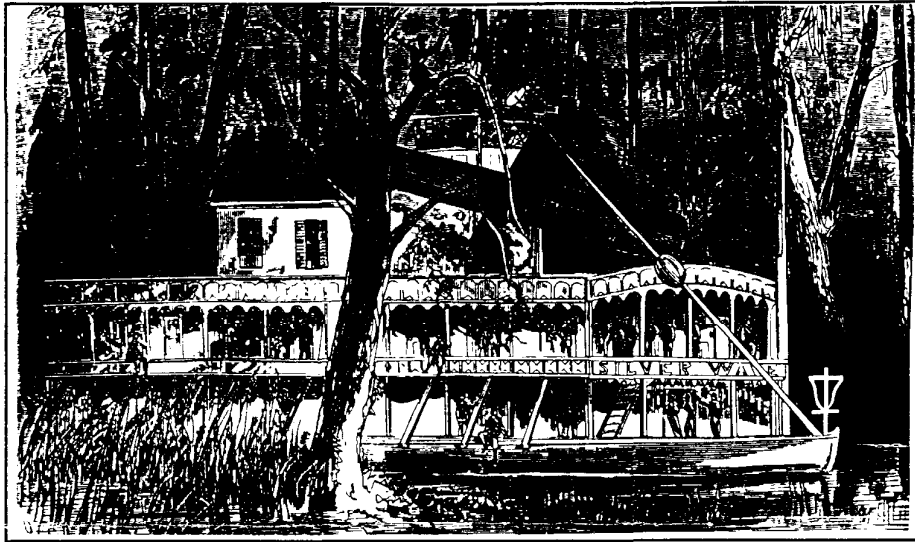


BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
STONEWALL

July 1996



*The wooden Union transport Silver Wave couldn't move on Steele's Bayou near Vicksburg without clearing the overhanging trees.*

## UNION NAVAL OPERATIONS, 1861-1865

*U.S. FLAG SHIP HARTFORD, ABOVE VICKSBURG, JULY 15, 1862*

*GENERAL ORDER: The vessels will form in two lines in the same order as when they came up viz. the ships on the inside or next to the city and the gun boats on the outside. They will keep their positions as far as practicable and have a good lookout for signals, but no one will do wrong who lays his vessel alongside the Enemy or tackles with the Ram.*

*The Ram must be destroyed!*

*D.G. Farragut, Flag Officer, Comd'g WGB Sqn*

The U. S. Navy had 90 warships in the spring of 1861, 48 out of service in need of repairs, and of the remaining 42, half were obsolete sailing vessels. Its 9,000 men were trained for deep sea combat and harbor defense, not for blockade duty and river patrol. Former naval officer and round table treasurer Scott Logan discusses a topic many of us don't consider, the Navy's new duties and their consequences at our July meeting.

SCOTT LOGAN

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Manassas National Battlefield Park Visitor Center



## Early Bird Special on the Symposium

Dear Members

We hope you haven't overlooked that the BRCWRT schedule for Fall 1996 has something very special on it.

Besides tours and monthly speakers, we have undertaken to arrange a symposium. On October 5 at Sudley United Methodist Church right on the battlefield, we plan to have five speakers on the subject of our own backyard. The topic is leadership at Second Manassas, and each speaker will get inside the head of one or more of the generals who fought here in 1862.

We are counting on our own membership to support this venture. You may remember that last year you voted to set aside \$1,000 to

cover any expenses. With 30 people we should break even. The hall at Sudley Church holds up to 90. We hope that there will be more attending rather than less, as you also voted that any profit from this will be sent to APCWS to use for preservation where they best see fit.

Register by August 1 (postmark) and you really get a bargain. It's only \$25 for a day of saturation by some of the country's most knowledgeable scholars about the high commands at Second Manassas. Additional features will be a short hike along the northern end of the unfinished railroad, a brief history of Sudley Church during the battles, and a wide selection of titles on Second Manassas for sale, courtesy of Clio's Books in Leesburg.

We hope you are still as enthusiastic about this event as you were when you voted to do it. Please register early so that we can be confident of at least 30 people attending. There is

a form in this newsletter. Take registration forms for anyone you would like to offer it to. If you have a place where you can post the information or leave a stack, we're happy to provide the forms. The information will be going out to the public right after our July meeting.

Most respectfully  
Your obedient servant-to-be

*Martha Hendley*

THE STONE WALL is published monthly by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Submissions are welcome. Deadline is the 25th of the month. Send manuscripts to Karen Fojt, 6355 Yates Ford Road, Manassas, VA 22111, (703) 330-1965.

WEB SITE of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table is  
[HTTP://OSF1.GMU.EDU/~CGRYMES/BRCWRT/BRCWRTHP.HTML](http://OSF1.GMU.EDU/~CGRYMES/BRCWRT/BRCWRTHP.HTML)

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BULL RUN  
CIVIL WAR  
ROUND TABLE

P.O. Box 196  
Centreville, VA 22020

PRESIDENT Gary Ecelbarger; VICE PRESIDENT Martha Hendley; SECRETARY Marilyn Clark Snyder; TREASURER Scott Logan; FIELD TRIP CHAIRMAN Gary Ecelbarger; FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE Scott Patchan, John P. McAnaw; PRESERVATION CHAIRMAN John P. McAnaw; PRESERVATION COMMITTEE Armando Mancini; MEMBERSHIP Scott Patchan, Joe Kelley; SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE Scott Patchan, Martha Hendley, Scott Logan; CONSTITUTION CHAIRMAN Gary Ecelbarger; CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE John P. McAnaw, Bill Miller; ROUNDTABLE LIAISON Chris Custode; NEWSLETTER Karen Fojt, Mike Duggan; AT LARGE Bill Miller, John P. McAnaw, Joe Kelley.

**SYMPOSIUM**  
ON  
**LEADERSHIP**  
AT  
**SECOND MANASSAS**

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sponsored by  
**BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1996**

**HISTORIC SUDLEY CHURCH**

corner of Rt. 234 & Featherbed Lane, Manassas

8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. lunch included

703-754-4181 FOR INFORMATION

- **John Hennessey on Porter & McClellan**
- **Jeffrey Wert on Longstreet**
- **Jim Phelps on Jackson**
- **Joe Harsh on Lee (tentative)**
- **Speaker TBA on Pope**

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**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION - BY AUGUST 1 - \$25**

After August 1 - \$30      at the door - \$35 space available

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO BRCWRT at P.O.BOX 196, CENTREVILLE, VA 22020

# MARCHING ORDERS

## *Walking Tour of the Bull Run Fords: Part II*

Saturday, July 13

This overland trek is a continuation of the tour of the *Bull Run Fords: Part I* held June 22. Part I visited Civil War crossings ranging from Sudley Ford downstream and southeast to Blackburn Ford, near the Highway 28 bridge.

On July 13 we visit McLean's Ford, Union Mills Ford, the fortification near Union Mills, and scenic Yates Ford. The morning walking tour will be followed by a picnic lunch (bring your own) at the Bull Run Marina. John boats will be available for afternoon excursions on Bull Run.

ASSEMBLY TIME: 7:50 A.M.

MOVE OUT TIME: 8 A.M.

ASSEMBLY LOCATION: Hemlock Overlook Regional Park on County Route 615 (Yates Ford Road) in Fairfax County. See the sketch map. We'll meet by the interpretive signs.

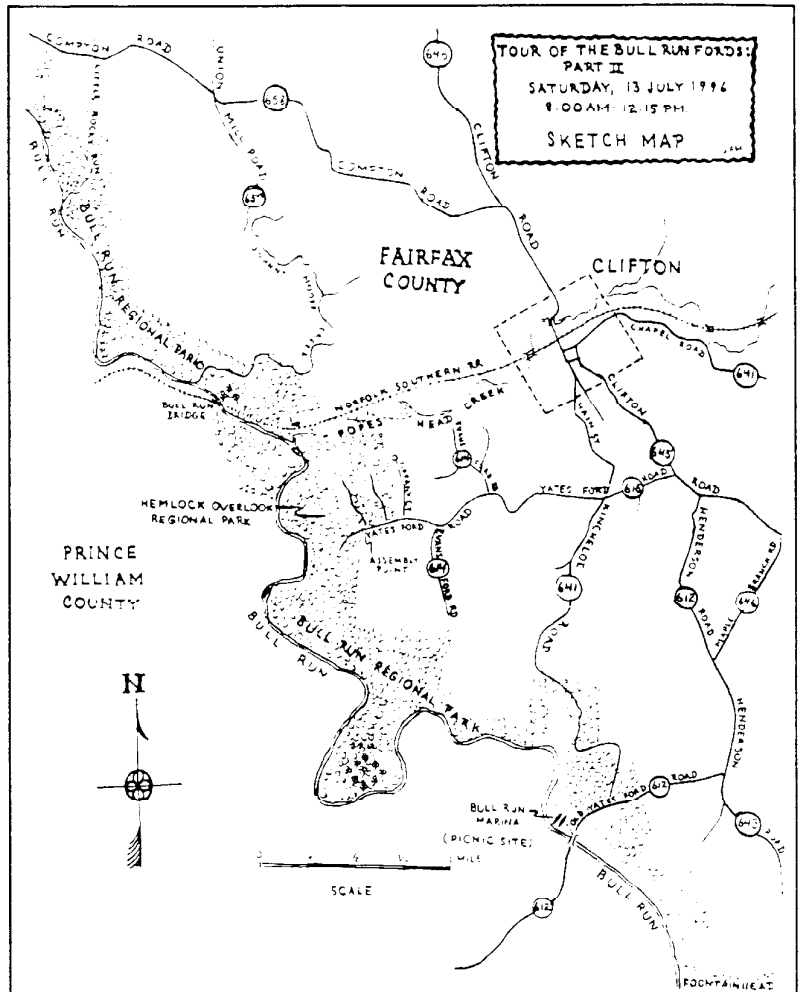
WALKING TOUR DURATION: 8 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.

LUNCH: 12:30 P.M. at Bull Run Marina, located on the Fairfax County side of County Route 612 (Old Yates Ford Road), see the sketch map.

BOAT EXCURSION OF BULL RUN: After lunch.

CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT: Dress appropriate to weather conditions. Expect (needless to state) hot and humid conditions. Hat, ankle-length trousers and good hiking boots are recommended. Bring water canteens and trail snacks.

FOR MORE DETAILS: Call John McAnaw, (703) 978-3371.



## After Action Report

# *TOUR OF THE BULL RUN FORDS: PART I*

By John McAnaw

Ten sound men and women, tried and true, departed the assembly area on Dogan's Ridge at 0800 and headed north on County Highway 234 (Sudley Road), kicking off what was to be a most informative and enjoyable tour. I don't believe a serious student of the Battles of First and Second Manassas can obtain a complete and accurate understanding of what transpired and why certain actions occurred without personally visiting the fords used during the Civil War along Bull Run, and obtaining an appreciation of the surrounding terrain. This is particularly true of the First Battle of Manassas.

Courtesy of Armando Mancini, who made the prior coordination, we were able to cross private property to visit Sudley Ford and Sudley Springs Ford (over Catharpin Run). We also visited the Sudley Hotel/Post Office and the unfinished railroad section east of Highway 234 and Sudley Church. The next stop was at the parking lot just east of the Stone Bridge over Bull Run. From there we walked to Farm Ford (or what is believed to be the location of Farm Ford), and on the way back we stopped to discuss the history and significance of the Stone Bridge.

After a short break at the Manassas Battlefield Visitors Center, we headed for the site of the Portici House, which provided an excellent view of the surrounding terrain including the location of Lewis and Balls fords. The history of the area and of the Ball and Lewis family was covered, along with the importance of the site during both First and Second Manassas. The cavalry engagement late in the afternoon of August 30, 1862 between Brig. Gen. B. H. Robertson's brigade and Brig. Gen. J. Buford's brigade was also addressed in some detail. The fight ended with the withdrawal of Buford's four regiments across Lewis Ford.

From Portici we moved northeast paralleling I-66 to vicinity the backside of the Virginia Rest Stop off I-66. By that time we had gained a good appreciation of the heat and humidity faced by both armies at First Manassas. We walked a short distance along the trace of the historic Warrenton-Alexandria-Washington Road before angling north-northwest to visit Hidden Ford and Lewis Ford. From Lewis Ford we worked our way southeast to Ball's Ford, the crossing point of the Old Warrenton Road. We retraced our steps southeast on the

old Warrenton Road and took a picnic break at the rest stop. Rested, fed and topped off with cool, refreshing water, caravan members motored to Mitchell's Ford which, during the early stages of First Manassas, was the center of gravity of Confederate force dispositions.

Once more we reconnoitered the site of Mitchell's Ford and the nearby Confederate entrenchments, some of which are seldom seen by Civil War tourists. The significance of Mitchell's Ford and events which transpired there prior to and during First Manassas were discussed at length. We also covered (but did not visit) the purpose and history of the Centreville Military Railroad, which is upstream from Mitchell's Ford.

We headed for Blackburn's Ford, located upstream of the Hwy. 28 bridge over Bull Run. The presentations at this site centered on the engagement of July 18, 1861, during which Brig. Gen. James Longstreet's brigade repulsed a heavy Union probe against the Confederate positions. As was the case in all other ford tour stops, tour members conducted a terrain walk to give participants an understanding as to what happened that day. During this trek we discovered (or better, rediscovered) the best swimming hole on the upper reaches of Bull Run. Only with great difficulty could we get all tour members back to our parked cars. Could it be that it was this swimming hole that stopped the Yankees on July 18, 1861? Thus on time at 3:35 our tour officially ended.

Despite the hot and humid weather, all tour members survived in fine shape. My only regret is that more round table members did not participate in a tour designed to improve our understanding of two battles fought in our own backyard. My thanks go to Charlie Grymes, Mark Knowles and Armando Mancini who joined me as tour guides. They did a superb job, proving once more that we have the talent and dedication within our roundtable to successfully run our own tours. Also joining us in the ranks of "The Few, The Proud, The Cheap, and The Sweaty" were Nancy Anwyl, Joe Clarke, Art Candenquist, Karen Fojt, Fran Mathews and Bev Regeimbal. I also extend my gratitude to all participants for their interest and perseverance. They made the tour a memorable experience. NEXT: Part II of the Bull Run Fords on July 13.

# Strike the Tents! Prepare Rations! FORWARD TO THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY

## Saturday, August 10

On August 10 our Round Table steps back almost exactly 134 years, to the summer of 1864.

We will retrace the steps of the most successful Valley campaign of the war. No, not Stonewall Jackson in 1862. I mean Jubal Early in 1864.

If you are a disbeliever, come along and expect to have your mind changed.

The tour focuses on the Lower Valley Campaign of July 1864. The tour guide is Rod Gainer, the consulting historian for the Winchester-Frederick County Resource Management Plan for the 2nd Kernstown Battlefield Park, and the author of a to-be-published book on the campaign.

TOUR STOP	ACTION TO DESCRIBE
White's Ferry	Early crosses back into Virginia
Castleman's Ferry (Shenandoah River)	The battle of Cool Springs
Rutherford's Farm	Ramseur's defeat, Early's retreat
Lunch Break	Silver Leaf Restaurant, All You Can Eat Buffet, \$6
Sprindale (Bartonsville)	Early returns to Winchester with a vengeance
Stone Lane (McGill House)	Hotchkiss positions Ramseur's troops
Opequon Church	The 2nd battle of Kernstown
Pritchard's Lane	Final stop. Early breaks Mulligan's line, final actions. Pending approval.

Sign up lists will be available June, July and August. The tour is free, but you should reimburse the drivers for gas, and bring money for the buffet. Hope to see you there. *Gary Ecelbarger*

## PRESERVATION NEWS

By John P. McAnaw

### UPDATE ON BRANDY STATION

In the June issue of *Stonewall* the title of my article on the "impending" sale of 1,543 acres of battlefield property to APCWS was *Deal on Brandy Station Imminent*. Well, I've been thinking about titling my update for this month *Deal on Brandy Station Is Still Imminent*.

In late May involved preservationists believed that the contract to transfer title of these 1,543 acres, at a cost of \$6.2 million) from Elkwood Downs Limited to APCWS would be signed on Jun 9. I guess the lawyers forgot to tell us what year would be filled in after the June 9 date.

So here is my update: The lawyers are still working out the minute legal difficulties; preservationists are fuming, and Lucy Van Pelt still has the football.

The preservation of the Brandy Station Battlefield is an extremely worthy enterprise. I ask you to support the fundraising drive. Your dollars are sorely needed. Donations may be sent to: Brandy Station Foundation, P.O. Box 165, Brandy Station, Va. 22714. Make checks payable to The Brandy Station Foundation.

### PORT REPUBLIC INTERPRETIVE PROJECT DEDICATED

I mentioned in a previous issue of *Stonewall* that some of the finest and most hospitable preservationists in Virginia are members of the Society of Port Republic Preservationists, Inc. (SPRP). During my visits to Port Republic volunteers from SPRB have been invariably courteous and helpful.

During the weekend of June 8-9 SPRB, the local Chamber of Commerce and the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites sponsored a series of events. The highlight was on Sunday, June 9, when the dedication of the APCWS project at the Port Republic Battlefield took place. The project includes an interpretive trail, signs, brochures and wayside exhibits at 'The Coaling', which was captured despite desperate Federal resistance by Brig. Gen. Richard Taylor's Louisiana Brigade (1,700 strong). A total of 350 Louisianans fell during this successful attack, which was termed by one Confederate eyewitness as "the best charge of the war."

Another site in Port Republic worth a visit is the Frank Kemper House, a.k.a. the Port Republic Museum. The Turner Ashby Room of the Kemper House has a new look. The room is designed to interpret the

events of the last part of Maj. Gen. T. J. Jackson's Valley Campaign of 1862.

If you want to spend a pleasant summer day in an area which reminds me of the Virginia I knew in my youth, visit Port Republic. You will not regret it.

And by the way, you too can be a member of SPRB, by sending a \$5 check for your annual dues to: Society of Port Republic Preservationists, Inc., P.O. Box 82, Port Republic, Virginia 24471.

### MIDDLEBURG DEVELOPER SENTENCED & FINED

Betsy Branscome of the *Fauquier Times-Democrat* reported June 19 that James J. Wilson of Middleburg was sentenced to 21 months in prison and fined \$4 million for illegally filling 50 acres of wetlands located near Greenbelt in Charles County, Maryland. Wilson is the chairman of Interstate General Company and its subsidiary, St. Charles Associates. He also owns and operates a thoroughbred nursery and breeding business called Dresden Farm northwest of Middleburg.

U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams also ordered Wilson's company to restore the 50 acres of wetlands, which had been filled in without the required federal permits.

## WALMART HAS SECOND THOUGHTS ON FERRY FARM

There is no doubt that Wal-Mart has come out the public relations loser regarding its plans to build another of its stores on land next to the boyhood home of George Washington, Ferry Farm. In fact Wal-Mart officials wanted to build a 93,000 square foot shopping center on 24 commercially zoned acres which abut the five-acre tract containing the site of George Washington's boyhood home.

The perceived arrogance of Wal-Mart officials has rankled many Americans. Do you remember the words of a former Secretary of Defense back in the mid-1950s to the effect that "What's good for General Motors is good for the country"? The shibboleth of Wal-Mart's corporate warriors seems to be "What's good for Wal-Mart is good for America." Tell that to thousands of Main Street merchants.

In addition to the lambasting Wal-Mart has received from the media, preservationist groups have united to stop this development. Most notably, the Kenmore Association of Fredericksburg, most of the nation's most prestigious preservation and museum organizations have entered the fight to acquire the land planned for this shopping center.

The *Washington Times* July 2nd edition quoted a Wal-Mart spokesman saying that Wal-Mart plans to trade this property for another site, a half mile away if preservationists pay the corporation \$2-3 million. The article noted this proposal was welcomed by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors. However, criticism of the proposal has continued to grow, leading the Kenmore Foundation of Fredericksburg, which is the restorer of the former home of George Washington's site, to seek an alternative to Wal-Mart's proposal. And that is where the Wal-Mart controversy now stands.

## HISTORY AMERICA TOURS COMING UP

SHILOH: Sept. 19-22, Nashville, Tenn. Historian guide: Stacy Allen.

RIDING WITH FORREST: Sept. 24-29, Memphis, Tenn. Historian guide: Ed Bearss.

CIVIL WAR STEAMBOATIN' on the American Queen: Aug. 30-Sept. 6. Embarkation: Memphis, Tenn., Debarkation: New Orleans, La. Historians: various.

If you sign up for any of these tours, let me know. The Round Table gets a percentage of your payment to go to preservation projects.

For information, a brochure and/or reservations, call (800) 628-8542, or write History America Tours, P.O. Box 797687, Dallas, Tx. 75279.

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## Does Anybody Know? *Questions on the Web*

The round table's e-mail includes inquiries that require some research or the special knowledge of some of our Manassas battles' trivia buffs. If anyone knows the answers to the following questions, either e-mail the answers back to the questioner, or contact Charlie Grymes.

1. Phil Harman wants to know which regiments were armed with smooth bore muskets and which with rifle armed muskets.  
phartman@mail.cscdata.net

2. Alice Kinney knows her great-grandfather, Robert Nesburn Kinney, fought at Bull Run. But she doesn't know anything else, not the regiment, not the state - not even which side he fought on. Does anyone know?  
hastings@snowcrest.net

3. If you know of a Civil War Roundtable around Portsmouth, Va. contact  
75271.2247@compuserve.com

4. Charlie Walters is looking for photos of Confederate cavalry that might include his great grandfather, who was in Cobb's Legion, Georgia serving under Stuart and Jackson.  
CBeresford@aol.com

Our web address is  
<http://osf1.gmu.edu/~cgrymes/brcwrt/brcwrthp.html>



## UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

July 13 - *Anchors Aweigh, the Life of a Civil War Sailor.*  
Exhibit and living history, 1-4 P.M., (804) 649-1861.

Through Oct. 31 - *In the Path of War: Alexandria, Va. 1861-1865.* Fort Ward. (703) 838-4848.

Through Oct. 31 - *Reflected Glory: Mrs. General Stonewall Jackson.* 8 E. Washington St., Lexington, Va. (540) 463-2552.

July 27 - Seminar *Rhodes' Division vs. Robinson's Division at Gettysburg.* Gettysburg, (717) 334-0772.

Aug. 4 - Confederate Heritage Parade along Monument Ave., Richmond, (804) 262-9710.

Aug. 23-24 - Concert/Campfire sing along behind Dunker Church, Antietam (301) 432-5124.

### 135th Anniversary 1ST MANASSAS

*Aug. 3 & 4*  
Ida Lee Park, Leesburg

Saturday, 9-5  
Sunday 10-4

For tickets call (717) 528-8761.

### LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND

Second Battle of Manassas

July 20-21

Stuart's Hill Center  
MANASSAS NATIONAL  
BATTLEFIELD PARK  
361-1339

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

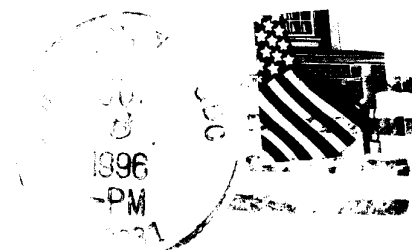
July 5 - David Glasgow Farragut, Vice Admiral USN (1801-1870). After the death of his parents, was virtually adopted by Commodore David Porter. Was first in U.S. Navy to hold the rank of Admiral.

July 19 - Richard Atkinson Pryor, Brig. Gen. CSA (1828-1919). Is said to have declined the honor of firing the first shot at Fort Sumter.

July 31 - William Clark Quantrill, Colonel CSA (1837-1865). The accidental death of five women being held in a Kansas City building provided the impetus for his raid on Lawrence, Kansas.

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BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE  
P.O. Box 196  
Centreville, VA 22020



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