



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXX, Issue 5, MAY 2023

**HISTORIAN, AUTHOR AND NPS  
RANGER FRANK O'REILLY  
SPEAKS ON "THE BATTLE OF  
CHANCELLORSVILLE, MAY  
1863" AT THE MAY 11th, 2023  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The Battle of Chancellorsville (April 30-May 6, 1863) was a huge victory for the Confederacy and General Robert E. Lee, though it is also famous as the battle where Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was mortally wounded. Lee's daring decision to face a force twice his size, Federal General Joseph Hooker's Army of the Potomac, by splitting his own army in two caused Chancellorsville to go down in history as Lee's most significant tactical victory. In this 160th Anniversary month of the battle, we have an internationally recognized Civil War historian to bring it alive for us.

Frank O'Reilly received his BA and MA in American History with a concentration on Early American Military History and Civil War Studies. He did his undergraduate work at Washington & Lee University before joining the National Park Service at the Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park. He worked briefly at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, then returned to Fredericksburg as a historian in 1990. He has written numerous articles on the Civil War and Mexican War for national and international journals, and introductions to quite a few books. He released his first book on the Fredericksburg Campaign "*Stonewall Jackson at Fredericksburg*" in 1993.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
THURSDAY, May 11, 2023**

**6 P.M. Social Hour  
7 P.M. In-person at the  
Centreville Regional Library &  
Streaming via Zoom or  
Facebook Live**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Frank O'Reilly**

**TOPIC:**

**"The Battle of Chancellorsville,  
May 1863"**

He has appeared in many documentaries on CSPAN and lectured on military history to audiences around the world, including conferences in the United Kingdom at Oxford. He served as the Sesquicentennial special events coordinator for the Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Overland Campaign 150th anniversary commemorations. His latest book "*The Fredericksburg Campaign: Winter War on the Rappahannock*" was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in Letters in 2003. It has won the 2002 Capital District (Albany, NY) Book Award; the 2003 James I. Robertson Jr. Book Award; the 2004 Daniel Laney Book Award; and the 2004 Richard Barksdale Harwell Book Award. He is currently writing a book on Malvern Hill and the Seven Days' Battles around Richmond. Please come early to chat with Frank and your colleagues, introduce yourself to our newest members, and browse the used books.

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

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

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **June 2023 issue**, e-mail articles by **May 29th** to the editor, Don Richardson, at: [don.richardson@erols.com](mailto:don.richardson@erols.com)

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**May 11:** Frank O'Reilly - "The Battle of Chancellorsville, May 1863"

**June 8:** Scott Mingus – "The Battle of 2<sup>nd</sup> Winchester, June 1863"

**July 13:** Jim Anderson – "The Impact of Intelligence on the Gettysburg Campaign July 1863"

**August 10:** Dan Vermilya - "The Emancipation Proclamation of 1863"

**September 14:** Jeffery Hunt - "The Battle at Rappahannock Station, Nov 1863"

**October 12** Kevin Pawlak & Kate Bitely - "The Battle of Bristoe Station, Oct 1863"

**November 9** J. Nathan McDonald - "The Battle of Droop Mountain WV, Nov 1863"

**December 14** John Quarstein - "Into The Ring of Fire, Federal Admiral DuPont's attack on Charleston SC, 1863"

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## The President's Column by Mark Whitenton

Photos: Janet Greentree

At the April General Membership Meeting we were fortunate to have Steve Phan as our speaker, who gave us a detailed understanding of the role of the short-lived Union Camp Nelson in Kentucky. The camp served as a supply depot and then as a training camp for Colored Troops and a refugee camp for their families. He explained that interpreting the camp has been a challenge, since all the building materials were taken away after the war ended.



We are getting into full swing with our almost-monthly tours! Thank you, Sam Laudenslager and the Tour and Field Trip Committee. The After-Action Report on the May 6 tour of the cavalry battles in Aldie to Upperville led by Kevin Pawlak will appear in the June *Stone Wall*.

See Blake Myers' most recent reports in the Preservation Corner, beginning on page 14. Blake has updates on the Route 28 Bypass Project, the Prince William Digital Gateway, and news about the Friends of Cedar Mountain reorganizing as a Foundation.

Our table at the Bull Run Winery on April 16 for the "2023 Battlefield Partners" event hosted by the Manassas Battlefield Trust was very successful – four new family members and three new single members! Please see the photos and article on page 5.

Several excellent tour opportunities are coming in June - see the previews and Marching Orders on pages 13 and 32. See also a report on a brand new museum in Gettysburg, another installment of "Ms. Rebelle", and a very interesting look at the Snodgrass Cabin at Chickamauga, written by a direct descendant, Todd Snodgrass.

We hope you will join us in person on Thursday to hear this month's speaker, Frank O'Reilly, who will give us his expert talk on "The Battle of Chancellorsville, May 1863". Once again, thanks to Past-President Mark Trbovich for arranging for our speakers.

The BRCWRT held its first meeting in May 1991. In honor of the BRCWRT's 32nd anniversary, Sandra Cox will be bringing cake for the occasion. Please join us live and in person next Thursday, May 11 at the Centreville Library, which will be open for our social hour starting at 6:00 at the side entrance.

## Bull Run Civil War Round Table



### Upcoming 2023 Program of Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
May 11	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Frank O'Reilly – “The Battle of Chancellorsville, May 1863” <i>Plan to attend in person for our anniversary celebration with cake and refreshments!</i>
June 8	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Scott Mingus – “The Battle of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Winchester, June 1863”
June 17	<b>June Field Trip:</b> “Prelude to Gettysburg II” – A visit to Brandy Station
July 13	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jim Anderson – “The Impact of Intelligence on the Gettysburg Campaign July 1863”
July 22	<b>Civil War Hospital Weekend:</b> Ben Lomond – BRCWRT book sales
August 10	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Dan Vermilya – “The Emancipation Proclamation of 1863”
August 26	<b>161<sup>st</sup> Commemoration of Battle of Kettle Run:</b> Bristoe Station – BRCWRT book sales
September 14	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jeffery Hunt – “The Battle at Rappahannock Station, November 1863”
September 17	<b>BRCWRT Annual Picnic:</b> The Winery at Bull Run - 11:30 to 2:30
September 23	<b>Sept. Walking Tour:</b> “Postscript to Gettysburg I” – Led by Bill Backus & Kevin Pawlak
September 30	<b>Ben Lomond History Day:</b> Ben Lomond – BRCWRT book sales
October 12	Monthly Meeting Speakers: Kevin Pawlak and Kate Bitely – “The Battle of Bristoe Station, October 14, 1863”
October 14	<b>160<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Battle of Bristoe Station:</b> BRCWRT book sales
October 21	<b>October Field Trip:</b> “Postscript to Gettysburg II” – Guided by Mike Block
November 4	<b>November Field Trip:</b> “CS Military Railroad Sites Tour”
November 9	Monthly Meeting Speaker: J. Nathan McDonald - “Battle of Droop Mountain WV, November 6, 1863”
December 14	Monthly Meeting Speaker: John Quarstein - “Into The Ring of Fire, Federal Admiral DuPont’s attack on Charleston SC, 1863”

Monthly Meetings in “Black”    **Tours/Field Trips & Special RT Events in “Red”**    County or outside sponsored events in “Green”

**The Bull Run Civil War Round Table Welcomes New Members**

Pamela & Steve Beck

Tim & Christopher Burger

Don Ditko

Henry Hansen

David Hunt

Irene & Neil Kelley

Kim & Greg Kesselring

Harold "Van" Keys

Rebecca & Jim Little

Patrice & Scott Neese

Bill Wilkin

**Recruiting for the Round Table**

**By Don Richardson**

Photos: Debbie Whitenton

On Sunday, April 16th, Mark and Debbie Whitenton and I enjoyed representing the BRCWRT at the Battlefield Partners Open House at the Winery at Bull Run, hosted by the Manassas Battlefield Trust. Five other groups that support the Manassas Battlefield also had tables. In fact, of the at least 14 other Round Table members who were in attendance, five were manning tables for other organizations - which was a great demonstration of our tight-knit community. This well-attended event resulted in four new BRCWRT family memberships (including Scott Neese, President of the Manassas Battlefield Trust and his wife, Patrice), three single memberships, the sale of one copy of the color version of Ms. Rebelle's book, and the sale of one copy of the Fairfax Chronology set!



Irene & Neil Kelley



Mark & Debbie Whitenton and Don Richardson



Kim & Greg Kesselring



Christy Foreman (Event Manager) and Scott Neese (President, Manassas Battlefield Trust)

## Adams County Historical Society After-Action Report

By Sam Laudenslager

Photos: Sam Laudenslager

"Just what Gettysburg needs! . . . another museum?"

In this case, yes! The extensive collection of the Adams County Historical Society was endangered. Housed since the 1940's in a former Lutheran Seminary residence hall and its outbuildings, the thousands of artifacts were vulnerable to the threats of fire, theft, and decay.

On Saturday April 15th, more than one thousand visitors filled the new ACHS facility near the Barlow's Knoll portion of the Gettysburg National Military Park. The new complex features a 25,000 sq. ft. "climate controlled" and secured Archive wing; an education center with a 250-seat conference room and several smaller meeting rooms and classrooms, all equipped with a "state-of-the-art" computer/audiovisual system; a reading room; offices for the ACHS staff; and the 12 exhibit galleries of the "Gettysburg: Beyond the Battle" museum. ACHS now has over 1 million relics and historical records in the Archive, including some 300 primary source diaries of soldiers and civilians who witnessed the battle and President Lincoln's visit to deliver the Gettysburg Address.

Highlights of the museum exhibits include:

- The "Caught in the Crossfire" gallery, a 4.5 minute immersion experience (like the "Battle of Trenton" snowfall at the Mount Vernon museum) from the perspective of a Gettysburg family hiding in their cellar while fighting rages in the street outside.
- "The Address" gallery. Stand in the crowd at the dedication of the National Cemetery, viewing wall-size projections of photographs taken of the day's events, accompanied by the words of eyewitnesses (there are 300 verified accounts in the archives).

- A Mason-Dixon Line stone marker.
- The musket carried by John Burns, the patriotic Gettysburg civilian who fought with the Union "Iron Brigade" during the 1<sup>st</sup> day's action.
- The Civil War photography gallery. Bill Frassanito, the authority on Civil War photography, and the author of books about the photography of Antietam, Gettysburg, and the Overland campaign, has donated his entire collection of early photographs and photographic equipment to ACHS, and Ken Burns has donated the camera he used during the filming of his 1990 television documentary "The Civil War".



The new facility, seen from Dilger's Ohio Battery



Entrance to the Archives

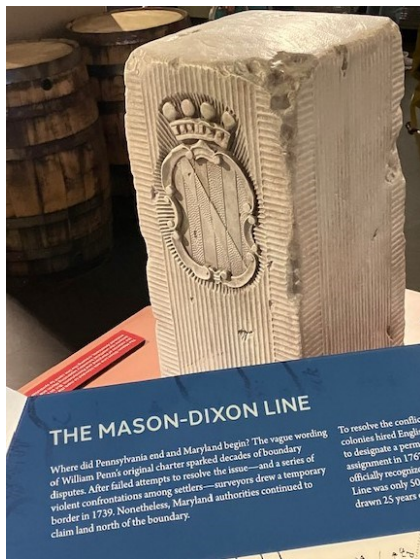
(cont on page 7)

# ACHS After-Action Report



Musket carried by civilian John Burns

The new Adams County Historical Society museum is located at 625 Biglerville Road (Carlisle Street becomes Biglerville Road at the Adams County line), two blocks north of the Gettysburg College campus, at the intersection with Howard Avenue and the entrance to the Barlow's Knoll monuments. For further information: [www.achs-pa.org](http://www.achs-pa.org), or [gettysburgbeyondthebattle.org](http://gettysburgbeyondthebattle.org), or call (717) 334-4723.



Mason Dixon Line stone marker



Bill Frassanito (Civil War photography expert) signs books at opening of the CW Photo Gallery



Jeff Shaara (*Gods and Generals*, *The Last Full Measure*) autographs a copy for Drew Pallo



Ken Burns' 16mm movie camera

## The Snodgrass Cabin

By Todd Snodgrass

A family member told me that it used to be on display in a small museum. Another said a good friend of the family made it as a tribute for my paternal grandparents. It dates back decades, but nobody is sure just how old it is. For as long as I can remember, my family has possessed a replica of a plain wooden cabin. The mock-up measures about a foot-and-a-half long, one foot wide and three-quarters of a foot high at the structure's apex.

Shaded a brown that's been bleached to a lighter hue as the years have passed, the dogtrot-design model cabin has a split-rail fence that marks its outer perimeter. A chimney juts out the top of the roof at one of its gable ends. It's rather ordinary and nondescript.

Aside from a small faded placard held together by dulled white tin tacks, there are no identifying characteristics. That strip of paper, though, hints at the cabin's importance in my family's history and the unexpected role it played at a consequential moment in the history of our nation. In bold uppercase, the still-legible script reads: "THE FAMOUS SNODGRASS HOUSE ON CHICKAMAUGA BATTLE FIELD."



George Washington Snodgrass, the cabin's namesake and our 19th Century family patriarch, certainly never sought for his modest homestead to become famous. As it often does, though, History came rapping ferociously on their unassuming cabin door during the waning days of summer in the tumultuous year of 1863. It was on my ancestor's humble farm, nestled in northwestern Georgia just across the Tennessee line, that the Battle of Chickamauga culminated in a bloody crescendo across his property.

It was a fierce battle and full of paradox, one that saw my Confederate-sympathizing forebears scattered and a Virginia-born Union officer elevated in the nation's consciousness to a sturdy honorific even in the throes of defeat. In essence, however, Chickamauga would be recorded as a hollow Confederate victory, one that would prove to be short lived and, in time, remembered as a turning point for all that didn't happen and the ramifications for both sides thereof.

While his history is hazy and hard to pin down with any absolute certainty, by most accounts, G.W. Snodgrass was born in the southwestern Virginia hamlet of Marion around 1811. He moved from his native commonwealth sometime near the middle of the century, first to Tennessee, then settling in Walker County, Georgia. He reportedly purchased the deed to his hilly farmland in 1855, eight years before the Battle of Chickamauga would brand his land with notoriety.

When he arrived in Georgia, Snodgrass was middle-aged and twice widowed, a trying life but not uncommon for the time and place. With his third wife, Elizabeth, they made a life for themselves and their sizeable family – he was the father of seven children – as an 1800s American pioneer household.

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## The Snodgrass Cabin

G.W. Snodgrass had found a kind of success that didn't always come to those born into the clutches of indentured servitude, as several accounts say he was. It was during this period in Virginia, covering the first twenty-one years of his life, that he mastered the craft of carpentry. If true, it was a valuable skill set that would pay dividends throughout his life, one that almost assuredly helped him to build his own homestead, the Snodgrass house, upon moving to the Georgia countryside.

And so it was as the years passed by, the passage of time marked by the farming seasons that all who till their own land are intimately familiar with. A modest family had built a steady and comfortable life by most measures. It was a life that would be thrown into tumult by the events of September 1863 when the Civil War arrived without much warning at my ancestor's doorstep. Over the span of three long days an estimated 125,000 soldiers would fight ferociously to the death across the land the Snodgrass family called home.

I wonder what the battle must have felt like to my forebears. They found themselves in the middle of a spectacle they could have scarcely predicted and, one imagines, hoped earnestly to avoid. I think most about G.W. Snodgrass and his role as head of the family. What was going through his mind as the Union Army of the Cumberland and the Confederate Army of Tennessee found themselves face-to-face near his humble farm at that crucial moment in a war tearing the nation asunder?

There's a noteworthy painting by the artist Dale Gallon that perhaps encapsulates the seventy-two hours in September, 1863 that we know as the Battle of Chickamauga better than some histories can. The painting also further cements the leading role Union Maj. Gen. George Henry Thomas played in its outcome.

It was amidst the peach orchards and cornfields said to have dotted the Snodgrass family's farmland at the time that the Virginia-born Thomas would become an American hero. It was on Snodgrass Hill and the nearby Horseshoe Ridge that Thomas's stubborn heroics earned him his sobriquet as the "Rock of Chickamauga".

Gallon's work puts Thomas in the saddle atop his dark brown warhorse, reins gripped steadily in his left hand, as he looks out across Snodgrass Hill and the surrounding area, presumably after a repulsed Confederate charge. Thomas holds up a telescope in his right hand as his remaining staff gathers behind him.



**ROCK OF CHICKAMAUGA**

Thomas at Chickamauga (Dale Gallon)

The detritus of war litter the battlefield in Gallon's historical interpretation. The Snodgrass cabin flanks the backdrop at the top of the ridge as wounded Union soldiers help one another regroup, their blue battle dress uniforms stained and tattered.

There's no representation of the cabin's occupants in Gallon's painting. Other narratives can fill in the gaps, however. By most reports, the Snodgrass clan

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## The Snodgrass Cabin

remained obstinately hunkered down in their house until stray bullets and shrapnel began to rake their homestead on the second day of the clash, as the fighting intensified and moved precipitously closer to their land. During the afternoon of September 19, G.W. Snodgrass decided to evacuate his family and flee to the relative safety of a nearby sheltered ravine in the woods surrounding their land. There they waited out the battle along with other civilians. It would prove to be a fortuitous decision. In the morning hours of the following day, the battle's front lines shifted acutely towards their property.

Seizing on an opening in the Union defenses, the Confederate Army of Tennessee made a bloody push to overrun the outmanned Union troops. The charge succeeded and the Union forces fell into disarray. It's said an estimated one-third of the Army of the Cumberland were forced to flee the battle area during this time. That included the army's overall commander, Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans. With his commanding officer out of the picture, the 47-year-old Thomas found himself in charge of what was left of the Union's fighting forces.

It was on Snodgrass Hill, with my ancestor's cabin situated prominently in the background, that the West Point graduate Thomas defied repeated orders to retreat himself and instead rallied his remaining troops to form a hasty defensive line, hoping to hold out long enough for the bulk of the Union forces to retreat northward toward the relative safety of Chattanooga.

For what must have felt like an eternity, Thomas's men held firm throughout September 20, repulsing a relentless effort by Confederate forces to charge through their perimeter. With the evening's

approaching darkness acting as cover, Thomas and the remaining Union forces retreated with their brothers in arms to fight another day.

Shortly after the Union's final retreat, it was said the triumphant sounds of a demonstrably Southern song could be heard across the pockmarked battlefield. A Confederate victory was at hand. Only then did G.W. Snodgrass, his family and the others who had gathered nearby emerge from their hiding space in the woods and attempt to pick up the pieces of their lives.

While precise figures can be hard to come by amidst the chaos of battle, most estimates rank the battle as the second bloodiest in the entire Civil War. Out of the 60,000 Union men who fought at Chickamauga, more than 1,500 were killed and nearly 10,000 were wounded. Despite their victory, Confederate casualties were even higher, with more than 2,000 dead and some 15,000 wounded.

Understanding the history of the fight as the artist Gallon did, it makes sense that he would portray wounded soldiers surrounding the cabin and its environs in his painting. For parts of the battle, the Snodgrass house was commandeered as a field hospital, primarily for Union troops, in addition to briefly acting as an impromptu headquarters and staging ground for Thomas and his troops.

Today, Thomas is widely lauded for preventing an all-out calamity for the Union. His steadfastness, and that of his men, in the face of great odds helped to ensure that the Battle of Chickamauga would be a largely empty victory for the Confederates. By preventing a rout of the Army of the Cumberland during those frantic late September days of 1863, the

(cont on page 11)

## The Snodgrass Cabin

Union army was allotted the time and space it desperately needed to regroup and resupply. Union reinforcements would soon arrive from other theaters of the war.

In the ensuing weeks and months, Union forces would eventually break through Confederate lines, opening a gateway to the deep South. Their actions would turn the tide of the Civil War in the Union's direction.

Tucked away in the Library of Congress resides an old sketch of the Snodgrass cabin believed to have been completed after the battle, while its memories were still fresh for those who lived it.

Scrawled in a cursive script that takes up much of the left side of the picture is an anecdote from its creator. Perhaps it's simply lore, but on that sketch drawn in the years after Appomattox – after the last of the gun smoke had ascended to the heavens, the thunderous cannons of war silent once more – an unnamed Confederate general harkening back on battles won and a war ultimately lost dejectedly reflected: "There, at Snodgrass house, fell the southern confederacy."

Not unlike the model cabin that became an heirloom, the story of the Snodgrass house and its role in the Civil War has been passed down from generation to generation in my family. It was my grandfather, more than anyone else, who took on the responsibility for keeping the story alive, at least on the paternal side of my family. He knew the war narrative well and, being the raconteur that I remember him as, often liked to retell it with aplomb.

In the latter years of their lives, my grandparents lived on the outskirts of Chattanooga. When we visited them, we would make the trek down to Chickamauga to see the battlefield and visit the cabin for ourselves.

The house, a replica of the original, was constructed sometime near the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. It's listed as Stop Number Eight on the battlefield tour of the Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park.

Our trips were just the latest in a long line of visitations. For as long as we can remember, those with the last name of Snodgrass and those connected either directly or indirectly to its history have been making the sojourn.

The pictures prove it. A photograph collage is on display in my parents' house featuring several generations of my family posing outside the Snodgrass cabin over the years. One, a black-and-white photo timestamped from the back end of 1958, features my grandfather dressed in a short sleeve polo shirt and slacks with his trademark flat bill cap resting atop his head. He's standing next to my then eight-year-old father outside the cabin's door.



There's another photo in the collection. Standing atop one of the sturdy cannon that surround the house, my tow-head, juvenile self is framed next to my dad. I couldn't have been much older than he was when he posed next to my grandfather all those decades before.

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## The Snodgrass Cabin



And still another features three generations of my family outside the cabin. It was taken in May 1997, with the spring green of the season in full display across the park. New grass vines up the slightly askew marker that points towards the Snodgrass house. I'm sandwiched in between my dad and grandfather, smiling ear-to-ear the unabashed smile of youth as the cabin takes up the background. My grandfather, nearing his ninth decade, is seen using his ubiquitous wooden cane to support himself.



While his body aged, my grandfather's mind remained sharp to the very end. Perhaps on the day that photo was taken he – who always took pride in our namesake – told my ten-year-old self once more in that booming voice of his about the happenings at the cabin and the surrounding farmland during those fraught times in our nation's history, all the while helping to orally ensure the story remained pertinent and engaging to yet another generation: my own.

*NOTE: Todd's article came to us due to the efforts of Jeanne Fain, a relative of our own Janet Greentree, who helps teens and young adults find their path in life. Todd is her student, and she suggested that he become a freelance writer.*

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## BRCWRT Caravan Tour Marching Orders

### Prelude to Gettysburg II: Brandy Station Battlefield

**Date:** Saturday, June 17th, 2023 8:30 AM

**Guide:** Richard Deardoff, Brandy Station Foundation/Graffiti House docent

**Assembly Location/Time:** **8:30 AM** Meet at Centreville Regional Library (14200 St. Germain Drive) to form carpools.

**Departure Time:** **9:00 AM** Carpools depart; **10:30** arrive at Graffiti House

**Tour Duration:** Tour ends 2:30-3:00 PM, return to Centreville about 4 PM.

**Cost:** Free!

**Uniform of the Day:** Dress for local weather conditions. There will be some walking; wear comfortable walking shoes. Trails are on open, level ground.

**Lunch:** BYOB Bring Your Brown Bag lunch. Picnic area at Graffiti House.

**Subject Matter:** Site of the largest cavalry battle of the American Civil War (and the largest cavalry action ever fought in the Americas). The Union Army's Cavalry Corps surprises J.E.B. Stuart's Army of Northern Virginia cavalry division (June 9th, 1863), near Culpeper VA. Also the site of the Army of the Potomac's Fall 1863-Winter 1864 encampment, and 3 other major cavalry engagements during 1862-1864.

#### **Tour Stops include:**

- **Buford's Knoll**
- **St. James Church site**
- **Fleetwood Hill**
- **Yew Ridge**
- **The "Graffiti House"**

**BRCWRT Contact:** Sam Laudenslager, (703) 878-8642 (message phone)  
kapel-meister1@hotmail.com

If interested in attending, please **sign up** via the BRCWRT Website, or at the May or June General Meeting. If you find later that you cannot attend, **please notify Sam** so he can keep the list accurate.



"The Gray Comanches" by Don Troiani



## Preservation Corner by Blake Myers



Greetings BRCWRT Members and Friends! This edition of *Preservation Corner* includes updates on the *Route 28 ByPass* Project, Prince William Digital Gateway Data Centers, and Cedar Mountain Battlefield.

### **Route 28 ByPass Project (Bull Run Occoquan Regional Park and Blackburn's Ford Battlefield)** [www.Route28Bypass.com](http://www.Route28Bypass.com)

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA)'s Route 28 Transportation Study and Project (2015-2016) focused on infrastructure projects to improve travel times and road network reliability on Route 28 through Prince William County, the City of Manassas, and the City of Manassas Park. Fairfax County approved plans to widen Route 28 north of Bull Run to its intersection with Route 29 to three lanes in each direction with associated improvements at existing intersections, including the Route 28 and Compton Road intersection.

Fairfax County's Route 28 widening project is scheduled for completion this summer. Prince William County's Route 28 ByPass project will extend Godwin Drive at Sudley Road along the Flat Branch corridor and tie into the existing Route 28 in Fairfax County north of Bull Run and south of Compton Road (see map, right).

As part of the project's public outreach and communications, the PWC Department of Transportation (DoT) recently conducted Public Information Meetings on April 19, 2023, at Centreville Elementary School (Fairfax County) and on April 20, 2023, at Manassas Park Community Center



Route 28 ByPass

(Prince William County) from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The meetings included displays, manned by knowledgeable individuals, depicting the preliminary design concept, and information on the studies that continue to inform the road design. Key members of the PWC DoT Route 28 ByPass Project and design team provided a presentation (available at the Rt 28 ByPass website noted above) outlining the parameters of the project, the work done to date, and the way forward as the project continues. This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session, where attendees were provided the opportunity to ask questions of the design team and to voice any concerns

(cont on page 15)

## Preservation Corner

regarding the preliminary design concept. See the charts below for a project overview and the project timeline with key milestones.

Based on the work and consistent engagement with PWC DoT by BRCWRT, the preliminary design concept includes a pedestrian history trail highlighting the 'to be preserved' Mitchell's Ford

(cont on page 16)

### Project Overview: Four Phases



### Project Timeline



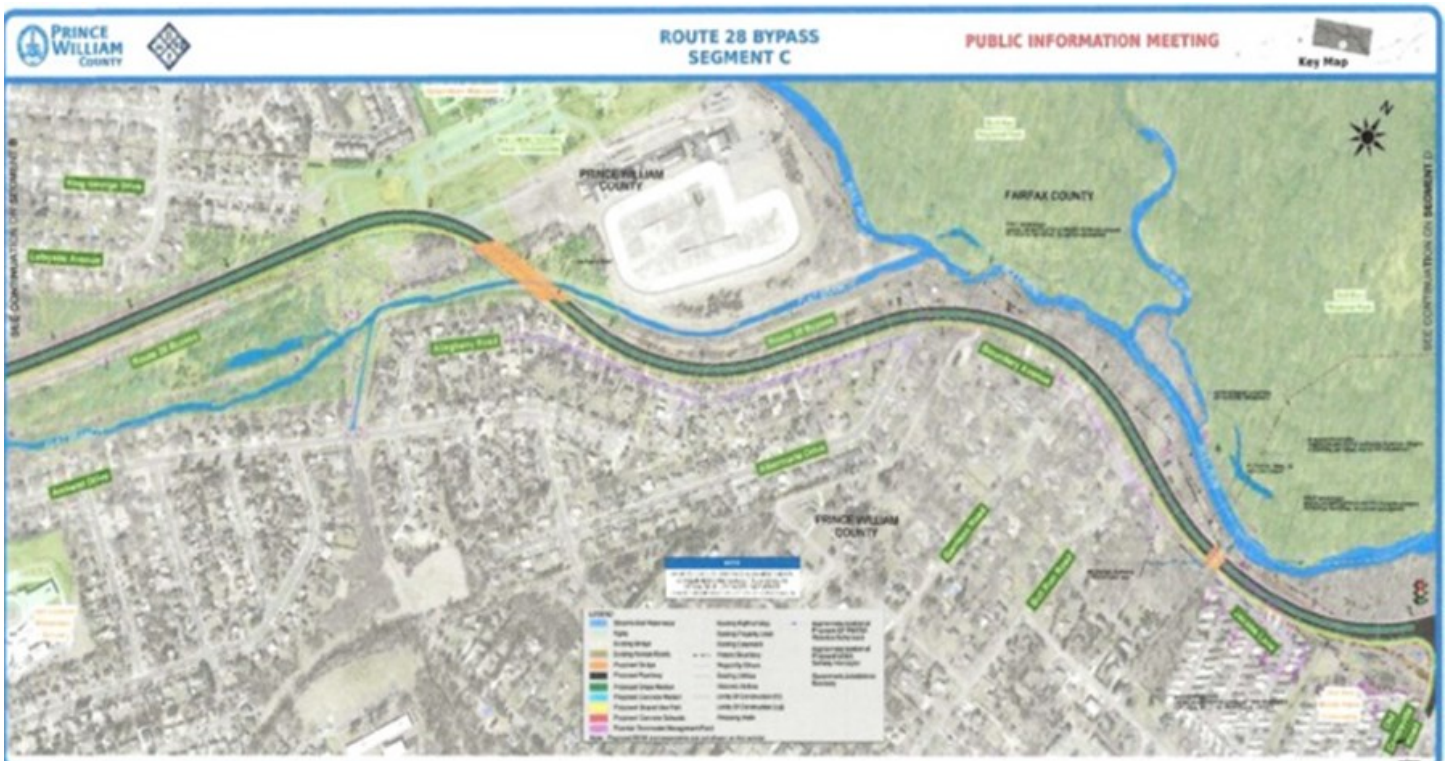
## Preservation Corner

earthwork remnants adjacent to Boundary Drive and the site of the Centreville Military Railroad trestle crossing at Bull Run - a significant 'win' for our preservation efforts. See the chart and photo below that show the potential locations of the history trail, the historic sites, additional parking for history trail access, and a history trail pedestrian overpass/tunnel across Rt 28 Bypass.

(cont on page 17)



Road Segment C - Potential Locations of History Trail, etc.



Route 28 ByPass – Road Segment C



## Preservation Corner

In discussions with PWC DoT personnel and the Route 28 ByPass design team at the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, BRCWRT was identified as a 'planning partner' to provide knowledgeable assistance in planning the history trail and in developing the historical and interpretive markers, etc. for the trail. This, too, is a significant 'win' for our preservation program; however, now the real work begins - ensuring the history trail survives the preliminary and final design project phases, as the planning and design team continues its work to account for and resolve multiple aspects and impacts of the ByPass design (environmental impacts, trafficability concerns, Right Of Way negotiations, private property/residential purchases, and resident concerns, etc.), and becomes a reality. This will require continued coordination with PWC DoT and the Route 28 ByPass Project planning and design team, and the organizational and personal relationships exist to do so.

The historic sites to be included on the planned history trail are the remnants of Mitchell Ford earthworks along Boundary Avenue and the site of the Centreville Military Railroad trestle crossing at Bull Run (see photographs, below).

(cont on page 18)



Mitchell's Ford Earthwork Remnants



1862



2020

Site of the Centreville Military Railroad Trestle Crossing of Bull Run

### Preservation Corner

The preliminary design concept includes a new bridge crossing at Bull Run, just upstream from the current Ordway Road bridge (see schematic, below). The 'new' bridge is envisioned to be longer and wider than the current bridge and given its size and location will require significant research, study, and analysis to avoid adverse effects on Bull Run Occoquan Regional Park and potentially affected cultural and historical resources. Discussions between PWC DoT and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) addressing these issues are underway.

### Prince William Digital Gateway (PWDG) Data Centers (Manassas National Battlefield Park)

As readers will recall, after more than a year of often contentious Board of Supervisor and Planning Commission meetings, conferences and public remarks sessions, and an all-night Public Hearing conducted November 1-2, 2022, on November 2, 2022 the Prince William Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) voted 5-2 to approve the Prince William Digital Gateway Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA).

(cont on page 19)



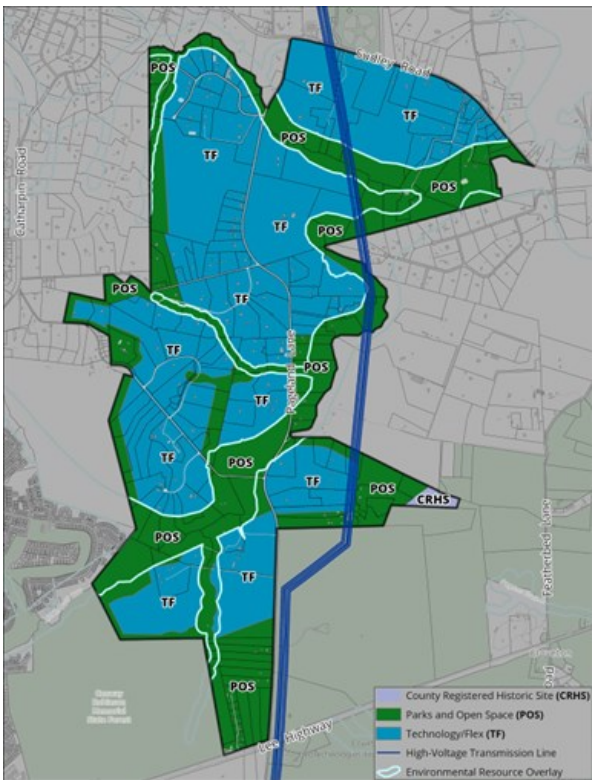
Route 28 ByPass - Road Segment D

### Preservation Corner

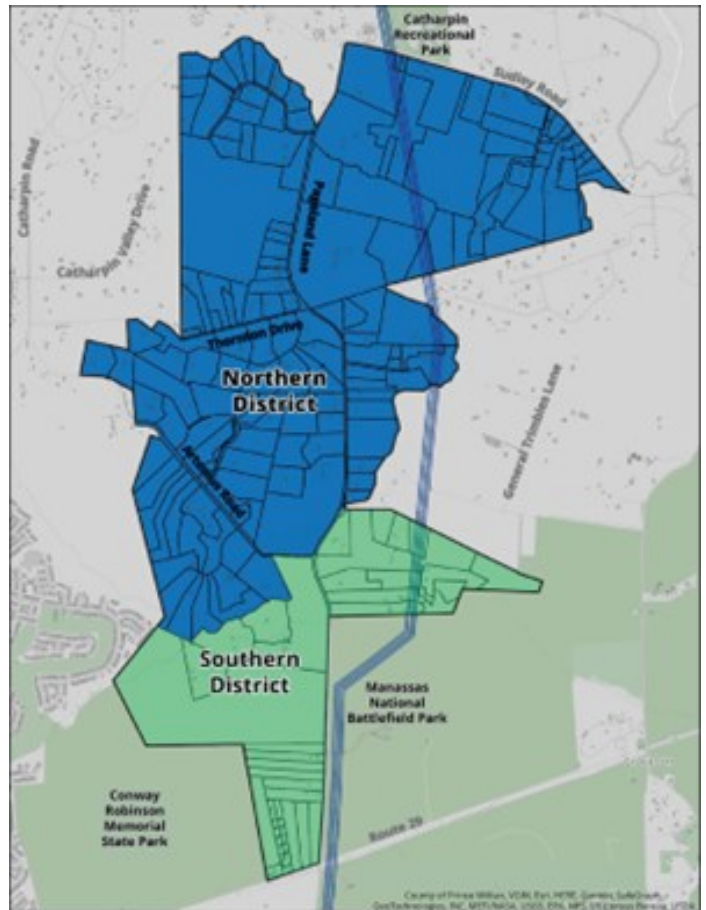
While the final CPA addressed many concerns raised by residents and historic preservation organizations, it was approved without an assessment of the environmental impacts on the Occoquan and Bull Run watershed and on the Occoquan Reservoir, of the traffic and transportation impacts, or of the impacts of the significant increase in electrical power demand of data centers within the corridor.

Based on concerns raised by historic preservation organizations including the American Battlefield Trust, the Bull Run Civil War Round Table and the PWC Historical Commission, the CPA does include some measures intended to mitigate the adverse impacts of potential data centers on Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBP). These measures include land use designation as Parks and Open Space for land where data centers would present the most direct threat to MNBP (see Land Use Map, below).

The CPA does not, however, eliminate the threat of adverse effects of Pageland Lane corridor data centers on historic land in the study area or to MNBP. Historic land parcels in the Southern District, including land designated by the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) as Manassas Battlefield Core and Study Areas retain the Tech Flex land use designation with the potential for data center development. This is land where American soldiers camped, fought, were treated for battle wounds and disease, died, and were buried before, during and after the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battles of Manassas/Bull Run.



PW Digital Gateway Land Use Map



PW Digital Gateway Study Area and Subdistrict Map

(cont on page 20)

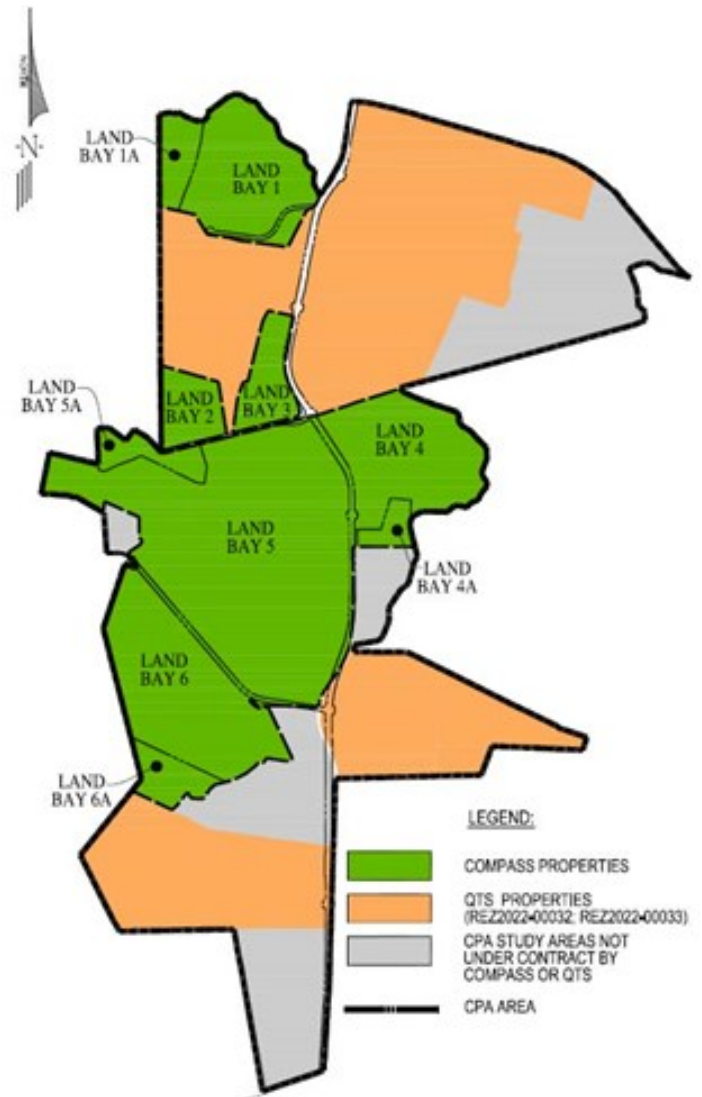
## Preservation Corner

The effectiveness of specific measures in the CPA intended to mitigate data center adverse effects on historic land, sites and viewsheds is questionable. These measures, including setbacks, buffer areas, berms, tree screens and afforestation, and building and lighting restrictions typically fail to effectively mitigate adverse effects as intended. What may 'look and sound' good on paper has not typically achieved the desired mitigation result.

The existing Dominion Energy transmission line paralleling Pageland Lane is rated "near or at capacity", and it was eventually acknowledged that any data centers built in the Pageland Lane corridor north of U.S. Route 29 will require new power substations and transmission lines. This would significantly increase the electrical power infrastructure in the corridor, with attendant adverse impacts on MNBP and its historic sites and viewsheds, and on other historic land in the corridor. Likewise, the proposed widening of Pageland Lane would significantly impact MNBP and other historic lands in the corridor.

Based on the approved CPA, Compass Datacenters and QTS Data Centers submitted requests to rezone specific acreage within the PWDG area from A-1, Agricultural to PBD, Planned Business District, Office/Flex District, and M-2, Light Industrial District, to allow for data centers, accessory uses and supporting facilities including substations. Compass Datacenters' Rezoning Application REZ-00036 - Compass Datacenters Prince William County Campus 1, and QTS Data Centers' Rezoning Applications REZ2022-00032 - Digital Gateway North and REZ2022-00033 - Digital Gateway South (see diagram, right) were submitted in the Fall of 2022. The three rezoning requests remain under consideration and review by the

PWC Staff, including ongoing discussions between PWC staff and Compass and QTS representatives, with appropriate revisions and/or adjustments to the respective requests.



Land Parcels within the Prince William Digital Gateway covered by the Rezoning Requests submitted by Compass Datacenters and QRS Data Centers.

(cont on page 21)

## Preservation Corner

Specific issues that remain under discussion between the PWC staff and Compass and QTS representatives, and between QTS, Compass and MNBP include:

- Compass’s request for a Special Use Permit (SUP) waiver – a waiver required because the proposed data center and electrical substation is outside of the Data Center Opportunity Zone Overlay District.
- Structure locations and heights (including rooftop equipment) and associated visibility from the MNBP historic viewsheds.
  - ◊ Ongoing viewshed analysis and discussions involving QTS and Compass representatives, PWC Staff and MNBP continue.
- Noise levels and limits for data centers and associated structures and equipment
- Adverse effects (visibility, noise, etc.) of structures and associated equipment on historical land and sites throughout the Pageland Lane corridor
  - ◊ Family cemeteries, cultural resources, and historical sites
  - ◊ Manassas National Battlefield Historic District
  - ◊ Land within the designated Manassas Battlefield Core Area
  - ◊ Historic battlefield land along General Trimble’s Lane that is owned by the American Battlefield Trust and intended for eventual incorporation into the MNBP.

## Cedar Mountain Battlefield

On April 24, 2023, the Board of Directors of the Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield announced it will reorganize the Friends Group as a Foundation. The resultant Cedar Mountain Battlefield Foundation’s focus will be expanding the preservation and interpretation of the Battle of Cedar Mountain.

Reorganizing as a Foundation will enhance the organization’s capabilities for preservation and interpretation of the battlefield and the surrounding historic landscape through expanded public programming, including guided battlefield tours and school-age children tours and camps, and for fundraising activities and pursuing grant opportunities. The Foundation also plans to expand its membership base and increase opportunities for volunteers to help with interpretation and preservation projects on the battlefield. Cedar Mountain Battlefield is part of the recently established Culpeper Battlefields State Park, scheduled to open July 1, 2024.

Cedar Mountain Battlefield Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to collaborating with landowners and local citizens to protect and interpret, and promote public awareness of, the Cedar Mountain Civil War Battlefield. Cedar Mountain Battlefield Foundation offers monthly guided walking tours of the battlefield, children’s Civil War summer camps, and reenactment and educational events focused on the Battle of Cedar Mountain, fought August 9, 1862.

Visit [www.friendsofcedarmountain.org](http://www.friendsofcedarmountain.org) for more information on Cedar Mountain Battlefield and the Cedar Mountain Battlefield Foundation.

Thank you for your continued interest in, and support of, BRCWRT’s preservation projects, action and activities.

Blake Myers, BRCWRT Preservation Chair

## NEW MEMBER PROFILE

Capt. Don Ditko, USN (Ret)

Don hails from Johnstown PA, but has lived in Fairfax VA since 1992. With degrees from Penn State, the University of Rhode Island, and Virginia Tech, he's a well-educated guy – also having attended the Armed Forces Staff College and the Defense Acquisition University. He's the married father of two daughters. As a Surface Warfare Officer from 1977-2004, his sea and shore assignments included command of USS BRISCOE (DD 977) and service on the staff of the Secretary of Defense. He currently supports the National Reconnaissance Office in Chantilly VA as a contractor.

Don became interested in the Civil War when he visited Gettysburg with his parents in 1963. Growing up in Pennsylvania, it was a highlight of the State's history. He wrote a high school term paper on the battle, and later was assigned to provide a briefing on Gettysburg at the Armed Forces Staff College. As a Navy guy, he says he was uneasy about briefing a famous land battle to his Army counterparts, many of whom were graduates of the Military Academy, so he spent hours preparing, all the while discovering more and more areas to study.

When the Gettysburg movie came out, his daughters were beginning their studies of history, but they were learning the Virginia version of the War Between the States – "We didn't call it that in Pennsylvania". Don created a presentation for students using film clips from the movie to illustrate not only the battle, but also the organization and function of Civil War armies. For over 20 years, he's been presenting his seminar and then leading a field trip to the battlefield for the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade at St. Ambrose Elementary School in Annandale VA. He's also led Staff Rides to Gettysburg,

South Mountain, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Manassas, Ball's Bluff, and Ox Hill. He enjoys taking these groups to Civil War sites, such as Ox Hill, that are rarely visited.

Don enjoyed participating in Civil War Study Tours run by the Penn State Alumni Association. When the study tours were no longer given, he arranged his own tours of Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Chattanooga, and Chickamauga. Recently, he's become interested in "The Lost Cause" and its influence on the way history is presented to young students, and he is a dedicated supporter of efforts to preserve the battlefields so they can experience what he did at Gettysburg back in 1963.



## HISTORIC BLENHEIM UPCOMING EVENT

**Free Talk and Book Signing: *Major General Philip Kearny: A Soldier and His Time in the American Civil War***

**Saturday, May 20, 2 pm**

**Location: Historic Blenheim, 3610 Blenheim Blvd. 703-591-0560.**

Join author Robert R. Laven as he provides knowledge and insight to the talented field commander, Union General Philip Kearny. Kearny was on the verge of higher command when his life was cut short at the 1862 Battle of Chantilly.

## BRCWRT BOOK SALES

The Round Table holds regular sales of donated books to raise money for the \$2000 Annual Scholarship Fund; these books increase our members' understanding of the Civil War. Members are also encouraged to make tax-deductible monetary donations to the Fund. Thank you!

# CIVIL WAR

## BOOKS, RELICS & MEMORABILIA SALE

Saturday  
**May 20, 2023**  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm

## Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge

8421 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22031  
1 Mile from Beltway Exit, Route 50 West

Admission Price: \$5 per person

## VENDORS WELCOME

**\* 25 Tables \***

## INFORMATION

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[dhakenson@verizon.net](mailto:dhakenson@verizon.net), 703-785-5294

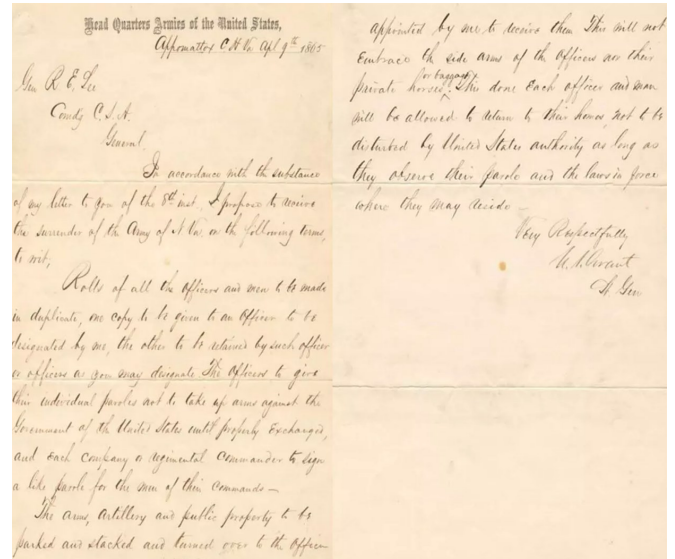


**CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH  
MS. REBELLE**

**Brevet Brigadier General Ely Samuel "Ha-sa-no-ela Do-ne-ho-geh-weh" Parker, USA**

**By Janet Greentree**

While writing my last article about General John A. Rawlins, I became fascinated by Ely Parker, who was a Seneca Indian. He was Grant's military aide, was with him at the surrender at Appomattox, and wrote the words for the surrender. He kept his copy of the surrender document for many years and had Grant attest to its authenticity. The document was given to the New York Historical Society as a donation from the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. One would think that this would have been Parker's most precious memento, but it was not. His great-great-uncle Red Jacket was given a 7-inch silver medal by President George Washington in 1792, which Ely possessed.

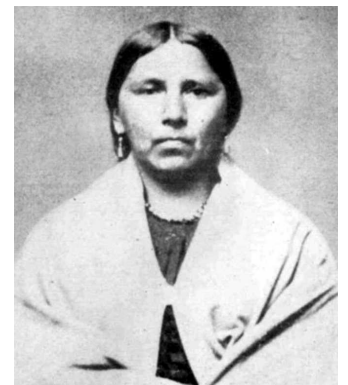
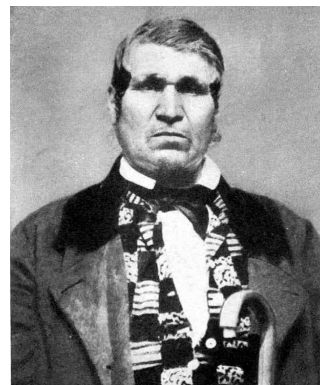
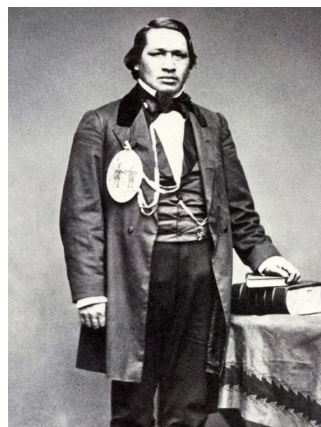


The Appomattox Surrender Document

Ely Samuel Parker was born during a 30-mile buckboard trip from western New York to the Tonawanda Reservation at Indian Falls, Genesee County, in 1828. His Indian first name translates to "Leading Name". His second name was given to him in 1852 when he was made sachem of the Senecas; it translates as "Keeper of the Western Door of the Long House of the Iroquois". He was raised on the Tonawanda Reservation. His parents were William Jonoedona Parker (a Seneca Chief) and Elizabeth Gaontguntwirrus Johnson. Both were Senecas; his father fought in the War of 1812, was a miller, and was a Baptist minister. Ely was their 5<sup>th</sup>



Ely Samuel Parker (left) and displaying Red Jacket's medal (below)



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## MS. REBELLE

child. His siblings were Spencer, Levi, Nicholson, Caroline, Isaac Newton, and Solomon. Nicholson was a Seneca leader and orator. Isaac Newton was with the 53<sup>rd</sup> NY Infantry during the Civil War. His earliest recorded ancestor Gaiyengwa "Old Disappearing Smoke" Parker was born in 1707. His grandmother was white.

Ely was educated at a Baptist Mission School and spoke both the Seneca language and English. He took Ely (pronounced Eelee) as his English name after the school's minister. He received a broad education, including Greek, Latin, and science. As a teenager he was one of three students chosen to meet President James Polk. He was on the debate team and became the school's leading orator. He was so good at English that he became a translator for the Seneca elders at age 14. He attended the Yates Academy in Yates, NY from 1843-45 and the Cayuga Academy in Aurora, NY from 1845-46.

At the age of 18 he moved to Cattaraugus County, New York to read the law for the firm of Angel and Rice in Ellicottville. He finished his studies but was denied the bar exam and was unable to join the New York Bar because only natural born or naturalized citizens were admitted. Since he was a Seneca he did not qualify. He then studied civil engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He later served as Sachem of the six Iroquois Nations, including the Tuscaroras, Cayugas, Senecas, Mohawks, Oneidas, and Onondagas. All of the tribes had towns named for them. My son's family lives near Cayuga Lake in Ithaca.

Parker's first job as an engineer was working on the canals in New York. At the same time, he represented the Tonawanda Senecas. He joined the Freemasons, the militia, and the Grand Council of the

Iroquois. In 1857 he was sent to Galena, IL to supervise the building of a Custom House and a U.S. Marine Hospital. The hospital is being remade into a planned development called The Parker; the Custom House is now a Post Office. Parker met Grant at his father's store in 1860. They became close friends.



Former Custom House & current USPO, Galena IL



U.S. Marine Hospital, Galena IL

Parker tried to join the Union Army when the Civil War broke out but was forbidden because of his ethnicity. Secretary William H. Seward informed him that "the rebellion would be suppressed by the whites, without the aid of Indians. Go home, cultivate your farm and we will settle our own troubles without any Indian aid." The governor of New York also refused to sign papers for him to enter the army.

In 1863 he was commissioned as Captain of Engineers and was then assigned to his friend Grant's staff as his military aide. He wrote out most of Grant's correspondence and orders for the rest of the Civil War. He was with Grant through Vicksburg, Chattanooga, the Overland Campaign, Petersburg, and

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## MS. REBELLE

finally Appomattox. He, along with another Galena friend, Gen. John E. Smith, were in the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, XVII Corps, Army of the Tennessee. Parker was given the task of writing the surrender papers when Grant's Adjutant Col. Theodore S. Bowers was too nervous to do it. Parker used his legal training to write the document on Grant's manifold order-book, which was brought to him at an oval table. The manifold book is twice the size of a business letter sheet and has a stencil that will print six copies at a time; Parker only prepared three.

When General Lee spotted Parker at the McLean House, he exclaimed "I am glad to see one real American here." Parker replied, "We are all Americans." Later, interviewed about Grant's gritty appearance at Appomattox, Parker said "if you want to show General Grant as he really was — he had a cigar in his mouth."



Surrender at Appomattox (Parker, standing 3rd from right)

Parker remained in the Army and accompanied Grant to Washington. He arrived on April 14, 1865, to meet with President Lincoln. Parker had spent a lot of time with the president at Grant's HQ at City Point. Lincoln would sit with Parker while Parker read the telegrams coming in. He had come to show his Red Jacket medal

to the president. At this point fate stepped in and Lincoln and his wife went to Ford's Theatre that night. Parker later said "You white men are Christians and may forgive the murder (of President Abraham Lincoln). I am of a race which never forgives the murder of a friend." When Grant became President in 1869, he appointed his friend Ely Parker as his secretary and aide-de-camp. He was then appointed as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, a position that had never been held before by an Indian.



Grant's staff at City Point

Parker did not marry until he was 39 years of age. He married Minnie Orton Sackett, a Washington socialite, who was only 18 years of age. She was said to be the most beautiful belle in the District. There was quite a bit of gossip about their interracial marriage. A Washington newspaper reported that "Col. Ely S. Parker, Chief of the Six Nations, is to be married on Thursday next to a pale faced daughter of the late Col. Sackett. The friends of Col. P. will congratulate him and wish him success in his new relation."

(cont on page 27)

## MS. REBELLE

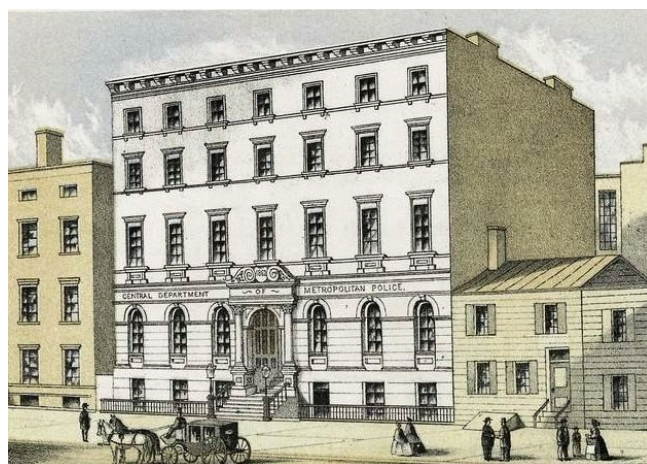
It is not clear where they met, but it was perhaps when her mother came to Grant's camp to inquire about the whereabouts of her husband and was told he had died. They were to be married at the Church of the Epiphany, Washington D.C. on December 17, 1867, with Gen. Grant giving the bride away.

Unfortunately, the groom did not appear. All kinds of rumors went around Washington. It was thought he could have been drunk, fallen through the ice, married another, or just changed his mind. The most likely story is that his friends of the Six Nations opposed the wedding and sent someone to talk him out of it. It seems he was drugged and did not re-appear for several days. Minnie took him back and the wedding finally occurred on December 25<sup>th</sup> at a little church around the corner, and Grant walked Minnie down the aisle. Parker wore one of Grant's military sashes. Minnie's dress was from Madame Demorest's salon on Pennsylvania Avenue. Ely often said that Minnie was the love of his life. Ely and Minnie had one daughter when Ely was 50 years old – Maud Theresa Parker, born in 1878. She married Arthur Bennett Bullard on December 27, 1906 in Cambridge, MA. Maud lived until 1956.



Ely Parker and  
Minnie Orton  
Sackett

After he left office as Commissioner, Ely and Minnie moved to a lovely home in Fairfield CT they called "Robin's Nest." Ely commuted to New York City and made a fortune on Wall Street. Unfortunately, he lost all that money in the Panic of 1873. He tried to go back to engineering but found his skills were outdated. For nearly 20 years he worked as the head requisitions clerk with the New York City Police Department at 300 Mulberry Street, earning a modest salary.



His last years were spent battling kidney disease, diabetes, and several strokes. On August 31, 1895, he died in his sleep at the home of Arthur Brown in Fairfield CT. He was first buried in Fairfield, and then moved in 1897 to Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo, NY. He is buried near his Seneca friends and ancestors: Red Jacket, Little Billy, Young King, Tall Peter, Destroy Town, and Deerfoot a/k/a Louis Bennett. Ely died in poverty and Minnie had barely any financial resources. She only received \$8 per month from his pension. She had to sell most of his personal papers, his library, and sadly his Red Jacket medal, which is now in the Buffalo-Erie Co. Historical Society. The Loyal Legion, hearing of Minnie's plight, sent her \$2,000

(cont on page 28)

## MS. REBELLE

for Ely's copy of the surrender papers. The Government stepped in and increased her pension to \$30.00 per month. In 1897 Minnie married James Tallmadge Van Rensselaer. Sadly, Van Rensselaer died two years later. However, he left her with quite a bit of money.



The Times-Picayune (New Orleans, LA) wrote on Sep. 1, 1895 "Necrology. General Ely Samuel Parker. Bridgeport, Ct., Aug. 31. General Ely Samuel Parker died suddenly last night at the residence in Fairfield of Arthur Brown, where he came from New York yesterday. General Parker was 75 years old and was a full-blooded Indian. He was born on the Tonawanda reservation in New York, was chief of the Seneca tribe and king of the Six Nations. His Indian name was "Do-Ne-Hoh-Ga-Wa which means "Keeper of the Western Gate." He received a commission as captain in the United States Army from President Lincoln and joined Grant at Vicksburg in 1863, where he was made a member of the general's staff, with the rank of colonel. He served through the war, and for some time acted as General Grant's private secretary. He wrote the famous surrender of Lee at Appomattox in 1865. He received the rank of brigadier general from Grant, and when he became president was

appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which place he held until 1871. For several years past he had been superintendent and architect of police stations in New York city. General Parker was a Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Loyal Legion of Army and Navy. He was an ardent Republican and an eloquent speaker."

The Buffalo News of Jan. 20, 1897, reported "Gen. Parker's Body Here. The body of the late Gen. Ely S. Parker was reinterred at Forest Lawn Cemetery this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Gen. Parker was a full-blooded Seneca Indian. He died in Fairfield, Conn. in 1895. At the time of his death the Buffalo Historical Society suggested to Mrs. Parker that the body of her husband be buried beside the noble braves who were lying in the Red Jacket lot at Forest Lawn. Mrs. Parker declined the offer, but recently changed her mind. The body of the General was exhumed at Fairfield yesterday and brought to Buffalo at 12:30 this afternoon. Many Indians from the Cattaraugus and Tonawanda Reservations were at the depot to witness the arrival of the coffin. Among the prominent ones were Chiefs Chauncy H. Abram, Thomas Poodray, Jacob Doctor and Howard Hatch. David Moses, a nephew of Gen. Parker was present at the burial services. When the coffin arrived, it was taken in charge by a committee from the Buffalo Historical Society. The coffin was draped in a beautiful American flag. The pallbearers were Indians from the Tonawanda Reservation. Gen. Parker was an eminent figure during the Civil War. He was a member of Gen. Grant's staff and famous for his military shrewdness and penetration. He was a man of striking physique. Mrs. Parker is a white woman, of slight build and very pretty."

(cont on page 29)

## MS. REBELLE

Ms. Rebelle would like to thank her granddaughter Katerina Greentree, who goes to the University of Buffalo, for taking the picture of General Parker’s grave. Katerina has been on cemetery treks with me since she was a little girl. Thanks also to her boyfriend Daniel Dedrick and his father Matt, who accompanied Katerina. Parker is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo, in front of a statue of Red Jacket of Revolutionary War times. Red Jacket was actually a great great-uncle of Parker; he got his name from all the red jackets he kept of the British he captured. Parker is buried in Section 12, Lot 1. His marker is hard to read due to the wear and tear caused by the elements. It reads “In Memory of Done-ho-geh-weh, Sachem Six Nations, Military Sec. 1863-66, Gen. Grant’s Staff, Brig. Gen., USA, U.S. Com., Indian Affairs 1869-1871, Born of Seneca Parents 1828, Died Aug. 30, 1895.”



Daniel Dedrick at the Monument to Red Jacket

Photo: Katerina Greentree



Ely Parker’s Gravestone

Photo: Katerina Greentree

On June 28, 2000, the Ely S. Parker Bureau of Indian Affairs was opened at 12220 Sunrise Valley Drive in Reston, VA. Many people came from the Tonawanda Seneca Nation to attend the event. The building was named for him as he was the first Commissioner of Indian Affairs appointed by General Grant in 1869. He held this position until 1871.

*NOTE: Ms. Rebelle’s hobby is travelling the country finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008 Civil War generals. So far she has located and photographed 427 - 169 Confederate and 258 Union. You may contact her at [jlgrtree@erols.com](mailto:jlgrtree@erols.com).*

**IN MEMORIAM**  
**DENIS CHRISTOPHER LYDDANE**  
**Jan. 20, 1953 – Mar. 24, 2023**



BRCWRT member Denis Christopher Lyddane was born on January 20, 1953, and passed peacefully on March 24, 2023, with family at his side. He was born at Doctor's Hospital in Washington, D.C., the third child of John Burke and Emilie Lyddane, who precede him in death, as does his first wife, Margaret Louise (1999).

Denis is survived by his second wife, Karen Sue; his brothers, Patrick (Ann), Martin Burke (Brenda), and sister, Mary Margaret (Robert). He leaves many nieces, a nephew, grandnieces, and grand-nephews.

Denis' childhood was spent in Falls Church; the family moved to New Baltimore in 1969. He graduated from Fauquier High School and worked as a Central Office Technician for Verizon. He was well known as 'Daddy-O' and for his extraordinary kind, caring heart. Denis thought outside the box and encouraged everyone to do the same. Always generous with his family and friends, he never hesitated to help them throughout life.

Denis loved history and danced with the Victorian Dance Ensemble. He was popular in his civilian role in the 150th

anniversary commemoration of the Civil War and walked for years in the National Memorial Day Parade. Denis greeted everyone with a smile and his easy-going, generous nature. His Scottish Terrier, Murray, was his pride and joy.

BRCWRT members will remember Denis and Karen (the sister of member Jim Lewis) from our monthly meetings and in period dress at our annual picnics at The Winery at Bull Run. At the 2019 picnic, Denis gave Ms. Rebelle, aka Janet Greentree, an old coin and asked her to place it on the next grave she found. As you know from reading her *Stone Wall* column, Ms. Rebelle's hobby is traveling the country finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008 Civil War generals. She went to visit her son Mark's family and made a stop at Bath, NY to find the grave of General William Woods Averell. Janet said, "I placed Denis' coin on Averell's grave. Averell was the easiest general I have found. Denis was such a nice person. He will be missed." Yes, he certainly will be missed.



Averell's grave marker with Denis' coin

# Prince William Historic Preservation Lecture Series:

**Ages 10+ • Thursdays • 7-8:30 pm • FREE**  
Old Manassas Courthouse 9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA

**Prince William County's  
"Boy Major," Joseph Latimer**  
Jan 26

Brentsville native Joseph Latimer was a 19-year-old artillery major when he received a mortal wound at the Battle of Gettysburg. Find out how this young man rose to prominence and rank during the Civil War from Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guide William Griffith.

**The Preserve: Reconstructing  
An African American  
Neighborhood In The  
Bull Run Mountains**  
Feb 23

Historian and archaeologist Patrick O'Neill will share his research on local African American communities in the Bull Run Mountains.

**Mosby's War On The Orange &  
Alexandria Railroad**  
Mar 23

Mosby's Rangers constantly targeted the Orange & Alexandria Railroad during the Civil War and attempted to damage the Federal war effort. Historian Eric Buckland will share Mosby's attempts to disrupt the railroad and the measures taken to stop him.

**Rise Of A Region:  
A Developmental History  
Of Northern Virginia**  
Apr 27

Learn how the built environment of Northern Virginia developed into the places we live, work, and entertain in today. Andrew Painter has researched and written articles examining the region's land development history.

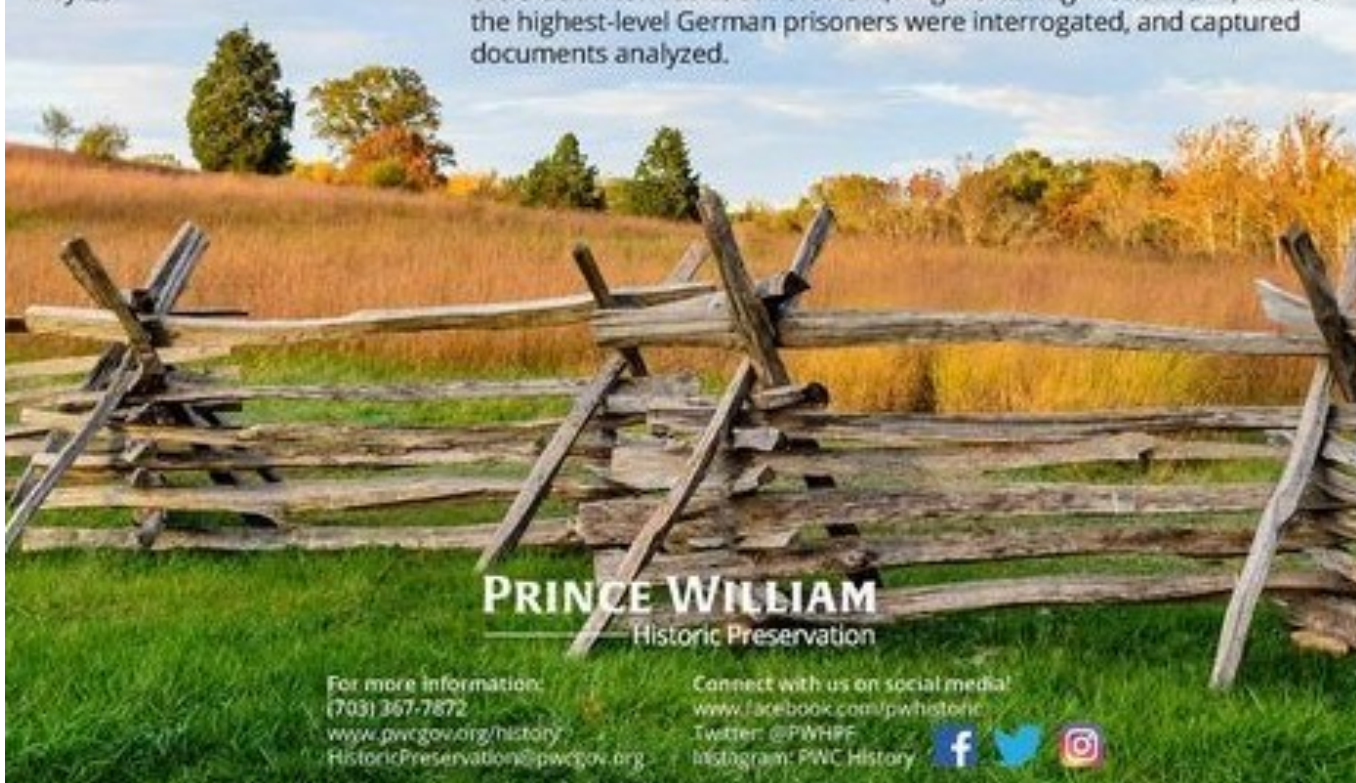
**Nazis On The Potomac**  
May 25

Historian and author Robert Sutton presents the first full account of the crucial work done at Fort Hunt, Virginia during World War II, where the highest-level German prisoners were interrogated, and captured documents analyzed.

**PRINCE WILLIAM**  
Historic Preservation

For more information:  
(703) 367-7872  
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[HistoricPreservation@pwcgov.org](mailto:HistoricPreservation@pwcgov.org)

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# 42nd Annual Spring Civil War Mosby Bus Tour

## Mosby and the Gettysburg Campaign

Saturday, June 17, 2023

Sponsored by the Stuart - Mosby Historical Society

Tour Leaders will be  
Kevin Pawlak and Rob Orrison - our INAUGURAL TOUR!

**We are honored to take the reins from Don and Eric,  
and plan on honoring this great tradition.**

Mosby played an integral role in the Gettysburg campaign. Tour will include stops such as Ewell's Chapel, Middleburg, Aldie, Rowser's Ford and many others. The bus will leave Truro Parish (10520 Main Street, Fairfax City) promptly at 8:30am.

**\$80 members of the Stuart-Mosby  
Historical Society**

**\$90 for non-members**

(Same as 2022 prices!)

Tour does not include lunch.  
Lunch will be on your own.

To sign up contact Rob Orrison  
at 703-431-2869 or email  
orrison76@hotmail.com  
or send your check to Rob Orrison  
(make checks payable to Rob) at  
16937 Monmouth Ct.  
Dumfries, VA 22026.

No refunds after June 3, 2023.

**This tour is the longest  
continuous Mosby bus tour in  
America today!**







**THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
P.O. Box 2147, Centreville, VA 20122**

<http://www.bullruncwrt.org>

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

**Thank you for your continued interest in the BRCWRT!**

**Here are your payment options:**

**Annual Dues:**

**Individual: \$20.00**

**Family: \$25.00**

**Student (21 & under): FREE!**

**Three-Year Option:**

**\$55.00**

**\$65.00**

**You may use PayPal by going to [http://brcwrt.org/?page\\_id=962](http://brcwrt.org/?page_id=962) and then emailing this form to [BRCWRTtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:BRCWRTtreasurer@gmail.com). Note that \$1 is added to cover the PayPal fee.**

**-OR-**

**You may pay by check, made payable to: BRCWRT (Bull Run Civil War Round Table) and give the form and check to the President or Treasurer at a General Membership meeting.**

**-OR-**

**You may mail this form and the check to:**

**BRCWRT Treasurer  
P.O. Box 2147  
Centreville, VA 20122**

**NAME(S)\_\_\_\_\_**

**NAME(S) FOR BADGE (if different)\_\_\_\_\_**

**If there are any changes:**

**ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_**

**CITY\_\_\_\_\_ STATE\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP\_\_\_\_\_**

**PHONE\_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL\_\_\_\_\_**

**Are there any BRCWRT activities you would like to help with (tours, selling used books, member recruitment, newsletter articles, annual picnic)?**

**Do you have any suggestions for additional BRCWRT activities? \_\_\_\_\_**