



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXVI, Issue 4, MAY 2019

AUTHOR / HISTORIAN PAULA WHITACRE SPEAKS ON "INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF A SLAVE GIRL" AT THE MAY 9th MEETING

Julia Wilbur was a teacher and abolitionist in Rochester, NY, when she came to Alexandria, VA, in 1862. Along with Harriet Jacobs (a former slave, author of *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*), she worked to help the approximately 7,000 people who came into Alexandria to escape slavery.

We are so happy to hear Harriet's story, told by the author of the new book "A Civil Life in



Harriet Jacobs



Julia Wilbur

an *Uncivil Time: Julia Wilbur's Struggle for Purpose* (Potomac Books/University of Nebraska Press).

A Kirkus reviewer called this book "an illuminating portrait of a remarkable abolitionist working behind Union lines." Her book has been positively reviewed in *Emerging Civil War*, *Civil War News*, and an upcoming feature in *Civil War Times*.

Paula is a long-time freelance writer and editor for the National Academy of Sciences, National Institutes of Health and many other organizations. Previously, she worked for The

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

7 p.m. Centreville Library
THURSDAY, May 9, 2019

GUEST SPEAKER:
Professor and Historian
PAULA WHITACRE

TOPIC:

**"Julia Wilbur and Harriet
Jacobs, *Incidents in the
Life of a Slave Girl*"**

**Come early - 6:30 p.m. - for
BRCWRT 28th anniversary
refreshments!**

Washington Post; she also did a stint with the U.S. Information Agency, serving as a Foreign Service Officer.

Paula has lived in Alexandria since the mid-1980s and is active in many local history organizations. In addition to serving on the board of the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia, she is president of Friends of Alexandria Archaeology. Paula holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in International Studies from Johns Hopkins University. She has two sons, ages two and six.

Come on out at 5 p.m. to meet and have dinner with Paula at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Parkway, Centreville, VA 20120: (703) 266-9755.

**The Bull Run Civil War Round Table Membership Drive
may have ended, but you can re-up anytime!**

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE Executive Committee

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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 **June 2019 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, May 27, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **June 2019 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at: <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon on May 17, to Charlie Balch at: BRCWRTads@gmail.com

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

JOIN US AT CARRABBA'S

Do you come directly to the monthly meeting from work and look for a place to eat, or would you just like to come early to dinner? Join BRCWRT members and their monthly guest speaker for good food and camaraderie. We are currently meeting around 5 p.m. at Carrabba's Italian Grill located just across Lee Highway from the Centreville Regional Library.

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UPCOMING 2019 MEETINGS

May 9: Author and Historian Paula Whitacre - "Julia Wilbur and Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*"

June 13: Authors and Historians Chuck Mauro and Don Hakenson - "Mosby in Fauquier County"

July 11: Author and NPS Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss - "Battle of Fort Fisher, NC"

August 8: Author and Historian Richard Lewis - "Cloaked in Mystery: The Curious Case of the Confederate General's Coat"

September 12: Authors and Historians Rob Orrison and Kevin Pawlak - "To Hazard All: A Guide to the Maryland Campaign, 1862"

October 10: Author and Historian Dan Clendaniel— "The U.S. Marine Corps: John Brown's Raid & the Civil War"

November 14: Author and Historian Paige Gibbon Backus—"The Chaos and Carnage in the Hospitals of First Manassas"

December 12: Author and Historian John Quarstein - "Battle of Big Bethel, VA, June 1861"

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The President's Column

By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members -

Spring has sprung, as they say, and the May flowers are in full bloom; the days are so much warmer and pleasant! We can now look forward to beginning our Civil War events, walks, and tours at our favorite historic sites. Spring has also brought us excellent lectures for our round table. My beginning to this year has been a bit rocky, with many family and health issues befalling me, but I hope to get back on track soon. Our BRCWRT Exec committee and I are committed to working hard for this round table and looking forward with excitement to the upcoming year.

Our April meeting brought us Professor Noah Cincinnati, who gave us an outstanding talk on capitalism and slavery - a subject many of us had little knowledge of prior to Noah's talk. What an outstanding talk and presentation he gave, and, what rave reviews he received from the audience. Thank you so much, Noah, and we hope to see you in the future.

Don't forget - you can also "tune in" to all of our lectures, and follow along with PowerPoint slides, at our Web site audio archives, located at the address: http://bullruncwrt.org/BRCWRT/AudioArchives/Audio_menu.html.

Our 2019 BRCWRT Scholarship Award program team, led by Committee Chair Nancy Anwyll, has concluded its recruitment work, and the selection process has begun! In June, the team will present a \$2000 scholarship to one 2019 high school senior from a public or private high school in Prince William or Fairfax County, including the cities of Manassas, Fairfax, and Manassas Park. Falls Church High School is also included. We are so proud of our past winners, and look forward to meeting this year's winner.

April was our last month for the BRCWRT 2019 Membership drive. I'm afraid folks who didn't sign up won't be receiving our newsletter

until they do - you can always join or renew your membership and keep all the great information on Civil War happenings coming to your computer (or mailbox) with the Stone Wall. I encourage everyone to bring new folks to join the round table, either through our Web site or by signing up at the next meeting. I am always encouraging a "youth movement" for the BRCWRT, so that a future generation of Civil War historians and preservationists will continue our proud traditions here in Centreville, VA. As I always say, I look forward to having 300 members signed up for 2019, which has been my goal for the last nine years (283 members in 2018).

I am sorry to announce that we will not be having a Spring Tour this year. We are also sad to hear that our wonderful tour director Scott Kenepf is leaving us, as he is retiring from government service. We will miss Scott tremendously, and I want to thank him for producing all his outstanding BRCWRT tours the last few years. They are memorable indeed. We look forward to welcoming our new tour director this summer, and we'll get you that update when it occurs. Again - thank you, Scott, so much for all you did to make our tours wonderful successes! God Bless.

Your Executive Committee has been working overtime on new initiatives for constantly improving our round table's vision and mission. Preservation Chair Blake Myers and his team have been working on many projects this year and look to be involved with many more as the year unfolds. Our new Marketing Committee chair, Stephanie Vale, is looking for some volunteers as she promotes our BRCWRT to a larger audience in the region. Lots of Civil War events are coming up this Spring and Summer...don't miss them!

As always, this month and every month in 2019, we will continue to offer for sale Ed Wenzel's "Chronology of the Civil War of Fairfax County." This book is the perfect gift for the Civil War enthusiast on your shopping list. Also, the BRCWRT 25th Anniversary book will be on sale at meetings and on the Web site. As the year moves forward, we will be here bringing you the best Civil War lectures, tours, events and newsletters in the region, with preservation and education as a solid part of our mission!

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



Noah Cincinnati spoke at the April BRCWRT meeting.
Photo by Janet Greentree

BRCWRT's Outreach Program Garners New Partnerships

by Brian McEnany

The Education Committee has been busy over the past year, with two important events this month. On April 3, Jim Lewis and I presented a talk to students at the Northern Virginia Community College on the subject of Historic Signage. A week later, David Welker, Mark Whitenton and I talked to 6th Grade students at the Bull Run Elementary School about the First Battle of Bull Run. Both programs required the better part of a year to research and create the respective presentations.

Jim and I believe the Historic Signage presentation is an excellent summary of the effort and process needed to move from the concept of an *idea* to *installation* of a historic marker at a suitable location, including getting it *approved*, *installed*, and *dedicated*. For any future work by members of the round table, we think you might want to access our slide notes prior to launching any major effort.

I am sure you have seen highway signs along our major highway and byways such as the ones shown here. They offer glimpses into our past, and commemorate historic events, sites, or battles. They offer a brief history lesson if you take the time to slow down and pull over, or halt your tour to read them.

Jim's research resulted in a compilation of 'best practices' developed by BRCWRT membership over the past 25 years to create some 100(+) historic markers in Fairfax and Prince William counties. Those efforts included the coordination of multiple historic organizations at both county and state level, and required great persistence and accuracy.

The presentation covered the two major types of markers: roadside (vertical) and wayside (interpretive). The major difference between them lies in the addition of graphics, more text, and



interest items that resonate with the readers on wayside signs. Most of those can be found in parks, historic areas, battlefields, and pull overs on highways. The roadside signs offer reduced amounts of text and tend to grab your eyes as you speed past.

Next time you see a historic sign, think about this: the entire process involved great amounts of research about the event or site, finding the right location, determining property ownership, finding funding, identifying sponsor groups, and getting county and state approval. In most cases, it takes a year to complete all the steps in the process. But that's not all - once approval was granted; a dedication ceremony with any number of citizens, politicians, musicians, photographers, law enforcement, reenactors, relevant historical groups, and other targeted audiences is advisable. A successful dedication and subsequent publicity raises the level of historic understanding of a particular event, site or battle in the area.

Our Historic Signage talk was delivered at the Annandale campus of NVCC on April 3. The instructor, Dr. Mark Dlugar, heads up the NVCC Public History and Historic Preservation Program at the

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BRCWRT Outreach – (con't from page 4)

Loudoun and Annandale campuses. It was an evening lecture with 10 students in attendance along with Dr. Dlugar. Jim and I talked for the better part of an hour about the approval process and described several successful case studies. The students were very attentive and asked a number of interesting questions. Prior to this talk, the students had not been aware of the amount of effort required to complete the installation and dedication of a historic sign. The lecture was so well received that NVCC invited us to come back next year and present it again.

Also during this time, I extended the round table's academic outreach program to a Fairfax County elementary school. For the better part of a year, I had been interacting with the Bull Run Elementary School 6th Grade social science teachers, led by Theresa Nolan, to develop a program to kick off the student's study of the Civil War at the school.

On April 10, I was joined by two other round table members to make a presentation focused on the fact that the school was constructed on property over which both Confederate and Union forces marched and fought during the First Battle of Bull Run. Hence, we called the presentation "History Happened Here." David Welker (on the left in the photograph at right) portrayed his ancestor, Private Seymour Austin of the 13th New York Volunteer Infantry, who actually fought in that battle. Mark Whitenton first portrayed Confederate Colonel Nathan Evans, commander of the Confederate units defending the Stone Bridge. Later, Mark shifted to a portrayal of Brigadier General Joseph Johnston to describe how the Confederates created the chaos at Cub Run Bridge during the Union retreat. Outfitted in a Union officer's uniform, I narrated the program.

The talk was delivered in the Bull Run Elementary School's cafeteria to one hundred students in the 6th grade. They were respectful, quiet, and raised their hands to answer our questions as we proceeded. We covered the initial events in Virginia at the beginning of the Civil War and focused on telling stories about how Confederate and Union soldiers made their way to Bull Run before and during the battle. I was pleased to hear that the school's teachers want us to come back and deliver the lecture again next year.

Both talks are successful examples of BRCWRT's academic outreach program that now includes George Mason University, the Northern Virginia Community College and an elementary school in Fairfax County. It is our intention to continue these education efforts in the future and any BRCWRT members who would like to help us in these activities are more than welcome. Please contact me at bmcenany@cox.net to find out more about these programs to help BRCWRT encourage the study of the Civil War.



Reenactors (l to r) David Welker, Brian McEnany and Mark Whitenton.

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

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|
| ◆ Erik Kunz | ◆ Linda Johnston | ◆ David Hull | ◆ William Bozo |
| ◆ Bill Mindak | ◆ Christopher Hueskes | ◆ Jan Croon | |



CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

General G. Moxley Sorrel, CSA

By Janet Greentree

Moxley Sorrel has yet another unusual name from the Civil War. His first name was Gilbert, but he was called Moxley, his mother's maiden name. He is intricately linked to another Civil War general William Whann Mackall, also a Confederate. On one of Yankee Nan (Nancy Anwyll) and my excursions, we visited the Greenwich Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Greenwich (Prince William Co.), VA. The church was founded in 1802 by Moxley's grandmother Aminta Douglass Moxley. There to our sur-



The Greenwich Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Greenwich (Prince William Co.), VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

Ms. Rebelle found that Moxley's father had a summer home in Greenwich called The Lawn. The house burned down in 1924 but was

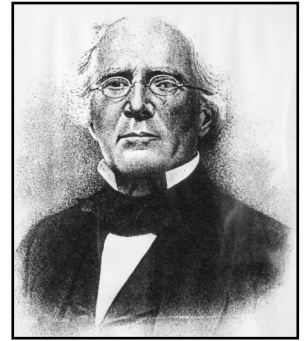


The Lawn

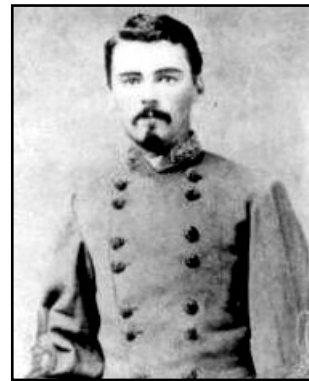
reconstructed. Moxley's sister Aminta married Gen. Mackall. She is buried in Greenwich, but he is buried in McLean Presbyterian Church Cemetery in McLean, VA. Now comes much more intrigue.

Moxley was born February 23, 1838 in Savannah, GA, the son of one of the wealthiest men in Savannah – Mathurin Francois "Francis" Sorrel and his wife Matilda Aminta Douglass. Moxley's father was born in Saint Domingo on the Mirigoane Plantation, in

the West Indies (now Haiti) to Antoine Sorrel and a free black woman Eugenie De Sutre who died a week after giving birth to Francis. Eugenie was Antoine's second wife. Antoine was born in France and was a French military colonel. Antoine abandoned his child. Francis lived with Eugenie's relatives in Port au Prince. Francis was light skinned and



Gen. Sorrel's father, Francis.



G. Moxley Sorrel during the Civil War

passed for white. Francis was left out of his father's will as well. No one in the Sorrel family descendants ever talked about Eugenie. Brothers Richard and Henry Douglass, sugar and coffee traders, took Francis in, and sent him to Baltimore to work for them. He later was sent to Savannah and started a mercantile company, Douglass and Sorrel, with Richard. In 1825, he started his own company becoming extremely wealthy himself. He was a shrewd businessman, and, following the Civil War, he had accumulated \$40,000 in gold.

Francis' first wife was Lucinda Douglass (the niece of Henry Douglass), the sister of Matilda, who died after contracting yellow fever while caring for neighbors who also had the disease. Eleven children were sired by Francis (three from Lucinda and eight from Matilda).



The Sorrel-Weed House in Savannah, GA.

Photo by Jackie Shepherd

Francis was listed as a merchant in the 1850 census with real estate worth \$48,000 and as owning slaves. Young Moxley grew up in the Sorrel-Weed House (Shady Corner) at Bull and Harris streets (6 West Harris Street) in Savannah. The house is still standing and

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)

open for tours/ghost tours. It is also purported to be one of the most haunted houses in Savannah. In 1859, Francis sold the house to Henry Weed and moved to the townhouse next door at 12 West Harris Street. In 1860, Moxley's mother, after discovering her husband was having an affair with a slave named Molly, committed suicide by throwing herself headfirst off of a second-floor balcony. His mother suffered from depression and had also just lost two of her children. Molly lived in the carriage house on the property that is also said to be haunted. Molly was found hanged shortly thereafter. It was not clear whether she hanged herself or if someone else did it. Since she was the property of Francis, there was no police inquiry. Francis was friends with Robert E. Lee who visited the house in 1861 and 1862 during the Civil War.



The attack on Fort Pulaski, April 10-11, 1862.

General Lee would also visit the house in 1870 up until his death. Moxley met Lee at the train station and showed him around the city.

Moxley was educated at the Chatham Academy. He was working as a banking clerk at the Central Railroad when the Civil War began. His house was across the street from the Olgethorpe Barracks. He watched all the activity at the barracks and wanted to become a soldier himself. He joined the Georgia Hussars as a private and participated in the capture of Fort Pulaski. His father arranged for a letter of introduction from Colonel Jordan to General P.G.T. Beauregard. Moxley was assigned to General Longstreet on July 21, 1861 at the battle of Bull Run/First Manassas as a volunteer aide-de-camp. Later, he would write in his book *Recollections of a Confederate Staff Officer*, "...approaching the ford, shot and shell were flying close overhead, then feeling a bit nervous, my first time under fire, I began to enjoy the folly that had brought me into such disturbing scenes." Longstreet wrote: ("...that) his young aide came into the

battle as gaily as a beau, and seemed to receive orders which threw him into more exposed positions with particular delight."

Sorrel came up the ranks quickly becoming adjutant-general under Longstreet and Lt. colonel by June, 1863. He fought in the Peninsula Campaign, 2nd Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and Petersburg. He served under Longstreet until October 1864, when at age 26, at the suggestion of Gen. Lee, he was made a brigadier general. During the battle of the Wilderness, Longstreet was severely wounded and Moxley led four brigades against the Union. Moxley was assigned to General Mahone after 1864. He was in charge of a brigade consisting of the 2nd, 22nd, 48th, and 64th regiments and 2nd and 10th battalions of Georgia infantry in A.P. Hill's Corps. While in the Petersburg area, he was wounded in the leg. Shortly after, at Hatcher's Run, he endured a severe chest wound resulting in a punctured lung at Hatcher's Run. His older brother Francis who was a surgeon in the Confederate Army helped with Moxley's convalescence. Moxley recuperated and was returning to his command when the Confederates surrendered at Appomattox.



On November 14, 1867, at Woodville Plantation, Baldwin Co., GA, Sorrel married Kate Amelie DuBignon. The Sorrels had one daughter.

After the war, Moxley went back to Savannah and became the superintendent of the Central Railroad of Georgia. Seven years later, he became the general manager of the Ocean Steamship Company, which had routes between Savannah, New York, and Liverpool.

Under "local and personal news" in several newspapers, General Sorrel was mentioned as follows: The *Savannah Daily Advertiser* reported that he and General Joseph Johnson were judges at an immense gathering at the base ball park in May, 1871. The *Savannah*

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

Daily Advertiser in November 1871, listed him and General Johnson as honorary managers for the Industrial Association of Georgia Citizens Ball. The *Morning News* of Savannah in May 1890, reported that Sorrel "will leave this morning on the Chattahoochee for New York, where he will spend the summer months, and will give his personal attention to the business of the company at that end of the route. The general feels a very just pride in the magnificent fleet of steamships of which he is the manager, and to his never ceasing care and energy is due much of the popularity of the line." In January 1891, the *Morning News* also reported that "Ohioans See the Sights, The Buckeye Visitors Given the Freedom of the City.... The next stop was at the Ocean Steamship wharves. Gen. G. Moxley Sorrel, who was one of the escorts, invited the visitors and the committee aboard the Chattahoochee, which had just began loading. A number of the Ohioans had never seen an ocean steamer before...." The *Morning News* of Savannah, also in January 1891, reported that "Gen. G. Moxley Sorrel, general manager of the Ocean Steamship Company, has given his personal attention to getting this handsome exhibit ready.... The company was shipping models of the steamships Savannah and the City of Augusta to St. Augustine, FL."

General Gilbert Moxley Sorrel died in Roanoke, VA, at the Barrows, the home of his

older brother Francis. The *Times-Picayune* of New Orleans reported as follows: "General G. Moxley Sorrel, aged 64, of Savannah, GA., died at the home of his brother, near Roanoke, last midnight. General Sorrel entered the Confederate army in Savannah as volunteer aid [e] on Longstreet's staff at the outbreak of the civil war. He was promoted several times for gallantry, and in the third year of the war was made a brigadier general on Longstreet's staff...." General Sorrel died August 10, 1901, and is buried at Laurel Grove Cemetery in Savannah, GA.



Gen. Sorrel's mausoleum, Laurel Grove Cemetery, Savannah, GA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

As a side note, General Orlando Poe profiled last month, camped at the Greenwich Presbyterian Church in August 1862, before 2nd Bull Run/Manassas.

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 420 - 169 Confederate and 251 Union. You may contact her at jlgrtree@erols.com.

Enjoy
These
Great
PWC
Events!

**May 11
Jamestown 1619-2019 Bus Tour**
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; \$90 per person (lunch included); reservations required.
In 2019, Virginia commemorates three important events that took place in 1619. Join us on a special bus tour to Jamestown. After visiting the Jamestown Settlement, visit Historic Jamestown to see the original site of the James Fort and learn about the recent archaeology that has uncovered the church where the first Virginia House of Burgesses met in July 1619. Tour includes transportation, admission to sites, and lunch. **Williams Ordinary, Dumfries, VA. 703-792-4754.**

**May 11
Nature Day at Brentsville Courthouse**
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.; FREE; donations accepted
Join us for timed nature walks from local experts about native and invasive trees, learn how bees help the environment from local beekeepers, and enjoy special crafts, activities and more! Tours of the historic site will be available on the hour. **Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA. 703-365-7895.**

**May 11-12
Mother's Day Tours**
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Free for Mothers and children under 6.
All mothers that visit during the Mother's Day weekend will receive a complimentary tour of one of our historic sites! Free refreshments available as well. All County owned historic sites, www.pwcgov.org/history, 703-792-4754.

**May 18
Ben Lomond's Antique Rose Garden Tea**
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.; \$30 per person, advanced registration is required.
Celebrate the arrival of spring at Ben Lomond enjoying historic tea and garden themed treats. Price of admission includes tea, light refreshments, and a special talk about roses and spring flowers in one of the largest antique rose garden in the Washington D.C. metro area.
Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.

**May 20
Museum Kids Monday!**
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.; \$5 per child, ages 9 and under.
Bring your child to Ben Lomond this summer to explore history through sight, sound, smell, and touch through hands-on activities and crafts! Adult must be able to participate with children. Reservations are not required. **Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.**

**Saturdays; May-October
Yoga on the Lawn at Rippon Lodge**
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.; \$5.00 per class, or 5 classes for \$20.00
Enjoy performing yoga on the lawn with amazing views of the Potomac River and Rippon Lodge. Join certified instructor Christopher Glowacki for a Vinyasa yoga practice. Participants are encouraged to bring a yoga mat, towel and plenty of water; beginners may want to bring a block and/or strap. Those purchasing 5 classes will receive punch cards, which are good for the whole season. **Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.**

**2nd and 4th Weekends; May-October
Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park Tours**
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Tours leave on the hour; Free.
Join Bristoe Station Battlefield historians for guided tours of the hallowed grounds that contain camps, cemeteries, and battlefields. Tours begin on the hour and depart from the kiosk. **Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, 703-366-3049.**



PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation

www.pwcgov.org/history
historicpreservation@pwcgov.org
703-792-4754





PRESERVATION REPORT

BY BLAKE MYERS

Your Preservation Committee remains actively engaged and busy on many fronts - the following are updates on a number of ongoing BRCWRT preservation activities:

Route 28 Transportation Study & Project

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) in 2017 completed a Route 28 Corridor Feasibility Study with the goal of identifying infrastructure projects that will improve travel times and network reliability within the Route 28 Corridor through Prince William County, the City of Manassas and the City of Manassas Park.

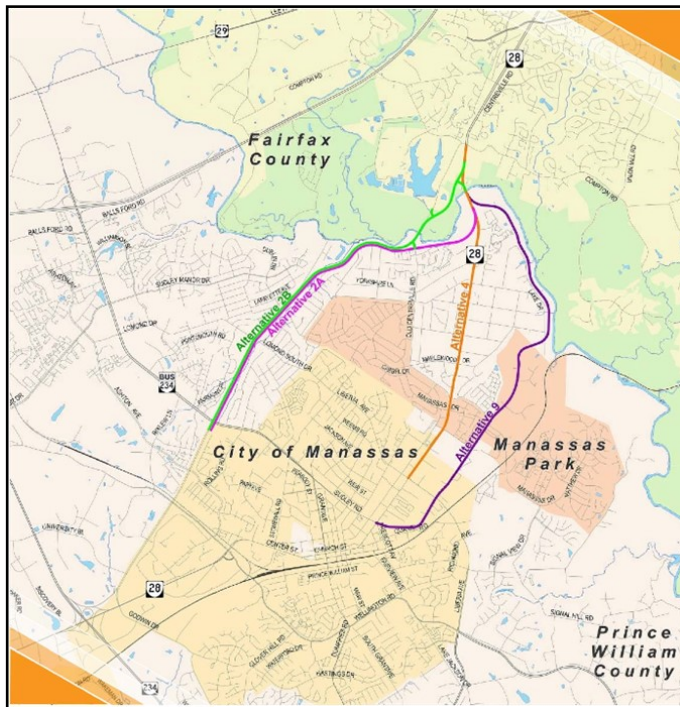
The Feasibility Study considered four alternatives for technical valuation:

Alternative 2A: Godwin Drive extended to existing Route 28 south of Bull Run

Alternative 2B: Godwin Drive extended to existing Route 28 north of Bull Run

Alternative 4: Widening Route 28 on existing alignment between Liberia Avenue and the Fairfax County Line

Alternative 9: Euclid Avenue extension north to Route 28 near Bull Run and south to the Sudley Road/Route 234 intersection



Prince William County Department of Transportation (PWC DOT), in coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is

preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential social, economic, and environmental effects associated with alternative transportation improvements.

PWC DOT conducted an Environmental Assessment Public Meeting #1 on 5 December (in Prince William County) and 6 December (in Fairfax County) 2018. Information presented included:

- An overview and discussion of options (from Feasibility Study) under consideration – Options 2A, 2B and 4 (Option 9 was eliminated as it did not score high enough on technical feasibility)
- An overview and discussion of the Environmental Assessment Timeline
 - ◊ Scoping and Data Collection (ongoing)
 - ◊ As an Army Corps of Engineers permit is required for any alternative impacting streams, wetlands, etc., coordination with Army Corps of Engineers is ongoing with decisions regarding COE permitting expected by March/April 2019
 - ◊ Alternatives Refinement/Public Information Meeting – Spring 2019
 - ◊ Environmental Assessment Public Hearing – Fall 2019
 - ◊ Final Decision on Environmental Assessment by FHWA – Winter 2019
- Solicitation of public comments on the options under consideration BRCWRT submitted comments on December 25, 2018:
- In recognition of the existing historical and cultural resources, waterways and wetlands that exist in the Route 28 corridor, recommend the following be added at the end of the goal statement, “...without negatively affecting historical, cultural and archaeological resources and sites and/or wetlands in the project area.”
- Alternative 2B would significantly threaten the historic character of the Bull Run Regional Park and would significantly degrade the integrity of the quality of the visitor experience, as well as the area’s scenic and historic viewshed. Moreover, by crossing Bull Run Regional Park, Alternative 2B threatens prehistoric and historic archaeological resources that may be present in the path of this proposed alternative.
- Alternative 2B would have a significant negative impact on significant acreage within Bull Run Regional Park associated with the Battle of Blackburn’s Ford and the Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run. The Battle of Blackburn’s Ford, fought on July 18, 1861 and one of the first notable engagements of the Civil War with 151 estimated casualties, preceded the first major

(con’t on page 10)

Preservation Report – (con't from page 9)

land battle of the Civil War, the Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run fought on July 21, 1861. The acreage through which the northern part of Alternative 2B would cut is located well within the “core” battlefield boundary of both battles as determined by the federal Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) and its Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields.

- Alternative 2A would have a significant negative impact on the Battle of Blackburn’s Ford core battlefield area, and specifically the extant Confederate earthworks located north of and overlooking Bull Run on the northern edge of the core battlefield boundary.
- Any changes to the existing Route 28 bridge crossing over Bull Run Creek could negatively impact the existing vehicular access from southbound Route 28 to the small parking area and the Bull Run Occoquan Trail, Blackburn’s Ford and the Civil War Trails signs. The 19-mile Bull Run Occoquan Trail has only five vehicular access points, and this is the only one in this vicinity.
- Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 prohibits the use of federal highway funds for projects that adversely impact publicly owned parks and historic sites unless there is no feasible alternative to the use of such land. Insofar as the Route 28 Corridor Feasibility Study presented a number of feasible options, it would seem that this statutory criteria cannot be satisfied.

For all of the reasons noted above, the Bull Run Civil War Round Table strongly recommends Alternative 4 as the preferred option among the three alternatives (2A, 2B, 4) currently under consideration. For more information, visit www.Route28Study.com.

Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) letter of September 27, 2018, to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) accepted DHR’s opinion as the basis for resolving the adverse effect of Alternative Technical Concept (ATC) 30/Option 6 (express lane elevated access ramps [EARs]) in the vicinity of Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBP).

VDOT issued on January 17, 2019, a VDOT-executed MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) Stipulations within the MOA included the following:

- Design of ATC 30/Option 6
 - ◊ Design as described in June 4, 2018, Alternative Evaluation Memorandum, including relocation of eastbound EAR outside of MNBP’s

viewshed

- ◊ Incorporate aesthetic treatments to westbound EAR, including use of a color compatible with that of eastern red cedar hedge along Vandor Lane
- ◊ Lighting on westbound EAR to be integrated into the parapet and not placed on poles or other elevated fixtures
- ◊ Overhead sign structures will not be placed on the bridge structure of westbound EAR
- ◊ Overhead sign structures will be located in areas that have reduced visibility from MNBP
- ◊ Reduce the typical section of Vandor Lane along the MNBP boundary to create a greater area within the VDOT right-of-way for screening vegetation
- ◊ VDOT to install screening within the following areas along Vandor Lane where I-66 is visible:
 - * East of and surrounding the horse trailer parking lot
 - * Southwestern perimeter of MNBP east of Battlefield Parkway
 - * Consulting Parties design review of ATC 30 / Option 6 at 60% and 90% development levels – includes review of details such as clearing, landscaping, signage, lighting, roadway geometry and proximity of features
- Provide funds, not to exceed \$100,000 to the MNBP for the preparation of a Cultural Landscape Report for the Portici component landscape
- Provide up to \$150,000 for the acquisition of conservation easements or property in fee simple to support the preservation of the MNBP viewshed

Based on MOA execution, the ATC 30/Option 6 design phase of the Transform 66 project has begun. As of April 28, 2019, no additional consulting party meetings have been conducted or scheduled.

Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields

In December 2016, the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) canceled its proposal to extend the VRE line to Haymarket, and subsequently announced plans to establish a railroad maintenance yard in the vicinity of the presumed site of Brown’s Battery that is on property owned by Prince William County (PWC). Both BRCWRT and the PWC Historic Resources office have proposed incorporation of the battery site into Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park.

VRE conducted a Broad Run Expansion Open

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House on September 26, 2018, at the VRE Broad Run Station to present and discuss the current plan for the railroad maintenance yard. Based on current maintenance yard plans and discussions with VRE officials in attendance, the planned expansion will occur north of the existing Broad Run VRE station and will not adversely affect the presumed site of Brown's Battery (Battle of Bristoe Station). VRE officials also noted that, as federal funds are involved in the project, a Section 106 evaluation is required.

BRCWRT has been granted "consulting party" status for the Section 106 process, and will remain engaged during this project and process.

In March 2019, the PWC Planning Office submitted to the PWC Planning Commission CPA2018-00002, Bristoe Station and Kettle Run CPA – A Comprehensive Plan Amendment to incorporate recommendations from the 2016 Bristoe Station and Kettle Run Battlefields Preservation Study into the County's Comprehensive Plan. The amendment includes policies focused on, but not limited to, preservation of significant historic resources, maintaining rural area character, and protection priorities for consideration in reviewing land development applications. BRCWRT supported, both in writing and in speaking at Planning Commission meetings, adoption of the CPA.

During their April 17, 2019, meeting the Planning Commission voted unanimously in favor of the amendment, which now goes to the PWC Board of Supervisors for final decision.

Ox Hill (Chantilly) Battlefield Park Monuments

The installation and a dedication ceremony of the *Chantilly* and *Ox Hill* monuments at Ox Hill Battlefield Park, initially scheduled for September 2017, was "postponed indefinitely" by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) on July 11, 2017. [The subject monuments were approved by the Park Authority Board in 2005 as part of the Ox Hill Battlefield Park General Management Plan and Conceptual Development Plan and are memorials to the Union and Confederate soldiers, who fought in the September 1, 1862, Battle of Chantilly/Ox Hill – the only major Civil War battle in Fairfax County.]

BRCWRT representatives met with the FCPA Executive Director and staff members on August 29, 2017, to discuss the status of, and plans for, installing the soldiers' monuments in the park. During this meeting, FCPA representatives made clear that their primary concerns were citizen safety and taking care not to create an opportunity for outside groups to stage protests and confrontations. They stated that FCPA's intent was to fully implement the plan for the park, as envisioned in the

approved Ox Hill Battlefield Park General Management Plan and Conceptual Development Plan. We agreed to meet again in the Spring of 2018 to reassess the situation with respect to installation of the two monuments.

As reported in previous updates, the Spring 2018 meetings never occurred, so BRCWRT representatives began attending Park Authority Board meetings in October 2018 to hear the FCPA Executive Director's updates on the monuments, to address Board members on this subject and to listen to Board discussions concerning the monuments installation. We attended and spoke at Board meetings on October 10 and December 12, 2018, and on January 9 and January 23, 2019. BRCWRT also provided relevant documents to FCPA staff and Board members, including a summary of the Battle of Chantilly/Ox Hill, a summary of the Ox Hill Battlefield Park establishment timeline and a document depicting the design of the two monuments. We also offered to meet with, and present this information to, FCPA staff members and the Park Authority Board, and to conduct an on-site park visit/tour to familiarize Board members with the park and the planned locations for the monuments.

During the January 23, 2019, Park Authority Board meeting, the Board voted to approve the following:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends to not install the monuments in their current form; and recommends that the Park Authority Board establish a subcommittee to work on the disposition of the monuments, as discussed by the Committee of the Whole on January 9, 2019.

Board Member discussion indicated that the Board did not see this as changing the Master Plan. In their view the monuments, in their current form, are not appropriate. Board members previously discussed the monuments' inscriptions and the wording as not being appropriate, but, to date, has not discussed alternative inscriptions/wording. The subcommittee would be tasked to consider alternative inscriptions/wording.

On January 31, 2019, BRCWRT sent a letter to the FCPA Executive in response to the Board's action regarding the monuments. This letter outlined BRCWRT's concerns with the Board's decision, our commitment to remaining a collaborative partner in resolving this issue and recommendations for subcommittee/task force membership.

At the May 8, 2019, Park Authority Board Meeting, Board Chairman William Bouie is scheduled to discuss establishing the subcommittee/task force.

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BRCWRT will remain engaged in this process, to include providing personnel to serve on the subcommittee/ task force consistent with our objective ensuring that the Chantilly and Ox Hill monuments are installed in the Ox Hill Battlefield Park as envisioned in the approved Master Plan.

Farr's Fort at George Mason University (GMU)

A significant milestone was achieved in BRCWRT's initiative, working with George Mason University (GMU), in hopes of preserving and interpreting the Civil War redoubt located on GMU's Fairfax Campus, currently registered in Virginia's Department of Historic Resources (DHR) archaeology database as Farr's Fort. As part of this initiative GMU submitted Farr's Fort to be considered for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and on the National Register of Historic Places. The Preliminary Information Form (PIF) required to begin this process includes a site description and a site significance statement along with supporting historical documentation, maps and photographs. The Farr's Fort PIF, compiled by Blake Myers, Brian McEnany and Jim Lewis, was based on historical research conducted by these three BRCWRT members and information in The Archaeological Assessment of Site 44FX0185 The Earthworks at Farr's Cross Roads Fairfax County, Virginia, completed by Brian Corle in 2008. The PIF was signed by GMU Senior Vice President Tom Calhoun on January 14, 2019, and submitted to DHR's Northern Regional Preservation Office in Stevens City on January 25, 2019. (See Stone Wall Newsletter, Vol. XXVI, Issue 1, FEBRUARY 2019.)

Virginia DHR's Regional Evaluation Team determined that the site was potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, Military History on February 28, 2019, and forwarded the Farr's Fort PIF to the Virginia State Review Board for consideration at its March 21, 2019, quarterly meeting. During this meeting, the State Review Board determined that the site is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (under Criterion C, Military History) and the Virginia Landmarks Register. The next step in this process, completion of the full nomination package for the National Register of Historic Places, is currently under discussion with GMU.

Meanwhile, based on prior discussions with GMU senior leaders and site visits with GMU's Ground Program Manager and tree services contractor, during the period Jan. 30 – Feb. 2, 2019, GMU removed four large trees determined to be threats to Farr's Fort structural integrity and the deadfall and briar thickets on and around the redoubt. The results achieved promise to greatly enhance the experience

of GMU History Department students during on-site class sessions, and the experience of other site visitors. This operation was a critically important intermediate step to what we hope will be a GMU decision to fully preserve and interpret the site. (See Stone Wall Newsletter, Vol. XXVI, Issue 1, FEBRUARY 2019).

BRCWRT is continuing its work with Dr. Brian Platt, Chair, Department of History and Art History, in pursuing a GMU commitment to preserve and interpret the Farr's Fort site. We are currently working on scheduling a follow-up session with GMU senior leaders to update them on the various initiatives related to Farr's Fort, to determine GMU's preference in regards to submitting a National Register nomination package, to obtain a commitment to preserve and interpret the site, and to determine the appropriate actions to incorporate this project into GMU's planning and budgeting process.

Centreville Six Historical Marker

Six weeks after the guns of Fort Sumter sounded, 17-year-old Albert Wentworth enlisted in the 1st Massachusetts Infantry Regiment. Less than two months later, he and several of his comrades would be among the first soldiers killed in the Civil War, mortally wounded at the Battle of Blackburn's Ford on July 18, 1861.

These soldiers, subsequently known as the Centreville Six, were buried on a small piece of land owned by Armistead Mathias just outside the town of Centreville as the Union Army retreated to Washington following its defeat at the Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run. The gravesites were lost for more than a century until 1994, when a local relic hunter and Civil War historian discovered the remains of one of the soldiers in a vacant wooded lot slated to become the location of the McDonald's Restaurant alongside Centreville Road (U.S. Route 28).

The long-awaited dedication ceremony for a Centreville Six CWT Marker will be conducted on Saturday, May 18, 2019, (Armed Forces Day) at 10 a.m. at the Centreville McDonald's Restaurant (5931 Fort Drive, Centreville). The ceremony, sponsored by franchise owner Jim Van Valkenburg, BRCWRT and CWT, will feature Civil War living historians and reenactors, live period music provided by Jon Vrana, and remarks by Jim Lewis (Master of Ceremonies) and Michael Frey (Sully District Supervisor at the time of the gravesite discovery), with the keynote address by Kevin Ambrose (the person who discovered the first grave). (See Stone Wall Newsletter, Vol. XXVI, Issue 3, APRIL 2019).

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BRCWRT Members Break Out the Wools at Two Great History Events

by Mark Whitenton

The weekend of April 27-28 was a 'double-header' for Bull Run Civil War Round Table members supporting local Civil War events -- especially for those in period attire. On Saturday, April 27, the annual Blenheim "Fairfax History Day" was blessed with large crowds (1,260) and beautiful (if windy) weather. Several round table members had substantial roles in Andrea Loewenwarter's robust schedule of programs and activities. Notably, Naomi Arlund ran two performances of the Victorian Dance Society, while Jon Vrana gave talks as Albert Willcoxon, owner of the Blenheim plantation. Drew Pallo's role as a very ill Union soldier was almost too convincing. John Myers (Col. Rice), Fred Eckstein (Cpl. Benson), and Kevin Garrahan (Brig. Gen. John Newton), guarded by Bryan and Ben Holtzer [accompanied by mom, Julie Holtzer] held down a living history station. Mark (Lt.C. Grayson Tyler) and Debbie Whitenton (Annie Tyler) roamed the grounds seeking possible round table recruits (some nibbles, but no catches). We had a chance to visit with past BRCWRT members Ron Beavers and Dave Miesky, each of whom had their own living history stations. As always, Blake Myers was there all day making sure we behaved ourselves. Finally, at least two round table authors were present to sell their books: Jan Croon and Ed Wenzel (yes, he did sell a copy of his Fairfax



Left to right: Jan Croon, Kevin Garrahan, Ed Wenzel, Bryan Holtzer, Fred Eckstein, Ben Holtzer, Drew Pallo, Mark Whitenton, Debbie Whitenton, and John Myers.

Photo by Julie Holtzer



Front row left to right: Bryan Holtzer, Stephanie Vale, and Ben Holtzer. Next row: Blake Myers, Debbie Whitenton, Mark Whitenton, John Myers, Fred Eckstein, and Drew Pallo.

Photo provided by Stephanie Vale.

County Chronology!). See left photo below showing most of us:

On Sunday, April 28, several round table members responded to Stephanie Vale's request to join her to help the National Park Service with "Junior Ranger Day" at the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Stephanie had been working closely with new park ranger, Liz Hokason. Naturally, Stephanie did a great job of setting up and managing the reception tent all day, fortunately with the able assistance of Blake Myers. Despite the perfect weather (good even for those wearing wool), the "crowds" were, to put it generously, quite modest. The photo above (right) has all of the usual suspects, except, as usual, Julie Holtzer.

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Cockpit Point (Possum Point Battery Sites)

During its February 12, 2019, meeting the PWC Board of Supervisors approved an amendment to the PWC Comprehensive Plan incorporating recommendations from the *Cockpit Point Battlefield Study and Battlefield Management Plan* into the *Cultural*

Resources Chapter of the County's *Comprehensive Plan* and establishing the Cockpit Point Battlefield Historical Area. This action provides a funding source for implementing study and management plan recommendations.



You are Cordially Invited
Mystery of the Centreville Six
Historical Marker Unveiling

Saturday, May 18, 10:00 AM
(Armed Forces Day)

McDonald's Restaurant
5931 Fort Dr., Centreville, Va. 20120

Welcome & Opening Remarks

James Lewis
(Moderator & Author of the marker)

Speakers

The Honorable Michael Frey
(Sully District Supervisor
at the time of discovery and excavation)

Kevin Ambrose, Keynote Address
(Individual who discovered the first soldier)



Accompanied By



Live Period Music by Jon Vrana
Presentation of the Colors – South Lakes JROTC

Sponsors: Jim Van Valkenburg (Franchise Operator / Owner)
Bull Run Civil War Round Table & Civil War Trails

Coming this June to Prince William County Historic Preservation

Take advantage of the warm weather and join us at your county historic sites! The grounds are open daily from dawn until dusk and the sites are open for regular tours Thursday-Monday 11am-4pm.

****Registration for programs can be completed online at www.pwcparks.org or by calling the sites.****

Saturdays; May-October

Yoga on the Lawn at Rippon Lodge

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.; \$5.00 per class, or 5 classes for \$20.00

Enjoy performing yoga on the lawn with amazing views of the Potomac River and Rippon Lodge. Join certified instructor Christopher Glowacki for a Vinyasa yoga practice. Participants are encouraged to bring a yoga mat, towel and plenty of water; beginners may want to bring a block and/or strap. Those purchasing 10 classes will receive punch cards, which are good for the whole season. **Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.**



2nd and 4th Weekends; May-October Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park Tours

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Tours leave on the hour; Free.

Join Bristoe Station Battlefield historians for guided tours of the hallowed grounds that contain camps, cemeteries, and battlefields. Tours begin on the hour and depart from the kiosk. **Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park, 703-366-3049.**

June 1

Bookbinding Workshop at the Brensville Schoolhouse

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.; \$30 per person, advanced registration required.

Join us in a 20th century schoolhouse to learn about the history and terminology of bookbinding as you learn to make a book yourself. Students should bring the following supplies if you have them: awl (or paper piercer), bone folder (or creasing tool), scissors, glue stick, X-acto knife, and cutting mat. All other materials will be provided. **Brensville Courthouse Historic Centre, Bristow, VA. 703-365-7895.**



June 7 Walking Tour of Historic Prince William Towns: Haymarket

7 p.m.; FREE; donations welcome.

Join local historians on the first Friday of every month this summer for a special walking tour of historic towns in Prince William County. For June 7, please meet at the Haymarket Museum located at 15025 Washington St, Haymarket, VA 20169. Call 703-365-7895 for more information.

June 15

Juneteenth at Lucasville

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; FREE; donations welcome.

Join us at Lucasville in honor of Juneteenth to learn about the celebration marking the emancipation of enslaved African Americans throughout the South. Visit the one-room schoolhouse to learn about the development of freedmen communities and the progression of education throughout Prince William County throughout Reconstruction. **Lucasville School, Manassas, VA. 703-365-7895**



June 15-16 Father's Day Tours

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; \$5.00 per person, Free for fathers and children under 6.

Does your Dad enjoy history, the outdoors or walking trails? Then treat him to a tour of one of Prince William County's historic sites for Father's Day! All dads that visit during the Father's Day weekend will receive a complimentary tour of one of our historic sites. Free refreshments available as well. All County owned historic sites. 703-792-4754.

June 15

Special Potomac Blockade Boat Tour

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; \$70 per person, reservations required

Cruise along the Potomac River shoreline and view sites that were critical to the Confederate forces' successful blockade of Washington D.C. from September 1861 through early March 1862. Tour includes lunch at Tim's Rivershore and a walking tour of the Possum Nose - Cockpit Point Gun Battery site. It departs from Tim's Rivershore Restaurant in Dumfries. The hike is steep in places so please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. For more information or to make a reservation call 703-792-4754.



June 17

Museum Kids Monday!

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.; \$5 per child, ages 9 and under.

Bring your child to Ben Lomond this summer to explore history through sight, sound, smell, and touch through hands-on activities and crafts! Topics will vary each month and include subjects such as farming, archaeology, or 19th century toys. Adult must be able to participate with children. Please contact the site to learn about the subject of the month. Reservations are not required. **Ben Lomond Historic Site, Manassas, VA. 703-367-7872.**



June 20

Brews and Brains with Tucked Away Brewing Company

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.; FREE; donations welcome.

Northern Virginia has a rich history from the 18th century to today. Grab a pint and join us as we examine the gruesome, scandalous, and exciting little-known history of the area. In June, join local historians as we explore *The 75th Anniversary of D-Day*. Bring some food and meet us at 8420 Kao Circle, Manassas, VA. For more information, call 703-365-7895.



June 28 Rippon Lodge Revolutionary Readers – A Book Club Camp for Young Readers

9:30 a.m. – Noon; \$7.00 per child.

Do you like to read? Then join us on Fridays to explore books and topics connected to early American history through the eyes of young adults. Each session includes a discussion of the book, followed by interactive games, activities, crafts, food ways, and more. All titles are available at the local library and/or Amazon. Advance registration is required. This camp is designed for young readers (rising 4th to 6th grade). This session's book is *"A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal 1830-1832"* by Joan W. Blous. **Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Woodbridge, VA. 703-499-9812.**

June 29-30

The 19th Century Living Experience at Brensville

5 p.m. – 8 a.m.; \$75 per person; advanced registration required.

Leave modern times behind and experience what living in the 1800s! Join living historians at the Haislip-Hall house for an immersive experience where you will help cook dinner over an open hearth, enjoy the 19th century past-times, sleep in the 19th century log cabin, and more! Personal bedding material is required, and a light breakfast is included in the morning. Reservations are required for space is limited. **Brensville Courthouse Historic Centre, VA. 703-365-7895.**



PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation

www.pwcparks.org/history
historicpreservation@pwcparks.org
703-792-4754



BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA 20122

2019 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)—FREE.

Make checks payable to: BRCWRT (Bull Run Civil War Round Table). This form may be given to the Treasurer at the General Membership meeting, or mail it to:

Bull Run Civil War Round Table, P.O. Box 2147, Centreville, VA 20122

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ **STATE**_____ **ZIP**_____

PHONE_____ **E-MAIL**_____