The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXII, Issue 6, AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2015

# AUTHOR AND NPS HISTORIAN EMERITUS EDWIN BEARSS SPEAKS ON "LEE'S RETREAT TO APPOMATTOX: 1865" AT AUGUST 13th MEETING

By Mark Trbovich

Summer is here, and it's extremely hot out there. Our August lecture couldn't be hotter, with an outstanding lecture brought to us by National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss. I don't have to tell you that our guest speaker is a matchless Civil War historian, lecturer, tour guide and preservationist. It is so wonderful to see Ed every year and especially being 92 years young now. What a milestone age for Ed. He still speaks to audiences around the world on a wide variety of historical battles and events. We are indeed fortunate to have an American legend as a friend of the BRCWRT.

This month, Ed will be speaking on "Lee's Retreat to Appomattox, VA - April 1865," which brought the end of the Civil War in the Eastern Theater. Because of a scheduling conflict, Ed's talk was delayed from his usual May appearance at the BRCWRT. This is a Civil War Sesquicentennial event you won't want to miss!

During World War II, Ed served with distinction in the U.S. Marine Corps, first with the 3rd Marine Raider Battalion, commanded by Col. Harry "The Horse" Leversedge, and then with the 7th Marine Regiment. While serving with the latter unit, he was severely wounded at Cape Gloucester on the island of New Britain. Following a convalescent period of 26 months, he entered Georgetown University.

After earning an undergraduate degree at that institution, Ed spent three years working at the U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office in Suitland, MD. He then enrolled at Indiana University, where he received a Master's Degree in History. In 1955, Ed joined the National Park Service (NPS) and worked his way up the promotion ladder to become its chief historian. In that position, he gained the respect of innumera-

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS THURSDAY, August 13, 2015

7 p.m. Centreville Library
GUEST SPEAKER:
AUTHOR AND NPS HISTORIAN
EMERITUS EDWIN BEARSS

**TOPIC:** 

"LEE'S RETREAT TO APPOMATTOX: 1865"

THURSDAY, September 10, 2015

GUEST SPEAKER: Author and Historian Christopher Mackowski TOPIC:

"BATTLE OF NORTH ANNA, VA: MAY 1864"

ble congressmen, as well as key members of successive White House administrations.

Following his retirement in 1998, Ed became a much sought-after guest speaker and tour guide to battlefields where Americans have fought, spanning the French and Indian War through World War II - both the European and Pacific theaters of operation. We anticipate a large turnout for Ed's presentation; members are encouraged to come early to get a seat! Come on out and meet for dinner at: Carrabba's Italian Restaurant (one meeting only), 5805 Trinity Pkwy., Centreville, VA 20120; telephone: (703) 266-9755.

#### AUTHORS AND HISTORIAN CHRIS MACKOWSKI WILL SPEAK ON "THE BATTLE OF NORTH ANNA, VA - MAY 1864" AT THE SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup> MEETING

Opportunity knocks only every so often, and in

(con't on page 9)

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

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

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

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

#### **NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

For the October 2015 issue, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, September 28, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com.

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For the **October 2015 issue**, advertisers should please "Instructions for Advertisers" http://bullruncwrt.org and e-mail ads by noon, September 18, to Charlie Balch at <a href="mailto:BRCWRTads@gmail.com">BRCWRTads@gmail.com</a>.

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

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#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

August 13, 2015 - Author and NPS Historian Emeritus Mr. Ed Bearss - "Lee's Retreat to Appomattox: 1865"

September 10, 2015 - Author and Historian Christopher Mackowski - "Battle of North Anna, VA: May 1864"

October 8, 2015 - NPS Ranger Elizabeth Parnicza – "Looting of Fredericksburg, VA: 1862"

November 12, 2015 - Author and Historian Christopher Kolakowski - "CSS Alabama"

December 17, 2015 - NPS Ranger Matt Atkinson - "Battle at the Devil's Den - Gettysburg, PA: July 1863"

Watch this page for the 2016 schedule of knowledgeable and entertaining Upcoming Speakers at the

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### The President's Column By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members.

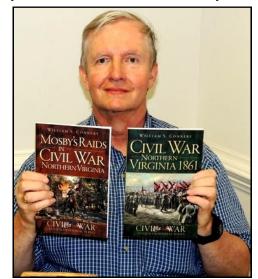
Summer of 2015 continues, so far proving to be an excellent season for touring, lectures and fellowship with your BRCWRT family. The 150th Civil War Sesquicentennial has been completed, but we do have a highly anticipated 1865/2015 anniversary event lecture you won't want to miss.

National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss will be here on August 13th to speak on "Lee's Retreat to Appomattox, VA - April 1865." Ed had to miss our May anniversary lecture, at which he has been featured for years, but graciously found time in his busy schedule to visit us now.

Our September 10th meeting brings us Chris Mackowski, Ph.D., who will speak on the "Battle of North Anna, VA - May 1864," conveniently being presented prior to our BRCWRT Fall Tour at that same battlefield. Please sign up online at our Web site, or at the August or September meetings, if you would like to attend this excellent tour.

The BRCWRT was so fortunate to have two excellent Mosby lectures in June and July. In

June, author and historian William Condisnery cussed his new book "Mosby's Raids in Civil War Northern Virginia." The slide show he presented was great, and the northern Virginia raid locations diswere cussed in detail. The July meeting



William Connery, speaker at the June meeting, displays his many publications on the Civil War.

Photo by Janet Greentree

brought us our first BRWCRT Mosby Panel, authors Chuck Mauro, Don Hakenson, Eric Buckland, and Dave Geotz. C-Span videoed the lecture,



Above, Mosby Panel members who discussed the life of Col. John Singleton Mosby at the July meeting include: L-R - Don Hakenson, Chuck Mauro, Eric Buckland, Dave Goetz. Below, C-SPAN crew filming the Mosby Panel discussion for AHTV include: L-R - first row - Christina Taylor (audio operator), Bob Reilly (director). Second row - Jason Bender (camera), Chris Hanson (camera), Bob Young (audio assistant/lighting).

**Photos by Janet Greentree** 



and what an outstanding panel it was. Each author spoke on selected significant periods of Mosby's life and then fielded excellent questions from the audience. The lecture aired on C-SPAN cable TV on Saturday, August 8th. You won't want to miss the broadcast if you missed the meeting so check out the AHTV schedule for it to repeat in coming weeks. As always, having already aired, the program can be viewed online at the AHTV (C-SPAN 3) Web site.

I have no new preservation updates regarding either the Centreville Historic District's Leland Rd. extension, which the BRCWRT Executive Commit-

(con't on page 13)



## THE BOOK CORNER



That very night of April 14, 1865—Secretary of War Edwin Stanton launched the hunt for the assassin of President Lincoln. He hauled distraught witnesses directly over from Ford's theater and interviewed them in the front room of the Peterson house even as our President lay dying just down the hall. He issued orders for the arrest of suspicious persons and summoned police detectives to Washington to assist with the investigations. *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson (no relation) (Harper Perennial, 2006) describes Stanton's frantic efforts - and much excellent police work - that ran Booth to ground and swept up all the main conspirators within just a few days.

Unlike the dry military histories we often consume, *Manhunt* is a first-rate Civil War thriller. Readers will be up late into the night poring over these chapters, enjoying a real-time sense of the action and suspense. This book is packed with essential and anecdotal information necessary for us to understand the full scope of this tragedy. All students of the assassination will devour this book.

There was never any doubt who did it. Many people in the audience recognized John Booth as he screamed at them from Ford's stage that night. The mass confusion (and some lax security) delayed any pursuit just long enough for Booth and co-conspirator David Herold to escape Washington. Within a day, the pair utterly vanished in what Swanson calls "the lost week." The full details of what happened were not revealed for nearly two decades, and you may learn the whole story for the first time in "Manhunt." Individuals who provided material assistance to Booth and Herold during that week were never prosecuted, yet they surely deserved the halter.

Meanwhile, back in Washington, partners-incrime Mary Surratt, Lewis Powell and George Atzerodt stumbled into custody through a combination of dogged police work and their own sheer stupidity.

Eight people went on trial for the murder of Abraham Lincoln. Swanson does not neglect even minor

defendants, because their stories are necessary for a full understanding of the scope of the conspiracy.

Mrs. Surratt's complicity will always be debated. Powell insisted loudly and repeatedly that she was innocent. Swanson does his best to help us to our own conclusions. It seems likely from all the evidence that she knew what Booth was up to and willingly assisted. But she was no arch-fiend. From our perspective today, we might argue the court could have shown mercy and imposed prison, but the court heard all the evidence and felt differently. Although some members of the military tribunal appended a recommendation for clemency for Mrs. Surratt, President Andrew Johnson - most disingenuously - claimed he never saw that communication. As if he wasn't the President of the United States, with the sole power to commute sentences for good reason, or for no reason. Johnson's own travails were only just beginning.

We might conclude that poor George Atzerodt, not Mrs. Surratt, should have at least been spared the gallows. Always a most pathetic and reluctant conspirator, he did not participate in any of the actual events. He was a member of the inner circle, however, and the vengeful atmosphere of the nation - and a robust xenophobia - sealed his fate. His case is one for the lawyers among us to argue over.

And what of that court? Where did a military tribunal get the authority to try criminal cases in the United States in peacetime? Interestingly, there was competent legal argument for this at the time, all of it ignored or dismissed. (Sound like anything you have heard of in our day?) Even a writ of *habeas corpus* to deliver up Mrs. Surratt, issued by a Washington, D.C. civil court, was ignored by President Johnson.

By any standard, the secondary defendants were judged far too harshly. There was ambiguous information about Dr. Samuel Mudd, and Swanson has uncovered some surprising information we probably did not know regarding him. Regardless, unlike the others, Mudd had a Hippocratic Oath to uphold, and he did so.

Details of the trial and the awful executions are left for another book. In fact, the entire trial transcript is available on the internet for those who wish to travel back in time and hear from the witnesses

#### Successful 2015 Member Survey Returns Valuable Results

by Charlie Balch & Mark Knowles

The recently completed survey of 2014-15 BRCWRT members drew a 61+% response. The hundreds of comments and suggestions were substantive and will influence the choice of future speakers, topics, tours and agendas. One hundred and twenty-three online and paper surveys were submitted.

We salute our member respondents, not only for taking the time, but for the quality of their answers.

All of the details of the survey submissions have been received by the Executive Committee, Tour Directors and the Speakers Committee for review and use. The ideas will also be very useful in the end-of-year "Visioning," or long-range planning process.

A common theme of many submissions was a positive view of the BRCWRT. Most respondents wanted to learn more about Civil War battles (91%), meet other people who enjoy American History (58%), and participate in Civil War tours (49%). With almost all members feeling that their expectations were met (89%) or partially met (9%), the respect for our organization is high. This support for the BRCWRT was evidenced by the members who intend to continue their membership (92%).

Generally, the scheduling of our meetings at 7 p.m. (92%) on second Thursdays (93%) at the Centreville Library (83%) was supported. The negative impact of heavy traffic on meeting time and location was clearly noted (8%). While there was some concern about the length of pre-speaker announcements (6%), 88% of respondents thought the current meeting format was fine.

Ninety-one different suggestions were received for topics to be addressed in future meetings. While no specific topic dominated the ideas, Western Theater battles, Reconstruction issues, and lesser-known battles, units and personalities were raised in several responses. The many usable suggestions will be a source for consideration at future meetings.

Thirty-nine different quality speakers were identified for consideration by the Speakers Committee. Many of these experts would be new to the BRCWRT in terms of personality and topics.

Most responses wanted the BRCWRT to stay focused on the Civil War (75%), but a substantial number wanted to mix in an occasional topic on the history of eight other American wars (25%).

Since many members are interested in Civil War tours it was gratifying to receive 84 recommendations with over 100 separate sites mentioned. While there was great variety in the ideas; many

(con't on page 13)

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

Here's a grateful "Huzzah!" for these folks who have recently joined the BRCWRT:

◆Tim Hope

Joe Dittiger

•Eli Sasaran

David Kinsella

Janice Sasaran

•Wayne Strand

Mary Shine

Anthony Gray

Mark Macauley

Kai Macauley



# CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

### GEN. WILLIAM DORSEY PENDER, CSA

By Janet Greentree

Rather than drive north coming back from the Outer Banks one year, Ms. Rebelle drove south, down to Manteo, and crossed the longest bridge in Virginia, the Virginia Dare Memorial Bridge (going west on Route 64) to the quaint Southern town of Tarboro, North Carolina. General George Washington slept in the town (as well as many other towns who like to boast that fact). His comment about Tarboro's welcome was that it was "as good a salute as could be given with one piece of artillery."

Tarboro is situated on the southwestern banks of the Tar River. The town has five 18<sup>th</sup> -century homes and more than 24 antebellum homes in the historic district. It was a lovely little town, and Ms. Rebelle wished she had explored it more.

Of course, now you are all wondering what Ms. Rebelle's objective was in going to Tarboro, but I'm sure you suspect the motive. Major General William Dorsey Pender, one of the six Confederate generals - Armistead, Barksdale, Garnett, Semmes, and Pettigrew (who died during the retreat) all were fatal casualties at Gettysburg in July 1863.

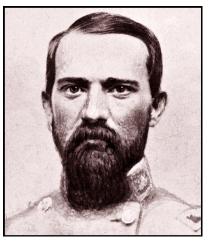
General Pender is buried in the Cavalry Church Cemetery in Tarboro. His grave is unique, as it is surrounded by cannon balls, since he was in the artillery. A large cross is on the top g in July 1863.

Above, Pender's grave at Cavalry Church Cemetery in Tarboro, NC. At left, close-up of inscription.

Photos by Janet Greentree

and the words "Patriot by Nature, Soldier by Training, Christian by Faith" are etched on the marker of his final resting place.

Dorsey, as he was known to his friends and family, was born on February 6, 1834 (he shares the same



birthday with J.E.B. Stuart but is a year younger) on his family's plantation in Pender's Crossroads, Edgecombe County, North Carolina. His early education was at North Carolina's common schools. He worked as a clerk in his brother's store before going to West Point. At the young age of sixteen, he was accepted to West Point and graduated 19<sup>th</sup> out of 46 in his class in 1854, where he excelled in math cavalry tactics. Eight classmates (including Pender) who became generals during the Civil War would die during the conflict - Benjamin Davis (Brandy Station), James Deshler (Chickamauga), Archibald Gracie (Petersburg), John Pegram (Hatchers Run), Stephen Weed (Gettysburg), John Villepigue (died of disease in 1862), J.E.B. Stuart (Yellow Tavern), and Pender. Five other officers of that class also died during the Civil War. Classmates who did survive the war include: Oliver O. Howard, George Washington

Custis Lee, Stephen Dill Lee, and Thomas Ruger.

Dorsey was described as thin and handsome, with dark hair, an olive complexion, brown eyes, a neatly trimmed and pointed beard, and a sweet disposition, but with a strict sense of discipline. He was modest, gentle, and spoke little. When he did speak, he did so with a low and cultivated voice, featuring a Southern drawl, of course. He was most sensitive about his loss of hair and described himself to his wife in a letter as "quite bald." One of his

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

men said that "He was one of the coolest, most self-possessed and one of the most absolutely fearless men under fire I ever knew."

After graduating in 1854 as second lieutenant in the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Artillery, he was sent to Fort Myers, Florida. His second assignment was with the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Dragoons, and he was sent out west to New Mexico, California, Oregon, and the Washington Territory, where he fought the Apaches in the Indian Wars. He married Mary Francis Shepperd, a



Mary Francis Shepperd and William Dorsey Pender on their wedding day.

sister to his West Point classmate Samuel Shepperd and daughter of Congressman Augustine H. Shepperd, on March 3, 1859. Three sons would be born of the marriage, the last one four months after Pender's death. Prior to the Civil War and the secession of North Carolina, he offered his services to the Confederacy. He was given the rank of captain. His first assignment was as a recruiting officer in Baltimore, Maryland. He missed the First Battle of Manassas but fought at Seven Pines, Seven Days Battles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Manassas, Harpers Ferry, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg.

Pender was wounded a total of five times. It's been said that if he wasn't wounded in a

battle, something was wrong. His first wound was in the arm at the Battle of Glendale. At Fredericksburg, he was wounded in his left arm but kept riding his horse, rallying his men while his blood ran down his arm and hand. At Chancellorsville, he received a minor wound from a spent bullet that killed an officer standing in front of him. At 2<sup>nd</sup> Manassas, he was knocked down from the explosion of a shell but refused to leave the field. received a small cut on the top of his head and some of his hair had to be removed. His last wound was from a piece of shrapnel to his leg, at Gettysburg. General Lee wrote to President Davis that "Pender is an excellent officer, attentive, industrious and brave; has been conspicuous in every battle, and, I believe, wounded in almost all of them."

General Pender was one of Lee's up-and-coming stars. He became a brigadier general at the young age of 28 on June 1, 1862, for his meritorious fighting at the battle of Fair Oaks. President of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, who rode from Richmond to watch the battle, came on to the field to promote Pender. You can't ask for more of a commendation than that. At Antietam, he was with A.P. Hill's Third Corps, coming up in a timely manner from a 17-mile march to save the Army of Northern Virginia's right flank. He was promoted to major general on May 27, 1863, at age 29.

He was with Hill's corps again when General Lee came up through the Cashtown Pass at the battle of Gettysburg. Pender was camped at the Cashtown Gap. Pender's men marched down the Chambersburg Pike and took position on Herr's Ridge on July 1, 1863. General Hill ordered Pender to support General Heth but Pender kept his division in the rear. Pender's men attacked the Union position on Seminary Ridge about 4 p.m. Although the assault was very bloody and General Alfred Scales' men were almost destroyed by Union artillery, Pender was able to force the Union troops back through Gettysburg.

On July 2, 1863, Pender's artillery position was near the Lutheran Seminary south of the

(con't on page 10)

### Family, Friends Remember Brian C. Pohanka

By Gwen Wyttenbach

Members of the BRCWRT gathered at the Columbia Gardens Cemetery in Arlington, VA, on Sunday, June 14 for a memorial service to honor the memory and birthday (which was the following day, June 15) of Brian Caldwell Pohanka, former Captain of the 5th New York Duryee Zouaves, Company A (a Civil War reenactment organization) whose untimely passing at age 50 in 2005 was



Brian Pohanka's friends in the BRCWRT join wife Cricket Pohanka graveside at a memorial service for the noted late Civil War expert. Shown above, I to r, are: Ed Wenzel, Ms. Pohanka, Janet Greentree, Nancy Anwyll, and Gwen Wyttenbach. Below, Pohanka's troops in the 5th New York Duryee Zouaves, Company A pay honor to their late Captain. Shown I to right are: Captain Stan McGee, Sgt. Tom Frezza, Pvt. Will Sowdon, Cpl. John Sowdon, and Sgt. Steve Melko. Photos by Gwen Wyttenbach



mourned by a vast audience of Civil War enthusiasts who came to the study of that conflict by watching public historians such as Pohanka bring passion and insight into the events of the devastating conflict.

In addition to speaking several times at our Round Table, he was a prolific author, historian, ardent Civil War battlefield preservationist, film and television documentary consultant, and founding member of the Association for Preservation of Civil War Sites, which evolved into today's Civil War Trust. That organization has become the premiere group in the country saving battlefields across the U.S. from development and/or destruction.



The late Capt. Brian C. Pohanka leading Duryee Zouaves at Remembrance Day Parade, Gettysburg, 2003.

Photo by Janet Greentree

Mr. Pohanka's other field of expertise was on Gen. George A. Custer and his inglorious final action at Little Bighorn.

Members of the BRCWRT attending the commemorative service were: Ed Wenzel, Janet Greentree, Nancy Anwyll and Gwen Wyttenbach. Other attendees were Brian's wife Cricket; his father, John J. Pohanka, Chairman of the Washington area Pohanka Automotive Group; some of Brian's former comrades-in-arms in reenacting; and a Ceremonial Guard comprised of members of the 5th New York Duryee Zouaves, Company A.

#### Manassas Civil War Weekend - August 21-23 - All Events Free

Hosted by the Manassas Museum - 9101 Prince William St. \* Manassas, VA 20110 \* Ph: 703-368-1873 Speakers (under tent on lawn):

Friday, August 21: 7 p.m.

Al Stone, General Robert E. Lee, *Pres., Washington College* Saturday, August 22: Noon – 3 p.m.

Richard Killblane: Logistics of the War

General William Tecumseh Sherman, *Cmdr., Western Theater* General Philip T. Sheridan, Cmdr., *Army of the Shenandoah* Mr. Earl McElfresh, *Maps of the War* 

Sunday, August 23: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

General Jubal Early, Cmdr., 2nd Corps Army of No. Virginia General John B. Gordon, Cmdr., 2nd Corps Army of No. Virginia Mr. Earl McElfresh, Maps of the War

Major Jed Hotchkiss, Mapmaker Army of No. Virginia General Samuel Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General, CSA

Visit: http://www.manassascity.org/museum for further info on weekend FULL of activities

#### May's 25th Anniversary Meet Served up Many Treats!



We wanted to note the oversight of not picturing May's speaker in the last edition of The Stone Wall, Brian McEnany (left), who spoke on the "West Point Class of 1862." Brian's excellent book, entitled: For Brotherhood and Duty, is available for purchase at BRCWRT meetings and in bookstores. At right, the "cake ladies," who know that an army marches on its stomach! Bringing the goodies were: (I-r:) Sandy lasiello and Deanna Bailey.

Photos by Gwen Wyttenbach



#### **Upcoming Speakers** — (con't from page 3)

our case, we are fortunate to have author and historian Chris Mackowski, Ph.D, come to speak at the Round Table prior to our September 19th tour of the North Anna Battlefield. The Battle of North Anna was fought May 23–26, 1864, as part of Union Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's Overland Campaign against Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. It consisted of a series of small actions near the North Anna River, rather than being a general engagement between the armies. The individual actions are sometimes separately known as: Telegraph Road Bridge and Jericho Mills (for actions on May 23); Ox Ford, Quarles Mill, and Hanover Junction (May 24).

Chris Mackowski is the editor-in-chief of *Emerging Civil War* and managing editor of the *Emerging Civil War Series*. He is a professor of journalism and mass communication at St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, NY, and historian-in-residence at Steven-

son Ridge, a historic property on the Spotsylvania battlefield in central Virginia. He has also worked as a historian for the National Park Service at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park, where he gives tours at four major Civil War battlefields (Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania), as well as at the building where Stonewall Jackson died. Chris serves on the national advisory board for the Civil War Chaplains Museum in Lynchburg, Virginia. Chris is one of a number of *Emerging Civil War* series author/historians who are producing a lot of good works on those areas of the American Civil War that have not received much focus.

Come on out to meet Chris on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at **Dickey's BBQ Pit**, 14260, H Centreville Square, Centreville, VA 20121; telephone: (571) 281-4846 for dinner at 5 p.m. to enjoy supper and some fellowship. See you there.

#### **Book Corner** — (con't from page 4)

themselves. The testimony of one Louis Weichmann, a boarder at Surratt's in Washington, D.C., is reputed to have been especially damaging to Mrs. Surratt. In fact, he wrote his own book on the subject, which is still in print.

The hunt for Lincoln's murderer, along with the trial and executions which followed, form the last gruesome chapter of our great national trauma. Swanson's Epilogue relates the aftermath for the key participants and is oddly comforting reading after the psychological tension of being in on the *Manhunt*. Many of the principals in this dramatic episode of history eventually found justice; most other figures found, at least, a measure of peace.

Until next time, keep reading.

**Note:** As we arrive at the end of our sesquicentennial observances, **The Book Corner** wishes to solicit the views of the membership on new themes to be pursued in the literature of our Civil War. Two such themes under consideration are "Reconstruction" and "the Subordinate Generals," books by or about the generals who served under the army commanders. Your suggestions will be welcome at <a href="mailto:renataralph@gmail.com">renataralph@gmail.com</a>.

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

Hagerstown Road (now the Fairfield Road). General Pender's luck ran out as he was wounded in the thigh from a 2" square fragment of a shell fired from Cemetery Hill. He had just ridden from his Division Headquarters on West Confederate Avenue towards General Edward Thomas' headquarters. He turned over his command to General James H. Lane. For some unknown reason, General Pender was wearing a colonel's uniform with three braid loops, three unwreathed stars, and the light blue pants of an infantry officer. The general was evacuated to Staunton, Virginia, but died on July 18, 1863, after an artery in his leg ruptured. The surgeons amputated his leg, but he died shortly thereafter. His last words were: "Tell my wife that I do not fear to die. I can confidently resign my soul to God, trusting in the atonement of Jesus Christ. My only regret is to leave her and our two children. I have always tried to do my duty in every sphere in which Providence has placed me."

General Lee's words when hearing of Pender's death were as follows: "The loss of Major-General Pender is severely felt by the army and the country. He served with this army from the beginning of the war, and took a distinguished part in all its engagements. Wounded on several occasions, he never left his command in action until he received the injury that resulted in his death. His promise and usefulness as an officer were only equaled by the purity and excellence of his private life."

General A.P. Hill reiterated: "On this day (July 2, 1863), also, the Confederacy lost the invaluable services of Major General W.D. Pender, wounded by a shell, and since dead. No man fell during this bloody battle of Gettysburg more regretted than he, nor around whose youthful brow were clustered brighter rays of glory."

There is a marker for General Pender's Third Corps along West Confederate Avenue denoting all the men under him. The Gettysburg National Park Service has also marked witness trees in the park with small round



Above: Gen. Pender was brought, wounded, to lie under either one of these "witness trees" bracketing the Pegram Monument at Gettysburg. Below: a tag indicating the likelihood that either this tree (or the other close by) witnessed Pender's final moments of respite after being fatally wounded.

Photos by Lisa Tully



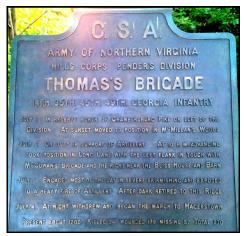
metal tags. The former internet publication, the *Gettysburg Daily*, has identified tag #195 or tag #196 as the tree where General Pender lay wounded. As you can see by the map, Pender's HQ was close to the Hagerstown (con't on page 11)



Map of West Confederate Avenue showing location of monuments .

#### Ms. Rebelle - (con't from page 10)







Markers denoting the placement of troops under Pegram, Thomas and Pender are grouped on west Confederate Ave. on the Gettysburg Battlefield.

Photos by Lisa Tully

(now Fairfield) Road. General Thomas' HQ was close to the now McMillan's Woods Youth Camp. General Pender was brought back to be placed at either the tree on the left (tag #196) or on the right (tag #195) where the monument to General Pegram is located.

General Pender is the posthumous author of *The General to his Lady: The Civil War Letters of William Dorsey Pender to Fanny Pender,"* published in 1965, 102 years after his death. A liberty ship, the S.S. William D. Pender, was named in his honor and saw service during World War II.

My Gettysburg daughter and husband, Lisa

& Paul Tully, get a BIG thank-you for doing my site search and picture-taking for me. Lisa said it was a treasure hunt. Paul recreated the moment of Pender's wounding, but I won't share that photo with you, although Lisa says it is the best one taken during the excursion. I told her that every time she rides down West Confederate Avenue now, she will remember William Dorsey Pender, who was mortally wounded there.

NOTE: Ms. Rebelle's hobby is traveling the country, finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008 Civil War generals. So far, she has located and photographed 403....169 Confederate and 234 Union. You may contact her at jlgrtree@erols.com.

# IN MEMORIAM MICHAEL "Mike" PAUL JONES 1940-2014

By Saundra Cox

While making phone calls regarding membership renewal, we were sorry to learn that one of our longtime members, Mike Jones, passed last October 6 after a battle with cancer. Mike joined the BRCWRT in 2003, enjoyed our monthly meetings, and participated in more than 11 BRCWRT tours, with his most recent being to Gettysburg in 2013.

In addition to his interest in the Civil War, Mike enjoyed family genealogy and, through that, discovered a second great-uncle who served the Union in a New York regiment. He was also a member of Mended Hearts at Fairfax Inova Hospital, which he joined following heart surgery, and he also enjoyed fishing.

Mike was a retired civil engineer with the Navy Facilities Engineering Command, where he worked for 35 years. He is survived by his wife Jean and sons Brian and Christopher and their families.

Interment was at Fairfax Memorial Park.



Mike Jones shown visiting the CSS Hunley Museum in North Charleston, SC.



#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### **Civil War August:**

- **14** VA Walking tour, "'We shall have graveyards at every door...' Middletown in the Midst of War," meets at NPS contact station, 7712 Main St, Middletown. 7 pm. Free. nps.gov/cebe
- **14** VA Campfire program, "Companions in Battle: Animals at War," at Prospect Hill, Tour Stop 6, on the Fredericksburg battlefield. 8 pm. Free. nps.gov/frsp
- **15 VA** Car-caravan tour, "The Confederate Defense of Miller's Lane," meets at the Cedar Creek/Belle Grove NHP visitor station, 7712 Main St, Middletown. 2 pm. Free. nps.gov/cebe
- **15 VA** Car-caravan tour, "Expanding the Breakthrough Generals Under Fire," examines the April 2, 1865, breakthrough at Petersburg. Begins at Pamplin Historical Park near Petersburg. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Free with park admission. pamplinpark.org
- **15 VA** Walking tour, "Civil War Trail and Freedman's Farm," at Montpelier, home of James Madison in Orange County. Begins at parking lot across from Montpelier Station Train Depot. 2 pm. Free. montpelier.org
- **15 VA** "Handling History," special opportunity to "touch" artifacts from the USS Monitor, which is undergoing conservation, at the Mariners' Museum in Newport News. 2 pm. marinersmuseum.org
- **15-16 WV** Reenactment, "Battle of Dry Creek," at the Greenbrier State Forest, I-64 exit 175 near Lewisburg. Camps and demonstrations with skirmish 1:30 pm Saturday, battle 2 pm Sunday. Free. battleofdrycreek.org
- **15-16 VA** "Sully Plantation Encampment Weekend" Fee required. http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site/calendar.htm
- 17 VA Lecture, "'Sons of a Common Country': Postwar Reconciliation in Winchester and Frederick County, Virginia," at the Handley Regional Library, 100 W Piccadilly St, Winchester. 7 pm. Free. shenandoahatwar.org
- **18 VA** "The Fight for the Weldon Railroad," ranger program at the Petersburg National Battlefield (Stop 1, Western Front). 3 pm. Free. nps.gov/pete
- **21 VA** Walking tour, "Recalled to Life: Star Fort in War and Peace," meets at Star Fort, Fortress Drive and US 522 in Winchester. 7 pm. Free. nps.gov/cebe
- **21-23 VA** Living history programs and more, "Civil War Weekend," in downtown Manassas. Includes the burning of a reproduction of a railroad car. Free. manassasmuseum.org
- **22 VA** Lecture, "Escaping Detection: Women in the Civil War," at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560
- **22-23 MD** Living history, "Artillery Weekend" at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Camp and demonstrations. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti
- **22-23 VA** Civil War Weekend with living history, tours, talks and more in Winchester and Frederick and Clarke counties. Tours, living history, talks and more. visitwinchesterva.com
- **23** VA Living history and tours, "Eyewitness to War," at the Mt. Zion Historic Park, 40309 John Mosby Highway, Aldie. 1-5 pm. Free. 703-327-9777.
- **27 VA** Anniversary walking tours, "Battle of Kettle Run," at the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park in Bristow. 1-4 pm. \$5 donation welcome. 703-366-3049.
- **29-30** Anniversary of the formation of the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Special programs at the site. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti

#### Civil War September:

- **5 VA** Car-caravan tour, "Petersburg's Patients and Prisoners," meets at 201 W Washington St, Petersburg. Ranger-led tour visits hospital and prison sites. 10:30 am and 2:30 pm. Free. Reservations necessary: 804-732-3531 extension 222.
- **5 VA** Living history walking tour, "Battle of Smithfield," begins at the Isle of Wight Museum, 103 Main St, Smithfield. 2 pm. Free. historicisleofwight.com
- **5 VA** Walking tour, "Fort Huger," 17146 Monument Circle, Isle of Wight County near Smithfield. 10 am. Free. historicisleofwight.com
- **5-6 VA** Living history, "Malvern Hill Military History Weekend," demonstrations from all eras at Malvern Hill, part of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. Free. nps.gov/rich
- **12 VA** Living history at GermanFest at the Shenandoah Germanic Heritage Museum, **11523** Back Road, Toms Brook. Civil War camp included. **10** am-6 pm. **\$5**. GermanFestVA.org
- **12 VA** Lecture, "Why is it Going to Take So Long to Get the (USS Monitor) Turret on Display?" at the Mariners' Museum in Newport News. 2:30 pm. Free with admission. marinersmuseum.org
- **12-13 MD** "The 27th Indiana and Lee's Lost Orders," living history, programs and exhibit relating to the Lee's "Lost Orders" that fell into Union hands near Frederick prior to Antietam, at the Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick. Free. nps.gov/mono
- **12-13 VA** Reenactment, "Battles of Waynesboro," at Conyner Springs Park, Lyndhurst Road, Waynesboro. Camps and demonstrations 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-4 pm Sunday. Battles both days at 2 pm. \$5/day pass. waynesboroatwar.webs.com
- **13** VA "Remembering the Civil War," with Dr. "Bud" Robertson, at Highland School, 597 Broadview Ave, Warrenton. 2 pm. \$50. mosbyheritagearea.org
- **17 MD** Anniversary activities at the Antietam National Battlefield including 7 am Cornfield program and all-day battlefield hike beginning at 9:30 am. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti
- **18** VA Ranger program, "'You can trust the bearer....' Thomas Laws and the Battle of Third Winchester." Meets at Hobert Park, 225 Al Smith Circle, Berryville. Winchester. 5 pm. Free. nps.gov/cebe
- **19 VA** "Mosby Bus Tour," leaves from the Truro Rectory, 10520 Main St, Fairfax. 8:30 am-5:30 pm. \$75. Reservations, info: 703-971-4984.
- **26 VA** Lecture, "The Forgotten 14," USCT Medal of Honor recipients at the Battle of New Market Heights, at the Petersburg National Battlefield visitor center. 10 am and 2 pm. Free with park admission. nps.gov/pete
- **26 VA** Boat tour, "Potomac River Blockade," see preserved Confederate batteries along the river, plus lunch. Cruises based in Leesylvania State Park in Woodbridge. \$45. 703-366-3049 for details
- **26-27 MD** "Aftermath of Battle Weekend" at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Living history and ranger programs. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti
- **27 VA** Living history and tours, "Eyewitness to War," at the Mt. Zion Historic Park, 40309 John Mosby Highway, Aldie. 1-5 pm. Free. 703-327-9777.
- **27 VA** Lecture, "Mathew Brady's Portraits of a Nation," at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560.

#### **Survey** — (con't from page 5)

touched on tours that we have successfully conducted in the past and will again. The Tour Directors were very interested in following through.

The membership was largely split between those wishing to have a social event like a picnic in the fall (56%) and those that were not interested (44%).

Many respondents saw a need for greater participation by knowledgeable members at public events in order to expand recruitment, especially among young people (83%). But many were concerned about burning volunteers out. Thus there is a need to prioritize public event outreach selection. Several good site suggestions were made for that prioritization process to consider.

The BRCWRT website received good marks from those who use it for ease of use, either easy (52%) or somewhat easy (32%).

Regarding ideas for an even better Round Table in the future, the suggestions from more than one respondent were as follows (in order):

- Recruit more young people
- Enhance inter-member introductions and social contact
- Encourage and expand after-speaker discussion
- Increase the number of well-led tours
- Find a larger room
- Diverse suggestions re: location and meeting timing
- Broaden the nature of the topics

Since the survey population included people who were members in 2014 but did not renew, thirteen people commented as to why they did not rejoin. The most common reasons were: 1) they did not receive sufficient renewal reminders; 2) they had hearing or acoustical issues in the meetings; and 3) they had distance and meeting timing issues with their work.

#### **President's Column** — (con't from page 3)

tee and I have opposed, or the Bristoe Station Battlefield's Kirkland's Charge land preservation effort. I will be getting further updates on both, so stay tuned. When I receive word on the disposition of these matters, we will send the updates out via e-mail to all.

The great news regarding our 2015 BRCWRT Survey is that over 100 members participated in the opinion-gathering. We are collecting the data received, and will review it as we plan our upcoming 2016 schedule of speakers and tours. Thank you so much those who took part. More information on the survey's results will be provided in upcoming editions of this newsletter.

Please remember that since the 2015 membership drive ended, we need you to help us maintain membership by reminding the folks you know to renew as soon as they can, so that they won't miss receiving any issues of the excellent BRCWRT Stone Wall newsletter. Remind prospective members that they can sign up online as well as at our meetings.

There's lots of Civil War news and information on our Facebook Web site at https://www.facebook.com/bullruncwrt. Visiting the site,

you can receive real-time pictures of Civil War events, Civil War activity updates, local and regional news and information, and BRCWRT highlights that should enhance your Civil War experience and knowledge.

Please continue to spread the word to your family and friends, younger folks and potential members that the BRCWRT is the hub of Civil War activity and information in Northern Virginia, including preservation efforts, and is a tremendous organization to join. Bring your friends, family and colleagues out to our next meeting! We need a youth movement to ensure our next 25 years.

Come on out to dinner at 5 p.m. in August to meet Ed Bearss at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant (just this once), 5805 Trinity Pkwy, Centreville, VA 20120; telephone: (703) 266-9755, right next to (closed) Copper Canyon Grill. In September, we will be back at the Centreville, VA shopping center, at: Dickey's BBQ Pit, 14260, H Centreville Square, Centreville, VA 20121; telephone: (571) 281-4846. See you there prior to our meetings.

Enjoy rest of the summer!

Let us never forget the people who served, and what they did for us. God Bless all of you.

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
The Stone Wall
P.O. Box 2147
Centreville, VA 20122

#### <u> 2015 Bull Run Civil War Round Table — MEMBERSHIP FORM</u>

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

NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_
ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_\_
CITY\_\_\_\_\_\_STATE\_\_\_\_ZIP\_\_\_
PHONE\_\_\_\_E-MAIL\_