

THE STONEWALL

JANUARY 2000

THE NORWICH MILITARY ACADEMY

BY ROBERT POIRIER, AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN

During the course of the American Civil War, 930 West Pointers served in the Union Armies. Surprisingly, Norwich provided 750 men to the Union. At least 56 Norwich alumni fought for the Confederacy. Among Norwich's alumni stood Major Generals Robert H. Milroy, Grenville Dodge, William "Bull" Nelson, Horatio G. Wright, "Fighting Joe" Mower Alfred H. Terry and Truman Seymour. They served in units such as the Iron Brigade and the Second Corps famous "Harvard Regiment," the 20th Massachusetts. Thomas Bragg, Braxton's brother, served as the Attorney General of the Confederacy for a time. Colonel Andrew J. Dorn commanded a regiment of Indians who fought for the Confederacy. Our speaker, Robert G. Poirier will fill us in on the details of this most important, but often overlooked military institution.

Additionally, he will offer his book for sale to BRCWRT members for \$25.00 (regular selling price is \$29.95)

Please support the preservation. Raffle. In addition to books, this month we are offering:

**"Sid Meier's: Antietam," on CD ROM the latest thing in
PC Civil-Wargaming**

**By the Blood of Our Alumni, Norwich University Citizen Soldiers,
Robert G. Poirier**

Time Life's The Civil War: The Bloodiest Day

When: Thursday, January 13, 1999, 7:30 PM

Where: Centreville Regional Library

The American Literary, Scientific and Military Academy

By John P. McAnaw

Major General Ernest A. Harmon served as a distinguished armor officer during WWII. His commands included the 1st and 2nd Armored Divisions and the XXII Corps. After retiring in 1948, Harmon became President of Norwich University where spent two years as a student prior to going to West Point. He wrote of Norwich University:

Norwich, located in Northfield, Vermont, is a military college with an ancient and honorable history. Captain Alden Partridge, the founder, had the idea of preparing young Americans for the twofold function of the citizen soldier. In times of peace, they would serve as engineers and surveyors, businessmen and teachers. In times of war, they were prepared to serve their country as soldiers in the function of command. And so they did serve – in the Mexican War and in every war since. General Grenville Dodge, the engineer who built the first transcontinental railroad, was a Norwich alumnus. Admiral Dewey, the hero of Manila bay was a student there.

Norwich University was founded in 1819 by Alden Partridge as the American Literary, Scientific and Military Academy. Fifteen years later it became known as Norwich University. It was the first private educational institution in the U. S. to be run in a military manner and served as the model for many other private military academies and is regarded as the birthplace of the ROTC concept.

In addition to General Dodge, other prominent Civil War leaders who attended Norwich included, Major Generals Robert Milroy, William "Bull" Nelson, Truman Seymour, Alfred H. Terry and Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles. Four alumni were awarded the Medal of Honor. The school also produced a number of Confederate officers as well. Until now, the importance of Norwich University as a training ground for future Union officers has been little appreciated.

Preservation Corner

No News is Good News in Centreville

By John P. McAnaw

The good news is that as of January 4, 2000, CENTEX has not started construction on the 14.33 acre tract (Deerfield Ridge) containing sections of the main Confederate Defense Line in Centreville and Union breastworks prepared in 1862 or 1863. The fight to preserve this tract is not over, particularly its eastern half containing the Confederate earthworks.

Bull Run Civil War Roundtable

Field Trips Spring 2000

By Kevin Anastas

Saturday 11 March
1st and 2nd Kernstown

Tour Sponsor: Gary Ecelbarger and Scott Patchan

Saturday 15 April
Gettysburg, 1st Day + Culps and Cemetery Hill
Tour Sponsor: Kevin Anastas

Saturday 29 April
Centreville/Union Mills and Orange & Alexandria RR
Tour Sponsor: John McAnaw

Saturday 13 May – Sunday 14 May
Petersburg: Summer '64 – Winter '65
Tour Sponsor: John McAnaw

Date TBD (In the fall)
Second Manassas
Tour Sponsor: Kevin Anastas

FY 2000 dues are due!

Please pay at the January meeting or mail them to:

BRCWRT
PO Box 816
Centreville, VA 20122

Individual - \$15.00 Family \$25.00

BRCWRT SPONSORS:

The American Military University

(provides copying services for us)

Check out AMU's Civil War Studies Courses and Graduate Degree Programs

www.amunet.edu/cw.asp

FIRAXIS Games, Inc.

(410) 568-3675

www.firaxis.com

(donated the Antietam game)

Try out Gettysburg!

FY 2000 Budget Adoption Process
By Scott C. Patchan

At our January meeting, a call will be made to ratify our budget for FY 2000. The budget subject to membership ratification is below. Please review it, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to give me a call at 803-2927. I am also committed to providing similar financial data to the membership on a quarterly basis, as has been requested by several members. If at any time anyone has any questions regarding BRCWRT finances please feel free to contact me. Thanks.

Bull Run Civil War Round Table
FY 2000 Fund Statement

FUND BALANCE 1/1/2000	\$2,795
(our available cash balance)	
 <u>REVENUE</u>	
Membership	\$2,450.00
Book Raffle	\$600.00
Total Income	<u>\$3,050.00</u>
 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Incorporation Fee	\$25.00
Postage Stamps	\$840.00
Post Office Box Rental	\$14.00
Printing – Newsletter	\$840.00
Printing – general	\$0.00
Preservation Donations	\$350.00
Miscellaneous	\$480.00
Misc. Office Supplies	\$51.00
Speaker Meal	\$240.00
Speaker Mileage	\$0.00
Speaker Gifts	\$120.00
Speaker Handouts	\$25.00
Relic Show Table	\$65.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$3,050.00</u>
 Total Income	 \$3,050.00
Total Expense	<u>\$3,050.00</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u>0</u>
 Fund Balance 12/31/2000:	 <u>\$2,795</u>