

# STONE WALL

## Bull Run Civil War Round Table

# May/June 2002

#### <u>Edwin C. Bearss,</u> Chief Historian Emeritus National Park Service

During our tour of Confederate battery locations and winter campsites at Quantico Marine Corps Base, we passed by two streets that reminded us of our May guest speaker - Ed Bearss. One was named "Bearss" in recognition of one of Ed's relatives who was awarded the Medal of Honor. The other thoroughfare was named "Leversedge", about which you will read below.

We are honored to have Ed Bearss as our guest speaker on 9 May 2002, the eleventh anniversary of the founding of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Without question, Civil War buffs rate him as their favorite historian, lecturer, and battlefield tour guide.

During World War II, Ed Bearss served with distinction in the U. S. Marine Corps, first with the 3rd Marine Raider Battalion, commanded by Colonel Harry "The Horse" Leversedge, and then with the 7th Marine Regiment. While serving with the latter unit, he was severely wounded at Cape Gloucester on the island of New Britain. Following a convalescent period of 26 months, he entered Georgetown University. After earning an undergraduate degree at that institution, Ed spent three years working at the U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office in Suitland, MD. He then enrolled at Indiana University where he earned a graduate degree in History.

In 1955, Ed joined the National Park Service (NPS) and worked his way up the promotional ladder to become the Chief Historian of the NPS. After retiring from the NPS in September 1995, he became a much sought after guest speaker and tour guide to battlefields in which Americans have fought. These tours cover the French and Indian War to World War II and extend to both the European and Pacific Theaters of operation.

The topic of Ed Bearss' presentation is "Gettysburg - Day Three." The controversies regarding that fateful day are still alive and hotly debated by historians.

Porter Alexander, Acting Chief of Art'y, I Corps, Army of Northern Virginia on 3 July 1863, wrote the following in *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, (The Century Co. New York. 1884, 1888, Vol. III, pp 364-365):

"Before the cannonade opened I had made up my mind to give Pickett the order to advance within fifteen or twenty minutes after it began. But when I looked at the full development of the enemy's batteries, and knew that his infantry was generally protected from our fire by stone walls and swells of the ground, I could not bring myself to give the word. It seemed madness to launch infantry into that fire, with nearly three-quarters of a mile to go at midday under a July sun. I let the 15 minutes pass, and 20, and 25, hoping vainly for something to turn up. Then I wrote to Pickett: 'If you are coming at all you must come at once, or I cannot give you proper support; but the enemy's fire has not slackened at all; at least eighteen guns are still firing from the cemetery itself.' Five minutes after sending that message, the enemy's fire suddenly began to slacken, and the guns in the cemetery limbered up and vacated the position.

We Confederates often did such things as that to save our ammunition for use against infantry, but I had never before seen the Federals withdraw their guns simply to save them up for the infantry fight. So I said, 'If he does not run fresh batteries in there in five minutes, this is our fight.' I looked anxiously with my glass, and the five minutes passed without a sign of life on the deserted position, still swept by our fire, and littered with dead men and horses and fragments of disabled carriages. Then I wrote Pickett, urgently: 'for God's sake, come quick. The eighteen guns are gone; come quick, or my ammunition won't let me support you properly.'

I afterward heard from others what took place with my first note to Pickett. Pickett took it to Longstreet., Longstreet read it, and said nothing. Pickett said, 'General, shall I advance?' Longstreet, knowing it had to be, but unwilling to give the word, turned his face away. Pickett saluted and said, 'I am going to move forward, sir,' galloped off to his division and immediately put it in motion.'"

Without question, Ed's presentation will be extremely informative and serve as beneficial preparation for the BRCWRT tour two days later to Gettysburg for "Day Three."

#### General Membership Meeting 9 May 2002 7:15 PM

- Edwin C. Bearss "Gettysburg: Day III"
- No Civil War 101 this month Anniversary Refreshments at 6:30 PM

# Bull Run Civil War Round Table

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The STONE WALL is published monthly by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Meetings are held at 7:15 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

#### **NEWSLETTER UPDATE**

#### ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER:

In addition to receiving the STONE WALL earlier than you normally would through regular mail services, there are other benefits to being on the BRCWRT e-mail list. Periodically, I receive information from various sources that I pass along to members via e-mail. These include photos I am unable to include in the print version of the newsletter due to space constraints, and information on events and websites.

If you would like to participate in the e-mail program, (messages are sent blind copy to protect privacy), or if you would like to offer comments please contact:

Mary R. Ahrens (703) 352-9775 **BRCWRT10@aol.com** 

#### **SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

The deadline for July 2002 articles is 27 June 2002. Please send input to Mary Ahrens at the above address or e-mail.

Visit our website at: http://www.bullruncwrt.org

For more information on the BRCWRT website contact: Maureen Quinn: MRQuinn@patriot.net

# PRESIDENT' S COLUMN

#### By John McAnaw

First, let me wish you a "Happy 11th BRCWRT Anniversary Day." May 9 2002 will mark the founding of the BRCWRT by past president Bill Miller. Join us prior to the meeting at 6:30 pm for a wee bit of refreshments and cake. Topping off the evening will be a presentation by the Round Table's favorite speaker, Ed Bearss.

April has been a very busy month for BRCWRT. We conducted two very successful tours to southwest of Petersburg in Dinwiddie County and to Quantico Marine Corps Base in Prince William County. Also, several BRCWRT members joined me on a tour of little known Civil War Sites that I ran for the Friends of Fairfax Station. And if you want to get a thorough understanding on what happened on 3 July 1863 at Gettysburg, I strongly recommend that you sign up for Kevin Anastas' tour set for Saturday, 11 May 2002.

At the "Decision Only" meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on 8 April 2002 the rezoning application by Stanley Martin was approved to develop part of the Centreville Historic District. Many Round Table members and other preservationists are bitterly disappointed and consider this a lost round. But there are more rounds to go.

I have not received any further word on when CENTEX will receive title to the 341 acres for its New Bristow Village Development. The search for graves on that part of the tract to be developed will begin when the transfer of title occurs. I ask for volunteers to assist in the search.

Our membership drive for CY2002 is in full swing. Additionally, members of the Executive Committee are contacting past members who have not paid this year's dues. If you know of anyone in the unpaid category, please urge them to "re-up." Likewise, if you know anyone who might be interested in joining our Round Table for the first time, please tell them about us. We need them.

#### **Gladstone Quote to Remember**

"Show me the manner in which a nation cares for its dead and I will measure exactly the sympathies of its people, their respect for the laws of (the) land, and their loyalty to high ideals."

(William E. Gladstone, British Prime Minister, 1868-74; 1880-85; 1886; 1892-94) (Found at the USA Quartermaster Museum, Fort Lee, VA, Mortuary Services Exhibit)

# More of Porter Alexander's View of Day Three at Gettysburg

**Submitted by: John McAnaw** 

This is taken from Porter Alexander's article in *Battles and Leaders*. Johnson, Robert U. and Buel, Clarence C. (Editors). The Centruy Co., New York. 1884, 1888. Vol. III, pp 364-365.

Porter Alexander, CSA, on 3 July 1863 was Acting Chief of Artillery, I Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. He wrote:

"It had been arranged that when the infantry column was ready, General Longstreet should order two guns fired by the Washington Artillery. On that signal all our guns were to open on Cemetery Hill and the ridge extending toward Round Top, which was covered with batteries. I was to observe the fire and give Pickett the order to charge. I accordingly took position, about 12, at the most favorable point, just on the left of the line of guns and with one of Pickett's couriers with me. Soon after I received the following note from Longstreet:

'Colonel: If the artillery fire does not have the effect to drive off the enemy or greatly demoralize him, so as to make our efforts pretty certain, I would prefer that you should not advise General Pickett to make the charge. I shall rely a great deal on your good judgment to determine the matter, and shall expect you to let General Pickett know when the moment offers.'

This note rather startled me. If that assault was to be made on General Lee's judgment it was all right, but I did not want it made on mine. I wrote back to general Longstreet to the following effect:

'General: I will only be able to judge of the effect of our fire on the enemy by his return fire, for his infantry is but little exposed to view and the smoke will obscure the whole field. If, as I infer from your note, there is any alternative to this attack, it should be carefully considered before opening our fire, for it will take all the artillery ammunition we have left to test this one thoroughly, and, if the result is unfavorable, we will have none left for another effort. And even if this is entirely successful, it can only be so at a very bloody cost.'

To this presently came the following reply:

'Colonel: The intention is to advance the infantry if the artillery has the desired effect of driving the enemy's off, or having other effect such as to warrant us in making the attack. When the moment arrives advise General Pickett, and of course advance such artillery as you can use in aiding the attack.'

I hardly knew whether this left me discretion or not, but at any rate it seemed decided that the artillery must open. I felt that if we went that far we could not draw back, but the infantry must go too. General A. R. Wright, of Hill's corps, was with me looking at the position when these notes were received, and we discussed them together. Wright said,

'It is not so hard to GO there as it looks; I was nearly there with my brigade yesterday. The trouble is to STAY there. The whole Yankee army is there in a bunch.'"

## **SPECIAL EVENT**

#### National Park Service, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts Sponsor Annual Fredericksburg National Cemetery Luminaria, Saturday, 25 May 2002

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table is teaming up this year with the Eastern Loudoun County Civil War Round Table for the Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park "Luminaria" on 25 May 2002. The following letter was sent to each Round Table from Donald C. Pfanz, Staff Historian.

"I wish to offer your Round Table an opportunity to participate in the 2002 Fredericksburg National Cemetery Luminaria. Now in its sixth year, the Luminaria is among Fredericksburg's most popular events, drawing between 4,000 and 8,000 visitors.

The National Park Service sponsors the program in conjunction with the Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts. On the day of the event, the children place a luminaria at each of the 15,300 graves in the cemetery. The candles are lit at sunset, and a bugler plays "Taps" every 30 minutes. Volunteers, posted at six different stops, talk to visitors about the cemetery's history. Four to six volunteers man each stop. We are hoping that members of your group might be willing to staff one of the stops.

To be a participant in the program, volunteers must be at least 16 years old, have a strong voice, and be comfortable talking to large groups. No specialized knowledge of the Civil War is required; however, speakers are required to memorize the information that they will be presenting to the public. We will mail a short, one-page fact sheet to each group prior to the event. While volunteers should memorize the contents of the sheet, we encourage them to present the information in their own words.

The Luminaria is scheduled for Saturday, May 25, with a rain date of Sunday, May 26. Please be prepared to attend on either date. First-time volunteers should arrive at 6 p.m. for a one-hour orientation program. Those who have participated in the event before should meet the ranger at the cemetery maintenance building at 7 p.m., at which time equipment will be handed out. By 7:45 p.m. each team should be at their post ready to go. The program runs from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Speakers should dress casually, but in nice clothes (i.e., no jeans, cuts offs, T-shirts, etc.).

I hope that your Round Table will be able to join us for this patriotic and inspiring program. My telephone number is 540-372-3031. Please let me know no later than March 15 if you wish to take part and, if so, how many people you expect to bring.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely, Donald C. Pfanz Staff Historian"

The BRCWRT contact person is Mark Knowles (703) 787-9811. Please call him if you wish to participate.

# FIELD TRIP INFORMATION

**Tour:** Gettysburg – The Third Day

Date: Saturday, 11 May 2002

Assembly Location/Time: If you want to carpool to the battlefield, meet at the Centreville Library parking lot -- we will depart at 7:15 AM sharp. If you choose to drive on your own, meet at the Gettysburg Visitors Center parking lot (north side near the rest rooms) at 9:15 AM. (Driving time from Centreville is about 1 hour 45 minutes).

**Lunch:** We will be picnicking at the battlefield.

**Tour Duration:** 9:15 AM until approximately 4:00 PM (if you have been on my tours you know this is a goal not a promise).

**Tour Guide:** Kevin Anastas (703) 266-1265. E-mail KPA1@erols.com

# **AFTER ACTION REPORTS**

Operation "Deep Strike," BRCWRT Tour of Confederate Defense Line Southwest of Petersburg, VA and The Reams station Battlefield

By: John McAnaw

BRCWRT members and guests were more than surprised with what they saw and heard on our Petersburg Tour of 6 April 2002. While waiting for the main group to arrive, I had a cup of coffee at the Hardee's restaurant just off I-85 near the Central State Hospital in Dinwiddie County. This Hardee's was obviously a favorite of the locals. As I listened to fishermen speak of large catches of hickory shad taken that morning, my thoughts went back to 1 April 1865. On that date MG Thomas Rosser invited MG Fitz Lee and MG George Pickett to a hickory shad bake at his headquarters near Five Forks. The absence of Fitz Lee and Pickett from their troops that afternoon had disastrous consequences. Pickett's mobile force of 10,000 was overwhelmed by the 30,000 Union troops under MG Philip Sheridan and MG G. K. Warren. This Union victory set in motion events that led to Gen. Robert E. Lee's withdrawal of Confederate forces south of the Appomattox River and to the eventual surrender eight days later of the Army of Northern Virginia.

When the main tour group arrived at Hardee's, they informed me that they encountered a brief but heavy snowstorm as they drove south on 195 to Petersburg. With such events, ancient Roman soothsayers would have cautioned, "A sudden micro snowstorm in April and large hickory shad catches mean an <u>interesting</u> day ahead." And it was. With such omens, some Roman consuls would not have taken their army into the field.

Precisely at 10:00 am we pulled into a farm southwest of Petersburg and met our chief tour guide - an historian with many years of experience regarding the Petersburg campaign <u>and</u> a desire for anonymity. For the next four plus hours, except for a brief lunch break, we toured over 2 miles of what was described as the "Later Confederate Defense Line." The earthworks, <u>all on private property</u>, were very impressive and in an excellent state of preservation. Two battery forts, one in particularly excellent condition, were located along the section of earthworks visited. To aver that these earthworks are of great historical importance is to understate the case.

The father of the farm owner told me that when he bought the property over 40 years ago, he had no idea what the earthworks were. Consequently, he leveled a section of earthworks, beginning near his old farmhouse and running to a wood line 285 yards to the northeast. This is the only significant break in the mile-plus line of earthworks that we visited.

Our experienced chief tour guide, aided by input from BRCWRT participants, discussed at length what transpired in the vicinity of this section of the Petersburg siege line during 1864-65. Also, our chief tour guide and several local residents addressed the imminent threat posed by well-financed corporate interests to the very survival of these well-preserved earthworks, surrounding farmland, and forests. We were advised of plans to build a railroad line through the area; to establish a large quarry; and to construct another highway interchange in the vicinity of the line of earthworks. The object of alleged corruption was brought to our attention more than once.

For the last hour of our tour, we visited the Reams Station Battlefield of 28 June 1864, and 24 August 1864.

I believe that all tour participants will agree that it was the most depressing battlefield we have ever seen. A large section of the battlefield, located west of the Halifax Road (Route 604) was acquired earlier this year by the Civil War Preservation Trust. Unfortunately, the cited field was also "clear cut" of all timber except for a few trees in the vicinity of a small cemetery. Some of the cut logs were dragged down the long axis of the Union breastworks west of the Halifax Road, thus virtually destroying them. The extensive debris of tree branches and limbs gave the Reams Station Battlefield the appearance of a completely devastated wasteland.

In summary, our tour was a real eye-opener. The lack of interest by appropriate Federal, Commonwealth, and County agencies in preserving the area's rich Civil War heritage is very disturbing. Our guests were particularly upset by the fact that little or no ISTEA (TEA-21) money or other Federal funds have been used to preserve area battlefields and attendant earthworks. The lack of Civil War interpretation signs in proximity to the sites of significant engagements and battles that occurred during the Petersburg Campaign of 1864-65 is particularly troubling. Several Dinwiddie County residents stated that they believed government officials are hell-bent on "development," whatever the cost will be to the preservation of the area's priceless Civil War heritage sites or to the quality of life to the affected population. As I have stated before, the Civil War Preservation Trust should list the Petersburg battlefields in its "Top Ten Most Endangered List."

The following individuals participated in our memorable 125-mile tour of the Old Confederacy:

Mary Ahrens	Nancy Anwyll
Charles Balch	Dave Cross
Bryce Cumbie	Rod Duckworth
Janet Greentree	Mark Knowles
John McAnaw	Pat O'Neill
Mary Sereno	Keith Young

Thanks to all for making this tour a memorable experience.

Civil War Sites at Quantico Marine Corps Base
Tour, 20 April 2002
By: John McAnaw

The BRCWRT Tour of Civil War sites on Quantico Marine Corps Base (QMCB) 20 April 2002 was a thoroughly enjoyable and highly informative experience. I believe that all 22 participants will support the above statement. The success of the bur was due to the excellence of our chief tour guide, Joe Balicki, and his chief deputy tour guide, Brian Corle. Both are members of the BRCWRT and are employees of John A. Milner Associates.

This is the firm that had the contract for Phase I of the Inventory of Civil War sites in Fairfax County; and as all but new members know, we worked very closely with this firm while they were conducting that inventory. Joe Balicki and Brian Corle have been deeply involved in the locating and mapping of Civil War sites on QMCB. To date Joe and Brian have mapped approximately 425 winter hut sites plus two destroyed magazine and rifled musket/smoothbore ranges.

Following lunch the group visited the site of the Shipping Point batteries. Thanks to the handouts provided by Joe Balicki, Brian Corle, and John DePue, I believe everyone had a good idea on the layout of the Confederate batteries. Also, information taken from the autobiography of MG Samuel G. French, CSA, was given to the group and added to the understanding of the layout of the land batteries and the units under French's command from November 1861 to March 1862.

The last stop was at the Rising Hill battery site, which now is an officer housing area. Collectively the artillery locations discussed above made up what were called the Evansport Batteries.

Listed below are the names of those who are known to have made the tour. Regretfully, I do not have the name of one participant. Please let me know who is missing, and I will include his name in the July 2002 newsletter.

Joe Balicki	Howard Ewing
Brian Corle	Randy Moller
John McAnaw	Rose Nelson
John DePue	Phil Pruna
Nancy Anwyll	Mark Knowles
Bev Regeimbal	Chris Soester
Dave Maschino	Kerri Holland
Drew Lavan	Effie Bumaca
Justin Lavan	Dom Bumbaca
Keith Young	Jeff Gardner

# PRESERVATION CORNER

# Board of Supervisors Make Decision on the Centreville Historic District, 8 April 2002 By: Mary Ahrens

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors made their long-awaited decision on Monday, 8 April 2002 regarding the Centreville Historic District. Although the community did not support the development, the rezoning application was approved in a 7-2 vote.

The Historic Society of Centreville conducted a telephone vote of their executive committee over the weekend prior to the vote. Their statement of nonsupport was faxed to the Board on Monday morning, but no mention of that statement was made during the Board discussion preceding the vote. St. John's Church had voiced their desire for Stanley-Martin to redesign the development so that the ten houses within the historic district could be removed. Numerous BRCWRT members, historians, and other community members spoke out against the development in letters, newspaper articles, and in person.

Two supervisors stood firm and voted their conscience. Mrs. Bulova and Mr. Connelly each voted "No" to the rezoning action. Mr. Kaufman was absent from the room at the time of the vote. The other supervisors voted in favor of the rezoning.

The BRCWRT was well represented throughout this long, grueling ordeal by John McAnaw, Keith Young, Ed Wenzel, Bob Ford, Tim Duskin, Nancy Anwyll, Bev Regeimbal, Mike Buckley, Becky Cumins and all of those who wrote letters to the Board. Special thanks should also be extended to Ed Bearss, Brian Pohanka, Jim Burgess and Rob Hodges for their efforts to keep the historic district intact.

#### <u>Letter to the Board of Supervisors by John P.</u> <u>McAnaw – 8 April 2002</u>

I wrote and delivered the following letter to every member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on 8 April 2002 – the date of the "Decision Only" meeting on the Stanley-Martin rezoning application for the vicinity of the Centreville Historic District. Even before that date it was clear that a number of Supervisors favored the development. (Please note that space is not available in this newsletter to permit the inclusion of the enclosures to which I refer.)

"The adage that 'the whole is more important than the sum of the parts' is particularly applicable to the situation that confronts the Board today regarding Rezoning Application RZ2001-SU-033 (Stanley-Martin Homebuilding, L.L.C.) to permit a high density residential development in the vicinity of the Centreville Historic Overlay District. I ask Board members to consider "the big picture" regarding the impact of the cited development and not only the 7.81 acres in question.

At the public hearing on 18 March 2002, approximately 21 out of 24 speakers expressed their opposition to the proposed rezoning. These individuals, included nationally renowned historians, Civil War preservationists, members of St. John's Episcopal Church and area residents.

Enclosed is an updated sketch map from one that appeared in Eugenia B. Smith's booklet, dated 1973, and titled "Centreville, Virginia. It's history and Architecture." The black arrows point to earthworks that, as of 8 April 2002, still survive (seven in all) in and around the Centreville Historic Overlay District. At Enclosure B is a map prepared by the National Park Service circa 1935 that shows the proposed boundaries for NPS land in the vicinity of Centreville. Please note that this delineated land includes all terrain shown on Enclosure A and much more. Without question, the Centreville Historic Overlay District and the land around its periphery is of national importance. I firmly believe that the Centreville Historic should not only be preserved but its boundaries expanded to include all the historic sites recorded on the draft sketch map at Enclosure A. Further, the cited district should not be "bear hugged" by residential developments immediately adjacent to its boundaries.

Today the Centreville Historic Overlay District is a welcomed oasis of green space with St. John's Episcopal Church, the Mount Gilead residence and the Old Stone Church (now the Church of the Ascension), along with the surviving Civil War earthworks as its "crown jewels." To only preserve a strip of green space containing the earthworks within the proposed residential development and build immediately adjacent to the cited earthworks reflects "tokenism" and a lack of appreciation of the historically important heritage of Fairfax County and of the Centreville area.

I believe that due to comments made at the public meeting on 18 March 2002 clarification is in order regarding several points. First, on 5 April 2002, I was informed by Mr. Spencer Marker, President of the Centreville Historical Society, that the Board of Directors of that organization voted on 5 April 2002 to withdraw their support for the proposed Stanley-Martin development. I was informed that an e-mail to that effect was sent to all Supervisors. Also, at the 18 March 2002 public meeting a member of the Board of Supervisors advised the lawyer for Stanley-Martin to have representatives of that firm meet with the pastor and other key personnel of St. John's Episcopal Church and see if differences of position could be resolved.

On 8 April 2002, I spoke with the pastor and he informed me that no one from or representing Stanley-Martin had been in contact with him or the Vestry. Further, the pastor reiterated the opposition of the church to the proposed construction of ten (10) homes across Wharton Lane from the grounds of the church.

In summary, there is strong opposition from many quarters to the cited rezoning application by Stanley-Martin. I believe that the Board of Supervisors should reject Rezoning Application RZ2001-SU-033. At the very least, due to the many problems associated with it, a decision on this application should be postponed for six weeks to allow concerned parties to meet and try to work out their differences. Thank you for your time.

V/R, John P. McAnaw President, Bull Run Civil War Round Table

*P.S.* The whole, indeed, is more important than the sum of the parts.

<u>Letter to the Chairman of the Board by Edward T.</u> <u>Wenzel, Chantilly Battlefield Association – 8 April</u> 2002

The following letter was distributed to Chris Abrahamson, Zoning Evaluation Division and each member of the Board:

"Dear Ms. Hanley:

At the suggestion of Merrily Pierce, I had a long conversation with Barbara Byron's staff person, Chris Abrahamson, on Friday.

Ms. Abrahamson understands the problem; understands our objections to the intrusion of this development into the historic district; says that it is "not a perfect plan" and they know that. But, she said it was thought that this was the only thing they could do to save the historic earthworks.

There is a conflict in the Comprehensive Plan between the density allowed and the language used in reference to protecting the historic district. The plan allows 5-8 dwelling units per acre but at the same time says "developments should be compatible in size, scale and design with the significant structures in the historic district", "protection of the visual aspect of the district is a primary objective", "protect the historic and aesthetic integrity", "create a visually identifiable historic district", "protect feeling of calm and spaciousness", "create a stable land use pattern", "retain maximum amount of open space and tree cover", "traffic in this land unit should be minimized", etc., etc. Thus the Comprehensive Plan contradicts itself. Ms. Abrahamson said that problems such as this should have been ironed out in the 5-year plan review.

It appears to us that the conflict in the Plan precludes an immediate decision on this application. If the Board <u>approves</u> the application, there is a legal problem regarding the historic district. If the Board <u>disapproves</u> this application, there is a legal problem with the density allowed.

Therefore this morning I am going to contact Supervisor Frey and request another deferral of 3 to 4 weeks to give historic preservation groups an opportunity to meet personally with Stanley Martin representatives to try to hammer out some agreement. Ms. Abrahamson suggested that such a meeting might bear fruit and resolve the problem.

If Supervisor Frey can use his good offices to bring us together, we are going to suggest the following solution:

- 1) The project lying outside the historic district be approved.
- 2) The project inside the historic district be disapproved with recommendation for byright development of lots 16 and 17, and with lot 15 and the entire earthworks going to the FCPA (which may mean an adjustment of the boundary between lots 14 and 15). Under no circumstances should Stanley Martin be permitted to destroy (or "grade") any portion of the earthworks presently existing on lot 14. These earthworks are part of our historic legacy.

I will notify you immediately of the outcome of my discussion with Supervisor Frey.

Sincerely, Edward T. Wenzel Chantilly Battlefield Association

P.S. Stanley Martin knows what it is doing here. It is using the issue of saving the earthworks to leverage 10 large homes onto slightly more than one acre of the "small-scale" historic district. We should not be misled. Protecting the Centreville Historic District is just as important as protecting the earthworks."

## Battlefield Preservation Plus Far Sighted Government Leadership Equals Big Tourist Dollars in the Bank

**By: John McAnaw** 

The economic advantages regarding the preservation of Civil War Sites are well known. By protecting their Civil War heritage, counties, cities and towns become magnets for tourists. And the picks of the tourist litter, in terms of who spends the most money and stays the longest, are those who visit Civil War sites. Look at the Fredericksburg, VA area. Despite rampant development that destroyed or degraded numerous Civil War sites, enough remains to attract tourists from around the world. Believe it or not, there are also still enough preserved Civil War sites in Fairfax County to attract the time and attention of thousands of visitors to the area. However,

this may not be the case in the future if these sites continue to be destroyed by land maulers.

In an article entitled 'Civil War History Drums Up Business in Virginia', dated 26 December 2001, Fredericksburg Free Lance – Star reporter Rusty Dennen provided some interesting information on the importance of Civil War tourism. According to his source, Karen Hedelt, the Director of Tourism, the city had about 750,000 visitors in 1998. Two-thirds of them spent part of their time visiting Civil War sites where they spent from \$100-\$200 per day on their trips.

The article continued by stating the National Park Service estimated that 1.5 million tourists per-annum, visit such area Civil War sites as the Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness and Spotsylvania Courthouse battlefields plus such historic structures as Chatham, Ellwood, Salem Church and the Jackson Shrine.

The positive economic impact on the greater Fredericksburg area is very apparent to visitors. Civil War tourism has proven to be resistant to visitor downturns even during periods of economic recession. Another key point is that Civil War tourism requires little additional infrastructure investment to area jurisdictions, e.g. schools, police, fire safety, hospitals, etc...

However, not all of the impact of Civil War tourism has been positive. Visitors, plus the rapidly growing population living in and around Fredericksburg, have created traffic congestion in certain areas that rivals that in Northern Virginia. The Route 3 corridor running from Fredericksburg west beyond Salem Church is one of the most congested and unsightly "strips" in the region. The image of the Fredericksburg area, as you travel along I-95 or Route 3 reminds one of "Toon Town." Instead of appealing signboards stressing the Colonial and Civil War heritage of the region, the I-95 traveler is distracted by a large round sign on a giant spike advertising "Central Park."

According to Dennen, "One Company even hopes to cash in by offering burial plots in a Civil War themed cemetery. Chancellorsville Memorial Garden is being developed on 374 acres next to the Chancellorsville battlefield in Spotsylvania County. Sections for the dearly departed will be earmarked for those with Northern or Southern *leanings* along with a Civil War period chapel and museum.

# FLASHBACK\_\_1862

#### Flashback – May 1862 By: Mark Knowles

- May 3 General Joseph Johnston's army evacuates Yorktown, VA as the overwhelming force of Gen. McClellan's Army of the Potomac advances.
- May 5 Gen. Johnston's retreating troops clash with Gen. McClellan's advancing troops at Williamsburg, VA.
- President Lincoln, Secretary of War Stanton and Secretary of the Treasury Chase leave Washington, DC. They travel by ship to Fort Monroe to observe the union troops' advance into VA.
- May 8 General Stonewall Jackson's Confederates repulse General Robert Schenck's Federals at The Battle of McDowell.
- May 9 President Lincoln meets with Gen. McClellan to admonish him for his difficulties in maintaining cooperation between himself and his corps leaders. Confederates evacuate Norfolk, VA destroying much of their supplies & equipment, but still leave a sizable amount of valuable material to the advancing Federals. Gen. David Hunter, commander of the Department of the South, frees slaves in SC, FL & GA. Hunter's move didn't have congressional authorization or presidential approval.
- May 10 Norfolk & Portsmouth VA are occupied by 5000 Union troops. Confederate navy Captain James Montgomery sinks the Union ironclads Cincinnati & Mound City at Plum Run Bend.
- May 11 Confederate ironclad Merrimack is destroyed by the Confederate navy as the Union troops advance on Virginia.
- May 13 The Confederate capital of Richmond, VA is facing a crisis in the face of advancing Federal troops. President Davis' wife, Varina, leaves Richmond. Confederate steamer 'Planter' is seized in Charleston Harbor by eight blacks. They pilot the vessel out of the harbor.

- May 15 Major fighting breaks out at Drewry's Bluff in VA where Federals moving near the Confederate capitol deal with gunfire from Fort Darling. The ironclad 'Monitor' & 'Galena' participate in the fighting at the bluff as well. But the Union force is forced to retreat from Ft. Darling since the Confederate defense is adequate.
- May 18 Union troops press closer to Richmond, VA taking Suffolk.
- May 19 President Lincoln reverses Gen. Hunters May 9<sup>th</sup> decision to free slaves. Gen. Hunter had exceeded his authority in issuing such a liberation order.
- May 20 President Lincoln signs bill authorizing the Homestead Act. The Army of the Potomac is 8 miles from Richmond, VA.
- May 25 President Lincoln presses Gen. McClellan to either attack Richmond or give up the job and come to the defense of Washington, DC.
- May 31 Gen. Joseph Johnston's Confederates clash with Gen. McClellan's Union troops at the Battle of Fair Oaks, or Seven Pines. Gen. Johnston is wounded. Confederate President Davis names Robert E. Lee to replace Johnston as commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.

Source: "The Civil War Day by Day" Edited by John S. Bowman

## Flashback – June 1862

#### **By: Mark Knowles**

- June 3 The Confederate garrison at Ft. Pillow, near Memphis TN evacuates its position.
- June 4 Richmond, VA remains threatened by the Army of the Potomac, which is resting after the Fair Oaks battle earlier in the week.
- June 7 General Benjamin Butler orders William Mumford hanged after Mumford removes and destroys the US flag flying over the New Orleans Mint. Mumford is imprisoned, tried and found guilty of treason against the Federal government.
- June 8 The Battle of Cross Keys, near Port Republic, VA nearly causes the retreat of Confederate forces.

General R.S. Ewell's 6,500 men hold off 10,500 Union troops and defend General Jackson's men.

June 9 - Fighting continues in the area of Cross Keys, VA at Port Republic. The Confederates make a strong stand and eventually push the Northern troops back. This signals the end of Jackson's current campaign in the Shenandoah.

June 12 - General JEB Stuart recons the Federal positions on the Peninsula. Stuart disrupts Union supply and communication networks. Union morale is undermined as JEB Stuart rides around General McClellan's army.

June 17 - President Lincoln oversees the reorganization of commands in the East. General John Fremont resigns from the new Army of VA. He was resentful at being placed under Gen. John Pope. Gen. Franz Sigel replaces Fremont. Fremont spends the remainder of the war in NY hoping for further orders.

June 19 - President Lincoln outlines his controversial Emancipation Proclamation which outlaws slavery in all the states which continue to be in rebellion against the Federal government.

June 25 - Seven Days campaign begins. Confederate Gen. John Magruder conducts operations at Oak Grove, calculated to confuse the Federals into assuming a larger Confederate force than is actually present. Gen. Lee attacks McClellan's forces east of Richmond.

June 27 - Gen. Lee's troops break through Federal lines at the Battle of Gaines' Mill. They follow the Northern force as it heads for Harrison's Landing, VA.

June 28 - Northern forces pull away from Richmond toward the Potomac River. They destroy supplies and equipment at White House Landing as they evacuate the area. Admiral David Farragut takes his fleet past the Confederate shore batteries at Vicksburg, MS.

June 29 - Seven Days campaign continues as Confederates clash with Union forces at Savage's Station. Federals withdraw east of Richmond, VA toward the James River, leaving behind 2000+ injured.

June 30 - The Battle of White Oak Swamp, VA occurs as Gen. McClellan attempts to consolidate his positions.

Source: "The Civil War Day by Day" Edited by John S. Bowman

# **SPECIAL FEATURE**

# **DEERHOUND TO THE RESCUE By: Bud Porter**

A key element of the Anaconda Plan, the strategy devised by Union Major General Winfield Scott to win the Civil War, was the naval blockade of Confederate ports. This would not only control the export of "King Cotton" but also limit the import of much needed resources from abroad. To counter the Union blockade the Confederate government commissioned the construction of several ships.

These ships were called privateers or raiders and were swift, maneuverable vessels with the firepower to defeat most Union warships. The most famous of the Confederate raiders was the C.S.S. Alabama, built in England in 1862. She was commanded by Captain Raphael Semmes, originally from Maryland but now a resident of Mobile, Alabama. During her short service life the Alabama accounted for the destruction or capture of sixty-four Union vessels. After numerous attempts at locating her, a Union ship finally trapped the *Alabama* in the harbor of Cherbourg in France. This was the U.S.S. Kearsarge, named after a New Hampshire mountain and skippered by Captain John Winslow. Semmes had put in to port to refuel, offload prisoners and for long needed repairs. Learning that the *Kearsarge* was outside the harbor in international waters Semmes decided to fight his way out. About 10 o'clock on the morning of Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864, the *Alabama* steamed away from Cherbourg to meet Winslow and the waiting Kearsarge.

Word of the imminent sea battle had been spreading for days filling the hills surrounding Cherbourg with onlookers and the harbor with numerous private and for-hire boats jostling for good viewing positions. Included in the audience was a private steam-yacht from England, the *Deerhound*, owned by millionaire John Lancaster of Lancashire, England. Presumably the yacht was named for the large, swift dogs of Scotland used by the nobility to hunt the native stag. Ironically, the *Deerhound* had been constructed at the same time and at the same English shipyard as the *Alabama*.

The actual battle had lasted slightly more than an hour when Semmes, realizing his ship was sinking, struck his colors. Using his undamaged lifeboats, he sent his wounded to the *Kearsarge* and with the *Alabama* sinking rapidly he and his crew abandoned ship.

The *Deerhound*, as well as the French boats, rescued as many survivors as possible. Captain Semmes and his first mate, the Georgian John Kell, were picked up by the *Deerhound*. Kell probably ensured Semmes' freedom when, pretending to be one of the yacht's crew, he told the Union searchers that the Captain had drowned. The *Deerhound* returned to Southampton, England where the Confederates were given a warm welcome by the sympathetic British.

#### Memorial Day - Remembering America's War Dead

Memorial Day is a time many of us associate with fun in the sun – the ritualistic start of summer, but all too often we forget that this is the day that we, as a nation, have set aside to honor our war dead. The roots of this holiday stretch back to the aftermath of the Civil War. Americans, northerners and southerners alike, were succoring their war wounds as they adjusted to the fact that 600,000 of their sons, brothers, and husbands were lying in graves spread across an entire nation. Decoration Day, as it was then called, originated from the simple desires of those who survived to honor those who hadn't.

Certainly there were many memorial services throughout the nation during the aftershock of that cataclysmic event, for both Confederate and Union soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Gen. John A. Logan, then Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), standardized the date of the Union commemorations by issuing General Order No. 11. It declared in part: 'The 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. ..."

But, the process of national healing would prove to be a long, arduous journey. The southern states did not recognize May 30<sup>th</sup> as Decoration Day for their soldiers.

They each, in fact, designated their own day to honor Confederate soldiers who died during the war. In 1882 the focus of Decoration Day shifted from recognizing those who perished during the Civil War to honoring all of America's war dead. But, it wasn't until after World War I - when the nation as a whole had lost another generation of her sons in battle - and the ceremonial duties shifted from the Grand Army of the Republic to the newly formed American Legion, that the southern states recognized a national Decoration Day.

The southern states still retain their own observance days for their war dead in addition to joining in the Federal holiday. Louisiana, Tennessee, and Kentucky designated June 3<sup>d</sup>, Jefferson Davis' birthday, as their Decoration Day. North Carolina and South Carolina celebrate on May 10<sup>th</sup>, the date of the Confederate President's capture by northern troops. Georgia and Florida remember their war dead on April 26<sup>th</sup>, the anniversary of war's end in Georgia. Mississippi holds its observances on the last Monday in April, Alabama celebrates on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in April, and Texas holds "Confederate Heroes Day" on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Only Virginia celebrates on the same day as the Federal Government, the last Monday in May.

Almost every generation of Americans has learned that war is a tragic, but often, necessary thing. Many brave men have left the safety of their homes throughout the annals of time to face the unknown challenges of a world run amuck. Inevitably wives lose husbands, siblings lose brothers, mothers lose their sons – and the nation grieves. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a Federal Holiday by President Richard M. Nixon. This year, as we enjoy our three-day holiday and gather with family and friends to celebrate the beginning of summer, let us keep in mind the words of an anonymous poet - "Poor is the country that has no heroes, but beggard is the country that having them, forgets."

## **VIEW FROM WAY BACK**

#### **Submitted by: Keith Young**

This is one outsider's view of the Civil War from the preface to the work of Cecil Battine, Captain, Fifteenth, The King's, Hussars, entitled: *The Crisis of the Confederacy, and History of Gettysburg and the Wilderness*, [1905]:

"The history of the American Civil War still remains the most important theme for the student and the statesman because it was waged between adversaries of the highest intelligence and courage, who fought by land and sea over an enormous area with every device within the reach of human ingenuity, and who had to create every organization needed for the purpose after the struggle bad begun. The admiration which the valor of the Confederate soldiers fighting against superior numbers and resources excited in Europe; the dazzling genius of some of the Confederate generals, and, in some measure, jealousy at the power of the United States have ranged the sympathies of the world during the war and ever since to a large degree on the side of the vanguished. Justice has hardly been done to the armies, which arose time and again from sanguinary repulses, and from disasters more demoralizing than any repulse in the field, because they were caused by political and military incapacity in high places, to redeem which the soldiers freely shed their blood, as it seemed, in vain. If the heroic endurance of the Southern people and the fiery valor of the Southern armies thrill us today with wonder and admiration, the stubborn tenacity and courage which succeeded in preserving intact the heritage of the American nation, and which triumphed over foes so formidable, are not less worthy of praise and imitation. The Americans still hold the world's record for hard fighting.

"This extract brings to mind that what impressed the Confederate in Lee's army with most admiration for the Army of the Potomac was, not its brave stand at Malvern Hill following a series of disasters, not its dogged perseverance when attacking an impregnable position at Marye's Heights, not its indomitable spirit at the "bloody angle," Spotsylvania, but the fact that no mistakes of its generals or of the authorities at Washington ever caused it to lose heart. Always and everywhere it fought bravely when given a chance. There never was but one Bull Run. Three successive changes were made in its commanders, from Yorktown to the Wilderness, and yet that gallant army never lost faith in itself, as the following incident illustrates. In the winter of 1863-64, the writer, then an officer in Lee's army, met between the picket lines near Orange Court House, Virginia, a lieutenant of a New York regiment. During our conversation the lieutenant said, "Well, we are on the road to Richmond again."

"Yes," was the reply; " but you will never get there."

"Oh, yes, we will after a while," said the lieutenant, "and if you will swap generals with us, we'll be there in three weeks." Just before we parted, the lieutenant proposed, 'Here's my toast: May the best man win! " and we drank it heartily."

## **BOOK REVIEW - RAFFLE**

Arms and Equipment of the Civil War Jack Coggins, writer and illustrator Submitted by: Keith Young

Jack Coggins is a renowned illustrator who became well known through his illustrations in major national magazines during the early part of WWII. He was an artist-correspondent with both U.S. and British forces during the latter part of the war.

In this delightful book prepared for the Civil War centennial, Coggins does a masterful job of explaining how the Civil War armies and navies were armed and equipped. His clear illustrations complement the text beautifully and his drawings often show how a piece of equipment worked in an easy to understand manner. The book covers not just the combat arms, but the supporting branches, the navies, and the railroads as well. If one book was to be chosen as the text for Civil War 101, this volume would a front-running contender. This is another book that belongs in every Civil War Library.

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Note: If you plan to attend an event please verify the information given in this column by calling the telephone number provided.

**May 11 - 12** - 9 AM – 5PM, Longstreet's Staff (Ron Hawkins portrayal of Longstreet) 12-15 reenactors portraying members of Longstreet's staff, Civil War Wax Museum, Gettysburg, PA

May 15 – 8 – 9:30 PM Guest Speaker: Jack Maples, "The Black Confederate Enigma," 20th Annual Meeting, Historic Fairfax City Inc., Old Courthouse Building (Main Street), Fairfax, VA

June 1 – 2 - 9 AM – 5 PM Longstreet's Staff, Jack

Maples Booksigning (Reconstructed Yankee), Blenheim Mansion, Fairfax, VA

The following events will be held at the Museum of the Confederacy, 1201 E. Clay Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, (804) 649-1861:

**Through May 26** – View artifacts on loan from the Confederate Memorial Hall, the Confederate Museum in New Orleans

**May 2** – 5:30 – 7 PM, Author Lecture and Book Signing, "Raising the Hunley", Brian Hicks and Schuler Kropf, \$5, Free for Museum members. Reservations required

May 29 – 6 PM, Author Lecture and Book Signing. David Johnson discusses the subject of his book Douglas Southall Freeman, prominent Richmond journalist, commentator and historian. \$5, Free to Museum members. Reservation required.

**June 3** – All day, Free with museum admission. Refreshments and special activities throughout the day.

**June 27** – 5:30 – 7 PM, Author lecture and booksigning, "Gettysburg" by Craig L. Symonds. \$5, Free to Museum members, Reservations required.

The following events will be held at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA:

May 18 – Through 2002 – 9 AM, Civil War Mess Equipment Exhibition. Study variety and use of general mess equipment. Explore cooking and food available to soldiers.

May 18 – Through 2002 – Edged Weapon exhibit.

**June 8 – Through 2002** - 9AM Civil War Photography. Features photography equipment and explores various photography techniques.

**June 22** - 10 AM-5PM Civil War Camp Day. Living History Interpretation of Union Soldiers, Confederate Soldiers, and Civilians. Suggested Donation \$2 adults; \$1 children.

**June 25** – 9AM-1PM Civil War Kids Camp, 8-10 year olds. \$150. Reservations required.

The following events will be held at the Baltimore Civil War Museum, 601 President Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, (410) 385-5188:

May 5 – 1PM, Civil War Walking Tour, Interpreter of the 1861 Pratt Street Riot leads walking tour of downtown Baltimore. Follows trail of the Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers as they defended themselves against the crowds of Southern sympathizers. \$6

May 29 - 7 PM, National Park Service Historian, Glen Williams describes the Battlefield Protection Program's purpose and goals. Free with museum admission.

**2 June** – 1 PM, Civil War Walking Tour, Interpreter of the 1861 Pratt Street Riot leads walking tour of downtown Baltimore. Follows trail of the Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers as they defended themselves against the crowds of Southern sympathizers. \$6

**June 26** – 7 PM, Lecture, Mifflin Guard member Anthony Waskie speaks about the Washington Brigade, commander William Small, and their experience at President Street Station in April, 1861. Free with museum admission.

The following events will be held at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, 48 E. Patrick St., Frederick, MD:

**May 11** – 10 AM – 3PM, 51<sup>st</sup> Pennsylvania camp life. Equipment, nutrition, and diseases they encountered.

May 18 - 11 - 3 PM, Glenn and Gloria Baugher portray a Confederate hospital steward and southern caregiver. Will discuss Confederate medicine and civilian contributions during the war. Demonstrations on the preparation of medicines.

**June 16** - 11 AM - 3 PM, Glenn and Gloria Baugher portray a Confederate hospital steward and southern caregiver. Will discuss Confederate medicine and civilian contributions during the war. Demonstrations on the preparation of medicines.

**June 29 – 30 -** 11 AM - 4 PM, Historian James W. Lowry as "Dr. Lowry, Embalming Surgeon" discusses mortuary science and the art of embalming during the war.

# <u>Civil War Gold: Finding Nuggets in the National Archives</u>

If you ever wanted to do research at the National Archives on the Civil War or on your Civil War ancestors, then you will want to hear Michael P. Musick speak at the June membership meeting for the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Not only is Michael an expert on research at the National Archives, he also knows a great deal about the Civil War.

Michael was born in New York and grew up in the Philadelphia suburbs. After receiving a Bachelor's Degree in History from Roanoke College in Virginia, Michael obtained a Master's Degree in History from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, where he had the honor of studying under the reknown Civil War historian, Dr. Bell I. Wiley.

Michael joined the staff at the National Archives in 1969. Today his co-workers at the Archives consider him to be THE expert on Civil War records and research at this institution. In 1992 Michael served as an advisor to Ken Burns in the making of the PBS Civil War series. His talent was extended to book writing when he completed The Sixth Virginia Cavalry, published by H. E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, VA.

As you know, hundreds of people each week come to the National Archives to research family trees, using the various records that the Archives stores. Michael joined in this popular movement and completed the family tree for a famous contempory American - Vice President Richard Cheney.

We know you will not be disappointed when you hear Michael speak to the Round Table on June 13, 2002. We hope to see you then.

#### General Membership Meeting 13 June 2002 7:15 PM

- Michael P. Musick
   "Civil War Gold: Finding Nuggets in the National Archives"
- Civil War 101

# The Soldier's Grave Author Unknown

Breathe not a whisper here;

The place where thou dost stand is hallowed ground;

In silence gather near this upheaved mound – Around us the soldier's bier.

Here Liberty may weep, And Freedom pause in her unchecked career, To pay the sacred tribute of a tear O'er the pale warrior's sleep.

That arm now cold in death, But late on glory's field triumphant bore Our country's flag; that marble brow once bore The victor's fadeless wreath.

Rest soldier, sweetly rest; Affection's gentle hand shall deck thy tomb With flowers and chaplets of unfading bloom Be laid upon thy breast.

Editor's note: Special thanks to Nancy Anwyll who acted as co-editor for this issue.

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