



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXXII, Issue 5, MAY 2025

**NPS RANGER AND HISTORIAN
PATRICK SCHROEDER SPEAKS
ON "MYTHS OF R.E. LEE'S SUR-
RENDER AT APPOMATTOX, APRIL
1865" AT THE MAY 8th,
2025 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

By Mark Trbovich

The battle and surrender at Appomattox Court House has been recounted a great many times, with some of these portrayals giving a minute-by-minute treatment of the events that week. The Union victory and Gen. Robert E. Lee's formal surrender to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865, brought the war in Virginia to an end. This event is considered the most significant surrender of the Civil War. The myths that have arisen from that event are many and extremely interesting. This enlightening lecture telling what really happened at Appomattox, separating myth from fact, will be a most entertaining talk in this 160th anniversary year. We are happy to have a highly regarded National Park Service Ranger, who has worked there many years, visiting us again on May 8th.

Patrick A. Schroeder was born January 1, 1968, at Fort Belvoir, VA; was raised in Utica, NY, and attended Stuarts Draft High School in Augusta County, VA. In the spring of 1990, he graduated cum laude with a B.S. in Historical Park Administration from Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, WV. He has an M.A. in Civil War History from Virginia Tech. Mr. Schroeder has worked as an independent researcher, au-

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, May 8, 2025

6 P.M. Social Hour

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

**GUEST SPEAKER:
Patrick Schroeder**

TOPIC:

**"Myths of R.E. Lee's Surrender
at Appomattox, April 1865"**

thor, historian, and tour guide. He has served as the Historian at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park since 2002 and Chief of Cultural Resources since 2018. In an effort to protect sites relevant to the Appomattox Campaign, Mr. Schroeder has set up the "Appomattox Fund" with the American Battlefield Trust to save land important to the climactic events of April 1865. Mr. Schroeder has written, edited or published 18 Civil War titles. He presently lives in Lynchburg, VA, where he and his wife run Schroeder Publications.

Come join us early at our May 8th, 2025 Membership Meeting to have an opportunity to chat with Patrick 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 **June 2025 issue**, e-mail articles by **June 4th** to the editor, Don Richardson, at: don.richardson@erols.com

ADVERTISEMENT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

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

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 8 Patrick Schroeder - "Myths About R.E. Lee's Surrender At Appomattox VA, April 1865"

June 26 John Hennessy - "The People's Army: The Life and Mind of the Army of the Potomac"

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 Theodore Savas - "Handshakes, Gambling, & Gunpowder: How George W. Rains and Jefferson Davis Changed The Course of the Civil War"

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

In This Issue

President's Column	Page 3
Preservation Committee	Page 4
BRCWRT Calendar of Events	Page 5
Bristoe Station Cemeteries	Page 6
Mosby Bus Tour	Page 10
Civil War Weekend	Page 11
Welcome New Members	Page 11
Clara Barton Tour AAR	Page 12
Preservation Corner	Page 19
BRCWRT at Fairfax Muster	Page 21
PWHP 2025 Lecture Series	Page 22



THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By **Melissa A. Winn**

Photos: **Janet Greentree**

As the warmth of May unfolds around us, we are reminded not only of the renewal of spring but also of the remarkable contributions of those who served selflessly in our nation's past. May is recognized nationally as Nurses Month - a time to honor and reflect on the tireless efforts of nurses throughout history and today. For us, as members of a Civil War Round Table, this month carries special meaning. It offers a vital opportunity to remember and celebrate the nurses of the Civil War - pioneers of battlefield medicine, compassion, and courage.

Civil War nurses, both North and South, played an indispensable role in the war effort. At a time when nursing was not yet seen as a formal profession and especially not for women, thousands of women and men stepped forward to provide care to the wounded, the dying, and the forgotten. These brave individuals worked in appalling conditions: makeshift hospitals, overcrowded tents, railcars, and even private homes transformed into recovery wards.



Figures like Clara Barton and Dorothea Dix, Superintendent of Army Nurses for the Union, are rightly remembered. But May is also a time to lift up the names and stories of lesser-known heroines - Susie King Taylor, who nursed Union soldiers and taught formerly enslaved people to read; Sarah Emma Edmonds, who served both as a nurse and a Union spy; and countless unnamed volunteers whose efforts saved lives and brought dignity to the suffering. Thank you for your service!



Our April speaker, NPS Ranger Garrett Kost, gave a fascinating talk on the medical care provided to President Lincoln after he was assassinated.

Also in May, it's OUR BIRTHDAY! The Bull Run Civil War Round Table was established on May 9, 1991, to bring together likeminded individuals with a passion for the Civil War, including expanding our knowledge of it, preserving the hallowed grounds around us on which it was fought and freedoms were won, and sharing our love of history with others.

(cont on page 4)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table is an award-winning organization. It's well known in the field for its engaged membership; esteemed speakers, events, and newsletter; and its passion for the subject and preservation efforts.

As we celebrate this fantastic group this month, I encourage you to reach out to friends and neighbors and family who might be inclined to join us. We're expanding our lineup of fascinating speakers, working on a new website, and innovating ideas for engaging the membership. It's a GREAT time to be involved with the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Let's share the fun! If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, etc., please never hesitate to email me at melissaannwinn@gmail.com

Huzzah!

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The BRCWRT Preservation Committee is a standing committee of the Round Table. The Committee works to promote and preserve local, regional and national Civil War battlefields, historical sites and memorials. In the course of this work the Committee identifies and raises awareness of threats - including development and natural threats as well as insufficient maintenance and sustainment - to these sites and memorials and works in concert with other like-minded organizations to negate the threats.

BRCWRT members who are interested in becoming part of this essential activity of our Round Table are encouraged to contact one of our committee members:

Melissa Winn, BRCWRT President and Committee Chair

Blake Myers, Committee Coordinator

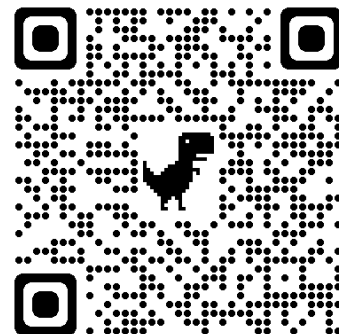
Jim Lewis, Rob Orrison, John DePue, and Kim Brace

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
May 8, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: Patrick Schroeder - "Myths About R.E. Lee's Surrender At Appomattox VA, April 1865"
June 26, 2025	Monthly Meeting Speaker: John Hennessy - "The People's Army: The Life and Mind of the Army of the Potomac"
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: Theodore Savas - "Handshakes, Gambling, & Gunpowder: How George W. Rains and Jefferson Davis Changed The Course of the Civil War"
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"

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

THE CEMETERIES AT BRISTOE STATION BATTLEFIELD PARK

By Jeff Joyce

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park has two preserved cemeteries, the 10th Alabama Cemetery dating from 1861 and the post-Civil War Robertson Family Cemetery. There are likely other Civil War burials at the Park but they've been lost to farming and development over the past 160 years.

Following the July 21, 1861, Battle of First Manassas (or Bull Run), Confederate camps sprang up throughout Fairfax, Prince William and Loudoun Counties. Bristoe Station was ideal for a camp as it was located along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad near Manassas Junction. The camp at Bristoe Station was established on August 4, 1861, and named Camp Jones in honor of Colonel Egbert J. Jones of the 4th Alabama. Colonel Jones was mortally wounded at First Manassas and died on September 3, 1861. Thousands of Confederates from Virginia, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina, and Tennessee resided at Camp Jones during the fall and winter of 1861.

During the Civil War more soldiers died of disease than in combat, especially when crowded into camps like Camp Jones. Such camps were dirty and unsanitary, which led to rampant diseases like meningitis, smallpox, yellow fever, typhoid, measles, and pneumonia. At Camp Jones soldiers began to die soon after they arrived. Colonel William Dorsey Pender of the 6th North Carolina wrote "I find the health of the regiment terrible. Only about two hundred and thirty fit for duty & great many of the sick desperately ill. I fear we shall have great many deaths before we get through." Hundreds of Confederates died at Camp Jones and were buried in cemeteries established by their regiments. By December 1861, most of the regiments had moved to other, more permanent winter camps in the area. Over time the wooden headboards used to mark the individual graves disappeared and the cemeteries were lost.

The only Camp Jones cemetery positively located is that of the 10th Alabama. The regiment was formed in May 1861 in Alexandria, Alabama, and mustered into Confederate service on June 11, 1861. Most of the soldiers were from the Calhoun County area of Alabama. When the 10th Alabama arrived in Winchester, it became part



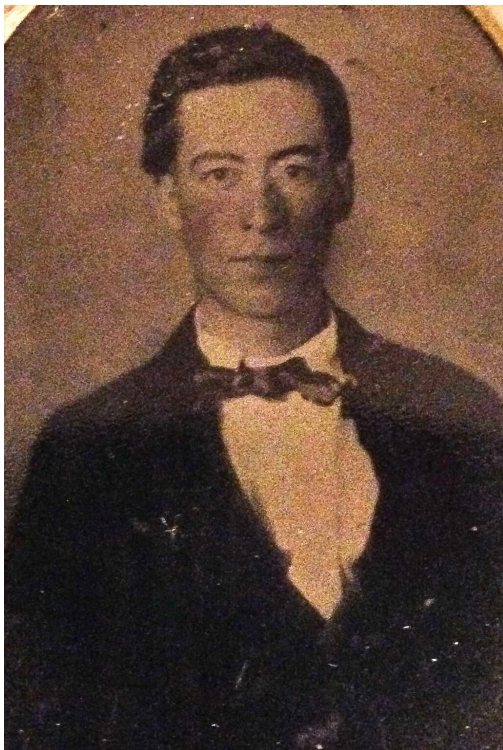
10th Alabama marker and cemetery (Photos: Jeff Joyce)

(cont on page 7)

BRISTOE STATION CEMETERIES

of Brigadier General Kirby Smith's brigade that included the 9th Alabama, 11th Alabama, 19th Mississippi and 38th Virginia. It did not arrive at Manassas in time for the battle and moved to the newly established Camp Jones on August 4, 1861. The 10th Alabama relocated to Centreville on September 21, 1861, and saw action at the Battle of Dranesville (Fairfax County) on December 20, 1861, where it suffered 24 killed or mortally wounded. Though the regiment was only at Camp Jones for six weeks it continued to bury its dead at the cemetery through late 1861, including casualties from Dranesville. Based on earlier accounts and recent research it's believed 80-90 soldiers from the 10th Alabama are buried there.

One of those Alabama soldiers was likely Private Carter Tatum. Carter was an 18 year old salesman when he enlisted on June 4, 1861, in Company G in Jacksonville, Alabama. Born in Calhoun County, Alabama, Carter was one of seven children of farmer John Wesley Tatum and Eliza Tatum. Carter's parents were originally from South Carolina and moved to Alabama to acquire land after the Creek Indians were relocated to the Indian Territory (Oklahoma). Contracting meningitis (also known as "brain fever") while at Camp Jones, Carter died on August 27, 1861. Carter's younger sister Nancy "Nannie" White Tatum (1845-1936) kept a photograph of Carter in an album she began in 1867. The album remained in Nancy's family and now belongs to her Great-Great-Granddaughter Jayna Hobby of Midland, Texas. Carter's picture is on the new 10th Alabama Cemetery marker installed at the Park last year.



Pvt. Carter Tatum (left)
and Nancy White Tatum
(right)



(cont on page 8)

BRISTOE STATION CEMETERIES

Another Alabama soldier buried in the cemetery was 2nd Sergeant Sidney Coleman. Sidney was a 30 year old farmer when he enlisted on June 4, 1861, in Company F in Cropwell (St. Clair County), Alabama. He was born in 1831 in St. Clair and married Elizabeth Truss in 1850. By the time of the Civil War, Sidney and Elizabeth had two daughters. Sidney's younger brother James (aged 17) also enlisted in Company F. By December 1861, Sidney had been promoted to 2nd Sergeant of Company F. He was killed at Dranesville on December 20, 1861. His brother James survived the Civil War and married Elizabeth (Lizzie) Idona Dill in 1867. The couple had two daughters and a son. In 1909, James returned to Virginia to visit the battlefields of the 10th Alabama as well as Bristoe Station. While at Bristoe Station he stopped at the 10th Alabama Cemetery where his brother Sidney was buried. According to James "The cedar posts that were placed there as a directory of each grave were so badly obliterated that I was unable to make out the names. A number of cedar trees have grown up over the graves, the largest being about the size of a man's thigh." James talked to the current landowner, who turned out to be the daughter of a Union veteran. James said that he pleaded with her to sell him the small space, but she refused. Instead, she promised James "that the soil over which our loved ones lie shall never be tilled so long as she is spared upon the earth." James passed away in 1911 and is buried in St. Clair County, Alabama.

Fortunately, the landowner kept her word and the 10th Alabama Cemetery still exists today. Attempts to locate other Camp Jones cemeteries, including a nearby Mississippi cemetery, have been unsuccessful.



Confederate Graves in Centreville 1862

(cont on page 9)

BRISTOE STATION CEMETERIES

In addition to the 10th Alabama Cemetery, the post-Civil War Robertson Family Cemetery can be found within the boundaries of the Park, though it remains privately owned. At the start of the Civil War, Thomas K. Davis, former Sheriff of Prince William County and a Union supporter, owned 171 acres of land that included much of today's Park. Davis purchased the land in 1858 from John Caldwell. During the war Davis and his family fled to Washington and by 1865 his property was in ruins. Though he rebuilt his store near the railroad by 1870, Davis was in financial trouble due to two court cases. As a result, he began selling parcels of his 171 acres. John Brawner purchased 27 acres in 1870 in the northeast corner of the property. Today you can see the foundation of John Brawner's house near the Park office at the top of the hill. In 1883 Davis sold the majority of his remaining land to Basil Snowden Robertson, a long-time area resident and prominent merchant and farmer. As was common a family cemetery for the extended Robertson family was established. Robertson may have rented the property before 1883 since the first recorded burial in the cemetery dates from January 1878. The burial was of Irving Robertson, Basil's infant son. The Robertson family continued to own the property until 1922, when Basil's children sold a 106 acre parcel to Joseph Rollins. Only the Robertson Family Cemetery remained with the family. In 2000 Centex purchased the entire 341 acre Rollins property and reached an agreement with the Civil War Trust and Prince William County to preserve 130 acres for the Park.



Robertson Family Cemetery (Photo: David Cuff, Historic Prince William)

The Robertson Family Cemetery contains 27 marked and 11 unmarked graves. The last recorded burial in the cemetery was either 1934 or 1948/1949 (depending on the records). Though still the property of the Robertson Family, volunteers from Historic Prince William maintain the cemetery grounds.

Of note, the 10th Alabama Cemetery was not part of the Thomas Davis property. Until 1877 a 233 acre parcel, which included the 10th Alabama Cemetery, remained with the Commonwealth of Virginia. It was then sold to James Snook. The Park has 20 acres of Snook's 233 acres, which includes the 10th Alabama Cemetery.

44th Annual Spring Civil War Mosby Bus Tour

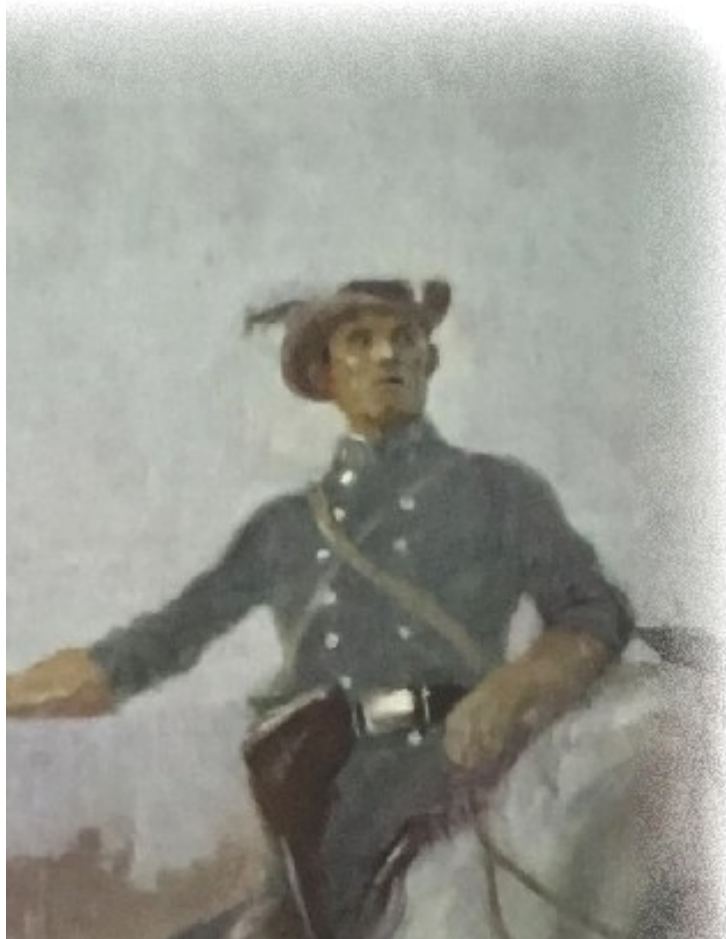
Mosby and the End of the War

Saturday, May 10, 2025

Sponsored by the Stuart - Mosby Historical Society

Tour Leaders will be
Kevin Pawlak and Rob Orrison

We will follow Mosby's Rangers during the closing acts of the Civil War, from the final fights to the disbandment at Salem. Save the date now and join us in 2025 to be a part of the longest-running Mosby tour in the United States.



**\$80 members of the Stuart-Mosby
Historical Society**

\$90 for non-members

Tour does not include lunch.
Lunch will be on your own.

To sign up contact Rob Orrison
at 703-431-2869 or email
mosbytours@gmail.com
or send your check to Rob
Orrison (make checks payable to
Rob) at

102 Melody Lane
Stafford, VA 22554.

Venmo: @Robert-Orrison

No refunds after May 1, 2025.

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

Christine Custode
Gary & Wayne Thompson
Doug Snoeyenbose

Doug Snoeyenbos Thanks for the opportunity to introduce myself. I am a retired federal government lawyer. I was a History major at Indiana University. I grew up in central Illinois, the heart of Lincoln country. I have twice been to the Lincoln museum in Springfield.

I first became interested in the Civil War when my father's accountant gave me a copy of Ned Bradford's *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War* for my ninth birthday. Bruce Catton's books were a big influence on me in middle school, and later Stephen Sears' book on Antietam, *Landscape Turned Red*. I have most recently been reading Gordon C. Rhea's series on the Overland Campaign.

When I moved to the DC area I was glad to have the opportunity to visit the many Civil War battlefields that are close by. I've been to Antietam many times, Gettysburg several times, as well as Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Petersburg. I also visited the old Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, and the big Civil War museum in Atlanta.

I enjoy playing Civil War board games, including the "Great Campaigns of the American Civil War" series.

I am currently the Coordinator for the History Club of the George Mason University chapter of the Osher Lifelong Living Institute (OLLI). We meet once per month for presentations on various history topics.

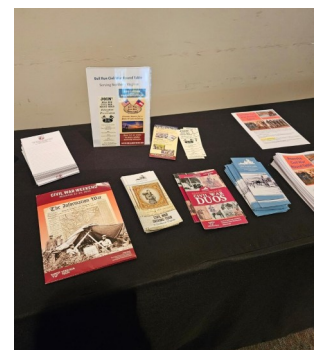
CIVIL WAR WEEKEND
By Gary Haskins

In March I attended the annual Civil War Weekend at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, presented by the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies. Civil War Weekend was started in the early 1990's by James I. Robertson.

The weekend was comprised of lectures, starting Friday evening and ending late Sunday morning. This year's theme was "Civil War Duos". Lectures were presented by historians and authors consistent with the theme. A few of the subjects presented were: the command relationship between Jackson and Lee, between Lincoln and McClellan, between the Union Army and Navy, and the relationship and correspondence of a couple on opposing sides of the war.

Entertainment was provided Saturday evening. This year's program featured Jack Davis, author and retired director of Virginia Civil War Studies and Sue Bell, a recent contributor to Virginia Tech of a cache of six hundred letters between her great-great-grandparents, Confederate general Gabriel C. Wharton and his wife, Nannie. Jack and Sue read letters back and forth with emotion, and sometimes sarcasm, as the text implied. Their banter was quite entertaining.

Last year I was given permission to offer copies of the *Stone Wall*, as was done by the Roanoke CWRT. That being cost prohibitive, I settled on Bull Run marketing materials. About one dozen flyers were taken. Thanks to Debbie and Mark Whitenton, Blake Myers, and Drew Pallo for their assistance.



CLARA BARTON MISSING SOLDIERS OFFICE After Action Report

By Sam Laudenslager
(Photos by Sam Laudenslager unless noted)

Our Round Table had a memorable first field trip of 2025 on Saturday morning, March 29th. Sixteen BRCWRT members gathered on the steps of the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery for our tour. Our group included: Mark Allen, Pete Andrews, Clive & Diane Blackwell, Mike Buckley, Alan Day, Tim Duskin, Rob Gleich, Mark Knowles, Sam Laudenslager, Donna Lindsay, Dan Lundeen, Steven Sensabaugh, Mike Rumsey, Mike Shannon, and our guide Melissa Winn, of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick, MD.

The National Portrait Gallery/Museum of American Art is an imposing classical-style structure covering two entire blocks (between F & G streets and from 7th to 9th streets NW) in the heart of downtown Washington's "Penn Quarter". Built during 1836-37, this building served multiple purposes during the Civil War, first housing Massachusetts Volunteer troops, who were hastily rushed to defend the national capital; then converted to a hospital, following the battle of First Manassas; and continuing to serve as a major military hospital until the end of the war. Its adjacent plazas located on F and G Streets became a sprawling supply depot for the Union's Army of the Potomac. Clara Barton and Walt Whitman nursed wounded soldiers in this building.

Our Round Table visit coincided with two Civil War-related special exhibitions within this Smithsonian Museum: "Powerful Partnerships", a collection of Civil War-era couples, captured in daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and tintypes; and "Out of Many", featuring painted portraits and sculptor models of prominent Civil War figures.



(cont on page 13)

CLARA BARTON TOUR

The walking tour began at the Daguerre monument on the National Portrait Gallery grounds. Our guide, Melissa Winn, told us that Louis Daguerre, (1787-1851) a French painter, theatrical set designer, and chemist, created a practical way to preserve what we see in "real time". She explained how Daguerre "developed" (pun intended) a process, using iodized-silver on treated copper sheets, applied to glass plates, to capture "photographic" images. This monument by Jonathan Scott Hurley was commissioned for and donated to the Smithsonian, then moved to its current National Portrait Gallery location by the Professional Photographers Association of America in 1989, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of photography.



Daguerre Monument



Missing Soldiers Office sign



Madeleine Thompson addresses the group

We then crossed 7th Street to visit the Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum. This visit provided appropriate closure to Carolyn Ivanoff's interpretation of Clara Barton, which was presented during the March meeting of the Round Table. Our guide at the Museum was Madeleine Thompson, site administrator for this museum. While Carolyn Ivanoff's impression highlighted Barton's verbal duels with bureaucratic and military chauvinists, Thompson focused on Barton as "Angel of the Battlefield". The number of battles where she tended to the wounded while "in the field" was a revelation to many in our group: Antietam, 2nd Manassas, Ox Hill, Fredericksburg, Cold Harbor, Spotsylvania.

When the Civil War neared its end, Barton became aware that many families were unable to locate their "lost soldiers", whose fates and whereabouts were unknown. She responded by creating a Missing Soldiers Office in her boarding house apartment. She fielded inquiries for the missing on lists that were distributed throughout the now United States. Over the course of 3 years (1865-1868), she and her staff (which grew to a staff of 20), fielded more than 63,000 inquiries, achieving closure on more than 22,000 MIA case files. Madeleine then explained how this historic site escaped modernization's "wrecking ball".

Clara Barton would later move to a large home in Glen Echo, MD; the store below the boarding house would close; the building would be abandoned. Then, in 1996, a General Services Administration (GSA) employee, Richard Lyons, inspected

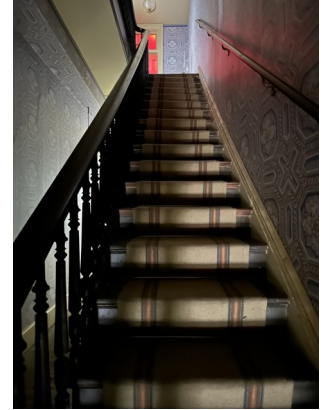
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CLARA BARTON TOUR

this rundown property that was slated for demolition. He felt something touch his shoulder. It was a faded yellow envelope that had floated down through a crack between the ceiling timbers. It was a letter. Lyons grabbed a ladder, moved several ceiling timbers and found an overhead door to the attic. Climbing through that attic door Lyons then found a metal sign that reads "Missing Soldiers Office, 3rd Story Room 9, Miss Clara Barton". Lyons had uncovered the cache of boxes containing the correspondence of the Office of Missing Soldiers.

Madeleine led our group to the 3rd floor of the Museum, up a steep, dimly lit (19th century simulated) stairway to Clara Barton's living quarters. One can only imagine Barton, clad in an ankle-length mid-19th-century dress, trying to climb or descend this narrow stairwell, while carrying heavy boxes of foodstuffs, bandages, and medicines for delivery to the troops.

Clara Barton staircase (Photo: Museum of Civil War Medicine)



This was a boarding house, where Clara Barton lived and worked above the General Store (street floor) and stock room (2nd floor) below. Edward Shaw was a co-worker with Clara at the Patent Office, with a "side gig" of renting out the boarding house across the street (or maybe he was renting the boarding house, with a side gig as a Patent Office clerk across the street). Clara's quarters, Room #9 in the back, served as both her lodging and office. It is a small room (about the size of a New York City "efficiency"), containing only her bed and a roll-top desk. On the desk are 3 documents, side-by-side:

- Letter #1 - A note from one of Barton's "missing" soldiers. He seems to know that his Mother has passed on, and that his sister wishes to locate him.
- Letter #2 - Clara's reply, inquires why the "missing" soldier does not want to be contacted by his family.
- Letter #3 - The soldier's response emphasizes that he did not want Clara Barton to contact his sister, or to divulge his fate or whereabouts. He is firm about his decision to sever his family relationship and about his decision to start a new life.

The Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum will host an exhibition of period photographs of Civil War nurses. This special exhibition of Civil War era photography opens on Saturday May 24th (opening ceremony at 1:00 pm), and continues through September 1st. For more information, visit **clarabartonmuseum.org** or call (202) 824-0613.

Our tour then walked from the Clara Barton museum to the site of Matthew Brady's photographic studio/gallery. It was a spectacular spring weekend in Washington: temperature 80+ and sunny; Cherry Blossoms in peak bloom; tourist traffic also in full bloom; Washington sidewalks filled with blooming idiots staring at their cell-phones, completely oblivious to traffic signals, oncoming cars or other pedestrians

(cont on page 15)

CLARA BARTON TOUR

who they are about to bump into, including us. But our tour group held together. We were all able to find our next tour stop... no problem... until ...

We were DOGE-d! The Apex/Brady building - a GSA building - was tightly locked, with electronic passcode locks on every door, private security guards and GSA security police all around. [More about this later.]

Matthew Brady had already established himself as New York City's premiere society/celebrity photographer when he opened a second studio gallery at 625 Pennsylvania Avenue (above "Thompson's Saloon") in Washington, DC. Many prominent Civil War-era figures posed for Brady photographs: Generals Grant & Sherman, Abraham Lincoln, Lincoln cabinet and Supreme Court members, authors Washington Irving & James Fenimore Cooper, poet Walt Whitman, Frederick Douglass and Clara Barton, entertainers Jenny Lind and P.T. Barnum, and actors Edwin, Junius and John Wilkes Booth. Brady and his "Whatsis Wagon" photo team took many of the photographs that make the Civil War live for us, 160 years later.

Mathew Brady, 1861 (Library of Congress)



We were able to view, from the Alley plaza below, the glass skylight that Brady had installed to provide better lighting for his photographic portraiture. The adjoining window was open, so we were also able to catch a glimpse of the adjacent waiting room where Brady subjects awaited their turn in front of the camera lens. In 1887, the townhouses housing Brady's Washington gallery, laboratory, and photo studio would be surrounded by the Apex Building. Ten years later, Brady would move his operations out of the Apex. The Apex has a varied, albeit colorful, architectural history. Intended as a hotel with luxury apartments and retail arcades to connect the Pennsylvania-Indiana Avenues triangle, over the years the Apex would be adapted for use as a bank, Insurance company headquarters, another bank, office building, bank (yet again), hotel (or youth/foreign tourist hostel, the "Apex Hostel") and finally a liquor store. During the Pennsylvania Avenue redevelopment in the 1980's, the General Services Administration acquired the property, rehabilitated the structure, then leased it to the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW). The Apex-Brady Gallery building is truly a local history-Civil War history-architectural history gem hidden in plain sight.



Brady studio at the Apex Building

(cont on page 16)

CLARA BARTON TOUR

For nearly 50 years, the Brady Gallery-Apex Building had served as the National Council's Washington offices. Two weeks ago, DOGE, the Department of Government Efficiency, cancelled (without prior judicial hearing) the NCNW lease, evicted the National Council, and locked the building to Council staff and all others. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Bull Run Round Table tours and field trips committee is for a committee member to make a reconnaissance visit to an upcoming tour site just before the tour. Fortunately, we learned about the DOGE-NCNW situation before this tour, and were able to alert our guide to adjust her presentation if necessary.

Our BRCWRT group then walked from the Apex/Brady site across 7th Street to today's US Navy Memorial fountain. This offers a view of the Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock monument, a bronze equestrian statue crafted by sculptors Henry Jackson Elliott and Paul Pelz (1889) that superbly marks the elevator entrance to the Gallery Place Metro subway station.

Major Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock (1824-1886) served with distinction over 4 decades, seeing combat in the Mexican War, Seminole Wars, and Civil War, and as a negotiator/diplomat with the Lakota and Cheyenne nations during the 1870's Minnesota and Dakota confrontations. He was a Division Commander, II Corps, Army of the Potomac, at the battles of Williamsburg, Antietam, Fredericksburg & Chancellorsville; commanded II Corps at Gettysburg, The Wilderness, Spotsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor and Petersburg; and was severely wounded at Gettysburg and Petersburg (Hatcher's Run). He was the Democratic Party candidate for President in the 1880 election, losing the popular vote to James Garfield by less than 45,000 votes nationwide. Today, he is often remembered as Confederate General Lewis Armistead's pre-war best friend, portrayed by actor Brian Mallon in the movies "Gettysburg" and "Gods and Generals".



We then continued on to the US Navy Memorial. Located at the Pennsylvania Avenue / 8th Street intersection, the Navy Memorial features 4 ship mast flagpoles, bracketing a statue of "The Lone Sailor" and a fountain. The granite base surrounding the fountain displays 28 brass and bronze panels depicting significant moments in the Navy's history, with only one panel devoted to the Navy's role in the Civil War. "Damn the Torpedoes", sculpted by Robert Summers, depicts the Battle of Mobile Bay (1864). BRCWRT member Tim Duskin described the battle, reading excerpts from Admiral David Farragut's *Official Records* report to our group.

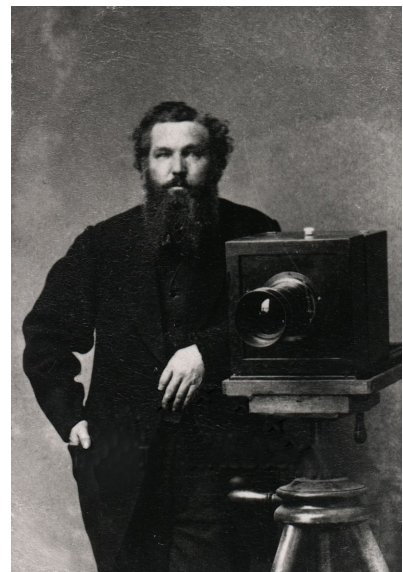
(cont on page 17)

CLARA BARTON TOUR

Our group then walked from the Navy Memorial to a "Turn of the Century" (19th-20th centuries) building at the corner of 7th & D Streets NW. Melissa explained that this was the site of Alexander Gardner's photographic studio, from 1863 to 1871. Although Matthew Brady was a zealous promoter of portrait photography art — and an equally zealous self-promoter - he was also a very demanding and parsimonious boss. But Gardner was no novice; he was a respected English "wet plate" photographer, who Brady had met at the 1851 Crystal Palace World Exposition in London. Brady recruited him to join his own team at a new 10th Street studio in New York City. Gardner joined the Brady team as manager of a new Washington studio that Brady had opened in 1858. However, Brady's associates or apprentices (Gardner, Timothy O'Sullivan, Stanley Morrow, David Knox, and J. Reekie) were overworked, underpaid, and frequently unrecognized for their efforts.



Alexander Gardner's gallery, 1864 (Library of Congress)



Alexander Gardner (Library of Congress)

Following the Brady-Gardner expedition after the battle of Gettysburg, Gardner decided that he had had enough, and started a competing studio, just 2 blocks up 7th street from Brady's, on the same block as the Missing Soldiers Office. Today, Alexander Gardner is recognized for capturing after-battle scenes at Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and Petersburg, and for his final portrait of Abraham Lincoln, prior to his assassination.

Today, the Alexander Gardner location is recognized as a culinary, as well as historic, Washington landmark. It is home to celebrity chef Jose Andres' Oyamel Cocina. Our group had relished the prospect of sampling Oyamel's sevice and fajitas following our walking tour. Alas, due to Cherry Blossom weekend crowds, this did not pan out, and our Tour ended here (although some of us continued back to the National Portrait Gallery to view the Civil War exhibits at our own self-guided pace).

(cont on page 18)

CLARA BARTON TOUR



Oyamel Cocina (site of Gardner's studio)



Melissa Winn provides the Gardner story

If the back story of the discovery of the Missing Soldiers Office Museum letters seems familiar to you, but somehow different ("I think that I have heard this before, but ..."), you are correct. At nearly the same time that Richard Lyons felt that letter brush his shoulder, GSA building inspectors discovered another treasure trove of Civil War era papers stored in wooden boxes in an attic just 3 blocks away from the Barton Museum. These were immediately turned over to the National Archives. This building, at the corner of 7th Street and Indiana Avenue (639 Indiana Ave. NW, now site of Penn Quarter Sports Tavern), also escaped the wrecking ball.

But these documents were encoded. It would take over a decade for retired National Security Agency code expert and Civil War buff Ed Fishel to unlock the contents in these documents. The boxes contained records of the War Department telegraph office, which President Lincoln visited daily, and volumes of intelligence reports of the Army of the Potomac's Provost Marshal Bureau of Military Information (BMI). The results of Fishel's decoding and research are preserved in two fine books: *Mr. Lincoln's T-Mails*, by Tom Wheeler (Harper Collins, 2009) and *The Secret War for the Union*, by Edwin Fishel (Houghton Mifflin, 2001).

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table wants to acknowledge the assistance of one member of the GSA Security detail at the Apex Building/Brady Gallery site. She prefers to remain anonymous, but did her best to assist our tour under the circumstances. She directed us to the best viewing location, arranged for the upper floor/Brady's studio overhead lighting to be turned on, and opened the third floor window at Brady's gallery waiting room so we could look inside. Thank you!

Thanks also to Mike Buckley and Steve Sensabaugh, who contributed insights at the Missing Soldiers Office Museum and Brady/Apex Building tour stops.



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)

As previously reported, 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 centers site schematics in relation to adjacent historic sites
(Courtesy of American Battlefield Trust)

(cont on page 20)

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), respectively. At an 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 and its co-plaintiffs filed an appeal which was accepted at the Virginia Court of Appeals on April 9, 2025. An appeal hearing date has yet to be set.

At a 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. Following a nearly three-hour evidentiary hearing on March 6, 2025 addressing two central questions - whether the timing of the county's Digital Gateway public hearing advertisements in the *Washington Post* complied with the Virginia statute or county ordinance for proper notice, and whether materials relevant to the application were made available to the public at the time of the initial advertisement - Judge Irving scheduled a two-day lawsuit hearing for June 5-6, 2025, with a potential shift to May 29-30, 2025, if plaintiff availability allows.

Data Center Legislation

As reported previously, of the twenty-one (21) data center bills submitted in the House and the Senate for the Legislature's consideration/action, three (HB 1601, SB 1449 and SB 1047) were approved by the General Assembly and forwarded to Governor Youngkin.

HB 1601 & SB 1449 - Siting of data centers; high energy use facilities; and respective site assessment.

The bills provide 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 on residential units and schools located within 500 feet of the HEUF property boundary. The bills also allow 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. The bills provide that their provisions shall not be construed to prohibit, limit, or otherwise supersede existing local zoning authority.

Governor Youngkin amended HB 1601, sending his recommendation to the House of Delegates on March 24, 2025, and vetoed SB 1449. The Governor's HB1601 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.

(cont on page 21)

PRESERVATION CORNER

SB 1047- Electric utilities; demand response programs; evaluation and assessment; and report.

The bill directs the Department of Energy to evaluate and assess benefits, impacts, best practices, and implementation recommendations for demand response programs in the Commonwealth and to report such evaluation and assessment by November 1, 2025. Governor Youngkin vetoed this bill on March 24, 2025. On April 2, 2025 the Senate sustained the Governor's veto.

The General Assembly adjourned on April 11, 2025, and following the adjournment Governor Youngkin expressed his intention to review the legislation on his desk, stating, "Over the next 30 days, I will review and take final action on the bills and budget amendments that have been sent back to my desk." He concluded by thanking legislators for their dedication during the session.

Stay tuned for future updates. 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

BRCWRT AT THE FAIRFAX MUSTER

While we had to wait out the all-day rain on Saturday, April 26th, the sun finally came out in time for the Fairfax Muster to begin as scheduled. BRCWRT members Drew Pallo, Don Richardson, and Jim Lewis were on hand to represent the Round Table and enjoy music by GMU's Patriots Fife and Drum Corps, the 8th Green Machine Regiment Band, and seven other groups performing traditional music.



8th Green Machine Regiment Band



Drew Pallo, Don Richardson, Jim Lewis man our table

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



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www.historicprincewilliam.org

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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? _____