



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXVII, Issue 6, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2020

AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN DR. CHRIS MACKOWSKI SPEAKS ON "GRANT'S LAST BATTLE – PERSONAL MEMOIRS OF U.S. GRANT" AT THE AUGUST 13th MEETING

Our online August presentation will be about Union Gen. U.S. Grant's memoirs, which have become one of the most frequently quoted sources for many Civil War historians. They are very well-written and have stood the test of time. They provide a unique insight into the workings of his mind, particularly interesting when he was so often under enormous stress. Grant was a dying man in great pain, racing the clock in order to bequeath to his family something other than a legacy of poverty. We are so happy to have our old friend Chris return to present this memoir to us at this evening's meeting.

Dr. Chris Mackowski, Ph.D., is co-founder and editor-in-chief of the online forum "Emerging Civil War," historian-in-residence at Stevenson Ridge, the historic property on the Spotsylvania Battlefield and professor of journalism and mass communication at St. Bonaventure University in Alleghany, New York. He has authored (or co-authored) more than a dozen books on the Civil War, and has penned articles for *Civil War Times*, *America's Civil War*, *Hallowed Ground* and *Blue and Gray*. Chris has also worked as a historian for the National Park Service at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Parks, where he gives tours at four major Civil War battlefields (Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania), as well as at the home where "Stonewall" Jackson died – Ellwood Manor. Chris also serves on the national advisory board for the Civil War Chaplains Museum in Lynchburg, Virginia.

AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN KRISTEN PAWLAK SPEAKS ON "THE BATTLE OF WILSON CREEK, MO - AUGUST 1861" AT THE SEPTEMBER 10th MEETING

Our online September presentation, the Battle of Wilson's Creek in Missouri, was the first

(con't on page 4)

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

7 p.m. LIVE via
~ Zoom and Facebook ~

THURSDAY, August 13, 2020

GUEST SPEAKER:

Historian Dr. Chris Mackowski

TOPIC:

"Grant's Last Battle - Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant"

THURSDAY, September 10, 2020

GUEST SPEAKER:

**Author/Historian
Kristen Pawlak**

TOPIC:

"Battle of Wilson Creek, MO - Aug 1861"

~ Subject to Change ~

**BRCWRT Meetings
Going Forward -- Virtually!**

The Round Table's regular meetings will take place... in your house! The meetings will telecast live via **Zoom** and **Facebook**. Viewers will be able to submit questions via a "chat-box."

The meeting will still take place at 7 p.m. - find the instructions for connecting to the meeting posted on the BRCWRT Facebook and Web site pages.

"See" you at the next meeting!



**BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
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The Bull Run Civil War Round Table publishes the *Stone Wall*.

General Membership meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at:
Centreville Regional Library
14200 St. Germain Drive
Centreville, VA 20121-2255
703.830.2223

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

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **October 2020 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, September 21, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com

**NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT
SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

For the **October 2020 issue**, advertisers - please click "Instructions for Advertisers" at: <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon on September 11, to Charlie Balch at: BRCWRTads@gmail.com

Support the BRCWRT in its 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 other 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.

POSTPONED

UPCOMING 2020 MEETINGS
(Virtual - until further notice)

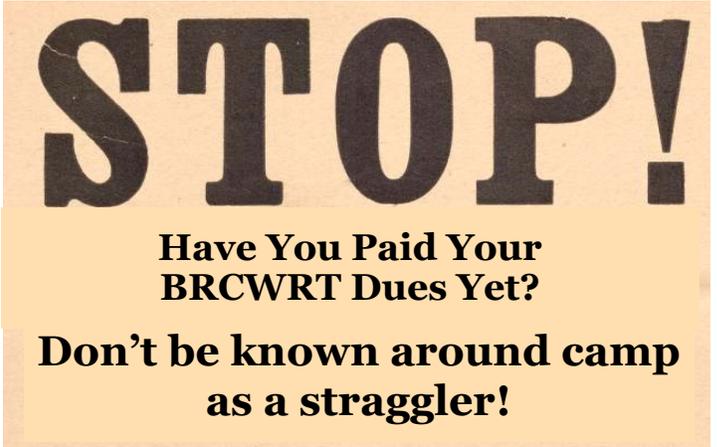
August 13: Author Historian Chris Mackowski - "Grant's Last Battle - Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant"

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

October 8: Professor of History Noah Cincinnati - "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"



STOP!
Have You Paid Your BRCWRT Dues Yet?
Don't be known around camp as a straggler!

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The President's Column by Mark Whitenton

Fellow BRCWRT members -

This month's column focuses on a few initiatives that have either been addressed by your round table leadership, or that will be offered here for your information and/or consideration. Please take a moment to catch up on some of the matters that have "come across our desks" in the past several weeks.

Letter to Connelly: On July 31, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the FY 2021 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriation bill, H.R. 7612. This Act contains two provisions relating to removing Confederate commemorative works from National Park Service and other Interior Department lands. Preservation Chairman Blake Myers drafted a letter to Congressman Gerry Connelly urging him to oppose this provision. On behalf of the BRCWRT, I sent the letter to Cong. Connelly on July 22. Please see page 13 to view a copy of the letter. Additional letters were sent to Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Chairwoman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee; Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) Subcommittee member; and Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL), Chairman of the full Senate Appropriations Committee.

Fairfax County Activities: The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has scheduled a hearing on September 15 on options regarding the monument to Capt. John Quincy Marr and the two cannons located on the grounds of the old Fairfax Court House. In addition, the Board of Supervisors has tasked the Fairfax History Commission to compile a list of all "Confederate" named places in the county. This list is due to the Board of Supervisors by October 1. Preservation Chair Blake Myers is actively monitoring both county actions.

Bylaws amendment. This strange year has reduced the ability of us all to get together. As a

consequence of our lack of personal interactions, including virtual monthly meetings and canceled tours, a significant percentage of our members have not renewed their dues this year. The Executive Committee realized that we did not have a clear policy for terminating members for non-payment of dues. Executive Committee member John De Pue volunteered to draft a policy which, after amendments and approval by the full Executive Committee, is offered to the membership for your approval. These amendments, which would take effect January 1, 2021, would set March 31 as the deadline for paying annual dues and permit new members who join after September 30 to be credited with the next year's dues. John will read the changes at the members virtual meeting on August 13 and a vote on the proposed changes will be held at the members' meeting on September 10. Please peruse the proposed Bylaws amendments on page 4.

Appreciation letter sent to Ed Bearss: Although National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss was unable to speak to us in July, his decade (at least) of giving talks to the BRCWRT is not forgotten. Vice Pres. Greg Wilson initiated and drafted a first-ever BRCWRT Civil War History Lifetime Achievement Award to Mr. Bearss. With full support from the Executive Committee, Greg framed the certificate (printed on page 5), which was then personally delivered to Mr. Bearss by his long-time friend, Ed Wenzel.

More film clips: The BRCWRT is continuing to provide content for our Web page (brcwrt.org) and our Facebook page. Please check out the Benson & Rice shorts by Fred Eckstein and John Myers on our Facebook page, as well as Kim Brace's remarks as a featured speaker at the Second Summit meeting of the CWRT last month. Also, stay tuned to the upcoming series of seven shorts on the Battle of Ox Hill, filmed by Kim Brace and directed by Blake Myers, due to be completed in September.



**GO! RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH
THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE!**

Upcoming Speakers – (con't from page 1)

major Civil War battle west of the Mississippi River. On August 10, 1861, Union Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Lyon attacked Confederate forces commanded by Gen. Sterling Price and Gen. Benjamin McCulloch. The battle raged on for more than five hours, resulting in approximately 2,300 total casualties, including Gen. Lyon. We are so happy to have a native Missourian present this major battle to us at the September 10th meeting.

Kristen M. Pawlak is on staff at the Missouri Civil War Museum in St. Louis, MO. In 2014, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Civil War Era Studies from Gettysburg College. Kristen then pursued and received her Master's degree in Nonprofit Lead-

ership from Webster University in 2018.

Throughout her career, she has worked with Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the Gettysburg Foundation, the Civil War Institute, and the American Battlefield Trust. Kristen is also involved with the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation and "Emerging Civil War," as well as managing Missouri's Civil War Blog. Currently, she is working on a biography of Missouri Sen. John Brooks Henderson - co-author of the Thirteenth Amendment - to support the MCWM's efforts to restore his home in Louisiana, MO, that was catastrophically damaged in an arson fire in 2016. In addition, Kristen is writing a book on the Battle of Wilson's Creek for the *"Emerging Civil War Series."*

Proposed Amendments to the BRCWRT Bylaws Governing Membership and Dues

Article II - OFFICERS AND DUTIES, SECTION 2. DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS., subsection D. Treasurer:

Add a new item 8 to read: "Collecting membership dues."

Renumber the present item 8 to "9."

Article VII - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES, SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

Delete the following phrase and sentence "if submitted prior to the close of the July meeting. A member will pay one half the annual dues if submitted thereafter."

Substitute the following for the deleted phrase and sentence:

"If a new membership application is submitted on October 1 or thereafter, the payment will be credited in full to the following calendar year."

SECTION 5. REMOVAL FROM MEMBERSHIP:

Delete the first sentence ("An individual's membership may be revoked for nonpayment of dues.")

SECTION 6. MEMBERSHIP DUES.

After the first sentence ["The Executive Committee will determine the amount of membership dues."] add the following:

"Commencing at the October membership meeting, the Treasurer will solicit the payment of membership dues for the following calendar year. Any member who fails to pay his or her dues by March 31 of that year will be delinquent and be subject to termination of membership. The Executive Committee is authorized to issue procedures for the timely collection of dues and for terminating the membership privileges of delinquent members. Such procedures will be published for the information of the membership."

The foregoing amendments to the BRCWRT Bylaws shall take effect on January 1, 2021.



THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

PROUDLY PRESENTS ITS

CIVIL WAR HISTORY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

To

EDWIN “ED” COLE BEARSS

WHEREAS, EDWIN “ED” COLE BEARSS HAS HAD A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE FOR HIS COUNTRY, STARTING WITH HIS ENLISTMENT AFTER HIGH SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS IN 1941. IN 1944, WHILE SERVING WITH THE 3RD MARINE RAIDER BATTALION AND 1ST MARINE DIVISION IN THE INVASION OF GUADALCANAL AND NEW BRITAIN, HE WAS BADLY WOUNDED BY MACHINE-GUN FIRE AND SENT BACK TO THE UNITED STATES TO RECOVER FROM HIS WOUNDS FOR A TWO-YEAR CONVALESCENT PERIOD;

WHEREAS, MR. BEARSS HAD AN UNPARALLELED CAREER IN THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FOR MORE THAN FORTY YEARS, BEGINNING IN 1955 AS THE PARK HISTORIAN AT VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI, AND IN 1984 BEING NAMED CHIEF HISTORIAN OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. ED RETIRED IN 1994, WHEN HE WAS NAMED CHIEF HISTORIAN EMERITUS;

WHEREAS, MR. BEARSS IS A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CIVIL WAR SCHOLAR AND AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS BOOKS, PUBLISHING MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED HISTORICAL ARTICLES IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS;

WHEREAS, MR. BEARSS WAS A FORMIDABLE CIVIL WAR LECTURER AND BATTLEFIELD TOUR DIRECTOR FOR THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST, AND MANY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. ED WAS KNOWN FONDLY FOR SAYING: “YOU CAN’T DESCRIBE A BATTLEFIELD UNTIL YOU WALK IT”;

WHEREAS, MR. BEARSS HAS BEEN A FREQUENT SPEAKER AT AND A COMMITTED FRIEND OF THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE, WHERE HE EDUCATED AND ENTERTAINED HUNDREDS OF MEMBERS OVER THE YEARS WITH HIS ENCYCLOPEDIA KNOWLEDGE AND UNIQUE CHRONICLING OF U.S. CIVIL WAR HISTORY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE AWARDS OUR FRIEND AND TEACHER, ED BEARSS, WITH ITS FIRST CIVIL WAR HISTORY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR HIS DEVOTION, DEDICATION, AND COMMITMENT TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR NATION’S HISTORY AND THE CONTINUING EDUCATION OF GENERATIONS OF AMERICANS.

ON BEHALF OF THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE ON THIS DAY, JULY 9, 2020:


 MARK WHITENTON, PRESIDENT


 GREG WILSON, VICE PRESIDENT



CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE 'Little Phil,' Gen. Philip Henry Sheridan, USA

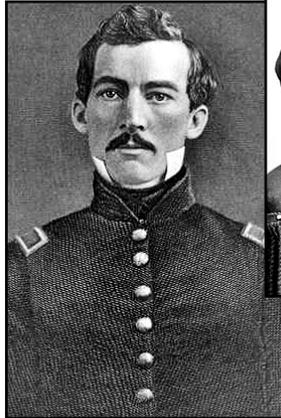
By Janet Greentree

Pres. Abraham Lincoln is famous for his folksy stories and funny quotes. He had a famous quote about Gen. Sheridan: "Little Phil - A brown, chunky little chap, with a long body, short legs, not enough neck to hang him, and such long arms that if his ankles itch he can scratch them without stooping." A little harsh at the end there. Wonder what Gen. Sheridan thought of the quote. Sheridan was only 5'5" or some report he was 5'4". Lincoln also said: "Gen. Sheridan, when this peculiar war began, I thought a cavalryman should be at least six feet, four inches high, but I have changed my mind. Five-foot four will do in a pinch." In researching Sheridan, Ms. Rebelle found he was not generally well-liked, which surprised me. Having been to many Cedar Creek reenactments, the point when Gen. Sheridan rides in on his horse Rienzi from his Winchester, VA HQ (now Kimberly's at 135 N. Braddock Street) to spur on the troops is always momentous. His troops there loved him and went on to fight in the battle rather than retreat. He certainly had many nice sentiments in the newspapers when he died in 1888.

There is a dispute about exactly where Sheridan was born. Most say he was born on March 6, 1831, in Albany, New York. However, it's been said that his immigrant parents from Ireland showed up in Albany with a two-week old infant, so perhaps he was born at sea on the trip over, or born

in Ireland, as his parents were. Sheridan claimed he was born in Albany. His parents were John Sheridan, born in Killinkere, Cavan, Ireland, and Mary Meenagh, also born in Cavan. The Sheridans immigrated from the north of Ireland, which also was the home of the parents of presidents Andrew Jackson and Andrew Johnson. The Sheridans were on the same ship with the parents of Pres. Chester A. Arthur. They ended their journey in Boston. "Little Phil" was the third born of five children for the Sheridans. He had an older brother, Patrick; an older, sister Rosa, and two younger brothers - John J. and Michael Vincent. His youngest brother would become his aide-de-camp during the Civil War and is also buried in Arlington National Cemetery. The Sheridan parents are buried in Holy Trinity Cemetery in Somerset, Ohio.

The Sheridans moved to Somerset, Ohio, into a Gothic style house on New Lexington Road. Phil and his brother slept in the garret. Due to necessity, the children worked to help the family. Phil, at 12 years old, drove a water cart to sprinkle the dusty streets of Zanesville, Ohio. He also worked in the general store in Somerset as head clerk, and as a bookkeeper for a dry goods store. Present-day Somerset



At left, a younger Phil Sheridan; above, Gen. Sheridan during the Civil War.



The Sheridan House in Somerset, OH, where "Little Phil" and his siblings grew up.

Photo by Janet Greentree

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)



Gen. Sheridan hails his fellow Ohioans from his perch in downtown Somerset.
Photo by Janet Greentree

has a statue of Sheridan in a traffic circle on Route 22.

In 1848, he applied to West Point when another nominee from his district failed the entrance exam. He was appointed by Cong. Thomas Ritchey. He was to graduate in 1852 but had to spend another year at

the Point for fighting with his classmate, William R. Terrill, on the parade field and threatening to run him through with a bayonet. He needed help with his algebra and geometry classes and studied so hard at night that he covered his windows with blankets when he was supposed to be in bed. His mother was opposed to him entering West Point, but after his successes as a general, she was willing to acknowledge that he understood himself better than she did. He graduated 34th out of 52 graduates in 1853. His roommate was Henry Slocum (class of 1852). Future Union generals in his class include James McPherson, John Schofield, William Terrill, Robert Tyler, Alexander Chambers, Joshua Sill, and James A. Smith. Future Confederate generals included: John Chambliss, William R. Bogg, John S. Bowen, Henry B. Davidson, Rueben Ross, John Bell Hood, and Henry Walker.

After graduation in 1853, he was in the infantry and was sent to Fort Duncan on the western boundary of Texas. Following that, he was sent to the 4th U.S. Infantry at Fort Reading, California. Most of his time until the late 1850s was spent in the Pacific Northwest. He did a topographical



A 1937 *Oregonian Magazine* article published this illustration of Sidnayoh, shown here going through items in a trunk, including a typical Victorian dress, while dressed in native garb, perhaps introducing a concept of making her (as Sheridan's lover) a woman striving to be more "acceptable" in the larger white world. Inset, is the artist's depiction of her with Sheridan and her father, Chief Harney. She is described as having the English name of Frances.

survey in the Willamette Valley in Oregon and was wounded when a bullet grazed his nose on March 28, 1857, at Middle Cascade, Oregon Territory. He negotiated with the Indian tribes in the area and lived with a mistress, an Indian woman, Sidnayoh, daughter of the chief of the Klickitat Tribe. Little Phil did not mention this fact in his memoirs. He was promoted to 1st lieutenant in March 1861, and to captain in May 1861.

We think travel is not easy today but look at the route Sheridan took to get back to St. Louis at Jefferson Barracks: he left Fort Yamhill, Oregon, by way of San Francisco; crossed the Isthmus of Panama; went to New York City; visited his home in Somerset, Ohio, and then went to St. Louis to serve under Gen. Henry Halleck. His first assignment was to investigate his predecessor, Gen. John C. Fremont's, financial records. Halleck was impressed with Sheridan's work, but was only interested in having Sheridan as a staff officer. Halleck later appointed him as chief commissary officer in the Army of Southwest Missouri and later appointed him quartermaster general. He was assigned to Gen. Samuel Curtis at Pea

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

Ridge. Sheridan discovered that Curtis' officers were engaged in profiteering by stealing horses from civilians and then demanding payment from Sheridan. Curtis had Sheridan arrested for insubordination, but Gen. Halleck stepped in and stopped the proceedings. In May 1862, he was appointed colonel of the 2nd Michigan Cavalry, even though he had no experience as a cavalryman.

He fought against Gen. James Chalmers at the battle of Booneville, MS, on July 1, 1862. His impressive actions earned him a brigadier general rank. Gen. William Rosecrans wrote to Gen. Halleck about Sheridan's promotion: "Brigadiers scarce; good ones scarce... The undersigned respectfully beg that you will obtain the promotion of Sheridan. He is worth his weight in gold." Just after the Booneville battle one of his officers gave him his really famous horse, Rienzi, which he named after the battle of Rienzi, MS. He would ride Rienzi through the rest of the war but renamed him Winchester after the battle of Cedar Creek. Rienzi/Winchester was stuffed after he died and now resides in the Smithsonian Museum.



Sheridan's horse Rienzi is on display at the Smithsonian Museum of American History.

Little Phil met Gen. Ulysses S. Grant on July 9, 1864, at the Thomas Farm at Monocacy, for a council of war, instructing Sheridan to secure and destroy the Confederates in the Shenandoah Valley for a scorched earth campaign. Grant's words to Sheridan were frank: "The people should be

informed that so long as an army can subsist among them recurrences of these raids must be expected, and we are determined to stop them at all hazards....Give

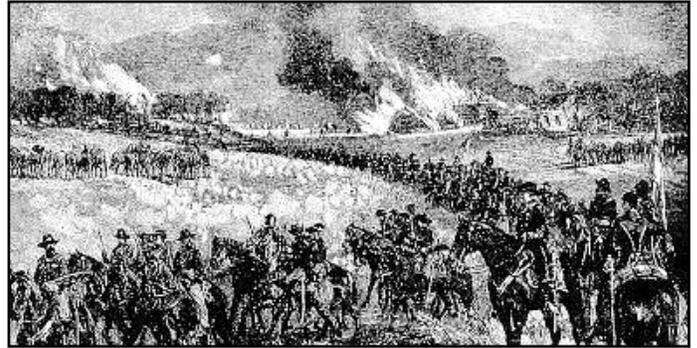


Illustration of Sheridan's troops destroying the Shenandoah Valley.

the enemy no rest....Do all the damage to railroads and crops you can. Carry off stock of all descriptions, and negroes, so as to prevent further planting. If the war is to last another year, we want the Shenandoah Valley to remain a barren waste."

Sheridan fought in the battles of Perryville, Stones River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga Campaign, Yellow Tavern (where Custer's men under Sheridan mortally wounded Gen. J.E.B. Stuart),



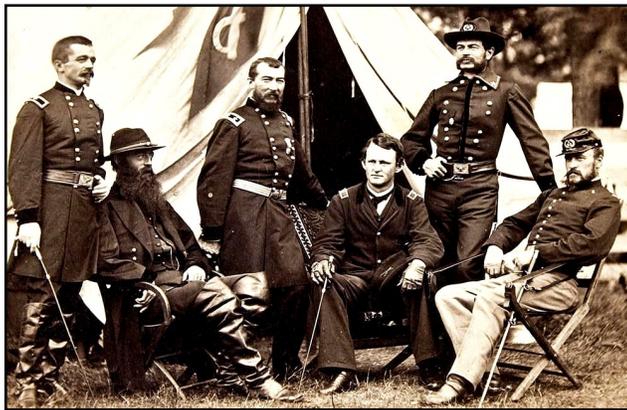
This illustration depicts Sheridan at Yellow Tavern, where his troops clashed with and killed J.E.B. Stuart.



Illustration of Sheridan urging his men on to victory at Cedar Creek, near Strasburg, VA, on October 19, 1864.

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 8)



1864 – Sheridan and staff – left to right - Maj. Gen. James H. Wilson, Gen. David McMurtre Gregg, Sheridan, Maj. Gen. Wesley Merritt, Gen. Harry E. Davies, and Brev. Maj Gen. Alfred Torbert .



An interesting illustration of Sheridan at Dinwiddie Courthouse, in the final weeks of the war, seemingly being given directions by a black individual.

Trevilian Station, Third Winchester, Fisher’s Hill, Cedar Creek, and the Appomattox Campaign. During the battle of Five Forks, he essentially ruined the career of Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren by removing him from command of the V Corps, which a later court of inquiry deemed was unjustified. Gen. Sheridan was present in the room at Appomattox during the Army of Virginia’s surrender.

Gen. Sheridan made lots of interesting comments about things. When he was on Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863, and fighting with Gen. George Thomas, Sheridan told his men “Remember Chickamauga.” He then spotted a group of Confederate officers near the top of the ridge and shouted: “Here’s at you!” One of the Confederate shells exploding near him covering him with dirt. He shouted: “That’s damn ungenerous! I shall take



A “chart” of those present in the McLean parlor in Appomattox Courthouse, VA, where the surrender of the Army of Virginia, under Gen. Robert E. Lee, was signed on April 9. 1865.

those guns for that!” While moving towards Petersburg and Appomattox he said: “Feeling that the war was nearing its end, I desired my cavalry to be in at the death.” At Saylor’s Creek, Sheridan said: “If the thing is pressed I think that Lee will surrender. Let the thing be pressed.”



The BRCWRT’s 2004 visit to the Thomas House on the Monocacy battlefield, where Sheridan and Grant held a council of war in August of 1864.

Photo courtesy of Janet Greentree

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 9)

After the war, while stationed in Texas in 1866, a white mob broke up the state constitutional convention in New Orleans. Thirty-four black residents were killed. Sheridan wired Grant: "The more information I obtain of the affair of the 30th in this city, the more revolting it becomes. It was no riot; it was an absolute massacre." (Kind of sounds like what is going on in our country right now.) Sheridan was not a fan of Texas and made the quote: "If I owned Texas and Hell, I would rent Texas and live in Hell." In later years he would repeat this statement, adding and subtracting verbiage.

In August 1867, Sheridan was made head of the Department of the Missouri to help the Plains administration deal with Indian uprisings. In the years 1868-69, he attacked the Cheyenne, Kiowa and Comanche tribes at their winter headquarters, taking their supplies and livestock, killing all who resisted, and sending them back to their reservations. In his comment after the Texas Legislature banned bison poaching on tribal lands, he suggested: "the legislature should

give each of the hunters a medal, engraved with a dead buffalo on one side and a discouraged-looking Indian on the other." Perhaps his most vicious quote was made to Comanche Chief Tosawi/Silver Knife in 1869 after Silver Knife said to him: "Me, Tosawi. Me Good Indian." Sheridan retorted: "The only good Indians I ever saw were dead." He was constantly misquoted with: "The only good Indian is a dead Indian."

Gen. George Armstrong Custer was under Sheridan's command when he was killed at the Little Big Horn. In 1880, Sheridan was promoted to serve as the commanding general of the U.S. Army.

Sheridan was appointed as lieutenant general on March 4, 1869. He was sent to observe and report on the Franco-Prussian War as a guest of the King of Prussia. After touring around Europe, he reported back to Pres. Grant "that, although the Prussians were very good brave fellows [who] had gone into each battle with determination to win...there is nothing to be learned here professionally." A British nobleman commented about Gen. Sheridan: "A delightful man with the one peculiarity of using the most astounding swear words quite calmly and dispassionately in ordinary conversation."

In 1871 Sheridan was present during the Great Chicago Fire and coordinated military relief efforts. The mayor put Sheridan in charge, and since there were no widespread disturbances, martial law was lifted in a few days. Sheridan lost all of his professional and personal papers in the fire, but his residence was spared. Chicago was so grateful to him that they appointed him the first president of the Washington Park Race Track in 1883. In 1882, Sheridan was involved with the Department of the Interior at the future Yellowstone National Park. A railroad was proposed to go through the park and Sheridan personally lobbied Congress for protection of the park. It was on November 1, 1883, that Lt. Gen. Sheridan succeeded Gen. William T. Sherman as Commanding General of the U.S. Army. He held this rank until his death. His rank was officially called "General of the Army of the United States by an act of Congress on June 1, 1888."

Gen. Sheridan did not marry until he was 44 years old. He married the 22-year-old daughter, Irene, of Gen. Daniel Rucker, on June 3, 1875, in Chicago. After the wedding, they moved to Washington, D.C., to a house at 2211 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., given



Chief Tosawi.

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 10)



Above, Irene Rucker Sheridan; at right, son Philip, Jr., who also entered the Army and served at the rank of major, before dying at age 38 of a heart attack. Below, Sheridan's statue in Sheridan Square, Washington, D.C. His house is shown behind the statue.

Photo below by Janet Greentree

to them by the citizens of Chicago in appreciation for the general's protection of the city during the Great Chicago Fire. The house now faces Sheridan Circle and



As Sheridan grew older, he grew larger, and it may have contributed to his own early death at age 57.

Like Gen. Grant writing his memoirs, Little Phil was writing his when he suffered a series of massive heart attacks, beginning on May 22, 1888, just two months after he sent his book to the publishers. He was only 57 years old, but a life of hard living, hard campaigning, and a love of good food and alcohol took their toll on

his body. He also reached the weight of 200 pounds. Thinking his summer cottage would do him good, his family took him to Nonquitt, Massachusetts, where he died on August 18, 1888. His remains were sent back to Washington and buried in Arlington National Cemetery, right in front of Arlington House, the former mansion of Gen. Robert E. Lee. He lies in Section 2, Site S-1. At his request, the inscription on his stone faces Washington, D.C. The Arlington National Cemetery site notes, "No other grave than that of Sheridan is in front of the mansion. As he was alone in the exalted rank in which he died, so fittingly, he lies alone in front of that army of dead heroes who find a resting place at Arlington." Mrs. Sheridan never remarried stating: "I would rather be the widow of Phil Sheridan than the wife of any man living."



an equestrian monument of Sheridan was placed there. Phil and Irene had four children: Mary, twin daughters Irene and Louise, and a son Philip, Jr. Their young daughters used to look out the windows of the house and wave to Papa. Young Philip would later go into the U.S. Army and attain the rank of major. He died very young, at the age of 38, of a fatal heart attack.

Gen. Sheridan has many monuments dedicated to him, in addition to the ones listed before. Fort Sheridan in Illinois is named for him; the M551 Sheridan tank is named for him; Mt. Sheridan in Yellowstone; several counties in different states; Sheridan Square in NYC; a statue in front of the New York State Capitol; Sheridan Gate in Arlington National Cemetery; a

(con't on page 12)

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 11)

statue in Scranton, PA; a statue in Chicago; and a famous poem "Sheridan's Ride" by Thomas Buchanan Read, for his rousing ride from Winchester to Cedar Creek.

The pallbearers at his funeral included: Gen. Sherman, Secretaries of the Navy Mordechai Endicott and William Whitney; Speaker John G. Carlisle, Sen. Joseph R. Hawley, Gen. Christopher C. Augur, Gen. Robert MacFeely, Gen. Wesley Merritt, Gen. Joseph Fullerton, Mr. George W. Childs, Col. Charles P. Lincoln, and others.

The *Irish Standard* of Minneapolis, MN, reported: "Gen. Philip Henry Sheridan died at Nonquitt, Mass., last Sunday night at 10:30. All through the day he had been in usually good spirits, laughing and chatting with his brother and members of his family. At 7:30 Dr. Matthews said the general was doing so well that there would probably be no bulletins issued for a week.

After dinner at the hotel, Mrs. Sheridan carried down to the general a large slice of roast beef, which he ate with apparent relish. He dozed off a bit during the afternoon but awoke to eat supper and then went to sleep again. The unfavorable symptoms made their appearance so unexpectedly and were so rapid in devel-

opment that the children were aroused barely in time to take a last look at their



At left, Sheridan's grave monument at Arlington National Cemetery, and above, the Sheridan Gate to that cemetery.

Photo at left by Janet Greentree

dying father... Mrs. Col. Kellogg, a dear friend of the family, arrived just a moment after his last breath was drawn and assisted Mrs. Sheridan to her feet, where she closed the eyes of the deceased." The *New York Herald* reported: "His death is an irreparable loss to the soldiers who loved him, the nation who honored him, the profession of arms who rejoiced in his genius and his fame. But the example of such a life cannot die. It will live in high aims, in the enthusiasm of unborn generations, in devotion to the Union he did so much to save."

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 jlgrtree@erols.com.

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

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

◆ Jeffrey Joyce

◆ Suzanne Fajer

◆ Kevin O'Keefe

◆ William Johnson



Bull Run Civil War Round Table
P.O. Box 2147
Centreville, Virginia 20120

July 22, 2020

Congressman Gerry Connolly
Virginia's 11th District
2238 Rayburn HDB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: House Appropriations Committee - Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
FY 2021 Appropriation Bill, H.R. 7612, July 14, 2020, [Rpt. 116-448], Sections 442 and
443.

Congressman Connolly,

I am writing you on behalf of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT), which is very appreciative of your long-term interest in and support for the rich history heritage we enjoy in the local area. Your support for local historical preservation efforts, including your participation in many signage dedications, has also been duly noted by many of our members over the years.

Since its formation in 1991 the BRCWRT has been recognized as a respected 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a record of successfully enhancing the understanding of America's Civil War and its nuances by both its members and the general public.

The members of the BRCWRT are concerned about two sections contained in the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies FY 2021 Appropriation Bill, H.R. 7612 ordered reported by the House Appropriations Committee on July 14, 2020. These provisions are Sections 442 and 443. As currently written, these sections direct the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service to:

- 1) Section 442 - within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the National Park Service shall remove from display all physical Confederate commemorative works, such as statues, monuments, sculptures, memorials, and plaques, as defined by NPS, Management Policies 2006, §9.6.1; and
- 2) Section 443 - Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations an inventory of all assets under the jurisdiction of the Department of Interior with Confederate names.

Letter to NPS – (con't from page 12)



Bull Run Civil War Round Table

P.O. Box 2147
Centreville, Virginia 20120

We strongly oppose these two sections as emotion-based provisions that reflect a lack of knowledge and understanding of our Nation's Civil War history and the history of our Civil War Battlefield Parks and Historic Sites.

The language used in Section 442 implies that "Confederate commemorative works" are defined in NPS Management Policy 9.6.1 - an implication that is incorrect. NPS Policy 9.6. establishes policy for Commemorative Works and Plaques and includes no differentiation between, or mention of, Confederate, State, Federal or Union commemorative works and plaques. By not defining "Confederate commemorative works," Section 442 implies that any statue monument, sculpture, memorial, or plaque that includes a name, unit, location, etc. associated with the South or the Confederacy would be targeted for removal - an overly-broad and ill-advised proposal.

Likewise, Section 443's directive to submit "an inventory of all assets under the jurisdiction of the Department of Interior with Confederate names" fails to define what is meant by "Confederate names." Once again, the language used implies that any statue, monument, sculpture, memorial, or plaque that includes a name, unit, location, etc. associated with the South or the Confederacy would be included on the inventory and potentially targeted for removal.

Implementing the actions directed in these sections would have significant negative impact on the historical value of our Civil War Battlefield Parks and Historical Sites managed by the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service. These parks and sites are among the most visited "outdoor museums and classrooms" in the United States and perhaps in the world - people visit them and spend hours exploring their visitor centers and kiosks, grounds and trails and studying the monuments, memorials, plaques and interpretive markers in order to enrich their personal understanding of America's Civil War. While indeed a horrific chapter in our Nation's history in which Americans fought against and killed fellow Americans, the Civil War was also a defining chapter in our history. It forever changed the fabric and evolution of our Nation from these United States to the United States and lead to the elimination of slavery and the slave economy within our Nation.

Civil War battlefield park development and battlefield memorialization was primarily planned, overseen and supervised by Federal Government commissions. These commissions were comprised primarily of Federal and Confederate veterans, most of whom participated in the respective battle(s). Civil War battlefield monuments, markers and tablets were erected by these commission and veterans specifically so future generations could learn and understand who did what, where and when on those respective battlefields. Today and for generations past, schools and military organizations from around the world use the

Letter to NPS – (con't from page 13)



Bull Run Civil War Round Table

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National Park Service's battlefield parks and their monuments, markers and plaques to enhance understanding of how and where a battle unfolded, why specific decisions were made and the battlefield lessons learned.

Civil War battlefield monuments, markers and tablets serve numerous purposes – some denote military unit positions and movements, some highlight geography and topographic features, while others depict heroic deeds of common men and women who were witnesses to, participants in and victims of Civil War skirmishes, battles, guerilla raids and actions, medical care and recovery, as well as emancipation, reconstruction and reunification. Above all, the monuments, markers and tablets serve as reminders of the sacrifices made and injustices endured by Americans before, during and after the Civil War.

The history of America's Civil War is complex, multi-faceted, often unpleasant and sometimes very messy. But, history is always messy. One learns from history by knowing and understanding facts, events and personal stories. Removing portions of those facts, events and personal stories would so negatively impact the historical and learning value of these battlefields and sites as to make them virtually useless other than as parks and sites for hiking, exercise and walking family pets.

We strongly urge you to use your considerable authority and influence to seek removal of the current Sections 442 and 443 from FY 2021 Appropriation Bill, H.R. 7612, July 14, 2020 [Rpt. 116-448]. Enactment of these provisions would be a travesty and a grave disservice to today's and future generations of Americans of all cultures, races and backgrounds.



Mark Whinton
President
Bull Run Civil War Round Table

CC: Jim Lighthizer, President, American Battlefield Trust



PRESERVATION CORNER

BY BLAKE MYERS

The GREEN MACHINE and the 8th GMU Regiment Band

Founded in 2006 and inspired by the achievement of GMU's Men's Basketball team reaching the NCAA Final Four, the Green Machine creates impactful, diverse, unique, and innovative performances for a variety of venues and occasions, from athletic contests to university ceremonies to student recruitment to national and international competitions. It is a multi-disciplinary arts ensemble composed of musicians, dancers, dramatists, visual artists, choreographers, arts/business managers, educators, and enthusiasts. In addition, The Green Machine's inclusive and innovative approach represents the embodiment of Mason's ideals and values. <https://www.greenmachine.gmu.edu/about-us>

Many of you may not know of the GMU 8th Regiment Band, one of the many musical ensembles that are part of GMU's Green Machine. The 8th GM Regiment Band performs brass ensemble music from the American Civil War for various occasions, including everything from museum and library events to university celebrations. The music performed by the ensemble is presented in a manner that is both historically and socially respectful for a modern audience, while at the same time celebrating the aural beauty and excitement of 1860s America.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table, at first through BRCWRT member and long-time Green Machine supporter Sam

Laudenslager, has been engaging with the Green Machine and the GMU 8th Regiment Band on the Farr's Fort preservation & interpretation project. We are currently in the process of jointly planning a BRCWRT-Green Machine video focused on the history and preservation of Farr's Fort, with music provided by the GMU 8th Regiment Band. This video will be used to enhance awareness of Farr's Fort within the GMU community and to build advocacy within GMU for the site's preservation and interpretation.

During our discussion and planning for the video we became aware of an ongoing Green Machine fundraising program to purchase and restore Civil War era brass instruments for use by the 8th Regiment Band. To date the fundraising has resulted in the purchase of two cornets and an over-the-shoulder tuba, The purchase of three more horns is in the works, and the fundraising effort continues with an objective of raising the final \$900 to enable these purchases.

BRCWRT is collecting donations to support this fundraising objective and will submit a consolidated BRCWRT donation to the Green Machine (a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization) for the GMU 8th Regiment Band instruments (see photographs, below).

BRCWRT members who wish make a donation may mail a personal check, made out to Blake Myers, including his or her name and mailing address, to: Blake Myers at 10012 Marshall Pond Road Burke, VA 22015 no later than October 1, 2020. Blake will submit a consolidated BRCWRT donation to The Green Machine, and will subsequently furnish a copy of the donation receipt received from The Green Machine to each donor.





Bull Run Civil War Round Table 2020 Program of Events

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO
COVID-19 DEVELOPMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

by Greg Wilson

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Comment</u>
August 13	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Chris Mackowski – “Grant’s Last Battle – Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant”	Confirmed
September 5	<u>Battle of Ox Hill/Chantilly Commemoration</u>	Confirmed
September 10	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Kristen Pawlak – “Battle of Wilson Creek”	Confirmed
September 12	<u>Field Trip</u> – “Antietam” – David Welker	Full-day tour
September 27	<u>Annual BRCWRT Free Fall Picnic – The Winery at Bull Run</u>	Confirmed
October 8	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Noah Cincinnati – “The Political Crisis of Slavery”	Confirmed
October 10	<u>Field Trip</u> – “The Civil War from Mount Vernon to Pohick” – Greg Wilson	Half-day tour
November 12	Monthly Meeting Speaker: David Dixon – “The Lost Gettysburg Address”	Confirmed
November 21	<u>Fall Special Event</u> at Manassas Battlefield National Park – Speaker TBD – Open to the Public	TBD
December 10	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Ron Beavers – “Arlington House – The Last Battle of the Civil War”	Confirmed

NOTE: All events are sponsored by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. More logistics, sign-up and contact information will be posted on the BRCWRT Web site and Facebook page as the individual events get closer and are confirmed.



BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

2020 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 21 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

You also may join using your credit card by going to our website at BRCWRT.org and clicking on "Membership Application."

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE _____ **E-MAIL** _____