



STONE WALL

Bull Run Civil War Round Table

August/September 2003

Andre Noah Trudeau: *They Have Proven Themselves to Be Men: The Black Divisions in the Army of the Potomac*

The guest speaker at the 14 August General Membership meeting will be Andy Trudeau. Andy last spoke to our group on 8 November 2001. His topic then was "Gettysburg." His book, *Gettysburg*, was published in 2002.

Andy Trudeau was born in New York City and received his BA degree from the State University of New York (SUNY) in Albany. He is currently the producer for the Cultural Programming Division of National Public Radio in Washington, D.C. Andy is the author of an acclaimed trilogy on the Overland Campaign of 1864-1865. The titles of these books are:

- "Bloody Roads South! The Wilderness to Cold Harbor. May-June, 1864" (Winner of the Fletcher Pratt Award)
- "The Last Citadel: Petersburg, Virginia. June 1864-April 1865"
- Out of the Storm: The End of the Civil War, April - June 1865"

Mr. Trudeau edited a book entitled "Voices of the 55th: Letters from the 55th Massachusetts Volunteers 1861-1865" and he was also an associate editor of the "American Heritage New History of the Civil War." Further, our prolific guest speaker has written numerous articles that have been published in virtually every Civil War periodical.

If you want to listen to what will be a thoroughly entertaining presentation by an historian who always provides fresh insights regarding every topic he writes about make sure to attend our August General Membership Meeting.

William Miller: *The Battle of Tom's Brook*

William J. Miller, our guest speaker for our 11 September 2003 General Membership Meeting, is the founder of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. (The BRCWRT was organized on 9 May 1991.) Bill is a native of Brookline, MA. He received a BA Degree from Villanova in 1981 and, two years later, a MA Degree from the University of Delaware. In 1987 he and his family moved to Prince William County, VA. He presently lives in an historic home in Churchville, VA (just west of Staunton) that once was the residence of the famous Confederate mapmaker - Maj. Jed Hotchkiss.

Bill's impressive list of published material on the American Civil War include:

- The Men of Fort Ward
- The Training of an Army: Camp Curtin and the North's Civil War
- The Peninsula Campaign (3 vols.) [Editor of a collection of Essays]
- Mapping for Stonewall

Additionally, Bill has written dozens of articles and book reviews that were published in various Civil War periodicals. Of special note, during the 1990's, he was the editor of "Civil War: The Magazine of the Civil War Society", for seven years. Bill has spent a great deal of pro bono time assisting and advising new and experienced Civil War historians regarding research techniques and other factors relative to the preparation of books and articles. Bill is a "stand up and be counted" Civil War preservationist, who along with Annie Snyder actively opposed the Disney America project at Haymarket.

Please join us on 11 September for an enlightening lecture by a talented historian who thinks for himself.

**Bull Run Civil War
Round Table**

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IN THIS ISSUE

The Black Divisions in the Army of the Potomac	p. 1
The Battle of Tom's Brook	p. 1
BRCWRT News	p. 2
President's Column	p. 3
Preservation	p. 3
Field Trip	p. 8
Miscellaneous	p. 9
Flashback 1863	p. 10
The View from Way Back	p. 12
Book Corner	p. 12
Calendar of Events	p. 14
Letter from the Editor	p. 15

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table publishes the STONE WALL monthly. 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, we receive information from various sources that is passed along to members via e-mail. These include photos and information on events and websites.

If you are interested in receiving the newsletter electronically, please contact Maureen Quinn, at:
MRQuinn@patriot.net

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The deadline for the **October 2003** issues is **20 September 2003**. Please send input to Keith Young at:
RkeithYoung@compuserve.com

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: Keith Young

It was a great pleasure to hear Dr. Charles Poland's presentation on the Reconstruction period in the South, and in our local area particularly. I learned many things, which I did not know from this often-neglected period in our country's history. Our thanks, Doctor!

In August and September we have a pair of exciting speakers coming up. Noah Andre Trudeau will widen our acquaintance with the role and accomplishments of the black troops in the Army of the Potomac. In September, the founding father of our Round Table, Bill Miller, will pay a return visit to present the story of the engagement at Tom's Brook in the Shenandoah Valley. Although it is not a major battle, a roster of fascinating and well-known characters were involved, including Generals Sheridan, Torbert, Merritt, Custer, Early, Lomax, and Rosser. Be sure to hear both of these outstanding authors!

Early in July a local battlefield changed hands and a major portion of the fields where the engagement at Bristoe Station took place on 14 October 1863, was sold. The site was also the scene of an earlier cavalry skirmish and had been used for Confederate winter camps. The developer of this tract has agreed to set aside a sizable portion of the field, which contains a large number of unmarked graves as an historic park under the Civil War Preservation Trust. As most of you know, the Round Table has sought volunteers to provide support for locating unmarked graves in areas, which will not be part of the historic area. The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Fincastle Rifles Camp in Roanoke, has the lead in this worthy project and we are pleased to be a part of this endeavor. A 120-day period has been allowed for this search to be conducted. I encourage all of our members who can to participate. Our participation will not be glamorous, but it will be a necessary part of the effort.

Keep up the good work!

PRESERVATION

Preservation Corner

By John P. McAnaw

There is a great deal of Civil War preservation information that I want to pass on to the membership. However, space and time constraints prevent me from discussing much of the information that I hold. Therefore, I will concentrate on priority topics.

BRISTOE STATION

First is the upcoming search for Confederate graves in the vicinity of Bristoe Station. Please read the articles in the Preservation Section, which address various aspects of the Bristoe Station situation. Round Table members have attended five meetings on this subject since 17 June 2003. As you will read, the clock has started on the time period allocated by CENTEX to locate Confederate graves on 214 acres of the 341-acre tract acquired by the CENTEX Corporation in early July 2003. This is a huge undertaking and, at present, the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) do not have the monetary resources for the project. More money is needed and your help is earnestly requested. Regardless, I am confident that BRCWRT members will wholeheartedly support the SCV search for Confederate graves. It is the right thing to do. I only wish that I had more definitive information to pass on to the membership regarding our participation in this project.

MANASSAS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK BYPASS STUDY

Another matter of great importance is the ongoing Manassas National Battlefield Park Bypass Study. We had a good turnout of BRCWRT members at the third Public Workshop held on the study at a motor inn south of the Battlefield on 16 July 2003. A large number of Prince William and Fairfax County residents were present to listen to the "Alternatives" presented by Parsons Transportation Group personnel. This firm is

conducting the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the Federal Highway Administration. Summing up the “Alternative” most favored by the great majority of the audience was to reroute US Highway 29 traffic onto I-66 and increase the number of lanes on I-66. Two of the “Alternatives” included construction of a highway through the northeast portion of the Manassas National Battlefield Park (MNBP). Two other “Alternatives” have highways “bear hugging the western and northeastern boundaries” of the MNBP. Attendees and other interested parties have until 15 August 2003 to get their comments to Parsons Engineering Group.

There seems to be a rush to complete the draft EIS as quickly as possible. According to the literature provided at the cited meeting, the Federal Highway Administration/National Park Service decision on the selected Alternative(s) will be made in the winter of 2004. However, now is the time to weigh in.

CHANTILLY (OX HILL) BATTLEFIELD

Please read the memo in this issue concerning the unbelievable delay by the Fairfax County Park Authority regarding the interpretation of what is left of the Chantilly (Ox Hill) Battlefield. Member Ed Wenzel has done a superlative job in exposing the gross negligence (and arrogance) by certain Fairfax County officials. This is an election year for all members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. They work for us! Fairfax County residents are urged to write their District Supervisor and demand that the money allocated for this battlefield be used in a timely and effective manner. No more delays should be tolerated.

DINWIDDIE COUNTY

One last item, in April 2002 the BRCWRT conducted a most informative and enjoyable tour of Confederate fortifications in Dinwiddie County, southwest of Petersburg. At that time, a good bit of the Battlefield of 27 October 1864 was under imminent threat of destruction by a large quarry corporation. Several weeks ago, Jerry Barefoot, a

Dinwiddie County preservationist who we met back in April 2002, informed me that the cited firm decided not to pursue its attempt to acquire the battlefield acreage for a giant quarry. Thus, this battleground has been given a reprieve—at least for a while.

Update on the Effort to Locate Confederate Graves in the Vicinity of the Bristoe Station Battlefield

By John P. McAnaw

The article following this one provides a chronology of events pertaining to the Bristoe Station project. The purpose of this article is to provide members, admittedly at the risk of being redundant, informational “bullets” as to the status of the search for Confederate graves at Bristoe Station. Here goes:

- Title transfer of the 341 acre Rollins Tract occurred o/a 8 July. Henceforward, this acreage will be called the “CENTEX Tract”. The 120-day grave search period began on 14 July 2003.
- Confirmed workdays on the CENTEX Tract are 16 August, 23 August, 6 September and 27 September. More may be scheduled.
- Volunteer labor requirements for above dates have not been established yet. The number of BRCWRT volunteers needed for the cited dates is currently unknown.
- As of 26 July no qualified archaeologist has been hired.
- The SCV, which heads the Confederate grave search, is in dire need of monetary donations for the project. This is a worthy project and members are requested to send donations to:

Fincastle Rifles-SCV
c/o P. O. Box 14193
Roanoke, VA 24038

On the bottom left of your check write: "Bull Run Round Table-Bristoe Station Fund".

- Bring both copies of the CENTEX "Release From Liability" forms when you go to the Bristoe Station project site. Turn them in to designated individual on site.
- The website for the Bristoe Station project has been established. This is the "Bulletin Board" for all personnel involved in this worthy enterprise. It is:
msgroups@bristoestationproject
The Webmaster is Hal F. Sharpe (Tel No. 540.984.8735).
- The BRCWRT website will also feature, as required, information on the Bristoe Station project. Also, John McAnaw at 703.978.3371, will assist project participants. Facilities at the project site will be minimal. Prepare for manual labor. Long trousers, sun block lotion, insect repellent, plenty of water, brown bag lunch, and headgear are recommended. Work will be assigned according to the physical condition of volunteers. No one will be assigned tasks beyond his or her physical ability. The well-being and safety of every participant will be of paramount importance.
- The number and types of hand tools that will be needed has not been determined. However, such implements as shovels, picks, mattocks, rakes and trowels will undoubtedly be needed.

For administrative purposes, e.g. notification, BRCWRT volunteers have been divided into five (5) teams: A, B, C, D and E. Team members will be contacted as soon as possible regarding their availability on a given work date.

Record of Recent Events re: The Bristoe Station Project

By: John P. McAnaw

The following is, for the record, a chronology of recent events relative to the upcoming search, led

by the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) for Confederate graves in the vicinity of Bristoe Station in Prince William County:

A. 17 JUNE - First meeting hosted by CENTEX officials with representatives from the SCV, Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT), Prince William County Historical Commission (PWHC) and the Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT). Meeting was held in Chantilly.

B. 28 JUNE - Planning meeting in Edinburg, VA with representatives from the SCV, PWHC and BRCWRT.

C. 8 JULY - CENTEX received title to the 341-acre tract, which includes much of the core area of the Bristoe Station Battlefield and an unknown amount of Camp Jones.

D. 14 JULY - Per CENTEX representatives, the 120-day period for the SCV and supporting organizations to search for graves began this date. Representatives from organizations in Item A above (17 June) plus three members from Thunderbird Archaeological Associates met at the CENTEX Tract. A tour of part of the property, including one known cemetery site and one likely cemetery site, was conducted. Trekkers experienced dense vegetation and water-saturated lowlands. Administrative and logistical matters were discussed.

E. 17 JULY - Another planning meeting was held in Edinburg, VA. Attendees included representatives from organizations identified in Item A above. Four project workdays were confirmed for August and September. All are on Saturday.

F. 26 JULY - Representatives from CENTEX and other particular organizations met on the CENTEX Tract. Matters addressed included specific work sites, labor requirements and equipment needs.

Keith Young, John DePue, John Pearson and John McAnaw represented the BRCWRT at these meetings.

Non-Combat Deaths at Camp Jones in the Vicinity of Bristoe Station

By: John McAnaw

Letter from Col. William Dorsey Pender, Commanding Officer, 3rd (later 13th) North Carolina Vol. Inf. Regt. to his wife:

Camp Jones, VA
Sept. 5th 1861

My dear Wife,

...The morale of the Regt. is bad. They had gotten despondent & truly they had enough to make them so. I find it hard to keep up my spirits with so much sickness and so many deaths. We had had six in the past week & several more will die. But the health of the Regt. is much improved. I feel that my presence has been beneficial to the feelings of officers and men.

...I read the burial service over a man yesterday & to save me I could not help crying.

Source: William Dorsey Pender Papers, #1059, Southern Historical Collection, Wilson Library, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC 27599

Support the effort to find Confederate Grave Sites in the Vicinity of Bristoe Station. Make your checks payable to:

Fincastle Rifles-SCV
c/o P. O. Box 14193
Roanoke, VA 24038

On Bottom left of check write:
Bull Run Round Table-Bristoe Station Fund

Heads up! Dedication of CWT Sign for Battle of Bull Run Bridge

By: John P. McAnaw

On 27 August at noon, Virginia Civil War Trails will dedicate a sign commemorating the Battle of Bull Run Bridge, 27 August 1862. The sign will be dedicated at historic Conner House near the intersection of Conner Drive and Euclid Avenue in Manassas Park. BRCWRT member Mark Trbovich is responsible for getting the sign erected. Guest speakers include Mitch Bowman, head of VCWT. More information: Mark Trbovich at 703.560.5000 x 2241.

Keystone Artillerymen View Confederate Graves at Camp Jones in the Vicinity of Bristoe Station

By: John P. McAnaw

I do not know of any map or first hand account that describes the layout of Camp Jones, a sprawling troop concentration area occupied by Confederate units after the 1st Battle of Manassas (12 July 1861). The duration of significant Confederate occupation of Camp Jones probably only lasted from August through at least 21 September 1861.

Camp Jones was a hellhole. We have information on only some of the regiments that had the misfortune to be stationed there. The number of deaths due to disease at Camp Jones that summer was very high. Undoubtedly, some of the soldiers that expired there contracted their fatal disease, e.g. typhoid, elsewhere. The Record of Events for Co. F, 11 AL Vol. Inf. Regiment stated the following :

“August 9 [1861] – We were ordered to leave on account of bad water, bad health, and the horrid bad scent arising from the dead bodies of horses on the [1st Manassas Battlefield]. Encamped near Bristoe.

My company has suffered terribly from breathing the poisonous malaria at Bull Run, and

have had, most of the time, very few men fit for service. Most of the sickness is typhoid fever and relapsed measles cases.”

If eyewitness accounts of “Redlegs” from Independent Battery A, PA Vol. Arty. (a.k.a. as Durell’s Battery) are accurate, Confederate non-combat deaths at Camp Jones in August-September 1861 must have been staggering.

In April 1862 Battery A was assigned to what later became known as one of the finest combat units in the Union Army of the Potomac – the Midwestern “Iron Brigade”. On 6 April 1862, the cited brigade, together with Battery A, camped near Bristoe Station. The historian for the battery recorded what the artillerymen did and saw at this desolate location:

“Very near the camp was an old house used as a brigade hospital, in which was a case of small pox; but not withstanding the presence of this dread disease, the men went into the building to get warm. Fortunately, however, none of them contracted the contagion. From the marks and remains of the tents lying around and the boards at the graves of two yards nearby, it was inferred that the spot was Camp Jones, where a Mississippi brigade, consisting of the Second, Seventh and Nineteenth Regiments had been camped. In the two small inclosures were counted one hundred and twenty-eight graves, and all had died within a few days of each other, the majority from the 25th to the 28th of August [1861]. This led to the conclusion that they had died of wounds received at the battle of Bull Run, though the citizens in the locality said that a fever had raged among the troops.”

Sources: Supplement to the Official Records. Part II. Record of Events, Vol. 1 Alabama Serial No. 3, pp. 460.

Cuffel, Charles A. “History of Durell’s Battery in the Civil War” Frank Finley & Co., Philadelphia, PA 1904 pp 34-35.

“TAPS” and the Bristoe Station Battlefield

By: John P. McAnaw

MG Daniel Butterfield, U.S.A. and Bugler O. W. Norton from the 83rd PA Vol. Inf. Regt. are generally credited with transforming the French Army bugle call, the “Tattoo”, to the haunting melody of “Taps”. Butterfield, then a brigadier, and Norton perfected the musical notes for “Taps” while at Harrison’s Landing on the James River in July 1862.

That month BG Butterfield ordered that “Taps” replace the “Tattoo” which signaled the end of the soldiers’ day (and the extinguishing of lights). The playing of “Taps” quickly spread throughout the Union Army of the Potomac. In MG Emory Upton’s book, “*Infantry Tactics*”, published in 1867, “Taps” was designated as the official “Lights Out” bugle call of the U.S. Army. “Taps” not only marks the end of the day for U.S. Military personnel, it is also played at the conclusion of funeral ceremonies for active and former U.S. Military personnel.

While walking over part of the 341-acre portion of the 1862 Bristoe Station Battlefield and Confederate Camp Jones (1861) acquired by CENTEX Homes, I thought of the hundreds of Confederate soldiers that lie in unmarked graves on the property. Those that died of disease certainly exceeded the 143 who were reported killed in action at the Battle of Bristoe Station on 14 October 1863. Please read the other articles in this issue regarding non-combat related deaths at Camp Jones in 1861 to get an appreciation of the enormity of the tragedy that occurred there.

The time will certainly come when Americans will gather on the Bristoe Station Battlefield to pay their long overdue respects to those soldiers who fought there and particularly those forgotten Confederates who lay in unmarked graves throughout the area. Can you think of any musical air as fitting as “Taps” to properly honor those who lay buried there? I cannot.

The words that accompany “Taps” are inspiring:

“Day is done...Gone the sun...From the lakes...From the hills...From the sky...all is well...safely rest...God is nigh...Fading light...Dims the sight...And a star...Gems the sky...Gleaming bright...From afar...Drawing night...Falls the night...Thanks and praise...For our days...’Neath the sun...’Neath the stars...’Neath the sky...As we go...This we know...God is nigh.”

Requiescat in pace.

Kate Hanley Makes Inquiry about Ox Hill

By: Ed Wenzel

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors’ Chairman Kate Hanley, acting on the Chantilly Battlefield Association letter of July 5 regarding Ox Hill planning delays (copies were handed out at the last BRCWRT meeting), has sent the following memorandum to Michael Kane, Executive Director, Fairfax County Park Authority:

“I am enclosing correspondence from Ed Wenzel, an officer and long time member of the Chantilly Battlefield Association. Mr. Wenzel has contacted me to express his frustration with what his organization feels is the continual delay in planning for the Ox Hill Battlefield Park.

He notes that his group, formed in 1986, has been extremely patient in working with the County to preserve this important heritage site and wonders, after seventeen years of involvement, if the project will ever be completed. He notes continual deterioration of the site and lack of maintenance that requires volunteer effort to keep the site litter free.

He is especially concerned that the monies originally acquired for [the historical interpretation and completion] of the park have been diminished

and is critical of the County’s practice of placing the interest earned on the bond funds into the County’s General Fund. Because of repeated delays, [this interest money], he says, cannot be recovered for the Park.

I am enclosing a copy of the November 19, 2001 Board Matter asking that the Park Authority develop a Master Plan for Ox Hill Battlefield Park. Please review Mr. Wenzel’s concerns and let me know the results of that review.”

BRCWRT members who want the Park Authority to focus on Ox Hill and finally get this battlefield park completed are urged to contact their supervisors and Park Authority Executive Director, Michael Kane (703.324.8700).

FIELD TRIP

“Search and Find” Hiking Tour Along the Occoquan River, 9 August 2003

By John P. McAnaw

A number of probable Civil War sites on the Fairfax County side of the Occoquan River were found during our two county tour on 14 June 2003. Another section of Fairfax County terrain along the Occoquan has been selected for an August “Search and Find’ effort. Specifics follow:

Chief Guide: John McAnaw

Assembly Point: In front of McDonald’s, located in the University Mall at the intersection of Ox Road (Route 123) and Braddock Road (Route 620). The mall is immediately south of the George Mason University Campus.

Assembly Date/Time: Sat., 9 August 2003, 8:15 AM

Tour Duration: 8:20 AM – 2:15 PM

Degree of Exertion: Light to moderate over rolling terrain.

Food/Equipment: Bring your own water, sun block lotion, insect repellent, brown bag lunch, trail snacks, headgear, and good hiking boots.

Special Instructions: Pace of tour will be dependent on temperature/humidity conditions

Interested members should contact John McAnaw at 703.978.3371 no later than 8 August. Guests of members are also welcome. Maps will be provided. Two participants will be asked to bring cellular phones.

MISCELLANEOUS

**Thank You From the Hope Lutheran Church
Civil War Club**
By: Mary Ahrens

Most of us are familiar with the excellent tours conducted by BRCWRT member Kevin Anastas. Recently Kevin conducted a tour for the Hope Lutheran Church Civil War Club. The club was so impressed with his skill and knowledge that they sent the following letter:

*“5214 Milland St.
Springfield, VA
22151
24 June 2003*

*Mr. Keith Young
Bull Run Civil War Round Table
P.O. Box 2147
Centreville, VA 20122*

Dear Sir,

The members of Hope Lutheran Church Civil War Club would like to express our thanks to Kevin Anastas for his outstanding presentation of the Gettysburg Civil War battle. Kevin acted as our tour guide on 7 and 8 June. His knowledge and

breadth of experience in presenting a major war conflict was exceptional. You are fortunate to have such an individual in your organization.

We would be pleased to have you accept the enclosed check (\$100.00) as a gift to your Round Table on behalf of Kevin Anastas.

Having reviewed your web site, we are impressed with your program. We are a small club and could profit from your experience and expertise. We would like to call or visit your Round Table in the future.

Thanks again for Kevin’s help in making the Gettysburg field trip the highlight of our year.

*Yours sincerely,
Dave Johnson
Hope Lutheran Church Civil War Club*

(703-354-8655)

*cc: Kevin Anastas
Webb Kremer”*

Thank You From the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust
By: Mary Ahrens

Many of you were present in May for the highlight of the BRCWRT year – the joint celebration of Ed Bearss birthday and the founding of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. As you all know, this also coincides with our yearly field trip to Gettysburg. And, so the week prior to our field trip, we pack into the library in order to listen to Ed Bearss’ presentation in preparation for our field trip, which is so ably led each year by Kevin Anastas.

The BRCWRT’s policy is to give a donation in the name of each of our speaker’s to a foundation of their choosing. The donation for May was sent to the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust in the name

of Ed Bearss. Recently, the BRCWRT received the following letter:

“June 12, 2003

*Bull Run Civil War Round Table
Mr. Mark Knowles, Treasurer
P.O. Box 2147
Centreville, VA 20122*

Dear Mr. Knowles and friends:

The Central Virginia Battlefields Trust wishes to extend to you its sincerest thanks and appreciation for your donation of \$50.00 in the name of Mr. Ed Bearss. It is the generosity of groups such as yours that inspires us in our efforts to save hallowed ground. A separate letter of thanks has been sent to Mr. Bearss. We have acquired a number of sites around Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania Courthouse and the Wilderness and we're presently working on some very promising leads for more property. We hope you will visit those sites already acquired so that you might see how your donation has been used to protect our country's heritage.

The Internal Revenue Code requires us, when acknowledging your donation, to state specifically that we provided no good or services in return for your donation. You should keep this letter with your tax records, as a charitable deduction could be disallowed if you are unable to produce this letter in response to an IRS request.

My thanks to you for all your continued interest and support.

*Sincerely yours,
Mike P. Stevens
President*

Visit us at our website – www.cvbt.org

A bold “Thank You!” was handwritten in the margin.

FLASHBACK 1863

Flash Back - August 1863

Submitted by: Keith Young

3 August - Governor Seymour of New York asks President Lincoln to suspend the draft in his state.

7 August - President Lincoln tells Governor Seymour that the draft will not be suspended in New York.

8 August - General Robert E. Lee offers to resign as commander of the Army of Northern Virginia because of the discontent over his failure to win at Gettysburg. President Davis declines to accept his resignation on August 11, 1863.

10 August - Troops under Union Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele depart Helena, Arkansas, bound for Little Rock. Little Rock will fall to Gen. Steele and become occupied on September 10, 1863.

17 August - Fort Sumter is subjected to a massive Federal artillery and naval bombardment that will continue through August 23. Although the damage to the fort is extensive, the Confederate defenders hold on.

19 August - The draft is resumed in New York City by Northern authorities.

21 August – Quantrill's Confederate, Missouri guerrilla and bushwhackers sack Lawrence, Kansas.

25 August - Federal Brig. Gen. Thomas Ewing, in command in Kansas City, clears the counties of Jackson, Cass and Bates in Missouri of all residents. Loyal residents are permitted to stay at military posts. The measure is not effective against guerrilla activity, and creates long-lasting enmity, which lasts many years.

Flash Back – September 1863

Submitted by: Mark Knowles

1 Sept. - Union batteries pour 627 rounds into Fort Sumter, near Charleston, reducing its walls but not dislodging the Confederates.

Gen. Rosecrans' U.S. Army of the Cumberland begins a four-day crossing of the Tennessee River.

2 Sept. - U.S. General Burnside's troops occupy Knoxville, TN, to remain there as a resource for Union forces operating in the vicinity of Chattanooga, TN.

4 Sept. – In New Orleans, Union General U. S. Grant's horse falls on him while Grant is possibly in an inebriated state. Grant will be partly lame for some weeks.

Union General Rosecrans completes his army's crossing of the Tenn. River, nearly unopposed. He suspects Confederate Gen. Bragg is fleeing from him.

5 Sept. - Gen. Rosecrans separates his army into three groups to go as quickly as possible through three widely spaced gaps in the Georgia Mountains, south of Chattanooga, TN.

6 Sept. - Confederate Gen. Bragg decides to evacuate Chattanooga as Federal troops close around the city. Confederate Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard decides to evacuate the forces at Battery Wagner & Battery Gregg.

7 Sept. - Federal infantry assault Batteries Wagner & Gregg and find the forts evacuated.

8 Sept. - Bragg's troops, now 65,000 strong, march out of Chattanooga & withdraw toward Lafayette, GA.

9 Sept. - Confederate Gen. Longstreet's divisions have left Gen. Lee's army to reinforce Bragg. Bragg's army is gathering in Lafayette, GA to

spring a clever trap in order to catch Rosecrans' widely separated army.

10 Sept. – Due to ineptness and the fact that the trap is sprung too soon, Bragg's brilliant plan starts to unravel.

Union Generals Christened & Thomas discover Bragg's forces in their paths. The Federal troops fall back in order to regroup. They realize Bragg's army is not retreating.

12 Sept. - Rosecrans realizes the perilous position of his divided army and orders his wings to consolidate toward the center.

13 Sept. - Bragg arrives at Lee & Gordon's Mill expecting to find Gen. Christensen's Federal forces annihilated by Gen. Polk. Instead, he finds that Polk made no move, and Crittenden's XXI Corps is safely concentrated at the Mill.

17 Sept. - Union troops concentrate around Lee & Gordon's Mill on Chickamauga Creek. Bragg develops plans to turn the Union left flank & get behind Rosecrans' army to cut him off from Chattanooga. The Cherokee Indian name 'Chickamauga' means "river of death".

18 Sept. - Bragg planned the major attack today, but can't get his Confederate forces to the West bank of Chickamauga Creek in time. The first of Longstreet's forces arrives from VA.

19 Sept. - Bragg & Rosecrans front covers a 6-mile line at Chickamauga. Bragg attacks Rosecrans' left as planned. Rosecrans extends his left northward. Losses on both sides are enormous.

20 Sept. - Bragg waits for Polk to attack. When no sound is heard, he inquires why. Polk tells the messenger "Do tell Gen. Bragg that my heart is overflowing with anxiety for the attack, overflowing with anxiety, sir." Bragg sears 'in a manner that would have powerfully assisted a mule team in getting up a mountain'. The Union line is

cut in two. Rosecrans panics and heads toward Chattanooga, TN, thinking his whole army is destroyed. But Gen. Thomas has held the Union left firmly on Snodgrass Hill. He becomes known at the 'Rock of Chickamauga' for his effort.

21 Sept.- Rosecrans' army gathers in Chattanooga after the battle.

22 Sept. - President Lincoln mourns the death of his brother in law, Confederate Gen. Ben Helm, who died at Chickamauga. Bragg orders attack on Union positions below Missionary Ridge in Chattanooga, then cancels the order since the Federals are firmly dug in.

28 Sept. - Gen. Rosecrans defends against charges that he recklessly advanced & lost his nerve at Chickamauga. He brings his own charges against subordinates McCook & Crittenden. McCook & Crittenden are eventually exonerated.

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

VIEW FROM WAY BACK

Soldier Wit

Submitted by: Keith Young

The Colonel of an Alabama regiment, was famous for having everything done up in military style. Once, while field officer of the day, and doing his tour of inspection, he came upon a sentinel from the eleventh Mississippi regiment sitting flat down on his post, with his gun taken entirely to pieces. The following dialogue took place:

Colonel: "Don't you know that a sentinel while on duty, should always keep on his feet?"

Sentinel (without looking up): "That's the way we used to do when the war first began; but that's played out long ago."

Colonel (beginning to doubt if the man was on duty): "Are you the sentinel here?"

Sentinel: "Well, I'm sort of a sentinel."

Colonel: "Well I'm sort of the officer of the day."

Sentinel: "Well, if you'll hold on till I sort of git my gun back together, I'll give you a sort of salute."

From Frank Moore, *"The Civil War in Song and Story, 1860-1865;"* 1882, page 15.

BOOK CORNER

By: Ralph G. Swanson

The private diarists of the Civil War have left us an intensely personal literary record. A few of the more elaborate efforts are still in print today and are among the most important historical contributions on the war. The finest of these personal journals is *A Rebel War Clerk's Diary at the Confederate States Capital* by John B. Jones.

Born in the south, Jones had lived 25 years in Philadelphia and was editor of the *Southern Monitor*, a periodical of southern news and commentary, in April, 1861. An accomplished newspaperman, Jones was a skilled writer and an astute political commentator, two qualities that help make his diary the superior read in this *genre*.

Fearing for his safety due to his southern leanings, Jones left Philadelphia on April 8, 1861, just four days before war erupted. This date also marks the opening entry in his diary. He fled to Richmond, then on to Montgomery, Alabama, the first Confederate capital, where he tendered his services.

Jones was too old to serve in the ranks, and refused a high position in the new government, accepting, instead, a clerkship in the War Department. From the beginning, he sought a

suitable office from which he could record the facts about the war and the Confederate government for future publication. Eventually, Jones served every war secretary and was intimate with all the departmental correspondence.

Jones is pointed in his critique of the war effort, and the Confederate government. He records strong opinions—mostly reservations—about government policies and personalities. The major battles of the war are mentioned only in passing, because they are remote events to government officials in Richmond. It is the constant internecine squabbling over government policy that Jones observes on the “battlefields” of Richmond. In the end, these are as important to the survival of the Confederacy as any maneuver of Lee or Jackson.

As Jones watches and writes, the Confederacy largely strangles itself, jealously guarding its states rights as the national ship-of-state founders. Two prominent examples are the constant friction between Jefferson Davis and the State Governors regarding impressments of goods for the war effort; and the hypocrisy of southern politicians who encourage war for secession, but object to raising funds by taxing land and Negroes.

President Davis himself does not escape Jones’ scrutiny and rebuke. He admires Davis as a courageous man, though ill suited for the presidency. As the Confederate economy lurches out of control, Jones believes Davis should assume dictatorial powers to end criminal speculation in food, institute price controls, and force the blockade-runners to carry military goods instead of expensive consumer luxuries. But Davis will not act. A lonely figure, Davis is worn down by the press of detail work he will not delegate, and by the “croakers”—vocal critics of the President at every government or military reverse.

But he saves his special invective for the government program that issues passports for citizens to leave the Confederacy, usually to go north. The program is treasonous and those who

run it, mainly Assistant War Secretary Robert Campbell, should be imprisoned, according to Jones. Well-heeled citizens are allowed to leave with all their wealth—resources the Confederacy needs to fight a war. Others, he strongly suspects, carry military secrets to northern contacts. He is frequently furious upon reading important Confederate military information in northern newspapers.

Jones is also observant of the little details of daily life in Richmond. Among the most interesting are his extensive annotations on the escalating prices amidst a growing scarcity of food and consumer goods. On his annual salary of just \$3000 near worthless Confederate dollars, he struggles to support his family as rampant inflation grips the Confederacy. He gardens, barter and sells personal property. At times, he just tightens his belt.

First published in 1866, this book may have been the earliest history of the Confederate government. Other, perhaps more famous, war diaries followed and are still available. Many written by women, they provide mainly the domestic perspective of the war, the home front travails which tend to be rather tedious discourses on dressing, visiting and worrying about their men folk. The *Rebel War Clerk’s Diary* is an extraordinary window into the workings of the Confederate States’ government, the kind of first-person account that the Book Corner tends to favor.

The *Diary* is most frequently found in two volumes published in 1982 by Time-Life as part of its “Collectors Library of the Civil War” series, although it may be available in other formats. You may have to search for this book at the used book sales, but it should be available. When you see it, grab it.

Until next time, keep reading.

CALENDAR

1 Aug – Spotsylvania, “*Sunset at the Bloody Angle*” tour departs from Bloody Angle parking area (Tour Stop 14) Spotsylvania Court House Battlefield. F&SNMP History at Sunset Program. 7 p.m. Info: www.nps.gov/frsp or 540.373.6122

1 Aug – Richmond area, “*History at Sunset at Malvern Hill*” tour. 7 p.m. Info: www.nps.gov/rich or 804.226.1981 x 23.

8 Aug – Fredericksburg, “*City of Hospitals: the Aftermath of Battle*” tour. Meet in front of the Rappahannock Reg’l Library at Caroline & Lewis Sts. F&SNMP History at Sunset Program. 7 p.m. Info: www.nps.gov/frsp or 540.373.6122

8-10 Aug – Gettysburg, “*Annual Gettysburg Reenactment – 140th Anniversary*” rescheduled from July due to weather. Largest Civil War reenactment of the decade. Info: www.gettysburgreenactment.com

9-10 Aug – Sharpsburg, “*Technology of War Weekend*”, Author Vince Armstrong will share his historic gun collection and explain, “Why did they fight that way?” Info: www.nps.gov/anti or 301.432.5124.

15 Aug – Richmond area, “*History at Sunset at Cold Harbor*” tour. 7 p.m. Info: www.nps.gov/rich or 804.226.1981 x 23.

15 Aug – Spotsylvania, “*War at Their Doorstep: Spotsylvanians Caught Amidst War*” tour. Meet in front of the Spotsylvania Courthouse at Rtes. 208 & 613. F&SPNMP History at Sunset Program. 7 p.m. Info: www.nps.gov/frsp or 540.373.6122

23 Aug – Baltimore, “*149th Anniversary & Reunion Extravaganza-USS CONSTELLATION*”. Celebrate the launch of 1854 with activities, games, prizes, demonstrations and tours. 10-6, Pier 1. Info: www.constellation.org or 410.539.1797 Fee

29-31 Aug – Manassas, “*141st Anniversary of 2nd Manassas*” with living history programs and specialized tours. Info: www.nps.gov/mana or 703.361.1339.

12 Sept – Sharpsburg, “*Battle Commemorative Ceremony*” at Dunker Church reflects on the sacrifice made. 6 pm Info: www.nps.gov/anti or 301.432.5124.

13 Sept – Clinton, MD. “*The Original John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tour*”. Nationally recognized authorities on the Lincoln assassination and Booth’s flight narrate this 12-hour excursion. Info: Surratt House Museum, 301.868.1121 or www.surratt.org. \$50

13-14 Sept – Sharpsburg, “*Antietam Real-Time Hikes & Torch Light Tour*”. Info: www.nps.gov/anti or 301.432.5124 for Torch Light reservations.

13-14 Sept – Sharpsburg, “*Heritage Festival*”. Living history participants, lectures, workshops, craft fair, military band concerts, and free shuttle to Antietam Nat’l Battlefield. 10-5 Info: www.sharpsburgheritagefestival.org or 301.432.4454.

17 Sept – Sharpsburg, “*Battle Anniversary Hike*” will cover the entire battlefield in two separate hikes. 9:30 a.m. West Woods, Cornfield, East Woods, Mumma & Roulette Farms, Bloody Lane. 1:30 p.m. Sherrick Farm, Burnside Bridge & Nat’l Cemetery. Info: www.nps.gov/anti or 301.432.5124.

27 Sept – Clinton, MD. “*The Original John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tour*”. Nationally recognized authorities on the Lincoln assassination and Booth’s flight narrate this 12-hour excursion. Info: Surratt House Museum, 301.868.1121 or www.surratt.org. \$50

27 Sept – Fairfax Station, “*141st Anniversary of Events at Fairfax Station*” where wounded Union

soldiers following 2nd Manassas and Ox Hill were brought. Skirmish, living history with Clara Barton and Col. John S. Mosby, interpretative exhibits, book signings, and music. 10-5. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 703.978.6820 or www.fairfax-station.org

27-28 Sept – Richmond area, “*Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Harrison*” off Route 5 in Varina. Living History with Union & Confederate soldiers. Sat. 10-5, Sun 10-4. Sat. Candlelight tour 8 p.m. Info: 804.771.2145 or www.nps.gov/rich.

4-6 Oct – Middleburg, “*5th Annual Conference on the Art of Command in the Civil War – 1864 Overland Campaign*” with Wm. Matter, Clark Hall, Brooks Simpson, John Hennessy, Eric Wittenberg, Gordon Rhea, Gary Gallagher, Robert K. Krick plus full day of touring parts of the campaign from the Rappahannock River to Spotsylvania Court House. Middleburg Community Center. Sponsored by Mosby Heritage Area Assn. 540.687.6681 or email infor@mosbyheritagearea.org. \$280 pkg.

10-12 Oct – Chambersburg, “*In the Footsteps of the Texas Brigade*” seminar and tour with Dennis Frye and Jerry Holsworth. Info: 717.264.7101. Fee

11-12 Oct – Gettysburg, “*A Soldier All My Life: Longstreet at Gettysburg*” sponsored by the Longstreet Society. Best Western Motel. Info: www.longstreet.org or mlagonia@aol.com. Fee

18-19 Oct – Petersburg, “*Corps Commanders*”, 7th Annual Symposium, with Edward Longacre, Peter Carmichael, Gordon Rhea, Jeffrey Wert & Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr., plus guided tour of campaign from Petersburg to Saylor’s Creek with Wm. Marvel. Info: www.pamplinpark.org or 877.Pamplin. Pkg.

Also check out our Bull Run Civil War Round Table website for additional ‘Upcoming Events’ and longer range planning. <http://www.bullruncwrt.org>

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

For the last three years, I have been proud to serve as editor of the *Stone Wall*. It is with great regret that I step down as editor due to circumstances in my personal life. As many of you know, my husband and I have decided to spend more time at our cabin in Pennsylvania. In addition, the Lou Gehrig’s disease from which my father suffers is taking its toll, necessitating an increase in my visits to New Orleans.

I have enjoyed working closely with each of the members of the Executive Committee, most of whom are responsible for the standard features in the newsletter. With alacrity, the members of the Executive Committee have worked with me throughout this past year on ensuring that a high quality newsletter is produced and distributed to the membership in a timely manner. I would especially like to thank John McAnaw for his outstanding and prolific articles. John has served, over the last three years as “Advisor to the Editor.” He and Ed Wenzel have also been – and will remain to be – my civil war and preservationist mentors.

Although this is my last issue as editor of the *Stone Wall*, I remain a dedicated preservationist and will continue to support the efforts of the BRCWRT through phone calls and letter writing campaigns. I will be maintaining my BRCWRT membership, so when I am in Northern Virginia, I will be joining you for meetings and tours.

Thank you for your support and encouragement over the last several years. *Mary Ahrens*

General Membership Meeting 7:15 PM

14 August – Andre Noah Trudeau: *They Have Proven Themselves to Be Men: The Black Divisions in the Army of the Potomac*

11 September, 2003 – William Miller: *The Battle of Tom’s Brook*

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA

20122

2003 BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

We are delighted that you are interested in joining our organization and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting and at our upcoming events! Annual dues are Individual - \$15, Family - \$25, and Student (age 22 & under) - \$10. Make checks payable to: BRCWRT (Bull Run Civil War Round Table). This form may be given to the President or Treasurer at the General Membership meeting or mailed to:

Mark Knowles or
Treasurer
169 Applegate Dr.
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Centreville, VA
20122

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
PHONE # _____ E-Mail _____