



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XIX, Issue 3, APRIL 2012

**AWARD-WINNING  
HISTORIAN  
JOHN QUARSTEIN  
SPEAKS ON  
THE BATTLE OF  
THE *USS MONITOR*  
& *CSS VIRGINIA* AT  
HAMPTON ROADS**



By Mark Trbovich

Please join me and welcome John Quarstein at our April 12 meeting as he speaks on this Civil War Sesquicentennial event where "Ironclad" ships fought for the first time in naval history. John V. Quarstein is a distinguished preservationist, and author. He has served as the director of the Virginia War Museum since 1978. In addition to these duties, he oversees the management of the historic properties of the City of Newport News including Endview Plantation, Lee Hall Mansion, Young's Mill, and the Newsome House. John also serves as the historical advisor for the Mariners' Museum's *USS Monitor* Center project. He previously has served as an adjunct professor at the College of William and Mary, the University of Virginia, and Virginia Commonwealth University. He has authored seven books including *Fort Monroe: The Key to the South*, *CSS Virginia: Mistress of Hampton Roads*, *The Civil War on the Virginia Peninsula*, *The Monitor Boys: The Crew of the Union's First Ironclad*, *A History of Ironclads: The Power of Iron over Wood*, and *the Battle of the Ironclads*.

John has provided a key leadership role for a wide variety of special historical, preservation and museum development projects. He has assisted in the creation or revitalization of eighteen museums and aided the preservation and interpretation of numerous historic sites including The Ripken Museum, Williamsburg Battlefield, and Lee Hall Depot. John was the recipient of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 1993 President's Award for Historic Preservation and the United Daughters of the Confederacy's Jefferson Davis Gold Medal in 1999. Presently, he serves on the board of several national organizations including Virginia Civil War Trails, John Singleton Mosby Foundation, and Federal Area Development Authority for Fort Monroe. His latest book is *Big Bethel: The First Battle*. Our next meeting looks to be an excellent evening of naval warfare so come on out and enjoy.

John will have his new book at the meeting for purchase, and as always, stop by before the meeting at

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Thursday, April 12, 2012**

**7:00 P.M. Centreville Library**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**John V. Quarstein**

**TOPIC:**

**The Battle of the *USS Monitor*  
and the *CSS Virginia* (formerly  
*USS Merrimack*)**

5:00 p.m. to meet John at the Copper Canyon Grill across Route 29 from the Centreville library and to enjoy dinner with other BRCWRT members.

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## BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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

**General Membership meetings** are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the

**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>.

### NEWLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **MAY 2012 issue**, e-mail articles by 9:00 a.m., Thursday, April 26, to Saundra Cox at scox@capitalav.com. If acknowledgement of your article is not received by deadline, call Saundra at 703.675.0702 (cell) or 540.374.2011 (Capital AV).

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For **MAY 2012 issue advertisers**, click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon, Monday, April 16 to Charlie Balch at [BRCWRTads@gmail.com](mailto:BRCWRTads@gmail.com).

## BRCWRT BOOK DONATIONS



Please remember to bring your unwanted Civil War books to our meetings to aid in our ongoing book event. Besides raising money for the BRCWRT, these books increase our members' understanding of the Civil War. Thank you.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**MAY 10**

**SPEAKER:**

**Ed Bearss**

**TOPIC:**

**The Battle of Shiloh, April 1862**

**JUNE 14**

**SPEAKER:**

**Edward Sanders**

**TOPIC:**

**The Seven Days Battles  
June 1863**

**JULY 12**

**SPEAKER:**

**Scott Patchen**

**TOPIC:**

**Second Manassas:  
Longstreet's Attack and the  
Struggle for Chinn Ridge**



## The President's Column By Mark Trbovich

Spring has been in the air, but this month the sea is calling us for our April general membership meeting. We will hear about the first sea battle of Ironclads in the Civil War. This 2012 CW Sesquicentennial event speaker is the award-winning and nationally known author John Quarstein. He is coming from Newport News to grace us this month. You will not want to miss this presentation. Come early to visit with members and friends and to get a good seat.

Please remember that April is the last BRCWRT membership drive month. We encourage everyone to renew your membership for 2012. In addition to renewing at the April meeting, you can use the online application at the [brcwrt.org](http://brcwrt.org) Web site or the mailer on page 12 of this newsletter. Our membership dues remain the same. Please remember that you must be a member by this month to continue to receive our outstanding newsletter. I'm sorry to report that e-mail and regular mail deliveries will end for non-members in May so sign up as soon as you can. I encourage everyone to spread the word to your family and friends that the BRCWRT is the place to be in 2012.

As we have been discussing for the past months, I believe we should reach out this year to our younger members and potential members to get them interested in our Northern Virginia Civil War history and our round table as they could be the future of this organization. Bring them along because you never know what impact the BRCWRT may have on them. In fact, your 2012 BRCWRT Executive Committee has commenced discussions on a 2013 BRCWRT College Scholarship program for a high school senior heading to college. We are all pretty excited to create this scholarship.

I would like to thank our March speaker, Robert Alton, who used to live in Dumfries and now lives in Fredericksburg. His lecture, "Stratagem 1861 - Early Civil War Tactics and the Battle for the Potomac," was filled with many facts about our Potomac River region fortifications in 1861 and some strategies for potential military movements before the Peninsula Campaign starting in March of 1862. It was an excellent lecture based on his book of the same title. He received praise from many who purchased the book at



Crystal and Robert Alton.  
Photo by Janet Greentree

the meeting. We enjoyed meeting his lovely wife Crystal too. Thank you so much, Robert, and keep in touch.

In closing, please feel free to contact me at any time, and I will make every attempt to get back with you promptly. It is my honor to again serve you, and together and united, we are the Bull Run Civil War Round Table launching new initiatives which has made us the CW education and preservation leader in the area. If there is a Civil War Preservation effort going on in our region, you can best believe we are now and will in the future be there fighting to preserve that hallowed ground.

Let us never forget these soldiers and what they did for us.

God Bless all of you,



**The BRCWRT recently donated these benches to the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park to commemorate the Sesquicentennial. Have your photo taken sitting on one, e-mail it to the *Stone Wall* editor, and you'll be in the next newsletter issue.**





## STAFFORD CIVIL WAR PARK SITE & WHITE OAK MUSEUM TOUR SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2012

By Sandra Cox

What a perfect day! The weather was the best and so was our tour guide, Glenn Trimmer, Executive Director, Friends of Stafford Civil War Sites. Thanks, Glenn and FSCWS members Brian Wittlow and Steve LeBlanc, for a memorable and informative tour of the future park. A special thanks to D. P. Newton, owner of the White Oak Civil War Museum & Research Center (and FSCWS president) and his volunteers. Thirty-four members enjoyed the day.

Photos by Gwen Wyttenbach, Charlie Balch and Doug Cox.



Attendees included: Pete Andrews, Nancy Anwyll, Charlie Balch, Mike Block, Paul Brenner and guest Rich Cassell, Mike Buckley, Doug and Sandra Cox, Bryce and Marie Cumbie, Alan Day, Bob Eldridge, Jerry and Sylvia Holy, Ken Jones, Mike Jones, Tom Jones, Chris Kern, Mark and Yvonne Knowles, Jim Lewis, Lyle Loveall, Dan Lundeen, Dale Maschino, Wilfred Masumura, Jim and Joyce Meagher, Jack Nance, Tom Ross, Arch Scurlock, Larry Soufal, Mark Whinton and Gwen Wyttenbach.

**DON'T MISS THESE  
UPCOMING  
BRCWRT TOURS!**

**GAINES MILL  
MAY 12**

**BALLS BLUFF & FORT EVANS  
JUNE 16**

**For tours with our May speaker,  
Ed Bearss, go to**

[http://bullruncwrt.org/BRCWRT/Bearss\\_2012\\_tours.pdf](http://bullruncwrt.org/BRCWRT/Bearss_2012_tours.pdf)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



*If you plan to attend an event, please verify the information given. Advance reservation and fees may apply. If you would like an event posted, please e-mail Dale Maschino at [fsainc@netzero.net](mailto:fsainc@netzero.net).*

**7 Apr** – Walking tour, “First Manassas Battlefield Hike,” ranger-guided tour at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 1 – 5 p.m. Free with park admission. For information link to [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).

**11 Apr** – Book talk, “1861: A Civil War Awakening,” at the Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, 7:30 p.m. Signing and reception follow. For details, call 703-591-0560.

**12 Apr** – Living history, “Life in the 1860’s at the Bushong House,” on the New Market Battlefield State Park. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free with park admission.

**13-14 Apr** – 40th Annual Civil War Show, featuring 350 tables of Civil War military effects, relics, memorabilia, books, paper goods, art and antique weapons. Fredericksburg Expo Center, Fri. 2-7 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$8

**13-15 Apr** – “Culpeper Remembrance Days,” includes Civil War living history and tours throughout the town. Go to [www.visitculpeperva.com](http://www.visitculpeperva.com).

**14 Apr** – Lecture, “Battle of the Ironclads – The *Monitor* and the *Merrimac*,” at historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 4 p.m. Free. 703-368-1873. For information, call 703-591-0560.

**14 Apr** – Living history, “Scout Along the Turnpike,” first-person interpretation at Aldie Mill, Mount Zion Church and the Rector House along Route 50. Noon to 5 p.m. Link to [www.mosbyheritagearea.org](http://www.mosbyheritagearea.org).

**14 Apr** – Lecture, “Shiloh: The Devil’s Own Day,” at the Thomas House on the Monocacy National Battlefield near Frederick. 1 p.m. Free. For reservations and directions call 301-662-3515.

**20-22 Apr** – Living history and tours during the Civil War Weekend at Montpelier, home of James Madison, near Orange. Camps, demonstrations, skirmishes and tours of the Confederate winter campsite on the grounds. Free with admission. For information link to [www.montpelier.org](http://www.montpelier.org).

**20-22 Apr** – Seminar, “Gray Ghosts, Raiders and Bushwhackers: Partisan Warfare 1861-1865,” lectures and tour based in Hagerstown, MD. For details go to [www.civilwarseminars.org](http://www.civilwarseminars.org).

**21&28 Apr** – Bus tour, “John Wilkes Booth Escape Route,” classic 12-hour tour sponsored by the Surratt Society in Clinton, MD. \$75. For details and registration, link to [www.surratt.org](http://www.surratt.org).

**21 Apr** – Walking tour, “Second Manassas Battlefield

Hike,” ranger-guided tour at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 1-5 p.m. Free with park admission. For info link to [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).

**21 Apr** – Seminar, “Years of Anguish: Slavery and Emancipation,” at the Fredericksburg Baptist Church, 1019 Princess Anne St, Fredericksburg. 1-5 p.m. Free. For information link to [www.nps.gov/frsp](http://www.nps.gov/frsp).

**21 Apr** – Boat tour, “Potomac River Blockade,” includes surviving batteries that enforced the Confederate blockade of the Potomac Sept. 1861 to March 1862. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$30 includes lunch. For reservations call 703-792-4754.

**21 Apr** – Guided tours of Ben Lomond historic site showing hard war and graffiti, located at 10321 Sudley Manor Drive, Manassas. 6 - 9:30 p.m. (tours begin every 30 minutes). \$15. For reservations, call 703-367-7872.

**22 Apr** – Boat tour, “Civil War on the James,” includes Dutch Gap, Trent’s Reach and more. Leaves from Deep Bottom Park, southeast of Richmond. Noon – 2 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. \$45/person. For reservations call 804-938-2350.

**26 Apr** – Lecture, “The Battle of Kettle Run,” at the Old Manassas Courthouse, 9248 Lee Ave., Manassas. 7 p.m. Free. (donations welcome)

**28 Apr** – Bus Tour, “Both Sides Tour of Lee’s Maryland Campaign – 150 Years Ago,” includes trips to Harper’s Ferry and Antietam. Begins at 8 a.m. at the Franconia Museum 6121 Franconia Rd. \$100. For details and registration, call 703-971-4984.

**28 Apr** – Civil War medical care presentation at Ellwood Manor on the Wilderness Battlefield, near routes 20 and 3 west of Fredericksburg. 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For information link to [www.fowb.org](http://www.fowb.org).

**28-29 Apr** – “Occupied Brentsville,” Union camps with demonstrations and talks at the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd. Bristow, VA. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. For information call 703-365-7895.

**29 Apr** – Artillery demonstration at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. 1 p.m. Free with park admission. For info link to [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana).



**April & May**—“Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time, a Man of All Times,” a special traveling exhibit at Chatham Manor, Stafford County, by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.





**APRIL 1862**

By Nancy Anwyll

### Events Further From Home:

**April 6-7**, the Battle of Shiloh was waged in western Tennessee resulting in 13,047 Federal casualties and 10,694 Confederate casualties. The Confederates, under the command of Gen. Albert Johnston, attacked the first day driving the Federals from their camps. But on the second day of battle, the Federals under the command of Gen. U.S. Grant, regained the ground lost the day before. Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard withdrew the Confederate army and headed south to Corinth, Mississippi.

**April 8**, Confederates at Island No. 10 on the Mississippi River surrendered to Federal forces.

**April 11**, Fort Pulaski on the Savannah River near Savannah, Ga. surrendered to Federal forces.

**April 25**, after bombardments began on April 18 from forts along the Mississippi River south of New Orleans, the Union fleet under Flag Officer David Farragut passed successfully up river to capture the city of New Orleans.

### Events Closer to Home

**April 1**, after seeing to the loading and shipping of most of his army at Alexandria the last days of March, Gen. George McClellan and his headquarters staff boarded the steamer *Commodore* in Alexandria and sailed to the Yorktown Peninsula south of Richmond.

**April 4**, surprised by a change in orders, Gen. Irvin McDowell and his First Corp were ordered by Pres. Lincoln to march overland from the area near the Fairfax Seminary in Alexandria to the Rappahannock River. Lincoln's order was a result of his disagreement with Gen. McClellan who stated that the Capital was sufficiently protected and McDowell's troops were needed on the Peninsula. A few days later, Lincoln conceded partially to McClellan and ordered Gen. Franklin's Division detached from McDowell's Corps to join McClellan at Yorktown.

**April 9**, as part of McDowell's command, Reynolds's brigade of McCall's Division left the Fairfax Seminary, marching in rain, sleet, and snow before boarding the Orange & Alexandria train near Alexandria. They arrived at Manassas after dark and took shelter in deserted Confederate huts.

**April 11**, in Norfolk, Va., the Confederate ironclad, the *Merrimac*, sailed into Hampton Roads while the Federal ironclad, the *Monitor*, hovered nearby. The *Merrimac*

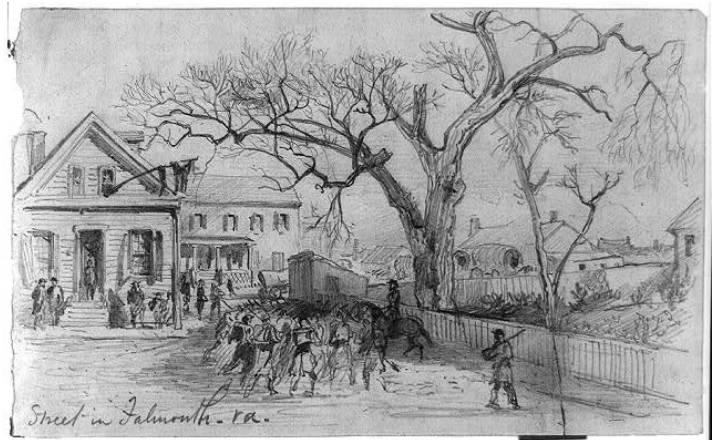


captured three merchant ships without a fight before it returned to Norfolk.

**April 16**, Lincoln ended slavery in the District of Columbia. The Federal government was required to pay slave owners up to \$300 for each slave owned and released.

**April 16**, Pres. Jefferson Davis approved an act of the Confederate Congress calling for conscription of white males between 18 and 35 years of age for three years of service.

**April 18**, in the Shenandoah Valley Gen. Thomas J. Jackson's Confederates left Gen. Nathaniel P. Bank's Federals behind as Jackson led the southern army from Harrisonburg to Elk Run Valley and Conrad's Store where the army remained until the end of the month.



**April 18**, after marching overland through Fairfax County to Centreville and Manassas, then south to Warrenton and Culpeper, General McDowell arrived in Falmouth and Fredericksburg, Va., where he and most of his First Corps remained by orders from Lincoln.

**April 26**, Pres. Lincoln visited the *Gassendi*, a French man-of-war docked at the Washington Navy Yard. The crew shouted, "Vive le President."

**See 150 YEARS AGO, Page 7**

## BATTLE OF OX HILL/CHANTILLY SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENT UPDATE



By Paula Elsey

Fairfax County's Civil War Signature Event—the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Ox Hill/Chantilly—will be held on Saturday, September 1, 2012, between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at Ox Hill Battlefield Park, 4134 West Ox Road, Fairfax.

It is free, open to the public, and no tickets required. Parking will be at the County Government Center, with shuttle bus service provided to the park. Because of the park's small size, the day will be divided into three different events in order to allow as many people as possible to attend.

The 10:00 a.m. morning event will feature a presentation of colors from all fifteen states that had soldiers fight in the battle, followed with speeches by BOS Chairman Sharon Bulova, Supervisor Pat Herrity, Supervisor Michael Frey, and FCPA Board Chairman Bill Bouie.

The 1:00 p.m. midday event is more for families. It will include a concert by the Federal City Brass Band and artillery demonstrations with two guns firing.



The 4:30 p.m. event is for serious students of the Civil War, with speeches, a ring of honor, and laying of wreaths at General Kearny's and General Stevens' monuments.

## 150 YEARS AGO [from Page 6]

**April**, as the Federal armies decamped from the local area, many southern families discovered that their once loyal slaves ran away. The Froebel sisters living at Wilton Hill on the old Fairfax Road (Franconia Rd.) lost one slave and the slave's two small boys. The Machen family at Walney near Centreville discovered that all of their rented farm workers left, and by August the Machen's only slave followed the workers' example.



**A bakery in Washington during the Civil War**

**April**, the *Washington Star* printed an ad for a new product called "aerated bread", which is "always uniform in quality, keeps moist for many days, is free from all deleterious ingredients, and is highly recommended by scientific men and physicians throughout the country." There was no mention of its advantages over hard tack, but many soldiers who read the ad must have looked upon their hard tack with a new perspective.

Sources: Photos from Library Of Congress; *The Civil War, Day by Day* by E. B. Long; Unpublished Manuscript of *Fairfax Civil War Chronology* by BRCWRT member Ed Wenzel; *Mirror of War, The Washington Post Reports the Civil War* by Stepp and Hill.

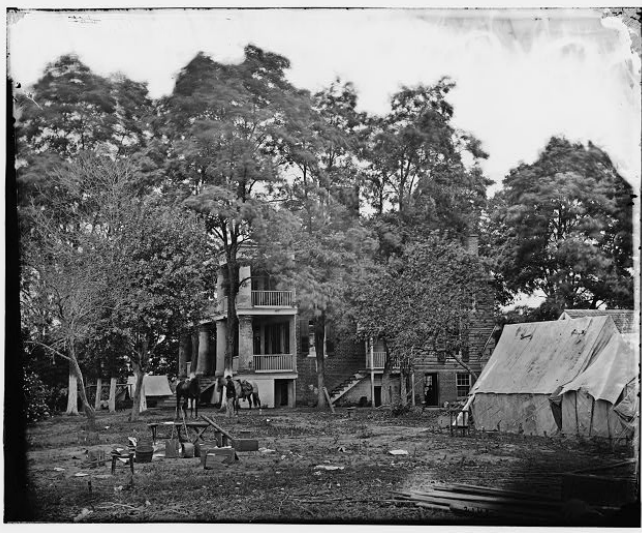


**YOUR AD COULD GO HERE!**  
For details, see the BRCWRT  
Web site <http://bullruncwrt.org>

**"Instructions for Advertisers"**



## STONE WALL 150 Years Ago March 1862 Photo Caption Correction



By Nancy Anwyll

The house that McClellan used as his headquarters in Fairfax City in March of 1862 was Dunleith, the home of a prominent attorney, Thomas R. Love, and his family. It was **not** the home of Richard Ratcliffe as printed in my last column. Dunleith was located on 100 acres near today's CVS drug store in the Courthouse Plaza Shopping Center located between University Street and Old Lee Highway and was built circa 1842 by George W. Hunter, Jr. He was a member of the same family who owned the mill on Hunter's Mill Rd.

Prior to being used by McClellan for headquarters, Dunleith was occupied in the summer and fall of 1861 as headquarters for Confederate Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard. When Pres. Jefferson Davis came to Fairfax Courthouse for a council of war, Davis stayed at *Dunleith* with Beauregard. Although Dunleith's land suffered from Confederate occupation, mainly due to entrenchments dug on the property, the house was destroyed sometime between 1863 and 1865 by Union soldiers.

Another frame house was built by Thomas R. Love after the war on the same site, but it was not as grand. Virginia Stuart Mosby, daughter of Col. John S. Mosby, was married at Dunleith to Watson E. Coleman on December 12, 1894. The house and property were bought later by the owner of adjacent land, Joseph Edward Willard, son of Antonia Ford and her husband Joseph Clapp Willard (who owned the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C.). It's not clear what happened to Dunleith, but Joseph E. Willard built his house, Layton Hall, on the acquired property (Layton Hall was burned in 1963 by the Fire Department for training purposes).

(Source: Wm. Page Johnson II, Historic Fairfax City, Inc.; Photo credit: Timothy H. O'Sullivan 1863, photo courtesy: LOC)



## MARCHING ORDERS Saturday 14 April 2012

### Tour of Civil War and other historical sites vicinity Wolf Run Shoals in Fairfax County

**Assembly Time:** 8:45 a.m.

**Assembly Location:** Parking lot near McDonald's Restaurant at University Mall located in southeast quadrant of intersection of Ox Rd. (Route 123) and Braddock Rd. (Route 620). This Mall is located just south of Fairfax City and George Mason University. Look for orange tape on car antennas.

**Tour Duration:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Carpooling:** Strongly encouraged due to limited parking spaces at starting point of walking tour.

**Strip Maps of Tour Route:** Will be available at assembly location or upon request.

**Degree of Exertion:** Light to moderate. Individuals with cardio-vascular or respiratory problems should not participate.

**Walking Tour Length:** Approximately 1.4 miles. Most of this distance will be on hiking trails.

**Special:** Bring water, insect repellent and energy food.

**Chief Tour Guide:** John McAnaw, 703.978.3371

**Sign Up For Tour:** At 12 April meeting or call John McAnaw.

**IN EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER:** Contact John McAnaw

**If you sign up and can't make the tour,  
please don't be a "no-show."  
Cancel with John.**



## GEN. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN COMES TO FAIRFAX

By Gwen Wyttenbach

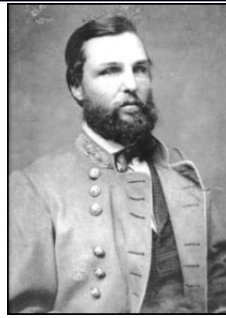
Historic Blenheim House in Fairfax City played host to Gen George B. McClellan and his troops on Saturday, 24 March, with a speech by him to his troops reenacted by Neal West (portraying Gen McClellan) and members of the 28th Massachusetts Infantry, Co. B and the 17th VA Infantry, Co. D "The Fairfax Rifles."

It was one hundred fifty years ago March 1862, that Union Gen. McClellan and the Union Army of the Potomac occupied Fairfax Courthouse for four days. During this time a strategy was planned leading to the ill-fated Peninsula Campaign. Troops were encamped around Blenheim house (home of the Willcoxon family), and many of them had a strong urge to record their names, regiments and other graffiti illustrating their military way of life, plus other things of a more "personal" nature, on the unpainted interior plaster walls. In present day, these signatures have been painstakingly uncovered from layers and layers of paint and wall paper and carefully preserved.

The event also sponsored two excellent speakers on the topics of the "Mystery of McClellan" and the life of one of the soldiers whose name appears on one of Blenheim's walls, Warren Lee Goss. Several Bull Run Round Table members were in attendance and/or participated in the recreation of this historic event including Wilfred Masumura and Bill Cratty. The following photos show more BRCWRT members.



Mark Whitenton, Gwen Wyttenbach, Chris Godart, Janet Greentree and Dave Meisky (uncharacteristically in Union uniform). Nancy Anwyll is shown below recreating the height (5' 1") of a soldier who wrote on one of Blenheim's walls.



## NEARLY DESTROYED CONFEDERATE GENERAL'S GRAVE MARKER TO BE REDEDICATED APRIL 22, 2012

By Dave Goetz

Almost two years after a Confederate general's grave marker was nearly destroyed by a blunt instrument, it is now repaired and standing despite obvious new scars. A rededication ceremony is set for April 22 in Warrenton Cemetery by the Black Horse Camp #780, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

**Lunsford Lindsay Lomax** was an American educator, a farmer, an 1856 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and officer in the U.S. Army. He resigned his commission to join the Confederate Army at the outbreak of the War Between the States. A cavalry commander, he rose to the rank of major general and, at war's end, surrendered his division along with others under the command of General Joseph E. Johnston.

After the war, Mr. Lomax worked as a farmer in Caroline County and, later, Fauquier County, until accepting the position of president of Virginia Polytechnic Institute – today's Virginia Tech – in 1889. He served in that capacity nearly five years, making important changes in the school's make-up, resigning in 1894.

Lomax next worked as a compiler in the War Records Office in Washington, DC, helping to organize the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, commonly referred to as the ORs. He later served as a park commissioner of the Gettysburg Battlefield Park in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

He died within a week of breaking his hip in May 1913 while visiting his sister in Warrenton and was buried in Warrenton Cemetery. He was 77.

The rededication ceremony will be held at two o'clock at General Lomax's gravesite in Warrenton Cemetery. In addition, distinguished speakers, infantry and cavalry reenactor units and a color guard will pass in review. Musket and cannon firing will be demonstrated by the reenactors. Musicians playing period music will also be on hand.

The public is welcome to attend and those wanting to dress in period military or civilian attire are encouraged to do so.

For further information, please contact Dave Goetz, commander of the Black Horse Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, at: 540-351-6073 or by email: [mosbyman@infionline.net](mailto:mosbyman@infionline.net).

## CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

### TWO NEW ENGLAND GENERALS WITH CEDAR CREEK CONNECTIONS

By Janet Greentree

I must say that Ms. Rebelle never knows what she will find when doing research on Civil War generals' graves. There is always something interesting that comes out of the research. General George Lafayette Beal and General Stephen Thomas almost had parallel careers and both fought at Cedar Creek, my second favorite battlefield, after Gettysburg.

#### Union General George Lafayette Beal



On the way to New Hampshire my sister and I stopped in South Paris, Maine, to find the grave of General Beal. What is going through my mind right now is: Was his middle name pronounced "La fay ETTE" or "La FAY ette?" This question comes from a Boston Civil War Round Table tour at Chickamauga Battlefield, Tennessee with Jim Ogden as the tour guide. He pronounced the town of Lafayette – La FAY ette. This is still a joke between Yankee Nan (Nancy Anwyll) and me. My sister and I stopped to eat our lunch in the Pine Grove Cemetery. Since I had a map and the cemetery was small, I was able to go right to the grave. Several men were volunteering in the cemetery cleaning it up. We started talking to them, and it was here that we heard our first real Maine accents. They were impressed that I had come all the way from Virginia to place a flag on General Beal's grave.

General Beal was born May 21, 1825, in Norway, Maine. George's father was Ezra F. Beal, one of the first citizens of Norway. Beal attended common schools and the Westbrook Seminary. He was a bookbinder by profession but very interested in the military. When Fort Sumter fell, Beal was elected Captain of the Norway Light Infantry, a 3-month unit. He was the first man to enlist in Oxford County, ME. His unit spent three months in Washington, D.C.

After his enlistment was up, he re-enlisted and was commissioned Colonel of the Tenth Maine Infantry. His regiment was with General Nathaniel Banks' retreat from Winchester to Williamsport. They also fought at the battles of Cedar Mountain, guarded the trains at 2<sup>nd</sup> Manassas, covered General Pope's retreat, and the battle of Antietam. Beal was severely wounded at Antietam but recovered quickly and returned to duty. Again he was mustered out in May, 1863, and re-enlisted for three more years as Colonel of the 29<sup>th</sup> Maine Regiment.



The 29<sup>th</sup> fought at Red River and the Shenandoah Valley campaigns of 1864. At Sabine Crossroads, LA, he assisted the 1<sup>st</sup> Division, Nineteenth Corps saving General Banks' army. Beal was promoted to brigadier general at Sabine Crossroads. At Cedar Creek his brigade broke the enemy lines after General Sheridan made his famous ride on his horse Rienzi from Winchester to Cedar Creek. He also fought at 3<sup>rd</sup> Winchester and Fisher's Hill.

After the war, Beal was in command of the Eastern District of South Carolina at Darlington. He was promoted to brevet major general of volunteers at this time. All in all he spent five years in the service of his country. He mustered out in January, 1866. He became a delegate to the Republican National Convention which nominated General Grant for the presidency in 1868. In 1872 he was appointed as a Pension Agent in Portland, ME. He was the first department commander of the GAR in Maine and Maine Commander of the Military Order of Loyal Legion from 1893-94. He was adjutant-general of his state from 1880-1885. He was Maine's state treasurer as well. General Beal died in Norway, Maine, on December 11, 1896 and is buried in South Paris, Maine.

#### Union General Stephen Thomas

Ms. Rebelle is now in Montpelier, Vermont at Green Mount Cemetery trying to find the grave of General Stephen Thomas. Even with map in hand, I find most of the time the terrain never looks like the picture on the map. After going round and round on a wet hilly road, we saw a worker who gave us directions to General Thomas' grave.

Stephen Thomas was born December 6, 1809, in Bethel, Vermont. His grandfather Joseph was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary War with a New Hampshire regiment in the Saratoga campaign. Stephen's father John was a member of the 31<sup>st</sup> Regiment, U.S. Infantry in the War of 1812. Stephen's mother, Rebecca Batchellor, was the daughter of a Revolutionary War lieutenant who also fought at the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. Prior to the Civil War, Thomas was a woolen manufacturer, politician, and judge. General Thomas was 52 years old when he was commissioned colonel of the 8<sup>th</sup> Vermont Infantry in 1861. He was 54 years old before he ever saw battle. His first assignment was at Ship Island in the Gulf of Mexico. He raised the first regiment of colored troops in the country. He was one of the first Union officers to command colored troops. The men were free colored men from New Orleans. After New Orleans fell, Thomas commanded all the troops on the western side of the Mississippi. Thomas participated in all engagements of the 8<sup>th</sup> VT. He fought at Cotton



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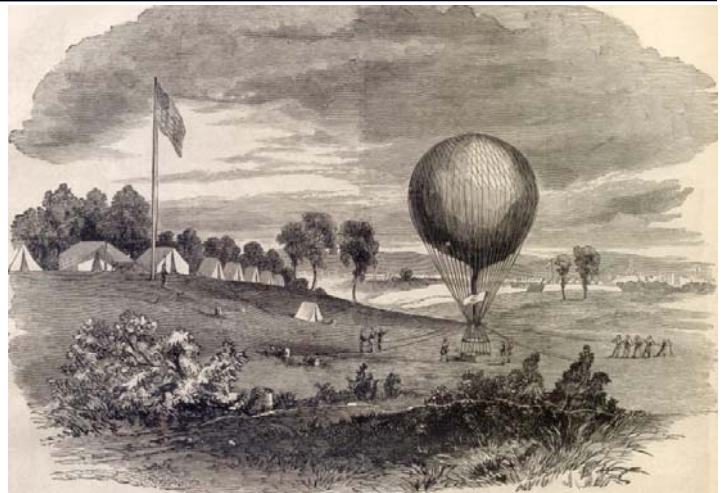
## MS. REBELLE [From Page 10]

Bayou Teche, Bisland, and commanded a brigade at Port Hudson. The battle there lasted 44 days. Thomas was wounded at Port Hudson and also lost two or his four staff officers. He was also at Sabine Pass as was General Beal mentioned previously. He commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

In Virginia on September 19, 1864, Thomas fought at the Battle of Opequon (3rd Winchester) ordering a charge to break the center of the enemy forces. Thomas called out to his men: "Boys, if you ever pray, the time to pray has come. Pray now, remember Ethan Allen and old Vermont, and we'll drive them to hell. Come on, old Vermont." Thomas then rode towards the Confederates with his sword in the air. He was engaged at Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek as was the foregoing General Beal. Thomas held the line against General Early until his brigade was practically annihilated, and his horse shot from under him. Thomas was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery at Cedar Creek. His citation reads: "Distinguished conduct in a desperate hand-to-hand encounter, in which the advance of the enemy was checked." He was made brigadier general of volunteers in the spring of 1865, and then assigned to command a brigade of New York, Indiana, and Ohio regiments in General Hancock's Corps. He served in the U.S. Army until 1865.



After the war he was elected lieutenant governor of Vermont in 1867 and 1868. Thomas was the only war hero in Vermont who was a registered Democrat. Later he became a Republican out of loyalty to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. President Grant appointed him a pension agent for Vermont. He served in that position from 1870-1877. He was president of the U.S. Clothes Pin Company of Montpelier doing business all across the U.S. with exports to foreign countries as well. He was also president of the North Haverhill Granite Company. After the death of his wife, he lived with his daughter, Amanda Newcomb in Montpelier. He was active in the Sons of Veterans, the Stephen Thomas Camp. General Thomas died on December 26, 1903, about three weeks after a fall. He was 94 years old. The general was one of the oldest generals to die after the Civil War with the exception of General George B. Greene who lived to be 98. His obituary states that "whenever there was a fight General Thomas made an admirable officer, cool, energetic and bold."



## CIVIL WAR BALLOON CORPS EVENT Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site Saturday, April 28

Learn about the Civil War Balloon Corps through a living history program. The event will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and is free to the public. The program is weather dependent.

In 1861, a civilian Balloon Corps attached to the U.S. Army was organized to gather information on Confederate positions and movements from the sky. Although aeronaut Thaddeus Lowe was appointed Chief Aeronaut to command the Balloon Corps, one of his competitors, John La Mountain, was responsible for conducting several balloon ascensions from Alexandria beginning in October of 1861.

Fort Ward's program will feature a reenactor portraying period aeronaut Thaddeus Lowe, who will discuss the use of aerial balloons for military surveillance during the war, and the local history of La Mountain's balloon ascensions. A highlight of the program will be a 19,000 cubic foot netted gas balloon similar to those used during the Civil War. The theme of how technology of the time was used to advance military communications will also be interpreted by reenactors portraying telegraphers and members of the signal corps who will display equipment and present demonstrations. Visitors can also tour the historic Union fort, which features the fully restored Northwest bastion, visit the reconstructed and furnished Officers' Hut, and view Museum exhibits.

Fort Ward is the best preserved fortification in the Defenses of Washington, an extensive system of forts built to protect the Union capital during the Civil War. The Museum offers changing exhibits, tours, lectures, and interpretive programs throughout the year. Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site is located at 4301 West Braddock Road. For more information, please visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org), or call 703.746.4848.

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## BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

*The Stone Wall*

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

### 2012 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—\$20.00. Family—\$25.00. Student (age 22 and under)—\$10.00.

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:

Mark Knowles, BRCWRT Treasurer, 169 Applegate Drive, Sterling, VA 20164

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