



# STONE WALL

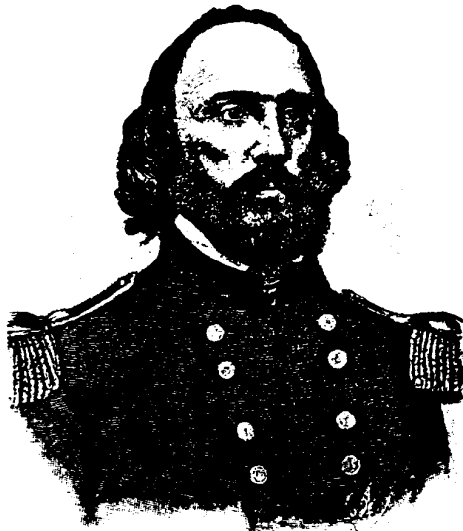
**Bull Run Civil War Round Table**

**December, 2000**

## **Frederick West Lander**

Our December guest speaker is a charter member and former President of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table – Gary Ecelbarger. He has authored several articles and reviews for Civil War and historical magazines, and has been a consultant and contributing writer for two volumes of Time-Life Books *Voices of the Civil War* series. His first book, *“We are in for it!: The First Battle of Kernstown,”* was the editor’s Civil War selection of the History Book Club in November of 1997. Ecelbarger’s newest book, *Frederick W. Lander: The Great Natural American Soldier*, was nominated by LSU Press for the 2001 Lincoln Prize, awarded annually for the finest scholarly work on the era of the American Civil War.

Frederick Lander was dubbed “The Great Natural American Soldier” by Brevet Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott, yet no markers or monuments exist to honor him. He ranked



BRIGADIER-GENERAL FREDERICK W. LANDER.  
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

among the most popular Americans in 1861, yet few today have ever heard of him. His name evoked passion from friends, peers, and subordinates, yet he rarely appears in any Civil War publication. He was the general of record who opposed and continuously foiled General Thomas J. Jackson for two months, yet most would have to think long and hard to identify the campaign. Forty thousand people – including Abraham Lincoln – attended one of three funerals to pay their last respects to him, yet today he essentially lies in an unmarked grave.

Gary’s book will not be available at the 14 December meeting. He will have a copy of the Galley proof and will be taking orders. The book will be discounted 20% for Round Table members. If you would like to have your copy mailed prior to Christmas a 3.00 postage fee will be added bringing the grand total to 35.00. Copies will be available at the January meeting for 32.00.

## **General Membership Meeting**

**14 December 2000**

**7:30 PM**

**\* Gary Ecelbarger**

**Centreville Regional Library**

**14200 St. Germaine Drive**

**Centreville, VA 20121-2299**

**(703) 830-2223**



# STONE WALL

The STONE WALL is published monthly by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of the month at:

The Centreville Regional Library  
14200 St. Germain Drive  
Centreville, VA 20121-2299  
Tel. No. (703) 830-2223

**Bull Run Civil War Round Table**

P.O. Box 196  
Centreville, VA  
20122

**President**  
Scott Patchan

**Vice President**  
John McAnaw  
(703) 978-3371

**Treasurer**  
Mark Knowles  
(703) 787-9811

**At Large**  
Kevin Anastas  
Harriet Condon  
Gary Ecelbarger

**Field Trip**  
Kevin Anastas

**Preservation**  
John McAnaw

**Editorial Staff**  
Mary Ahrens  
John McAnaw

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**Submission Deadline for January 2001 Issue of the Stone Wall**

The deadline for the receipt of articles for the January 2001 newsletter is 27 December 2000. Send input to:

Mary R. Ahrens  
12201 Fairfield House Drive 610A  
Fairfax, VA 22033  
e-mail: [ahm@starpower.net](mailto:ahm@starpower.net)

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**E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATE**

Treasurer Mark Knowles is in the process of compiling e-mail addresses of BRCWRT members. Please provide him with the information at the monthly General Membership Meeting or call him. evenings. at (703) 787-9811 or mail him the information at:

169 Applegate Drive  
Sterling, VA 20164

In order to reduce our mailing expenses, commencing January 2001, the monthly BRCWRT newsletter will be sent via e-mail to participating members who give their assent.

Your cooperation will be appreciated.



# STONE WALL

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Scott Patchan

I stand down as President effective the end of December. Thus, I want to take this opportunity to thank all members for your support during the past sixteen months. Particularly I want to extend my thanks to Vice President and Preservation Chairman John McAnaw, Treasurer Mark Knowles and Field Trip Chairman Kevin Anastas for their help and commendable commitment to our organization.

My successor, John McAnaw, has a superb lineup of elected and appointed officers for CY2001. Please give them your full support. I am confident that the Bull Run Civil War Round Table will continue its worthwhile preservation efforts, excellent speaking program, educational field trips and oversight of actions affecting the Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBP).

Regarding the MNBP, I am very concerned about the de-emphasis of the Second Battle of Manassas at the Park. There is no interpretation of this momentous battle at the main Visitors Center. The other interpretative center at the park is a second rate facility located at an out of the way site on Stuart's Hill. It provides only a very limited amount of material on Second Manassas and is not accessible for much of the year. I encourage all members to attend the public meeting at the main Visitors Center at 7:00 PM on 18 December. Issues of concern will be addressed and attendee input will be encouraged.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## BRCWRT Officers for CY2001

The following members in good standing were elected as officers for the forthcoming calendar year:

President	John McAnaw
Vice President	John DePue
Treasurer	Mark Knowles
Secretary	Nancy Anwyll

## MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2001 BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

If you have not done so already, please pay dues for CY2001 as soon as practicable. The dues rates are as follows:

- Family - \$25.00
- Individual - \$15.00
- Student - \$10.00

Make checks payable to the "Bull Run Civil War Round Table." Either drop the check or cash at the Membership Table at the December monthly meeting or mail the check to:

Mark Knowles  
169 Applegate Drive  
Sterling, Virginia 20164



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If you have any questions, contact Mark  
at (703) 787-9811.

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## INCLEMENT WEATHER SOP FOR MEETINGS AND TOURS

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

If, on the date of a scheduled monthly meeting, adverse weather conditions exist or are impending take one of the following actions to determine whether or not the meeting will be held as scheduled:

1. Call John McAnaw at (703) 978-3371. Either he or a recorded message will advise the caller, or,
2. Call the Centreville Regional Library at (703) 830-2223. A staff member will tell you if the meeting is on or not.

### TOURS

1. Call the Chief Tour Guide. The name and telephone number for the Chief Tour Guide for each tour will be published in the monthly newsletter. In the event contact cannot be made, then,
2. Contact John McAnaw at (703) 978-3371. Either he or a recorded message will advise the caller.

## SPEAKERS' SCHEDULE JANUARY - MARCH 2001

**11 January - John McAnaw**

**"You Would Not Believe the  
Sights I Have Seen" The Civil  
War Heritage of Fairfax and  
Prince William Counties**

**8 February - Keith Young**

**Gamble for the Far West:  
Personalities in the New  
Mexico Campaign of 1862**

**8 March - Michael Duggan**

**A Civil War History of  
Arlington National Cemetery**



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## PRESERVATION CORNER

### **GOOD NEWS!** **DAVIS TRACT ON THE SECOND** **MANASSAS BATTLEFIELD SAVED**

by John McAnaw

I attended the news conference at 10:00AM, 28 November at the MNBP Visitor's Center where 51 interested individuals listened to some very welcome words from President O. James Lighthizer of the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT). He formally announced that the CWPT had purchased the 136 acre "Davis Tract" from the estate of Edward P. Davis on 14 November for the amount of \$600,000. (See the accompanying map.) Another \$30,000 was expended to cover court costs and attorney fees.

While the Davis Tract lies beyond the authorized boundary of the MNBP, there is no question that it was part of the Second Manassas Battlefield. Well-known historian, John Hennessy, also spoke to the assembled gathering. His professional assessment of the importance of the Davis Tract was key to the acquisition drive. At the conference Mr. Hennessy stated that the cited terrain was "the most important and one of the most bloodstained lands that lies outside the park's boundary."

The drive to acquire the Davis Tract would not have succeeded had it not been for the members of the preservationist minded, Sudley Mountain-Stony Ridge Civic Association (SM/SRCA). These individuals represent about 30 households in the vicinity of the Davis Tract. To date (29 November) the SM/SRCA has raised slightly over \$80,000, with outstanding pledges for \$20,000 more. Their fundraising

goal is \$130,000. In recognition of the accomplishments of the SM/SRCA CWPT President Lighthizer stated that he could not remember any other example where a local civic association came up with serious money in partnership with a national preservation organization to preserve historic land.

Mr. Greg Gorham, a property owner north of the MNBP deserves credit for providing the impetus to acquire the tract. Back in late 1998, he observed a "For Sale" sign on the property and subsequently obtained a contract for the 136 acres. Other individuals deserving recognition include President Jack Hermansen of the SM/SRCA and none other than BRCWRT member Claude "Brad" Bradshaw. He is the Fundraiser Chairman for the SM/SRCA

President Jack Hermansen also advised me, via letter, the assistance provided by the Save the Battlefield Coalition (SBC) is specifically due to:

Betty Rankin – President, SBC

Annie Snyder – Chairman, SBC.

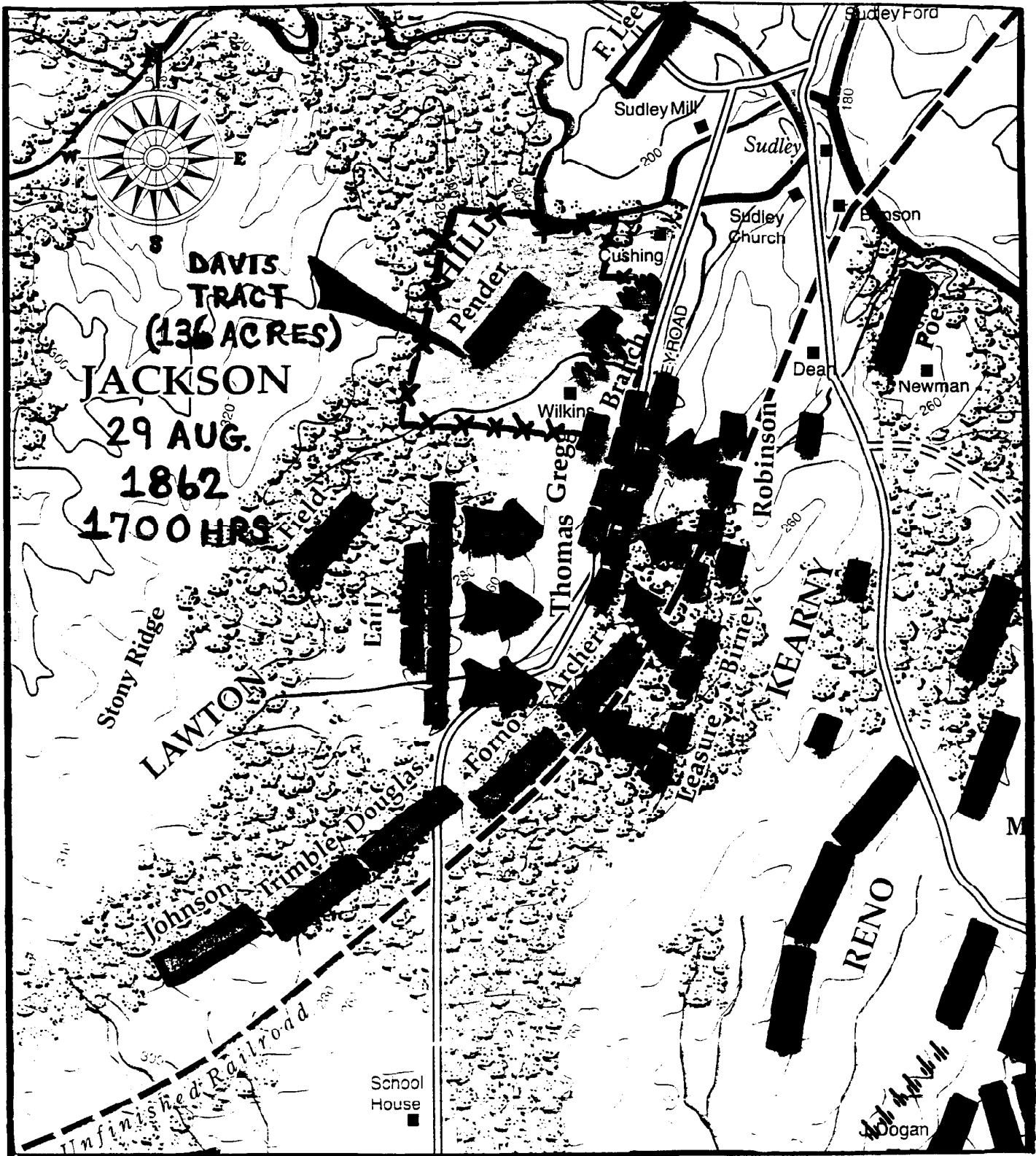
Annie, a life member of the BRCWRT, led the successful efforts to acquire the William Center Tract (541 acres) for the MNBP (1988) and Keep Disney out of Haymarket (1995)

While the CWPT has title to the land, it still has to raise money to pay the \$600,000 cost for the acquisition. To date the SM/SRCA donated \$80,000 and a matching grant from the Federal Government added another \$200,000. The amount of other donations is unknown.

I encourage members to make a generous donation and become "partners" in this worthy enterprise. Make your check



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## Davis Tract

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payable to the "Civil War Preservation Trust" and mail it to:

The Civil War Preservation Trust  
ATTN: Ruth Hudspeth  
Davis Tract at Manassas *(Include this also on your check)*  
11 Public Square, Suite 200  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
(888) 606-1400

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## UPDATE ON THE MANASSAS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

by John McAnaw

If you have not been out to the MNBP recently, the following "Bullets" may be of interest to you. Information is current as of 28 November 2000:

- New parking lot on the north side of Matthews Hill and east of Route 234 is in use. It is well sited. It replaces the parking lot described below.
- Old parking lot and picnic area on Dugan Ridge and west of Route 234 has been closed permanently.
- Construction has not begun in the vicinity of the Stone House Intersection (U.S. 29 & Route 234).
- Road running northeast/southwest along Chinn Ridge is closed to motorized traffic. Road block is near Chinn House site.
- Old parking lot north of U.S. 29 in Prince William County and just west

of the Stone Bridge over Bull Run has been removed and the area re-landscaped. It has been replaced by one described below.

- New parking lot in the vicinity of the Stone Bridge is on the Fairfax County side of Bull Run and is on the north side of U.S. 29. It is in use and is better located than the old one.

**Note:** There will be a Public Meeting at 7:00 PM, 18 December 2000, at the MNBP Visitor's Center to discuss park issues. For more information call (703) 754-1861 or (703) 361-1339.

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## PRESERVATION 2000

by Keith Young

Preservation 2000, an event held near Upperville, Virginia, came off as scheduled on 29 October 2000. It was a real gem for those who attended. Representatives of several major Civil War preservation organizations were present and set up shop to sell calendars, video tapes, books and T-shirts. A modest-sized group of reenactors (about 3 companies per side) put on a first class set of demonstrations and recreated the skirmish of November 2, 1862 just south of Snicker's Gap. The reenactment was held just to the north of the Ayrshire Farm. The demonstrations of battalion infantry tactics and artillery firing were great! The weather was bright and sunny, but breezy and cool: Still it was a beautiful fall day!

Speakers included Bud Hall (Brandy Station Trust), Brian Pohanka, and Ed Bearss. Several other speakers talked about civilian life during the war, the actual appearance of the Confederate soldier in the



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## Preservation 2000

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field, and several other topics which I missed.

For the first time to my knowledge, Ed Bearss abandoned his trademark uniform of T-shirt and ball cap with swagger stick, and maybe a shell jacket, to participate in the uniform of a Confederate captain, 35<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry. (I have, on rare "formal" occasions, seen Ed don a coat and tie, but never a Union or Confederate uniform!) Ed spent the night before the event with the 35<sup>th</sup> NC reenactors in the field and accompanied them on their 10 mile march to the site. He had his blanket, roll, canteen and haversack on for the entire event. BRCWRT members will be interested to know that Ed will be our guest speaker in May 2001.

Money raised from Preservation 2000 will be divided between several preservation organizations in Loudon County, other parts of Virginia and even in the West (Shiloh was mentioned and there may be others).

## THE VIEW FROM WAY BACK

### American Soldiers Then and Now

Contributed by: Keith Young

After the capture of Brownsville, Texas, General Nathaniel Banks, USA, paid an official visit to the American Consul in Matamoros. The Mexicans, having previously learned of his intention to do so, decided to give him a public reception. A deputation was dispatched to invite him to the Public Hall. The military were paraded, a salute was fired, and all the enthusiasm of a gala day was manifested. Speeches were made by Seniors. Argues, Cartina, and others, expressing their sympathy with

the Federal cause in the United States, and their belief that the result would be favorable to the cause represented by General Banks. General Banks replied, hoping that Mexico would come out of her present troubles triumphant, and, after a great many mutual expressions of friendship and sympathy, the party adjourned to the office of the American Consul. The citizens of Matamoros were highly pleased with the quiet, unassuming manner of the American General. One poor fellow, however, seemed greatly disappointed. He was an old Mexican soldier, had fought at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. He evidently expected to see something more than human.

"Ah, Senor," said he, "the Americans are not what they were at Palo Alto. I remember them well there: their horses were larger than elephants, and the head of a mounted American reached the heavens!"

--- *Reminiscences of the Blue and Gray '61-'65*; by Frazar Kirkland, 1895, pg. 142.

*The Battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma were two early battles of the Mexican War fought on May 8 and 9, 1846.*

### December Trivia

by Mary Ahrens

On May 27, 1861 Peyton Anderson of the Rappahanock Cavalry, while serving Pickett duty on the Falls Church Road in Fairfax County, became the first Confederate soldier to shed his blood for the cause. In the same incident, his comrade William J. Lillard was the first Confederate captured during the Civil War.





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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: Many of the following events are taken from *The Civil War Times*. If you plan to attend an event please verify the information given in this column by calling the telephone number provided.

**9 December** – 1:00 PM Book signing to be held at Clio's Bookstore, owned by BRCWRT member Jason Duberman. The following Civil War Historians will be present to sign copies of their books:

Ernest B. Furgurson  
Gary H. Gallagher  
Will Greene  
Joseph L. Harsh  
Kim Bernard Holien  
George G. Kundahl  
Thomas P. Lowry

Clio's is located at 5 Loudon Street SW, Leesburg, Virginia (across from the parking garage). (703) 777-1815

**9 December** – 11:00 AM Anniversary Ceremony for two executed Irish Louisiana Tigers. St. John Episcopal Church, Centreville, VA. Trip to execution site. Lunch at O'Tooles, Centreville. (703) 978-3371

**9 December** – 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM Christmas in Camp annual open house. Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, Alexandria, VA. Living history, letters to Santa, fort tours. Music & refreshments 1-4. For information call: The Friends of Fort Ward, Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site (703) 838-4848.

**10 December** – 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM Civil War Santa at Monocacy National Battlefield. Free. For information call (301) 662-3515

**14 December** – 7:30 PM Bull Run Civil War Round Table Meeting. Centreville Regional Library. Speaker (and BRCWRT member) Gary Ecelbarger on "Brigadier General Frederick Lander, U.S.A.

**15 December** – 7:00 PM Civil War Christmas Program at Antietam National Battlefield Visitor Center. Music, talk on Civil War Christmas and visit from period Santa. (301) 432-5124

**16 December** - 2:00 PM "The Battle of Fredericksburg" living history program, The Museum of the Confederacy, 1201 E. Clay St., Richmond, VA 23219. For more information call (804) 649-1861.

**18 December** - 7:00 PM Public Meeting at the MNBPA Visitor's Center to discuss park issues. For more information call (703) 754-1861 or (703) 361-1339.

**23 December** - Civil War Santa aboard the USS Constellation, Baltimore, all day, Santa, as portrayed by the popular press of the 1860's, does living history demonstrations and talks with visitors about Christmas during the Civil War. For information, USS Constellation, (410) 539-1797.

**24 December** - Christmas living history presentation, USS Constellation. A sailor and his wife reminisce on enduring Christmases apart during the war years. For more information, USS Constellation. (410) 539-1797.