting on the Battle of Ox Hill Commemoration on September 1 (see article on page 17), the combined BRCWRT recruitment efforts during the two modest events described here, when added to the five new members signed up at Ox Hill, totaled 22 new members in two weeks. Way to go, recruiters!

MNBP Find - (con't from page 15)

to just two names for the older soldier. The surgeon's precise cuts on the leg bones were examined and the initial assessment is that the amputated limbs could be the results of amputations performed by Captain Benjamin Howard who was present during that battle.

Based on its findings, the National Park Service notified the Department of the Army in 2017 of its discovery, and negotiations began concerning the disposition of the skeletal remains. Based on the Army's desires and in the Secretary of the Army's role as the legally recognized next of kin for unidentified soldiers' remains, the skeletal remains were formally transferred to the Department of the Army on June 19, 2018. Subsequently, as part of the

dedication ceremony for the Millennium Expansion of Arlington National Cemetery on September 6, 2018, the soldier's remains were reinterred in section 81 - the first ground interments in the new section. Their remains were reinterred in wooden coffins, constructed as they would have been during the Civil War,—and from wood from a downed oak tree from Manassas National Battlefield Park, and laid under a grave marker for 'Two Unknown U.S. Soldiers'.

Brandon's hour-long lecture was most interesting and instructive in how the forensic sciences contributed to a better understanding of how the two deaths occurred and how field hospital surgeries were conducted during the Civil War.

Battle of Ox Hill Commemoration 2019

by Mark Whitenton

After being quietly skipped last year, the annual commemoration ceremony for the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly) was revived on the afternoon of September 1, 2019 at Ox Hill Battlefield Park. BRCWRT's Blake Myers deserves credit for working with representatives from the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH Father Corby Division President Mark Roddy) and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum (Museum Vice President Mario Lucero) to orchestrate a first-class ceremony.

Following Blake's call to order and opening remarks describing the events surrounding the battle, Greg Wilson, newly appointed to the Fairfax County History Commission, spoke of the importance of the commemoration and reminded all of the importance of preserving, understanding and learning from our history.



Commemoration Program Sponsors and Participants (L. to R): Mark Whitenton (BRCWRT), Mario Lucero (Fairfax Station Railroad Museum), Ed Wenzel (BRCWRT, Kearny-Stevens Trustee), Greg Wilson (Fairfax County History Commission), Mark Roddy (Ancient Order of Hibernians), and Blake Myers (BRCWRT).

Photo by Janet Greentree.

Blake then spoke of John and Mary (Reid) Ballard, their deeding of the 50' x 100' lot for memorials to fallen soldiers of the battle, and the monuments for Union Generals Philip Kearny and Isaac Stevens. A wreath was

then laid at the monuments by Dawn Roddy and Mary Concannon (Ladies of the AOH) and Cub Scout Kevin Murray, followed by BRCWRT's Jon Vrana playing of "Ashokan Farewell."

The keynote address was given by BRCWRT's Ed Wenzel, a Kearny-Stevens Trustee, and a driving force in preserving, developing and interpreting the 4.9 acre Ox Hill Battlefield Park (all that remains of the 500+ acre battlefield). Ed provided his expert account of the battle as it unfolded, relating the actions to the current terrain and surroundings, and highlighting significant actions and the historical impact of the battle.

Closing Remarks by Blake Myers and Mark Roddy reminded everyone that the Park's interpretive plan should be completed as originally planned (a reference to the need to install the two, completed but not yet installed, monuments to the soldiers who fought in the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly)) and the importance of remembering this battle as a horrific event that occurred because we, as a Nation, were not able to peacefully resolve our differences.

Without Blake's initiative, there would not have been public recognition of the battle again this year. The Battle of Ox hill (Chantilly) is the only major Civil War battle fought in Fairfax County. Significantly, all of the key people on the program are BRCWRT members, including Mark Roddy and Mario Lucero who joined the Round Table that same weekend. As you can see from the photograph below (provided by Janet Greentree), Round Table members showed up in force for the Commemoration.



The Bull Run Civil War Round Table's Newest Recruits! Here's a grateful "Huzzah!" for these new members of the BRCWRT:

- **♦** Darrell Mounts
- ♦ Patrick Sullivan
- **♦** Joe Imler
- Mario Lucero
- **♦** Mike Lukacs

- ♦ Michael Lukacs
- **♦** Mary Concannon
- **♦** Lucio Dandrea
- **♦** Edvige Dandrea
- ♦ Mark Reddy

- Dawn Reddy
- **♦** Mark Neuman
- Mark Magnussen
- **♦** Bryan Scrafford



Ox Hill Battlefield Park

Fairfax County's strategic location in Northern Virginia and the transportation arteries (Leesville Turnpike, Little River Turnpike, Warrenton Turnpike, Telegraph Road, Orange and Alexandria Railroad, Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad and Manassas Junction) that ran through it ensured that the ground in and around the County would be hotly contested for during the Civil War. The land was indeed contested for, and throughout the war it bore witness to almost continuous military operations, including largeand small-scale numerous troop movements, sustained occupations by both Union and Confederate forces, military logistics depots, skirmishes (both large and small), cavalry operations and raids, and partisan ranger actions. However, there was only one major Civil War battle fought in Fairfax County - - the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly), fought on the late afternoon of September 1, 1862.



Ox Hill Battlefield Park, located at the intersection of West Ox Road and Monument Drive in Fairfax County.

All photos courtesy of Blake Myers

Many BRCWRT members are familiar with the history of Ox Hill Battlefield Park. In a last-ditch preservation effort begun in 1986, led by the Chantilly Battlefield Association (CBA) and joined by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table in 1993, the 4.9 acres of land that now constitutes the Park was saved from development. The preservation fight for Ox Hill brought to light the significant threat

posed to Civil War battlefields across the United States, and was the impetus for the battlefield preservation programs that we know today. Though a small section of the Ox Hill core battlefield was eventually saved, the vast majority of the more than 500-acre battlefield was lost to commercial and residential development – an outcome that directly led to the founding in 1987 of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS), and subsequently the Civil War Preservation Trust (later renamed the Civil War Trust, and today known as the American Battlefield Trust).

Individuals well known to many readers of this newsletter played key and essential roles in the preservation of the land for this park, and in the Park's planning, development and interpretation.

1986 - Ed Wenzel, Brain Pohanka and Bud Hall form the CBA and led the fight to preserve the land for the Park.

1993 - BRCWRT, led by John McAnaw, join the fray and advocate for the acquisition of Parcel 5, the final piece of land to be acquired for the Park.

1994 - Bob Hickey of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the BRCWRT begins annual Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony at the Kearny and Stevens monuments.

2004 - John McAnaw joins the Park Authority Citizen Task Force (members include Ed Wenzel, Jim Burgess, Joe Balicki and Wally Owen), an advisory group to FCPA in the planning, development and interpretation of the Park.

2005 - John McAnaw and Charlie Balch are instrumental in lobbying the Board of Supervisors and the FCPA to allocate funding critical for park development and interpretation.

After many years of advocacy, discussions, media coverage, meetings, planning, disagreements, fund raising, and authorizations and approvals, groundbreaking began on May 10, 2008 and on September 1, 2008 Ox Hill Battlefield Park was formally dedicated and opened. This Park, owned by Fairfax County and managed by the Fairfax County Park Authority, tells the

Ox Hill - (con't from page 18)

background, history and personal stories of the only major Civil War battle fought in Fairfax County. While we are fortunate that this land was saved and preserved, the 4.9-acre park is all that remains of the more than 500-acre area over which the battle was fought.



Contemporary view of Ox Hill Battlefield Park.

Ox Hill Battlefield Park was designed to restore and replicate portions of the grassy field (pasture) and cornfield, including historically sited rail fences, of the Reid Farm - the land on which most of the battle was fought.



Historically sited rail fence separating the cornfield (left of fence) from the pasture (right of fence).

Among the Park's interpretive features is a covered kiosk with seven large interpretive panels. These panels provide an orientation to the park, an overview of the battle, a description of the area where the battle was fought, information on the treatment of soldiers wounded in the battle, biographical sketches of the senior commanders who fought the battle, and a map indicating the locations of other Civil War sites in Fairfax County.



Ox Hill Battlefield Park kiosk located at vehicle entrance on West Ox Road.

From the kiosk, a quarter-mile interpretive trail loops through the park and includes nine historically oriented interpretive markers that provide additional information on the battle, highlight specific actions and events, including the deaths of Union Generals Phillip Kearny and Isaac Stevens, and provide information on the battle's aftermath. The Park includes the 50' x 100' lot deeded in 1915 by Confederate veteran John and Mary (Reid) Ballard for the placement of monuments or markers to any Confederate or Federal soldier who fell in the battle. Within this lot are the monuments for General Kearny and General Stevens - dedicated on October 2, 1915 in a formal ceremony that was attended by local dignitaries and Fairfax residents, Union and Confederate veterans, and the children and grandchildren of the two generals.

As part of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, 2011 - 2015, a 150th Anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Ox Hill was conducted on September 1, 2012. This commemoration was well planned

(con't on page 20)

Ox Hill - (con't from page 19)



Major General Philip Kearny and Brigadier General Isaac Stevens Monuments, dedicated on October 2, 1915.

and publicized, and was very successful. Since components that event. of the Park's infrastructure (fence rails, kiosk, interpretive markers) have deteriorated, the Park's perimeter and rail fence lines have become overgrown with trees, brush and undergrowth, and fallen trees and debris have not been removed. Beyond mowing the grass and maintaining the interpretive trail, little has been done to effectively maintain and promote the park as a battlefield park and historical heritage destination for County residents and tourists, alike.



Deteriorating rail fencing and overgrown vegetation.



Deteriorated rail fencing.

The Park's Master Plan recognizes that while Generals Kearny and Stevens have long been memorialized, the common soldiers who fought and who fell during the Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly) have not been so recognized. The Master Plan reserves two historically oriented sites for monuments commemorating the soldiers who fought and sacrificed on this ground --- a Union "Chantilly" monument and a Confederate "Ox Hill" monument. The monuments, designed in 2015 and produced in 2017, were scheduled for installation and a September 9, 2017 dedication ceremony. Each monuments is inscribed with "In Memory Of The Union (Confederate) Soldiers Who Fought On This Field September 1, 1862", the battle's name "Chantilly" ("Ox Hill"), the respective military units that fought on the battlefield, and a stanza from the poem, The Blue and the Gray, a poem of mourning and reconciliation written by Francis Miles Finch and published in 1867.

In response to the May and July 2017 protests concerning the statues of Confederate Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson in Charlottesville, Virginia, the Fairfax County Park Authority postponed the monuments' installation and dedication. Subsequently, following the August 2017 confrontation and violence in

Ox Hill - (con't from page 20)

Ox Hill Battlefield Park & Interpretive Trail his small park is the last remnant of Fairfax County's only major Civil War battlefield. The Battle of Ox Hill, also known as the "Battle of Chantilly," lasted but a few hours on the afternoon of September 1, 1862. Here, some 6,000 Union troops encountered and attacked about 17,000 Confederates of General Stonewall Jackson. It was a beastly, comfortless conflict" fought during a ferocious thunderstorm. As darkness fell and the fighting ceased, hundreds of soldiers lay dead and more than a thousand were wounded or missing. Two of the most promising generals in the Union army, Isaac Stevens and Philip Kearny, were among the slain. The bloody stalemate frustrated the Confederate attempt to intercept and destroy General John Pope's Union army as it retreated toward Washington following the Battle of Second Manassas Interpretive Trail Follow the loop trail through this surviving portion of the battlefield. Visit the wayside markers labeled 1-9 and learn how the battle progressed and its aftermath. Read soldiers' descriptions of the action, discover how generals Stevens and Kearny fell, view the monuments and learn the fate of the wounded.

Interpretive trail kiosk panel indicating sites for the Ox Hill and Chantilly monuments.

Charlottesville, the Park Authority indefinitely suspended the installation and dedication of the Ox Hill Battlefield monuments. Park Authority discussions through 2018, culminated in a Park Authority Board vote (with one abstention) during their January 23, 2019 meeting to not install the monuments in their current form...and to establish a subcommittee to work on the disposition of the monuments. In taking this action, the Board noted that it was not changing the Master Plan, but deemed the monuments "in their current form" to be inappropriate. Board member discussion and comments leading up to the vote to not install the monuments included:

"I do not see this as changing the Master Plan. The monuments, as they are now, are not appropriate. We have talked about the inscriptions and the wording as not being appropriate, but have not discussed alternative inscriptions or wording. The subcommittee, which would not merely be a couple of Board members but would be a task force, would look at

alternative inscription/wording."

"The issue is the inscriptions and wording - need to determine what to change and how."

"No signage explaining the monuments is unacceptable."

Similar comments were made during discussions at previous Board and Committee of the Whole meetings, but no Board member ever identified any specific element(s) of the monuments' wording or inscriptions they deemed to be inappropriate.

BRCWRT is currently involved in four complementary Ox Hill Battlefield Park initiatives; 1) installation of the Ox Hill and Chantilly monuments, 2) development of a Battle of Ox Hill web-based Battle App, 3) enhanced park maintenance and infrastructure sustainment; and 4) an annual commemoration of the Battle of Ox Hill.

Ox Hill and Chantilly Monuments:

BRCWRT has been a consistent and proactive advocate for the installation of the Ox Hill Battlefield monuments - - fulfilling the interpretive concept described in the Master Plan that was approved by the Park Authority Board in January 2005. These monuments, historically oriented along the interpretive trail, together with the Kearny and Stevens monuments ensure a fully interpreted battlefield park and enhance Ox Hill Battlefield Park as a premier Fairfax County destination for all who are interested in Civil War history.

Upon the August 2017 announcement that the installation of the monuments was indefinitely suspended, BRCWRT began a sustained engagement with FCPA to achieve the monuments' installation as called for in the Mater Plan. In our initial meeting on August 29, 2017 with the FCPA Executive Director and principle staff members we were informed that FCPA's intent was to fully implement the plan as envisioned in the Master Plan, and that there was no advocacy within FCPA to not install the monuments.

Ox Hill - (con't from page 21)

We agreed to meet again in the Spring of 2018 to review and assess potential timing for installing the monuments. This next meeting never happened, nor did other promised meetings in June, July or August of 2018. In September 2018. we were informed that the monuments' installation was scheduled for discussion by the Park Authority Board at its October 10, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Beginning with this meeting, BRCWRT representatives Ed Wenzel (also a Kearny-Stevens Trustee) and Blake Myers attended and spoke at each Park Authority Board meeting during which the Ox Hill Battlefield Park scheduled monuments was for discussion (December 12, 2018 [two meetings]; January 3, 2019; January 9, 2019 and January 23, 2019). In addition and pursuant to a BRCWRT request, in December 2018 the Fairfax County History Commission sent a letter to the Park Authority Board supporting the installation of the Ox Hill and Chantilly monuments as envisioned in the Master Plan.

Early in our engagement with FCPA we were struck by the lack of knowledge of Park Authority Board members and FCPA staff members concerning the Park, its development and the functional purpose of the monuments. On September 12, 2018 BRCWRT submitted to the FCPA Executive Director a letter with three enclosures summarizing the history of the battle, the development timeline for the park, and the monuments purpose and approved design. In this letter we offered to meet with Board members and to provide an on-site Park orientation for Board members and FCPA staff - - neither of these offers were accepted or acted on.

Since the Park Authority Board's January 23, 2019 decision to not install the monuments in their current form, we have remained engaged with FCPA advocating establishment of the promised subcommittee to work on the disposition of the monuments. In our latest (July 30, 2019) letter to the Park Authority Board Chair, BRCWRT respectfully 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 resolve the specific wording 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 BRCWRT will be represented on the subcommittee, as of August 29, 2019 we have received no response to our request, and no actions that we are aware of have been taken on this issue. Stay tuned for future developments.

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. 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. We need donors to make this battle app a reality – if you are interested in contributing to this campaign, please see or contact BRCWRT Treasurer, Joe Young (brcwrttreasurer@gmail.com), or you may send your donation check to BRCWRT (Attn: Joe

Ox Hill - (con't from page 22)

Young), P.O. Box 2147 Centreville, VA 20120.

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 initiative four (below), inventory compiling an infrastructure maintenance and/or repair needs grounds maintenance needs. with and recommendations for a more proactive maintenance and sustainment program for the Park. completed. this inventory. with Once recommendations, will be provided to the FCPA. Our submission will include a request for feedback from FCPA on how they intend to address the items cited and ensure the Park's viability as a place of reflection and learning, as well as a

welcoming green space park. Stay tuned for future developments.

Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly) Annual Commemoration:

BRCWRT is working with the Ancient Order of Hibernians (Father William Corby Division) and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum to initiate 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. commemoration conducted on September 1, 2019, 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 (see related article on page 17). Discussions are ongoing exploring 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. More information to follow on this initiative, so stay tuned.

Hagerstown Civil War Round Table Hosting Tour of South Mountain Battlefield

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



Join Us for Some Fairfax History! Aug – December 2019 PROGRAMS, TOURS, and EXHIBITIONS



Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center

3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax VA 22030 703-591-0560 Open: Tues.-Sat.: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

www.fairfaxva.gov/visitors Guided house and grounds tour at 1p.m.



All programs begin at 2 p.m. and are FREE (unless noted)

October 26-- Historic Blenheim

"The Nameless and Faceless of the Civil War." Author Lisa Samia will read from her collection of poems and essays on the historical representations of Civil War events and everyday soldiers through the narrative of poetry. Book sales and signing will be offered after the presentation.

November 2, 9:30a.m.-3:30 p.m. Historic Blenheim, \$15; optional lunch \$10

"Beneath the Paint: Civil War Graffiti Symposium" --Speakers and topics include: Kim O'Connell, the history of Civil War Graffiti; Conservator Chris Mills, the technical side of graffiti conservation; and Conservator Kirsten Travers Moffitt, graffiti investigation and conservation at Historic Blenheim. Sponsored by the Northern Virginia Civil War Graffiti Trail. Reservations required: www.https://apm.activecommunities.com/fairfaxcityrecdept/Home/

Sunday, December 8, 12 – 4 p.m. – Historic Blenheim

"Christmas in Camp and Making Do at Home"

Travel back in time to learn how Civil War soldiers and the folks back home celebrated Christmas. Talk to Civil War listing history groups in their winter camp; practice drilling; join in a cease-fire gift exchange; create handmade Victorian ornaments; write a letter to soldiers; sew a "housewife"; pack a food crate for soldiers away from home and tour the Historic Blenheim House.

Special Exhibitions

"Jonathan Letterman" – November 1 – December 31, 2019



AFTERNOON TEA AT BELLE GROVE

Enjoy the taste of the finer things surrounded by over 200 years of American History. The timeless ritual of Afternoon Tea served at Belle Grove Plantation offers antique china, elegant surroundings and delicious selections of scones, tea sandwiches and a sumptuous display of sweets.

Enjoy our loose-leaf tea selections including the traditional Earl Grey, Chamomile and Jasmine, as well as other varieties. Treat someone special, a group of dear friends or just enjoy a quiet setting for one to this enduring tradition in our elegant Dolley's Tea Room, Formal Dining Room or Parlor.

Daily 1pm or 2:30pm – Reservations are One Hour Tea Service. Reservations are required 48 hours in advance. We are sorry, but we are not able to take walk-ins for Afternoon Tea.

9221 Belle Grove Drive, King George, VA 22485 - 540-621-7340 (Office)









Fairfax County's Fifteenth Annual History Conference











50 Golden Years of Historic Preservation

in Fairfax County: 1969 - 2019

And 400 Years of African American History in Virginia













Saturday - November 9, 2019; 8:30am - 3:30pm

Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, Fairfax, Virginia

Robert Stanton, Director, National Park Service (Retired), Judge Rohumalin Quander (Retired)

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

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



BENEATH THE PAINT:



Civil War Graffiti Symposium





Saturday, November 2 / 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center

3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, Virginia 22030 703.591.6728 / www.fairfaxva.gov



Learn about the history and preservation of Civil War graffiti during the inaugural Northern Virginia Civil War Graffiti Trail Symposium. Discover the background of Civil War graffiti, learn the technical side from two experts who have uncovered and restored graffiti at our sites, and learn about the use of multispectral imaging as an investigative tool.

Tours of the Historic Blenheim site, gallery, and house will follow after the talks. Writer and teacher Kim O'Connell will explore the history of Civil War Graffiti; Architectural Conservator Chris Mills will discuss the technical side of graffiti conservation; and Conservator and Paint Analyst Kirsten Travers Moffitt will discuss her graffiti conservation work at Historic Blenheim. Limited tickets are available.

Tickets are only \$15; an optional boxed lunch is \$10

Buy tickets online at:

https://apm.activecommunities.com/fairfaxcityrecdept/Home/ (Under Activities, search Civil War)

By Mail: (Checks should be made payable to City of Fairfax)

Graffiti Symposium

c/o 10209 Main Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Please specify meat or vegetarian for optional lunch and please include email for confirmation





BENEATH THE PAINT: Civil War Graffiti Symposium



SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 2, 2019

9:30 a.m 10:00 a.m.	Registration and Coffee
10:00 a.m 10:30 a.m.	Welcome and Site Introductions
10:30 a.m 11:30 a.m.	Kim O'Connell, History of Civil War Graffiti
11:30 a.m 11:45 a.m.	Break
11:45 a.m 12:45 p.m.	Chris Mills, The Technical Side of Graffiti Recovery
	and Conservation
12:45 p.m 1:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m 1:45 p.m.	Kirsten Travers Moffitt, Uncovering Blenheim's Graffiti
1:45 p.m 2:00 p.m.	Andrea Loewenwarter, Historic Blenheim
	Multispectral Imaging Discoveries
2:00 pm- 3:30 pm	Tours of Blenheim House, Gallery and Site

SPEAKERS

Kim O'Connell— The author of a Civil War Graffiti article in the popular New York Times Disunion series, her work also appears in numerous national and regional publications on topics ranging from American history to modern architecture to conservation and sustainability to parenting. In September 2015, she was the first-ever writer to serve as the artist in residence at Shenandoah National Park. Kim has written 15 nonfiction reference books for young people on science and history topics, with some titles earning recognition from the Children's Book Council and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She also teaches in the Johns Hopkins University Masters in Science Writing program. As part of her duties, she recently co-taught a writing residency for science writers in and around Acadia National Park, Maine.

Chris Mills—Chris has over 20 years of experience working with historic interior finishes and their substrates. He has a fine arts background and extensive experience with the management and execution of large scale restoration projects, and established his own firm in 2010 to concentrate on the conservation and restoration of historic finishes found in 18th and 19th century structures. Chris has completed preservation projects at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, James Madison's Montpelier, Stratford Hall, Gunston Hall, Brandy Station, Shenandoah Courthouse, and Liberia House, among others. He has presented his findings at Historic Deerfield, the Robert Winthrop Chanler Symposium, and the International Architectural Paint Research Conference at Columbia University.

Kirsten Travers Moffitt—Kirsten began her career as a decorative painter and conservation technician both in the U.S. and abroad. After she received her M.S. from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation, she completed projects with the architectural paint research team at the Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU) in Oslo; the historic interiors conservation department at Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg (SRAL) in the Netherlands; and historic paint analysis with scholar Patrick Baty in London. She has worked at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation since 2010, and is currently CWF's first Conservator and Materials Analyst. She analyzes a wide range of collection materials including metals, glass, ceramics, and textiles, as well as furniture and architectural finishes in the Foundation's newly established Materials Analysis Laboratory.

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