



WALTON HALEY OWEN, II **“The CIVIL WAR DEFENSES of** **WASHINGTON”**

We are indeed fortunate to have Wally Owen as our guest speaker for our monthly meeting on 9 September 2004. He was raised in the City of Alexandria and was a member of the T.C. Williams High School Football Team that won the 1971 Virginia State Football Championship. That team was memorialized in a very popular feature film called “Remember the Titans”. Yes, the players were really as good as the movie made them out to be. Shutting out nine of their twelve opponents.

Wally attended Emory & Henry College in Abingdon, VA, where he received a BA degree in American History in 1978. In the fall of that year he was hired by the Smithsonian Institution to fill a museum education position. After three and a half years, Wally returned to Alexandria to work at the Fort Ward Museum for five years as a museum education specialist and as an associate curator.

From an early age, Wally was seriously interested in the American Civil War and the fortifications that protected Washington during that conflict. While working at Fort Ward he co-authored a book with B.F. Cooling, III, titled “Mr. Lincoln’s Forts: A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington”. During the same period, he co-developed a national award-winning museum education outreach program titled, “Life During the Civil War”, for use in local schools. That program received a 1984 National Award of Merit conferred by the American Association for State and Local History (one of only six awards given throughout the United States and Canada).

In 1985, Wally was selected for a position at the National Archives to work on the staff processing President Nixon’s White House Office Tapes. He then served on the staff for eight years as the Curator of President Nixon’s 30,000 object Foreign and Domestic Gift Collection. He also served on the exhibition

design team for Nixon’s private Library in Yorba Linda, CA and spent six weeks there supervising the installation of objects.

Wally entered private industry in 1993 to work for KPMG as a senior management consultant for university libraries, archives, and museums. In 1999, he accepted a position with Arlington County as the Historic Site Administrator at Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site. Three years later, Wally returned to Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site as the Assistant Director/Curator. Since 1985, Wally has served as a subject area specialist on the Civil War Defenses of Washington and works as a consulting historian researching and writing historical narratives that are published as part of professional papers for archaeological and historical assessments.

During the American Civil War, Washington became a symbol of the Union, resolute against sectional opposition. During the course of the war, 164 forts and batteries connected by 20 miles of military roads were constructed to protect the Federal Capital. The city became a spearhead for the federal military war effort. Here the forces were assembled, equipped, trained and sent across the Potomac to fight. By the end of the war Washington was considered to be one of the most heavily fortified cities in the world. Yet throughout the war, Lincoln’s concern for the safety of the city affected strategy in the Eastern Theater of operations. Wally’s illustrated presentation will discuss the development and history of the Defenses of Washington and will include a section of the types of earthworks that formed the system.

Join us on 9 September for what will be a thoroughly enjoyable and educational presentation by a true expert on the civil war defenses of Washington.

BRCWRT FALL TOUR —
COLD HARBOR

Saturday, 2 October, 2004
See Page 9 for the details

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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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Submission Deadlines

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

Deadline for hand-written articles
 to typists is **SEPTEMBER 27th**

Deadline to email articles:
SEPTEMBER 30th

Submit articles via email to Maureen:

MRQUINN@PATRIOT.NET

REPORT & “HEADS UP”: VA Civil War Trails Signs at the Haymarket Museum

– submitted by *Mark V Trbovich*

In early February 2004 one of my Virginia Civil War Trails ideas, approved by Brendon Hanafin, Prince William County Historical Manager, was to put two signs outside of Haymarket on Prince William County property – outside of the town corporate limits. That plan failed because of lack of funding for this year. However, we visited the town and it was clear to us to put them up at their new “Haymarket Museum” on Main Street (Washington Street, which is within city limits). In 2004, PW County has already spent most of it’s available funding on the Bristoe Battlefield Heritage Park -- certainly a worthy cause.

I contacted and then went to work with the Haymarket Historical Commission and, for the past 3-4 months, have written the sign texts (which the Historical Commission edited). Both of us are working on the sign artwork.

The Sign’s Dedication Ceremony will be Sat. Nov 6, 2004 at 11:30 AM at the museum. That will be the 142-year anniversary of the burning of Haymarket by Federal troops Nov 5th 1862.

Mitch Bowman, Executive Director of VA CW Trails, is on board and awaiting the final product to create the signs. The two signs will be:

1) Haymarket VA -- Civilian Hardships and Engagements. *Highlights:* This sign tells the story of the horrible night that Hay Market was burned down by Federal troop’s “Franz Sigel’s boys” -- all except three houses and St. Paul’s church. St Paul’s was used as a hospital during 1st and 2nd Manassas and as a refuge for the townsfolk after that terrible night.

2) JEB Stuart’s Gettysburg Ride. *Highlights:* Haymarket starting point June 25, 1863. *This is the sign I really wanted!!* The chance encounter at Haymarket with Stuart (using Col John Mosby’s directions for screening Ewell’s march in Pennsylvania), running into Hancock’s troops marching north at the same time. Stuart fired on them with six cannon but the

THE PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

– submitted by *John P. McAnaw*

I sincerely hope that every member of our Round Table had an enjoyable summer. As you know, many other Civil War round tables and other volunteer-staffed organizations take a one or two month break during the summer. Not true of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Since its founding on 9 May 1991 by Bill Miller, the BRCWRT has been an active, 12 months-a-year organization.

Our Stafford County Tour on 10 July was a rousing success and I extend my thanks to John DePue, Chuck Siegel, Tom Mountz and all others who helped out.

Additionally, during July and August a number of intensive “search and find” reconnaissances were conducted vicinity Bull Run and the Occoquan River. Also we had excellent attendance for the two guest speaker presentations in July and August. The talks by both David Welker (“The Battle of Chantilly”) and Virginia Morton (“Marching Through Culpeper”) were extremely well received by attendees.

Speaking of Virginia Morton, many of us will see her again in October. Make sure you mark the following BRCWRT tour dates on your calendar:

11 Sept. – Centreville-Bull Run Valley

2 Oct. – Haw’s Shop (Enon Church) to Cold Harbor

16 Oct. – Civil War Culpeper and Cedar Mt.

Thank you for your support of the BRCWRT and its activities. Thus far, we have had a very successful year. We have now exceeded our membership goal for 2004. See you on 9 September for Wally Owens’ presentation on the defenses of Washington.

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STAFFORD COUNTY CIVIL WAR SITES TOUR – AFTER ACTION REPORT

— submitted by John De Pue

On Saturday, July 17th, 2004, 27 members of the BRCWRT were treated to an enlightening tour of Civil War sites in Stafford County, Virginia. **The expedition highlighted two different periods of the County's involvement in the conflict: its occupation by Confederate forces as a logistical base in the Spring of 1961; and by Federal forces during and after the Fredericksburg Campaign during the winter of 1862-63.**

Our tour commenced with a thumbnail sketch of Stafford County's history before and during the conflict by member Chuck Siegel, an authority on the subject and the author of Stafford County's Civil War sites tour brochure. Capt. Tom Mountz, USN (RET), then treated us to a tour of a meticulously preserved Union redoubt on property he has purchased. He explained that the work was probably constructed during February 1863, along with two similar redoubts, for the purpose of providing security to Federal logistical facilities at Aquia Landing. It was manned by members of Knapp's Pennsylvania Battery, part of the Union 12th Corps, which was assigned to winter quarters in the vicinity of Stafford Courthouse. Tom not only discussed its history, and pointed out its significant features,

We enjoyed a leisurely lunch at the White Oak Museum maintained by D.P. Newton, which features the magnificent collection of Civil War relics retrieved from Union campsites in the area by the Newton family

he explained the practical problems of maintaining such a site and treated each of us to a hardtack biscuit.

Our next stop was at Aquia Landing. There, Chuck and John McAnaw, provided an overview of its utilization as a Union supply depot during and after the Fredericksburg campaign, and its importance as the transit point of material shipped to the Army of the Potomac from Alexandria. John De Pue dis-

cussed the Landing's previous use as the northern terminus of the Confederate rail supply line during the spring of 1861, and its involvement in the first naval operation of the war, when it was attacked by vessels of the Union Potomac River Flotilla during May 29-31

REPORT – & “HEADS UP”

— continued from Page 3, Column 1

Federals formed a line and Stuart had to retreat to Buckland Mills. He sent a message to Lee of his change of plans but the message never got there. Thus Lee loses his "eyes" for eight critical days -- and fights on unfamiliar ground at Gettysburg on July 1st.

Many historians believe this is one of the reasons Lee lost Gettysburg: A chance encounter on the road North at Haymarket; it's the little things that cost you a battle. I believe Stuart misinterpreted General Lee's General Order #23. He was to "Pass around the Federal army without hindrance" and cross the Potomac with haste to screen Ewell's army. He should have tried another route instead of swinging Southeast and going 60 miles off the intended route. Anyway, it's a great story -- and worthy of being on the Gettysburg Trail for Stuart's Ride (5 signs in Maryland and Pennsylvania detailing Stuart's Gettysburg ride). This sign has the recommendation/approval of Mitch Bowman.

THE HAYMARKET MUSEUM is funding both signs.

I'll have much more info on the November 6th events as they unfold. All I have is the date and time at this point.

Haymarket is excited for historic preservation and getting on the CW Trails program is a no-brainer for tourism. *Why doesn't Centreville get onboard with some CW trails signs* and also build a "Centreville Museum"? Having a museum in town is the perfect place to work preservation efforts because of tourism funding!!! Note that the 3RD LARGEST business in the state of VA is TOURISM!! Museums get grants from state government, etc. -- Just ask the Manassas Museum... **We must encourage signs and museums for use as a town's base camp of operations to support other historic preservation endeavors and use tourism as the supporting tool.** The Virginia Civil War Trails program is creating 85,000 brochures for their Trails programs each year and plans to add more in the years to come.

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REPORT – & “HEADS UP”

– *continued from Page 4, Column 2*

Sorry John, but I know I'm preaching to the choir and also for being a little out of touch on this endeavor with you. It was hanging in the balance until things unfolded to the good. Thank you so much for all you have done supporting me as a friend, mentor and for supporting my goals for establishing Prince William County (PWC) to be totally “Civil War battle-sign-interpreted” by 2011, 150th anniversary of Blackburn's Ford/1st Bull Run.

Other Civil War Trails signs ideas of mine (passed on to Brendon and supported by Jim Burgess) in the works for PWC, once funding is turned on include:

1) **Greenwich, VA:** Gen. Ewell's boyhood home at Stony Lonesome plantation nearby -- Presbyterian Church and THE LAWN, a Tudor house built by a man named Green, who was an Englishmen living there before the Civil War. Also, I want to talk about troop movements through there to Bristoe Station and 2nd Manassas. One of Mosby's raiders was killed nearby, an Englishmen named Hoskins, who is buried in the church cemetery. What a story! Perfect spot for the sign, right in front of the church on a grassy island!

2) **Buckland Mills**, Custer's fight Oct 19, 1863. Buckland Mills is a beautiful place to visit on Rt 29 and put a sign. The untold story of Custer holding Gen. Fitz Lee's troopers at bay until he got his retreating troopers back to Haymarket. Custer “smelled a rat” and didn't take the bait to chase Stuart, thereby avoiding getting caught in the Buckland Races trap. He later said that it was one of his toughest days during the entire war.

3) **Cockpit Point**, Brendon's idea for Potomac naval history and action.

4) **Battle of Kettle Run**, August 27, 1862. The 2nd battle that day, Jackson's Manassas raid, complementing the Battle of Bull Run Railroad Bridge signs at the Connor House. I have a battle map, which could be included on the battlefield, which started on Aden Road (Kettle Run bridge) in Nokesville.

5) **Yorkshire House, McLean's house** -- 1st battle describing action at the house from Blackburn's

Ford battle and McLean's story of his moving to Appomattox which had the CW war end in his parlor.

6) I think a **Brensville Courthouse** sign is in the works as we speak with their Historical commission.

7) I'm leaving **McLean's Ford** action of October 15, 1863 to Fairfax County and John McAnaw's efforts. Fantastic work with the forts! John, you and the BRCWRT have the passion! You guys are really inspirational to me. One day, maybe you can get Fairfax County to make Blackburn's Ford a little battlefield park on the Fairfax side of the river. Now THAT would be a dream come true for me!

In closing, I believe all these signs are justified and well overdue! I am attacking on all fronts! PW County will know what happened during the war because she was at the “front lines” for most of the conflict. I am strongly determined/driven with a passion to do this effort. With the BRCWRT, Brendon and Mitch on my side I know this WILL become a reality. We're half-way there. What opens doors for me so many times is being a member of the Bull Run CW Round Table -- instant respect and credibility. You can guarantee that I'll keep spreading the word about the BRCWRT through any media I can. God bless us all as we strive to save every inch of Hallowed Ground.

Mark Trbovich,
BRCWRT Member since 1999

*** **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 !

BOOK CORNER

— submitted by Ralph G. Swanson

Despite the recent boom for *Cold Mountain*, the single best novel of the Civil War is *Lincoln* by Gore Vidal, a story set in the four years of the Lincoln administration in Washington. Most of us already know the basic facts. Those who don't--and those who do--will enjoy learning about it from the characters and events so artfully crafted by Vidal.

The entire cast of wartime Washington is there: the prima dona cabinet, the arrogant McClellan, scheming and flirtatious Kate Chase, and the radical Republicans. We can rightly marvel--once again--at how an unschooled, seemingly ignorant backwoods lawyer could have so skillfully managed such disparate personalities. We will talk later about the best biography of Lincoln, but it cannot be stated often enough how fortunate we were that such a man as Abraham Lincoln led our nation during such a critical time in our history. One need only study the shortcomings of Lincoln's sincere but bumbling successors, Johnson and Grant, to understand the potential for long-term damage to our nation that can result from politically inept leadership.

But I digress. The central focus of the novel is the Lincoln murder conspiracy, with the other events of the administration almost a back-story. And at the center of the criminal events Vidal puts, not Booth as you might expect, but poor David Herold, that pathetic little misfit and footnote in American history. After Mrs. Surratt, who was almost surely innocent, poor David Herold may have been the most cruelly duped, particularly by the charismatic Booth.

As the historic events of the administration unfold--battlefield defeats, emancipation, Lincoln family tragedies and national politics--the murder conspirators develop and revise their plans. First, they intend to kidnap Lincoln on his way to the Soldiers Home to force Union capitulation to southern independence. Only later, perhaps after Appomattox, do the plans abruptly change to murder.

This crime was very effectively planned, more so than later presidential assassinations. The attack, the escape, the coordination among the conspirators to decapitate the government by the simultaneous murders of our Vice President and Secretary of State hardly seem credible from today's perspectives.

Hapless Davy Herold, while taking no part in the killing, did join Booth in flight and was captured with him at Port Tobacco. Through good police work, all the conspirators were quickly rounded up and brought to trial. Much has been written elsewhere about the proceedings and Vidal does not dwell on these matters. Beyond Mrs. Surratt, there is little doubt as to the guilt of those who paid the ultimate penalty. To slake the bloodlust for revenge nurtured by Secretary of War Stanton, there would be no appeals and only death would answer.

According to Vidal's "Afterword", little has been fictionalized for this novel. He assures us that most events are accurate as we know them and the dialogue is probably close enough. Herold did, in fact, work as a prescription clerk at Thompson's Drug Store on 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, just a block from the Lincoln White House, but we know little else about him. Vidal admits that, beyond placing Herold in the store, he largely invented the rest of David's life. On an authoritative note, Vidal secured the editorial assistance of the renown Lincoln scholar David Donald to ensure accuracy for this novel while, no doubt, exercising some literary license.

Vidal is one of America's best living writers, particularly excelling in American historical fiction. This novel is so enjoyable that you must remind yourself that you are reading fiction.

So *Lincoln* is the recommended read this summer. Take a deserved break from the battle histories and from memorizing the regiments and brigades. You will enjoy this novel and still hew pretty close to historical accuracy.

Until next time, keep reading.

Stafford County Civil War Sites

– continued from Page 4, Column 1

1861. To gain additional perspective of that engagement, we hiked to a nearby Confederate redoubt, atop a bluff overlooking the Landing. The earthwork, which features embrasures for two field guns, played a significant role in driving off the Union attacking vessels. It is now maintained by the Rappahannock CWRT. The site has also been in continuous use as an ossuary and ceremonial ground for the Native American inhabitants of the region.

Proceeding to the next location, we passed through a portion of the County that supported the encampment of over 300,000 Union soldiers during the winter and spring of 1862-63. Chuck pointed out the terrain occupied by elements of the Union Fifth and 12th Corps, as well as the bed of the rail line that ran from the Landing, and the sites of other Union redoubts that were constructed to protect it. At the site of the “**Beanpole Bridge**” over Potomac Creek, we viewed its original abutments, and *Chuck described the engineering skill of Brig. General Herman Haupt in reconstructing the 100 foot high bridge in a matter of days after its destruction by withdrawing Confederate forces.*

We enjoyed a leisurely lunch at the White Oak Museum maintained by D.P. Newton, which features the magnificent collection of Civil War relics retrieved from Union campsites in the area by the Newton family. A most gracious host, Mr. Newton shared with us his extensive knowledge of military activities in Stafford County during the winter of 1862-63, and gave us access to the voluminous documentary material he has collected relating to its occupation by Union forces. The museum is located across the road from White Oak Church, in the heart of the Sixth Corp cantonment area. During the Union occupation, it was occupied by the First New Jersey Brigade.

While at the White Oak Museum, John De Pue led an expedition to the site of Belle Plain Landing and pointed out the location of the Federal wharf facilities constructed to support the initial stages of Grant’s 1864 Overland Campaign. Mr. Newton advised us that Belle Plain had also been used by both MG McDowell and MG Burnside as a supply base during 1862.

Participants in the Stafford County tour included:

Nancy Anwyll, Charlie Balch, Karen and Michael Block, Mike Buckley, Sandra Cox, Bill and Rebecca Etue, Janet Greentree, Charlie Grimes, Mark Knowles, Lyle Loveall, Dale Maschino, Jack Nance, Randy Moller, Rose Nelson, Dianne and John Peyton, Bev Regeimbal, Mike Rimsey, Mike Shannon, Linne Toehl, Ed Wenzel and Keith Young.

John De Pue led an expedition to the site of Belle Plain Landing and pointed out the location of the Federal wharf facilities constructed to support the initial stages of Grant’s 1864 Overland Campaign

Chuck Seigel, John McAnaw and John De Pue served as the tour planners and moderators. We are especially indebted to Capt. Tom Mountz, D.P. Newton and his mother, who so graciously

hosted us at the Civil War facilities they so zealously preserve.



Capt. Tom Mountz, giving the talk at Redoubt #2
July 17th, 2004 — Stafford, VA

VIEW FROM WAY BACK

— submitted by *Keith Young*

OBEDIENCE to ORDERS

When Stonewall Jackson was ordered from the Valley of Western Virginia to take part in the operations of General Lee against the national troops threatening Richmond, General Whiting's division was sent to join him. In this division was the celebrated Texas brigade of General Hood. These men had never seen Jackson, and knew him only by reputation. As the movement was of the highest importance, it was necessary to keep it as secret as possible. Orders were accordingly issued to the men to refuse to give information of any kind to civilians on the route, and to answer all questions with, "I don't know."

On the second day of the march, General Jackson saw two of Hood's men leave the ranks and start for a cherry tree in the neighboring field. Riding up to them, he demanded, sternly —

"Where are you going?"

— "I don't know," replied one of the men coolly, not knowing to whom he was speaking.

"What is your name?"

— "I don't know."

"What regiment do you belong to?"

— "I don't know."

"What does this mean?" asked the General, turning to the other man, who stood by silently.

— "Why, you see," replied the soldier, "Old Stonewall gave orders yesterday that we are not to know anything until after the next fight, and we mean to obey him."

The General smiled -- he rarely laughed -- and sent the men back to their regiment.

From: *Frank Moore, The Civil War in Song and Story*, New York, 1882, p. 375.

PRESERVATION CORNER

— submitted by *John P McAnaw*

RUMORS ABOUT BRISTOE STATION BATTLEFIELD

During the period of 9-13 August 2004, two rumors surfaced that should be brought to the attention of the reader. As background, CENTEX will turn over title to 127 acres of the core area of the Bristoe Station Battlefield to the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) *prior to the end of September 2004.*

Now to the rumors. The first one that I heard indicated that CENTEX planned to clear-cut approximately 40 acres on the 127-acre tract that will be turned over to the CWPT prior to 30 September. Included in the tree cut would be the timber in the Alabama and Mississippi cemetery areas. The second rumor that I heard was that a deal had been struck between CENTEX and CWPT for CENTEX to dump large quantities of debris and dirt on cited 127 acres.

On 13 August I called Bob Wessel, a Land Development Project Officer for CENTEX and informed him of the rumors and requested his comments. Mr. Wessel stated that he knew nothing regarding these rumors and that they were *totally untrue.*

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2004

7:15 PM

WILLIAM B. STYPLE

**WRITING AND FIGHTING THE
CIVIL WAR**

**CONFEDERATE AND UNION SOLDIER
CORRESPONDENTS PLUS
THE LETTERS OF
PETER WELLINGTON ALEXANDER,
AN EMBEDDED CONFEDERATE
REPORTER**

MANASSAS BATTLEFIELD — BYPASS STUDY

— submitted by *Keith Young*

On August 10, 2004, I attended a meeting of consulting parties to the Manassas Battlefield Bypass Study. The meeting is a part of the process for preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The **Bull Run Civil War Round Table has been designated as a consulting party to the Study.** The purpose of the meeting was to present the material already assembled regarding the impact of the proposed bypass routes on the cultural content of the battlefield.

The cultural resources considered are archaeological sites, architectural resources, and historical locations in the battlefield. Only three of the consulting parties have submitted cultural resources to the contractor that had not been already identified. Seventeen separate landscapes have been identified by the Park.

For those cultural resources that are in proximity to any of the proposed routes, an estimate of the potential impact is made. The types of impact being considered are physical disturbance from road construction and indirect disturbance (vandalism resulting from identification of the exact location was given as an example). Analysis of the visual and noise impacts have not been completed but should be complete before the next consulting party meeting in about a month and a half.

Methods to mitigate the impact on these cultural resources have been considered and those identified as being of value will be discussed in the final EIS. Many mitigation methods have been considered. Examples are avoidance, road design to make minor adjustments to location, vegetative screening, placing roads or portions below grade, recording data and photographing cultural resources which will be destroyed, reconstructing historic buildings, enhanced interpretation of cultural resources, etc.

The contractor developing the EIS for the Federal Highway Administration then sought input and comment from the designated consulting parties.

The completed EIS will make recommendations to the decision-makers regarding which routes are

preferred. A “no change” recommendation is also possible. The consulting parties will be provided with a copy of the EIS when it is completed.

BRCWRT FALL TOUR COLD HARBOR

Please join us for our fall tour of the battlefield of Cold Harbor during this 140th anniversary year.

DATE: SATURDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2004

ASSEMBLY LOCATION & TIME:

If you want to carpool to the battlefield, meet at the Centreville Library parking lot -- we will **depart at 7:30 AM sharp**. If you choose to drive on your own, meet the group at **a linkup point TBD at 9:45 AM**. (Driving time from Centreville is about 2 hours).

ITINERARY:

Tentative schedule includes Enon Church (Haw's Shop), Pole Green Church, Bethesda Church and Beulah Church in the morning. We will have a picnic lunch at the Garthright House picnic area. After lunch we will focus on the Cold Harbor battlefield proper near the Visitor Center. We should **finish around 3:00 PM**.

LUNCH:

Plan to pack a lunch and join us for a picnic.

WEATHER CANCELLATION:

If it is raining we will reschedule the tour. I plan to send out an e-mail cancellation announcement on Saturday morning so please make sure I have your address. If you don't have e-mail please make arrangements with someone who does or let me know so I can call you.

FEE: Free!

CHIEF TOUR GUIDE:

Kevin Anastas (703) 266-1265, Mobile: (703) 431-2569. E-mail kka2@cox.net

PRESERVATION NOTES — OX HILL

— submitted by Ed Wenzel

PUBLIC HEARINGS SET FOR OX HILL BATTLEFIELD & CONFEDERATE FORTIFICATIONS PARKS

The Fairfax County Park Authority has announced that public hearings will be held for the *Ox Hill Battlefield Park* and the *Confederate Fortifications Historic Site* (aka Union Mills) on Monday, Sept. 13, 2004 at 7 p.m. in Room 106/107 of the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035.

The hearings will open with a presentation on why the Park Authority chose to master plan both of these Civil War parks simultaneously, and their intention of creating a “unified interpretive experience” for all Civil War Sites throughout Fairfax County.

Next, the park staff will present the proposed General Management and Conceptual Development Plans for the *Ox Hill Battlefield Park*. These plans evolved from the task force meetings conducted this past winter and spring in which representatives from the BRCWRT, the Chantilly Battlefield Association, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Fort Ward Park and two civic groups took part. The vision for Ox Hill includes restoring the park’s 4.8 acres to more closely resemble the two farm fields of 1862; reconstruction of a zigzag fence marking the edge of the cornfield where Gen. Philip Kearny rode to his death, and another rail fence near the existing monuments where Gen. Isaac Stevens was killed. In addition, the plan calls for two sites to be reserved for future monuments to the soldiers who fought on this field. The monuments, one Union and one Confederate, would be inscribed with the names of the regiments and brigades that took part in the battle. The plan also calls for a small parking area and a visitor shelter or kiosk to be located in the southeast corner of the park. The shelter/kiosk would contain interpretive panels featuring maps, photographs and historical and biographical information pertaining to the battle and its participants. The *Confederate Fortifications Historic Site* presentation will follow Ox Hill and will consist of a proposed General Management Plan for phase 1. This 69-acre site is also known as the Union Mills/Camp Early “A Fort” and “Battery Fort”. These earthworks were part of the forward Confederate defensive line protecting Manassas Junction. The staff’s presenta-

tion will include a treatment plan for the site’s well-preserved gun emplacements, earthen fortifications, and the extensive (and very rare) tent pad feature. The 156 tent pads found at the site are aligned in company formations and were built for tents that accommodated, in varying numbers, up to 624 troops manning the forts, guns and earthworks. The presentation will also cover plans for interpretive signage, trails and parking.

Following the presentations, organizations and individuals who have signed up to speak will be called to come forward. If you would like to speak, please call Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer, at 703.324.8662, or e-mail her at

parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

All BRCWRT members are encouraged to speak and make our presence known at the hearing, whether in support of the plans or with ideas to make the plans better.

The proposed plans for both of the above parks are available for review at the Fairfax County Park Authority, Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 421, Fairfax – or the Park Authority website: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks. Comments on the plans will be received by the Park Authority for 30 days *after* the hearing. The public comment period will close on Wednesday, October 13, 2004 at the close of business.

LONGSTREET NOTES

— submitted by Dan Paterson

The Longstreet Society’s annual tour this year is at Appomattox, September 25-26 and the tour headquarters will be the Lynchburg Ramada Inn. It is a co-sponsored event with the Grant Monument Association and features battlefield tours, lectures, etc. Please visit the website for more information:

<http://www.longstreet.org/seminar.htm>

This year’s tour is unique from those in the past in that it will be in association with the Grant organization. The Society’s former president, Garland Reynolds, represented the Longstreet Society at the rededication ceremony of Grant’s tomb and also was an architect on the project.

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HEADS UP!

**MARCHING ORDERS
BRCWRT TOUR****SATURDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2004**

Centreville and Bull Run Valley From Entrance to Bull Run Regional Park (near I-66) Downstream to Blackburn Ford

ASSEMBLY POINT:

St. Andrew RC Church parking lot, NW quadrant, intersection Union Mill & Compton Rd (South of Braddock Rd). Meet under basketball backboards.

ASSEMBLY TIME: 8:10 AM**TOUR DURATION: 8:15 AM – 2:40 PM****DEGREE OF EXERTION:** Light to Moderate**LOGISTICS:**

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

TOUR GUIDES:

John McAnaw, Mark Knowles

TOUR COORDINATOR:

John McAnaw – 703.978.3371

LONGSTREET

– *continued from Page 10, Column 2*

Also, I'd like to recommend a book that is very interesting. "*The War of Confederate Captain Henry T. Owen*," was recently published by Heritage Books and has correspondence between Captain Owen and General Longstreet as well as letters from Major Charles Pickett, James Kemper and other Confederate officers. Here is an apt description from Heritage Books, the publisher:

"Henry T. Owen's story is told predominantly in his own words, but his experiences were common to thousands of men who held high standards of conduct and principles in their lives. This book is not intended to be a

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 and 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: Virginia Morton**TOUR COORDINATOR:**

John McAnaw – 703.978.3371

tribute solely to Henry T. Owen. It is a tribute to both Confederate and Union soldiers and sailors, and to the wives, children and other loved ones they left behind. Following the war, thousands of young men, like Henry T. Owen, returned to their homes to try and put together the broken pieces of their lives and to heal the nation's wounds. Many of the letters, documents, and other material published in this book are transcribed from the Henry T. Owen Papers, 1822-1929, archived at the Library of Virginia. Additional material was transcribed from Henry Owen's scrapbook, now owned by one of the authors. A chronological as well as an alphabetical list of names in letters augment this work."

This is a unique contribution to the literature of the period. With letters between officers of the Confederate high command, family experiences. A wonderful addition to any personal library!

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: _____