



## GEORGE KUNDAHL: “ALEXANDRIA DURING the CIVIL WAR”

Major General (Ret.) George G. Kundahl, USAR, is returning to speak to our Round Table on December 9th for our General Membership meeting. His topic of *Alexandria During the Civil War* is based on his most recent book by that title, and will certainly interest those who wish to know more about what happened to Alexandria during a very interesting time period.

Alexandria became an important Union occupied city. The Union forts on the outside edge of the city were key in defending the northern capital of Washington, DC and in the training of troops. Since Alexandria was the terminus for the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, the city increased in strategic importance when the railroad was put to military use to transport troops and supplies to the Virginia battlefields.

The Potomac River front was filled with loading docks and ships. Repair shops bustled with activity, and huge bakeries were built to provide bread for soldiers. Civilian houses were confiscated to serve as officers' headquarters, and churches became stables.

In addition to the erection of hospitals for military use, structures such as hotels, houses, and churches were taken over for the care of the thousands of wounded or sick soldiers. The local population that remained in Alexandria had to adapt to a different and drastic way of living.

Many of us well-remember that our speaker first addressed our group in June of 2001 on the interesting topic of his book, *Confederate Engineer: Training and Campaigning with John Morris Wample*. MG (Ret.) George G. Kundahl, USAR, received his undergraduate degree from Davidson College. Subsequently he earned a Master of Arts and a



*Happy Holidays*

PH.D degree in political science from the University of Alabama.

MG Kundahl served as the Executive Director of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission between 1981 - 1990. For the next three years (1990 - 1993) he was assigned to the Pentagon as a Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense. MG Kundahl was also the Chief of Staff of the Military Order of the World Wars based in Alexandria, Virginia from 1996 - 2000.

During his distinguished career in the U.S. Army Reserves, he occupied a series of progressively higher leadership positions, culminating with that of Commanding General, 97th Army Reserve Command, headquartered at Fort Meade, Maryland.

Join us at our December 9th General Membership Meeting for what will undoubtedly be a most informative presentation. MG Kundahl also will be available to sell and autograph copies of his book.

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 2004**  
**7:15 PM**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Major General (Ret.) George G. Kundahl, USAR**

**SUBJECT:**

**Alexandria During The Civil War**

**LOCATION:**

**The Centreville Regional Library  
14200 St. Germain Drive  
Centreville, VA 20121-2299**

**In This Issue**

President's Column	Page 3
After Action Report: <b>Cold Harbor</b>	Page 4
Preservation Notes	Page 5
Newsletter Changing Hands	Page 6
Preservation Corner	Page 7
Civil War Museum NVCC	Page 9
View from Way Back	Page 10
Christmas at Liberia	Page 12
Events	Page 13

**INCLEMENT WEATHER SOP**

In the event of inclement weather during the fall and winter months, the following procedures will be followed:

**GENERAL**

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

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

1. Call John McAnaw at 703.978.3371. Either he or a recorded message will advise the caller, or
2. Call the Centreville Regional Library at 703.830.2223. A staff member will tell you if the meeting is on or not.

**TOURS**

1. Contact the Chief Tour Guide. The name, email address and/or telephone number of the Chief Tour Guide for each tour will be published in the monthly newsletter.
2. In the event that the Chief Tour Guide cannot be reached, call John McAnaw at 703.978.3371. Either he or a recorded message will provide the requested information.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table publishes the STONE WALL monthly. General Membership 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**  
**703.803.2223**

For specific meeting dates and information, please visit the WEBSITE:

<http://bullruncwrt.org>

***BRCWRT Board of Directors***

**President:** John McAnaw  
 JPMTOG29@aol.com  
 703.978.3371

**Immediate Past President:**  
 Keith Young  
 RKeith\_Young@compuserve.com

**Vice-President:** Charlie Balch  
 cabalch@aol.com

**Treasurer:** Mark Knowles  
 703.787.9811

**Secretary:** Nancy Anwyll  
 Nanwyll@Patriot.net

**At Large:**  
 John DePue  
 Drew Lavan  
 Sandra Cox

**Field Trips:** Kevin Anastas  
 KKA2@cox.net

**Webmaster:** Maureen Reigh Quinn  
 MRQuinn@Patriot.net

**Newsletter Preparation:**  
 Maureen Reigh Quinn  
 Sandra Cox  
 Nancy Anwyll  
 Ken Jones

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

— *by John P McAnaw*

Our general membership meeting on 9 December will wrap up another year of the existence of Bull Run Civil War Round Table. We will close out our year with a presentation by the multi-talented historian, George Kundahl. He will speak about his just-published book, *Alexandria During the Civil War*. Also, as a reminder, all members are invited to attend our annual Christmas get-together which will precede the 9 December meeting. Take time to talk to at least four or five members that you do not know.

**The current Round Table year will end on 31 December 2004.** Thus, now is a good time to give an account of our activities, to date, during 2004 and to thank those who contributed to our success this year.

Our membership is at an all-time high. Thanks to prudent management of our limited funds, the annual dues remain the same as they were 13 ½ years ago when Bill Miller founded the Round Table. Also, the high quality of our monthly newsletter was a definite asset to the Round Table. During the year we conducted outstanding tours of Civil War battlefields, plus other significant sites, both locally and regionally. Throughout the year we have had a first-rate speakers program that featured many well-known historians headed by the Chief Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service, Ed Bearss.

Further, the Round Table was directly involved in a number of worthwhile efforts to preserve Civil War sites. Before year's end the Round Table's final donations for 2004 will be made to Civil War preservationist organizations. A listing of our contributions will be in the January 2005 newsletter. Lastly, another reason for our successful year was the camaraderie of our members, both during our tours and at our meetings. These were enjoyable events.

**all members are invited to attend our annual Christmas get-together which will precede the 9 December meeting**

In closing, I want to thank everyone who, in one way or another, participated in the activities of the BRCWRT during 2004. In particular, I thank members of the Executive Committee, plus others who provided assistance to our organization this past year:

Executive Committee: Keith Young, Charlie Balch, Mark Knowles, Nancy Anwyll, John DePue, Drew Lavan, Saundra Cox, Kevin Anastas, Maureen Quinn.

Others: Tim Duskin, Bob Hickey, Ken Jones, Blake Myers, Bill Olson, Bev Regeimbal, Mike Shannon, Mark Trbovich, Ed Wenzel, Dale Maschino and Harvey Simon.

**Our membership is at an all-time high. Thanks to prudent management of our limited funds, the annual dues remain the same as they were 13 ½ years ago**

I hope everyone has a holy Christmas plus a happy and productive 2005. It was a pleasure to have worked with you this past year.



**"Santa Civil War"**  
Illustration courtesy Son of the South,  
[www.sonofthesouth.net](http://www.sonofthesouth.net)



## AFTER ACTION REPORT: BRCWRT FALL TOUR TO COLD HARBOR

— by *Maureen Reigh Quinn*



Kevin gives the overview for the tour at the Linkup Point, BRCWRT Fall Tour, 2 October, 2004

Promptly at 9:15 AM on Saturday, 2 October, 2004, 20 BRCWRT members arrived at the linkup point on I-95 to begin our Fall Tour of Cold Harbor. Kevin gave a brief overview of the day's stops and points of interest and we headed out on a beautiful, sunny, early fall day.

We learned early on that we were all pretty "caravan challenged", as those in the front would peel off to the destination while those in the back couldn't help but do a bit of sight-seeing, the scenery being what it is around there, and would, of course, miss the turn!

Stops on the tour included Nelson's Bridge, Enon Church (Haw's Shop), Bethesda Church, Beulah Church, the Garthright House and finally, the Cold Harbor battlefield.

**knowing that any utensil available was used as a digging tool, the group gained a greater appreciation for the ingenuity and creativity of these men**

the large cavalry battle, 10,000+ cavalry troops, that took place around Haw's Shop, with losses from both

sides totaling over 700.

On to the swamps at Totopotomoy and then to Bethesda Church. Vicious fighting here resulted in casualties of over 800 total – and ravenous mosquitoes only added to the misery. The Union was victorious here, however, which gave Grant the notion that the Confederacy was wavering, beginning its final demise. This set up the action at Cold Harbor.

Beulah Church. Our discussion centered around two notable occurrences. 1) The switcheroo of troop positions, where each side flip-flops into the other's position and 2) The direct/redirect/mis-direct orders that sends (Baldy) Smith to Newcastle Ferry instead of to Cold Harbor, which leaves only cavalry at Cold Harbor – with the Confederates advancing. Though hasty defenses were prepared it was Sheridan who felt it was HIS troops who beat back the Confederates, giving his cavalry another great accomplishment. Well, maybe.

With mid-day upon us, the group stopped at the Garthright House location, where we continued to enjoy the wonderful weather and stopped to eat a picnic lunch. Discussion continued as we reviewed some of the morning's topics: from troop movement to management to morale, wrong assumptions, insufficient information, suffering in the swamps – just the regular topics during our lunchtime tour picnics.

The Cold Harbor battlefield. This battlefield is unique among battlefields, containing many still-visible, still-deep trench lines. Looking over these trenches, we were very aware of the meaning of these positions – and their ominous portent some fifty years hence.

Among the points Kevin discussed: the fact that troops remained in these trenches, under the hot sun, for some 13 days, constantly adding more zig-zag trench lines. He also pointed out the widespread feeling among the ranks that nobody was in charge, the case being that neither Meade nor Grant visited the front during this time, and this resulted in a great lack of understanding of the terrain and positions – not the best way to coordinate troops! Union attacks were never affective, losses for the Union were over 6,000 and for the Confederacy, 1,500.

— continued on Page 5, Column 1

## BRCWRT Fall Tour...

– *Continued from Page 4, Column 2*

The group hiked the short loop through the woods where we were able to view many more trenches, getting a very realistic feel for the desperate measures taken by forces on both sides. Seeing the size of some of the trenches (some well over 4 feet deep and 20 feet long) and knowing that any utensil available, no matter how small, was used as a digging tool, the group gained a greater appreciation for the ingenuity and creativity of these men – undernourished, under-rested, under-managed and under fire.

**This battlefield is unique among battlefields, containing many still-visible, still-deep trench lines**

Finishing our brief hike, we assembled one last time at the small Park Service building where we applauded Kevin for another informative, educational and well-planned tour. Kevin bid us farewell and the group departed. So ended another memorable BRCWRT Fall Tour.

### Tour Participants

Mary Ahrens, Lyle Loveall, Ken Jones, Mike Shanon, Harlan & Sharon Lenius, Dom Bumbaca, Charlie Balch, Nancy Anwyll, Sandra Cox, Bev Regeimbal, Chris Soester, Janet Greentree, Bob Park, Fred Schmidtman, Bud Porter, Dan Lundeen, Mark Labeda, Keith Young, Maureen Quinn.



## PRESERVATION NOTES

– *by John P McAnaw*

*The Pictorial Heritage of the Wolf Run Shoals Area During the Civil War*

Regarding Civil War photographs and war-time sketches by artists of sites along the 17.9-mile Bull Run-Occoquan Trail, there are two specific areas that are of great importance. One is the terrain vicinity Union Mills (including the Bull Run Railroad Bridge). The other is the land bordering Wolf Run Shoals Road, from south of Henderson Road to the Occoquan shoreline in Fairfax County.

Historian Kevin Ruffner noted that more than 50 photographs, sketches, maps and lithographs were made at or near Union Mills. Such notable artists as Matthew Brady and Alexander Gardner photographed sites in this part of Fairfax and Prince William Counties. As one of his first works, the famous war correspondent and artist Edwin Forbes sketched the Bull Run Bridge. Also, an unheralded but very talented U.S. Army officer, Captain Andrew J. Russell, took numerous photographs vicinity Union Mills and along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

Further, a “photographic artist” named George Harper Houghton from Vermont, made numerous photographs of the sites described above plus the Wolf Run Shoals area on the Occoquan River. Another Vermonter, Pvt. William Henry Jackson of the 12<sup>th</sup> Vermont Infantry Regiment, also made many sketches of the Union Mills and Wolf Run Shoals areas during the same timeframe. Both artists focused their work on the Vermont soldiers stationed at these locations.

Mr. Houghton and Pvt. Jackson are responsible for the pictorial heritage that we have today of the Wolf Run Shoals area during the Civil War. Further enhancing the historical value of the land photographed and sketched by these two individuals is the fact that the terrain on both sides of Wolf Run Shoals Road from Henderson Road south to the Occoquan River is little changed from its appearance all the way back to the Civil War - and beyond that, before the Revolutionary War.

— *continued on Page 6, Column 1*

## Wolf Run Shoals

— continued from Page 5, Column 2

To a great extent, the landscape has not been mauled by developers. In contrast, vicinity Union Mills, there have been significant changes particularly along the bed of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad (now the Norfolk Southern). In 1904-1905 the railroad bed was straightened, widened and double-tracked. The bed of Popes Head Creek was altered to conform to these changes. In the 1990s large stanchions were erected on the high ground north of the railroad tracks for the power line running from Clifton to Cannon Fort in Manassas. A number of Civil War sites were destroyed on the ridges overlooking the railroad bed. Though scarred by post Civil War developments, the Union Mills area still remains a highly desirable area to visit. However, it is overshadowed by the relatively undisturbed terrain vicinity Wolf Run Shoals. At the latter location, the magnificence of the scenery, the presence of important Civil War sites, and the unobtrusive nature of manmade structures make the area a privilege to trek through and study.

The terrain along Wolf Run Shoals Road, from Henderson Road south to the shoreline of the Occoquan River, should be protected from further development and easements for utility companies.

### References:

1. Benedict, George Grenville. *Army Life in Virginia: The Civil War Letters of George G. Benedict*, edited by Eric Ward. Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg.
2. Coffin, Howard. *Nine Months to Gettysburg: Stannard's Vermonters and the Repulse of Pickett's Charge*. The Countryman Press. Woodstock, VT 1997.
3. Ruffner, Kevin Conley. "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground." *The Civil War History of Union Mills, Fairfax County, VA. Part Two: The Illustrative Legacy*. Study for the Fairfax History Commission. 1 June 1992.



**"Christmas Eve"**  
Illustration courtesy Son of the South,  
[www.sonofthesouth.net](http://www.sonofthesouth.net)

## NEWSLETTER CHANGING HANDS

— by Maureen R Quinn

It has been my pleasure over the past year to publish our monthly newsletter. Being part of the process that provides our group timely, accurate and entertaining information has been a unique experience. However, I have found that because of the time commitment for this task our website has gotten extremely short shrift all year. Since the website is my main area of interest, I am anxious to finally concentrate my efforts on making our "national face" one that is top-notch among Civil War Round Tables. As always, I welcome our members' participation!

With pleasure, I hand over the responsibility of producing Stone Wall to Mr. Ed Essertier. Articles for the newsletter should be sent directly to Ed. **All other correspondence, inquiries, comments and information should continue to come to me for dissemination to the membership. Also, I will continue to send out the newsletter via the website link.**

— continued on Page 7, Column 1



## Newsletter

— continued from Page 6, Column 2

A sincere “thank-you” goes to Nancy Anwyll and Sandra Cox – they are the real producers of this newsletter! Without their consistent efforts and coordination of membership information we would never see hard copy, e-copy – or ANY copy! And thanks to Mark Knowles, who keeps all of the membership information up-to-date. Many thanks to Ken Jones and others who have given their time in order to get articles typed. I enjoy working with all of these folks – and will continue to enjoy working with them and many of you as we make the website a truly useful and informative tool that ALL Round Tables will use as a resource!

Maureen



## THE ROUND TABLE MEETING ON 11 NOVEMBER 2004 – VETERANS DAY

— by John P McAnaw

The closure of the Centreville Regional Library on our meeting date, 11 November (Veterans Day), necessitated a change of location to VFW “Blue and Gray” Post 8469 in Fairfax Station. Surprisingly, by head count, 53 members showed up to listen to Keith Young’s highly informative presentation on the experiences of a talented Confederate artist named John J. Omenhausser, imprisoned at Point Lookout, Md.

Also, member Bob Hickey gave a superbly researched account of a deadly skirmish right outside the front door of the Post, on 8 August 1864. The combat was between 39 of Mosby’s Rangers and 60 cavalymen from the 13 and 16 New York. Mosby’s Rangers won.

I extend my thanks to Post 8469 Commander Ralph Smith for allowing us to use the VFW Post Home for the meeting. The Post’s hospitality was most appreciated. Summing up, I believe all in attendance enjoyed their visit to my VFW Post.

## PRESERVATION CORNER

— by John P McAnaw

### A MODEL FOR SUCCESS

**The Mount Zion Church Preservation Association, Inc.**

The Mount Zion Church Preservation Association, Inc. (MZCPA) was formed to preserve, promote and protect the 1851 Mount Zion Old School Baptist Church at 40309 John Mosby Highway in eastern Loudoun County. Many members of our Round Table

**Loan funds will be available in December 2004 to pay off the current titleholder, Robert McCormick of Architectural Systems, Inc., the bridging loan and the loan expenses.**

have visited this historic place of worship and adjacent cemetery. Mount Zion Church is an important landmark and serves as Loudoun County’s gateway into the Mosby Heritage Area. On 22 December 1997 the MZCPA members adopted a mission statement to accomplish the goals outlined above.

Worthy of note, the MZCPA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and has been very successful in raising funds to attain its goals.

Of note, on 6 July 1864 LTC John S. Mosby and his Rangers inflicted a severe defeat on Union cavalry, commanded by MAJ William H. Forbes at Mount Zion Church. Union losses totaled 12 killed, 37 wounded (some mortally) and about 45 captured. Mosby lost one mortally wounded and six wounded.

During the war the Gilbert Farm was located across the Little River Turnpike from the church. That part of the Gilbert Farm closest to the Mount Zion Church was known as the “Yankee” Davis Farm. This latter cited farm was part of the Mount Zion Church battlefield of 6 July 1864. Also, the barn of the “Yankee” Davis Farm served as a hospital, handling casualties of the

**Mount Zion Church Preservation Association, Inc., were keenly aware of the... value of the 88.6 acres comprising the Mosby Run property, and they devised plans to save it from development. And save it they did!**

— continued on Page 8, Column 1

## Preservation Corner

– *continued from Page 7, Column 2*

engagements of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville, in June 1863.

Howser’s Branch and three unnamed perennial tributary streams flow through the property. A major flood plain and a minor flood plain are present

**MZCPA President Brad Bradshaw plus fellow association officers, directors and advisory members deserve the thanks of Civil War preservationists everywhere**

on what was the “Yankee” Davis Farm of the Civil War. At an unknown date well after the Civil War the “Yankee” Davis Farm property became known as Mosby Run. The members of the Mount Zion Church Preservation Association, Inc., were keenly aware of the archaeological,

historical and commercial value of the 88.6 acres comprising the Mosby Run property, and they devised plans to save it from development. And save it they did!

On 6 September 2004, MZCPA officers announced that their organization had been selected for a ten-year loan of \$1,400,000 from the Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund (VCWRLF) for use on its 88.6-acre Mosby Run property. Again, the MZCPA was eligible for cited loan by virtue of being a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

This loan is administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Construction Assistance Program, on behalf of the State Water Control Board, which has developed guidelines and administers the Land Conservation Loan Program. Primary purposes of this revolving loan program include:

1. Retaining or protecting the natural open-space values of real property .
2. Assuring the availability of real property for agriculture, forestry, recreational or open-space use.
3. Protecting natural resources.
4. Maintaining or enhancing air and water quality.
5. Preserving the historic, architectural or archaeological aspects of real property.

The Mount Zion Church Preservation Association held a dedication ceremony for its recently acquired Mosby Run property of 88.6 acres on Sunday, 24 October 2004. MZCPA President Brad Bradshaw plus fellow association officers, directors and advisory members deserve the thanks of Civil War preservationists everywhere for their actions that resulted in the acquisition of the Mosby Run property. Loan funds will be available in December 2004 to pay off the current titleholder, Robert McCormick of Architectural Systems, Inc., the bridging loan and the loan expenses. This will permit the MZCPA to obtain fee simple title to the land.

**On 6 September 2004, MZCPA officers announced that their organization had been selected for a ten-year loan of \$1,400,000**

Brad Bradshaw is the President of the MZCPA. Bill Etue is one of the organization’s Directors. Also, Chief Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service Ed Bearss is an Advisory Member. All are members of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Pretty good company, eh?



**\*\*\* BRCWT BOOKS SALES \*\*\***

**Please remember to bring your used Civil War books to our meetings to aid in our ongoing book sales. Besides helping to raise money for the BRCWRT, these books also help raise our members' understanding of the War.**

**THANK YOU !**



## **CIVIL WAR MUSEUM AT NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

— by *E.B.Vandiver III*

A new Civil War Museum opened in Fairfax County on Veterans Day. For many years we have seen Northern Virginia Community College's mobile Civil War museum on the roads of Northern Virginia. For decades it visited schools throughout the area, but will no more. Its collection, and more, is now housed in the Godwin Library Building on the Annandale Campus.

Dr. Charles Poland, who spoke at our Roundtable last year, was the originator and operator of the mobile museum that had its genesis as far back as the 1970's. He has long been a member of the faculty of the College. For a considerable period of time he was the Chairman of the History Department, but escaped those administrative burdens some years ago. He is today a Professor of History and teaches American History, Civil War History, Military Operations of the Civil War, and, of course, the annual Advanced Seminar and Field Trip course that I lovingly described last year in *The Stonewall* in an article entitled "Campaigning with Poland". He is also now the NVCC Director of the Civil War Museum.

Years ago the College's collection of Civil War artifacts exceeded the display capacity of the mobile museum, and were put on display in the Godwin Library. More recently, the cost of owning and operating the mobile museum could no longer be borne, and the remainder of the collection was put on display in a redesigned museum. Dr Poland and his wife Betty designed and constructed the new museum. It occupies the West wall of the second floor reading room of the Godwin Library, and consists of wall mounted graphic displays and display cases containing artifacts. There are four

**Years ago the College's collection of Civil War artifacts exceeded the display capacity of the mobile museum**

sizeable wall displays entitled: Soldiers; Artillery and Edged Weapons; Medicine and Disease; and Women. Each has a number of poster-sized panels with text and illustrations on these themes. Adjacent to the graphic displays are cases of artifacts ( nine in total) representing many major facets of the war and soldier

and home front life. They include uniforms and uniform items such as buttons and buckles; personal equipment and weapons; soldier personal items such as eyeglasses, pipes, and playing cards; swords and other edged weapons; artillery projectiles and fuses, documents such as bonds, currency, letters and photographs; and medical and surgical items. Some unique items are small dioramas of two battles (Ball's Bluff and Wilson's Creek ) to illustrate battlefield maneuvers, and a brick from Richmond's Libby Prison. This listing is only a sample indicative of the breadth and variety of artifacts.

On the evening of Veterans Day the College sponsored an open house to introduce the new museum to the public. Dr. Poland and Betty were there to greet the viewers and answer questions. Many of the stalwart veterans of Dr. Poland's famous field trips were present along with interested faculty, staff and students. I interviewed Dr. Poland for this article, which I advised him I would try to get into the next edition of *The Stonewall*.

**Dr. Charles Poland, who spoke at our Roundtable last year, was the originator and operator of the mobile museum**

The museum is accessible whenever the library is open for student use, which is most of the time during the school year. When visiting it is best to use the metered parking places rather than student or faculty parking, which, without the proper permits, will get you a ticket or possibly towed. Even so, a few quarters for parking is a small price for admission to such an admirably designed and constructed portrayal of the most significant event in American history since the Revolution.



## VIEW FROM WAY BACK

— submitted by Maureen R Quinn

### *The Military Funeral of Billy Gilliam from "Wit, Mirth & Splen"*

IN JULY 1930 the Reverend Dr. W.A.R. Goodwin invited some noteworthy Williamsburg citizens to his Wythe House offices and asked them to make audio recordings of their recollections of the city's past. Among his guests was lawyer Ashton Dovell.

A former speaker of Virginia's House of Delegates, Dovell could tell a story, and among the stories he told the machine was the story of Billy Gilliam's funeral. Preserved in Colonial Williamsburg's oral history archives, it is a tale still celebrated in some quarters.

"Shortly after the end of the War Between the States," Dovell began, "there was organized here in the City of Williamsburg what was known as Wise's Light Infantry. Captain Richard A Wise, familiarly known as Captain Dick, was the commanding officer of the company. This company was recruited largely from the official personnel of James City County and of the City of Williamsburg."

Properly called Wise's Light Infantry Blues, the organization was part militia and part fraternity. Its men kept their rifles and uniforms in an armory at Duke of Gloucester Street's east end.

"After the company had been organized for several years, one of its number, Billy Gilliam, had died," Dovell said. "Billy Gilliam was a bachelor. His mother was there with him for some time before the end came." They lived on Waller Street beyond the old Capitol grounds.

"When Captain Dick was advised that Billy Gilliam was dead, he called his company together at the armory and proceeded to furnish to the deceased member a military funeral. The hearse consisted of a one-horse wagon; not a horse, but a mule. This proceeded down Duke of Gloucester Street with Captain Dick and the company following in order.

"Reaching the first bar, just outside the armory, the order was given to stack arms, and the company repaired to the bar and was furnished with drink by the commanding officer. The order was then given to fall

— continued on Page 11, Column 1

### \*\*\* BOOK PUBLICATION \*\*\*

#### "GREAT MAPS of the CIVIL WAR" by William J Miller

*BRCWRT Founder & Past President*

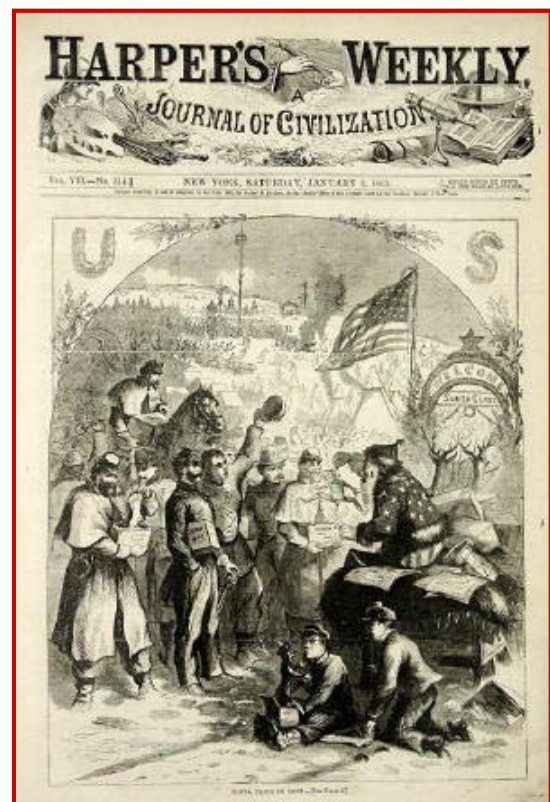
Bill's book has been published and is now on sale. To read about the book and purchase an autographed copy, please use this website link.

<http://www.blacktreehistory.com/newbooks.html>

No web access? You can send a check for \$38.99 (cost is \$34.99 + \$4.00 S&H) to:

Black Tree History Group  
PO Box 91  
Churchville, VA 24421

**CONGRATULATIONS, BILL —**  
*From all of us at the Round Table!*



"Civil War Santa"  
Illustration courtesy Son of the South,  
[www.sonofthesouth.net](http://www.sonofthesouth.net)

## Funeral of Billy Gilliam, con't

### – continued from Page 10, Column 1

in, and the company proceeded east on Duke of Gloucester Street to the second bar."

That bar was on Market Square, and there the company repeated the libation maneuver - as it did again at the Colonial Hotel bar, where Chowning's now stands, and once more at Dickerson's Bar, apparently today's Wetherburn's. Having four times raised a glass to Billy, the company made its way directly to the Gilliam house.

"During those days," Dovell continued, "when funds were, to say the least, meager, coffins were made by local cabinetmakers and carpenters, and they consisted largely of bullpine boards nailed together hurriedly, and a lid formed to make a coffin. Such a coffin had been provided on this occasion. Needless to say, it was very heavy.

"When the company arrived... a detail was directed to go in to bring out the remains." By another account, the detail found Gilliam reposed in his militia uniform - an extravagant waste of the company's slender resources. The detail took him out of the box, banged the lid on his coffin, and carried him upstairs to remove the outfit and save it from the grave. Soon after, a second detail came in and carried the coffin to the hearse. Both versions agree on what happened next.

"The company proceeded back westward on Duke of Gloucester Street. When the head of the company had reached virtually the point where the last drink was taken, and as Captain Wise was about to give an order that the company fall out for refreshments, a Negro boy was heard yelling in the street." The lad was saying that Billy's mother had noticed her boy's corpse in the house, and that the coffin might be consequently empty. Raising the lid and finding that was so, Captain Dick about-faced his men, trooped back to the house, had Billy carried out and laid in his coffin, and resumed the parade to Dickerson's bar.

Refreshed again, Captain Dick reassembled the company and called on its musicians for a dirge. The drummer was young Archie Brooks, the fifer a patient from the Public Hospital, America's first mental institution. Between them they knew one tune: "Hop, Hop, Light Ladies," an upbeat melody that seems to correspond to "Goodnight Ladies."

Captain Dick commanded them to play it very slow. The company, however, had not reached the Colonial's bar before he said, "That's too damn slow; can't you play it a little faster?" and they resumed the melody's step-lively cadence.

After a sixth round on Captain Dick, the men made their way to Cedar Grove Cemetery, the city-owned graveyard adjoining the Public Hospital compound. Dovell described what happened next.

"In their eagerness to put on a brilliant spectacle at this their first military funeral as a military organization, they overlooked the fact that they had no blank cartridges, so the rifles were loaded with the usual ammunition.

"As the casket had been lowered into the grave, and the earth rolled in, they were ordered to sound taps, and a firing squad was ordered to fire a salute across the grave. A number of patients who were permitted the use of the grounds had come out to the cemetery and were sitting on the brick wall. There were a number of cattle in the hospital pasture just beyond this wall. They raised their rifles about to a horizontal plane and fired this salute.

"As they fired the salute, the patients were seen to fall backwards off of the brick wall surrounding the cemetery and several head of cattle to drop in the hospital pasture. The story is told that patients had been wounded and several beeves had been killed by the firing the salute."

In the alternate account, the patients were merely brushed from the wall by a branch the bullets cut from an overhanging tree.

The brick wall still stands, but Billy Gilliam's headstone, if he had a headstone, is gone. His grave is unrecorded; lost. Nevertheless, his memory, at least of his funeral, soldiers on.

*Colonial Williamsburg, Winter 1995-96*

Reprinted by permission of Colonial Williamsburg, the journal of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.





## **CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS at LIBERIA PLANTATION**

— submitted by *Maureen R Quinn*

### **MANASSAS MUSEUM**

#### ***A Civil War Christmas at Liberia Plantation An Evening of Song and Tradition***

Saturday, December 4, 2004

This year's "***A Civil War Christmas at Liberia Plantation,***" will be a unique experience not to be missed! Get in the holiday spirit and join the Manassas Museum System for this pleasant remembrance of the past. See Liberia Mansion trimmed in beautiful period decorations and holiday greenery and learn about 19th century Christmas traditions. Glowing lanterns will guide your way as you journey back to the early days of the Civil War and experience Liberia Plantation as you never have before

This special program will feature the Prince William Little Theatre's cast of "***The Civil War***" singing musical numbers from their upcoming production. Experience with soldiers how they dealt with being away from home during the holidays and join them as they read letters written home to family members.

Welcome the holidays with a guided evening stroll around the luminary-lit grounds of this historic mansion and witness a series of period vignettes about the people who once lived and fought here.

Tours begin from The Manassas Museum every 30 minutes from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. Tickets are \$15 for General Admission and \$12 for Museum Associates. The tour requires walking on uneven ground. The site is currently under development and is not handicapped accessible.

There are a **limited number of tickets available** and they must be purchased in advance on-line at [www.manassasmuseum.org](http://www.manassasmuseum.org) or at *Echoes*, The Manassas Museum Store located at 9101 Prince William Street in Old Town Manassas.

The Manassas Museum will also be hosting their annual **Holiday Open House on Friday, December 3, 2004 from 5:00-8:30 PM** at the Museum. Come see the tree lighting, visit with Santa, and enjoy free refreshments.

The Manassas Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Entrance to the museum is \$3 per person, with discounts for members, senior citizens, and groups. The Museum is free on Sundays. For more information call (703) 368-1873, or visit [www.manassasmuseum.org](http://www.manassasmuseum.org).

The Manassas Museum System  
9101 Prince William Street  
Manassas, Virginia 20110  
Contact: Wendy Comeau, Marketing and Media Coordinator  
Phone: 703-368-1873  
Email: [wcomeau@ci.manassas.va.us](mailto:wcomeau@ci.manassas.va.us)



### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**13 January 2005**

**7:15 PM**

**GUEST SPEAKER: ART CANDENQUIST**

**SUBJECT:  
JEFF DAVIS MUST BE KILLED!  
THE KILPATRICK-DAHLGREN RAID  
ON RICHMOND, 1864**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

– submitted by Sandra Cox

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

*As the Army of Northern Virginia and Army of the Potomac move into winter quarters, take this opportunity to enjoy two exciting exhibits. Both close the end of 2004.*

**“The Legacy of Col. John Singleton Mosby”** at the Manassas Museum. See rare CW and Mosby artifacts never seen before; original Mosby letters with first-hand accounts of his life; his farewell address to his command; Edwin Stoughton’s sword captured by Mosby at Fairfax Court House plus engravings of Mosby and his contemporaries. Info: [www.manassasmuseum.org](http://www.manassasmuseum.org) - \$3 Museum admission.

The rise and fall of **“The Confederate Nation”** at Richmond’s Museum of the Confederacy examines the Confederate government and Confederate people with artifacts, patriotic music, literature, etc. plus a wide variety of “substitute” food and clothing. Info: [www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org) – Museum admission.

**2 Dec-Manassas**, “The Life and Times of John Singleton Mosby” multi-media forum with Gregg Dudding, Don Hakenson, Phil DiModica and Dave

Goetz. Info: Manassas Museum 703.368.1873

**4 Dec-Sharpsburg**, “The Memorial Illumination at Antietam National Battlefield” driving tour with 23,000 candles, one for each soldier killed, wounded or missing during the battle. Opens at 6:00 p.m. Info: [www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti)

**4 Dec-Manassas**, “A Civil War Christmas at Liberia Plantation” includes guided tours and period decorations. Re-enactors will read soldiers’ letters. Hear musical production numbers from the upcoming musical “The Civil War”, a collaboration of the Manassas Museum and the Prince William Little Theatre. Info: [www.manassasmuseum.org](http://www.manassasmuseum.org) for tickets. \$15

**10-12 Dec-Fredericksburg**, “The 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Battle of Fredericksburg”. For the complete schedule of events, check out the following website: [www.47thva.org](http://www.47thva.org).

**12 Dec-Fredericksburg**, “Irish Brigade Walking Tour” with NPS Historian Frank O’Reilly. Follow the route of the Irish Brigade in their charge toward Marye’s Heights. 12:00-2:00. Meet at City Dock. Free.

**12 Dec-Brandy Station**, “Old Time Christmas Celebration at the Graffiti House” with tours, music and stories. Info: 540.727.7718 Free

**Jan-Feb-Manassas**, “The Civil War” a play by Frank Wildhorn, Jack Murphy and Gregory Boyd. Winter premier of this musical extravaganza incorporating letters, diaries, and historical documents. Info: Prince William Little Theatre, 703.330.PRWM.

If you would like an event posted, please email Sandra at [scox@capitalav.com](mailto:scox@capitalav.com) or call 703.675.0702.

### Submission Deadlines

For the **JANUARY** issue of Stone Wall:

**Deadline for hand-written articles**  
to typists is **DECEMBER 22nd**

**Deadline to email articles:**  
**DECEMBER 29th**

Submit articles via email to **Ed Essertier**

[eessertier@aol.com](mailto:eessertier@aol.com)

*Happy New Year*



**BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

**The Stone Wall**

**P.O. Box 2147**

**Centreville, VA 20122**

**2004 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—\$15.00; Family—\$25.00; and Student (age 22 & under) - \$10.00. 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 you can mail it to:

Mark Knowles  
Treasurer  
169 Applegate Drive  
Sterling, VA 20164

OR

BRCWRT  
PO Box 2 147  
Centreville, VA 20122

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_