



Intrigue at Fairfax Court House

Civil War Story of Antonia Ford And Major Joseph C. Willard

We are indeed honored to have as our guest speaker on 10 February Susan Inskeep Gray, the Curator/Visitor Services Manager, Office of Historic Resources, City of Fairfax. Susan is a native of Petersburg, W.Va. She received a B.S. degree in journalism and political science from West Virginia University. Later she earned a Master's degree, with distinction, in American History from George Mason University.

Susan has worked in various media positions and as a museum specialist for the National Park Service. As Curator/Visitor Services Manager for the City of Fairfax, she develops and presents a range of interpretive programs, from walking tours to exhibitions. Susan has a

See Related Story, Page 5

special research interest in 19th Century social and political history and the decorative arts of western Virginia. She developed her interest while growing up in a house built by her great grandfather, a Civil War veteran who served with Company I, 7th West Virginia Infantry.

Away from work, Susan enjoys the stimulation of having teenagers in the house, reading, attending antique auctions and Redskins' games, plus visiting other museums and historic sites.

At our Round Table meeting on Thursday, 10 February, Susan will relate the story of suspected Confederate spy Antonia Ford and her marriage to Union Major Joseph C. Willard. This is one of Fairfax's best known stories of the Civil War. Antonia Ford was imprisoned for assisting Colonel John S. Mosby in capturing Union

[See FAIRFAX INTRIGUE, Page 3]

THIS IS A DOUBLE ISSUE

This issue of *The Stone Wall* covers activities for the months of February and March. The next regular issue will be published in April.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

10 February 2005

Guest Speaker: SUSAN INSKEEP GRAY

Subject:

Intrigue at Fairfax Court House:

Antonia Ford and Maj. Joseph C. Willard

10 March 2005

Guest Speaker:

DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN COOLING, III

Subject:

Forts Henry and Donelson:

Key to the Confederate Heartland

Centreville Regional Library

Park Authority Board Approves Ox Hill Battlefield Park Plan

By ED WENZEL

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board voted unanimously Jan. 26 to grant final approval to the General Management Plan (GMP) and Conceptual Development Plan for Ox Hill Battlefield Park.

These two plans comprise Ox Hill's "Master Plan" and are the same plans that were presented at the joint public hearing Sept. 13, 2004. The Park Board also unanimously approved the GMP for the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site in the Balmoral neighborhood near Union Mills.

That's the good news. The bad news is that Ox Hill is still short of funding to fully complete the park as now approved. The park staff estimates that roughly \$300,000 will be for the park itself and an additional \$100,000 for interpre-

[See OX HILL BATTLEFIELD, Page 4]

In This Issue

Intrigue at Fairfax Court House	Page 1
Ox Hill Battlefield Park Approval	Page 1
The President's Column	Page 3
The View from Way Back	Page 5
Flashback – February 1865	Page 6
Calendar of Events	Page 7
Dr. Benjamin Cooling to Speak	Page 7
Flashback – March 1865	Page 8
The Book Corner	Page 9

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

President: John McAnaw
 JPMTOG29@aol.com
 703.978.3371

Immediate Past President:
 Keith Young
 RKeith_Young@compuserve.com

Vice-President: Charlie Balch
 cabalch@aol.com

Treasurer: Mark Knowles
 703.787.9811

Secretary: Nancy Anwyll
 Nanwyll@Patriot.net

At Large:
 John DePue
 Ed Wenzel
 Sandra Cox

Field Trips: Kevin Anastas
 KKA2@cox.net

Webmaster: Maureen Reigh Quinn
 MRQuinn@Patriot.net

Newsletter Editor: Ed Essertier
 Newsletter Team:
 Sandra Cox
 Nancy Anwyll
 Ken Jones

The President's Column

By John P. McAnaw

I urge all members of the BRCWRT to carefully read this double issue (February/March) of *The Stone Wall*. You will not receive your next newsletter for almost two months.

We had an excellent turnout for our monthly meeting on 13 January 2005. A total of 63 showed up to listen to Art Candenquist eloquently discuss the infamous Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid on Richmond in early 1864. As always, Art had meticulously researched his subject and provided an exceptionally fine analysis of cited raid and its consequences.

Also, take the time to read about the guest speakers and their topics for our February and March meetings. Without question, you will find the presentations of Susan Inskeep Gray and Dr. Benjamin F. Cooling, III both informative and interesting. A superior slate of guest speakers has been lined up for all of CY 2005. Our speaker program is one reason for joining or continuing your membership in the BRCWRT.

We are now entering an important phase of our CY 2005 Membership Drive (February-April). In last month's column I mentioned briefly the field trip and preservation activities planned for this year. The BRCWRT is the most active Round Table in the region. The low cost of our dues makes membership a real bargain.

The most critical preservation fight facing us concerns the protection of the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Attend our 10 February meeting and listen to an update by Harvey Simon re proposed alternatives for highway routes that would bypass the MNBR.

Please read Mark Knowles's article on this page. In it, Mark lists BRCWRT donations for CY 2004. Note that the preponderance of these donations were keyed to organizations involved with the preservation of our Civil War heritage.

Again, in closing, permit me to remind concerned readers to **PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR CY 2005!!** Por favor!

Intrigue in Fairfax

(Continued from Page 1)

Brigadier General Edwin H. Stoughton. Willard helped in securing her release from incarceration. Later during the war, they were married. Susan's talk will discuss both Ford's alleged role as a spy and also the romance between Ford and Willard. That part of Susan's presentation concerning the romance will be based on the Fairfax Museum's collection of correspondence between Ford and Willard.

Join us on 10 February for what will be an entertaining and informative evening with the talented historian, Susan Inskeep Gray.

Treasurer's Report

As I close the financial books on FY 2004, I am pleased to announce that we had another tremendous year financially.

Our membership dues remained constant; our speaker program continued to provide the finest individuals in the Civil War community; and through the dedication of our Round Table's leadership and selfless support from our own members, we were able to meet our expenses and provide several significant contributions to various Civil War preservation organizations.

These are the organizations that received our donations for 2004:

Central Virginia Battlefield Trust	\$400.00
Civil War Preservation Trust	\$300.00
Brandy Station Foundation	\$100.00
Memorial Hall Foundation [New Orleans] ..	\$100.00
VFW Post 8469 (Blue and Gray)	\$100.00
Friends of Centreville Library	\$213.00
Friends of Cedar Mountain	\$200.00
Monocacy National Battlefield	\$100.00
Richmond Battlefield	\$130.00
NPS Stones River National Battlefield	\$100.00

The Bull Run CWRT Board of Directors thanks all of our members for their support which made our Round Table such a success in 2004!

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Knowles

Ox Hill Battlefield Park

(Continued from Page 1)

tive elements beyond the park across Monument Drive and in adjacent areas. Of this \$400,000 estimate, the staff has identified only \$200,000 currently available for Ox Hill. Therefore, according to Kenneth Feng, the Park Board representative from Springfield District, the staff now proposes to do the improvement in phases, with all \$200,000 to be spent up front on Phase I, which contains the most important and essential elements; namely, the historic landscape restoration, rail fences, interpretive signage, trails, and an open-sided, covered, information kiosk containing three interpretive panels.

Not included and deferred to Phase II would be the turn lane from West Ox Road, the park entrance road and the parking area for six to ten cars and a bus. The turn lane, entrance and parking infrastructure are estimated to cost \$100,000 and would be delayed until more money can be found. In addition, the interpretive elements envisioned beyond the park would be delayed as well, presumably to a Phase III, and would be the last to be completed, probably many years down the line.

Also not included in the above funding are the two additional monuments, one Union and one Confederate (probably rough-cut obelisks in keeping with the existing monuments) which will be the responsibility of private donors. The Kearny/Stevens Monument Trustees plan to lead the fund-raising effort and erect the monuments once designs are finalized.

It's important to note that despite the insufficient funding, Ox Hill is in much better shape than it was just a few years ago when we were told that \$50,000 was all that Ox Hill was going to get, period. The current park staff, whom we worked with this past year on the task force, did a very commendable job in seeing and understanding our vision for Ox Hill and worked hard to bring about the master plan that was just approved.

But the cost escalation and further delays are difficult to accept, particularly because more than 10 years have passed since the Board of Supervisors acquired the park's last parcel. In the coming weeks, as

we work with park staff on the Interpretive Plan, we will also be exploring with county officials various ways to augment the available funds. There are ways to move more funding to Ox Hill. We'll just have to see what we can do to make that happen.

Regarding the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site, the concerns and objections raised by residents of the Balmoral neighborhood prompted changes to certain parts of the GMP, a revised version of which the Park Board approved. Most of the changes reflecting community concerns, were made in reference to entrance zones, parking, trails and safety, and also to indicate that the CDP would address the issues, consider alternatives and determine appropriate balances.

However, there will be no work on a CDP before 2008 at the earliest because most of the park's 1998 bond funds have already been diverted to other parks, leaving little money to proceed further. In fact, what little money is left will probably be sent to Ox Hill. According to park staff, the diverted funds and the concerns and opposition of Balmoral neighbors have effectively shelved the Confederate Fortifications Historic Site until 2008.

'An Evening With A.P. Hill'

Friday, April 1: Join the Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield for "An Evening With A.P. Hill" at the Hazel River Inn Armory, East and Davis Streets, Culpeper, Va. Performing historian Patrick Falci, who played A.P. Hill in the movie *Gettysburg*, will transport the audience back in time with his first-person narrative of the Battle of Cedar Mountain. 6:30 p.m. social hour (cash bar), outdoor cavalry living history, silent auction.

A delicious buffet dinner including roast sirloin, sesame encrusted salmon, and blackberry chicken will be followed by Falci's narrative. Cost is \$35 per person. Tickets are available in Culpeper at Second Bank and Trust, the Museum of Culpeper History, and the Corner Shelf Bookstore. Or mail checks to FCMB, P.O. Box 1853, Culpeper, Va. 22701. Or call 540-727-8849 to make reservations. Business attire (period dress also welcomed).

Saturday, April 2: Civil War Preservation Trust Park Day at Cedar Mountain Battlefield. Mort Kunstler will be signing books and prints at the Culpeper Depot from 10-2.

The Friends also hope Mort Kunstler will attend Friday night's dinner.

The View From Way Back

Submitted by Keith Young

Singing Yankees

A day or two after Lee's surrender in April, 1865, I left our ship at "Dutch Gap," in the James River, for a run up to Richmond, where I was joined by the ship's surgeon, the paymaster, and one of the junior officers. After "doing" Richmond pretty thoroughly we went in the evening to my rooms for dinner. Dinner being over and the events of the day recounted, the doctor, who was a fine player, opened the piano, saying: "Boys, we've got our old quartette here; let's have a sing."

As the house opposite was occupied by paroled Confederate officers, no patriotic songs were sung. Soon the lady of the house handed me this note: "Compliments of General ----- and staff. Will the gentlemen kindly allow us to come over and hear them sing?" Of course we consented, and they came.

As the General entered the room, I recognized instantly the face and figure of one who stood second only to Lee or Jackson, in the whole Confederacy. After introductions and the usual interchange of civilities, we sang for them glees and college songs, until at last the General said: "Excuse me, gentlemen, you sing delightfully, but what we want to hear is your army songs." Then we gave them the army songs with unction, the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "John Brown's Body," "We're Coming Father Abraham," "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys are Marching," through the whole catalogue, to the "Star-Spangled Banner" ---to which many a foot beat time as if it had never stepped to any but the "music of the Union,"---and closed our concert with "Rally Round the Flag, Boys."

When the applause had subsided, a tall, fine-looking fellow in a major's uniform exclaimed, "Gentlemen, if we'd had your songs we'd have licked you out of your boots! Who couldn't have marched or fought with such songs? While we had nothing, absolutely nothing, except a bastard 'Marseillaise,' the 'Bonnie Blue Flag,' and 'Dixie,' which were nothing but jigs. 'Maryland, My Maryland,' was a splendid song, but the true old 'Lauriger Horatius' was about as inspiring as the 'Dead March in Saul,' while every one of these Yankee songs is full of marching and fighting spirit."

Then turning to the General, he said: "I shall never forget the first time I heard 'Rally Round the Flag.' 'Twas a nasty night during the 'Seven Days' Fight,' and if I

Antonia Ford: Confederate Spy

Several historians have expressed doubts regarding the amount of information on Union plans and unit dispositions were passed on to Confederate forces by Antonia Ford of Fairfax Court House. For example, Col. John S. Mosby denied that Ms. Ford had any involvement re his 8 March 1862 operation which resulted in the capture of Union BG Edwin H. Stoughton at Fairfax Court House.

However, in the summer of 1861, there was no doubt that at least some Confederates stationed in Fairfax County believed that Antonia Ford was involved in intelligence activities prior to the Battle of First Manassas on 21 July 1861.

One who wrote about her exploits was a civilian named Peter Wilson Hairston, one of the first members of then Colonel JEB Stuart's inner circle. This individual was a cousin and brother-in-law of Colonel

[See ANTONIA FORD, Page 6]

remember rightly it was raining. I was on picket when, just before Taps, some fellow on the other side struck up that song and others joined in the chorus until it seemed to me the whole Yankee army was singing.

Tom B----, who was with me, sung out, 'Good heavens, Cap, what are those fellows made of, anyway? Here we've licked 'em six days running and now, on the eve of the seventh, they're singing "Rally Round the Flag." I am not naturally superstitious, but I tell you that song sounded to me like the 'knell of doom,' and my heart went down to my boots, and though I've tried to do my duty, it has been an uphill fight ever since that night."

The little company of Union singers and Confederate auditors, after a pleasant and interesting interchange of stories of army experiences, then separated, and as the General shook hands at parting, he said to me: "Well, the time *may* come when we can all sing the "Star-Spangled Banner,' again." I have not seen him since.

Richard Wentworth Browne, in "*Memoranda on the Civil War*," *The Century Magazine*, xxxv, (January, 1888), 125-127. Quoted by B.A. Botkin in *A Civil War Treasury of Tales, Legends and Folklore*, 1960.

FLASHBACK

February 1865

Submitted by Keith Young

February 1 — General Sherman begins his march into South Carolina from Savannah, Ga., and Beaufort, S.C. Illinois becomes the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery.

February 3 — The Hampton Roads Peace Conference involving President Lincoln, U.S. Secretary of State Seward and three Confederate commissioners takes place in Hampton Roads, off Fort Monroe, Va. The Confederate commissioners are Vice President Alexander Stephens, Assistant Secretary of War John Campbell, and Senator R.M.T. Hunter. The conference flounders because the U.S. insists that the Union must be unconditionally restored and the Confederate demand is for the recognition of Confederate independence before a cease fire and further talks.

February 6 — President Davis names Major General John C. Breckinridge to replace James Seddon. General Robert E. Lee receives orders to assume the role of General-in-Chief of the Armies of the Confederate.

February 10 — Capt. Raphael Semmes is named Rear Admiral, C.S.N. and placed in command of the James River Squadron.

February 16 — Rear Admiral David D. Porter, to compensate for a lack of monitors in the bombardment of Wilmington, N.C., constructs a bogus monitor from a scow, timber and canvas. The “Old Bogey,” as it is quickly christened by sailors, is towed and allowed to drift as a part of the bombardment line and draws much fire from the Confederate shore batteries and causes several “torpedoes” to be harmlessly expended over the next few days.

February 17 — Gen. Sherman captures Columbia, S.C. This night the city burns and arguments as to responsibility for the fires continue until the present day. Gen. Hardee evacuates Charleston, S.C.

February 20 — The Confederate House of Representatives approves the use of slaves as soldiers after lengthy debate. The Senate does not approve the measure until March 8.

February 22 — The Federal army enters Wilmington, N.C. unopposed. Gen. Joseph E. Johnston is assigned to replace Gen. Beauregard in command of the Confederate forces opposing Union Gen. Sherman. Gen. Johnston assumes command on February 25.

February 27 — Gen. Wesley Merritt with 10,000 Union cavalry departs Winchester heading up (south, that is) the Shenandoah Valley.

CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST'S

Annual Park Day

BRCWRT members, lend a helping hand to CWPT members and other volunteers on Saturday, April 2 for a day of history, hard work, and hands-on preservation fun at numerous participating Civil War sites!

Past projects included painting signs and cannon carriages, reinstalling headstones, laying trails, building fences, hauling trash out of streams and raking leaves, which means significant financial and personnel savings for parks. Historians will be on hand to tell volunteers about the land they are helping to preserve.

Central and Northern Virginia parks include: Balls Bluff Regional Park and Battlefield, Cedar Mountain Battlefield, Lick Run Battlefield, Liberia Mansion and Cannon Branch Fort (Manassas).

Maryland parks include: Antietam National Battlefield, Monocacy National Battlefield and South Mountain State Battlefield.

District of Columbia: Fort Stevens

For additional information, check out the CWPT website at

Antonia Ford [Continued from Page 5]

Stuart. On 4 September 1861, he wrote his wife from Fairfax Court House. In part his “My Dear Fanny” letter stated:

“I heard yesterday one of the most romantic incidents of the war. Miss [Antonia] Ford of Fairfax Court House having received information thro’ the Federal officers who took up quarters in her mother’s house, that the enemy intended to make an attack on the 18th of July on Manassas and their plan of attack, procured permission the night before to visit her grandmother who lived six miles off.

“She then procured an old and rough-going horse and made her way to Manassas where she was taken prisoner by Capt. [Thomas L.] Rosser of the Washington Artillery from New Orleans. He carried her to Genl. Beauregard and she revealed to him their plan of attack which enabled him to place his men in ambush and commit such havoc on the enemy on the 18th.

[See Antonio Ford, Page 8]

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Contributed by Sandra Cox

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

5 Feb – Alexandria, “Lincoln’s Other White House: The Soldiers’ Home in Washington, DC”. Lecture presented by Sophia Lynn, project manager for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Description of the historical significance of Lincoln’s summer residence during the Civil War and of the ongoing preservation efforts. Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site. Reservations requested 703.838.4848 \$5

4, 5, 6, 11, 12 Feb - Manassas, “The Civil War” a play by Frank Wildhorn, Jack Murphy and Gregory Boyd. Winter premiere of this musical extravaganza incorporating letters, diaries, and historical documents. Info: Prince William Little Theatre, 703.330.PRWM or www.pwlt.org

12 Mar - Baltimore, “USS Constellation & Civil War Naval Interpretations” with Leigh Ullrich illuminating the best in naval interpretation by answering many of the what’s, how’s and where’s. Info: www.constellation.org Pier 1, 301 E. Pratt Street, 410.539.1797, \$7.50

19 Mar - Kernstown, day-long commemoration of “The First Battle of Kernstown” - 10 a.m. tour of Pritchard-Grim Farm and 1 p.m. tour of Rose Hill by KBA Director Gary Ecelbarger. \$5 each at both sites. No advance registration required. Info: www.kernstownbattle.org. Open 9-5

19 Mar - Alexandria. “The Cooper Shop Refreshment Saloon” with a specialist in 19th century women’s studies detailing the work of women who worked to serve meals and offer medical care to Civil War soldiers passing through Philadelphia. Info: Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site. Reservations requested 703.838.4848 \$5

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”. See *Stone Wall* article for details or www.civilwar.org.

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

If you would like an event posted, please email Sandra at scox@capitalav.com or call 703.675.0702.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 14 APRIL 2005

Guest Speaker:
Scott Hartwig

Subject:
The 1862 Confederate Invasion of Maryland

Location:
Centreville Regional Library

Topic and Speaker -- 10 March 2005

“Forts Henry and Donelson:
Key to the Confederate Heartland”

Dr. Benjamin Franklin Cooling, III

Do you remember the guest speaker for our 11 March 2004 meeting who enlightened us with a memorable presentation titled “The Campaign That Almost Changed American History/And Did/Jubal Early’s Raid on Washington, DC”?

Well, by popular demand, Dr. Cooling will return to address us on 10 March 2005 regarding one of the most important campaigns of the Civil War -- MG U.S. Grant’s thrust up the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers to capture Forts Henry and Donelson.

Dr. Cooling is currently the Associate Dean of Academic Programs, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University in Washington, D.C. He previously served as Chairman of the Department of Grand Strategy, Chief Historian and Research Director with the Department of Energy, historian with the Army, Air Force, and National Park Service, and with the Cruiser Olympia Association. He has taught at the University of Pennsylvania, Weidner University, the U.S. Army War College, George Washington University and the American Military University. He is also a past Executive Director of the Society for Military History.

A graduate in history from Rutgers University, he holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve, 1956-1963. A former officer and trustee of the Society for Military History and past Fellow of the Company of Military Historians, he held an advanced research fellowship from the Naval War College in 1974. He has received the Distinguished Research Award from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, the Douglas Southall Freeman Award from the Military Order

[See DR. COOLING, Page 9]

FLASHBACK

March 1865

Submitted by Mark Knowles

March 2 — General Lee sends message through the Petersburg lines to General Grant suggesting that the two of them hold a “military convention” to try and reach a “satisfactory adjustment of the present unhappy difficulties.”

General George A. Custer attacks the remnant of Gen. Jubal Early’s Confederate army at Waynesborough, in the Shenandoah Valley, and completely routs it. This marks the end of the last campaign in the Shenandoah Valley.

March 3 — Congress passes an act setting up the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, commonly referred to as the Freedmen’s Bureau. The Bureau had supervisory powers over those in the South dislocated by the war and in need of temporary assistance.

General Grant receives instructions from President Lincoln concerning Lee’s peace overture. Grant is instructed not to have any conference with Lee unless it is to accept the surrender of his troops or on some minor or purely military matter.

March 4 — President Lincoln is inaugurated for his second term of office.

March 7 — Federal troops under General Jacob Cox work to repair railroad lines running from New Bern to Goldsboro, N.C. The plan is to meet General Sherman’s army at Goldsboro. Confederate Generals Bragg and Johnston hope to attack General Cox’s force as it moves west.

March 9 — Vermont ratifies the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery. Confederate cavalry under Generals Hampton and Wheeler launch a surprise attack on Gen. Judson Kilpatrick at Solemn Grove and Monroe’s Cross Roads in SC. Many Federals are caught in bed. Gen. Kilpatrick narrowly avoids capture.

March 10 — Gen. Bragg’s army unable to defeat or turn back Gen. Cox’s troops moving west from New Bern, N.C. Bragg moves to Goldsboro.

March 12 — Soldiers in Sherman’s army busy themselves in Fayetteville, N.C., destroying all machinery, industry and transport facilities which might be of use to the Confederates.

March 13 — The Confederate Congress sends to President Davis the bill calling for the arming of black slaves for use in the Southern armies. Davis immediately signs the bill into law, but at the same time chastises Congress for its delay and calls for more legislation to close conscription loopholes.

March 14 — Gen. Sheridan makes his way toward Petersburg, Va.; engages Confederates at South Anna Bridge, Va. Gen. Cox’s troops reach Kingston, N.C., on their way to Goldsboro to join Sherman’s army.

March 16 — Union Gen. Slocum’s advancing column meets enemy troops blocking its path on a bridge near Averasborough, N.C. Slocum’s men push Gen. Hardee’s Confederates back but fail to completely sweep them out of the way. At night, Gen. Hardee withdraws to Bentonville, N.C. to rejoin Gen. Johnston’s army.

March 18 — Gen. Sherman’s left wing commander, Gen. Slocum, approaches the city of Bentonville, skirmishes with Gen. Hampton’s Confederate cavalry.

March 19 — Gen. Johnston’s 20,000 men counterattack Gen. Slocum’s advancing Federals. Federals forced to entrench. They repulse several Confederate assaults before nightfall.

March 20 — The rest of Gen. Sherman’s army arrives at Bentonville. Gen. Johnston’s 20,000 now face 100,000 union smiles. Neither side launches an all out assault. However, skirmishes occur throughout the day.

March 21 — Gen. Johnston withdraws his troops to Smithfield, N.C. during the night.

March 23 — President Lincoln leaves the national capital for City Point, Va., with his wife and son. Lincoln hopes the trip will provide some time for rest and relaxation. Gen. Sherman’s army reaches Goldsboro, N.C.

March 24 — Lee plans full-scale attack on Union right at Petersburg, Va.; hopes to cut the Federal supply line to City Point by capturing Fort Stedman.

March 25 — Confederate Gen. John B. Gordon attacks and captures Fort Stedman. Union completely surprised. Union counterattack later in the day drives Confederates from Fort Stedman.

March 26 — Gen. Lee tells Davis that he doubts it will be possible to prevent Grant and Sherman’s armies from joining up.

March 27 — Lincoln confers with Generals Grant and Sherman and Admiral David Porter at City Point, Va. Topic of discussion is reconstruction.

March 29 — Gen. Grant sends newly arrived cavalry under Sheridan, along with some infantry, to try to envelop the Confederate right flank southwest of Petersburg. Gen. Lee sends Generals Pickett and Fitzhugh Lee to block the movement. Both sides clash at the crossing of Quaker and Boydton Roads.

March 30 — Heavy rains interfere with Union plans to outflank the Confederates on the right.

March 31 — Union troops under Generals Sheridan and Warren assault Confederates around White Oak Road and Dinwiddie Court House. Confederates repel Federal advance, but Gen. Pickett moves his troops back to Five Forks, Va.

Source: *The Civil War Day by Day*. Edited by John S. Bowman

Antonia Ford (continued from Page 6)

“On yesterday I saw a beautiful bouquet which she had sent Capt. Rosser and I would not be surprised if the matter ended by her leading him Captive. She is said to be beautiful and accomplished and I know him to be a brave and gallant man.”

The Book Corner

By Ralph G. Swanson

Until the recent publicity over President Clinton's new book, I was not aware that the only other successful Presidential autobiography -- both critically and financially -- was *Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant*. Commentators attributed that success to the fact that the General dealt only with his early life and military career through the Civil War, and did not include his largely disastrous presidency. Grant's book has long been on my list of favorites, and **The Book Corner** is pleased to recommend it as one of the best books ever written about the war.

Many of us know the story of how this book came to be written. In 1884, Grant, who had always resisted requests that he pen his memoirs, once again faced financial ruin, a familiar condition from his early days. Now, too, he confronted the oncoming ravages of throat cancer. It is likely he feared the former far more than the latter. Hoping to restore financial security for his family, he was finally induced to begin this work. He was assisted and encouraged with the business end of the publication by Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), a family friend and head of the Charles L. Webster Company, the original publisher of the book.

Much of the writing was done in New York City, but as his health failed, Grant moved to Mt. McGregor health resort north of Saratoga, N.Y. He dictated the entire book or wrote in longhand (as did Clinton) relying on his sons to assist with documentary research. Often too sick to write, he rallied and was able to finish the text. On July 23, 1885, Grant passed on, reportedly just a week after completing the book.

The book was exceedingly well received and netted the Grant family \$450,000. Despite his presidential inadequacies, Grant was revered and admired across the nation and around the world. He must surely have been among the first "Teflon" presidents. Presumably, wife Julia was well provided for the rest of her life.

My copy was edited with notes and an informative introduction by E.B. Long (*The Civil War Day by Day Almanac, The Civil War Dictionary*), which provides a fascinating historical background for the preparation of the memoir. Battle maps are meager, and there are no photos. Long's edits--factual changes only, such as correcting dates, names, and providing clarification--are shown in brackets or informative footnotes. He does not change Grant's words.

Grant writes in a straightforward, unemotional narrative style, covering the history of his life and military career largely as we know it from other sources. (Perhaps this book

was the source for many later works.) There are no major surprises, no scandalous revelations. Grant accepts the adulation of high military rank and battlefield success as he does the grinding poverty of civilian life before the war -- with quiet equanimity. The value in this book is Grant's personal view of events from his elevated position in command and his justifications for important military decisions, most of which were so outstandingly successful: Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, and the eastern campaigns--an almost unbroken record of military achievement.

Then, there is the matter of drink. Editor Long comments on it briefly in footnote; Grant is silent altogether. Perhaps, as Long suggests, the General omitted it because he believed it played no role in his military career, or perhaps for other reasons. Regardless, there is apparently no factual evidence in the U.S. Army military record (such as reports or disciplinary actions), or elsewhere, to resolve this issue. Everything derogatory on the matter is hearsay, speculation and innuendo, so draw your own conclusions. Grant's military record of leadership, strategy and victory--however influenced at the time -- is on the record, or here in his own words, to be appraised by all.

There are many biographies of Grant available. Many are, no doubt, worthy. But all serious students of the war and the General must start with Grant himself -- his own words -- if they are to shape appropriate judgments about the man and his legacy.

Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant, including the E.B. Long-edited version, is still in print from a number of different publishers and available in most bookstores and on the internet.

Until next time, keep reading.

Dr. Cooling [Continued from Page 7]

of the Stars and Bars, the Fletcher Pratt award from the New York Civil War Round Table, and the Moncado award from the American Military Institute for his writings. He also received the Victor Gondos Memorial Service Award from the Society for Military History.

Dr. Cooling is a prolific author and editor of military publications. Among his publications are the following, chiefly those related to the Civil War:

Symbol, Sword and Shield: Defending Washington During the Civil War (1975, reprinted 1992).

Forts Henry and Donelson: Key to the Confederate Heartland (1988).

Jubal Early's Raid on Washington (1989).

Monocacy: The Battle That Saved Washington (1997).

Fort Donelson's Legacy: War and Society in Tennessee and Kentucky, 1862-1866 (1997).

At present Dr. Cooling is writing *Maryland, My Maryland: From the Peninsula to the Antietam*, and *To Franklin, Nashville and Beyond: The Civil War in Kentucky and Tennessee, 1864-1866*.

Full of Characters:**Civil War Alexandria**

By PAULA ELSEY

Reprinted with permission of The Chronicle Newspapers

When author George Kundahl used the phrase "colorful characters" to describe the subjects of his nonfiction book barely five minutes into his presentation to the **Bull Run Civil War Round Table** the evening of December 9, I knew that *Alexandria Goes to War: Beyond Robert E. Lee* was going to be a must-read!

In May 1999, he had attended a lecture given by Alexandria historian T. Michael Miller during which Miller mentioned Civil War-era Alexandria residents. Their names were very fresh in Kundahl's mind because he had just finished writing *Confederate Engineer: Training and Campaigning with John Morris Wampler (2000)*, in which many of them were, coincidentally, peripheral characters. With Miller generously guiding him through Alexandria's history before the war, over the course of the next two years and two summers Kundahl researched and wrote *Alexandria Goes to War* (November 2004).

After taking a chapter to set the scene of 1860 Alexandria as the area's commercial and social center, Kundahl begins with Robert E. Lee, telling little known details of Lee's life in Alexandria. The next "character," New York native Samuel Cooper, had already served 46 years in the U. S. Army by the time the Civil War began. The West Point graduate met George Mason's granddaughter Sarah Maria Mason during a tour of duty in Washington, DC, and married her in 1827. Kundahl presents a thought-provoking discussion of why Northern-born Cooper would resign his commission, becoming the Confederates' senior-ranking general.

This is not a book built solely off of facts gathered from the *Compilation of Official Records*. Private journals, family letters, and articles from local newspapers are used to give you a feel for Lee, Cooper, and the others as human beings. When asked how he, a retired U. S. Army major general, is able to write a book so filled with social history rather than just battles and tactics, Kundahl replied, "I see the war through their eyes and view it through their individual feelings."

On the surface, this book's chapters seem to be presenting mini-biographies of 16 Alexandrians. Through his storytelling skills and smooth writing style, however, the author introduces the various characters in chapters not devoted to them, casually exposing the interwoven world they lived in no matter where the war took them. By the end of the book, you most likely will find yourself agreeing with Kundahl's wife, Joy, who read several drafts of the book. She was,

"Impressed by how small and interactive the community of Alexandria was during the Civil War and the constant interplay among the characters."

Some of the others written about are scout Frank Stringfellow, spy Orton Williams, Johnny Reb and Billy Yank author Alexander Hunter, Alexandria's oldest living Confederate soldier Edgar Warfield, and native son Randolph Fairfax. Kundahl says Fairfax "doesn't fit any of these molds as far as representing a specific discipline. Instead he represents the ideal character as a young Southern soldier."

If the author could go back in time, the book's character he would most like to meet and talk with is George Brent. Kundahl explains, "Brent was Alexandria's Union candidate to the secessionist convention and supported the Union right up until war broke out. He had a very clear perception of how the South would lose the war. But when war was declared, he saluted, put on a [Confederate] uniform, went out to serve his country. He did his duty as he saw it."

Now retired, the Kundahls maintain residences in Alexandria and in France. Looking to polish his command of French, he recently prepared and gave two talks to fellow language class students in France. His topic was the technological changes in weaponry during the Civil War, showing how they would presage the armaments used in France during WWI. When critiquing his translations, though, his French friends said Kundahl's translating "Civil War" as *la guerre de civil* was not quite right. They insisted on *la guerre de sécession*.

For American students of the Civil War who already know the players, this book gives insight into their personalities and how the social world they moved in affected their careers. For a newcomer to the study of the Civil War, it leads gently into the battles, tactics, and troop movements. Either way, you'll find the solid scholarship of this University of Tennessee Press book an entertaining read.

The author planned to speak and sign copies at the Barnes & Noble in Potomac Mills in January and at the Lyceum in late January or early February. The book is for sale at Books-A-Million's stores in Oakton and Shirlington, and on King Street in Alexandria.

New Confederate Navy Exhibition Museum of the Confederacy

Few people are aware that the Confederate States of America assembled a navy from scratch and successfully employed new technologies -- including ironclad warships, explosive mines, and submarines -- to overcome its numerical disadvantage.

Beginning March 8, the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond will tell the story of the CS Navy, its accomplishments and its shortcomings.

WHILST WE WERE AT CENTREVILLE . . .

Submitted by Sandra Cox

And during my turn as Adjutant, there came to us an Irishman by the name of Haffey, who gave out he had deserted from the U. S. Steamer Pawnee, which was then patrolling the Potomac near our lines at Occoquan. This man enlisted in one of the companies and was generally know as “Pawnee”.

He proved to be a fairly good soldier, but was experienced in ways that were not altogether in harmony with the Colonel’s [Bradley T. Johnson] ideas of discipline, and when in liquor, was a noisy, disagreeable subject to handle. During one of his drunken frolics he had been committed to the “pen” and was brought under the wholesome influences of the cold-water cure; but as the water was freely administered it failed in its usual efficacy, and drew from him but renewed abuse and violent rejoinder, “Pour on, d—n you” – “pour on” together with other objurgations, offensive to ears polite.

The Colonel then determined on other methods of treatment, and the poor half-drowned wretch was brought to his quarters and placed upon a large box...a gag was placed in his mouth, which silences his flow of vulgar obscenity and abuse, and then the “buck” applied...In some unaccountable manner, however, he managed to release the buck, and removing the gag from his mouth, he betook himself to more comfortable surroundings and localities.

When it came to the Colonel’s knowledge that “Pawnee” was gone, his indignation was profound, and the neglectful sentry was relieved from his post and summarily consigned to the “pen”...Sending his orderly for me post haste, the Colonel exclaimed: “Mr. Booth, send the officer of the guard with a detachment through the camps and direct him to bring back the prisoner alive or dead.”...

When I delivered to him the instructions, he turned to me in dismay: “In the name of God, how am I to find this man, whom I do not even know, in the camps of 20,000 men.” This I well knew would not avail with the Colonel, so I advised Lieutenant Snowden to take his guard and go from the camp and make at least an ostensible effort to find and arrest the culprit.

As a matter of course, after a few hours’ search

PRESERVATION CORNER

By JOHN P. MC ANAW

Release of the Draft Environmental Statement concerning Alternative “Bypass” Routes Around the Manassas National Battlefield Park.

By the time you read this newsletter, the draft EIS regarding alternative “bypass” routes around the Manassas National Battlefield Park should have been released to the public. In reality, all alternative routes under consideration trespass onto MNBP property. This document also includes a recommendation as to the preferred “bypass” route around the MNBP. Sometime in the near future a public meeting will be held on this Draft EIS. Beginning as of the date of cited meeting, citizens will have 60 days to provide their input.

The contents of cited Draft EIS are so important, our transportation expert, Harvey Simon, will brief attendees at our General Membership Meeting on 10 February. This is another reason why Round Table members should attend this meeting. Since the founding of our Round Table on 9 April 1991, protection of the territorial integrity of the MNBP has been of paramount importance to our organization. To be effective stewards of the MNBP we must have an understanding of the Draft EIS and the implications of any and all recommendations contained in that document.

he returned without his prisoner and report was made, the man had made good his escape. By this time the Colonel had exploded his superfluity of wrath and the guard was dismissed. The episode bid fair to be numbered with the past, when on the morning of the second day, as the Colonel emerged from his tent, whom should he see mounted on the same box, squatting in the position of the “buck” but the irrepressible “Pawnee,” who, with smiling countenance, saluted him with “Good mornin’, Colonel, good mornin’ to ye.”

The humor of the situation overcame the sternness of discipline and Haffey was directed to report to his company without further question or punishment.

Source: *A Maryland Boy in Lee’s Army, Personal Reminiscences of a Maryland Soldier in the War Between the States, 1861-1865*, by George Wilson Booth, University of NB Press.

Note: Booth was commissioned 1st lieutenant in the 1st Maryland Infantry, CSA, at age 16.

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: _____