

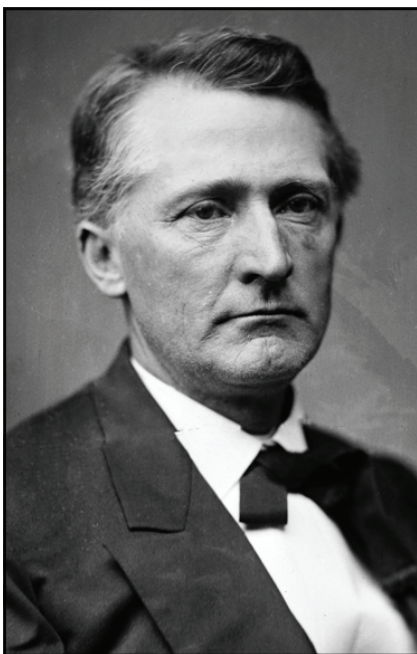


The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XX, Issue 18, DECEMBER 2014/JANUARY 2015

Note Change of Meeting Date — for December only! Meeting Re-scheduled for Thursday, December 18th!

**AUTHOR DAVE GOETZ PRESENTS
THE POSTWAR RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN JOHN SINGLETON
MOSBY AND ULYSSES S. GRANT
AT DECEMBER 18TH MEETING**

By Mark Trbovich



Post-war photo of John Singleton Mosby.

and leads tours within 'Mosby's Confederacy,' including the Virginia counties of Fauquier, Loudoun, Warren, Clarke and Fairfax. For many years, he has studied the life and times of John Singleton Mosby. Dave has had published, *"Hell is Being a Republican in Virginia: The Postwar Relationship Between John Singleton Mosby and Ulysses S.*

Our December speaker is an old friend of the BRCWRT, Dave Goetz. He has taken the Grant-Mosby relationship and developed it into an insightful study of two amazing men. He looks into their family backgrounds, their joys and suffering, and the how their paths crossed later in time, to form the interesting post-Civil War relationship between Confederate Col. John Singleton Mosby and victorious Union general, later president, Ulysses S. Grant. This looks to be an excellent lecture on a topic away from Civil War battlefields.

Dave is owner of Mosby's Confederacy Tours,

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

THURSDAY, December 18, 2014

7:00 P.M. Centreville Library

GUEST SPEAKER:

AUTHOR DAVE GOETZ

TOPIC:

**"HELL IS BEING A REPUBLICAN
IN VIRGINIA"**

THURSDAY, January 8, 2015

HISTORIAN DR. JOHN COSKI

**"CONFEDERATE NAVY'S JAMES RIVER
CAMPAIGN: 1862/1865"**

Grant," dealing with their individual search for peace and reconciliation between North and South in the years following the War Between the States.

Dave has a professional background in public relations, sales and marketing, primarily with non-profit organizations. He holds an undergraduate degree in English from Bellarmine University, Louisville, Kentucky, and a Master of Science degree in Community Development from the University of Louisville. He is a member and former commander of the Black Horse Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, in Warrenton, Virginia. He is also a U.S. Army veteran, receiving an Honorable Discharge. Dave lives in Warrenton, Virginia.

**AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN JOHN COSKI WILL
SPEAK ON THE "CONFEDERATE NAVY'S JAMES RIVER
CAMPAIGN: 1862/1865" AT THE JANUARY 8TH
MEETING**

The James River begins in the western part of Virginia and flows approximately 340 miles, passing over the falls at Richmond, and on

(con't on page 10)

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

General Membership meetings are held at 7 P.M. on the second Thursday of each month at 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>.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **February 2015 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, January 26, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **February 2015 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon, January 16, to Charlie Balch at BRCWRTads@gmail.com.

**Support the BRCWRT in its important mission
to educate and commemorate the battles
and events of the Civil War**

- place your advertisement in the *Stone Wall* -

UPCOMING MEETINGS

December 18, 2014 - David Goetz - "Hell is Being a Republican in Virginia: The Postwar Relationship Between John Singleton Mosby and Ulysses S. Grant"

January 8, 2015 - John Coski - "Confederate Navy, James River Campaign: 1862/1865"

**"Stay Tuned" for Updated Info on a
Great Lineup of Speakers for 2015!!**



Newspapers in Camp

- Edwin Forbes

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The President's Column

By Mark Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members,

Winter has arrived, but we can feel warm and happy as we just celebrated Thanksgiving and look forward to enjoying Hanukkah and Christmas with our loved ones and friends. We look back on a great year at the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, and look forward to our 2015 season.

The December 18th meeting will feature speaker Dave Goetz; he brings us "Hell is Being a Republican in Virginia," which looks at the relationship of U.S Grant and John S. Mosby. The lecture comes during our 1864/65 Civil War Sesquicentennial Anniversary series (and post-Sesquicentennial period). You won't want to miss our old BRCWRT friend and member as he brings us his book and lecture on this topic.

Following up on January 8th we will hear from Dr. John Coski, who will bring us the "Confederate Navy's James River Campaign: 1862/1865" lecture, a field of study which he has also had published as a book. John will be coming up from the Richmond area where he is Vice President for Research and Publications at The Museum of the Confederacy. These are two outstanding winter lectures you won't want to miss!

Thank you so much to our November speakers, authors and historians (and BRCWRT members) Gene Schmiel and Ron Mayer. Their outstanding lecture was "Citizen-General: Jacob Dolson Cox and the Civil War Era, Battle of Franklin Tenn. - November 1864." Ron brought the battle details and Gene brought us the recreation of Gen Cox (in costume), describing his military career and up through the aforemen-

tioned battle. Fantastic job guys! I am so sorry to have missed the lecture in person, but listened to it online at our website.

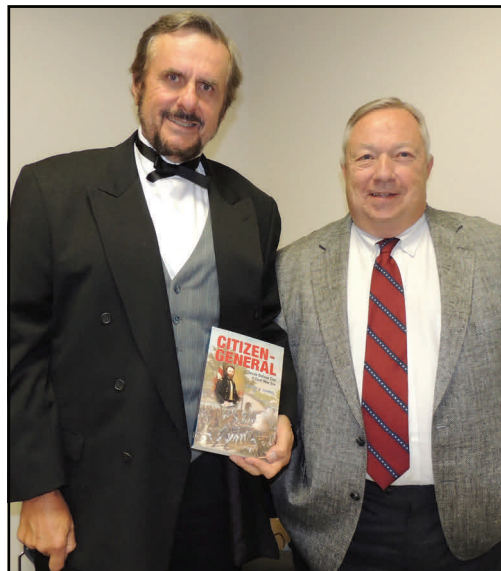
November was our last month of the process of choosing our 2015 BCWRT officers, according to our by-laws, a process which offered an opportunity for all members to make nominations from the floor. Voting on the 2015 roster of officers will take place at the December 18th meeting for the next calendar year. During this process, we did not have a nominee for vice president, so the selection for this vacant post will be made by the Executive Committee at our (separate) December meeting. According to by-laws, we can't accept any nominations from the floor at the December meeting, as the process has concluded.

Now an update to keep everyone up to speed on what your Executive Committee has been doing for the past few months: on November 20, we held a "Vision" meeting to consider future lectures/tours/events as the Civil War Sesquicentennial will end in 2015. The discussion turned into an excellent brainstorming session.

During the next year, we will be distributing a survey to members and will be keeping everyone informed of the direction the survey suggests, moving into 2016 and beyond. For now, we're almost finished working on a new 2015 Civil War Sesquicentennial season's line-up of speakers, which we hope to have finalized by January.

We are happy to report that we now have more than 275 folks who have chosen to "LIKE" our wonderful new Facebook site at <https://www.facebook.com/bullruncwrt>.

By visiting our page, you can receive real-time pictures of Civil War events, event updates, local and regional



Eugene D. (Gene) Schmiel (left) portraying General Jacob Dolson Cox & Ron Mayer, November speakers.

Photo by Janet Greentree

(con't on page 10)



THE BOOK CORNER



By Ralph G. Swanson

We are nearing the end. After four arduous years of reading, study, and touring we are battle-weary. We must now march to one last clash of arms. Our guide is *"The Confederacy's Last Hurrah--Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville"* (University Press of Kansas, 1992) by Wiley Sword. This book received the Fletcher Pratt Award from the New York Civil War Roundtable as the best non-fiction book about the Civil War in 1992. (The book was published, then, under the title *"Embrace an Angry Wind."*)

The campaign that culminated in the Battles of Franklin and Nashville has generally been overlooked by history. It was western, it was obscured by Petersburg and Sherman in Georgia, and it was fought by lesser-known generals. But it was an important campaign in that it virtually destroyed the Confederacy's western army and essentially ended the South's capacity to wage civil war.

Hood's invasion of Tennessee is perhaps the last campaign of the war with important military issues that should detain us. First, there is General John Bell Hood, his military capabilities long debated and long disparaged. And make no mistake, this history is all about John Bell Hood. Second, Hood's strategy: Why march away from Atlanta with any expectation that Sherman would follow? Third, the Union generals and generalship, primarily of John M. Schofield and George H. Thomas. Finally, there is the fighting, actually two major battles (Franklin and Nashville) with important maneuvering around Columbia and Spring Hill, Tennessee. Sword is superb in his coverage of all these issues. At 450 pages, he has written not one word too many, nor included one map too few to help us understand all the action.

The invasion of Tennessee can only be understood within the context of the battles for Atlanta. That is where John Bell Hood took command of the Army of Tennessee and where Sword begins his narrative with Joseph E. Johnston's tactical retreats from Chattanooga and Hood's intriguing with Richmond to replace him. Hood had performed admirably in subordinate command.

Badly wounded at Gettysburg and Chickamauga, he was a hero and a rising star within the Confederacy by late 1864. With other candidates out of favor, Hood ascended to command of the Army of Tennessee after only a few months in Corps command. Despite his rise, Hood was well recognized by Davis and Lee as a poor planner and too eager to fight when more preparation or maneuver would be preferable.

Withal, Hood's strategy to change the course of the war was not unsound. It was thoroughly vetted with Davis and approved by Beauregard, nominally in command over Hood in the west. To dislodge Sherman from Atlanta, Hood would first "break Sherman's communications" by capturing the Western and Atlantic Railroad, the Union supply line from Chattanooga. He would either defeat Sherman there or draw him completely out of the Confederacy by carrying the war to the Ohio River. Threats to northern cities, such as Cincinnati, would relieve pressure on Lee at Petersburg. It was classic West Point strategy and, initially, it worked. Hood wrecked the railroad north of Atlanta and Sherman immediately sent out most of his army. Sherman pursued Hood into northern Alabama before reversing course to begin his long cherished march to the sea. Before departing, Sherman dispatched George H. Thomas to Nashville to organize remnant forces there and marched John Schofield across country with a rump contingency of troops to join Thomas.

It was a literal foot race to Nashville with Hood working hard to cut off and destroy Schofield. Nathan Bedford Forrest and his cavalry, already in middle Tennessee, played a key role. Sword details the utility and importance of cavalry, perhaps better here than in any other battle history to date. Students of that arm will find much to debate about the use and misuse of cavalry in this campaign. Those who are not fans of the march and maneuver may find this section of *"The Last Hurrah"* tedious.

Franklin was a repeat of Gettysburg in many respects, not the least its ferocious fighting and dying. Hood was at Gettysburg and should have learned. Tragically, there is ample evidence Hood intended to punish his own army by driving them against strong Federal breastworks at Franklin. Regardless, the result was an egregious tactical blunder that decimated Hood's army, particu-

(con't on page 10)

CBS News Sunday Morning Visits the Ox Hill Battlefield; Airs Ten Seconds of Videotape

By Ed Wenzel

CBS News Sunday Morning spent three hours filming the Ox Hill battlefield on November 12 for a segment they planned to air in December. However, the producers moved the air time to November 30 and, if you missed it, you didn't miss a whole lot. For all their interest in filming Chantilly (Ox Hill) and the development that now sits atop the battlefield, they only used about ten seconds of the tape in their feature that focused on Franklin, Tennessee. Here's the story:

The feature's primary subject was the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin and how preservationists there are reclaiming important parts of the battlefield that had been lost to development. As readers probably know, there is a major reclamation effort underway by the private "[Franklin's Charge](#)" group, the [Civil War Trust](#), and other organizations to acquire land, homes, and commercial property (a strip mall with a Pizza franchise) in the City of Franklin at the Confederate breakthrough site and at other locations on the Franklin battlefield. Buildings are being knocked down or moved and a seven-acre [Carter Cotton Gin Park](#) is being created at the Union trench line where CS Gen. Patrick Cleburne fell in the horrific battle that claimed six Confederate generals killed and eight more wounded or captured. Gen. John Bell Hood's disastrous attack has been called the "Pickett's Charge of the West." The Civil War Trust and its local partners have already reclaimed and partially restored 175 acres on the [Eastern Flank](#), the [Collin's Farm](#), and at the [Cotton Gin](#). They're acquiring land acre by acre and tract by tract, including a 112-acre golf course that adjoins [Carnton Plantation](#). [For more information, please visit the web for Franklin's Charge or the Civil War Trust; and be sure to make a generous donation to support this incredible Franklin battlefield reclamation effort!]

Now for Ox Hill: It was with Franklin in mind that CBS called in late October and asked if there were any plans to reclaim parts of the Chantilly battlefield—they had heard that Chantilly (Ox Hill) was classified as a "lost battlefield" and they were wondering if reclamation was an option here. I assured them that such a thing would be impossible as the value of the development around the existing park would be in the hundreds of millions of dollars, and that so much earth

moving had been done as to totally destroy 99% of the battlefield. Still, they wanted to film the Ox Hill Battlefield Park and see what was done in the way of restoration and interpretation, and also the surrounding development. They had already done research on the preservation effort and knew what was saved.

On November 12, CBS associate producer, Robbyn McFadden, and a co-worker drove down from New York. A third employee, cameraman Tony Furlow, came from Washington. I was not on camera and did not have to say anything for telecast, simply be a tour guide and explain to them what happened where. The narration was being written by other producers. Tony filmed the park's landscape and the monuments and markers thoroughly; then went beyond the park into the neighborhoods. They especially wanted to film the townhouses where the SC soldier was unearthed, as well as Monument Drive, the condos, office buildings, and the Fairfax Towne Center—any development now standing atop the historic battlefield.

CBS went to all this trouble for a 10 minute segment in which Franklin would probably get 7-8 minutes and Ox Hill, maybe 2 or 3 minutes. An offer was made to put them in contact with the Park Authority but that was not on their to-do list. The park looked great; it was recently mowed and fresh wreaths and flags had been placed at the Kearny and Stevens monuments, as well as small flags at the future monument sites. I gave Ms. McFadden a 26-page Ox Hill handout packet, a four-page outline of our regular tour, and a three-page guide, with map, of Jackson's advance down the Little River Turnpike; also a copy of the official 150th program for the 2012 event. It was a beautiful blue-sky day and the film crew seemed to enjoy their visit. However, of all the tape they shot, only about ten seconds worth was incorporated into the Franklin piece that aired on November 30. The following day I contacted the producer, Dustin Stephens, about the unused tape and learned that it goes to the CBS News archive and that they do not release unaired footage. Mr. Stephens said they had hopes of including more; that their first cut was three minutes longer, but they ran out of time. C'est la vie!



CIVIL WAR TRAVELS

WITH MS. REBELLE

Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker

By Janet Greentree

Yes, as stated in last month's article, Union Major General Joseph Hooker was on Ms. Rebelle's bucket list, strange as that may seem. My trip to Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio netted my grave collection 13



"Colorized" Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker.

new generals in one cemetery. There was a break to be had with the Fighting McCooks, as three of them were buried in one family plot. Spring Grove is the biggest cemetery I have ever been in, covering 733 acres of ground. The graves are located very far apart.

General Hooker's grave sits up on a hill overlooking

Geyser Lake, with a terrific view of the city. His sarcophagus is made of polished Scottish granite and is very impressive. His and his wife's name are both etched on the front but are not very readable anymore. The general died on a trip to Garden City, New York on October 31, 1879. He was in poor health after the Civil War and suffered a stroke on October 15, 1868

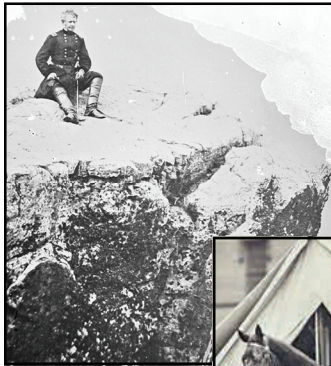
(exactly three months after his wife died), leaving him par-



Photo of Hooker's grave by Janet Greentree.

tially paralyzed. The cause of death was listed as apoplexy.

He was born in Hadley, Massachusetts on November 13, 1814. He first attended Hopkins Academy in Massachusetts, and later graduated 29th in his class in 1837 from West Point. Fifteen future generals were in the class of 1837 – nine Union and six Confederate – including (for the Union): Lewis G. Arnold, Henry W. Benham, Alexander Dyer, Wm. French, John Sedgwick, John B.S. Todd, Israel Vogdes, and Thomas Williams. Future Confederate generals included: Braxton Bragg, Arnold Elzey Jones, Wm. Whann Mackall, John Pemberton, and Wm. H.T. Walker.



Gen. Hooker AT Lookout Mountain (above), and ON Lookout (his horse), also at Lookout Mountain.



Hooker served in both the Seminole and then Mexican Wars. He resigned from the army in 1853, went west and

tried his hand at farming, land development and politics. He lived in Sonoma County, CA, where

his house still stands at 414 1st Street, East, Sonoma. When the Civil War began, he returned to the Army as a brigadier general. He fought at the battles of Williamsburg, Peninsula Campaign, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Chattanooga and Atlanta Campaigns. He was wounded at Antietam. He was made a major general at the Battle of Williamsburg and was given command of the Army of the Potomac after Fredericksburg. Lincoln relieved him of command just prior to Gettysburg. He returned to service in November 1863 in Tennessee, with a victory at Lookout Mountain. While in Chattanooga, he purchased a horse that he called Lookout.

Hooker was the third general that President Lincoln tried out as commanding general

(con't on page 7)

Ms. Rebelle - (con't from page 6)

of the Army of the Potomac. On January 26, 1863, becoming somewhat dissatisfied with Hooker's performance, Lincoln wrote the following letter to him: *"I have placed you at the head of the Army of the Potomac. Of course I have done this upon what appears to me to be sufficient reasons. And yet I think it best for you to know that there are some things in regard to which, I am not quite satisfied with you. I believe you to be a brave and a skillful soldier, which, of course, I like. I also believe you do not mix politics with your profession, in which you are right. You have confidence in yourself, which is a valuable, if not an indispensable quality. You are ambitious, which, within reasonable bounds, does good rather than harm. But I think that during Gen. Burnside's command of the Army, you have taken counsel of your ambition, and thwarted him as you could, in which you did a great wrong to the country, and to a most meritorious and honorable brother officer. I have heard, in such way as to believe it, of your recently saying that both the Army and the Government needed a Dictator. Of course it was not for this, but in spite of it, that I have given you the command. Only those generals who gain success, can set up dictators. What I now ask of you is military success, and I will risk the dictatorship. The government will support you to the utmost of its ability, which is neither more nor less than it has done and will do for all commanders. I much fear that the spirit which you have aided to infuse into the Army, of criticizing their Commander, and withholding confidence from him, will now turn upon you. I shall assist you as far as I can, to put it down. Neither you, nor Napoleon, if he were alive again, could get any good out of an army, while such a spirit prevails in it. And now, beware of rashness. Beware of*

rashness, but with energy, and sleepless vigilance, go forward, and give us victories. Yours very truly, A. Lincoln." Those are very powerful words to receive from your Commander in Chief. This letter was written after Hooker described Burnside as a "wretch...of blundering sacrifice." Burnside countered that Hooker was "unfit to hold an important commission during a crisis like the present."



A depiction of "Fighting Joe Hooker."

There are several interesting things about General Hooker. His sobriquet "Fighting Joe Hooker" (which he hated) came after the battle of Williamsburg from a reporter's error when his article stated "Fighting - Joe Hooker" and the dash was left out. Even General Lee referred to him as Mr. F.J. Hooker. The word "hooker" was attached to him for the ladies of the night that followed the armies around. However, the term "hooker" was used as far back as 1845 describing the prostitutes surrounding the shipyards and ferry terminals in the Corlear's Hook area of Manhattan. General Hooker was known as

a ladies' man as early as the Mexican War. He married very late in life, at the age of 50, to Miss Olivia Augusta Groesbeck, age 40, on October 3, 1865.

The general's wife was a member of the prominent Cincinnati family of John & Mary Groesbeck. Even though she has been described as a general favorite in society, renowned alike for her beauty and intelligence, I can find no photos of her. The couple met at a ball at Burnet House, a grand hotel in Cincinnati, while Hooker was stationed there after the war. They were married at her residence at 178 West 77th Street in Cincinnati. Per the *Cincinnati Inquirer* "The general was dressed in full military uniform, wearing the celebrated diamond-hilted sword presented him by the citizens of California." The paper further stated "This is, we believe, the first time the gal-

(con't on page 9)

Lee's Retreat to Appomattox Special Two Day Bus Tour

March 21-22, 2015

\$350.00 per person

Tour includes transportation, all meals and overnight lodging

Inquire on Double Occupancy Room Rate

Follow in the footsteps of Lee and Grant's armies from Petersburg to Appomattox. Participants will get a behind the scenes view into one of America's biggest dramas and see where our nation was reunited.



Tour will include:

- Petersburg National Battlefield Park
- Sailor's Creek Battlefield State Park
- Appomattox National Historic Park
- Museum of the Confederacy-Appomattox
- Various other stops along the retreat route



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

lant Hooker has been known to surrender." They travelled extensively in Europe, beginning on their honeymoon trip, and their touring lasted for the next few years. In 1868, Olivia died of consumption at their residence in Watertown, MA. There were no children born from the marriage.

Always looking for obscure interesting things to share with you, I came across General Nelson Miles' account of what happened when Hooker was shell-shocked at the Chancellor House in Chancellorsville in 1862. General Miles was speaking at the dedication of the Hooker statue in front of the Boston State House in Massachusetts in 1903. He states in part: "I was seriously wounded at the battle of Chancellorsville, and was carried into the house where Hooker had his headquarters. A shell struck the house and set it on fire, and every one realized that the place had to be deserted. As the shell crashed through the house, one of the falling timbers struck General Hooker, knocking him down. As I was being carried out by two comrades, I saw General Hooker going from the other side of the building, limping, scarcely able to walk, and with his clothes covered with dust. And yet the hero was undaunted, and was endeavoring by his presence, by his act, and by his determination, to hold the position and to hold the confidence of the army. He was at that moment disabled, but was so heroic that he would not leave the field, and remained when others might have gone to the rear."

Hooker's men loved him. He gave them better food, camp sanitary changes, improved the quartermaster system, monitored company cooks, hospital reforms, a new furlough system, corps badges for identification during battle, tried to stem desertion, added more drilling, and also strong officer training.

At a dedication called "Hooker's Day" on May 7, 1895 in Hooker's hometown of Hadley, Massachusetts, General Daniel Sickles made a few remarks (in part) after presenting a portrait of General Hooker to the town. "Our loyalty to the memory of Hooker is a

sentiment in which affection and admiration are blended. His comrades loved him because he gave them confidence in themselves; because he made them soldiers. They loved him because he was so proud of them, and jealous of their honor and fame. We admired him as the intrepid brigade and division commander who's plume was always to the front of battle. We admired his fearless bearing, his picturesque figure in the saddle, at the head of a column or in the line of battle – the type of a soldier who shared every peril to which his command was exposed. We admired his thorough knowledge of his profession – from the duty of a soldier to the responsibility of a commander."

Hooker's statue in Boston replaced one



Gen. Hooker's statue outside the Massachusetts State House in Boston.

of General Nathaniel Banks at the same spot. Above the door to one of the entrances to the State House is a sign "General Hooker's Entrance." Somehow I think he would like that.

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 403...169 Confederate and 234 Union. You may contact her at jlqtree@erols.com.



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

Civil War information, and plenty of BRCWRT information that will enhance your Civil War knowledge and expand your experience. Please share this page with your Facebook friends and encourage them to sign up and "LIKE" the page. Please continue to spread the word to your family and friends, younger folks and potential members, that the BRCWRT is the Northern Virginia hub for Civil War information and preservation, and is a tremendous non-profit organization.

On a personal note, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all of our membership and friends for an outstanding 2014 Sesquicentennial Anniversary season - another year I won't ever forget. I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your president for the past five years. I look forward to my sixth year with a renewed vision to accomplish many more Bull Run Civil War Round Table goals, and to enhancements to our programming and events.

TOGETHER we will make the Civil War Trust's '2011 Civil War Round Table of the Year' worthy of our lofty mission, and will strive to maintain our high level of professionalism, fellowship, Civil War preservation and Civil War educational lectures/tours in service to this growing region of Northern Virginia. We have come a long way in 24 years, and we will keep moving forward toward fulfilling our goals of perpetuating Civil War remembrance, preservation and heritage.

Please come out for both the December talk by Dave Goetz and the January talk by John Coski and, as always, if you can't make the 5 p.m. dinner at the Coyote Grille, we'll see you at the library before 7 p.m. as we share some fellowship, buys some books and share some holiday refreshments!

Let us never forget the people who served, and what they did for us. God bless you all, and have a happy and safe Christmas and New Year Holiday Season!

Upcoming Speakers - (con't from page 1)

to Hampton Roads. The James ranks near the Mississippi River in its significance during the Civil War and in importance to the Confederacy, in particular. After the loss of Norfolk, Richmond became the state's major port, naval base and ship-building facility. South and east of Richmond the James saw significant combat, including actions between the Confederate and Union navies. In addition, the river aided large-scale movement of Union troops and military supplies. We are so happy to have a speaker from the region visit us for this excellent lecture.

Dr. John M. Coski is Historian and Vice-President for Research and Publications at The Museum of the Confederacy, where he has worked in various capacities since 1988. He is also editor of the Museum's quarterly magazine. John earned his B.A. from Mary Washington College, located on Marye's Heights in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in History from the College of William and Mary. He is the author of several books, including *"The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem"* (Harvard University Press, 2005), *"Capital Navy: The Men, Ships, and*

Operations of the James River Squadron" (Savas, 1996), *"The Army of the Potomac at Berkeley Plantation: The Harrison's Landing Occupation of 1862"* (Dietz Press, 1989), and more than 125 essays, articles, and reviews. His wife Ruth also worked at the Museum as supervisor of the White House of the Confederacy interpretive staff and as library manager, and she now writes occasional articles for the Museum's Magazine.

As always, you are welcome to come early to the Coyote Grill at 5 p.m. for dinner and to meet Dave (Dec 18th) and John (Jan 8th). If you can't make the dinner, please come early to the Centreville Library to chat before the lecture, which starts at 7 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Have you renewed your membership in the BRCWRT for 2015?

DATE: _____

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MEMO: _____

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The Book Corner – (con't from page 4)

larly his middle command ranks. Two weeks later, Union troops overran Southern breastworks at Nashville and the Army of Tennessee disintegrated. Hood's army retreated as a disorganized rabble and Hood requested relief from command.

"*The Last Hurrah*" is an advanced piece of scholarship. Sword devotes 8 chapters to the Battle of Franklin and fully 9 chapters to Nashville. This was a long campaign, so be prepared to study text and maps carefully to follow the movements of the armies and all the battlefield action. If you have been hazy about events and personalities in Tennessee in late 1864, now is the time, and this is the book you need, to set all things right.


Our assessment of Hood must, on balance, be negative. His strategy was effective and he thoroughly confused Schofield at Columbia and, with a small turn of fortune, might have destroyed him at Spring Hill. Had he done so, Hood certainly would have avoided Franklin and moved immediately to confront a seriously understrength Thomas at Nashville.

Victory there would have completely revitalized the western theater for the Confederacy and discomfited Federal plans altogether. But Hood was reckless at Franklin and, ultimately, his decision to drive his depleted and exhausted army against superior forces at Nashville, was nothing short of inglorious suicide. Hood proved all too true to his reputation. Still, he suffered from horrendous war wounds, had to be strapped into his saddle and probably required opiates to function. Uncommonly great personal courage and fortitude were not among his weaknesses.

With Lee bottled up at Petersburg and the western forces of the Confederacy all but gone, the end was in sight at last. But momentous events, that would yet shape the fabric of our nation forever, still lay ahead.


Until next time, keep reading.

Note: The Book Corner invites comment on these critiques and, especially, your personal recommendations for other outstanding books on the Civil War. Comments are always welcome at renataralph@gmail.com.



AFTER *the* WAR

A Prince William
County/Manassas
Civil War Symposium
May 16, 2015



SAVE THE DATE



May 16, 2015

After the War: A One-Day Symposium on the Effects of the Civil War,
is a regional capstone event for the Virginia Civil War 150th
Commemoration at the historic Old Manassas Courthouse.

Speakers include:

Bert Dunkerly on *The Surrender*
George Wunderlich on *Soldiers' Post-War Effects*
Emmanuel Dabney on *The Freedman's Bureau*
Dr. Jane Censer on *Reconstruction*
John Coski on *Confederate Monuments*
and John Hennessy on *Civil War Memory*

\$10 registration fee
Call 703-792-4754 or email historicpreservation@pwcgov.org


The Launch of the 2015 BRCWRT Scholarship is Underway

By Nancy Anwyll

The launch of the third BRCWRT Scholarship is underway. Getting the information out to interested applicants has been the focus of the Scholarship Committee's efforts in the past few months. This year the BRCWRT Executive Committee voted to increase the scholarship from \$1,000 to \$1,500, and we want to make sure students know about this opportunity. The deadline for submission of the application and essay is March 18, 2015.

As we did last year, the information about the scholarship was posted on schools' scholarship data bases, which seniors looking for scholarships can research in their schools' career/college centers. Any senior can access the same information on the BRCWRT website (<http://www.bullruncwrt.org>) under the *Scholarship* button. And just to help get the word out, the Scholarship Committee mailed out flyers to all of the Social Studies Department heads in both Fairfax and Prince William Counties so that they can distribute them to teachers of seniors who might be interested.

Information about the scholarship was also given out at the BRCWRT exhibit table, which was set up at community events in Manassas and at the Fairfax History Conference in Fairfax City in the past few months. Visitors picked up flyers and asked questions. You can help us by spreading the word. If you know of any high school senior that might be interested, please let them know. Just remember that the student cannot be related to a member of the BRCWRT Executive Committee.

The winner of the scholarship the first year (2013) was Taylor McConnell, who used the scholarship at George Mason University. Last year's winner, Caroline Howard, used her scholarship at William and Mary. We look forward to awarding the third scholarship to a similar deserving lover of Civil War history.



The 10th Annual Fairfax County History Conference was held November 8th, and the many attendees heard excellent presentations highlighting Fairfax County's involvement with the War of 1812. Shown above are several Bull Run Civil War Round Table members who enjoyed the day-long event. Many thanks went to Congressman Gerry Connolly and Supervisor Sharon Bulova also attended this event and spoke.

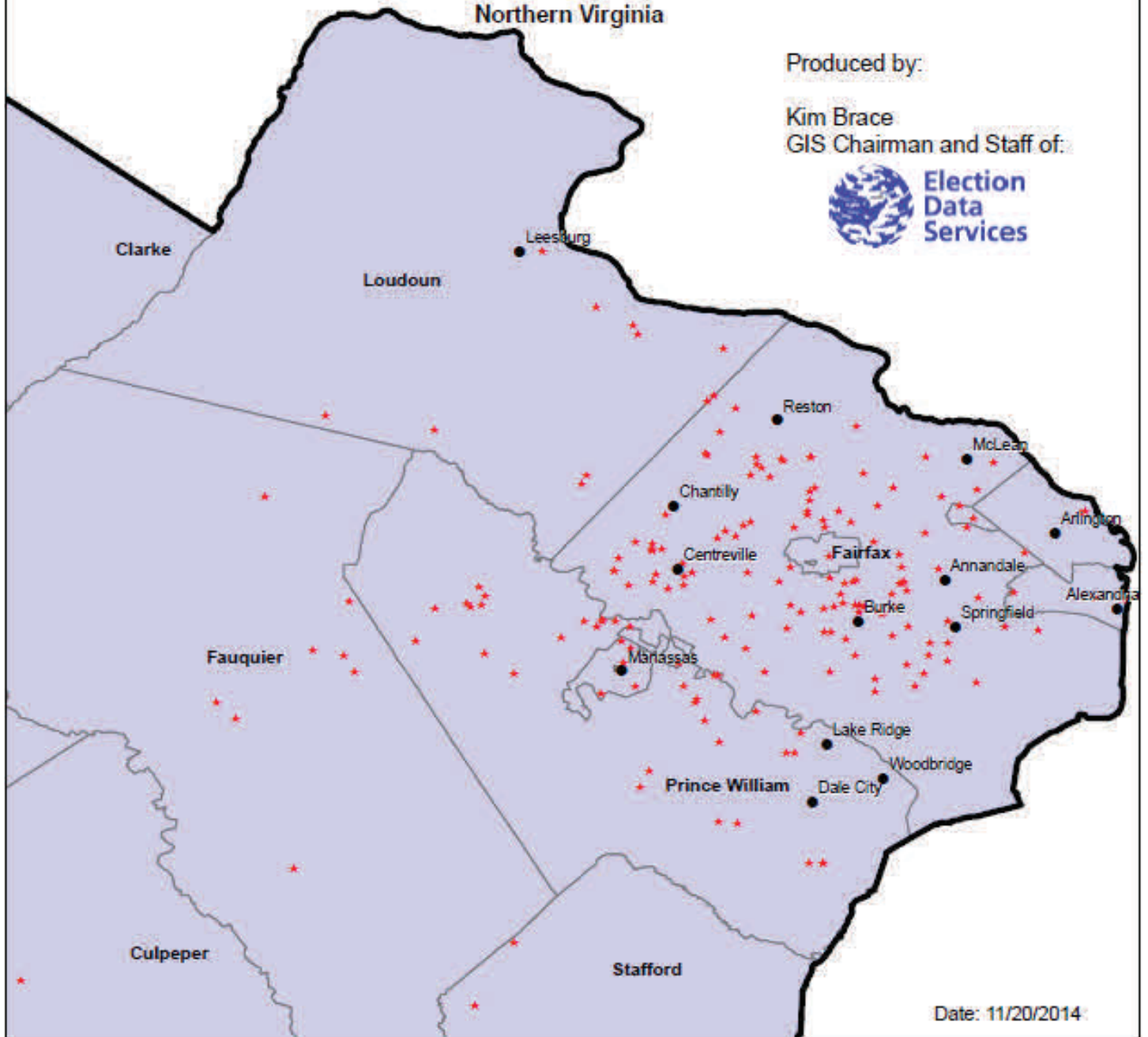
Photo by Nancy J. Olds

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members

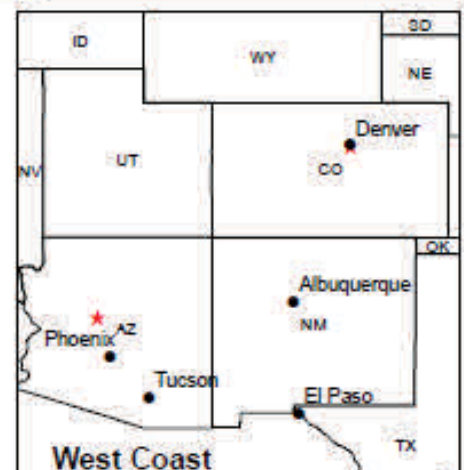
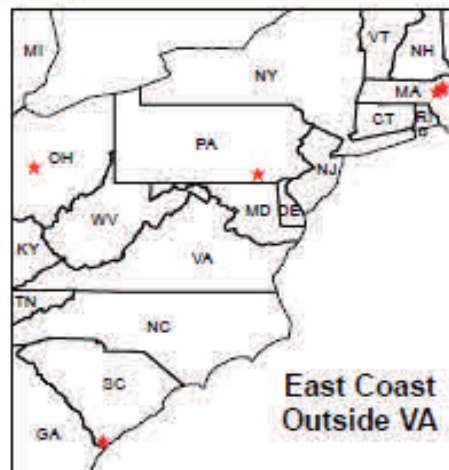
Northern Virginia

Produced by:

Kim Brace
GIS Chairman and Staff of:



Date: 11/20/2014



BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

2015 Bull Run Civil War Round Table — MEMBERSHIP FORM

We are delighted that you are interested in joining our organization and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting and at our upcoming events!

Annual dues are:

Individual—\$20. Family—\$25. Student (age 22 and under)—\$10.

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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