The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table

Volume XII, Number 3

April 2005

# D. Scott Hartwig to Discuss Maryland Campaign of 1862

Our guest speaker on April 14 is known and respected by countless Civil War buffs, including those who have had the pleasure of meeting him at the Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP). He is D. Scott Hartwig, currently a supervisory historian at the GNMP.

Scott is a 25-year veteran of the National Park Service (NPS). He has authored numerous articles and essays. At present he is editing his draft of the first volume of a two-volume study of the 1862 Maryland campaign.

Scott was born in Baltimore, Md. and raised north of Philadelphia, Pa. He joined the National Park Service after earning a BS Degree from the University of Wyoming. While in college he was fortunate to take three courses on the Civil War with that distinguished historian, E.B. Long, who authored, inter alia, *The Civil War Day by Day: An Almanac 1861-1865*.

His first assignment with the NPS was at the Eisenhower Historic Site near Gettysburg. After a one-year stint at that location, Scott joined the staff at the GNMP, with whom he is still serving.

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# BRCWRT Urged to State Views On Centreville Historic District

By John P. McAnaw

Since the last newsletter many events have occurred regarding the nationally important Civil War sites within and adjacent to the present Centreville Historic Overlay District (CHOD). The Sully District Supervisor, Michael Frey, formed a work group in November 2004 to study issues related to the proposed expansion of the current CHOD.

Since November, there have been three public meetings on the proposed expansion. Due to travel

[See Historic District, Page 6]

#### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

[All Begin at 7:15 P.M.]

14 APRIL 2005

**Guest Speaker: D. SCOTT HARTWIG** 

**Subject:** The Maryland Campaign of 1862

**12 MAY 2005** 

**Guest Speaker: ED BEARSS** 

**Subject:** Ed's Picks: The Best Army,

**Corps and Division Commanders** 

of the Civil War

Note: Annual Celebration by BRCWRT Members of Ed Bearss's Birth date and Founding of Our Round Table. Begins at 6:45 P.M.

# Ox Hill Battlefield Costs Climb To \$650,000; More Funds Sought

By ED WENZEL

On February 4, just days before the last issue of *The Stonewall* was published, Michael Rierson, Resource Stewardship Branch Manager for the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) informed us that the estimated cost of the Ox Hill Battlefield Park's main entrance, turn lane and parking area had jumped a quarter-million dollars, leaving a new total shortfall of \$450,000 to complete the park. The \$250K increase was attributed almost entirely to the cost of a short turn lane on West Ox Road. And since the FCPA was already short of funds for this improvement, the new increase could delay the park's final completion for many years.

Faced with a \$450K deficit at Ox Hill, and also serious issues related to the Centreville Historic Overlay District (CHOD), John McAnaw asked Charlie Balch to arrange a meeting with Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerald

[See Ox Hill Battlefield Park, Page 4]

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#### **INCLEMENT WEATHER SOP**

In the event of inclement weather during the winter and spring 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 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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# The President's Column By John P. McAnaw

To date, Calendar Year 2005 has been very eventful. Many Round Table members are deeply involved in a number of important Civil War preservation activities, including the acquisition of funds to interpret the Ox Hill Battlefield; the Manassas Battlefields Road Bypass Study; and the preservation of fortifications, encampments, cemeteries, etc., within or adjacent to the Centreville Historic Overlay District (CHOD). I thank all those who have taken the time to get involved.

Regarding the CHOD, the next Work Group meeting on the <u>expansion</u> of the CHOD will be at 7 p.m. on April 11 at the office of the Sully District supervisor, Michael Frey. I encourage everyone to attend.

The annual dues of the BRCWRT have not been raised during the almost 14 years of its existence. They are, according to Ed Bearss, the second lowest in the nation. Our Round Table is known for the high quality of its speakers, field trips and preservation programs. Therefore, I ask all members to act as recruiters and get new members for our organization.

Speaking of field trips, mark Saturday, 7 May 2005 on your calendar for a thoroughly informative tour of selected sites in Stafford County. It will be led by two of the most knowledgeable historians of that county: Albert Z. Conner and Chuck Siegel of our Round Table. Also, field trips are planned to Spotsylvania Court House and sites in and around Bristoe Station in the May-June time frame. Additionally, we will continue our local tours for interested members to historic Centreville and sites along Bull Run and the Occoquan River during the two months cited above.

An impressive lineup of guest speakers is on tap for the remainder of the year. D. Scott Hartwig (14 April), Ed Bearss (12 May) and Greg Mertz (9

# Warning! Developers at Work On the Cold Harbor Battlefield

The Winter 2005 issue of *One Richmond's Front-line*, the newsletter of the Richmond Battlefields Association (RBA) had a disturbing article about the Cold Harbor battlefield of 1864.

Without attracting the attention of preservationists, an open lot adjacent to the Cold Harbor National Cemetery was purchased by developers. To quote the RBA article:

"A new house has arisen on this tract of land, less than 100 yards from the mass grave at the back wall of the cemetery and perhaps 200 yards from the edge of the national park."

The new home sits on terrain where advancing troops of VI U.S. Corps first made contact with enemy skirmishers during its late afternoon attack on 1 June 1864. Confederate skirmishers from MG Robert F. Hokes's Division fell back to prepared positions located several hundred yards from the initial contact area. These prepared positions are on land protected by the National Park Service.

Now you know why we are worried about proposed land use actions by developers; i.e., rezoning requests that threaten historically important land vicinity the Centreville Historic Overlay District. Many developers couldn't care less about protecting our Civil War heritage.

For more information on the Richmond Battlefields Association, write P.O. Box 13945, Richmond, VA 23225. The web address is:

#### www.saverichmondbattlefields.org

June) are indicative of the quality of these speakers. The highlight of our Round Table year will be on 12 May, when Ed Bearss will be our guest lecturer. On that date we will also celebrate the anniversaries of Ed's birth date and the founding of the BRCWRT. A special guest will join us for this auspicious event.

#### Ox Hill Battlefield Park

#### (Continued from Page 1)

Connolly, to seek his support for additional funds for Ox Hill, as well as County protection for the forts and earthworks at Centreville. (See Preservation Corner) Attending the Feb. 27 meeting from the BRCWRT were John McAnaw, President; Charlie Balch, Vice President, and the writer, a member of the Executive Committee. At the meeting, we presented Chairman Connolly with the following information and concerns regarding Ox Hill.

- 1) The added cost of the turn lane boosts the park's current price tag to \$650K, a figure that will only rise higher with additional delays. Estimated costs for Ox Hill have increased six times since 1987, from \$110K to \$650K. Currently the Park Authority has \$200K on hand for the park. The money includes \$118K from the 1987 developer proffer, \$50K from the 1998 Park Bonds (minus \$8K already spent) and \$40K to be transferred from the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site, the completion of which has been shelved until 2008.
- 2) Because of the shortfall, the park staff now proposes to do the Ox Hill park in three phases. Phase I would use all \$200K to complete the interpretive elements within the park itself. This would include the most important and essential elements; namely, the historic landscape restoration, rail fences, interpretive signage, trails and an open-sided, covered Visitor Information "Kiosk," containing three or more interpretive panels.

Deferred to an unspecified future date would be <a href="Phase II">Phase II</a> – namely, the park's main entrance, the West Ox turn lane, and the parking area (six to ten cars and a tour bus); and <a href="Phase III">Phase III</a> – the interpretive elements across Monument Drive and at other sites beyond the park's boundaries.

3) The proposed phasing presents problems. First of all, if Phase I is completed on schedule while the main entrance and parking area (Phase II) are deferred, then visitors coming to the restored and interpreted battlefield park will not be able to enter the park at the planned entrance, or be oriented to the battlefield from the direction of the Union attack. Instead, they will have to park at the bus stop on Monument Drive or at the shopping center across the street and enter the park via the Monument Drive trail entrance, the location of which is actually at the "back door" of the park – the

Kearny and Stevens Monuments being the culmination of the historical experience, and not intended to be the first thing you see on entering the park. (The two monuments are situated at the woods line where the Union attack, coming from the south, was directed.)

Moreover, the Visitor Information Kiosk, which is planned to be built near the main entrance and would provide the initial orientation for visitors, would be moved "temporarily" to the Monument Drive trail entrance, which is an inappropriate location for this orientation.

Our fear is that if the Visitor Information Kiosk is "temporarily" erected at the Monument Drive entrance, then pressure will be off the Park Authority to finish the park, and the "temporary" location will become a de facto permanent location as other parks take funds that should go to Ox Hill, possibly postponing the park's main entrance indefinitely. And of course, the current \$650K price tag will, without a doubt, rise dramatically.

4) **Among possible funding sources**, the following have the most promise at this time:

Fund 371 Contingency Project: Ox Hill's \$118K proffer has been on deposit in Fund 371 for 10 years. The interest is transferred annually to the Fund 371 Contingency Project. This money is "available for unanticipated needs and increased construction costs throughout the park system." Thus, Ox Hill's interest money has been available for other parks for 10 years. Now Ox Hill needs money. What's good for other parks is now good for Ox Hill.

<u>Park Authority Funds</u>: The Park Authority could resolve Ox Hill's shortfall with one decision; i.e., have Park Board representatives take \$50K from the <u>newest park or parks</u> in each of the nine park districts to get the long-delayed Ox Hill park completed.

State Transportation Funds: The West Ox Road turn lane is necessitated almost entirely because of road construction, widening and grade changes made around the park's perimeter since 1987. Monument Drive was planned through the heart of the battlefield and right up against the edge of the Kearny and Stevens Monument Lot with no thought or care for either the monuments or a park. The proximity of the Monument Drive intersection now requires a turn lane into the park from West Ox Road. The use of transportation funds would be entirely appropriate to help mitigate the impact of this ill-advised Monument Drive planning decision, one that thoughtlessly wiped out the Confederate Line of Battle in that sector and literally side-swiped the pre-existing Monument Lot.

### Centreville:

# Lost Treasure, Royal Oaks

By MARY R. AHRENS

Bull Run Civil War Round Table members are taking an active interest in the proposed Centreville Historic District rezoning efforts. And for good reason! In addition to the five existing structures within the current District, the forts and covered way that *should* be included in the Historic District, there is another tract of land that should also be added. I am speaking about the tract of land on which the Royal Oaks plantation home once stood.

The house itself was removed in the late 1950's by then-owner Norman L. Baker who had plans to reconstruct it near another plantation home, Rose Hill, which he had dismantled and reconstructed on his property in Delaplane, Fauquier County. Mr. Baker photographed and sketched Royal Oaks as it was being dismantled so that he could reconstruct it accurately; however, it was never rebuilt.

Tracing the owners of Royal Oaks is like perusing a *Who's Who* of local luminaries – and some quite famous national figures as well. It is rumored that the house was erected between 1765 and 1790 on the site of an old Indian campground. The Newtons who built the house, had ties to Mary Ball, George Washington's mother through the Eskridge side of their family. George Eskridge was Mary Ball's guardian. One of the Newtons, Newton Keene, son of the builder, served aboard the U.S.S. Constitution (Old Ironsides) during the war on the shores of Tripoli.

#### **ROUND TABLE BOOK 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!

#### **Heads Up!**

#### **BRCWRT TOUR**

SATURDAY—7 MAY 2005

Special tour of important Civil War sites not previously visited in Stafford County (Part II)

<u>Carpool Location/Time:</u> In front of McDonald's in University shopping center located in southeast quadrant of intersection of Ox Road (Route 123) and Braddock Road (Route 620). Location is just south of Fairfax City and George Mason University. <u>Time: 7:35 A.M.</u>

Route to Tour Assembly Point: Take Ox Road (Route 123) south across Occoquan River into Prince William County, where Route 123 becomes Gordon Boulevard. Take I-95 south to Stafford County. Take Exit 140 West onto Courthouse Road (Route 630). Travel short distance and turn left (south) into Commuter Parking Lot (Assembly Point).

<u>Assembly Point/Time:</u> Commuter Parking Lot. Time: 8:30 A.M.

Tour Duration: 8:30 A.M.—3:50 P.M.

<u>Degree of Exertion:</u> Light to moderate. Those with heart or respiratory problems should not participate.

<u>Special:</u> Bring water and energy food. Participants have options of brown bag or fast-food lunch.

<u>Tour Guides:</u> Two Stafford County historians: Albert Z. Conner and Charles Siegel (BRCWRT member).

Tour Coordinator/Information:

John P. McAnaw (703.978.3371)

# PRESERVATION CORNER

By John P. McAnaw

# Follow-Up After Feb. 27 Meeting With County Board Chairman

On 27 February 2005, Ed Wenzel, Charlie Balch and I had a 2.5-hour meeting with Gerald Connolly, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, on several important Civil War subjects. We were pleasantly surprised by the warm reception he gave us.

During the course of our conversation, he informed us that "I want you to tell your friends that their Chairman is a Civil War nut!" He also expressed admiration for that great friend of the BRCWRT, Chief Historian Emeritus of the National Park Service, Ed Bearss.

To make sure all concerned understood what the follow-up actions were regarding our meeting, I sent a letter to Chairman Connolly on 7 March 2005. Ed Wenzel has covered that portion of my letter concerning Ox Hill. So, for the record, only that portion of cited letter on the Centreville Historic Overlay District is included below:

"Our presentation to you on the proposed expansion of the Centreville Historic Overlay District (CHOD) emphasized the fact that nationally important Civil War fortifications and undeveloped encampment areas are presently not included within the proposed CHOD boundaries. The recommendation was made that the expanded CHOD (including the Civil War sites discussed above) should be a 'Gateway Heritage Park' that features the preservation of existing Civil War and archaeological sites.

"This passive recreation park should also include a County Visitors Center and a museum that highlights our Civil War heritage. Future development within the expanded CHOD should be kept to the minimum.

"In response to the interest expressed by you relative to the preservation of Civil War sites

[See Preservation Corner, Page 9]

## Ox Hill Battlefield Park

#### [Continued from Page 4]

During our presentation, Chairman Connolly engaged us with numerous questions and comments. He informed us of his first visit to Ox Hill and how appalled he was that highway construction and development had been permitted so close to the site's historic features. He expressed great regret that more of the battlefield hadn't been saved and assured us of his support for more funding to complete the park in one phase.

The Chairman also made known his belief that the Ox Hill Battlefield Park, in addition to interpreting the Ox Hill battle, should introduce visitors to a broader Civil War experience and be utilized as a "gateway" for Civil War tourism in the area. He suggested that the Ox Hill Visitor "Kiosk" might be expanded to accommodate some additional panels and said that he had recently spoken to the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce about Civil War tourism.

Mr. Connolly recommended that we meet with FCPA Director Michael Kane and Northern Virginia VDOT Administrator Dennis Morrison, and inform them of the Chairman's "enthusiastic support" for Ox Hill and of his desire to get additional funds for the park.

In addition, the Chairman informed us that an <a href="extra \$15 million">extra \$15 million</a> was added to the recent Park Bond Referendum over and above what was requested, in part to help older parks, and he believes that some of this money could be used to complete the 19-year-old Ox Hill park. Accordingly, a meeting was scheduled on March 30 with Park Authority Director Michael Kane, to discuss additional FCPA funds and to enlist the FCPA in helping to acquire a matching VDOT contribution for Ox Hill. Stay tuned.

#### Centreville Historic District

#### [Continued from Page 1]

Commitments, I only attended the third meeting. However, Round Table members attended the first two and forcefully expressed their concerns and recommendations.

The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 11 April 2005, at the Sully District Supervisor's office. Round Table members are encouraged to attend again and to make known their views on the expansion proposals while these matters are still under discussion.

Believe me when I tell you, the stakes are very high!

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### Contributed by Saundra Cox

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

- **2** Apr Petersburg, 140th Anniversary "The Breakthrough" Join historians for a pre-dawn lantern tour of the battlefield of Apr. 2, 1865. The tour will begin 140 years to the minute from the assault that would decide the fate of Petersburg and the Confederacy. Lectures and tours throughout the day. Info: www.pamplinpark.org or call 877.Pamplin for lantern tour reservations.
- **2** Apr VA Battlefields, Civil War Preservation Trust's "Annual Park Day". Lend a helping hand for a day of history, hard work and hands-on preservation fun...painting, hauling trash, raking leaves, etc. Local sites include Balls Bluff Regional Park, Liberia Mansion and Cannon Branch Fort in Manassas. Info: <a href="https://www.civil.org">www.civil.org</a>
- **3 Apr -** Richmond, "President Abraham Lincoln's 1865 Tour Through Richmond". Info: National Park Service, 804.226.1981 or www.nps.gov/rich
- **3 Apr** Petersburg, "Fall of Petersburg" Bus Tour with AP Hill death site. Five Forks, Dinwiddie Court House. Info: National Park Service, 804.732.3531
- **8-10 Apr** Appomattox, "Pursuit to Appomattox", includes battles each day commemorating the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lee's Retreat and the Surrender. Book signings, lectures and demonstrations daily. Located on 600 acres near Appomattox. Info: <a href="https://www.appomattox.com">www.appomattox.com</a> or 434.352.2621
- **8-12 Apr** Appomattox, "140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" with special tours, talks and living history programs. Info: Appomattox Court House Nat'l Historical Park, 434.352.8987 or <a href="https://www.nps.gov/apco">www.nps.gov/apco</a>. Free with park admission
- 9 & 23 Apr Manassas, "First Manassas Battlefield Hike" led by NPS ranger, 5-hour walk over the battlefield beginning at noon. Info: 703.361.1339 or <a href="https://www.nps.gov/mana">www.nps.gov/mana</a>. Free with park admission.
- **9-10 Apr** Chantilly, "Civil War Show" at the Dulles Expo Center. Sat 9-5 and Sun 10-2. \$8
- **16 Apr** Alexandria, "The Battle of Brandy Station Bus Tour" sponsored by the Friends of Fort Ward. 7:30 a.m.-5p.m. Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site. Reservations required, 703.838.4848 \$90 includes lunch
- **16 Apr** Manassas, "Mayfield Fort Torchlight Living History Tour" from 6-9 p.m. Info: <a href="https://www.manassasmuseum.org">www.manassasmuseum.org</a> or 703.368.1873 \$15 adults/\$10 children
- **16 & 30 Apr** Manassas, "Second Manassas Battlefield Hike" led by NPS ranger, 5-hour walk over the battlefield beginning at noon. Info: 703.361.1339 or

### **After Action Report**

# Tour of Civil War Sites Vicinity Centreville Historic Overlay Dist.

Despite lowering clouds, stiff winds and cool temperatures a small band of dedicated BRCWRT members gathered on Saturday morning, 12 March 2005, at the site of Fort Johnston (Pickwick Square Shopping Center), Centreville.

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#### [See 'After Action Report,' Page 9]

www.nps.gov/mana. Free with park admission.

- **16-17 Apr** Baltimore, "Commemoration of April 19, 1861 Riot", special programs regarding the Pratt Street Riots. Special activities all weekend. Info: Baltimore Civil War Museum President Street Station, 410.385.5188 or <a href="https://www.mdhs.org">www.mdhs.org</a>. Admission of \$6 includes museum.
- **21-24 Apr** Chantilly, "CWPT's Annual Conference, Lee Moves North: Antietam". Check out the website for full list of excellent speakers, tours and meal functions, held at Westfield's Marriott. Info: <a href="https://www.civilwar.org">www.civilwar.org</a> \$515 registration
- **23 Apr** Richmond, "Beyond April 1865" day long symposium hosted by the Museum of the Confederacy at the Library of Virginia. Info: Dr. John Coski, 804.649.1861
- **6-8 May** Fredericksburg, "141st Anniversary of the Battle of the Wilderness" bus tour with living history programs, dinner and luncheon speakers. Info: Friends of the Wilderness Battlefield, 540.786.2880
- 11 June Fairfax, "Mosby's Spring Confederacy Bus Tour" sponsored by the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society visiting Hathaway House, the surrender site in Marshall, the execution sites in Front Royal, Mosby's grave and more. Info: Don Hakenson, www.hakenson.net or email dhakenson@cox.net \$40
- **12 June -** Fairfax City Museum, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. At 2 p.m., Col. Keith Gibson, Director of the VMI Museum, will speak on Capt. John Quincy Marr. Info: 703.385.8414
- **28-30 June** Harrisonburg, "The Great Revival In The Southern Armies Conference" with Dr. Charles Baker, Dr. Ron Rumburg, William Potter, Howard Phillips and others. Info: Sprinkle Publications 540.867.9618
- If you would like an event posted, please email Saundra at scox@capitalav.com or call 703.675.0702.

# FLASHBACK

### April 1865 Submitted by Keith Young

- Apr. 1, Saturday The far right of General Lee's lines around Petersburg are attacked at Five Forks by Gen. Sheridan's cavalry and Gen. Warren's Fifth Corps. After initial Federal delays and confusion the Confederate defenders are crushed. The leading Confederate generals in the area are caught in the midst of a shad bake at the time of the attack which hinders the defense. In the midst of the battle General Sheridan relieves General Warren of command of his Corps for being slow, disobeying orders and failing to cooperate effectively. Gen. Warren is cleared of most of the charges long after the war, but his career is stymied at this point.
- Apr. 2, Sunday An early morning Union offensive breaks the Confederate's Petersburg defensive line at many points. Lee desperately holds on to Forts Gregg and Baldwin to buy time to extricate his troops from the crumbling defenses. Confederate Third Corps Commander, Gen. A.P Hill, is killed while attempting to rally his men. The rallying point for the Army of Northern Virginia is set to be Amelia Court House, 40 miles to the west.

President Jefferson Davis is informed of the army's collapse while in Sunday morning services at St. Paul's Church. The Confederate government evacuates Richmond upon the advice of General Lee. By 11 a.m. Davis and most of his cabinet have departed by a special train for Danville, Va., the new temporary capitol of the C.S.A.

Union General James H. Wilson's cavalry force descends on Selma, Alabama, overwhelms the city's defenses, and captures the city. Confederate General Forrest is unable to stop Wilson's force, but does escape capture along with Gen. Richard Taylor, the Confederate Department commander.

- Apr. 3, Monday Union troops occupy Petersburg and Richmond. Much of Richmond has been burning. Arriving Federal troops start to work extinguishing the fires. President Lincoln confers with General Grant in a private home in Petersburg. General Lee continues moving westward and General Grant's forces parallel Lee's movements but remain slightly to the south to present a barrier to the joining of Lee and Johnston's armies. Jefferson Davis arrives in Danville by midafternoon.
- **Apr. 4,** Tuesday President Lincoln visits Richmond accompanied by Adm. D.D. Porter and a small armed escort of sailors. General Lee arrives at Amelia C.H.

- and discovers that the expected supplies are not in place there. Jefferson Davis, in a proclamation to the Danville populace, promises to continue the Confederacy's struggle.
- **Apr. 5,** Wednesday General Lee's retreat is blocked by Sheridan's cavalry, forcing Lee to leave the Danville railroad and head toward Farmville.
- **Apr. 6,** Thursday The final major action for the Army of Northern Virginia of the war occurs at Sayler's Creek. General Lee with Generals Longstreet and Mahone becomes separated from Generals Ewell and R.H. Anderson. Attacked by the Union Second and Sixth Corps and Sheridan's cavalry, several Confederate generals and about a third of the retreating column are captured after brisk fighting
- Apr. 7, Friday General Grant opens communications with General Lee regarding surrender. General Lee declines to surrender but inquires regarding the terms of surrender to be offered. General Lee's retreat continues after crossing the Appomattox River, but an attempt to burn the High Bridge fails. Rear guard fighting delays the retreat and allows Sheridan, with cavalry and attached infantry, to get in front of Lee's column at Appomattox Station and Court House. Lee's weary troops do find some food at Farmville.
- Apr. 8, Saturday General Grant responds to Lee's request regarding the terms of surrender to be offered by saying, "...There is but one condition I would insist upon, namely that the men and officers surrendered shall be disqualified from taking up arms against the Government of the United States until properly exchanged." Lee responds that he had not intended to propose the surrender of his army, but just to inquire about the terms. Lee holds his final council of war in the evening.
- **Apr. 9,** Palm Sunday At dawn a Confederate attack is made to force passage through the Federal troops blocking their path. The breakout attempt fails and General Lee requests to meet with General Grant. The meeting is arranged and takes place in the early afternoon at the McLean house in Appomattox C.H. The surrender is accomplished by Grant's presenting the terms and Lee's acceptance of them. President Lincoln returns to Washington, D.C. in the early evening.
- **Apr. 10,** Monday News of Lee's surrender reaches Jefferson Davis in mid-afternoon. By evening the remaining Confederate government has departed by train for Greensboro, N.C. General Lee issues his last general orders and confers with General Grant for some time.
- **Apr. 12,** Wednesday The final ceremony takes place at Appomattox C.H. with the laying down of battle flags and arms by the Confederate troops. Mobile, the last major city of the Confederacy, is evacuated by its defenders and General E.R.S, Canby's Federal troops enter the city. General Wilson's cavalry enters Montgomery, Ala. after a

[See Flashback April 1865, Page 9]

# Flashback, April 1865

#### [Continued from Page 8]

skirmish. At Greensboro, N.C. President Davis meets with his cabinet, Generals Johnston and Beauregard. Gen. Johnston is authorized to meet with General Sherman

- **Apr. 14,** Good Friday President Lincoln is assassinated at Ford's Theater by John Wilkes Booth.
- **Apr. 15,** Saturday President Lincoln dies early in the morning. Andrew Johnson is sworn in as President of the U.S. Confederate President Jefferson Davis leaves Greensboro, N.C. to continue his flight with the eventual idea of reaching the Trans-Mississippi.
- **Apr. 18,** Tuesday Generals Sherman and Johnston meet for a second time at the Bennett house near Durham Station, N.C., and sign a "memorandum or basis of agreement." The memorandum is a far- reaching document which is much broader than Grant's terms to Lee and has policy implications for reconstruction.
- **Apr. 19,** Wednesday President Lincoln's funeral takes place in the East Room of the White House and the former President's body is taken to lie in state in the Capitol rotunda.
- **Apr. 21,** Friday President Lincoln's funeral train leaves Washington D.C.
- **Apr. 24,** Monday General Sherman learns his terms of surrender have not been approved by the President and he is told to give 48 hours notice to General Johnston to surrender or hostilities would be resumed
- **Apr. 26,** Wednesday -John Wilkes Booth is captured on the Garrett farm in Virginia, shot by one of his captors and dies on the farm porch. Generals Sherman and Johnston meet at the Bennett house again and surrender terms following Grant's model are signed.
- **Apr. 27,** Thursday The Sultana, a river boat heavily overloaded with recently liberated Union prisoners, suffers a boiler explosion and fire on the Mississippi River. The official death toll is 1238 but unofficial totals go as high as 1900 out of the 2021 persons on board.
- **Apr. 30,** Sunday Meeting near Mobile, Ala., Gen. E.R.S. Canby accepts a truce preliminary to the surrender of Confederate forces under command of Gen. Richard Taylor.

## **Preservation Corner**

#### [Continued from Page 6]

vicinity Centreville, including the CHOD, we will do the following:

- "1. Contact your office re an on-site tour by you of Civil War sites vicinity of the CHOD. I will be honored to act as your guide.
- "2. Contact your office on 1 April to schedule, per your request, a follow-up meeting to the one held on 27 February.
- "3. Insure that the Sully District Supervisor is aware of your keen interest in the preservation of those Civil War sites currently not within the CHOD."

#### John P. McAnaw, President

Bull Run Civil War Round Table

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## **After Action Report**

#### [Continued from Page 7]

The tour's purpose was to acquaint all present with the significant Civil War sites in and around the present CHOD <u>and</u> sites removed to the south of Highway 29. Only through first-hand knowledge can one be truly effective in the upcoming battles to preserve what is left (and it is significant) of the most important Civil War acreage in Virginia.

With Civil War photos provided by authorpublisher Mike O'Donnell, we matched Civil War photos with today's terrain and buildings surviving from the Village of Centreville, circa 1861-65. To escape the driving wind, the group lunched at Payne's Restaurant on Highway 29, where food is cheap and the service fast. (It's on BRCWRT's "highly recommended" list in our Dining Guide.) The rest of the day was spent fighting the elements.

As always, the tour ended on time with all members either present or somewhere else. Joining me on this enjoyable tour were Mary Ahrens, Nancy Anwyll, Harriett Condon, Saundra Cox, Janet Greentree and Bev Regeimbal.

# 'The Hero of Ox Hill'

# Round Table's Ed Wenzel Hailed for Saving Battlefield

#### Submitted by Nancy Anwyll

Recently, Ed Wenzel of our Round Table received some well-deserved national attention. Robert Lee Hodge wrote about Ed in his *Field Report* article in the November 2004 issue of *North & South* magazine. Not only did Hodge credit Ed for saving a portion of the Ox Hill Battlefield, but he also wrote that the group that Ed helped to organize was the beginning of a national movement to preserve battlefields in other states.

Hodge explained that Ed Wenzel worked successfully to bring the national media's attention to the developers' destruction of the battlefield at Ox Hill in 1986. After Ed joined with Brian Pohanka and Bud Hall to form a preservation group called the Chantilly Battlefield Association (CBA), the developer and Fairfax County agreed to save 4.8 acres of the battlefield.

In July of 1987, the CBA joined with other preservationists to form the first national Civil War battlefield preservation group, the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS), which later became the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT). Other national and local preservation groups also were organized.

Omitted from Hodge's story was that Ed has been working on the preservation of the Ox Hill battle-field for 19 years. After the Centennial Company gave land and money in 1994 for the battlefield improvements, the Fairfax County Park Authority refused to spend the money for the battlefield.

Ed has worked endless hours to get county and park officials to act. The result is that part of the funds are just now being spent on Phase I. Ed currently is striving to obtain funds for Phase II and III which involves adding a turn lane from West Ox Road, a small parking area for cars and tour buses, and interpretive signage in adjacent areas.

The preserved site is surrounded by apartments, shopping malls, office buildings, and busy roads

# Author Hartwig Tells How Gen. Lee Made Decision To Invade Maryland in 1862

The Spring 2005 issue of *Hallowed Ground*, the publication of the Civil War Preservation Trust, features on pages 24-27 an article by D. Scott Hartwig titled — you guessed it — "The Maryland Campaign of 1862." A relevant extract of cited article reads as follows:

"The architect of the Confederate victories in the east, General Robert E. Lee, sought to exploit the opportunity his victory at Second Manassas offered. Lee understood from the beginning of the war that the Confederacy's best hope for independence rested upon the morale of the Northern people. If they believed the war could not be won, or could only be won at too high a cost, then Southern independence became a reality.

"Confederate military successes were the means to erode morale and create this political climate. The fall elections in the North were approaching. England and France stood on the sidelines watching closely, carefully weighing whether they should recognize the Confederacy. Lee sensed a great opportunity was at hand. He believed the Union army was disorganized and demoralized. He also knew that it was receiving many reinforcements in the form of newly raised

[See Lee's Decision, Page 11]

but thanks to Ed, visitors today can see a small piece of the battlefield where they can honor the 1500 Union and Confederate casualties from that rainy September afternoon battle in 1862.

In his magazine article, Hodge quoted Brian Pohanka as saying that Ed Wenzel is "a hero" and "a great American" for his fight to save Ox Hill. "If it wasn't for Ed Wenzel, we would not have anything. It would be just one more shopping mall." It's safe to say that the BRCWRT would agree with Brian.

### Lee's 1862 Decision

#### [Continued from Page 10]

regiments in answer to President Lincoln's July call for 300,000 volunteers. Only one move would force the Federals to place their army in the field before they had reorganized and offered the best chance to do further damage to Northern morale: Invade the border state of Maryland.

"'The army is not properly equipped for an invasion of an enemy's territory,' Lee wrote Confederate President Jefferson Davis, but he nevertheless understood that this was his best move. He determined to enter Maryland east of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and advance to Frederick, Md. Here his army would threaten Baltimore and Washington, as well as Pennsylvania.

"The Federals would have no choice but to leave the Washington fortifications to confront him. When they did, he planned to march west from Frederick, crossing the Catoctin Mountains and South Mountain, to Hagerstown. The idea was to draw the Union army far from its supply depots and fortifications, where they might be dealt a more decisive blow.

"By Sept. 3, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia numbered some 70,000 troops of all arms, but logistically the army was in possibly the worst condition it would be in during the entire war. The troops were poorly fed and uniformed, which contributed to long sick lists. Lax discipline combined with the chronically short and poor rations issued to the men encouraged massive straggling, and the army would leak thousands of stragglers as it moved across Maryland.

"On Sept. 4, advance elements of the army crossed the Potomac into Maryland near Leesburg, Va. Over the next three days the main body of the army forded the river and advanced without opposition to Frederick."

# The Ten Most Endangered Civil War Battlefields, According to the Preservation Trust

On 24 February 2005 the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) released its annual report titled "History Under Siege: America's Most Endangered Battlefields," at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. On that occasion, CWPT President James Lighthizer warned that "America's Civil War history is under siege. Without swift and decisive action, many of the sites listed in this year's report will soon be little more than a memory."

The "Top Ten List" follows:

- Manassas, Va.
  - 21 July 1861 and 28-30 August 1862
- Spotsylvania County, Va.
  - 11 December 1862—21 May 1864
- Bermuda Hundred, Va.
  - 6 May 1864—2 April 1865
- Franklin, Tenn.
  - 30 November 1864
- Kennesaw Mountain, Ga.
  - 27 June 1864
- Knoxville, Tenn.
  - 17 November—4 December 1863
- Mansfield, La.
  - 8 April 1864
- Morris Island, S.C.
  - 18 July—7 September 1863
- Raymond, Miss.
  - 12 May 1863
- Wilson's Creek, Mo.
  - 10 August 1861

As information, the CWPT also listed the following 15 "At Risk" Civil War sites:

Brandy Station, Va.; Cedar Creek, Va.; Circle Forts, Washington, D.C.; Cold Harbor/Gaines Mill, Va.; Cross Keys/Port Republic, Va.; South Mountain, Md.; Williamsburg, Va.; Belmont, Mo.; Champion Hill, Miss.; Glorieta, N.M.; Hell Hole Sites, Ga.; New Bern, N.C.; Reed's Bridge, Ark., and Spring Hill, Tenn.

#### **BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

The Stone Wall P.O. Box 2147 Centreville, VA 20122

### 2005 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. Student (age 22 and under)—\$10.00.

Mark Knowles. Treasurer

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 mail it to:

OR

**BRCWRT** 

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