



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXXII, Issue 8, AUGUST 2025

**AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN
DANA SHOAF SPEAKS ON
"GUTBUSTERS: THE DEVELOP-
MENT OF THE AMBULANCE DUR-
ING THE CIVIL WAR" AT THE
AUGUST 14th, 2025 GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

By Mark Trbovich

Early in the American Civil War, no organized system of battlefield evacuation existed. Regimental bandmen were ordered to transport the wounded; the outcome was a muddled system where wounded men could suffer on the battlefield for over a week. The horror of the unnecessary suffering of injured soldiers compelled officers to improve frontline medical provisions. On August 2, 1862, under the instruction of Jonathan Letterman, the Medical Director of the Army of the Potomac, General George B. McClellan issued General Orders 147 and created the United States Army's first full-time, dedicated Ambulance Corps. For the rest of the story, we are honored to have an outstanding historian visit us.

Dana Shoaf is the director of interpretation at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. Prior to joining the museum in November 2023, he served for 15 years as the editor of *Civil War Times* magazine. He has spent his life pursuing his historical passions. After graduate school, he began his career working for Time-Life, Inc., as a writer and researcher on the *Voices of the Civil War* series, and has published articles and essays on Civil War topics. His most recent essay, "Let the Son of a Bitch Die:

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, August 14, 2025

6 P.M. Social Hour

**7 P.M. In-person at the
Centreville Regional Library &
Streamed on Facebook Live**

GUEST SPEAKER:

Dana Shoaf

TOPIC:

**"Gutbusters: The Develop-
ment Of The Ambulance
During The Civil War"**

An Abandoned Graveyard Reveals a Sad Story of Murder", was published in *Final Resting Places: Reflections on the Meaning of Civil War Graves* (University of Georgia Press). A frequent speaker at conferences and seminars, Dana has been interviewed on National Public Radio and appeared on C-Span. He has been invited to serve as a consultant for a number of projects for the National Archives, the Smithsonian Institution, the *Washington Post*, and the National Park Service. He also leads battlefield tours and has conducted tours for Gettysburg College's Civil War Institute.

Come join us early at our August 14th, 2025 Membership Meeting to have an opportunity to chat with Dana and your colleagues before the meeting begins. Doors open at 6:00 PM; hope to see you there.

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

Newsletter Team: Sandra Cox, Janet Green-tree, Melissa Winn, Debbie and Mark Whitenton.

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

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **September 2025 issue**, e-mail articles by **September 1st** to the editor, Don Richardson, at: don.richardson@erols.com

ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **September 2025 issue**, advertisers please see "Instructions for Advertisers" at: <http://bullruncwrt.org>

and e-mail ads by **September 1st** to Don Richardson at: don.richardson@erols.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 14 Dana Shoaf - "Gutbusters: The Development of the Ambulance During the Civil War"

September 11 Robert Zeller - "The Grand Review: Discoveries and Explorations in Civil War Photography"

October 9 Patrick Falci - "30th Anniversary of the Making of Gettysburg Movie"

November 20 Jari Villanueva - "24 Notes That Tap Deep Emotions: The Story of America's Most Famous Bugle Call"

December 11 Robert Dunkerly - "The Other Surrenders: Spring/Summer 1865"

January 8, 2026 Aaron Siever - "Battle of Pickett's Mill, Georgia, 1864"

February 12, 2026 William Connery - "Civil War Northern Virginia, 1861"

March 12, 2026 Tim Duskin - "The Mexican War: Training Ground For The Civil War"

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Melissa A. Winn

It is with a heavy heart that we share the news of the passing of Eric J. Wittenberg (page 10), a towering figure in the field of Civil War history. Eric was more than a historian; he was a mentor, a leader, and a true friend to so many in the community of scholars and enthusiasts who share our passion for the Civil War. His loss will be deeply felt across the community.

Eric's prolific body of work reshaped how we understand cavalry operations. Books such as *Gettysburg's Forgotten Cavalry Actions*, *The Devil's to Pay*, and dozens of others illuminated battles and figures long overlooked. He combined rigorous research with narrative skill, and he never lost sight of the human element in war: the stories of courage, leadership, and sacrifice.

He was also a generous colleague. Eric freely shared his time, resources, and encouragement with new writers and seasoned scholars alike. His energy seemed boundless, whether guiding battlefield tours, speaking at Round Tables, or tirelessly defending historic preservation efforts. His voice, both passionate and principled, was one of the strongest advocates for saving America's hallowed ground.

As we reflect on Eric's legacy, we are reminded why our work as a Round Table matters. The study of history is not only about the past — it's about the people who bring it to life, who challenge us to look deeper, and who ensure that the stories of those who came before us are not forgotten. Eric did all of this, and more.

Let's honor him not just with remem-

brance, but with rededication. Let's continue the work he championed: learning, teaching, preserving, and connecting.

The Round Table is also sharing the loss of Isaac Forman, husband of our friend Christy Forman, the Membership and Outreach Coordinator at the Manassas Battlefield Trust. Isaac passed away on July 19 after a five-year fight against brain cancer. An Ohio native, Isaac met Christy while studying Civil War history at Shepherd University. A lifelong lover of history, Isaac worked as a mason for the National Park Service, restoring historic sites around the country, and preserving his legacy for generations to come. He enjoyed visiting battlefields, fishing, and having a beer with friends, and was a faithful member of the 1st Maryland Black Hats of the North-South Skirmish Association.

Those who wish to honor Isaac's memory may contribute to the American Brain Tumor Association online at bit.ly/DonateABTA or by mail: The American Brain Tumor Association, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. #550, Chicago, IL 60631.

Our members really enjoyed our July speaker, Ron Coddington, who provided a different view of the War Between The States, in the form of a discussion of Civil War Portrait Photography. This lecture was actually a tour through the 19th Century evolution of photographic technology in general, as well as the efforts to establish databases of portraits of Civil War participants that can be searched and cross-referenced.

Coming up this month, Dana Shoaf will introduce us to another angle on the war - the development of the ambulance. August also marks the 163rd anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Run. In addition to the usual tours at Bristoe Station on the

(cont on page 4)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

23rd and 24th, there will be an opportunity on Wednesday the 27th to walk on a recently acquired section of the battlefield occupied by Union troops during the Battle of Kettle Run in 1862 and later during the Battle of Bristoe Station in October of 1863. The walk will start at 5:00 PM. See the item at the bottom of page 11.

Don't forget to sign up for the first Fall tour on September 6th (page 6) and our Annual BRCWRT Picnic (page 7)!

Huzzah!



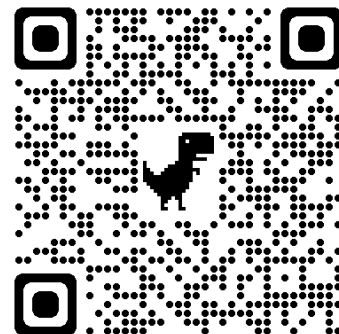
Ron Coddington and Melissa Winn
Photo: Debbie Whitenton

SUPPORT BRCWRT ACTIVITIES

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that relies on your donations to continue our excellent programs and initiatives throughout the year. There are many select programs to donate to, including: the BRCWRT Scholarship Fund, Preservation efforts, Civil War Trails sign preservation and maintenance, educational programs, and of course the General donation category (which the Round Table uses as a discretionary fund to offset various expenses, to help keep our membership dues at a reasonable rate). Please consider your Round Table for tax-deductible donations every year. We are a special organization and appreciate our members very much.

There are a number of ways to make a donation. On the BRCWRT website, click the link labelled "Renew/Donate" and select the link at the bottom of that page. Alternatively, you can give a check to our Treasurer at a membership meeting, or mail it to: BRCWRT Treasurer, PO Box 2147, Centreville VA 20122. Make checks payable to BRCWRT, and be sure to note whether it is for the Scholarship Fund, Preservation Fund, or the General Fund.

Finally, you can scan this QR code with the camera on your smartphone to make a donation.



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

Christopher Anthony
Camilla Carroll
Jacqueline Lussier

Bull Run Civil War Round Table



Upcoming 2025-2026 Program of Events

Date	Event
August 14, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Dana Shoaf - "Gutbusters: The Development of the Ambulance During the Civil War"
September 6, 2025	Fall Tour 1: "Civil War Vienna/Oakton" Tour leader Jim Lewis
September 11, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Robert Zeller - "The Grand Review: Discoveries and Explorations in Civil War Photography"
September 28, 2025	Annual Bull Run Civil War Round Table Picnic The Winery At Bull Run
October 9, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Patrick Falci - "30th Anniversary of the Making of the Gettysburg Movie"
November 1, 2025	Fall Tour 2: "Grant Hall, Fort McNair" Tour leaders Sam Laudenslager and Andy Monahan
November 20, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Jari Villanueva - "24 Notes That Tap Deep Emotions: The Story of America's Most Famous Bugle Call"
December 11, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Robert Dunkerly - "The Other Surrenders: Spring/Summer 1865"
January 8, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Aaron Siever "Battle of Pickett's Mill, Georgia, 1864"
February 12, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: William Connery "Civil War Northern Virginia 1861"
March 12, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Tim Duskin - "The Mexican War: Training Ground For The Civil War"
April 9, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Dr. Curt Fields "An Evening with Gen. U. S. Grant"
May 14, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Rich Condon - "Emancipation in the Department of The South"
June 11, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: TBD
June 13, 2026	Spring Tour 2: "Harper's Ferry: Bolivar Heights Battleground and Kennedy Farm" Tour leader Kevin Pawlak Rain Date June 20
July 9, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Scott Mingus - "Human Interest Stories from the Gettysburg Campaign"
August 13, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Frank O'Reilly - "Last Days of Stonewall Jackson"
September 10, 2026	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Bill Backus - "Opening Manassas: The Iron Brigade, Stonewall Jackson, and the Battle of Brawner Farm, 28 August 1862"

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

Vienna (Ayr Hill) – Oakton (Flint Hill) Tour

Lunch @ Famous Dave's BBQ

Saturday, September 6



Subject matter: Imagine what it was like living in today's Vienna/Oakton area during the American Civil War. This tour will bring to life the goings-on in the immediate area, supported by period photos and fascinating stories.

(6) tour stops and (3) drive-bys: Freeman Store & immediate area, Wind-over Heights Hist. Dist., Vienna 7th Day Adventist Church, Flint Hill Cemetery, Flint Hill Stockade, Miller Heights, Fort Flint, and the Mosby Tree.

Tour Guides: Jim Lewis & Brian McEnany

Assembly Time/Location: 8:30 AM / Freeman Store & Museum, 131 Church St., N.E., Vienna (next to the W&OD Bike Trail)

Tour Start Time: 8:45 AM

Lunch: 12 Noonish (Famous Dave's BBQ - Oakton) - Individual tabs

Tour Duration: Approx. 3-1/2 Hrs.

Mode of Transportation: Caravan

Uniform of the Day: Comfortable clothing, nominal walking requirements

BRCWRT Contact: Jim Lewis – antietam1862@verizon.net / 703 593-2956

The tour is FREE! If interested in attending, please sign up via BRCWRT's website or at the August BRCWRT Membership meeting.

Bull Run Civil War Roundtable

9th Annual Picnic

Sunday, September 28, 2025

The Winery @ Bull Run

New Museum Tour 10 am – 11 am

BBQ Served 12-2 pm

Food Provided by...

THE BONE
hand-shredded pulled pork platter

(OR)

certified angus beef brisket platter

platter includes

Sandwich + homemade sides: cole slaw, potato salad, ranch beans

A drink (coke, diet coke, sprite, water)

and cake

Individual Members @ No Cost

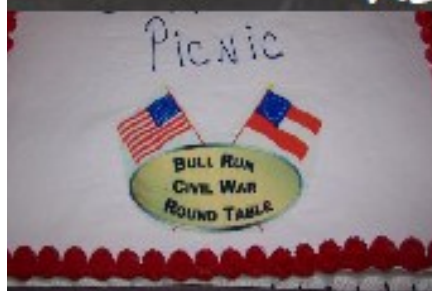
Family Memberships (husband & wife or equivalents) plus children

@ No Cost

All others will be considered as "guests"

Guests: Pork (or) Beef brisket platter @ \$18.00

RSVP at BRCWRT.org



**Silent Auction
With Civil War Prints**

**Proceeds go to the
Scholarship Fund!**



THE TRUTH ABOUT THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

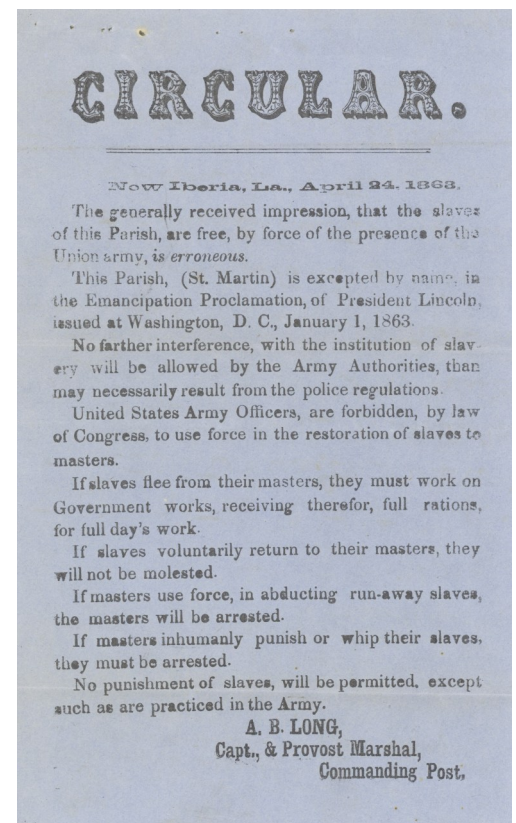
By Tim Duskin

In his talk before the Bull Run Civil War Round Table on June 26, John Hennessy stated that the Emancipation Proclamation brought freedom to the slaves, which was then carried forward by the Union army. There is a lot more to be said on the subject, and it is a complicated story.

Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862. One month earlier, on August 22nd, he stated in a letter to Horace Greeley:

"If there be those who would not save the Union, unless they could at the same time save slavery, I do not agree with them. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time destroy slavery, I do not agree with them. My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I would also do that. What I do about slavery, and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union; and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union."

Lincoln had already drafted the preliminary Proclamation before he wrote this. The final Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863. It declared freedom to the slaves in ten Confederate states: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. However, it exempted in Virginia "the forty-eight counties designated as west Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Accomack, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Ann, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth." It also exempted in Louisiana "the Parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James Ascension, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the City of New Orleans." These areas were all under Union control. A circular issued by Union Provost Marshal Captain A.B. Long in New Liberia, Louisiana on April 24, 1863, informed the slaves in St. Martin Parish who thought that they were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation that they were not because that Parish was exempted in it. Furthermore, in addition to West Virginia, the Proclamation left slavery intact in six other states: New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri. All of these states were completely under Union control except for Tennessee, which was mostly under Union control except for East Tennessee, which was of predominantly Union sympathy.



(cont on page 9)

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

The purpose of the Emancipation Proclamation was not to free all slaves. It was to declare only the slaves in Confederate held territory free in order to tie the Confederacy to slavery so as to make it look bad in the eyes of European nations, in order to keep them from recognizing or aiding the Confederacy. It was also designed to hurt the Confederate economy by depriving it of manpower. Both of these purposes worked. In relation to Lincoln's statement to Greeley, his Proclamation declared some slaves free and left others in slavery.

The slaves in the District of Columbia had been freed by act of Congress on April 16, 1862, and those in U.S. territories by the same on June 17, 1862, before the Emancipation Proclamation was issued. Lincoln then tried to get Delaware to be the next entity to free its slaves, but the state refused. The District of Columbia and the territories were the only jurisdictions over which the Federal Government had this authority. Furthermore, the Constitution gives Congress the power to enact laws, not the President, and Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution gives no power over slavery to Congress. Under the Tenth Amendment, authority over slavery in the states was reserved to the states themselves. Therefore, the Emancipation Proclamation did not legally free a single slave.

Four states emancipated their slaves by state action after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued. They were Maryland on November 1, 1864, Missouri on January 11, 1865, West Virginia on February 3, 1865, and Tennessee on February 22, 1865. Even if one thinks that the Emancipation Proclamation freed the slaves in the ten states in which it declared them free, not only were the slaves in the exempted portions of Virginia and Louisiana not yet free by this time, neither were those in New Jersey, Delaware, or Kentucky. In fact, New Jersey, Delaware, and Kentucky all rejected ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment and their slaves were not freed until it was ratified on December 6, 1865. The only other slave state which rejected the Thirteenth Amendment was Mississippi, which was also the only former Confederate state to do so.

This points to slavery in the former Confederate states while turning a blind eye to the fact that slavery still existed in three other states for almost six months after Juneteenth. Not only that, but two of those three states, New Jersey and Delaware, were Northern states. Only Kentucky, which was a Border State of the Upper South, was not. There were slave sales going on in Kentucky all the way through November 1865 and they were advertised in the state's newspapers.

Maps in history books depicting the free and slave states always depict the Mason-Dixon Line as the dividing point. However, Dr. James J. Gigantino II showed this to be untrue in 2015 with the publication of his book *The Ragged Road to Abolition: Slavery and Freedom in New Jersey, 1775-1865* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press). When the United States became a nation in 1776, all thirteen states had slavery. Slavery was eventually abolished in all of the New England states and in the Mid-Atlantic states of New York and Pennsylvania. However, this did not happen in the other two Mid-Atlantic states, New Jersey and Delaware. New Jersey passed a law for

(cont on page 10)

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

gradual abolition of slavery in 1804, but gradual emancipation in the state was so dragged out that the last slaves in the state were not freed until the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865. The boundary between free New York and slave New Jersey was the actual northernmost dividing point between the free and slave states, not the Mason-Dixon Line. In his book, Dr. Gigantino wrote of the interaction of New Jersey slaves with others in that region, stating:

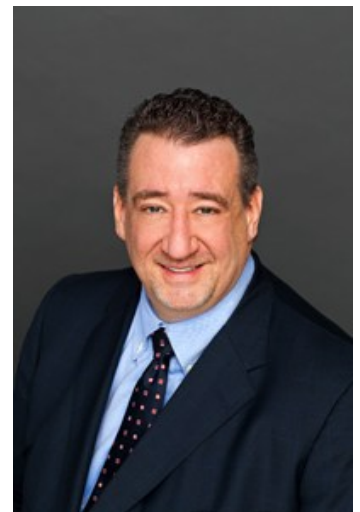
"The Catherine Market in New York City likewise saw significant interactions between enslaved New Jersey blacks and free New Yorkers on an almost daily basis. Many slaves sold their wares alongside their masters' and established social and business contacts with whites and free blacks. These social relationships frequently manifested themselves in dance competitions after the market closed. One pitted Ned, the slave of Martin Ryerson of Tappan, against free blacks from across the region." (p. 126)

Delaware never passed a law abolishing slavery. Furthermore, while both New Jersey and Delaware remained slave states throughout the entire war, every regiment raised from both states fought in the Union army. There was not a single Confederate regiment from either state. The regiments of these two states, as well as those from Kentucky, clearly did not fight in the Union army to free the slaves, as they refused to free their own.

[Ed. Note: if you want even more insight into the attitudes of Union soldiers toward slavery, Edward Longacre's history of the 9th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, *The Sharpshooters* (2017, University of Nebraska Press) is a great place to start.]

IN MEMORIAM: ERIC WITTENBERG

The Civil War community is mourning the passing of Eric Wittenberg on August 2nd, 2025, following a valiant fight against cancer. Wittenberg was an award-winning historian, blogger, speaker and tour guide. He specialized in Civil War cavalry operations, with much of his work focused on the Gettysburg Campaign. The author of 18 published books on the Civil War and more than three dozen articles that have appeared in various national magazines, he was also deeply involved in battlefield preservation work and often assisted the Civil War Trust with its efforts. The BRCWRT's Past President, Mark Trbovich, said "The CW Community lost a great author and preservationist today. Eric Wittenberg will be so missed. We pray for his family and the BRCWRT will honor the memory of all he did for Brandy Station and other battlefields. RIP Eric."



If you can donate to help Susan (his wife) offset the medical costs incurred during his fight against cancer, please go to the following link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/please-consider-helping-eric-and-susan-wittenberg>

PRINCE WILLIAM

Historic Preservation

July–August 2025 Events & Programs



Purchase advanced tickets online at
pwcparks.info/hptickets

JULY

Ben Lomond Hospital Lantern Tours

10+ | Ben Lomond Historic Site
7/19 | 8:00p-8:45p | Sat | \$10
7/19 | 8:30p-9:15p | Sat | \$10
7/19 | 9:00p-9:45p | Sat | \$10



Following the Battle of First Manassas, Ben Lomond was used as a hospital where surgeons treated the wounded throughout the night. Every inch of space in the house was used to care for hurt and dying soldiers. Tour the hospital in the dark and discover the aftermath of the Civil War's first major battle through the words of

those who experienced war's horrors. Tours begin every 30 minutes at 8 pm, 8:30 pm, and 9 pm.

Museum Family Monday- Rippon Lodge Game Day

Ages 6 Months+ | Rippon Lodge Historic Site
7/21 | 10-11a | Mon | \$5 | 280001 | HP01



Bring the family to explore history through fun, historic games and activities at Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Program includes outdoor and indoor experiences. Advanced registration preferred.

Prince William Lecture Series: "Atrocities At Bull Run" by Harry Smeltzer

Ages 10+ | Pat White Center at Ben Lomond
7/24 | 7:00p-8:30p | Th | FREE

On April 1, 1862, the Joint Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War issued its report based on little known testimony regarding what it officially referred to as "Rebel Barbarities at Manassas." In summary, the Committee noted that "these disclosures establishing, as they incontestably do, the consistent inhumanity of the rebel

leaders, will be read with sorrow and indignation by the people of the loyal States." Using firsthand accounts from both sides, historian Harry Smeltzer will discuss these and other incidents associated with the first battle which, at the time, were considered evidence of aberrant behavior. He will also look at why they were thought of as such, and how opinions in that regard changed over the course of the war. This lecture is a FREE program jointly sponsored by the Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation and Historic Prince William.



Walking Tours of Historic Prince William Towns: Haymarket

July 18 | 6 – 7 p.m.

Tour Haymarket, the second town in the county to be incorporated in 1882 with a rich history spanning as far back as the 18th century. The group will depart from the Haymarket Museum located at 15025 Washington St, Haymarket, VA 20169.

AUGUST

163rd Anniversary Tour of the Battle of Kettle Run

10+ | Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park
8/27 | 5:00-6:30p | Wed | FREE

Walk newly preserved land of the Kettle Run battlefield on the battle's 163rd anniversary. This hike will share the story of the men of the 60th Georgia and their fight along

the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. Walking is involved, please wear proper footwear. The parking lot is located off Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow, VA. 703-366-3049.

Battle Of Kettle Run Anniversary Tours

6 Months+ | Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park
8/23 8/24 | 11:00a-3:00p | Sun, Sat | FREE

Join Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park staff and volunteers to commemorate the 163rd anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Run. The August 27, 1862,



battle, while small, was bloody and took a heavy toll on the soldiers who fought there. Visit the park for walking tours that will share the story of the first battle of the Civil War fought at Bristoe Station. Battlefield tours will be offered at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. The parking lot is located off Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow, VA. 703-366-3049.

Museum Family Day at Ben Lomond: Make Your Own Cornhusk Doll

Ages 4-9 | Ben Lomond Historic Site
8/11 | 10:00a-11:00a | Mon | \$5



Bring your whole family to Ben Lomond Historic Site to learn about cornhusk dolls, a popular children's toy in the 19th century. Then, make your own cornhusk doll to take home with you. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Rippon Lodge Bug and Bird Day

Ages 6 Months+ | Rippon Lodge Historic Site
8/23 | 10:00a-1:00p | Sat | \$5

This event is a photographer, bird watcher, and bug enthusiast delight! Join us as we explore the wonders of nature found at Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Bring your binoculars and cameras to record the variety of insects and birds found every day at the historic site. Advanced ticket purchase required.



PWC History Camp Town and Country

Have you ever wondered what it was like to live out in the countryside during the days of oil lamps and wood stoves? Answer these questions and more at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre's Town and Country Camp! Explore a wide array of hands-on activities connected to Brentsville's historic buildings including a farmhouse, school, courthouse, and jail, and have a series of adventures throughout the week that will introduce them to the ways people have lived in Prince William County from Native Americans to the present day!

7/21-7/25 | Mon-Fri | 9a-4p | \$240 | HP01
Ages 8-13 | Activity Code 207096

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre
12229 Bristow Road, Bristow
703-365-7895

Register Today For Our Upcoming Programs



Please look for updates on
www.pwcva.gov/history
for notices regarding hours of operation,
programs, and summer camps.
17674 Main Street, Dumfries, VA (703) 792-1731

Ben Lomond Historic Site:

10321 Sudley Manor Dr, Manassas, VA (703) 367-7872

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park:

Corner of Iron Brigade Unit Ave and Tenth Alabama Way, Bristow, VA
(703) 366-3049

Pat White Center at Ben Lomond

10501 Copeland Drive, Manassas

Rippon Lodge Historic Site: 15520 Blackburn Rd, Woodbridge, VA
(703) 499-9812

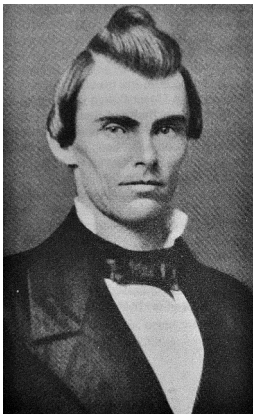


CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

By Janet Greentree

Brigadier General Reuben Lindsay Walker, CSA

Would you believe that Gen. R. Lindsay Walker is only the second person Ms. Rebelle has written about who is a graduate of Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, VA? He did have a friend at VMI, William Mahone, who graduated in the class of 1847. Walker graduated 19th out of 20 in the class of 1845. He was the only cadet in his class to become a general during the Civil War.



William
Mahone



VMI
Barracks

Reuben Lindsay Walker was born on May 29, 1827 in Logan Village, Albemarle Co., Virginia, just north of Charlottesville. His parents were Meriwether Lewis Walker and Maria Lindsay. He was the 2nd youngest of four children: Maria Isabella, Dr. Thomas Lindsay, R. Lindsay, and Margaret Heath. His grandparents were Dr. Thomas and Mildred Thornton Walker. This family lived at Castle Hill Plantation during the Revolutionary War. British Gen. Banastre Tarleton rode up to their home and demanded they make breakfast for him. Walker's slaves were ordered to make the food very slowly. Tarleton was on his way to capture Thomas Jefferson and members of



Castle Hill (above)

Banastre Tarleton (left)

of the Virginia General Assembly in Charlottesville. Some of the legislators had already left Charlottesville for Richmond. The slow cooking of breakfast saved Jefferson from being captured.

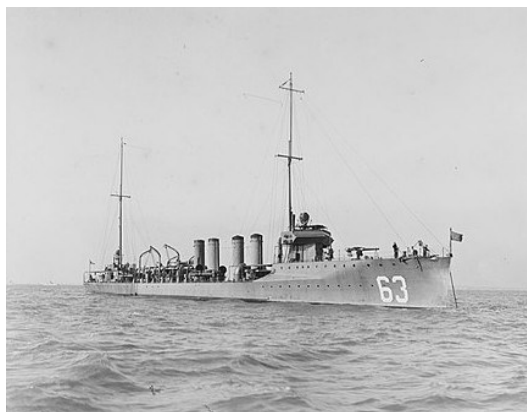
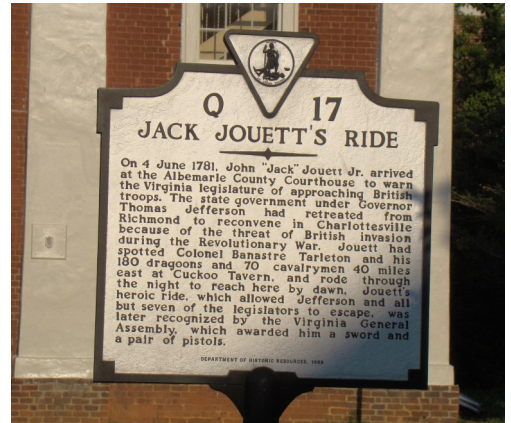
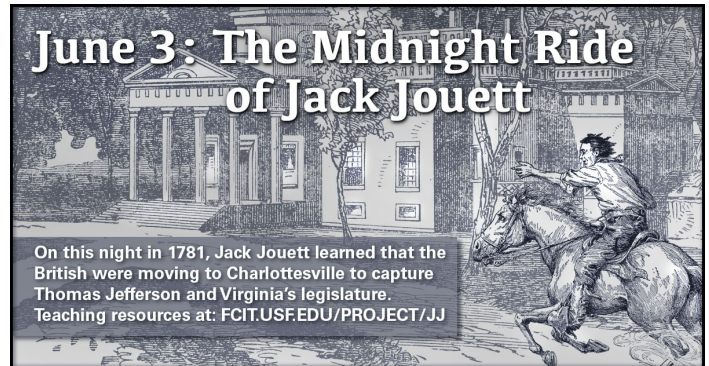
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At the same time 40 miles away, Capt. Jack Jouett was at the Cuckoo Tavern and saw Tarleton's men riding through Louisa Co. Jouett got on his horse and took off for Monticello with a note. There is a plaque on the porch of Monticello noting where Jouett stood at 4:30 a.m. when he gave the note to Jefferson. There is also a roadside marker in Louisa Co. about Jouett's ride. Jouett rode an additional 2 miles to Swan's Tavern in Charlottesville where several other legislators were staying. Jouett's father owned the tavern.

I must say that Walker had many relatives from the FFVs (First Families of VA) as relatives. The Walker family came from Staffordshire, England and lived there from 1650 and back. (As a side note, Thomas Jefferson is my 6th cousin, 7x removed. My relationship comes from my Mom's mother who was a Smothers. Her father Daniel Smothers was in the 18th U.S. during the Civil War and was my great-grandfather.)

Lindsay married Maria B. Eskridge on November 15, 1847 in Rockbridge, Virginia. They had four sons: Lewis H., William Scott, Frank Thomas and Thomas H. Walker. His first two sons died young. His wife Maria died on September 16, 1855 in Albemarle Co., VA. Lindsay next married Sarah (Sally) N. Elam in 1856 and had six children with her: Charles Cunliff, Maria Elam, Susan Pleasant, Belle Stuart, Sally Lindsay, and Katy P. Walker. His son Charles named his son Reuben Lindsay Walker, II. His grandson was a captain in the U.S. Navy and commander of the U.S.S. Sampson during WW1. He won the Navy Cross for his service. President Woodrow Wilson said the following in Walker's presentation ceremony: "The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Commander Reuben Lindsay Walker, United States Navy, for distinguished service in the line of his profession as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Sampson, engaged in the important, exacting and



Reuben Lindsay Walker, II

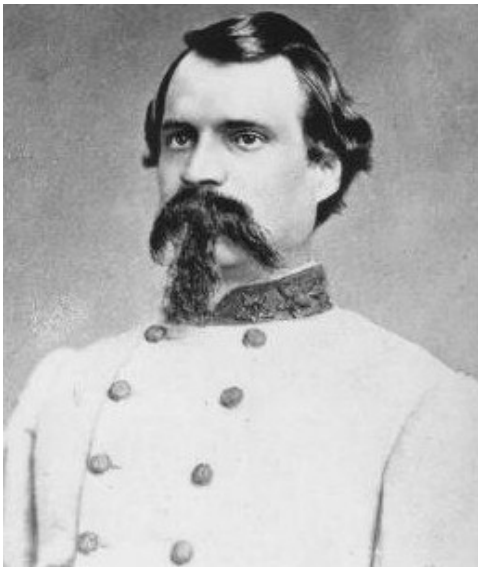
USS Sampson

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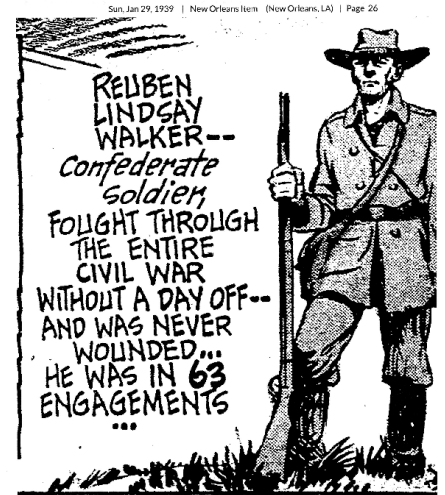
hazardous duty of patrolling the waters infested with enemy submarines and mines, in escorting and protecting vitally important convoys of troops and supplies through these waters, and in offensive and defensive action, vigorously and unremittingly prosecuted against all forms of enemy naval activity during World War I." His son Charles also married a Virginia girl, Lucy Randolph Shackelford. Her father was Col. Benjamin H. Shackelford of the 17th VA who was wounded in action at Blackburn's Ford in Manassas.

After graduating from VMI, Lindsay worked as a civil engineer and farmer until the Civil War began. He had a farm in New Kent Co., VA east of Richmond. In 1861, he was sergeant of arms at the Virginia Convention when Virginia decided to secede from the Union. He was commissioned as a captain in the Purcell Light Artillery unit along with William J. Pegram. He made major in March 1862 and was named chief of artillery for Gen. A.P. Hill. He stayed with Hill all through the war. One of the most interesting things about Lindsay was that he was 6'4" so he stood very tall against most men, who were shorter in that time period. He managed to only miss the Seven Days battles because he was sick and in Richmond. He fought in more than 63 battles and engagements without ever being wounded. He also had four horses shot from under him. He was fond of saying "it was not his fault for he was in his share of hot spots!". He returned to duty on July 2, 1862.



Reuben Lindsay Walker

1939 Newspaper Cartoon

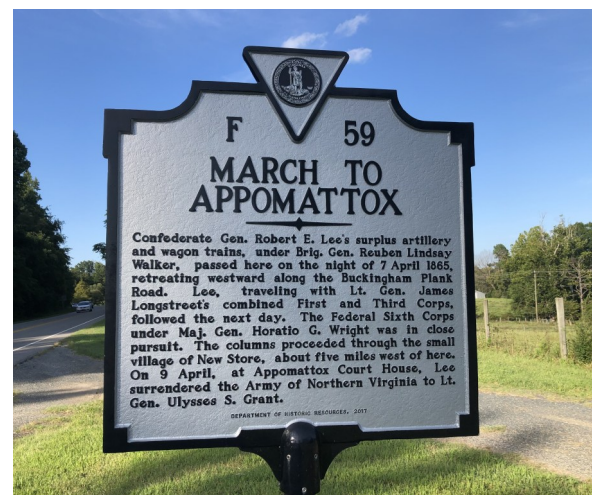
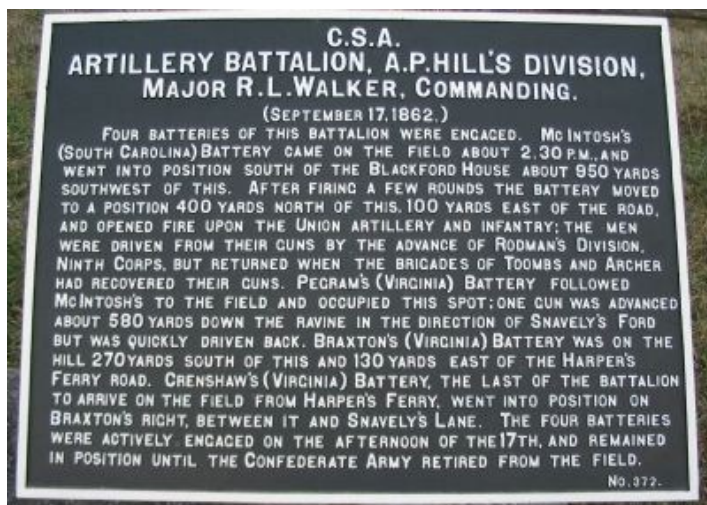
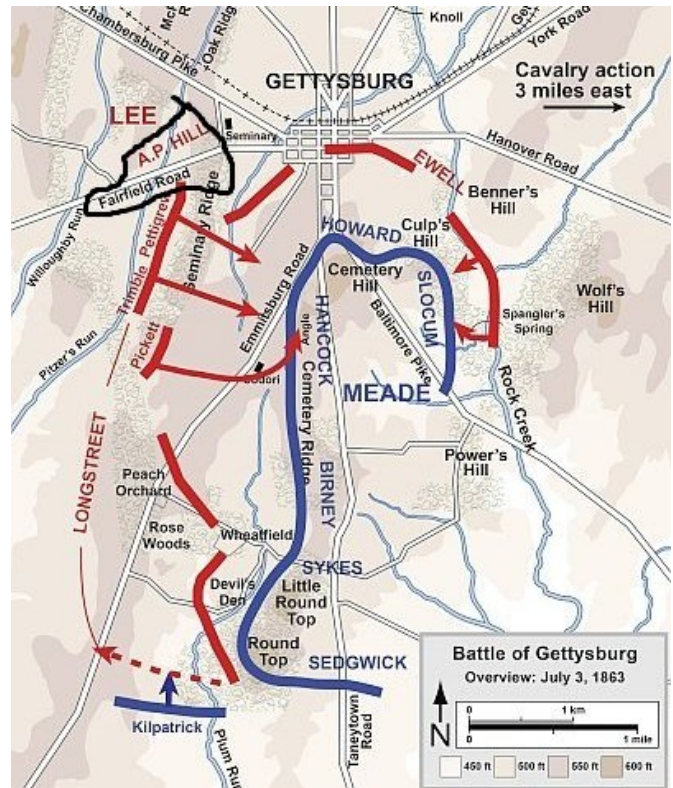
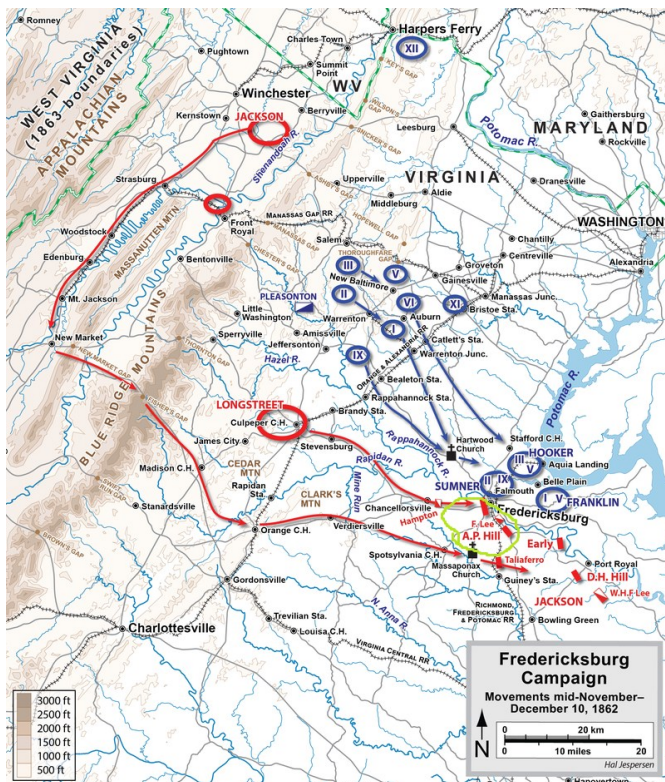


Some of the battles Lindsay fought at were 1st Bull Run, 2nd Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Overland Campaign, Petersburg, and the Appomattox Campaign. At 1st Bull Run he was made chief of artillery of Gen. A.P. Hill's division. He commanded Hill's artillery at Harper's Ferry. After Gen. Hill was promoted to corps commander, Lindsay was appointed head of the Third Corps artillery. He commanded the Third Corps reserve artillery with 63 guns at Gettysburg, along with General David G. McIntosh and Major William J. Pegram. Lindsay was a colonel at Gettysburg. I have not found any shield markers for him but he must have been in the same area as A.P. Hill on West Confederate Avenue. In a 1939 *Evening Star* article, his granddaughter "Mrs. Hay" said he had a marker on the Gettysburg Battlefield. Ms. Rebelle will have to keep trying to find it.

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At Petersburg, Reuben had a fort named after him, Fort Walker. The fort was dismantled in 1865. His granddaughter "Mrs. Hay" said that in 1939 there was an earth-work at Petersburg which was called Walker's Fort. The fort was first established as Battery No. 35 in 1862-1864 near Petersburg along the Dimmock Line with 9 mounted field guns. It was renamed Fort Walker in 1864 after Walker, who was chief of artillery with General A.P. Hill's 3rd Corps. On February 18, 1865, he received his commission as a brigadier general. The fort was captured by Union forces on April 3, 1865 and abandoned in 1865 at the end of the war.



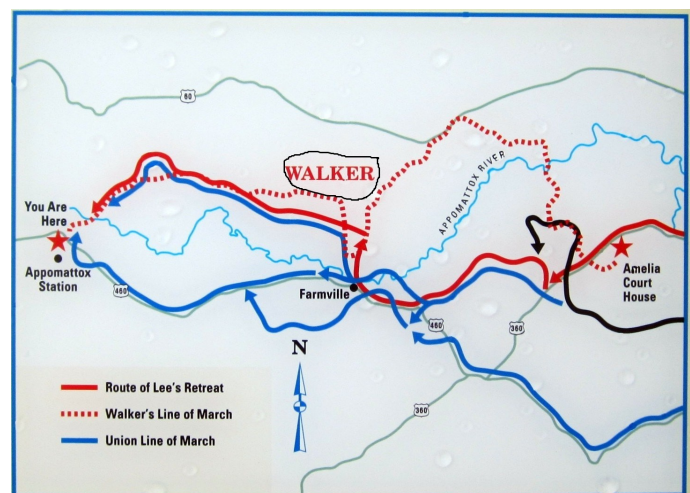
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Walker's march from Amelia Courthouse to Appomattox Station was a very long march. At the battle of Appomattox Station, a very small town with only a few houses, Walker had an encounter with Gen. George Armstrong Custer. Custer reached the station first, capturing three supply trains. Walker's artillery attacked Custer's men. After marching 90 miles from Richmond and Petersburg coming down the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road, the Confederates did not expect to have an encounter with Custer's 3,000 men. The soldiers were preparing supper and Walker was sitting on a stump getting shaved when the Yankees first came into the station. Walker had only his reserve artillery, about 1,000 soldiers, 100 cannons, 200 baggage wagons, and hospital wagons. The Confederates' lack of organization resulted in mass confusion. During most of the battle, which took place at night from 8:00-10:00 p.m., Walker's Confederate artillery acted as infantry skirmishers. Custer's men then charged the Confederate artillery and captured 25 guns, driving off and scattering the Confederates. The action at Appomattox Station ended Lee's hope of finding food and supplies in the immediate area and influenced his decision to meet with Grant at nearby Appomattox Court House the next day. Lee surrendered to General Grant on April 9, 1865.



Appomattox Station



Walker's Route to the station



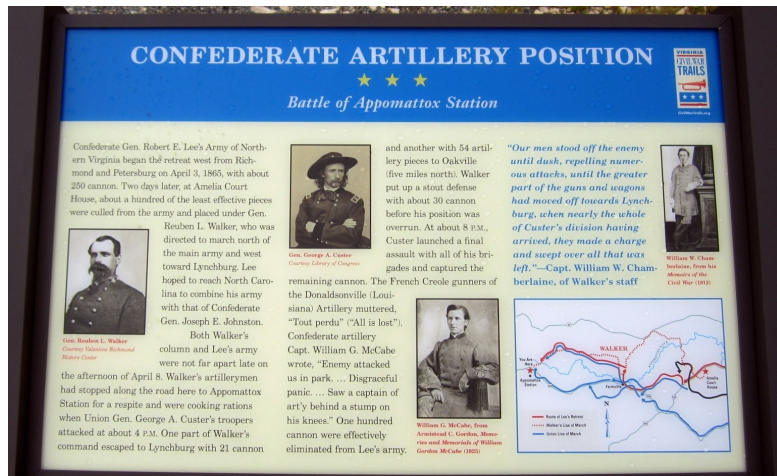
Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road



Custer Vs Walker

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Appomattox Station Marker



Texas State Capitol

After the Civil War was over, Lindsay resumed his career as a civil engineer and moved to Selma, Alabama in 1872. He became the superintendent of the Marine and Selma Railroad. He returned to Richmond in 1876 and began working for the Richmond Street railway for the Richmond and Allegheny Railroad. He also oversaw construction of an addition to the Virginia State Penitentiary and designed the Texas State Capitol. His granddaughter "Mrs. Hay" also said that her grandfather built the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad going from Clifton Forge to Richmond.

In the *Richmond Dispatch* on October 26, 1875, Gen. Walker was extremely interested in the monuments being built on Monument Avenue in Richmond. The widow of Stonewall Jackson was invited to be present at the October 26th event when the statue of her late husband was unveiled on Monument Avenue in Richmond. Mrs. Jackson came with her granddaughter to the event. Generals W.H.F. Lee and R. Lindsay Walker led a portion of the parade. Other generals present were: Thomas J. Munford, John R. Cooke, Eppa Hunton, John D. Imboden, and William McComb. Gen. J.R. Trimble commanded the Maryland line.

Gen. Reuben Lindsay Walker died at the age of 63 at his home in Columbia (formerly named Point of Fork), Fluvanna Co., Virginia on June 7, 1890. His home was at the confluence of the James and Rivanna Rivers. The town is 47 miles from Richmond, VA. He died of Bright's Disease, a form of kidney disease. Walker is buried with his second wife Maria in my favorite cemetery, Hollywood Cemetery, in Richmond, VA. He and his wife are buried in Section 20, Plot 61, Memorial ID 10060.

The *Baltimore Sun* published his obituary on June 11, 1890 as follows: "The Late Gen. R. Lindsay Walker. (Special Dispatch to the *Baltimore Sun*.) Richmond, Va., June 9. The funeral of General R. Lindsay Walker, the chief of artillery in A.P. Hill's corps during the war, who died on his farm in Fluvanna county Saturday, took place here last evening. On the top of General Walker's casket was a Confederate battle flag. It was the torn and tattered flag carried by Pegram's battalion through the war, and was

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borne by the veterans of that command in the Lee monument procession on the 29th. General Walker, although he had been sick for some time past, hoped to be here at the unveiling and take part in those exercises, but his physician forbade it. The flag which he would have followed in the line on that day was placed upon his coffin when dead. The interment took place at Hollywood Cemetery."

The *Daily Dispatch* in Richmond published Walker's obituary as well on June 8, 1890. In part: "Gen. R.L. Walker, Death in Fluvanna Yesterday of This Distinguished Virginian. Sketch of His Life and Public Services – Arrangements for the Funeral Here This Afternoon. General Reuben Lindsay Walker died at 6:45 A.M. yesterday at Point of Fork, his pretty home in Fluvanna county about a mile and a half from Columbia. General Walker had been in ill health and a great sufferer for several years, but was able to be up and going about on Thursday. He took to bed that evening, though, and grew steadily worse. His fatal trouble was Bright's disease of the kidneys. He became a general and chief of artillery in A.P. Hill's corps. It was in this position that he surrendered at Appomattox. After the war the deceased devoted himself to civil and mechanical engineering. For several years before he entered the service of the Richmond and Alleghany Railroad Company, General Walker was superintendent of the Richmond City railway, and he also had charge of the work of the woman's ward at the Virginia penitentiary. General Walker was a man of fine stature and commanding appearance, and had a rich baritone voice. He was one of the most courteous and kind-hearted of men, and deservedly beloved by those thrown in contact with him, either in business or socially. He was a gallant soldier, whose valor won him distinction, and a useful and public-spirited citizen. The remains will arrive here at 5:45 o'clock this afternoon by a special train and the funeral will take place at 6:15 from Dr. Hoge's church. The Pegram Battalion Association will assemble at the depot to meet the body and members of Lee and Pickett camps, Howitzer Association, and other ex-Confederates are invited to unite with them. There will be a detachment present from the First regiment and one also from the Richmond Howitzers. The Howitzers will fire a salute at the grave in Hollywood."



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 427 - 169 Confederate and 258 Union. You may contact her at jlgrtree@erols.com.

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GEORGE WASHINGTON IN THE FRENCH & INDIAN WAR

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Pat White Center at Ben Lomond
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