



WILLIAM STYLE: “WRITING AND FIGHTING THE CIVIL WAR: CONFEDERATE AND UNION SOLDIER CORRESPONDENTS PLUS THE LETTERS OF PETER WELLINGTON ALEXANDER, AN EMBEDDED CONFEDERATE REPORTER”

Our guest speaker at our monthly meeting on 14 October 2004 will be the talented historian, Bill Style. He was born and raised in Kearny, NJ. In fact, he still lives there. He informed me that Ox Hill Park in Kearny, NJ is much larger than the tiny remnant (4.8 acres) of the Ox Hill Battlefield here in Fairfax County where MG Philip Kearny, USA was killed on 1 September 1862. Would you like to hazard a guess as to who is the subject of his research for a future book? None other than Phil Kearny! Bill presently operates a business in Kearny where he is also the town historian.

Bill Style has authored, co-authored and edited a number of works on the American Civil War. These include:

1. *The Little Bugler* (1999). He was awarded the Young Readers Award by the Civil War Round Table of New York for authoring this book.
2. *Writing and Fighting the Civil War: Soldier Correspondence to the New York Sunday Mercury* (2000)
3. *Writing and Fighting the Confederate War: The Letters of Peter Wellington Alexander, Confederate War Correspondent* (2002)
4. *Writing and Fighting the Civil War: Correspondents in the Army of Northern Virginia* (2004)
5. *What Death More Glorious: A Biography of BG Strong Vincent* (This book is a particular favorite of Ed Bearss.)
6. *Our Noble Blood: The Translated Civil War Letters of Philippe Regis de Trobiand*

The amount of research conducted by Bill during the preparation of his “Writing and Fighting” books is truly impressive. Further, for one highly regarded book he tapped a vein of valuable firsthand material when he painstakingly reviewed every page of virtually every issue of the *New York Sunday Mercury*. This periodical had no paid correspondents in the field covering the war. Rather, the *Sunday Mercury* management published correspondence received directly from Union soldiers and sailors (primarily in the Eastern Theater).

In the Foreword written for Style’s book, re letters in the *Sunday Mercury*, Ed Bearss wrote that “They did not write from hindsight, nor are they as prone to exaggerate their personal roles.”

By a stroke of good fortune, Bill gained access to a superb collection of letters written by Peter Wellington Alexander. Mr. Alexander was a very perceptive civilian correspondent who had access to many senior Confederate military and civilian leaders. Bill’s book (editor) on Alexander’s letters was well received.

Join us at 7:15 P.M. on 14 October for an eye-opening presentation on Confederate and Union soldier correspondents plus one very influential and perceptive Confederate civilian correspondent from the *Savannah Republican* who has been transported from obscurity by Bill Style to a position of prominence in the pantheon of Civil War reporters.

Our OCTOBER meeting takes place at Centreville Public Library on Thursday, October 14th. The meeting begins at 7:15 PM

PLEASE JOIN US

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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>

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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.

PRESERVATION CORNER

— *submitted by John P McAnaw*

The Southern Cross of Honor, a Valley Soldier and the A-Fort

Mrs. Mary Cobb Erwin of the Athens, GA, Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) is generally credited for creating the Southern Cross of Honor (SCH). The medal was approved by the UDC in October 1898 and adopted in November 1898. The wording of the approved resolution was as follows.

Whereas, It has been the custom of every civilized nation to bestow upon its members of the Army and Navy, and such others as peculiarly deserve it, medals and crosses of honor, such as the Victoria Cross of England, the Iron Cross of Germany, and the Cross of the Legion of Honor of France, and medals and crosses bestowed by the United States Government; and

Whereas, We, the Daughters of the Confederacy, recognizing the fact that the army and navy of the Confederate States have never had such decorations conferred upon them consider it especially our duty and privilege to supply the deficiency; and

Whereas, Every veteran of the army and navy of the Confederate States “quitted themselves like men” in the “times that tried men’s souls,” and gave an exhibition of dauntless and unyielding courage in the face of overwhelming odds, such as has never been known in the history of the world, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the Daughters of the Confederacy, do confer upon each and every member of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States of America a cross, to be known as “The Southern Cross of the Legion of Honor,” to be handed down from one generation to another as the most priceless heritage, bought as it was, with the blood of their fathers, and though of no intrinsic value within itself, to stand as a principle, pure in patriotism, and dauntless in courage.

Resolved, That upon those who distinguished themselves by remarkable feats of courage, the cross to be attached to a laurel leaf pin, to distinguish it as a special mark of valor.

Resolved, That it be made a feature of Memorial

Day to confer these crosses.

The Southern Cross of Honor was the most common medal awarded by various post-war organizations for honorable service in the armed forces of the Confederacy. Almost 2500 SCH medals were awarded Confederate veterans on Confederate Memorial Day, 26 April 1900. In subsequent years, many thousands of additional confederate veterans received the bronze SCH medal – a desirable badge of honor and recognition for the ageing soldiers, sailors and marines. By 1904 there were more than 35,000 recipients. Nine years later the count of SCH medals presented to Confederate veterans reach 78,761!!

However, as Gregg Clemmer pointed out, “Yet despite the many examples of this medal that were presented, it is a decoration not commonly seen today...perhaps because so many were still pinned to the coats of the old Veterans when the casket was closed.”

Approximately five years ago I was given a Southern Cross of Honor Medal. Information that accompanied the medal indicated that the SCH medal had once belonged to a Valley soldier named David H. Hottle.

As the result of a tour of the Cedar Creek Battlefield several years ago, including a visit to Hottle’s Mill, I discovered that a member of our Round Table, Blake Myers, was a descendant of David H. Hottle. He informed me that Sgt. Hottle served from 1861-1865 and spent two years at Point Lookout, MD. as a POW. Blake stated he believed that Sgt. Hottle was from the Woodstock area of the Valley where the Hottle name was relatively common.

Since it was fitting and proper to return Sgt. Hottle’s Southern Cross of Honor to one of his descendants, an impromptu ceremony was conducted at the “A-Fort”, a.k.a. as a “pan coupe redan” during our tour on 11 September 2004. Sgt. Hottle’s SCH is now in the hands of a very deserving descendant—Blake Myers. What goes around occasionally winds up in the proper hands.

Source: Clemmer, Gregg S., Valor in Gray, The Hearthside Publishing Company, Staunton, VA, 1998. pp 433-434

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

— *by John P McAnaw*

On 9 September 2004, an estimated 83 BRCWRT members and guests were treated to an absolutely first rate presentation by Walton (“Wally”) H. Owen, III, on “The Civil War Defenses of Washington”. That night marked the first time Wally tried his newly crafted PowerPoint presentation on a “live” audience. His handouts on the various forms of fortification were very informative. Did you know that Confederate “A-Fort” near Union Mills is actually a *pan coupe’ redan*? The Fairfax County Park Authority now owns this site and an artillery redoubt approximately 455 yards to the south.

Two days later 17 Round Table members participated in a tour of Confederate fortifications vicinity Centreville and Union Mills, plus the Confederate Military Railroad and Blackburn’s Ford. The tour was marked by the unexpected discovery of “Camp Yellow Jacket”. (More on this tour in the newsletter)

On Monday 13 September, the Fairfax County Park Authority held a public hearing on the proposed master planning of the Ox Hill Battlefield and the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site vicinity Union Mills (Note: the “A Fort” was one of the cited fortifications). The Round Table was well represented. Please read Ed Wenzel’s excellent article re this meeting. Get your comments in to the Fairfax County Park Authority prior to COB 13 October 2004.

November will mark the kick-off of our 2005 membership drive. The reader is encouraged to pay his/her dues for 2005 in a timely manner. Our dues will stay the same for next year. We will remain either the cheapest or the next to cheapest Civil War Round Table in North America. Quite an honor!! And, I might add, one of the most active.

Do not forget our General Membership Meeting at 7:15 P.M. on Thursday, 14 October. You will be privileged to listen to a fascinating account by historian William Styple on soldier correspondents during the Civil War plus the accomplishments of that talented reporter, Peter Wellington Alexander.

I extend my sincere thanks to every member who participated in one or more of the activities covered above.



BRCWRT President, John McAnaw, presents Sgt. Hottle's Southern Cross of Honor to one of his descendants, BRCWRT member Blake Myers, during the BRCWRT tour of Bull Run Valley, 11 September, 2004.

HEADS UP! MARCHING ORDERS

BRCWRT TOUR

SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 2004

Civil War Sites Vicinity Culpeper Court House and Cedar Mountain Battlefield

ASSEMBLY POINT:

Centreville Regional Library parking lot vicinity intersection of Machen Road & St. Germain Drive

ASSEMBLY TIME: 8:00 AM

TOUR DURATION: 8:10 AM – 4:00 PM

DEGREE OF EXERTION: *Light to Moderate*

LOGISTICS:

Brown bag or restaurant food for lunch. Bring own water, trail snacks, insect repellent, headgear and good hiking shoes.

CHIEF TOUR GUIDE: *John McAnaw*

CULPEPER TOUR GUIDE: *Virginia Morton*

PRESERVATION “BULLETS”

— submitted by *John P McAnaw*

OWNERSHIP CHANGE AT BRISTOE STATION BATTLEFIELD

On 9 August 2004 authorized representatives from CENTEX and the Civil War Preservation Trust signed a “Deed of Gift” which transferred the title of 127 acres on the Bristoe Station Battlefield from CENTEX to the CWPT. On 8 September 2004, cited deed was recorded in the Prince William County Court House. This information was verified on 22 September 2004 per FONECON between Ms. Nelson of Prince William County Court Land Records (703.792.7678) and myself. So do not worry, it is official! CWPT owns those 127 acres, including a good bit of the core area of the battlefield.

THE RECENT DESTRUCTION OF CONFEDERATE EARTHWORKS VICINITY THE CENTREVILLE HISTORIC OVERLAY DISTRICT

The BRCWRT fought long and hard to prevent the rezoning of a 7.8 acre tract within and adjacent to the Centreville Historic Overlay District. (CHOD). Approximately 29 months ago the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors unwisely approved this regrettable request by Stanley Martin LLC that allowed 47 large family residences to be built on postage stamp lots. The development is called the Village at Mount Gilead. Two supervisors sided with us: Gerald Connolly and Sharon Bulova.

Only after a bitter fight did the developers agree to save the 220’ section of the original Confederate earthworks on their property. These earthworks are priceless relics of our Civil War heritage. Recently, on two occasions, I visited the construction site at the Village of Mount Gilead. It appears that most of 220’ section of earthworks has been destroyed. Also the ditch for the section that still remains appears badly damaged. What a mess! How did this occur? Why didn’t the Sully District Supervisor and Stanley Martin officials take measures to protect these earthworks? There is no excuse for this wanton destruction. A full investigation by the County is in order.

HEARING HELD for OX HILL BATTLEFIELD & CONFEDERATE FORTIFICATIONS PARKS

— submitted by *Ed Wenzel*

The much-awaited joint public hearing for the Ox Hill Battlefield Park and the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site was held Monday evening, September 13, 2004 at Fairfax County Park Authority headquarters in the Herrity building. Park Board representatives from Springfield, Sully and Braddock Districts were present to hear the public testimony. Comments ranged from praise and support for both plans by Civil War groups and supporters, to sharp criticism of the Confederate Fortifications plan by residents of the adjacent Balmoral neighborhood.

Kenneth Feng, Springfield District representative, opened the hearing and was followed by Kirk Holley, Branch Manager for Planning, and Irish Grandfield, Project Manager for both parks. Mr. Grandfield spoke of the park authority’s goal of building on the county’s Civil War Sites Inventory by creating a coordinated interpretive experience for all Civil War sites in the county. He cited the Inventory in the decision to plan both the Ox Hill Battlefield and the Confederate Fortifications parks simultaneously.

Many thanks to all BRCWT members who turned out to support Ox Hill and the Confederate Fortifications parks

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table was well represented with ten members attending, six of whom addressed the Park Board. The speakers included Mary Ahrens, Mike Buckley, Harriet Condon, Tim Duskin,

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*** 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 !

OX HILL Battlefield Hearing

— continued from Page 5, Column 2

Mark Trbovich and the writer, who spoke for the Chantilly Battlefield Association. Other BRCWRT members attending were *Stone Ground: Union Mills* editor, Paula Elsey; Ox Hill author, Chuck Mauro; Tony Meeks and Bev Regeimbal. Also attending in support of both parks were Manassas NBP historian and Prince William County Historical Commission member, Jim Burgess; Balls Bluff author and Army historian, Kim Holien; Civil War historian and 5th NY author and preservationist, Brian Pohanka and his wife, Cricket; Historic Centreville Society board member, Claudette Ward; and Ox Hill author, Dave Welker.

Ox Hill Battlefield comments included strong support for the park authority's plan to reserve sites for future Union and Confederate monuments within the park; the plan to restore the 4 ½ acre battlefield remnant to its 1862 appearance; and plans to cooperate with surrounding property owners to interpret or memorialize some events of the battle in off-site locations.

Additionally, two speakers offered to get their Scout troops to assist at the park as needed, and a resident of the Fairmont Condominiums offered his assistance as well.

The Confederate Fortifications Historic Site caught the only flak of the evening. The speakers were Balmoral residents who were not aware until recently of the park authority's plan and felt that their community's tranquility was threatened. (*Note: Two residents of Balmoral were appointed to the citizen task force advising the park authority but seldom attended the meetings.*) Objections to the park plan were raised by eight or ten residents, and many more packed the hearing room. While some speakers mentioned that the park was indeed an asset, their chief concerns were traffic, parking issues and safety -- legitimate concerns. Other comments, though, were about the park itself and park visitors. One resident said that the words "Civil War heritage tourism" were "alarming"

Mr. Grandfield spoke of the park authority's goal of building on the county's Civil War Sites Inventory by creating a coordinated interpretive experience for all Civil War sites in the county

and wanted those words as well as "winter hut depressions in residential yards" and "demonstration areas" struck from the planning document. Another resident termed the park an "unwelcome addition in the community" and worried about protecting the investment in his home. Another said that he lived at "ground zero" between the A-Fort and the Battery Fort and worried that visitors walking between the two forts would pass in front of his house. He suggested that a trail be constructed on the other side of the street and that park visitors walk over there. And so it went. The park staff assured everyone that the planning process was just beginning and that all concerns would be addressed and resolved.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table was well represented with ten members attending, six of whom addressed the Park Board

Many thanks to all BRCWT members who turned out to support Ox Hill and the Confederate Fortifications parks. The speaker's comments were right on target. And special thanks goes to Mary Ahrens who drove 275 miles from north central Pennsylvania to speak at the hearing. Is that dedication to Civil War preservation or what?! All members are reminded that the 30-day comment period is open until COB on October 13th. We encourage everyone to send comments supporting the park authority's efforts at the Ox Hill Battlefield and the Confederate Fortifications. Let them know you care! As Jerry Russell always said, "If not you, who?? If not now, when?? The web address for viewing the plans is www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks. Please send your comments to parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or mail to FCPA at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 421, Fairfax, VA 22035. Many thanks.

UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP SAVES HALLOWED GROUND AT CHANCELLORSVILLE

– submitted by John P McAnaw

Developer, local officials, and CWPT join together to save the historic Mullins Farm (**Chancellorsville, VA 9/15/04**) - At a public hearing Tuesday night, the Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors unveiled a proposal to preserve 140 acres of the historic Mullins Farm on Chancellorsville Battlefield. The deal is the result of an unique alliance between local homebuilder Tricord Homes; Spotsylvania County, Virginia; and the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT).

“Two years ago, few believed that the Mullins Farm could be saved,” remarked CWPT President James Lighthizer. **“Now, thanks to this unusual partnership, an irreplaceable part of Chancellorsville Battlefield will be protected for future generations of Americans. It is no exaggeration to say that this is the most significant battlefield preservation victory in a decade.”**

The linchpin of the deal is preservation of 140 acres of core battlefield land associated with the opening clash of Chancellorsville. Tricord Homes, a local family-owned development company, acquired the eastern half of the Mullins Farm – 227 acres in total – in July of this year. Soon thereafter, talks began that resulted in an agreement that permits Tricord to build age-restricted housing on 87 acres of the farm in exchange for the protection of the remaining 140 acres. CWPT is contributing \$3 million toward the purchase of the preserved land.

“This is a real partnership where everyone wins,” Lighthizer noted. “Tricord is able to build quality

It is no exaggeration to say that this is the most significant battlefield preservation victory in a decade

housing for seniors, the county is getting open space for its citizens, and preservationists are getting a battlefield of enormous historic significance.”

Since 2002, the Mullins Farm has been the focus of a national campaign to save this important part of the Chancellorsville Battlefield. In March 2003, a proposal to build a 2,000-house development on the Mullins

Farm was rejected by the county Board of Supervisors. In January 2004, a plan to put a highway in-

Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors unveiled a proposal to preserve 140 acres of the historic Mullins Farm on Chancellorsville Battlefield

terchange on the property was turned down by the local transportation authority.

However, it was not until the Tricord proposal was announced Tuesday evening that any battlefield land on the Mullins Farm was set aside for preservation.

“Tricord recognized early on that preserving the battlefield was the path, not the obstacle, to a deal at the Mullins Farm,” Lighthizer stated.

Although pleased with the

Tricord deal, CWPT remains concerned that the western segment of the Mullins Farm remains slated for development. Lighthizer hopes to begin talks with Toll Brothers, the owner of the 566-acre western portion of the Mullins Farm, in the coming weeks. “There is still much more work to be done at Chancellorsville,” he observed.

With 60,000 members, CWPT is the largest non-profit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its goal is to preserve our nation’s endangered Civil War sites and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds through education and heritage tourism. CWPT’s website is located at www.civilwar.org.

Note: News release written by Jim Campi
 CWPT News Release Details
 CONTACT: Jim Campi, 202-367-1861

UPCOMING MEETINGS

11 November 2004

7:15 PM

GUEST SPEAKER: R Keith Young,
 Historian and BRCWRT past-President

SUBJECT:
POINT LOOKOUT: A PRISONER’S VIEW

HISTORIC SALONA , MCLEAN, VA

— submitted by Mike Shannon

Salona is a beautiful 200-year-old house in the McLean section of Fairfax County, where the mysterious and uncertain spectre of history resides still. It is located on some 50 acres of undisturbed and serene land off Dolley Madison Blvd (Rt 123) and Buchanan Street. You cannot see the house from the road as it sits back behind a wall of tall trees at the far end of three large, and virtually undisturbed green fields. These fields are a bastion of open space; a rare commodity in this community so close to Washington, DC. In the fall when the leaves change color, these fields and the surrounding trees are a magnificent sight.

Salona has been a backdrop to some interesting historical personalities and moments in time, though not as well known to most of us, but important ones nevertheless. Such historical notables as President James Madison, George McClellan, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee and Thomas Catesby Jones, an 1812 War Hero, are but a few of the personalities that graced Salona or its surroundings at one time or another.

It is not known exactly just when the house was built, nor is anyone sure who built it. The general consensus is that it was constructed sometime between 1790 and 1810. Some believe that Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee, Robert E. Lee's father, built the house. Other sources claim it was built by a Presbyterian minister, Rev William Maffit, who, as it turns out was married to Henrietta Lee, the daughter of Richard Henry Lee, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The Rev Maffit reportedly was one of four ministers that presided at the funeral of George Washington. It is also believed that Maffit gave Salona its name after he purchased the land in March 1812.

Salona became the headquarters for one of those camps, Camp Griffin, and possibly for the entire Army of the Potomac under George McClellan

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According to the local lore and some prominent historians, President James Madison and his party fled to Salona after abandoning the White House in August 1814 when the British burned Washington. If this is indeed true, then Salona was the White House for a

day. His wife Dolley, who had fled Washington by a different route, joined him on a nearby hill the following day and the two watched the smoke rising from the burning city.

Jacob Smoot of Georgetown purchased Salona in 1853 where he raised a herd of expensive Aberdeen Angus cattle prior to the Civil War. Salona was a working farm with a large barn, smokehouse, ice pond and cabinet shop. Smoot raised hogs, sheep and fowl, had a peach orchard and raised scuppernong grapes, plums and apricots.

In October 1861, Union troops crossed Chain Bridge into Virginia from the District of Columbia and established several camps around Washington, which served as part of the outer defenses of Washington. came the for one of Camp Griffin for the the Poto-George General W. sion, made and New was

It is not known exactly just when the house was built, nor is anyone sure who built it

Salona be-headquarters those camps, fin, and possi-entire Army of mac under McClellan. F. Smith's Divi-up Vermont York brigades, camped there

through March 1862. Skirmishing reportedly took place in the immediate vicinity of Salona during that 6 month time period, though further details are unknown.

Smoot spent the war in Georgetown, returning at the end of the war to save the house from being burned. He submitted a reparations claim for damages to his property to the US Government. Interestingly enough, it was discovered during the investigation of the claim that Smoot had signed the Ordinance of Secession in May 1861 and, as a result, he received no compensation for his losses.

One local historian also believes that the tents of the Vermont Brigades quartered at Camp Griffin in the fall of 1861 were the inspiration for Julia Ward Howe's "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", especially for her line about the "Hundred Circling Camps". There is a well-known picture of the 5th Vermont standing in formation while encamped there. This picture appears on the cover of the

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Salona

– *continued from Page 8, Column 2*

companion piece to Ken Burn¹'s epic documentary, "The Civil War". That photograph was taken in the fields in front of Salona and is the very land now up for sale.

In 1952, Clive DuVal II and his wife Susan purchased the property. Mr. Duval was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1965 and to the State Senate in 1971, where he served five four-year terms. Mrs. Duval died in 1997 followed by her husband in 2002.

The house and the surrounding property was left to the DuVal's sons who are now offering some 44 acres of the vibrant and serene land surrounding the house for sale to Fairfax County for \$15.9 million. This figure is about 30 percent less than the \$23 million at which the property has been assessed. However, due to other demands placed on the Fairfax County budget, the Board of Supervisors is cautious about making any sort of commitment to purchasing the property. The Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT) and the Conservation Fund are assisting with funding options. The historic house itself and 7 acres surrounding it are under a permanent historic easement, preventing it from being developed and as a result, are not for sale.

Negotiations are ongoing between Fairfax County and the DuVal family, most likely focused on the price and eventual use of the land. The DuVals would like to see the land used in such a way as to preserve its historic character; it is unlikely the county will let the land sit vacant. Paul Gilbert, president of the NVCT indicated that a final deal may include setting aside the 10 acres fronting Dolley Madison Blvd for use as athletic fields. This is certainly not the ideal use of the land, put preferable to commercial development. Hopefully, the county will be amenable to some sort of historic interpretation of the land to commemorate the not-so-well-known moments in history that transpired there.

According to the local lore and some prominent historians, President James Madison and his party fled to Salona after abandoning the White House in August 1814

I encourage everyone to contact members of the Fairfax County Board and request they find the means to purchase the land for park use and historical interpretation. You can do this through a website entitled "Save Salona" which not only provides contact information for the different supervisors, but more information on the history of Salona.

For those who want to read about this wonderful old historic house in more detail, pick up a copy of a book entitled "Salona" by Ellen Anderson. It is published by the Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning and is available at the County's publication office at the Government Center.

AFTER ACTION REPORT: TOUR OF CIVIL WAR SITES VICINITY CENTREVILLE, UNION MILLS AND BULL RUN

– *submitted by John P McAnaw*

All seventeen tour participants arrived per schedule at the assembly point (St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church parking lot). After a quick orientation and the issuance of tour material, the tour group traveled northward to visit two impressive fortifications near the Centreville Historic Overlay District (CHOD) and also to witness the widespread destruction of the terrain east of Pickwick Road – all in the name of development. In fact, all homeowners on the west side of Pickwick Road from U.S. 29 (Lee) Highway to Leland Road have sold out to developers. One owner told me he could not turn down the \$600K he was offered. A blocked road prevented access to the controversial Stanley Martin development site (Village of Mount Gilead) adjacent to St. John's Episcopal Church.

The tour group then retraced its route and next visited sites vicinity the Confederate fortification south of Compton Road known as the "A-Fort", now properly called a "pan coupe redan". A significant amount of time was spent studying five interesting locations within and adjacent to cited fortification. This site is owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority and is in the process of being master planned.

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AFTER ACTION REPORT: Centreville...

— *continued from Page 9, Column 2*

The tour group then moved by foot to visit an out-of-the-way Civil War camp. As the foot column moved southward, protected by forward, flank and rear security, it was suddenly hit from below by a swarm of yellow jackets. Unit cohesion was temporarily lost as tour participants moved rapidly (but in good order) to various rallying points.

Some members received multiple stings before the yellow jackets broke off their attack. It took awhile to finish off the remaining insects still on the clothing of tour participants. First-aid supplies were used to treat those stung. The way that tour participants helped one another was commendable. One Round Table member, who is allergic to bee stings, smartly kept his distance as we moved through the woodland to the Civil War camp. Thankfully, none of those stung suffered an allergic reaction to the stings and all have recovered from the yellow jacket attack. A small group returned to the scene of the attack, searched the area and marked the location of the subsurface yellow jacket lair. We all now know where the Civil War site of Camp Yellow Jacket is located. The inhabitants are as mean as ever.

After lunch at St. Andrew's picnic area, we next toured a remarkably well-preserved section of the Confederate Military Railroad (CMRR). It is one of the two remaining sections of the CMRR that I am aware of. We then journeyed to Blackburn's Ford where Mark Knowles made a superb presentation on the Battle of Blackburn's Ford (aka "The Battle of Bull's Run") on 18 July 1861, plus events which transpired near the ford before and after. This stop completed our tour. Everyone was on their way home by 2:40 p.m. As always, right on time!

The following 17 individuals participated in our BRCWRT tour of 11 September 2004 (Patriot Day) and are eligible for membership in The Friends of Camp Yellow Jacket (BRCWRT Chapter):

Nancy Anwyll, Norm Cooper, Sandra Cox, Ellen Goss, Janet Greentree, Mark Knowles, Dale Maschino, John McAnaw, Blake Myers, Randy Moller, Rose Nelson, John Naughton, John Pearson, Bev Regeimbal, Fred Schmidtman, Mitch West.

"JOHN SINGLETON MOSBY" EXHIBIT at the MANASSAS MUSEUM

— *submitted by Harvey Simon*

Harvey Simon has forwarded this recent press release (NOTE: I had room for excerpts only) with the note that this is a "once in a lifetime exhibit of Mosby artifacts. This exhibit combines several private collections which will be returned to their separate owners when the exhibit closes on Dec. 31st".

Currently on display at the Manassas Museum is a Civil War exhibit titled, "**The Legacy of Colonel John Singleton Mosby.**" The exhibit runs through December 31, 2004.

Experience rare Civil War and Mosby artifacts never seen before in public. On display are O.W. Beck's famous pastel portrait of Mosby later in his life, Edwin H. Stoughton's sword captured by Mosby at the Fairfax Courthouse, weapons carried by his Rangers, and a set of documents from Mosby's saddlebags captured in 1864.

The exhibit also contains original Mosby letters with first-hand accounts of his life, engravings of Mosby and his contemporaries and one of the few existing farewell addresses hand-written by Mosby to his command in April 1865. It concentrates on some of Mosby's Civil War exploits in the Manassas area, Mosby Reunions, and glimpses of his post-war life. Military passes in the exhibit issued by Mosby hint at the structure of his partisan group.

On Thursday December 2, 2004 the Museum will host a unique multi-media forum titled: "**The Life and Times of John Singleton Mosby**" at 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

The forum will feature 3 presentations offering varying opinions and approaches to retracing the Mosby's historical endeavors. Gregg Dudding will discuss John Mosby's life from birth to the start of the Civil War; Don Hakenson will discuss Mosby's life during the war; Phil DiModica will discuss Mosby's life from the end of the war to his death in 1916; and Dave Goetz will trace themes that served as metaphors in Mosby's life.

FLASH BACK - October, 1864

— submitted by Drew Lavan

“Didn’t Know Grant’s Preference”

In October, 1864, President Lincoln, while he knew his re-election to the White House was in no sense doubtful, knew that if he lost New York and with it Pennsylvania on the home vote, the moral effect of his triumph would be broken and his power to prosecute the war and make peace would be greatly impaired. Colonel A.K. McClure [the author] was with Lincoln a good deal of the time previous to the November election, and tells this story:

‘His usually sad face was deeply shadowed with sorrow when I told him that I saw no reasonable prospect of carrying Pennsylvania on the home vote, although we had about held our own in the hand-to-hand conflict through which we were passing.

“Well, what is to be done?” was Lincoln’s inquiry, after the whole situation had been presented to him. I answered that the solution of the problem was a very simple and easy one - that Grant was idle in front of Petersburg; that Sheridan had won all possible victories in the Valley; and that if five thousand Pennsylvania soldiers could be furloughed home from each army, the election could be carried without doubt.

‘Lincoln’s face brightened instantly at the suggestion, and I saw that he was quite ready to execute it. I said to him, “Of course, you can trust Grant to make the suggestion to him to furlough five thousand Pennsylvania troops for two weeks?”

‘To my surprise, Lincoln made no answer, and the bright face of a few moments before was instantly shadowed again. I was much disconcerted, as I supposed that Grant was the one man to whom Lincoln could turn with absolute confidence as his friend. I then said, with some earnestness: “Surely, Mr. President, you can trust Grant with a confidential suggestion to furlough Pennsylvania troops?”

‘Lincoln remained silent and evidently distressed at the proposition I was pressing upon him. After a few moments, and speaking with emphasis, I said: “It can’t be possible that Grant is not your friend; he can’t be such an ingrate?”

‘Lincoln hesitated for some time, and then answered in these words: “Well, McClure, I have no reason to believe that Grant prefers my election to that of McClellan.”

‘I believe Lincoln was mistaken in his distrust of Grant.”

“Abe” Lincoln’s Yarns and Stories, Colonel Alexander K. McClure, Copyright, Henry Neil, 1901, pp. 240-1.

On October 1 Sheridan sent a dispatch to Henry Halleck in the capital: ‘All the crops, mills, etc., have been destroyed from Staunton to Mount Crawford, which is my present front.’” *The Burning: Sheridan’s Devastation of the Shenandoah Valley*, John L. Heatwole, 1998, Charlottesville, VA, p. 52. [17 (Richmond Examiner, October 10, 1864).]

“[General John B. Hood] received at this juncture [shortly after losing Atlanta to Sherman] a copy of the following order from President Davis:

‘Augusta, Georgia, October 2d, 1864.

‘General G.T. Beauregard, Augusta, Georgia.

‘General: - I desire that, with as little delay as practicable, you will assume command of the military departments now commanded respectively by General Hood, and Lieutenant General Taylor....

Very respectfully and truly yours,
‘Jefferson Davis.’”

Advance and Retreat: Personal Experiences in the United States & Confederate States Armies, General John B. Hood, New York, 1993, p. 258.

On October 3, 1864, Lt. John Miegs was killed by Confederate scouts near Dayton, VA in the Shenandoah Valley. An enraged Sheridan, having been told Miegs was shot while surrendering, gave orders to BG George A. Custer to burn all structures in the vicinity. When Miegs’ father, Montgomery Miegs, learned of his son’s killing, he caused a massive increase in the number of dead Union soldiers being interred in RE Lee’s Arlington House property.

“In Augusta, Georgia, on October 5, 1864, Davis, with Beauregard and Hardee beside him, shared the mood of the cheering citizens. ‘Never was I so confident,’ he said, ‘that energy, harmony, and determination would rid the country of its enemy...We must beat Sherman, we must march into Tennessee.’”

1001 Things Everyone Should Know about the Civil War, Frank E. Vandiver, New York, 1999, pp. 227-8. A scant five weeks later, Davis was sending orders to burn bridges, obstruct roads and destroy supplies to slow Sherman’s inexorable march.

In mid-October in Tennessee, “Hood’s division was now without a maj. genl., Hood having lost an arm at Gettysburg & a leg at Chickamauga. Gen. Law was the ranking brigadier general left, of the brigades

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FLASH BACK

— continued from Page 11, Column 2

which had fought in all its recent battles. But Jenkins's big So. Ca. brigade, which had been kept below Petersburg for nine months, & which had had little fighting since Sharpsburg, was now attached to the division, & Jenkins ranked Law, & consequently took command of the division.

Law, naturally, thought that he had deserved promotion, & considered himself unjustly kept out of it. He would doubtless have made an excellent maj. genl., & no brigadier in the army had fought more bravely. He considered Gen. Longstreet responsible for the injustice being done him. At Campbell's Station it was charged that Law deliberately led his brigade, which was in front of the flanking column, where the enemy could & did discover the movement, & it was charged that he did it purposely to prevent Jenkins getting the credit of a success, & some of Law's company officers wrote letters supporting such charges.

....Similar feelings of distrust to those entertained by Jenkins toward Law, were being felt by Gen. Longstreet himself toward Gen. McLaws. I have never learned when they began or how they arose, but they ended in the next two or three months in Gen. L.'s preferring charges & in Gen. McLaws being court martialled..." *Fighting for the Confederacy: The Personal Recollections of General Edward Porter Alexander*, Gary W. Gallagher, ed., Chapel Hill, 1989, pp. 316-7.

"On October 19, 1864, the C.S.S. *Shenandoah* went into commission at Madeira, with Captain James I. Waddell commanding. Purchased in England by James Bulloch, the *Shenandoah* had the sleek swiftness for a successful commerce raider - and enjoyed an unusual and lengthy career. Waddel [sic] would surrender his ship to British officials at Liverpool on August 2, 1865, after a world cruise and after nearly finishing off the Union whaling fleet in the northern Pacific." *1001 Things Everyone Should Know about the Civil War*, Frank E. Vandiver, New York, 1999, p. 180.

"On [October 25,] 1864 A nearsighted General John S. Marmaduke mistakes a Union patrol for some of his Confederate troops and is taken prisoner when he rides right up to the enemy." *The Civil War 2002 Calendar* by Carla Anderson, Andrews McMeel Publishing, Kansas City, MO

VIEW FROM WAY BACK

— submitted by Maureen R Quinn

FROM THE DIARY OF MONTGOMERY C MEIGS

(*Montgomery C Meigs Papers, Library of Congress*. These type-written pages, probably taken from the hand-written version, suggest some editing was done at a later date.)

Oct. 6th. By order of Sec'y of War left at 7:30 PM to inspect Q.M. Dept. New York City and return. About this hour my son, 1st Lt. John Rogers Meigs Corps of U.S. Engineers, while in discharge of his duty- reconnoitering near Gen'l Sheridan's headquarters and a little East of Harrisonberg, VA was killed by guerillas after surrender, one orderly with him has not been heard of- the other escaped and reached Gen'l Custer's Headquarters. The next morning a party under Col Forsyth, Chief of Staff to Gen'l Sheridan, went out and found the body of my son where he had fallen, unrifled, the left arm raised, the right extended at his side. He lay upon his short cape or cloak- a bullet through the head and another through the heart. The orderly reports that he distinctly heard him say when seized by horsemen whom he was passing, supposing them to be our cavalry men, twice: "I surrender, I surrender." They had waited, seized the bridle reins of the three horses as they passed slowly and commenced firing their revolvers and they continued after his surrender. Horses and orderly have not been heard of since.

For this act of murder all the houses within five miles area have been burned.

And so has perished my first born, a noble boy, gallant, generous, gifted, who had already made himself a name in the land. At the age of 19 he had fought with distinction at the first battle of the War, Bull Run, 21st July '61. He had been in most active service since he graduated in July '63 and had passed through many battles unscathed. A martyr in the cause of Liberty.

Oct. 7th. John's remains reached here this morning.

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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.

8-10 Oct – Middleburg, VA, “7th Annual Art Of Command in the Civil War Conference: The 1864 Valley Campaigns”. Lectures, Cedar Creek and Fisher’s Hill Battlefield tours, meals. Info: Mosby Heritage Area 540.687.4195 or cburden338@aol.com Pkg.

9 Oct – Manassas, “1st Manassas Battlefield Hike”, a 5-mile, 4-hour hike with park guide departs from Henry Hill Visitor Center at 1 p.m. Info: www.nps.gov/mana Park Fee

15-17 Oct – Middletown, VA, “140th Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of Cedar Creek” on the original battlefield. Info: www.cedarcreekbattlefield.org Fee

23 Oct – Manassas, “2nd Manassas Battlefield Hike”, a 5-mile, 4-hour hike with park guide departs from Henry Hill Visitor Center at 1 p.m. Info: www.nps.gov/mana Park Fee

View from Way Back

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Oct. 8th. Funeral of my son whose body was transferred with military honors to the Oak Hill Cemetery, Georgetown. The President and Secretary of War honored the remains by their presence. The time did not permit preparing a grave, and he lies for a time in the Chapel.

Oct. 10th. Transferred his remains to their final resting place alongside of his brothers, Charles, Vincent and the little nameless child who lie together in the family plot in the Oak Hill Cemetery. His mother and brother, my only remaining son, were with me.

We planted an Ivy at the foot of the oak under which he lies and left him in his glory. The official bulletin names him justly.

John Rogers Meigs graduated first in the USMA class of 1863. Second in the class was Peter S. Michie, considered one of the most brilliant graduates of the Academy. Meigs was killed in action October 3, 1864, at age 22. (Source: usma.edu)

As members of the BRCWRT will recall, Oak Hill Cemetery was, in fact, not John Rogers final resting place. He now lies just behind the tomb of his father in Arlington Cemetery, his grave marked by one of the most striking memorials in the Cemetery.

(Note: The diary entries are as-written, no corrections were made)

Submission Deadlines

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

Deadline for hand-written articles to typists is **OCTOBER 25th**

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

Submit articles via email to Maureen:

MRQUINN@PATRIOT.NET

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

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