



STONE WALL

Bull Run Civil War Round Table

June/July 2003

Keith Young,

The War Afloat: The Civil War Navies

Most of us are much more familiar with the organization of the Civil War armies and the conduct of the war on land. This is understandable, but the war afloat did have a significant effect on the war. The sailors and marines of both North and South often served under arduous conditions and were wounded and killed in the defense of their causes, just as their brothers-in-arms ashore.

The principal tasks assigned to the navies were maintaining the blockade and hunting down commerce raiders for the USN and breaking the blockade and commerce raiding for the CSN. Both navies worked to develop naval support for the forces ashore by utilizing rivers and coastal waters. These efforts met with mixed results and most often their success depended upon the personal relationship that existed between the Army and the Navy commanders involved because there was no doctrine for conducting joint operations.

In this presentation, we will look at the organization of the two navies, their major support facilities ashore, and their personnel. The Confederacy never created a national military academy, but it did establish a naval academy that was modeled after the U.S. Naval Academy. The Confederacy founded their own body of Confederate States Marines and we will look at the part that Marines played in the conflict. To respond to the tasks that the two navies were assigned, they used a wide variety of ship types. They converted many existing ships, redesigned and radically altered others, and built some new. A quick survey of the ship types used will help us understand their roles, capabilities and limitations.

The two navies used many innovative and often radical ideas to advance their capabilities. Some of these innovations include the ironclad warship, the rifled naval gun, the revolving gun turret, underwater "torpedoes," and operational submarines. While some of these innovations were not new, the Civil War was the first practical proving ground for them.

Our speaker, Keith Young, the BRCWRT president, had great-grandfathers on both sides in the war; the 14th Alabama Infantry with the Army of Northern Virginia in the East and the 5th Iowa Infantry/5th Iowa Cavalry in the West. As a westerner, born in Colorado and raised in Arizona, he has never been close to the oceans, which probably accounts for his early interest in things naval and maritime. As an active Sea Scout in the middle of the desert, the closest significant body of water was the Gulf of California, 120 miles away in Mexico. Keith is the Unit Histories Section Advisor for the CompuServe Civil War Forum, a contributor to the Library of Congress Civil War Desk Reference, and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, a retired Navy Captain and a former submarine skipper.

**General Membership Meeting
7:15 PM**

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

**13 June - Keith Young:
The War Afloat: The Civil War Navies**

**Bull Run Civil War
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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:

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The deadline for the **August/September 2003** articles is **20 July 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:
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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By: Keith Young

Our Round Table has been fortunate, indeed, to have Ed Bearss as an annual speaker for so many years. Having his encyclopedic knowledge of the Civil War available to us, sometimes on special aspects of well-known battles and campaigns, and often in support of the Round Table's next tour, has contributed greatly to the growth of the Round Table and to the enjoyment of its members. I know that many of us have also had the privilege to be under Ed's tutelage on a Civil War battlefield. His unique style of dramatizing the events, the personalities and their relationships to each other, is one, which we will always remember. The fact that I have "campaigned" with Ed many times, not just on Civil War battlefields, but also on those of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, as well, made it a special honor for me to be able to present to Ed on behalf of all of the members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, our Lifetime Achievement Award. This special recognition of his contribution to the preservation of our American historical heritage was our way of saying "Thanks!" The citation on the certificate read as follows:

"The Bull Run Civil War Round Table takes pleasure in presenting its LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD to EDWIN C. BEARSS for your dedicated and tireless support of our American heritage through writing, speaking, conducting historical site tours and encouraging historical preservation. We know of no one whose contributions to the understanding of our heritage span a wider range or have had greater impact on your fellow citizens and future generations. We are all richer for your efforts."

In June it will be my pleasure to present an overview of the navies that fought the war on the water-- The War Afloat: The Civil War Navies. Dr. Charles Poland will be our July guest speaker and he will discuss the Reconstruction period with special application to northern Virginia. More history right in our backyards!

In recognition of the Round Table's partnership with the Centreville Regional Library, the Library recently presented certificates of appreciation to the members of the Executive Board. These thoughtful tokens were a part of the Library's recognition of all the volunteers whose services assist the Library in accomplishing its mission to

the public within Fairfax County. We are pleased to find ourselves in this elite group. In return, the Round Table certainly appreciates the accommodation and assistance provided to us by the Library.

Those of you who have access to email may want to ensure we have your email address. Often between meetings we are able to put out bulletins about events and items of interest. Those members on our distribution list receive these updates. Just notify one of the members of the Executive Board to be added to the distribution list. Board member names and phone numbers or email addresses appear in your Stonewall newsletter on page 2.

Keep up the good work!

GETTYSBURG

Who was that Spy Harrison, Anyway?

By: John McAnaw

If it wasn't for LTG James Longstreet's article entitled "Lee's Invasion of Pennsylvania", many students of the American Civil War, myself included, would never have known who the spy Harrison was or, at least in one instance, of his value to the Army of Northern Virginia. Like other successful spies he had the ability to slip in and out of the enemy's camp without attracting notice. Like any good intelligence operator, he was a good listener. The following is what LTG Longstreet wrote about Harrison:

One night in the spring of 1863 I was sitting in my tent opposite Suffolk, Virginia when there came in a slender, wiry fellow about five feet eight with hazel eyes, dark hair and complexion, and brown beard. He wore a citizen's suit of dark material, and except for his stooping shoulders was well formed and evidently a man of great activity. He handed me a note from Mr. Seddon, Secretary of War. That was my first meeting with the famous scout, Harrison, who in his own unpretending citizen's dress passed unmolested from the right to left through the Federal army, visited Washington City, ate and drank with the Federal officers and joined me at Chambersburg (Pennsylvania) with information more accurate than a force of cavalry could have secured...

Before we left Fredericksburg for the campaign into Maryland and Pennsylvania, I called up my scout, Harrison, and giving him all the gold he thought he would need, told him to go to Washington City and

remain there until he was in possession of information which he knew would be of value to us, and directed that he should then make his way back to me and report. As he was leaving, he asked where he would find me. That was information I did not care to impart to a man who was going directly to the Federal capital. I answered that my command was large enough to be found without difficulty. We had reached Chambersburg on the 27th of June and were remaining there to give the troops rest, when my scout straggled into the lines on the night of June 28th. He told me he had been to Washington and had spent his gold freely, drinking in the saloons and getting upon confidential terms with army officers. In that way he had formed a pretty good idea of the general movements of the Federal army and the preparation to give us battle. The moment he heard Hooker had started across the Potomac he set out to find me. He fell in with the Federal army before reaching Frederick – his plan being to walk at night and stop during the day in the neighborhood of the troops. He said there was three corps near Frederick when he passed there, one to the right and one to the left, but he did not succeed in getting the position of the other. This information proved more accurate than we could have expected if we had been relying upon our cavalry.* I sent the scout to report to General Lee, who was near, and suggested in my note that it might be well for us to begin to look to the east of the Blue Ridge. Meade was then in command of the Federal army, Hooker having been relieved.”

Historian Don Hakenson shed more light on the shadowy Harrison in his most informative and entertaining book entitled, *This Forgotten Land: A Tour of Civil War Sites and Other Historical Landmarks South of Alexandria, Virginia*. The author discovered that his full name was Henry Thomas Harrison and that he was not a civilian spy. Rather, he was a Confederate Second Lieutenant who, in 1863, spied for LTG James Longstreet. Hakenson noted that Harrison ”roamed at will between Union and Confederate lines depending upon his mission.” On 28 September 1863 he married a Fairfax County lady in Washington, D.C. Can you think of a better place for a Confederate spy to tie the knot? For more information, (including a photograph) on the enigmatic Harrison and the Civil War south of Alexandria, I strongly recommend that you purchase Don Hakenson’s book.

If you have additional information on Harrison and his activities during the Civil War and the post war period, I would appreciate it if you would pass it on to

me. Obviously, Harrison had the confidence of the Secretary of War, James A. Seddon and, up to a certain point, LTG James Longstreet. How many other senior Confederate civilian and military officials did Harrison work for? And, what were his assignments?

* The author has underlined this statement for emphasis

References:

- Longstreet, LTG James, C.S.A. Lee’s Invasion of Pennsylvania, In *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*. The Century Co. New York. 1884, 1888. Vol.III, pp. 224, 249-250
- Hakenson, Donald C. *This Forgotten Land. A Tour of Civil War Sites and Other Historical Landmarks South of Alexandria, Virginia*. Alexandria, VA 2002. Pp.112-113.

PRESERVATION

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

William E. Gladstone

British Prime Minister

1868-1874;1880-1885;1886;1892-1894

Date Set for Title Transfer At Bristoe Station Battlefield

By: John McAnaw

According to a reliable source, the transfer of title of 341 acres of the Bristoe Station Battlefield from the Rollins family to the CENTEX Corporation will occur on **1 July 2003**. Following this action, 127 acres of the core area of the battlefield will be donated by CENTEX to the Civil War Preservation Trust.

CENTEX has designated the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) as the lead organization regarding the search for Confederate graves on the remaining 214 acres of the Rollins tract. Following the transfer of title from the Rollins family to CENTEX, the SCV has 120 days to search for Confederate graves on the property.

Numerous BRCWRT members have volunteered to support the SCV in the search for Confederate graves on the Rollins property. The specific information as to how and when we will be involved is not available as of the

date of this article (21 May). However, I do know that the SCV needs considerably more money than is presently available to do the job properly. Thus fund raising will be an indispensable aspect of the overall effort. Also, I have been informed that CENTEX will not permit any search operation on its property unless a bona fide, licensed archeologist is present. And, of course, such an individual costs money.

Now that we are reasonably sure of the title transfer date (1 July 2003), concerned organizations and individuals will undoubtedly meet in the very near future to commence planning. Volunteers will be kept abreast of relevant information as it becomes available. The updated roster of BRCWRT volunteers to assist, as time permits, at Bristoe Station after CENTEX receives title to the 341 acre tract is as follows:

ROUND TABLE OFFICERS

Keith Young	John McAnaw
Nancy Anwyll	Mark Knowles
Mary Ahrens	Kevin Anastas
John DePue	Drew Lavan
Sandra Cox	

ROUND TABLE MEMBERS

Charlie Balch	Lyle Loveall
Mike Block	Keith Mangino
Mike Buckley	Dale Maschino
Harriet Condon	Randy Moller
Carole Cook	John Pearson
Norm Cooper	John Peyton
Doug Cox	Bud Porter
Howard Ewing	Phil Pruna
John Forrester	Bev Regeimbal
Ron Gill	Fred Schmidtmann
Bob Hickey	Mike Shannon
Ken Jones	Chuck Siegel
Mike Jones	Chris Soester
Tom Jones	Carl Willert

Grand Total 37

I urge other Round Table members to join us on this project. Contact me at 703.978.3371 and I will add your name to the roster. Can you think of a worthier effort than preserving the final resting place of those Americans who died in the service of their country?

In closing, let me emphasize that while we are on site we will follow instructions given us to the letter. Under no conditions will relic hunting be permitted by CENTEX. Our mission is to assist in the effort to locate Confederate graves. Period.

Keeping Our Heritage Alive: Memorial Day In Fairfax City

By John McAnaw

Following the Civil War, from 1866-1868, the U. S. War Department made a concerted effort to locate and disinter Union soldiers from field graves throughout the Southern States and re-inter them in National cemeteries. Obviously, the disestablished government of the Confederate States of America could make no comparable effort. However, during the same time frame, various organizations throughout the South did the same, i.e. recovered and reburied the Confederate dead in area cemeteries.

In Fairfax County, an organization called the Ladies Memorial Association (LMA) led the effort during period 1866-1868, to gather fallen Confederates from various field burial sites, particularly the Ox Hill (Chantilly) Battlefield and re-inter them at a site donated by Rev. R. T. Brown, the pastor of Zion Church. The new cemetery was located approximately a quarter mile west of the Old Fairfax County Court House. Zion Church was located on the grounds of present day Truro Episcopal Church. This re-interment site was known as the Confederate Cemetery and is now known as the Fairfax City Cemetery. From 1866-1875 only Confederate soldiers were buried there. Undoubtedly during this period, members of the LMA and area residents gathered to care for the graves and lay flowers on them. To date, I must confess that I have not found any definitive information that the "above" was done. I do believe, however, that the "above" was done, at least for some of the graves in this cemetery. It was the Christian thing to do!

However, by 1875, the overall condition of the LMA's cemetery was deplorable. Consequently, control of the Confederate Cemetery was passed to the Fairfax Cemetery Association. The physical appearance of the Confederate Cemetery improved and burials of other than Confederate soldiers commenced in 1875.

In 1888, a prominent Fairfax County resident, John Ballard, joined the effort to raise money for a fitting memorial, i.e. an impressive obelisk, to the more than 200 unknown Confederates buried in the cemetery and the Fairfax County Confederates buried there and elsewhere throughout the battle areas of the war. The fund raising effort was successful.

John Ballard was a remarkable individual. He lived on the Ox Hill (Chantilly) Battlefield. During part of his active military service, this distinguished one-legged veteran served with Col. John S. Mosby's famous 43rd Battalion (Mosby's Rangers), Virginia Cavalry. The preservation of the small remnant of the Ox Hill (Chantilly) Battlefield is due, in large measure to his efforts. But that is another story!

On 1 October 1890, a large crowd assembled at the Old Fairfax County Court House. After a ceremony at that site, the spectators led by former Confederate soldiers, walked west to the site of the Confederate Obelisk in the Old Confederate Cemetery. The dedication ceremony was impressive and received mention in area newspapers. The inscription on one side of the Obelisk reads:

FROM FAIRFAX TO
APPOMATTOX
1861-1865
ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF THE
GALLANT SONS OF FAIRFAX, WHOSE
NAMES ARE INSCRIBED ON THIS
MONUMENT, BUT WHOSE BODIES LIE
BURIED ON DISTANT BATTLEFIELDS
AND TO THE MEMORY OF THEIR 200
UNKNOWN COMRADES WHOSE REMAINS
ARE AT REST BENEATH THIS MOUND.

"THESE WERE MEN WHOM DEATH
COULD NOT TERRIFY – WHOM DEFEAT
COULD NOT DISHONOR"

The names and units of fallen Fairfax soldiers and sailors are chiseled into the other three sides of the monument.

Thus began a Memorial Day tradition that continues to this day. Fred Kielsgard, a member of the VFW "Blue and Gray" Post 8469 located in Fairfax Station, VA remembers watching events - during the late 1920's, in Fairfax City on Virginia's Confederate Memorial Day (fourth Monday of May). First, as in 1890, there was a ceremony at the Fairfax County Court House. Then the ramrod straight Confederate veterans marched (not walked) to the Old Confederate Cemetery where the final ceremony of the day occurred. Fred remembers that Confederate veterans with amputated legs traveled by horse drawn buggies to the cemetery. I do not know how long this Annual Confederate Memorial Day ceremony occurred before it was discontinued.

Now jump forward to 1992 when Veterans of Foreign Wars "Blue and Gray" Post 8469 reinstated the traditional Memorial Day ceremonies that as previously stated, can be traced at least as far back as 1890. From 1992 to the present, Post members assemble at 0900 on Federal Memorial Day, in the vicinity of the east side of the Old Fairfax County Court House. This building was the subject of several famous Civil War photographs. During the VFW ceremony, tribute is paid to all American military personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice during wartime.

Post members read aloud the names of all area military personnel who were killed in World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Their names are inscribed on large bronze plaques that are affixed to a large, gray granite boulder, known as "The Rock." Time is allocated for Post veterans to speak about those individuals. Also a wreath is laid at "The Rock."

Ox Hill Battlefield Park Planning delayed again
By: Ed Wenzel

Nine months ago, there was an article in the *Stone Wall*, which stated that the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) had formed "the Ox Hill Project Team" and that work was commencing on a General Management Plan (GMP) for the Ox Hill Battlefield Park. The Chantilly Battlefield Association (CBA) was to be kept informed as work progressed.

Early this year, having heard nothing from the Park Authority, the CBA contacted Michael Rierson of the Resource Management Division and was told that the project team had met only once and that they were "backed up on projects." We also were told that the Park Authority wanted an "advisory committee" from the CBA to act as an "adjunct to the project team" for the purpose of commenting on plans, documents, etc. that they would generate.

By early May when no plans or documents had come forth, the CBA contacted Todd Roberts of Park Design and Development and was informed that delays had again postponed work. Mr. Roberts says he is "trying to get tentative approval" from the Park Board for a planning workshop in June, this workshop being a public hearing where citizens, adjacent residents, the CBA and the BRCWRT would voice opinions as to "how the Park might be developed." Mr. Roberts is to send the CBA a

letter laying out the latest revised work plan and schedule for Ox Hill.

The delays that have beset this Battlefield Park are beyond understanding. There have been continuous delays since January 2001 (see newsletters for January, March, September, October/November and December 2001 as well as September/October 2002) meaning that virtually nothing has been accomplished on Ox Hill planning in the past 29 months! It's high time that these delays came to a halt! The battle over the Ox Hill Park began more than 17 years ago, but the Park Authority continues to devote time and resources to new parks while Ox Hill lays uncompleted and uninterpreted and the years of delay have taken a toll. Funds that were acquired long ago for the completion of Ox Hill have been diminished by a critical amount. These funds do not earn interest for the park. The interest goes to the General Fund and the loss to the Ox Hill Battlefield Park because of delay is unrecoverable.

And one final note --- there is a continuing problem with beer and wine drinking (and other behavior) in the vicinity of the monuments and the surrounding woods and brushy areas within the park. Bottles, cans, and trash of all kinds are constantly accumulating and does the Park Authority police up this trash? No! It's the volunteers from the BRCWRT, the CBA, and other heritage minded groups that pick up the trash and keep Ox Hill presentable. Perhaps when the FCPA gets its act together and finally completes this battlefield park and makes it accessible to heritage tourism visitors and promotes it to county residents, then maybe some respect for this special place – this hallowed ground – will seep into the consciousness of those who are now trashing it.

BRCTWR members wishing to express opinions on the planning delays at Ox Hill or the trash situation may contact Springfield Supervisor, Elaine McConnell (Springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov) and Springfield Park Board Member, Kenneth Feng (Kenfeng@aol.com). Please insist that old parks be completed before any more work is undertaken on new park projects; and that no further delays be tolerated in the planning, interpretation, and completion of the Ox Hill Battlefield Park.

MISCELLANEOUS

Fairfax County Civil War Sites Inventory is Released
By: Mary Ahrens

Many BRCWRT members assisted in search and find tours in Fairfax County conducted by John McAnaw, then President of the BRCWRT, for the purpose of aiding John A. Milner Associates in their efforts to inventory County Civil War sites.

Recently, I contacted Kate Hanley's office as well as Michael Frey's office in order to ascertain the whereabouts of the report that John A. Milner Associates had filed with the county. Mr. Frey's office sent me a copy of the *Fairfax County Civil War Sites Inventory: Public Release Version*.

In the Acknowledgement section of the document, the writers of the report stated "*The members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT), particularly BRCWRT president John McAnaw, have made extraordinary efforts to identify, record and protect the Civil War resources of the county and to share that information with the project team. The members of the Northern Virginia Relic Hunters Association (NVRHA) have been generous with the information on site locations, which many members have spent a lifetime compiling.*"

I am proud to have had the opportunity to go on some of these tours and would like to thank John McAnaw for his efforts in leading these missions. John A. Milner Associates and the BRCWRT provided an important public service in their endeavor to research and document civil war sites in the county.

Civil War Columbia, South Carolina
By: John De Pue

Several weeks ago I was asked to teach a class at the Justice Department's National Advocacy Institute Columbia South Carolina. As has been my custom during past visits to Columbia as soon as I had a spare moment, I headed for what had been the "South Carolina Relic Room," located on the University of South Carolina campus. Inside one could always find a treasure trove of Confederate War relics. On this occasion, however, I learned to my dismay that the Relic Room had been closed and its exhibits consolidated with

those relating to the late unpleasantness at the South Carolina State Museum.

It took me some time to track the State Museum down but my efforts were well rewarded. The newly installed exhibits included LTG Wade Hampton's hat and Whitney pistol, BG Micah Jenkins' coat and saber, and literally dozens of battle flags belonging to various South Carolina Regiments. Of particular note, the flag collection includes the colors of the UNION Second South Carolina Volunteers, one of the first Black Regiments raised in the war. According to a plaque on the exhibit case, this is the only known surviving example of a Black regimental flag, the others having deteriorated so badly that they were destroyed by the War Department at the turn of the century. Of great interest to me, was an exhibit of Palmetto muskets, sabers and other accoutrements. These weapons were manufactured in Columbia prior to the war, South Carolina being one of the few Confederate States with its own state armory. Other exhibits from the former Relic Room focus upon the firing upon Fort Sumpter, the Union blockade of Charleston Harbor and Union attacks upon its fortifications. Should you have occasion to visit Columbia, I would highly recommend devoting several hours to the South Carolina State Museum, which is located at 301 Gervais Street. Take note of a dilapidated vacant brick building adjacent to the Museum. During the Civil War, it housed a Confederate printing plant.

The State Capitol features numerous other points of interest to the Civil War enthusiast. Although LTG Hampton was born in Charleston, his ancestral home, the Hampton-Preston house, purchased by his grandfather, is located in Columbia at 1615 Blanding Street. Today, it is open for visitors and features a museum and docents who conduct tours of the property. General Hampton, who served as governor of South Carolina and as the U.S. Senator from that State is interred in the family plot of the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral graveyard at 1100 Sumpter Street. Two other Confederate general officers are buried in the same cemetery. The State Capitol grounds across the street from this cemetery features an equestrian statue of General Hampton and the State's Confederate monument replete with the battle flag that, in recent years, has prompted substantial controversy.

The Elmwood Cemetery is located, appropriately enough, on Elmwood Street, some distance from Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. The portion reserved for members of the Confederate Army contains the graves of BG

Maxcy Gregg, who was killed in action at Fredericksburg, and BG Milledge Bonham whose fame achieved at First Manassas resulted in his election to Congress and, subsequently, the Governorship.

Despite the fact that General Sherman's three-day occupation of Columbia (February 15-18, 1865) resulted in the destruction of over 450 buildings and houses, the city still exudes antebellum charm and contains many beautiful and historic homes. In addition to the Hampton residence, these include "Chestnut Cottage," where Mary Boyken Chestnut stayed during the war (1718 Hampton Street) and the residence of BG Maxcy Gregg (1518 Richland Street), which is now a law office. For assistance in my visits to Civil War Columbia, as well as other locations in the State, I consult Clint Johnson's *Touring the Carolinas' Civil War Sites*.

FLASHBACK 1863

June 1863

Submitted by: Drew Lavan

June 1, 1863 - "Most of [the troops] were armed with Enfield rifles captured from the enemy. Many, however, had lost or thrown away their bayonets, which they don't appear to value properly, as they assert that they have never met any Yankees who would wait for that weapon." *Fremantle Diary*

June 4, 1863 - U.S. Secretary of War Stanton ends the suppression of the pro-Copperhead Chicago *Tribune* three days earlier by U.S. General Burnside, who had rescinded U.S. General Grant's permission to publish in February. Grant had lifted the suspension of the paper a week earlier by military order.

Closer to home, there are "skirmishes on Lawyer's Road near Fairfax Court House and at Frying Pan." *Day by Day*

June 5, 1863 - "President Lincoln wrote to General Hooker warning Hooker not to run any risk of being entangled on the Rappahannock 'like an ox jumped half over a fence and liable to be torn by dogs, front and rear, without a fair chance to give one way or kick the other.' On the 10th he warned Hooker not to go south of the Rappahannock upon Lee's moving north of it. 'I think Lee's army and not Richmond is your true objective power. If he comes toward the upper Potomac, follow

on his flank, and on the inside track, shortening your lines while he lengthens his. Fight him, too, when opportunity offers. If he stay where he is, fret him, and fret him.'

On the 14th again he says: 'So far as we can make out here, the enemy have Milroy surrounded at Winchester, and Tyler at Martinsburg. If they could hold out for a few days, could you help them? If the head of Lee's army is at Martinsburg, and the tail of it on the plank road between Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, the animal must be very slim somewhere; could you not break him?'" "Abe" *Lincoln's Yarns*, McClure

June 6, 1863 - "At Brandy Station eight thousand sabers flashed and horses pranced as Jeb Stuart's cavalry spread in review along the railroad track, displaying their colorful movements to the assembled dignitaries and their ladies in carriages and in 'cars' on the railroad." *Day by Day*

June 7, 1863 - Federal troops loot and fire a plantation named Brierfield. It is the Mississippi home of Jefferson Davis.

June 9, 1863 - The Fleetwood Fight, aka Brandy Station, deals a sharp blow to J.E.B. Stuart's pride. Attempting to recover, perhaps, leads him to range far from Lee's flanks as the Army of Northern Virginia tramps into Maryland and Pennsylvania.

June 12, 1863 - "General Beauregard would be very youthful in appearance were it not for the color of his hair, which is much grayer than his earlier photographs represent. Some persons account for the sudden manner in which his hair turned gray by allusions to his cares and anxieties during the last two years. The real and less romantic reason is to be found in the rigidity of the Yankee blockade, which interrupts the arrival of articles of toilet." *Fremantle Diary*

June 14, 1863 - U.S. General Banks, at Port Hudson, demands surrender from the Confederates bottled up in the town. Refused, he proceeds with his attack.

In the eastern theater, new-minted corps commander Lt. General Richard Ewell takes a cue from Lee's tactics at Chancellorsville and splits his forces. One half is hurled at the 7,000-strong Winchester garrison force under Robert Milroy. The next day, the retreating Federals are swept up by the second half of Ewell's corps, which was waiting for them north of Winchester.

One suspects that Lee, gratified with the actions of Jackson's replacement, believes he can expect more of the same when he pushes his army north of the Potomac River.

June 16, 1863 - "Lincoln sent a terse order to Hooker: 'To remove all misunderstanding, I now place you in the strict military relation to General Halleck of a commander of one of the armies to the general-in-chief of all the armies....I shall direct him to give you orders and you to obey them.'

No statement could have been clearer, but Halleck characteristically undercut it. That same day, he telegraphed Hooker: 'You are in command of the Army of the Potomac, and will make the particular dispositions as you deem proper. I shall only indicate the objects to be aimed at.'" *Second Union Misfire on the Peninsula*, Marszalek

June 18, 1863 - The long-suffering Grant finally gives Maj. General John A. McClernand the heave-ho. The last straw comes when McClernand publishes an order incorrectly, which foolishly praises his troops, and therefore himself, at the expense of some of his fellow commanders at Vicksburg.

June 19, 1863 - Larger than life (literally and figuratively) Prussian adventurer Heros von Borcke receives a severe throat wound in Middleburg while helping Stuart fend off Union cavalry attempts to see what Lee is doing west of the gaps. Known for wearing out horses and wielding a huge cavalry saber, von Borcke is abandoned to the Federals when the fighting gets too close. Stuart's men are beside themselves when they learn of the capture of their favorite. A rescue party gallops in and snatches him back.

June 20, 1863 - The thirty-fifth state in the Union is proclaimed. It is West Virginia.

June 23, 1863 - Union Major General William S. Rosecrans puts his troops into motion from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, towards Braxton Bragg's Confederates in Tullahoma in order to occupy Bragg and prevent him from reinforcing or lifting the siege of Vicksburg.

June 27, 1863 - "[Charles W.] Read, in the [CSS] *Archer*...determined to attack the harbor in Portland, Maine. He made off with a revenue cutter named the [USS] *Caleb Cushing*. The Union forces pursued in a passenger steamer, *Chesapeake*, another passenger

vessel, the *Forest City* and three tugboats.

Except for a few shot on a rack near the gun, there appeared to be no ammunition for the cutter's 32-pounder. [Dudley] Davenport [acting commander of the *Caleb Cushing*, who had been captured with his ship] told [Read] that the *Caleb Cushing* was just off the ways and had not yet taken aboard her normal ordnance. As a result, when the *Forest City* and the *Chesapeake* turned to the attack, Read knew that the game was up. He did not go quietly, however. In a final gesture of defiance, he fired hunks of a great cheese brought up from the galley - leading one Yankee on board the *Chesapeake* to remark that the pirates were firing 'stinkpots at us, like the Chinese.'" *Sea Devil of the Confederacy*, Boykin

June 28, 1863 - Hooker is out, Meade is in.

Much further to the south, food, munitions and morale are at an all time low, prompting Pemberton's besieged Vicksburg troops to tell him, "If you can't feed us, you had better surrender."

June 19, 1863 - 10 major roads lead to Gettysburg. They are full of troops in blue marching and riding, and troops in butternut marching. The gray cavalry is out of sight and out of touch, moving at the speed of the wagon train it has captured and is determined to bring to Robert E. Lee.

July 1863

Submitted by: Keith Young

July 1 - The battle of Gettysburg opened as Confederate General Heth's troops confronted Federal General Buford's dismounted cavalrymen. The battle continued until July 3.

July 2 - Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan and about 2500 cavalrymen crossed the Cumberland River to start a raid into Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana that would last until July 26.

July 4 - The Confederate citadel at Vicksburg, Mississippi fell. Lt. General Pemberton surrendered his army of nearly 29,000 to Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant after a lengthy siege.

July 7 - The Union Conscription Act took effect.

July 8 - Gen. Morgan crossed the Ohio River into Indiana.

July 9 - Confederate Major General Franklin Gardner

surrendered Port Hudson, Louisiana to Federal Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Banks. The Mississippi River was now fully open to Union shipping.

July 11 - Federal Brig. Gen. Quincy Gilmore made an unsuccessful attack on Battery Wagner, Morris Island, S.C.

July 13 - General R.E. Lee took his army back across the Potomac River to Virginia. The crossing had been delayed by high water in the Potomac, and was aided by weak follow-up by the Army of the Potomac.

The draft riots started in New York City. The rioting was not ended until July 16 by troops dispatched from Gettysburg.

July 16 - The Confederate naval agent in Europe, Commander Bulloch, let a contract in Bordeaux for the construction of two steam rams. Only one, the C.S.S. Stonewall, reached Confederate hands late in the war, but too late for active service.

July 18 - The second Federal attack on Battery Wagner suffered a costly repulse. The movie "Glory" depicted the black soldiers of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry and their white commander, Colonel Robert Gould Shaw, in this action.

July 19 - The Army of the Potomac completed crossing the Potomac River into Virginia.

July 26 - Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan and 364 exhausted troopers surrendered at Salineville, Ohio.

July 30 - President Lincoln issued orders that the government of the United States would "give the same protection to all its soldiers, and if the enemy shall sell or enslave anyone because of his color, the offense shall be punished by retaliation upon the enemy's prisoners."

VIEW FROM WAY BACK

Meade's Tolerance Exceeded

Submitted by: Keith Young

During the artillery barrage that preceded Pickett's charge at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863, a civilian came up to General Meade to complain that the Union forces were using his house as a hospital and littering his garden with graves and amputated limbs. Meade's response:

"Why you craven fool, until this battle is decided, you do not know, neither do I, if you will have a government to apply to.... If I hear any more from you, I will give you a gun and send you to the front line to defend your rights."

Quoted in Tsouras' Military Quotations from the Civil War In the Words of the Commanders, 1998.

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.

4-8 June – “Gettysburg-Day II” 17th Annual Civil War Conference includes two full days of touring. Info: Penn State 717.749.4116. Fee

6 June – Culpeper, “*Scenes From Culpeper’s Civil War Past*” Lantern Walking Tours depart from the Depot Visitors Center every 20 minutes from 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. including Hill Mansion, home of A.P. Hill’s older brother. Info: www.brandystation.org. Fee

7 June – Frederick, “*Campfire Program: A Soldier’s Life.*” Personal letters and diaries tell their stories and will be read by living history volunteers. Info: Monocacy National Battlefield, 301.662.3515 or www.nps.gov/mono.

7-8 June – Culpeper, “*Re-enactment of the Battle of Brandy Station*” Weekend includes 1858 Graffiti House, Stuart’s Grand Review, Speaker’s Tent with author Bob Trout, first person narratives by Gen. Stuart’s Staff, “Old Reliable – John Buford”, reunion of relatives of soldiers who fought at Brandy Station, tours to Auburn, Fleetwood Hill, St. James Church, Kelly’s Ford, Salubria and Will Farley marker, period church service, concert by 2nd SC String Band, and much more. Info: Brandy Station Foundation – www.brandystation.org Fee

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

13-15 June – Rockville, “*JEB Stuart Comes to Rockville*”, Civil War History Authors Forum and Book Signing, living history, Civil War Era Baseball game, Encampment, demonstrations. Sat – 11-5 – General Civil War topics with concert and torchlight tour to follow. Sun 12-4 – Focus on Jeb Stuart’s ‘visit’ to Rockville on his way to Gettysburg. Rockville Town Center. Info: Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, 301.762.0096 or www.peerlessrockville.org Free

14-15 June – Fort Washington, “*13th Star: Maryland in the Confederacy*”. Drill & small arms demos. Info: Fort Washington Park, www.nps.gov/fowa or 301.763.4600

20 June - “*A Candlelight Evening at Ellwood*” F&SNMP History at Sunset Program, west of Fredericksburg near Route 3 & 20. Stonewall Jackson’s arm is buried in the cemetery. The site was a Union HQ during The Wilderness battle a year later. 8pm Info: 540.373.6122 or www.nps.gov/frsp

21 June – Franconia, “*Civil War Bus Tour of Franconia*” with Don Hakenson & Gregg Dudding. Proceeds benefit the Franconia Museum. \$18 Info: Don Hakenson, 703.971.4984 or dhakenson@cox.net.

21 June – Alexandria, “*Civil War Camp Day*”. Union and Confederate military and civilian re-enactors portray daily life with living history impressions, infantry drills & firing demos. 10-5 Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. 703.838.4848. Donation

21-22 June – Gordonsville, “*Medical Living History Program*” at the Exchange Hotel Civil War Museum. Surgical demos, encampments, military drills, crafts. Info: 540.832.2944 or www.hgiexchange.org Fee

21-22 June – Loudoun County, “*Mount Zion Church Civil War Weekend*”, former battleground, hospital, prison and barracks, includes author Darl Stephenson, infantry, cavalry and medical living history, Sunday Church Service. Gilbert’s Corner at intersection of US Routes 50 & 15. Info: Donna Nangle – dcn2028@juno.com or 703.671.3820

24-26 June – Harrisonburg, “*The 9th Annual Conference of the Great Revival of the Southern Armies*” Turner Ashby High School. Info: Sprinkle Publications, 540.867.9618. No fee but free will offering will be taken. There will also be a pre-conference June 22-23 at Park View Baptist Church.

26-29 June – Shepherdstown, “*Sabers, Spurs, & Saddle Sores: The Cavalry in the Civil War*” presented by the George Tyler Moore Center. For agenda, speakers and tours, 304.876.5429 or www.shepherd.edu. Fee

27 June – Fredericksburg, “*War Means Anguish; War Means Freedom*” F&SNMP History at Sunset Program. Meet in front of the Rappahannock Regional Library, Caroline & Lewis Streets at 7 pm. Info: 540.373.6122 or www.nps.gov/frsp

27 June-6 July – Ellicott City “*175th Anniversary of the B & O Railroad*” including special events at the oldest railroad station in America. Info: B&O Railroad Station Museum, www.ecbo.org or 410.461.1944.

28-29 June – Richmond, “*Living History At Gaines Mill*”. Union infantry encampment and rifle demos. Walking tours throughout the weekend. The battlefield is located off Route 156. Info: Civil War Visitor Center - 804.771.2145 or www.nps.gov/rich

4-6 July – Gettysburg, “*140th Anniversary Re-enactment*”. For event schedule, and ticket info, call 410.461.1945 or see www.gettysburgreenactment.com

5 July - Sharpsburg, “*5th Antietam Salute To Independence Celebration*”. Join the MD Symphony for a 2-hour concert at Antietam National Battlefield. 7:30 pm. Fireworks display following concert. Info: www.nps.gov/anti or 301.432.5124.

11 July – Fredericksburg, “*Across the Bloody Plain: Hurkamp Park to Marye’s Heights*”. F&SNMP History at Sunset Program. Meet at Hurkamp Park (Prince Edward & George Streets) at 7 pm. Info: 540.373.6122 or www.nps.gov/frsp

11-13 July – Bedford, VA, “*Living Liberty*”. Experience life in Bedford (then called Liberty) in 1860’s. Info: Bedford Main Street, Inc. www.bedfordmainstreet.org or 540.586.2148.

12-13 July – Frederick “*139th Commemoration of the Battle of Monocacy*”. Living historians portray various aspects of the July 9, 1864 ‘battle at saved Washington’. Info: Monocacy National Battlefield, 301.662.3515 or www.nps.gov/mono.

18 July - Fredericksburg, “*Battle in the Balance: A Walk in Widow Tapp’s Field*”. F&SNMP History at Sunset Program. Park along Hill-Ewell Drive about ¼

mile from intersection with Orange Plank Road. 7 pm. Info: 540.373.6122 or www.nps.gov/frsp

19-20 July – Harpers Ferry, “*Fight for the Valley: 1864*”. Living history encampment by the 7th PA Reserves, 1st MD and 3rd MD of this supply depot for Gen Sheridan’s Shenandoah Campaign during the summer and fall 1864. Info: www.nps.gov/hafe or 304.535.6299.

19-20 July – Manassas, “*142nd Anniversary of First Manassas*”. Living history and specialized tours. Info: Manassas Nat’l Battlefield Park, 703.361.1339 or www.nps.gov/mana.

25 July – Fredericksburg, “*History Unveiled: Archeology at the Sunken Road & Marye’s Heights*”. F&SNMP History at Sunset Program. Meet at Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center parking lot. 7:00 pm Info: 540.373.6122 or www.nps.gov/frsp

26 July – Sharpsburg, “*Evening Battlefield Tour*”. Two hour driving tour at 6:45 pm. Info: www.nps.gov/anti or 301.432.5124. Free

Thru 31 Dec – Richmond, “*The Confederate Nation Exhibit*” The history of the Confederate government, the Southern people and their effort to create and maintain a new nation in the midst of war for independence. Info: Museum of the Confederacy, 804.649.1861 x 44 or www.moc.org

**GETTYSBURG CAMPAIGN DRIVING TOUR
OPENS JUNE 26**

According to a recent article in *Civil War Traveler*, a new driving tour opens June 26. The map/brochure is actually four tours tracing the Union and Confederate routes of advance toward Gettysburg, JEB Stuart’s Cavalry route and the Confederate retreat. There are tour stops in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. The brochure will not be available until after June 26. If you would like a copy, fill out the “Free Information” form located at the top of the home page. www.civilwartraveler.com

Dr. Charles Poland

Reconstruction: Nature and Controversy, Including Loudon and Fairfax Counties

At our General Membership Meeting on 10 July 2003 we will be honored with the presence of a distinguished historian and college professor – Dr. Charles P. Poland, Jr. He is well known to area Civil War buffs.

Dr. Poland's ancestors arrived in Northeastern Virginia in the early 1700s. Those of his wife, Betty, arrived in Loudon County in 1730. They were among the first Quakers to settle at Lincoln Community (now extinct) near Purcellville. Both are proud of their deep-rooted Virginia heritage. Our guest speaker was born in Leesburg on the estate of Governor Westmoreland Davis. His father managed the Governor's farm. Dr. Poland's birthplace is located on what is now Morven Park.

Dr. Poland is a graduate of the public elementary school in Arcola and the public high school formerly at Aldie, both in Loudon County. He then studied for his undergraduate degree in American History, first at Bridgewater College near Harrisonburg, VA and then at American University in Washington, DC. He was awarded a B.A. Degree in American History at the latter school in 1959. Two years later he received a M.A. Degree in American History at AU.

While working on his PhD, our guest speaker taught American History for a total of ten years at Loudon and Herndon High Schools. In 1975, he received his PhD in American History from Western Colorado University. For the past 35 plus years, Dr. Poland has taught American History at the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College. Many Civil War buffs, including BRCWRT members, have taken his courses including the prized 'History 298, Advanced Civil War Studies'. This course consists of a systematic tour of Civil War sites. Please read E. B. Vandiver's entertaining and informative article on Dr. Poland's tours in this issue of the *Stone Wall*. E.B. is one of Dr. Poland's "life long" students.

Needless to state, Dr. Poland is a keen student not only of the Civil War but also of those tumultuous years that preceded and followed that conflict. His talk on the 'Reconstruction' years, with emphasis on Loudon and Fairfax Counties will be the first time the Round Table has scheduled a post war presentation. Without question, it will be both informative and entertaining.

In December 2003 or early 2004, a long awaited book written by Dr. Poland will be published entitled *Glories of War: The First Year of the War in the Eastern Theater*. This book is the product of decades of research. Sometime during the fall of 2003, another of Dr. Poland's books *Frontier to Suburbia: A Comprehensive History of Loudon County* will be reissued. Dr. Poland is also working on another book on the antebellum period immediately before the outbreak of the Civil War. The 'working' title of this opus is *Thunder on the Potomac: John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry – The Rehearsal for War*. Readers are strongly urged to purchase all three.

Dr. and Mrs. Poland reside on (want to guess?) Poland Road in Chantilly, VA. They have two married daughters (Eliza and Lynette) and three grandchildren. Grandson Kirby, age 10, is already a keen student of the Civil War. We wonder how he developed that interest!

CAMPAIGNING WITH DR. POLAND

By: E.B. Vandiver III

Before the start of the 1864 campaign in Virginia, General Lee took his senior commanders up to the signal station high atop Clark's Mountain and propounded for them his views on the pending campaign, using the scene before them as a colossal map board. At the start of his 1987 field trips on the 1864 Campaign in Virginia, Doctor Charles Poland took his Advanced Civil War Studies class, History 298, Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC), to the site of the Confederate signal station high atop Clark's Mountain and there introduced the campaign using the scene before them as a colossal map board. Thus was begun my introduction to some of the hallmarks of a Poland field trip: primarily, the journey to the sites necessary to explain the action, no matter how inaccessible, rather than to those conveniently available; and secondly, travel by automobile caravan with no control, communication, or coordination whatsoever except to follow Dr. Poland's, sometimes rapidly receding, vehicle. Before taking these courses I would never have believed you could run a column of automobiles all over the back roads of the mid-Atlantic states and keep them together, but we have done it for decades now. We do not believe we have ever lost anyone permanently, but there was one time in New Market, Virginia when the column went straight, but one car turned and was never seen again.

We had initially assembled in the parking lot of NVCC's Manassas Campus and traveled from there to the summit of Clark's Mountain. Each field trip begins this way with some assembly areas receiving repeated usage. We would refer to them amongst ourselves as well-known Civil War sites such as the Roy Rogers in Leesburg, Apple Blossom Mall in Winchester, and the McDonald's in Woodstock.

Following a mountain top lecture we had a picnic lunch in the vicinity of the former signal station. There is always a picnic lunch on a Poland field trip and sometimes even at a place with a bathroom. Churchyards were always a favorite picnicking ground, but we have used roadsides and vacant lots as well as, on rare occasions, real picnic grounds with real picnic tables. As to bathrooms we could always count on Dr. Poland's long suffering wife, Mrs. Betty Poland, making him stop occasionally in recognition of the more elementary needs of humankind. On several occasions we had lengthy time periods between stops followed by a stop at a limited facility, and, hence, generated comically (in retrospect) long lines.

Betty Poland goes on all field trips. Not many realized that for the Poland's this was always the second time, since a week or two earlier they had run the route to ensure adequate parking at the various stops, and to pick a picnic ground for lunch. I once asked Betty why she went on all these trips, and her reply was simply that if she didn't she would never see her husband.

Coming down from Clark's Mountain we traveled the route of Ewell's corps to the Wilderness on the old Orange Turnpike, pausing at Mine Run to briefly discuss the Mine Run campaign of November 1863. Here is another hallmark in the identification of relevant antecedents. Recall that it was Lee's reaction to Meade's movements in this campaign that led the leaders of the Army of the Potomac to believe they had ample time to halt in the Wilderness on the night of 5 May.

We ended the day at the Brock Road – Orange Plank Road intersection where another hallmark was revealed. On a blank butcher pad attached to an easel Dr. Poland sketched out the roads through the Wilderness in such a fashion that they formed the very rough outline of a bird, which he termed "The Bird of the Wilderness", a simple but effective device for remembering the main cultural-geographical features of this battlefield. This was not a one-time thing. In later years on other fields we

encountered the "Ghost of Spotsylvania," "the Drinking Elephant of Third Winchester," "The Bowing Chinaman of Saylor's Creek," and was it "The Bathtub of Fredericksburg"?

The next field trip began where this one left off and proceeded from there, incredibly, to cover the remainder of the Overland Campaign all the way through the end of the fighting at Cold Harbor. On this trip were born the criteria for a "Poland Death March"; namely, that it must be at least twelve hours in duration, the distance traveled must be more than 300 miles, and the temperature must rise to 90 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. There have been a fair number of these over the years. Commercial or institutional field trips never abuse their participants in such a manner, but we have been engaged in the higher pursuit of academic excellence (or something). Any complaints were always met with the rejoinder that the original participants had done it on foot in the rain with nothing to eat while wearing wool uniforms.

At some time on that original field trip Dr. Poland mentioned something about a raid being carried out by Colonel Mosby somewhere in the Northern Virginia area. Rare indeed was the field trip that didn't draw at least a passing reference to Mosby and sometimes John Brown as well. Many, many Mosby sites have been included in the passing series of field trips, and several field trips have been exclusively about Mosby's activities. Dr. Poland also has a separate field trip just on John Brown and the events of the fall of 1859. Indeed, in my opinion it is of all his field trips the most eloquent and moving, and in its somberness one can feel the impending disaster of the war to come.

Some of the early war engagements and many of the guerilla engagements were quite small. Smallness has never been a deterrent to a Dr. Poland stop on a field trip. Most of the readers of this newsletter will have been to the sites of the truly titanic clashes such as Gettysburg and Fredericksburg (about 200,000 participants), but unless you have campaigned with Poland you are most unlikely to have visited the site of the first casualty of the Civil War (or of the first amputation of the war or of the second amputation of the war). Near Fetterman, Virginia (now West Virginia) on the night of May 22, 1861, private Thornsberry Bailey Brown, US Army, was shot dead by a Confederate outpost, thus earning himself immortality as the first fatality of the war. If you have campaigned with Poland you have been to the site of his death; and, not only there, but to the site of a monument commemorating his

death; and, not only there, but to his gravesite in the National Cemetery in Grafton, West Virginia. Lieutenant Wilson was with Private Thornsberry and sent him forward (some things never change) and there were possibly three Confederates manning the outpost, hence a total of perhaps five participants. This may be the record for minimum size, but the ambush killing of the Confederate guerilla Mobberly wins on diversity, having as participants or props five Yankees, two Confederates, one horse, a barn, a barking dog and a cow with a tinkling bell. If you want to know more you will have to take that course.

One last and unique hallmark of a Poland Advanced Civil War History course is that it concludes with a Saturday evening cookout at Dr. Poland's house in Chantilly located on, I am not making this up, Poland Road. There we enjoy hot dogs and hamburgers along with tales of Civil War field trips of yore and death marches survived, and Dr. Poland presents awards for those who have made it all the way around.

That one field trip in the summer of 1987 was the first of many, many, many more to come. I have taken History 298 each time it has been offered since then (my children find it hilarious each year when I get the post card from NVCC saying that with all my credit hours I need to apply for a degree). Each course consists of an organizing session at the college, four day long Saturday field trips, and a special student project on some facet of the war. Each course covers only a segment of the War or a special topic; e.g. The Overland Campaign, Sheridan in the Valley, Guerillas of Northern Virginia. From John Brown to Appomattox took nine years the first time around which I finished some years ago. After the course this fall I will have been around twice which I believe may be a record for a student, but still naturally exceeded by Doctor and Mrs. Poland who are at 2.5 turns. I have told him that I can keep this up as long as he can, even after going through four automobiles and five cameras (still the same long suffering wife despite all this), and my children who once accompanied me having grown up and had children of their own.

Much has changed in seventeen years of tramping the battlefields. Most notable is the growing encroachment of exurbia and suburbia. Long suffering wife Patty once described a Poland Civil War stop as, "this bunch goes out in the middle of a weed field on a hot day and gets all excited and start pointing in all directions". This is a fair enough description, or would have been the first time around the war. By the second turn there was likely

to be a new road and a Sheetz Superstation, and by the third turn a divided highway, a Wal-Mart, and a Taco Bell. Some battlefields are now gone altogether (Chantilly, Salem Church), some are islands in the midst of suburbia (Manassas) and the others are on the way to becoming islands, that is, what is left of them. Even such formerly remote rural sites as Trevilian Station are now threatened with housing and commercial development. On the other hand, much has been saved, especially in the Shenandoah Valley and in the Richmond/Petersburg Area. The destruction of the Chantilly Battlefield in the early 1980's was the wake up call for the Civil War Battlefield preservation movement, and much has been done since, but my observation is that this is a job for our generation, that what can be saved must be saved soon, and that all who are interested in protecting our Civil War heritage must support this cause now.

Some year's back it occurred to Dr. Poland that of all the Eastern Theater historians, he was the only one to have ever visited all the sites, however insignificant or obscure, and that he should bring this treasure trove of knowledge to bear by writing a book about the War in the East (or this is how I have imagined his motivation). This book is now in the final stages of being published and, so far as I am concerned, it will be the Civil War publishing event of this century. Perhaps he will return to our Round Table at some point in the future to speak about it. For now, I am greatly looking forward to Dr. Poland's talk in July and challenge all the listeners to be alert to the references to John Brown and Mosby, and with any luck we will be cartographically entertained as well.

Upcoming Speaker Schedule

10 July – Dr. Charles Poland: Reconstruction: Nature and Controversy, Including Loudon and Fairfax Counties.

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

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
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