



# STONE WALL

Bull Run Civil War Round Table

February/March 2003

## **Stone Ground: A History of Union Mills**

Speaker: Paula Elsey

We are indeed fortunate to have the talented local historian, Paula Elsey as our guest speaker for the February meeting. She will discuss the new book on the history of one of the most interesting areas in Northern Virginia – Union Mills.

Paula, her husband, Bill, and their two children, Henry and Julia, live in Northern Virginia, but Paula is actually a third generation Californian. She grew up in bountiful and beautiful San Luis Obispo County. After earning her undergraduate degree, in Social Science, at Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo, Paula worked at a law-enforcement training institute in San Luis Obispo.

In 1981 Paula moved to Washington, D.C. to work at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Since leaving FEMA she has been a consulting newsletter editor and a free-lance writer/editor of local history and archaeology. Paula also found the time to take courses in archaeology at George Mason University.

While doing field research at Mason Neck, Paula wrote an article entitled “The Willing Workers.” This article, about the Black community at Mason Neck was published in the 1997-1998 Historical Society of Fairfax County (HSFC) Year Book. In Summer 2001 she was asked by the Fairfax County History Commission (FCHC) to edit Charles Mauro’s book entitled *The Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill): A Monumental Storm* - a book which has been well received by Civil War buffs.

*Stone Ground: A History of Union Mills 1710-1930* will be published by the FCHC in March 2003 and is the result of three and a half years of labor. Paula’s task was to edit the published works of four (4) authors that addressed various aspects of the history of the Union Mills area in a single book. These authors are Kathi Ann Brown, D’Anne Evans, Michael Johnson and Kevin C. Ruffner. In the course of the editing process, Paula discovered that additional information had become available and decided to conduct further research so that she might better round out the material.

Some of the legwork included gathering information on the families that resided in the Union Mills area. She met and interviewed descendants of such prominent families as Dye, Detwiler, and Kincheloe.

Of interest to Round Table members, Paula Elsey became intensely interested in the events that occurred in the vicinity of Union Mills during the Civil War and the impact of that conflict on the inhabitants of that strife-torn area. BRCWRT members accompanied Paula on three field trips to sites in the vicinity of Union Mills, including the mill site itself near the confluence of Pope’s Head Creek and Bull Run, and the site of the famous Bull Run Bridge. Numerous other Civil War sites were also visited.

The result of Paula Elsey’s labors is an absolutely fascinating book – *Stone Ground: A History of Union Mills, 1710-1930*. The 176-page book includes 76 illustrations. Some of the photographs will be familiar to Round Table members who attended John McAnaw’s presentation on Union Mills in 2002. They were taken from a helicopter in the early 1990s prior to the development of much of the land north of the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks and east of Bull Run. VFW “Blue and Gray” Post 8469 in Fairfax Station funded the two aerial “recon” missions that produced some of these superb photographs. They were taken by Scott Boatright, a Vietnam Veteran who is recognized as one of the best photographers in the Greater Washington, D.C. area.

So, as you can see, the Round Table has a personal stake in Paula Elsey’s book. We want this book to achieve the resounding success it deserves! Please join us at our General Membership meeting on 13 February for an extremely informative presentation.

**General Membership Meeting**  
7:15 PM

**13 February - Paula Elsey: *Stone Ground: A History of Union Mills***

**13 March – Frank O’Reilly: *The Fredericksburg Campaign***

**Bull Run Civil War  
Round Table**

P.O. Box 2147  
Centreville, VA  
20122

**President**

Keith Young  
[Rkeith\\_Young@compuserve.com](mailto:Rkeith_Young@compuserve.com)

**Vice President**

John McAnaw  
(703) 978 – 3371

**Treasurer**

Mark Knowles  
(703) 787- 9811

**Secretary**

Nancy Anwyll  
[nanwyll@patriot.net](mailto:nanwyll@patriot.net)

**At Large**

John DePue

Drew Lavan

Saundra Cox

**Field Trip**

Kevin Anastas  
[KKA2@cox.net](mailto:KKA2@cox.net)

**Preservation**

John McAnaw

**Editor**

Mary Ahrens  
[BRCWRT10@aol.com](mailto:BRCWRT10@aol.com)

**Webmaster**

Maureen Quinn  
[MRQuinn@patriot.net](mailto:MRQuinn@patriot.net)

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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, 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](mailto:BRCWRT10@aol.com)

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

The deadline for the April 2003 articles is **20 March 2003**. 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](mailto:MRQuinn@patriot.net)

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

**By: Keith Young**

The Round Table was fortunate to have our former President, Dan Paterson, lead off the year with an outstanding presentation on James Longstreet and his family. Thanks, Dan, for sharing pictures and memories not available from anyone else with us.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has received a briefing on the County's Civil War Sites Inventory. Our Round Table has played a significant role in identifying the need for such an inventory and for assisting those conducting the inventory. With the restrictions placed upon the County by the current economic climate it is unlikely that the job of inventorying these important cultural sites, so well begun, will be continued without a break. We need to be prepared to remind the County leadership at the appropriate future date that the inventorying task is not yet fully completed. In the interim we must continue our efforts to preserve those historical sites, which remain, so that they will be available to be inventoried when the time comes.

The Round Table is also continuing our efforts to provide its members with an appreciation of Civil War archaeology, and hopefully some simple but useful skills, which will be of value in our assistance to the preservation of the Bristoe Station battlefield in the spring. If you are interested in learning about fieldwork, please sign up!

The Round Table is fortunate to have several excellent programs arranged for the February and March meetings. Paula Elsey will be talking to us in February about the rich history of Union Mills, which is right in our backyard. She has recently published a book on the subject, *Stone Ground: The History of Union Mills, 1710-1930*. In March, we have the opportunity to hear Ranger Frank O'Reilly from the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park discuss what he has learned in the course of writing his new book, *The Fredericksburg Campaign*. Remember, this fall the Round Table is anticipating a tour of the Fredericksburg battlefield, so be sure to come hear Frank

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**Membership Dues for 2003 remains the same**

The dues rates for CY2003 are

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

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

Mark Knowles  
169 Applegate Drive  
Sterling, Virginia 20164

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

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**Inclement Weather SOP for Meetings and Tours**

Monthly Meetings

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

Call the Centreville Regional Library at (703) 830-2223. A staff member will tell you if the meeting is on or not. In the event contact cannot be made, contact Keith Young at (703) 764-0865.

Tours

Call the Chief Tour Guide. The name and telephone number for the Chief Tour Guide for each tour will be published in the monthly newsletter. In the event contact cannot be made, contact Keith Young at (703) 764-0865.

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**Union Mills – BG Richard S. Ewell's Frustrating Experience with the Confederate High Command During the First Battle of Manassas**

**By: John McAnaw**

During the First Manassas campaign, BG Richard S. Ewell commanded 2 Bde of the Confederate Army of the Potomac. The brigade was composed of:

- 5 AL Vol. Inf. Regt. (Col. R.E. Rodes)
- 6 AL Vol. Inf. Regt. (Col. J.J. Seibels)
- 6 LA Vol. Inf. Regt. (Col. J.G. Seymour)

Bty, Washington Arty (4 guns) (Capt. T.L. Rosser)  
Cav Bn (LTC Jenifer)

On 18 July 1861, the date of the engagement at Blackburn's Ford, BG Ewell's brigade occupied high ground on the Prince William County side of Bull Run overlooking the Bull Run Bridge. His troops were positioned south of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad track.

As you know, there were two (2) Confederate armies during the First Manassas campaign:

1. Army of the Potomac, commanded by BG P.G.T. Beauregard
2. Army of the Shenandoah, commanded by Gen. Joseph E. Johnston

However, since Gen. Johnston did not arrive at Manassas from the Valley until around mid-day on 20 July 1861, he deferred to BG Beauregard concerning the development and execution of the tactical plan(s) to defeat the Union Army under BG Irvin McDowell. Both BG Beauregard and BG McDowell planned to attack the left flank of their opponent's army. At 0400, 21 July, Gen. Johnston received BG Beauregard's plan of attack. Upon BG Beauregard's signal, the entire right flank of the Confederate line would cross Bull Run. BG Ewell's brigade would cross at Union Mills Ford and move to the Union Mills-Centreville Road and, from there, be prepared to join the attack on Centreville or, on order, move eastward along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad toward Sangster's Station and Fairfax Station to cut off retreating Federal troops.

The 3 Bde of BG Beauregard's Army of the Potomac, commanded by BG D.R. Jones, was on BG Ewell's left (north) flank and covered McLean's Ford. BG Jones' brigade would also attack, along with 4 Bde (Army of the Potomac), commanded by BG James Longstreet, at Blackburn's Ford.

Shifting to this Confederate center of gravity in the vicinity of Mitchell's Ford, the 1 Bde (BG Milledge L. Bonham) and 2 Bde (Col. Francis Bartow) of the Army of the Shenandoah, together with 5 Bde (Col. P. St. George Cocke), Army of the Potomac, would cross Bull Run at Mitchell's Ford and launch an attack northeast directly toward Centreville. The 3 Bde (BG Bernard E. Bee) Army of the Shenandoah, was designated to act as the mobile reserve.

Gen. Johnston expressed concern about the weak Confederate left. He told BG Beauregard that the brigades of BG Thomas J. Jackson (1 Bde) and BG Bee (3 Bde), Army of the Shenandoah, should be sent to the left to support the brigades of Evans and Cooke. BG Beauregard agreed to the changes.

Despite the ominous Federal cannon (30 lb. Parrott) booming away, beginning 0545/0600, BG Beauregard remained confident in his offensive plans. The Creole later wrote, "The most effective method of relieving that flank (Confederate left) was by a rapid attack with my right wing and center on the enemy's flank and rear near Centreville." Gen. Johnston, concerned about the left flank, directed BG Beauregard to move the brigades of BGs Bee, Bartow, and Jackson (including 5 guns) plus the Hampton Legion toward the left.

The orders issued by Gen. Johnston at 0430, however, still stood. BG Bonham's brigade would spearhead the attack toward Centreville. The brigades of BGs Longstreet, Jones, and Ewell would join the attack on the right and then pivot to their left and sweep northward. BG Beauregard had dispatched orders to the brigade commanders. Or did he? After the departure of the couriers with the orders, Gen Johnston and he left their HQ and the McLean House ("Yorkshire") and rode to a more central location on a hill behind Mitchell's Ford and waited for the attack to begin. By this time, the "fog of war" had begun to exact its toll.

BG Beauregard's orders were unclear and, in one very important instance, undelivered. He left the conduct of the attack to his brigade commanders. However, he failed to provide them a signal or a specific time to begin a coordinated forward movement. He only advised his brigade commanders to "establish close communications with each other before making the attack." Apparently, BG Ewell, on the right, was to kick off the attack, however, he did not receive the orders directing him to do so.

The other brigade commanders, of course, did not know this. At 0700, BG Longstreet marched his brigade across Blackburn's Ford and faced off against the Union 4 Bde, commanded by BG Israel B. Richardson. Six Union guns raked BG Longstreet's force as they awaited the expected Confederate attack on the right.

Shortly after 0700, BG D.R. Jones at McLean's Ford moved his brigade across Bull Run at McLean's Ford, climbed the ridge, struck the Centreville – Union Mills

Road, and proceeded north toward Centreville – Union Mills Road, and proceeded north toward Centreville. His troops got as far as the present day St. Andrew’s Roman Catholic Church, located at the intersection of Compton and Union Mills Roads. Elements of his command probed westward toward Little Rocky Run. From this position, he could strike the left flank of BG Richardsons’ Union brigade, move east to Sangster’s Station, or move north toward Centreville.

At 0800, 21 July, BG Ewell’s brigade was still on the high ground across Bull Run in Prince William County overlooking the Bull Run Bridge and Union Mills. BG Ewell’s headquarters was in a “small wooden house of two rooms.” The courier carrying the attack orders from BG Beauregard never arrived at BG Ewell’s headquarters. BG Ewell was in a quandary. Around daybreak, he did receive a brief warning order directing him to be ready to attack toward Centreville but also to expect an enemy assault. How’s that for a CYA warning order?

BG Ewell was a professional soldier whose soldierly qualities, in light of subsequent events, have not been fully appreciated by some historians (read Gettysburg). His soldierly ability, coupled with his idiosyncratic behavior, made him popular with his officers and men. In other words, he was a “real character.”

Early that morning, he sent Maj. John B. Gordon (remember him?) on a reconnaissance toward Union Mills Station. Maj. Gordon reported that the enemy, with great strength, held Union Mills. I should note that I cannot find, anywhere, evidence of a concentration of Union soldiers at Union Mills on the morning of 21 July. Maj. Gordon wrote that BG Ewell was in “an agony of suspense. He was chafing like a caged lion infuriated by the scent of blood.” BG Ewell sent message to the neighboring brigade commanders on his left to see what word they had received from the Army commander. While he waited for their return, he supervised the positioning of the artillery (4 guns) with his brigade.

Then one of the most interesting human-interest incidents of the battle occurred. A young girl caught his eye as she galloped up to him. She was Oeola Mason, age 17. The courageous Ms. Mason was the daughter of Dr. T. Seddon Mason (stepdaughter of Yorkshire’s Wilmer McLean, who had married the Widow Mason.) She had just passed through enemy lines and wanted to warn the irascible “Old Bald Head” of the Union activity that she had observed. Apparently, among other things,

she observed Union soldiers of BG Davies’ brigade felling trees across a road where present day Compton Road crosses Little Rocky Run, and constructing a lunette for artillery on the nearby high ground to the west. Later in the day, soldiers of BG D.R. Jones’ brigade would encounter these obstacles to their sorrow. However, the impatient BG Ewell dismissed her brusquely as he observed Union artillery on the high ground on the Fairfax County side and prepared to fire at his location. He barked, “You’ll get killed... you’ll be a dead damsel in less than a minute. Get away from here. Get away!” BG Ewell then turned to Maj. Gordon and, in all sincerity, snapped, “I tell you, sir, women would make a grand brigade – if it was not for snakes and spiders! They don’t mind bullets – women are not afraid of bullets; but one big black-snake would put a whole army to flight!”

One can only conjecture what would have happened later in the day when BG D.R. Jones attacked Union forces on and near Mr. A.R. Grigsby’s farm west of Little Rocky Run had the Confederates, particularly BG Ewell, paid attention to Ms. Osceola Mason’s report. Certainly BG Ewell could have passed Ms. Mason and/or the information she provided to BG Jones.

Unknown to BG Ewell, BG D.R. Jones, stationed at McLean’s Ford, received the following order from BG Beauregard at about 0700, 21 July:

*“Gen. Ewell has been ordered to take the offensive upon Centreville. You will follow the movement at once by attacking him in your front.”*

BG Jones, assuming that BG Ewell had also received the order, reacted by crossing Bull Run at McLean’s Ford and, as previously covered, moved up north along the Centreville-Union Mills Road to Elias Wickliffe Kincheloe’s Farm in the vicinity of the present day intersection of Compton and Union Mill Roads.

BG Ewell was upset when a messenger finally brought him news of BG Jones advance. Sometime around 1000, his brigade began its forward movement. With great difficulty, the soldiers of the brigade worked their way down the precipitous slope to Union Mills Ford, which was located 400 yards downstream from the railroad bridge site. The going was slow so BG Ewell shifted some of the infantry over to the shallow, rock-bottomed streambed near the destroyed railroad bridge to expedite the crossing of the brigade across Bull Run.

BG Ewell had barely begun the approach march north to the Centreville – Union Mills Road when he received word from BG Beauregard’s headquarters to return to his former positions where, for the remainder of the morning, he waited and listened to the growing crescendo of cannon fire to the north.

At 1030, BG Jones also received an order from BG Beauregard’s headquarters at the McLean house (“Yorkshire”) ordering him to retire back to his old position at McLean’s Ford (on the left of BG Ewell’s brigade) “on account of the difficulties in our front.” This action by BG Beauregard perhaps indicated that he was becoming increasingly uneasy about the developing situation on the Confederate left. However, his subsequent actions raise doubts as to whether BG Beauregard knew the magnitude of the threat on his left.

Summing up, as of 1130 the morning’s activities consisted of two false starts, movement-wise, by the brigades of BGs Ewell and Jones. But the morning was not over. At about 1130, BG Longstreet at Blackburn’s Ford asked BG Jones to advance again across Bull Run at McLean’s Ford and “make a demonstration in his favor upon my front.” At about the same time, BG Beauregard sent word that BG Jones’ brigade should move north up Little Rocky Run and attack the enemy in conjunction with the brigades of BGs Longstreet and Ewell.

BG Ewell received this message at Union Mills at about 1200. Dutifully, BG Ewell winkled his men out of their positions and again moved across Bull Run. After an advance of about one and a half (1½) miles from the brigade camp, BG Ewell received new orders from BG Beauregard’s headquarters directing the brigade to return back to Union Mills.

The brigade was in contact with the enemy when another message from BG Beauregard was received. BG Ewell was ordered “to move by the most direct route at once, and as rapidly as possible for the Lewis (“Portici”) House!” BG Ewell’s men fell back to the south on or about 1500. About two hours later, BG Ewell’s force arrived at the Stone Bridge and discovered that the Confederates were already victorious. He requested permission from Gen. Johnston to pursue the enemy but was turned down.

The frustrated BG Ewell, hungry for battle, learned that Union troops were reported moving from near Union Mills toward Manassas Junction. BG Ewell

quickly moved his troops back to the Union Mills with some men riding double on horseback. The exhausted soldiers arrived back at Union Mills after darkness had set in. There were no Union troops in the area. The report had been in error. So, according to BG Ewell, the brigade re-established his camp after a “long and fatiguing march.”

And what, you may ask, were the casualties suffered by BG Ewell’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Bde, Army of the Potomac on that fateful day of 21 July 1861? The answer is “0.” Thus ends the saga of BG Ewell’s brigade at First Manassas.

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**Disease Among Confederates at Union Mills – The Experience of the 5 AL Vol. Inf. Regiment**  
**By: John McAnaw**

Following the Confederate victory at First Manassas, 21 July 1861, the 5 AL Vol. Inf. Regiment, commanded by Col. R.E. Rodes, crossed Bull Run to the Fairfax County side and established its camp above Union Mills Station. The 5 AL was, along with the 6 AL, 6 LA, Capt. T.L. Rosser’s Bty of the Washington Artillery (4 guns), and an undesignated Cav. Bn. Commanded by LTC Jenifer, was part of the 2 Bde, commanded by BG R.S. Ewell, of the Confederate Army of the Potomac.

The 5 AL’s Report of Sick and Wounded for August 1861, prepared by the regiment’s surgeon, Dr. R.N. Venable, provided the following:

- Regimental strength: 56 Officers and 1040 Enlisted Men. Total: 1096
- Men treated fro various ailments: 400
  - Rubeola (Measles): 81
  - Acute Diarrhea: 57
  - Typhoid Fever: 43
- Deaths: 5 (2 from typhoid fever and 3 from meningitis, pneumonia, and delirium tremens.)

Almost 75% of the regimental sick were evacuated to nearby general hospitals in August. A total of 96 remained in camp, either as patients at the regimental hospital established by Dr. Venable or as convalescents. A small number of ill soldiers were discharged or sent home on furlough to recover. Dr. Venable reported that 11 soldiers deserted from his hospital in August.

The illness rate remained steady in September, however, deaths from typhoid fever increased. That month, a total of 15 members of the 5 AL died of disease. The experience with disease by the Confederates stationed at Union Mills was fairly typical of soldiers during the first year of the war when deadly epidemics swept the ranks.

Relic hunters who have scoured the terrain around Union Mills have used the term "Camp Measles" or "Measles Lot Hill" for many years. According to folklore, the above terms referred to a quarantine area for soldiers suffering from Rubeola (Measles). The names have become part of the oral tradition of those familiar with the Union Mills area. A well-known relic hunter by the name of Howard R. Crouch used the cited names in a book published in 1981. However, to the best of my knowledge, there are no primary or contemporary sources that indicate that a section of Union Mills was actually called "Camp Measles" or "Measles Lot Hill" either by Confederate or Union soldiers. However, many "old timers" have pointed out a possible location to me, which makes me believe that it did exist.

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**Book Review – The Fredericksburg Campaign: Winter War on the Rappahannock, by: Frank O’Reilly**

We look forward, this March, to the presentation on the Fredericksburg Campaign by Frank O’Reilly. The following article, by Peter Bridges, is a book review on Frank’s book, published in the Washington Times on 11 Jan 2003:

**“Clear, Detailed “Winter War” By: Peter Bridges**

*THE FREDERICKSBURG CAMPAIGN: WINTER WAR ON THE RAPPAHANNOCK* By Francis Augustin O’Reilly Louisiana State University Press. 672 pages. \$39.95.

*Francis Augustin O’Reilly has provided a comprehensive, well-written study of a crucial campaign and Union defeat. Fredericksburg was a vitally important battle but, as Mr. O’Reilly says, it has been little studied or understood. This is changing; along with Mr. O’Reilly’s book is a good new work by George C. Rable titled "Fredericksburg! Fredericksburg!" that*

*places the campaign in its broader political and military context.*

*Mr. O’Reilly, too, looks at the overall significance of Fredericksburg. He offers a gripping narrative as well as clear analysis, and his publisher probably is right in saying "The Fredericksburg Campaign" is sure to become a classic.*

*Late in 1862, 18 months into the war, President Lincoln badly needed a victory. The first part of 1862 had brought a series of disasters to the Confederacy, but then Union Gen. George B. McClellan’s great campaign to take Richmond failed miserably in June; in August, Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson defeated the Union forces under Gen. John Pope at the second battle of Bull Run; in September, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee invaded Maryland, and while he was stopped at Antietam, the battle ended in a tactical draw, and the horrendous losses were greater on the Union side.*

*The paucity of military successes, coupled with Lincoln’s imposition of new taxes and suspension of habeas corpus, alienated many Northerners. Congress created a Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War that second-guessed the president.*

*In November, Lincoln finally replaced the do-nothing McClellan as commander of the Army of the Potomac. The successor was Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside, a West Pointer who had recently captured the North Carolina coast (and whose name and side whiskers inspired the coining of the word "sideburns").*

*Burnside knew what he wanted to do: move his army rapidly south, cross the Rappahannock River and take Fredericksburg and then go on to capture the Confederate capital at Richmond, which would "tend more to cripple the rebel cause than almost any other military event."*

*Lincoln did not like the idea. Lee’s army still lay to the west, in the Virginia Piedmont, and Lincoln thought Burnside could best fight Lee there and threaten his ties to Richmond.*

*Mr. O’Reilly does not say so, but Lincoln — unlike many of his generals — already realized that the key to winning the war lay in the destruction of Lee’s army, not in taking the prize of Richmond; after all, the original*

*Confederate capital had been Montgomery, Ala., and the capital could well be moved again.*

*Lincoln, however, finally agreed to Burnside's plan, perhaps, Mr. O'Reilly surmises, because of his new commander's conviction and aggressiveness, which "differed refreshingly from the always-whining McClellan."*

*Civil War buffs will recall how Burnside brought his great army down to the northern side of the Rappahannock, across from Fredericksburg, in the third week of November but could not cross because his pontoon train had not arrived to bridge the river. Burnside saw no feasible crossing points either farther up or down the river, but, Mr. O'Reilly writes, he assumed that Lee was not sure where he would cross and must therefore be stretching his army thin along the river. A crossing right at Fredericksburg would, Burnside thought, surprise the Southerners.*

*The pontoon trains finally arrived, and on the night of Dec. 10, 1862, the engineers began to bridge the river in three places. On the heights behind them stood 147 pieces of Union artillery, the greatest concentration of guns yet seen in the war; Burnside expected them to dominate the ground beyond the bridges.*

*Then so much went wrong. Mr. O'Reilly tells the story in fascinating and horrid detail. He might have added to his account only that John Moncure Daniel, the editor of the Richmond Examiner, who knew the Fredericksburg area from his youth, had written in his paper on Nov. 24 that the "Union generals may find the plains around Fredericksburg, the highlands in front and the river in their back, the prettiest place to be drubbed in, that Yankees ever saw."*

*Daniel was right. Lee's army was not surprised when Burnside's engineers started bridging the river at Fredericksburg, and Burnside's delay had given Lee ample time to dispose his forces. The Union artillery proved far less effective than Burnside had anticipated.*

*A storm of Confederate fire delayed the bridging, and some Union units balked, the first of a number of cases detailed by the author in which soldiers, even whole regiments, on either side refused orders to push forward — and sometimes turned tail and ran.*

*Mr. O'Reilly also tells many tales of valor. Maj. Henry Hunt and his 7th Michigan finally crossed the river and secured a bridgehead under fierce fire — the first time, the author emphasizes, that this had been accomplished in American military annals. There ensued a long fight in the streets of Fredericksburg, the first urban battle, as Mr. O'Reilly again makes clear, in our military history.*

*Gen. William Barksdale and his Mississippi brigade contested the bridging and defended the city. When they pulled back on the night of Dec. 11, they had given Lee ample time to arrange his forces beyond town.*

*Again, the story is familiar of how Union soldiers advanced across the fields beyond town until they ran into a wall of fire from Confederate infantrymen placed in an impregnable position, behind what one Union man called "that terrible stone wall" that ran along the sunken road below Marye's Heights.*

*What fewer know, and what Mr. O'Reilly brings out, is all the obstacles the Union men encountered on their way toward the sunken road, including thick mud and a millrace with three feet of standing water. The fields in front of the sunken road became, as one New York officer said, "a perfect slaughter house." Almost 8,000 Union soldiers fell in front of the stone wall. Later, a Confederate soldier was to count 484 dead bodies in one acre.*

*The struggle before the stone wall was not all of the battle of Fredericksburg, however. As Mr. O'Reilly demonstrates, the fighting three miles farther south, where Gen. James Longstreet's and Stonewall Jackson's Confederates defended other heights from Union assaults, was tactically more important.*

*That struggle conceivably might have brought a Union victory, while to the north, the Union infantry had no chance of reaching the deadly stone wall.*

*On Dec. 14, Burnside wanted to renew the assault but found that none of his commanders agreed. The next day, he ordered a general retreat, and that night, his troops successfully recrossed the Rappahannock in stormy weather while Lee's troops rested, oblivious to the withdrawal.*



Mr. O'Reilly goes on to tell how Burnside led the useless "mud march" up the Rappahannock in January 1863, still seeking a way to cross the river and reach Richmond. Burnside failed miserably, and Lincoln accepted his resignation.

Fredericksburg was a great victory for the South and a campaign that helped Lee as he "molded a disjointed, green organization into an efficient army." For the North, Mr. O'Reilly concludes, "Fredericksburg had left a stigma that could only be removed by the vindication of Gettysburg and the redemption of Appomattox."

Histories written in detail can be dull or fascinating. Mr. O'Reilly has drawn on an amazing number of accounts by participants in the Fredericksburg campaign plus a wealth of other sources to produce a book that is 672 pages long — and fascinating.

•Peter Bridges is a retired ambassador and historian whose "Pen of Fire: John Moncure Daniel" was published by Kent State University Press last year."

## PRESERVATION

### Updates on Selected, Threatened Civil War Sites

By: John McAnaw

**1. Chancellorsville Battlefield.** The information contained herein re: the proposed rezoning of the Ashley (Mullins) Tract within and adjacent to the Chancellorsville Battlefield in Spotsylvania County was current as of 25 January 2003.

- The new Courtland District Supervisor is Mr. Robert F. Hagan; address: 12014 Prosperity Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22407; phone: (540) 785-1897; FAX: (540) 785-9767; e-mail: [bobhagan@spotsylvania.va.us](mailto:bobhagan@spotsylvania.va.us). He replaced Mr. Jerry Marcus who resigned.
- The new Chancellor District Supervisor is Henry (Hap) Connors, 13705 General Slocum Court, Fredericksburg, VA 22407. Phone: (540) 548-4813, FAX: (540) 582-7656; e-mail: [hconnors@spotsylvania.va.us](mailto:hconnors@spotsylvania.va.us). He replaced Ms. Patricia J. (Tricia) Lenwell who resigned. Mr. Connors was formerly a spokesman for the National Trust for Historic Preservation (good

sign). He is now the spokesman for a firm based in Northern Virginia.

- Spotsylvania County does not have a Deputy County Administrator. Mr. Douglas Walker resigned to take a position elsewhere in Virginia. The County is now advertising for two (2) Deputy County Administrators. Presently, only the controversial County Administrator, Mr. Anthony W. remains. He narrowly survived a "no confidence" vote on 16 November 2003.
- The County Planning Office has only two planners left. The Acting Director resigned. Ms. Wanda Parrish, the Senior Case Planner, is filling three positions. Since the Case Planner for the proposed Ashley (Mullins) Tract, Mr. Gary Mitchell resigned, she will now also be handling that case.

Count the resignations. Five! What is going on? Something is amiss!

Due to the staff shortage and workload in the County Planning Office, it is extremely unlikely that the proposed rezoning at the Ashley (Mullins) Tract will be brought before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in February 2003. The best guess is sometime in March 2003.

- The candlelight vigil on 14 March 2003, outside the meeting location of the BOS at Spotsylvania Court House, impressed all those attending the meeting. Approximately 200 dedicated Civil War preservationists participated in the vigil. As one who attended the BOS meeting stated, "The turnout was particularly impressive since normally only a few people attended the Board of Supervisors' meetings." BOS members and County Staff were impressed by the size of the turnout. Congratulations to all those who participated in the vigil! You did make a difference. However, no preservationists should rest until the action to rezone the Ashley (Mullins) is defeated. The issue is still in doubt.

**2. Bristoe Station:** As readers of this column know, CENTEX plans to turn over 127 acres of the 341-acre Rollins Tract to the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) once it receives title to the land. According to CENTEX spokesmen the title transfer of the 341 acres is expected to take place sometime in April 2003.

CENTEX originally planned, with the acquiescence of the current title-holders to use Mr. William Hanna and his ground penetrating radar (GPR) equipment this past fall to run a field survey of the terrain around the boundary of the 127-acre parcel that will be given to the CWPT. A reconnaissance was conducted this past fall. Suddenly, prior to the actual use of the GPR, the current property owners changed their minds. Thus, it now appears that GPR equipment will not be allowed on the Rollins Tract until after the title transfer to CENTEX occurs. Go figure!

The Norfolk Southern Railroad will begin construction of a crew changing station on 12 February 2003 at a site located about 800 feet northeast of the intersection of the railroad tracks and the Linton Hall – Bristow Road (Rt. 619). This facility will be built just north of the railroad tracks on Milford Rd. The changing station will be located east of the 341-acre Rollins Tract, which contains much of the core area of the Bristoe Station Battlefield. However, the station is within the boundary of the eastern portion of the cited Battlefield.

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**More About the Forgotten Battlefield of Stone River (Murfreesboro), Tennessee**

**By: John McAnaw**

Stones River is one of the most interesting battlefields in the Western Theater. If you visit it in the late afternoon you will aver that it is unquestionably the eeriest. It also poses a daunting challenge to Civil War preservationists seeking to acquire sufficient land to make a satisfactory interpretation of that momentous battle possible within the boundaries of the Stones River National Battlefield (SRNB). In August 2002 I visited the SRNB and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

As an example of a “Lean and Mean staff” I offer you the Stones River National Battlefield. Recently, I called the Battlefield and spoke with Ranger Jim Lewis. I asked how fellow Ranger Betty Cook, Museum Technician Miranda Fraley, and Volunteer Bob Gilliam were doing. I was told they were doing well. I then asked about the rest of the Battlefield staff and was told, “I think you named them all.” Now, that’s “Lean.”

Only approximately 600 acres of the Stones River Battlefield is protected by the National Park Service (NPS). The authorized boundary of the SRNB is limited to 700 acres. Attempts to expand the authorized boundary have been thwarted. The U.S. Congressman

for that area, Rep. Bart Gordon opposes any expansion of the authorized boundary. Thus, for the present, the NPS is reduced to gradually acquiring parcels of land, which can only raise the SRNB’s acreage from 600 to a cap of 700. This is unsatisfactory.

In fairness, Rep. Gordon was materially responsible for the provision of \$4M to acquire, rehabilitate and preserve 25 of the original 200 acres of Fortress Rosecrans. This was the largest earthen fortification constructed during the Civil War. Originally there were 14,000 feet of earthworks. Only one of four redoubts guarding the interior of the fortress survives. This is Redoubt Brannan. Additionally, Lunettes Palmer and Thomas plus Curtain Wall No. 2 also exist.

At present the SRNB staff is finishing its cultural landscape plan for the Stones River National Cemetery. At Fortress Rosecrans there is an ongoing campaign to replace the non-native or “exotic” plants with native grasses. In the near future the mortar at the famous Hazen Monument will be “repointed.” In 1863, the monument was erected by veterans of Col. William B. Hazen’s U.S. Brigade. It is considered the Nation’s oldest intact Civil War Memorial.

Hazen is one of the most interesting military figures of the Civil War and post war period. For those Round Table members fond of the 19<sup>th</sup> century American literature, Hazen was an influential mentor of the enigmatic Ambrose Bierce. “Hoosier” Bierce served with distinction at Stones River as an infantry lieutenant. In February 1863, Bierce was assigned to Hazen’s Brigade staff as the topographical engineer.

Summing up, the small but energetic SRNB staff, aided by dedicated volunteers, are doing a commendable job in keeping Tennessee Civil War heritage alive despite little help from the political front.

**FIELD TRAINING SESSION**

**Second Field Training Session for BRCWRT Preservationists**

**By: John McAnaw**

Despite adverse weather conditions, the BRCWRT conducted its first field training session for MEMBERS ONLY on Sunday, 16 November 2002. Two trained archaeologists (and members of the BRCWRT), Joe Balicki and Brian Corle, conducted extremely beneficial

training for the 15 stalwart members who braved the elements. (As a reminder, participants are advised not to mention where this training took place. The stakes are greater than you may realize.)

Since some members were unable to make this training in November, another field training session will be conducted by Joe Balicki and Brian Corle on Sunday, 2 March 2002. The primary site chosen for this training is a Confederate regimental camp. In the event of unforeseen difficulties the back up site will be a Union regimental camp.

Details regarding the assembly location, time, etc... will be covered at the 13 February General Membership Meeting. In the event of extremely inclement weather, the field training will be postponed until Sunday, 9 March 2002.

In the event that you, a 2003 member of the BRCWRT, cannot make the 13 February General Membership Meeting, please contact John McAnaw at (703) 978-3371.

The training will run from 8:30AM until 3:00 PM with a 45 minute break for lunch. Training will include the identification of Civil War sites; the use of GPS; the assessment of soil profiles; and the mapping of specific sites. A trip to a second significant Civil War site will also be included in the training period.

The purpose of the training is to enhance the knowledge level of BRCWRT members concerning the discernment and location of significance of Civil War sites. Again, participants are strongly urged not to divulge the locations of training sites.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Last Union Solider Widow Dies

**By: John McAnaw**

The 20 January 2003 edition of The Washington Times (page A-8) contained an undated article, site lined, Blaine, Tennessee. It advised that the last widow of a Union veteran passed away on Friday, 17 January 2003, at the age of 93 in her three-room log cabin.

Widow Gertrude Janeway was married to John Janeway who passed away more than 60 years ago. At her funeral on 19 January 2003, Reverend Leonard

Goins informed the assembled mourners that “She was a special person.” Requiescat in pace.

According to the article, only one widow of a Confederate veteran is still alive. She is Alberta Martin of Elba, Alabama.

## FLASHBACK 1862

### Flashback February 1863

**By: Mark Knowles**

**2 Feb:** Wartime inflation makes a serious impact on the value of Confederate currency. It is estimated that the Confederate dollar has a buying power of only 20 cents.

The Union Army of the Potomac under the command of Gen. Hooker encounters hostile fire as it gathers information about the area surrounding the Rappahannock River. Skirmishing occurs at Rappahannock Station [now known as Remington, VA].

**5 Feb:** Queen Victoria makes an official statement concerning Great Britain’s refusal to enter into mediation attempts between the Union and the Confederacy at this time. The reason, “such matters cannot be attended with probability of success”.

Gen. Hooker, commander of the Union Army of the Potomac, reorganizes the force and makes a variety of command changes.

**6 Feb:** Secretary of State Seward makes official the Federal government’s refusal of mediation offers from Napoleon III’s government in France.

**7 Feb:** Confederates ambush a Federal cavalry unit at Williamsburg, VA.

**10 Feb:** There is minor fighting between Union and Southern soldiers in Chantilly, VA.

**12 Feb:** In LA, at Old River, Federal troops under Capt. Tucker are successful in pushing back a force of Confederates.

**14 Feb:** Confederate troops defeat a Federal cavalry unit in Annandale, VA. Skirmishing breaks out along the Hillsborough Road and at Union Mills.

**16 Feb:** The Federal Senate passes the Conscription Act, which has yet to be signed into law by President

Lincoln, but has his full support. This new draft law is intended to fill the ranks of the Union army, which is not adequately served by voluntary enlistment.

Gen. Grant's men encounter Confederate opposition at Yazoo Pass, MS, as Gen. Grant prepares for a campaign against Vicksburg.

**19 Feb:** President Jefferson Davis sends a letter to Gen. Joseph Johnston. In it, he comments that he is reluctant to remove Gen. Braxton Bragg from command. "It is scarcely possible for him to possess the requisite confidence of the troops".

**25 Feb:** Reports from Charleston, SC indicate that a half-pound loaf of bread costs \$25.00 and flour sells for \$65.00 a barrel.

### March 1863

**2 Mar:** Minor skirmishing in VA at Neosho and Aldie.

**3 Mar:** Both houses of Congress pass the new Enrollment Act, often called the Conscription Act. It calls for the enlistment in military service of all able bodied male citizens between 20 & 45 years of age. Service is for a 3-year period. The estimate of how many men would actually be drafted hovers around 3 million. In reality, only 21,331 new soldiers enlist the first ten months of 1863.

Congress authorizes suspension of the writ of habeas corpus throughout the entire Union.

**5 Mar:** Vicksburg, MS continues to prepare & fortify against the inevitable battle looming ahead.

**8 Mar:** Fairfax County Court House in VA is the temporary HQ of Union Gen. E.H. Stoughton. Col. Mosby & his men capture Gen. Stoughton. They seize a number of prisoners, 58 horses, and large quantities of equipment and ammunition.

**10 Mar:** A General Amnesty Proclamation is read by President Lincoln in order to encourage soldiers who are absent without leave to return to their regiments.

**13 Mar:** The confederate Ordnance Laboratory at Brown's Island near Richmond, VA explodes due to the carelessness of a factory worker who accidentally detonated a device on which she was working.

**19 Mar:** Admiral Farragut moves past Confederate batteries at Grand Gulf on the Mississippi. The Admiral is now just below Vicksburg, MS.

**24 Mar:** Union troops attempt to make progress in their move toward Vicksburg, MS using Black Bayou as a passageway.

**25 Mar:** President Lincoln approves command changes as Gen. Burnside assumes responsibility for the Dept. of the Ohio.

**26 Mar:** In a letter President Lincoln wrote to Governor Andrew Johnson of TN: "The colored population is the great available, and yet unavailed of, force for restoring the Union. The bare sight of fifty thousand armed and drilled black soldiers on the banks of the Mississippi would end the rebellion at once."

**27 Mar:** President Lincoln meets with members of several American Indian tribes, advising them to turn to 'the cultivation of the earth' in order to provide economic stability for their people.

**30 Mar:** President Lincoln announces the establishment of a day of fasting and prayer throughout the Union. This is set for 30 April, 1863.

**31 Mar:** Union cavalry clash with Southerners under Col. Mosby at Dranesville, VA. The Federals were defeated with a loss of 60 men.

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

## **VIEW FROM WAY BACK**

### A Maid's Lament

**Submitted by: Keith Young**

A sentimental young lady in Northern Georgia wrote the following for some of her admirers in the ----  
"Ridgeament:"

""Tis hard for youens to sleep in camp;  
'Tis is hard for youens to fight;  
'Tis hard for youens through snow to tramp;  
In snow to sleep at night  
But harder for weuns from youens to part,

Since youens have stolen weuns hearts."

-Frank Moore, *The Civil War in Song and Story*,  
New York, 1882, p.84.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Contributed by: Sandra Cox

Note: If you plan to attend an event, please verify the information given. Advance reservation and fee may apply.

**1 Feb** – Alexandria, VA. “*Civil War Video Series*” Combining period music, photos, artifacts, paintings and engravings, and hands-on demonstrations, viewers will learn about the lives of average foot soldiers through their handwritten letters home and explanations by the series’ star Civil War historian and reenactor Michael Kraus. Each video lasts about 45 minutes and covers 10 to 12 topics. Following the video, participants will be invited to the exhibition floor of the Museum where staff will show and discuss a related object on display. Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. 703.838.4848. Free but reservations are suggested.

**15-16 Feb** – Frederick, MD “*Introduction to the Signal Corps*” with Adrian Tudor includes hands-on demonstrations of authentic CW era telegraph equipment. 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Info: Natl Museum of Civil War Medicine – 301.695.1864 or [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org)

**21 Feb** – “*Gods and Generals*” is scheduled to open nation-wide. “The greatest Civil War movie I have ever seen, and I have seen them all.” James I. Robertson

**26 Feb** – Baltimore, MD “*Freedom’s Soldiers: The Black Military Experience in the Civil War Era*” by Leslie S. Rowland, Director of the Freedmen and Southern Society Project at the University of MD. 7 pm. Info: Baltimore Civil War Museum, 601 President Street. 410.385.5188 – [www.mdhs.org](http://www.mdhs.org). Lecture is free with museum admission.

**7-9 Mar** – Newport News, VA “*141<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Hampton Roads*”. Lectures with the Lincoln Forum, first person accounts from costumed interpreters,

encampments and tactical demonstrations, Civil War Ball and more. See the *USS Monitor* Exhibit. Info: The Mariners’ Museum, 100 Museum Drive. 757.591.7739

**8 Mar** – Alexandria, VA “*They Fought Like Demons: Women Soldiers in the American Civil War*” by DeAnne Blanton. 1 pm. Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. 703.838.4848. Free but reservations are suggested.

**8 Mar** – Frederick, MD “*Medicine for the Soldier*” with historians Glenn and Gloria Baugher will discuss Confederate medicine and civilian contributions during the war. The presentation will include demonstrations on the preparation of medicines. 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Info: Natl Museum of Civil War Medicine – 301.695.1864 or [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org)

**13 Mar** – Richmond, VA “*The War Hits Home: The Civil War in Eastern Virginia*” lecture at Library of Virginia. Info: Sponsored by Museum of the Confederacy. 804 649-1861 or [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org). Reservations Required.

**14-15 Mar** – Winchester, VA “*Stonewall Jackson’s Winter Campaign: A Field Tour of Unger’s Store, Bath, Hancock, Romney, Blue’s Gap, Bloomery Furnace and Kernstown Battlefield*” with Gary L. Ecelbarger. Info: Civil War Education Assn 800.298.1861 or [www.cwea.net](http://www.cwea.net), \$275 Pkg

**15 Mar** – Alexandria, VA “*Closest to My Heart: Civil War Loves and Losses*” by Linda Duffy. 1 pm. Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. 703.838.4848. Free but reservations are suggested.

**15 Mar** – Frederick, MD “*Interpretive Workshop*” designed to provide all the tools needed by historical interpreters, docents, teachers and living history presenters in interpretation of CW medicine. Limited to 40 applicants. 8:30-5 Info: Natl Museum of Civil War Medicine – 301.695.1864 or [www.civilwarmed.org](http://www.civilwarmed.org) Fee \$40

**15-16 Mar** – Timonium, MD “*Antique Arms Show*” held at Maryland State Fairgrounds Cow Palace. Sat 9-5 and Sun 9-3, \$5 admission. [www.baltimoreshow.com](http://www.baltimoreshow.com).

**19 Mar** – Richmond, VA “*Arsenals of the Confederacy: Atlanta and Richmond*” lecture at Library of Virginia.

Info: Sponsored by Museum of the Confederacy. 804 649-1861 or [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org). Reservations Required.

**22 Mar** – Fredericksburg, VA “*Civil War Relic Show*” held at Eagle’s Lodge, 21 Cool Springs Rd. 9-5, \$5 admission, 540.372.6709.

**22 Mar** – Alexandria, VA “*Health and Fitness for the Civil War Era Woman*” by Juanita Leisch. 1 pm. Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. 703.838.4848. Free but reservations are suggested.

**20-27 Mar** – Washington, DC “*Antebellum South & Civil War Journey*” – Washington, DC to New Orleans aboard the American Orient Express, a 100-passenger streamliner train. Sites reflect the region’s role in the Civil War. Sponsored by The Mariner’s Museum, Newport News. Info: Carole M. Lynn 800.581.7245.

**26 Mar** – Richmond, VA “*The Great Emancipator?*” lecture at Library of Virginia. Info: Sponsored by Museum of the Confederacy. 804 649-1861 or [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org). Reservations Required.

**26 Mar** – Baltimore, MD “*The Lincolns in the White House*” by Jean Baker, Professor of History at Goucher College. 7 pm. Info: Baltimore Civil War Museum, 601 President Street. 410.385.5188 – [www.mdhs.org](http://www.mdhs.org). Lecture is free with museum admission.

**28-30 Mar** – Clinton, MD “*The Lincoln Assassination: Those Nagging Questions*” with Roger Mudd, Daniel Weinberg and James Swanson. Special tour into Civil War Washington led by Joan Chaconas and abbreviated tour over the John Wilkes Booth Escape Route led by Michael Kauffman. Info: Surratt House Museum, 800.537.1147 or [www.surratt.org](http://www.surratt.org). Fees

**29-30 Mar** – Gettysburg, PA “*Gettysburg: A Walking Tour of Culp’s, Benner’s and Cemetery Hills and the Daniel Lady Farm*” with Gary Kross. Info: Civil War Education Assn 800.298.1861 or [www.cwea.net](http://www.cwea.net), \$175 Pkg

**3-5 Apr** – Franklin, TN “*Sunset in the West: The Battles of Columbia, Spring Hill and Franklin*” with David C. Hinze and Thomas Y. Cartwright. Info: Civil War Education Assn 800.298.1861 or [www.cwea.net](http://www.cwea.net), \$325 Pkg

**3-5 Apr** – Fredericksburg, VA “*Fredericksburg, An Insider’s Walking Tour*” with Robert K. Krick. Info:

Civil War Education Assn 800.298.1861 or [www.cwea.net](http://www.cwea.net), \$275 Pkg

**3-6 Apr** – “*Road to Appomattox*” overland tour of Petersburg to Appomattox, covering Lee’s Army of Northern VA and Grant’s Army of the Potomac. Info: Civil War Weekend, [www.civilwarweekend.com](http://www.civilwarweekend.com) or 866.CWW-TOUR. Pkg \$495 pp dbl, \$645 sgl.

**3-6 Apr** – Lexington, VA “*24<sup>th</sup> Annual Confederate Historical Institute*” Tour of Perryville, Mill Springs Battlefields, John Hunt Morgan Raid Historic Trail led by Ed Bearss. Info: [jlrossell@aristotle.net](mailto:jlrossell@aristotle.net). Fee

**5 Apr** – Newport News, VA “*Along This River: The Warwick River Line*” Van Tour, Explore Fort Crafford, Lee’s Mill, Skiffes Creek Redoubt, Dam #1, Wynne’s Mill and Yorktown defenses. 9-4. Info: Lee Hall Mansion, 757.888.3371 or [www.leehall.org](http://www.leehall.org). \$35

**12-13 Apr** – Chantilly, VA “*31<sup>st</sup> Annual American Civil War Show*” with military effects, memorabilia, relics, books, paper goods, photos, art and antique weapons. Bring an Heirloom for a consultation (9-12 Sat only) Dulles Expo Center, North Bldg., Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4, 703.823.1958. Admission \$7.

**12-13 Apr** – Petersburg, VA “*Civil War Weekend*”, learn first hand what the CW soldiers’ experience was like, from enlistment to battle. Watch tactical demonstrations and mingle with soldiers in the camp. Info: Pamplin Historical Park, 6125 Boydton Plank Road, 877.PAMPLIN or [pamplinpark.org](http://pamplinpark.org).

**BRCWRT Member Becky Cumins to Lead Blue and Gray Education Society Tour (BGES), 10 May 2003**

**@ 8:30 AM**

Join BGES Board Director and Interpretive Park Ranger Becky Cumins on a one day walking tour of First Manassas. Becky has a well-earned reputation for her enthusiasm and knowledge of the Manassas battleground. The program is open to members of the BGES and sponsored guests and will include sites “off the beaten path”. Lunch will be provided.

For information on the BGES and this tour, please visit: <http://www.blue-and-gray-education.org/>



## The Fredericksburg Campaign

Guest Speaker: Frank A. O'Reilly

Frank A. O'Reilly graduated from Washington and Lee University in 1987 with a B.A. in American History. While an undergraduate he worked at the "Stonewall" Jackson House in Lexington. He also lectured on Civil War military history in the ROTC Department of Washington and Lee. Following graduation, Frank joined the National Park Service as a temporary historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County National Military Park (F&SCNMP). He subsequently accepted a full-time position with the National Park Service at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, PA. In 1990 Frank returned to the F&SCNMP to fill the permanent historian's position at the "Stonewall" Jackson Shrine at Guiney Station. He is now assigned to the Headquarters, F&SCNMP, at the historic Chatham House just across the Rappahannock River from the City of Fredericksburg.

Of note, while assigned to the F&SCNMP, Frank spent a year cataloging all of the historic resources along the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers for the City of Fredericksburg. Last year he served as a historical consultant for the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Planning Commission.

Frank is in great demand as a speaker and has lectured at various locations around our Nation, ranging from New York City to San Francisco, and even, down into Mexico. He has appeared in a dozen documentaries on the Civil War including the *A & E Civil War Journal*.

Over the years Frank has established himself as a historian of exceptional merit. His critically acclaimed book on the Battle of Fredericksburg, 13 December 1862, entitled "*Stonewall*" Jackson at Fredericksburg was published in 1993. Other published works include:

- More than a dozen articles on the war in Virginia

- Introductions to the following reprints:
  - Philip H. Sheridan's *Personal Memoirs*
  - Augustus C. Hamlin's *Battle of Chancellorsville*
  - *History of the 1<sup>st</sup> Massachusetts Cavalry*
  - *Under the Maltese Cross* (A history of the 155th Pennsylvania)

His latest book, published by L.S.U. Press, has just been released. A book review by Peter Bridges can be found on page 3 of this issue of the *Stone Wall*.

Do not miss this presentation! It promises to be an extremely informative talk from a very perceptive and talented historian.

### **Editor's Note**

During the 2003 calendar year there will be four double issues of *The Stone Wall*. The projected schedule is as follows:

- January
- February-March
- April
- May-June
- July-August
- September-October
- November
- December

Please note that the due date for article contributions has changed from the 27<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication to the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.

**BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

The Stone Wall

P.O. Box 2147

Centreville, VA

20122

**2002 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.  
Sterling, VA  
20164

BRCWRT  
P.O. Box 2147  
Centreville, VA  
20122

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_