



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXXII, Issue 7, JULY 2025

AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN RON CODDINGTON SPEAKS ON "CIVIL WAR PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY: REFLECTIONS OF A GENERATION" AT THE JULY 10th, 2025 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

By Mark Trbovich

The first collectors of Civil War photos were those who lived during the four-year struggle. As the years ticked by and they passed from the scene, their likenesses were handed down through the generations. Some remained within families. Others landed in antique shops. Many were lost to the elements or tossed into trash heaps. During the war's centennial, a new generation rediscovered these intimate artifacts. Today, a vibrant community of collectors are caretakers of these portraits. In this talk, Ron answers key questions: Why do these images exist? What were the popular formats? Why did they pose this way? How did the war impact portrait photography in the North and South?

Ronald Coddington is the Editor and Publisher of *Military Images*, a quarterly magazine that showcases, interprets and preserves Civil War portrait photography. He is the author of the five volume series *Faces of the Civil War* published by Johns Hopkins University Press. His writings have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Civil War Monitor*, *Civil War Times*, *Civil War News*, and elsewhere. His latest book is *Gettysburg Faces: Portraits and Personal*

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, July 10, 2025

6 P.M. Social Hour

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

GUEST SPEAKER:

Ronald Coddington

TOPIC:

"Civil War Portrait Photography: Reflections of a Generation"

Accounts (Gettysburg Publishing). This will be a great opportunity for all to join us for a different look at Civil War photography.

Our monthly membership meetings will no longer be accessible via Zoom due to changes in the platform and usability. You can still enjoy our meetings in person or via Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/bullruncwrt>, or review past meetings on our website archive:

https://bullruncwrt.org/BRCWRT/AudioArchives/Audio_menu.html.

Come join us early at our July 10th, 2025 Membership Meeting to have an opportunity to chat with Ron and your colleagues before the meeting begins. Doors open at 6:00 PM; hope to see you there.

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE Executive Committee

President: Melissa A. Winn,
melissaannwinn@gmail.com

Vice-President: Mark Whitenton,
mark.whitenton@gmail.com, 703-795-8759

Treasurer: Joe Young,
BRCWRTTreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary: Debbie Whitenton, debd509@aol.com

At Large: Jeff Joyce, Mark Trbovich, Jim Lewis,
Drew Pallo

Past President: Kim Brace, kbrace@aol.com
202-607-5857

Education: (vacant)

Field Trips: Sam Laudenslager,
kapel-meister1@hotmail.com

Fundraising: (vacant)

Graphic Design: Drew Pallo,
dpallo3@verizon.net

Marketing: (vacant)

Membership: Mark Whitenton,
mark.whitenton@gmail.com

Newsletter: Don Richardson,
don.richardson@erols.com

Preservation: Melissa A. Winn,
melissaannwinn@gmail.com

Scholarship: John Carter, johnca2@yahoo.com

Webmaster: Alan Day,
webmaster@bullruncwrt.org

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 **August 2025 issue**, e-mail articles by **August 4th** to the editor, Don Richardson, at: don.richardson@erols.com

ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

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

and e-mail ads by **August 4th** to Don Richardson at: don.richardson@erols.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

July 10 Ronald Coddington - "Civil War Portrait Photography: Reflections of a Generation"

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 the 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"

In This Issue

President's Column	Page 3
BRCWRT Calendar of Events	Page 5
2025 Scholarship Winner	Page 6
Winning Scholarship Essay	Page 8
Preservation Corner	Page 10
Civil War Print For Sale	Page 13
BRCWRT September Tour	Page 14
BRCWRT 9th Annual Picnic	Page 15
Civil War Lantern Tours	Page 16
PWHP July-August Programs	Page 17
Hospitals of First Manassas	Page 19
PWHP 2025 Lecture Series	Page 20



THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Melissa A. Winn

Photo: Janet Greentree

Dear Members:

Thank you to everybody who came in person and tuned in online for our June speaker, Historian John Hennessy. What a fascinating talk about the Army of the Potomac! I wanted to share with you all that he was impressed by the turnout at the meeting, noting that at a time when Civil War Round Tables are struggling to keep members and/or schedule programming, our Round Table has a lot of enthusiasm and a strong program. What great feedback from somebody who has a pulse on the field! Thank you all for being engaged with smart questions and for showing up! Your involvement helps us book such esteemed speakers and reward them and reward us in kind. Together we make this Round Table fun, educational, engaging, and a joy to participate in. Thank you!



President Melissa Winn and John Hennessy

On that same note, I recently attended and participated in a Civil War Round Table Congress workshop in Richmond, VA, at which we discussed new ideas for Round Table sustainability and engagement. The workshop included an interview and discussion with Drew Gruber, former Executive Director of the Civil War Trails program and now Park Manager of the Culpeper Battlefields State Park. Drew had a fountain of ideas for programming, engagement, and marketing, which the Executive Committee and I will be discussing as ways to expand and improve the experience of the BRCWRT for all of you, our members. More on that to come in the next few months. If you have ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact me with them. I am eager to hear!

Also in this issue, please enjoy the work of our scholarship winner, Kirah Young. What a poised and intelligent young lady! Her interest and enthusiasm about the Freedman's Village was contagious and I hope you'll take the time to read her work which wowed us all. The future is bright with young historians coming up like Kirah.

July, of course, is a month heavy with historical significance, especially as we start to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the country. We also remember and recognize the Civil War's momentous July events, including the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg and the fall of Vicksburg. Even as we enjoy cookouts, fireworks, and family time this month, I encourage all of us to carve out a moment to reflect on the broader meaning of Independence Day. The men and women who lived through the Civil War believed deeply in liberty and union - though their visions often clashed. In studying them,

(cont on page 4)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

we not only honor the past but sharpen our understanding of the present.

Apart from our usual informative speaker at the Membership Meeting, July offers you a number of excellent programs on topics very close to home. On July 19th, Prince William Historic Preservation will host lantern tours of Ben Lomond where you can hear about the hospital care that was provided there to the wounded after the First Manassas battle (see page 16). Then on July 24th, PWHP's Lecture Series features Harry Smeltzer speaking about "Atrocities at Bull Run" (see page 17). Finally, the Manassas Battlefield Trust will present Paige Gibbons Backus in a program that covers not only Ben Lomond, but many of the other hospitals in the area (page 19). Tickets for the Lantern Tours are available at the PWC Parks website, and for the MBT event at their website. The Smeltzer lecture is FREE. These should all be interesting!

Looking ahead, I'm excited about our upcoming Fall schedule, including our picnic in September (see page 15!) and excellent tours in September and November. Details to come!

Happy July! Huzzah!

NEWSLETTER SEEKS RECRUITS

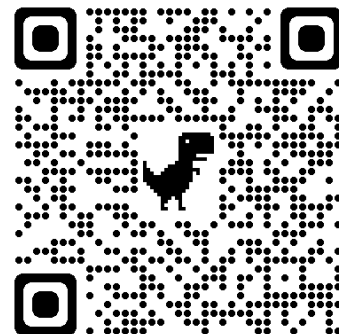
The *Stone Wall* is a team effort; Newsletter Committee members provide articles and other inputs, then give the finished product a THOROUGH scrub to catch factual errors, typos, and punctuation flaws. There is always room for more regular contributors, and someone with expertise in newsletter software would be helpful when we have to transition away from Microsoft Publisher next year. If you like to write and want to get involved, please contact the Editor at the email on Page 2.

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.



Bull Run Civil War Round Table



Upcoming 2025-2026 Program of Events

Date	Event
July 10, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Ronald Coddington - "Civil War Portrait Photography: Reflections of a Generation"
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 Dustin - "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 - "TBD"
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"

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

BRCWRT 2025 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

KIRAH YOUNG

By John Carter

The winner of the 2025 Bull Run Civil War Round Table's \$2,000 Scholarship is Kirah Young, an exceptional young lady who has completed a remarkable educational career at Charles J. Colgan Senior High School in Manassas. A review of her application and high school transcripts immediately made her a finalist to be considered for the scholarship, and it was her essay, along with her interview with the committee, that separated her from the other applicants. Kirah answered our questions with an ease that suggested they were already anticipated, and they were not short but amplified in their nature. We always close the interview by asking the applicant if they have any questions for us. Most did, but they generally were not noteworthy. Kirah, on the other hand, asked what the Round Table received by giving her a scholarship.

More important than the numbers and the words on the pages was how Kirah emerged throughout the process as a person of exceptional focus and motivation to be a compassionate advocate. Not to become one in the future, but who is one now. Her focus is to serve and to elevate people around her. Perhaps that began at home where she grew up with two siblings who have disabilities. Maybe that's why she took three years of American Sign Language, volunteered to read stories to children, why she will major in Communications Sciences and Disorders and become a Speech-Language Pathologist to be able to help children with speech disorders. Her application and resume are a map of who she is now and where she is going.



Kirah Young with her father, Vincent Miller, and John Carter, Scholarship Committee

Kirah's AP World History teacher commented that "Kirah has distinguished herself as one of the most exceptional students I have had the privilege of working with

(cont on page 7)

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER KIRAH YOUNG

in my career ... Kirah is not only academically accomplished but also deeply committed to the values of social justice, compassion, and community." She has maintained a 3.529 grade point average in an advanced studies program which included six AP courses. Kirah chose to write her scholarship essay on "Freedman's Village: More Than Just a Historical Footnote." It is an interesting selection, as it not one of the traditional Civil War or slavery topics we usually see from our applicants, to discuss the effects of the war on a newly developing community of freemen. A "historical footnote" implies that it has not been a major historical topic for many people, and it is only mentioned in passing in the footnotes. For Kirah, however, it is at the core of who she is and how she reaches out to others. In her essay, she notes that the Freedman's Village was not merely a refuge, but was about defining freedom itself - "freedom was no longer just an abstract declaration, but a lived experience anchored in education, employment, and self-government."

Kirah's high school career, inside and outside the school, is a testament to her essay. Her course selection, leadership roles, and activities were not abstract selections for graduation. Her courses provided the background for her understanding of the world around her, and her leadership roles and activities were the vehicles she used for reaching out to others. Not surprisingly, her leadership roles and activities revolve around service to others and in organizing efforts to foster awareness and change. They include serving as the President of the Black Student Union, the Vice President of the National Honor Society, the founder and organizer of the "Unity in Stories Initiative", where she led school-based storytelling sessions, and the student representative to the Student Voice Committee, which advocates for student interests. She also served as a Campus Action Network Representative for the National Organization of Women, and as a Youth Advocate for the Angelman Syndrome Foundation, where she met with state representatives to secure funding for research. Angelman Syndrome is a rare neuro-genetic birth disorder caused by a loss of function of a gene in the mother's 15th chromosome. It shares symptoms and characteristics with other disorders including autism and cerebral palsy.

Her outreach also included a variety of audiences, from storytelling to elementary school children, to getting students in her high school involved in issue which affect them, and to interacting with adults in the Prince William County community. She was a Restorative Justice Volunteer in the Prince George's County (MD) State's Attorney Office Teen Court Program, where she spent one to two weekends a month hearing cases relating to juvenile offenders.

Kirah's AP teacher concluded her recommendation by saying "Kirah embodies the qualities of a leader, a thinker, and a compassionate advocate for social justice. I am certain that she will not only excel in higher education but also contribute meaningfully to our community and, one day, the world." Any organization would be fortunate to have an advocate in their midst, including the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Kirah will be attending Hampton University next fall to begin her studies in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders. It is not a coincidence that the University also offers an M.A. degree in Speech-Language Pathology.

The Scholarship Committee members are John Carter, Mark Knowles, and Mike Block.

FREEDMAN'S VILLAGE: MORE THAN JUST A HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE

By Kirah Young

Every Memorial Day, my family takes the Metro down to Arlington Cemetery to remember the fallen heroes who are interred there. Situated within Arlington National Cemetery is a little known symbol, that as an African American family, feels especially personal for my family and inspires a sense of pride. Freedman's Village stands as an enduring symbol of African American resilience and the relentless pursuit of justice during the Civil War. Established amid one of America's most transformative and turbulent eras, this community served not only as a sanctuary from slavery but also as an emblematic statement of African American aspirations for self-determination and equality. Leading my school's Black Student Union has allowed me to draw deeply from the narratives of Freedman's Village, enriching our discussions on race, equity, and justice, and emphasizing how historical awareness directly informs our current social activism efforts.

Established in 1863, Freedman's Village wasn't merely a refuge — it was about redefining freedom itself. Its strategic placement on land previously owned by Confederate General Robert E. Lee underscored its symbolic significance, transforming a site that once represented oppression into a beacon of hope and racial advancement (Berlin et al., 1993). Freedman's Village stood apart from other wartime settlements due to its thoughtful planning and purposeful design. Instead of temporary, make-shift shelters, the residents benefited from carefully organized infrastructure including schools, hospitals, churches, and productive farmland (Gurney, 1988). This approach signified a critical shift: freedom was no longer just an abstract declaration but a lived experience anchored in education, employment, and self-governance. In doing so, the village embodied a profound understanding that liberty required genuine opportunities for autonomy, not merely the end of physical bondage.

The village was further distinguished by its notable residents, such as Sojourner Truth. Truth, whose activism and commitment went beyond mere rhetoric, provided both spiritual guidance and practical mentorship (Truth, 1875). Her influential presence elevated the morale and aspirations of villagers, reinforcing Freedman's Village as a significant hub of resistance and community strength. Stories of individuals like Emily Morgan vividly illustrate the transformative power of the village. Morgan's account, describing her journey from the hardships of slavery to educational empowerment and dignity within Freedman's Village, offers profound insights into the deep personal impact the community had on its inhabitants (Morgan, 1865). Each narrative from the village is a testament to collective resilience, representing individual hopes and dreams intertwined with the broader struggle for freedom.

However, despite its many successes, Freedman's Village faced continuous opposition from surrounding white communities, whose fears and racist prejudices posed significant challenges. Yet, even amid such resistance, the village persisted for more than thirty years, exemplifying the extraordinary resilience and determination of its residents. Its existence inspired subsequent communities of color, laying groundwork for future civil rights advancements.

(cont on page 9)

FREEDMAN'S VILLAGE

Importantly, Freedman's Village was instrumental in fostering a robust sense of pride and identity among African Americans. Its comprehensive educational programs empowered residents with essential literacy and vocational skills, preparing them to actively participate in the ongoing fight for civil rights. Thus, the village's legacy extends far beyond survival; it served as a springboard for future generations of activists, educators, and leaders.

Today, the historical lessons of Freedman's Village hold remarkable relevance, particularly in contemporary dialogues about social justice and racial equity. As the Black Student Union leader, I've actively applied the insights gained from studying Freedman's Village by organizing events that spotlight historical narratives to educate and inspire my peers. For example, by incorporating stories from the village into our school presentations, we've sparked powerful conversations that connect past injustices to current societal challenges.

Reflecting on Freedman's Village, its historical significance resonates powerfully today. Understanding this history is essential—not only as an academic pursuit but as a necessary foundation for preventing the repetition of past injustices. Through our work in the Black Student Union, I've seen firsthand how historical narratives shape effective advocacy and education. History is not just a chronicle of past events; it actively guides our efforts in building a more equitable future.

In conclusion, Freedman's Village stands as far more than just a historical footnote—it symbolizes resilience, hope, and the ongoing pursuit of genuine equality. Its enduring legacy challenges us to view history as a living guide, essential for shaping a just and equitable society.

Bibliography

Berlin, Ira, Barbara J. Fields, Thavolia Glymph, Joseph P. Reidy, and Leslie S. Rowland. *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867, Series I, Volume I: The Destruction of Slavery*. Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Gurney, Christine M. *Freedman's Village, Arlington, Virginia, 1863-1900*. Arlington Historical Magazine, vol. 8, no. 3, 1988, pp. 5-17.

Morgan, Emily. Personal Memoir, 1865. Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

Truth, Sojourner. *Narrative of Sojourner Truth*. Boston: Published for the Author, 1875.



PRESERVATION CORNER

By Blake Myers

Photos by Blake Myers
unless otherwise noted



Greetings BRCWRT Members and Friends - This edition of *Preservation Corner* provides current updates on the Prince William Digital Gateway (PWDG) and the data center bills considered during Virginia's 2025 Legislative Session.

Prince William Digital Gateway (PWDG)

The two lawsuits challenging the Prince William Board of County Supervisors' (PW BOCS) December 12-13, 2023 approval of rezoning applications allowing data centers on properties along the Pageland Lane corridor and directly adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park remain under adjudication.



Rendering of the proposed PWDG Data Centers depicting proposed data center site schematics in relation to adjacent historic sites (Courtesy of ABT)

(cont on page 11)

PRESERVATION CORNER

The lawsuits were filed by the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) and nine co-plaintiffs, and by the Oak Valley Home Owners Association (HOA) and eleven co-plaintiffs, respectively. At the October 31, 2024 ABT lawsuit demurrer hearing PWC Circuit Court Judge Hudson dismissed the lawsuit, ruling that the advertisement of the Board's meeting was indeed defective, but that it complied with the "savings" provisions of applicable laws pertaining to the notice.

ABT appealed the ruling, and on April 28, 2025 filed an appeal brief with the Virginia Court of Appeals. The appeal brief specified the following as basis for the appeal:

- The Circuit Court erred in deciding a factual dispute at the Demurrer stage;
- The County notices were defective under both state law and county ordinance and not subject to the "Safe Harbor" doctrine;
- The failure of the County to require Special Use Permits, as required by Prince William County ordinances, was not a "Fairly Debatable" decision;
- The failure of the applicants to provide required detail regarding the rezoning is not "Fairly Debatable";
- The failure to send the applications back to the Planning Commission after "Substantial Changes" were made to proffers was not a "Fairly Debatable" error;
- Conclusion: Given the significance of this issue, the far-reaching precedential impact of the lower court's ruling, and the clear need for judicial guidance in this area of land use law, the Appellants respectfully request that this Court (i) reverse the decision of the Circuit Court to dismiss the Petition upon Demurrer and (ii) remand the case back to the Circuit Court for further proceedings. An appeal hearing date has yet to be set.

At the January 30, 2025 Oak Valley HOA lawsuit demurrer hearing PWC Circuit Judge Kimberly Irving declined to dismiss the lawsuit, citing the need for more evidence on the key argument - whether PWC fulfilled its legal requirements to properly advertise the December 12, 2023 public hearing prior to the vote on the rezoning applications. At the time, public hearings had to be advertised twice over a two-week period. They also had to be placed no fewer than six days apart and not less than five days before the public hearing. The county asked the *Washington Post* to run the ads on November 28 and December 5. The ads instead ran on December 2, December 5 and December 9, 2023, with the last appearing just three days before the public hearing.

Following a nearly three-hour evidentiary hearing on March 6, 2025, Judge Irving scheduled a lawsuit hearing that began on June 17, 2025 and ran for three days. At this hearing the defense argued that all the plaintiffs had "actual notice," meaning they knew when the public hearing was happening, so the publication requirements on which the plaintiffs rely were moot, and the evidence showed that county staff "timely submitted" requests to the *Washington Post* to run the legal notices. The plaintiffs contended that the ads didn't run on November 28 and December 5, as they should have, and that was the result of inaction by the county, not a mistake by the *Washington Post*.

(cont on page 12)

PRESERVATION CORNER

The clerk to the Prince William Board of County Supervisors testified that she submitted the legal advertisement to the *Washington Post* as she had done in the course of her job for several years. She said she received a proof of the ad from the newspaper along with a note asking her to confirm publication “by email or phone” before the ad would run. She testified that she did neither, as she hadn’t seen such a request in the past and didn’t think confirmation was necessary. She learned the ad didn’t run in the *Washington Post* on November 28 when she received a phone call from an attorney representing Compass, asking why the ad wasn’t in the paper. The ad later ran in the *Washington Post* on December 2, 5, and 9.

An Oak Valley resident recounted her visit to the county clerk’s office on December 4, 2023, the first business day after the first legal ad ran on December 2, to review the rezoning materials referenced in the ad, but the materials were not available. She said the clerk told her the materials wouldn’t be available until Thursday, December 7, when the agenda packet for the December 12 supervisors’ meeting would be published online with the appropriate attachments.

Another issue before the court was whether all the plaintiffs had legal standing to challenge the rezoning – standing based on “particularized harms” (harms greater than those suffered by the general public) they will endure if the PW Digital Gateway comes to fruition.

On June 20, Judge Kimberly Irving denied a request to dismiss the case and ruled that the plaintiffs have “standing” to proceed. Judge Irving indicated she would ask attorneys to deliver closing arguments in writing “a week or two” after the close of the hearing. At the hearing’s close on Monday, June 23, Judge Irving stated she would decide the case after considering written closing arguments to be filed by July 7, and then call another hearing a few weeks later to deliver her decision.

If Judge Irving rules in the plaintiffs’ favor and concludes the public hearing notices were invalid, the rezonings will be voided and returned to the Board of County Supervisors for reconsideration and another round of public hearings.

Data Center Legislation

The final two bills remaining under consideration, House Bill (HB) 1601 and Senate Bill (SB) 1449, provided that prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception application, or special use permit for the siting of a new high energy use facility (HEUF), as defined in the bill, a locality shall require that an applicant perform and submit a site assessment to examine the sound profile of the HEUF. The bills also allowed a locality to require that a site assessment examine the effect of the proposed facility on (i) ground and surface water resources, (ii) agricultural resources, (iii) parks, (iv) registered historic sites, and (v) forestland on the HEUF site or immediately contiguous land.

Governor Youngkin amended HB 1601, sending his recommendation to the House of Delegates on March 24, and vetoed SB 1449. The Governor’s HB 1601

(cont on page 13)

PRESERVATION CORNER

amendment changed the word 'shall' to 'may', making the sound profile site assessment optional for localities, and added a provision that the bill will not go into effect unless reenacted by the 2026 General Assembly. On April 2, 2025, the House rejected the Governor's amendment to HB 1601 and the Senate rejected the Governor's veto of SB 1449.

On May 2 the Governor vetoed HB1601: "I veto House Bill 1061, which would mandate new requirements for local governments when reviewing applications for energy use facilities. This bill limits discretion and creates unnecessary red tape. While well-intentioned, the legislation imposes a one-size-fits-all approach on communities that are best positioned to make their own decisions. Data centers represent tremendous opportunity for localities around the Commonwealth, especially those that don't already have them. My proposed amendments preserved the spirit of the bill while allowing localities flexibility. The General Assembly's rejection of those amendments leaves behind a rigid framework that could chill investment and hinder economic development. Accordingly, I veto this bill."

As of now, no Virginia state guidelines or parameters exist for the siting and assessment of data centers, potentially putting at risk Virginia's national, state and regional parks and historic sites, and the attendant degradation of the visitor experience at these sites that any adjacent data centers would likely cause.

Thank you for your continued interest in, and support of, Civil War historic preservation in general and in BRCWRT's preservation projects, actions, and activities.

Blake Myers, BRCWRT Preservation Committee

PRINT FOR SALE

The Round Table has been offering donated Civil War prints for sale to members; the proceeds benefit our Scholarship Fund. This month, we have something a bit different: "Skirmish at Fairfax Courthouse, June 1, 1861", a reproduction of a lithograph print that appeared in *Leslie's Illustrated*. It's in good condition and well framed; the print is 15" x 11" and the frame is 24" x 19". Come to the Membership Meeting on July 10th and see if you would like to hang it on your wall! Minimum bid starts at \$100.



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

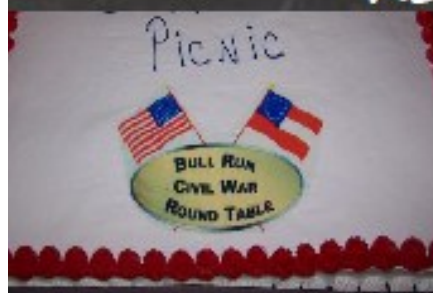
Family Memberships (husband & wife or equivalents) plus children

@ 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!**



Civil War Hospital Lantern Tours



July 19

8 – 9 p.m.

\$10 per person,
advance registration is suggested

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.
Get tickets at:
pwcparke.info/hptickets.



PRINCE WILLIAM

Historic Preservation

Ben Lomond Historic Site

10321 Sudley Manor Dr., Manassas 703-367-7872

www.pwcva.gov/history HistoricPreservation@pwcgov.org

Connect with us on social media!

www.facebook.com/pwhistoric

X: @PWHPF Instagram: PWC History

YouTube: Prince William Office of Historic Preservation



PRINCE WILLIAM

Historic Preservation

July–August 2025 Events & Programs



Purchase advanced tickets online at
pwcparcs.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



What? The Battle of First Manassas on July 21, 1861, resulted in about 3,500 casualties in the span of less than 24 hours. The first major battle of the Civil War revealed how unprepared the armies were to handle the wounded. After the battle, the horror continued in numerous hospitals throughout the area. Join historian Paige Gibbons Backus to explore the various hospitals established after the battle and discover how historians are able to use the limited primary resources available to learn about this facet of the Civil War.

Where? The program will be held in the Barrel Room at the **Winery at Bull Run**, next door to the battlefield. Wine will be available for purchase. **15950 Lee Hwy, Centreville, VA 20120**

When? **Thursday, July 31, 2025** Presentation at 6 p.m.



Tickets: \$20, available online or at the door. Purchasing in advance through this link helps us plan for seating. www.manassasbattlefield.org. **Ticket proceeds benefit the Manassas Battlefield Trust. We hope you can join us!**

Meet Our Presenter! A native of Wisconsin, Paige graduated from the University of Mary Washington with a bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation and George Mason University with a master's degree in Applied History. She has been in the public history field for over ten years focusing on educational programming and operations working at several historic sites throughout Northern Virginia including Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Sully Historic Site, and Ben Lomond Historic Site. She currently serves Prince William County as the Historic Site Manager at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre (a 19th century courthouse and jail complex with a lot of Civil War history) and Lucasville School (a one-room African American schoolhouse).

When out of the office, Paige spends her time serving on the board of the Virginia Association of Museums, exploring, being outdoors, or researching her interests which include women's history, as well as the more morbid side of history such as death, disease, medicine, murder, or scandal. Her published works include *Witness to Peace and Strife: The History of Ben Lomond in Manassas, Virginia*, as well as numerous articles published for a variety of publications such as *Emerging Civil War*, *Virginia Association of Museum's Voice Magazine*, *Civil War Traveler*, and *Prince William Living*. She currently lives in Manassas, Virginia, with her husband Bill, son Julius, and dog Bernard.

PRINCE WILLIAM HISTORIC PRESERVATION 2025 LECTURE SERIES

Each program is free and will begin at 7 pm.

MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE RETURNS

Elizabeth Reese

January 23

Old Manassas Courthouse
9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas

GEORGE WASHINGTON IN THE FRENCH & INDIAN WAR

Scott Patchan

March 27

Old Manassas Courthouse
9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas

NORTHERN VIRGINIA LUMINARIES

Joe Motheral

May 22

Occoquan Town Hall
314 Mill Street, Occoquan

ATROCITIES AT BULL RUN

Harry Smeltzer

July 24

Pat White Center at Ben Lomond
10501 Copeland Drive, Manassas

POTOMAC MARBLE: HISTORY OF THE SEARCH FOR THE IDEAL STONE

Paul Kreingold

September 25

Old Manassas Courthouse
9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas

VIGILANTE JUSTICE IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Kate Bitely

November 20

Occoquan Town Hall
314 Mill Street, Occoquan

PRINCE WILLIAM
Historic Preservation



www.pwcva.gov/history HistoricPreservation@pwcgov.org
www.historicprincewilliam.org

Connect with us on social media!

www.facebook.com/pwhistoric

X: @PWHPF Instagram: PWC History

YouTube: Prince William Office of Historic Preservation



THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
P.O. Box 2147, Centreville, VA 20122

<http://www.bullruncwrt.org>

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Thank you for your continued interest in the BRCWRT!

Here are your payment options:

Annual Dues:

Individual: \$20.00

Family: \$25.00

Student (21 & under): FREE!

Three-Year Option:

\$55.00

\$65.00

You may use PayPal by going to http://brcwrt.org/?page_id=962 and then emailing this form to BRCWRTtreasurer@gmail.com. Note that \$1 is added to cover the PayPal fee.

-OR-

You may pay by check, made payable to: BRCWRT (Bull Run Civil War Round Table) and give the form and check to the President or Treasurer at a General Membership meeting.

-OR-

You may mail this form and the check to:

**BRCWRT Treasurer
P.O. Box 2147
Centreville, VA 20122**

NAME(S)_____

NAME(S) FOR BADGE (if different)_____

If there are any changes:

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____

PHONE_____ EMAIL_____

Are there any BRCWRT activities you would like to help with (tours, selling used books, member recruitment, newsletter articles, annual picnic)?

Do you have any suggestions for additional BRCWRT activities? _____