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ANTIETAM

Why It Shouldn't Have Happened

Fierce and desperate battle between two hundred thousand men has raged since daylight, yet night closes on an uncertain field. It is the greatest fight since Waterloo — all over the field contested with an obstnacy equal even to Waterloo. If not wholly a victory to-night, I believe it is the prelude to a victory to-morrow. But what can be foretold of the future of a fight in which from five in the morning till seven at night the best troops of the continent have fought without decisive result?

With these opening lines published in the *New York Tribune*, George Smalley informed the Union of the battle of Antietam.

Our September speaker, Dennis Frye, was 14 when he began his career in the National Park Service as a volunteer at Antietam National Battlefield. Now president of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, Inc., he'll distillize a lifetime of study of this great DENNIS FRYE confrontation for us. Not to be missed.

Thursday, Sept. 12

Thursday, Sept. 12
7:30 p.m.
Manassas
National Battlefield Park
Visitor Center

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE P.O. Box 196

P.O. Box 196 Centreville, Va. 20122

PRESIDENT Martha Hendley 754-4181

VICE PRESIDENT John P. McAnaw 978-3371

SECRETARY Marilyn Clark-Snyder 354-2427

ACTING TREASURER Mark Knowles 787-9811

AT LARGE Charlie Grymes, Chris Custode, Dan Paterson

FIELD TRIP Chris Custode, *Chairman*, 698-7749, Mike Duggan, Gary Ecelbarger, Charlie Grymes, Mark Knowles, John P. McAnaw, Scott Patchan

PRESERVATION
John P. McAnaw, *Chairman*,
978-3371

MEMBERSHIP Scott Logan, *Chairman*, 680-9436, Charlie Grymes, Martha Hendley, John P. McAnaw, Marilyn Clark-Snyder

NEWSLETTER Karen Fojt, *Chairman*, 330-1965, Mike Duggan, Marilyn Clark Snyder

SYMPOSIUM Scott Patchan, *Chairman*, Martha Hendley, Scott Logan

SPEAKER SCHEDULE 1996-97

September 12 ANTIETAM: WHY IT SHOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED, Dennis Frye

October 10 CAVALRY, Robert Driver

November 14 THE FIRST CAMPAIGN: LEE & McCLELLAN IN WEST VIRGINIA 1861, Clayton R. Newell

December 12 LONGSTREET: THE STORY OF THE CIVIL WAR AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF ROBERT E. LEE'S SECOND IN COMMAND. Glen Hicks

January 8 ANDERSONVILLE PRISON, Marcus Ring

February 13 MEDICINE DURING THE CIVIL WAR, Dr. George Hocker

March 13 MOSBY'S MEN, Horace Mewborn

April 10 STONEWALL TAKES A STAND: THE COURT MARTIAL OF GEN. RICHARD BROOKE GARNETT. Gary Ecelbarger

May 8 SHILOH, Ed Bearss

June 12 SPOTSYLVANIA, Gordon Rhea

July 10 BREAKTHROUGH AT PETERSBURG, E. Wilson Greene

August 14 THE WAR BETWEEN THE SHEETS, Art Candenquist

From the Firing Line

Important Proceedings of the Round Table

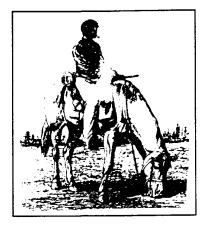
Greetings Members and Friends,

The Executive Committee has had all summer to make its transition, and everyone is ready for the new season of the Round Table. We have had to make one adjustment in the roles of the Executive Committee members. Scott Logan, who was elected for a second term as Treasurer in June, will be moving over to the slot of Membership Chairman. With a new job as of August which entails a difficult commute, Scott did not feel he would have the time this year to take care of the routine tasks of the treasurer.

The Executive Committee has appointed Mark Knowles Acting Treasurer for the remainder of the season.

Our committees include membership, field trips, preservation, newsletter, and symposium. If you are interested in participating on any of those committees, please raise your hand and holler, or just contact the committee chairman: *Field Trips*, Chris Custode, 698-7749; *Preservation*, John McAnaw, 978-3371; *Membership*, Scott Logan, 680-9436; *Newsletter*, Karen Fojt, 330-1965. Your input would be most welcome.

It is the duty of the vice president to schedule the programs for the following season. This past year you offered many good ideas for this season, and I have scheduled as many of them as possible. Unfortunately there are no more than the usual twelve months this time 'round, so I've passed along all those suggestions that didn't get squeezed into this year to this year's vice president, John McAnaw. The schedule for the entire year is included in this newsletter. I think we have it all in order, but



things happen, like Dr. Hocker's broken foot last year. By the way, his foot is doing much better, and he is willing to give us another try this February. So keep an eye on your newsletter for last minute adjustments. I think it's a fine schedule. Your attendance over the season will let us know.

Registration for the Second Manassas Symposium has met the minimum and it's early yet. We're looking forward to an unprecedented presentation from a stellar group of speakers. Unfortunately Jeffry Wert will not be coming down from Pennsylvania

to present the segment on Longstreet, but we have several alternatives to explore. This symposium is a real bargain at only \$30 preregistration. We'd like to see a packed hall considering the credentials of the speakers.

We hope to have a full field trip schedule for you next month. The committee has set out with some very ambitious plans. Right now we're signing up for Union Mills on Sept. 21, Sharpsburg on Oct. 12, and Winchester on Sept. 28. In keeping with the tradition of "cheap, but proud," the trips will continue to be self-transported and self-guided.

As most of my work was done last year in planning, I'm looking forward to a very enjoyable season. As always, I promise everyone who buys a raffle ticket, the right ticket.

Yoursfaithfully, Martha Hendley

The STONE WALL is published monthly by the Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Submissions are welcome. Contact Karen Fojt, (703) 330-1965.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table meets the second Thursday of the month at the Manassas National Battlefield Park Visitor Center, 7:30

WEB SITE of the Bull Run Civil War R o u n d T a b l e i s HTTP://OSF1.GMU.EDU/~CGRY MES/BRCWRT/BRCWRTHP.HTML.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS Column illustrations are from Leslie's Illustrated Civil War. University Press of Mississippi. 1992.

Forward to Sharpsburg Saturday, October 12

Our destination is the Western Maryland Campaign of 1862. We'll head north to Antietam Creek to review the action that occurred during Robert E. Lee's First Northern Invasion.

ASSEMBLY POINT: Dogan's Ridge

MOVE OUT TIME: 8 A.M.

RATIONS: Bring your own.

AGENDA

White's Ford: Lee Moves into Maryland

Pry House (McClellan's HQ): The Union pursues Lee The Cornfield: Phase 1: Hooker vs. Jackson for the Dunker

Church

East Woods: Hood's offensive, Death of Mansfield West Woods: Repulse of Sedgwick's division by Jackson

Midddle Bridge: Lunch Break

Sunken Road: Phase 2, Action at Bloody Lane

Burnside Bridge: Phase 3, 9th Corp divisions vs. Toomb's

Georgians

Branch Avenue: A. P. Hill saves the day.

Optional Return Route: Boteler's Ford, A. P. Hill's route to

the field.

RETURN TIME: 5 P.M.

Sign up lists will be available at the next two meetings.

TOUR GUIDES: Gary Ecelbarger and Joe Kelley. But they'd

appreciate as much participant input as possible.

FOR INFORMATION: Gary Ecelbarger, (703) 406-4933

Tour the 3rd Battle of Winchester

Saturday, September 14

The 3rd Battle of Winchester was the largest and bloodiest battle fought in the Shenandoah.

ASSEMBLY POINT: Dogan's Ridge.

MOVE OUT TIME: 8 A.M.

RATIONS: Brown bag.

AGENDA Opequon Creek Dinckle Farm

Hackwood House: Lunch Stephenson's Depot Union Cavalry attack

Fort Collier National Cemetary

Sign up sheets will be at the next meetings.

TOUR GUIDE: Scott Patchan

FOR DETAILS: Call Scott Patchan, (703) 803-2927

Like all other Cheap but Proud Tours, we're going by carpool. Reimbursing drivers for the gas is polite.

Oficial Report of the Tour Guide

Highly Successful Tour of the Shenandoah

Members.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the activities of the BRCWRT "We're Cheap but We're Proud Tour" on the 10th of August inst.

The weather could not have been more perfect for the 14 stalwarts who departed Dogan's Ridge at 0800. Utilizing three transport vehicles we wound our way northward to White's Ford, where Early's and Crook's campaign activities of early July 1864 were reviewed. The group then entered the inimitable Shenandoah Valley through Snicker's Gap. The rains of the previous two days had washed away any haze that existed in the air. I never witnessed a clearer summer day in the Valley in my life.

We headed *down* (north) on the Shenandoah River to see the Cool Springs Battlefield. Here Rod Gainer filled us in on the action that occurred July 19, 1864, the largest battle in Clark County. We also enjoyed the opportunity to see the battlefield artifacts on display in one of the period houses. From here it was *Forward to Winchester*. We observed the land over which the battle of Rutherford's Farm was fought and were next led to the original McGill Lane stone wall where Jed Hotchkiss personally led and positioned Ramseur's men to set the stage for the 2nd Battle of Kernstown. the land was locked in a previous era, highlighted by the original stone wall and the 1734 cabin that still stands.

We broke for lunch on schedule and filled up at an all-you-can-eat buffet at the Silver Leaf Commissary Department. We were asked to leave when our young adjutant, Lt. Daniel Ecelbarger, sapped the department of its fresh fruit supply. So, with a ten-count and a shout of "Company, march!" the young lieutenant led us out to finish our tour.

We picked up three new attendees at Opequon church, where a local guide took us onto the Grim estate, the site of the main action of the 2nd Kernstown Battle. With eyes emblazened in fury, the guide insisted upon directing our attack, but was checked before he could inflict any damage upon the command. We wrapped up at approximately 1500 hours, and returned to Dogan's Ridge a much more informed unit concerning the tumultuous summer of 1864.

Thanks go nearly entirely to Rod Gainer, our tour guide, who expanded upon the expertise he presented at the previous Thursday's Round Table meeting. Rod adeptly gave us the big picture looook at the campaign and the minutiae of battle action. What made the trip memorable, all will agree, was the weather and the land. It was a unique experience to see pristine battle property that groups have not tread upon for over a century. This campaign was a complete success.

I am Most Respectfully Your obedient servant, Gary L. Ecelbarger

Symposium

LEADERSHIP AT 2ND MANASSAS

October 5

Sudley United Methodist Church

\$30

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table's first symposium examines the generals present at the August 1862 battle: Lee and Pope; Longstreet and Jackson; Pope and Porter.

Speakers include Frank O'Reilly, John Hennessey, J. Michael Miller and James F. Phelps, Jr.

Call Martha Hendley, (703) 754 4181 for information.

Congratulations, Jim Burgess

Park historian Jim Burgess won a gold medal in the North-South Skirmisher's National matches held during May.

He placed first in the 100-yard carbine, expert classification. For which he received not only that coveted gold medal, but a rifle, too. Adding to his collection very nicely.

We're proud of you, Jim. And we're looking forward to hearing you win next year, too.

Walking Tour of the Bull Run Fords: Part II Saturday, September 21

It is not going to rain.

Let's try this tour one more time. Part II of the Bull Run Fords Tour did take place in July but had only one participant. So we'll hold it again for the rest of the interested.

The BRCWRT's walking tour of the southern Bull Run fords includes McLean's Ford, the fortification near Union Mills, nearby Civil War sites and Yate's Ford. We will traverse some of the most historic and undeveloped areas of Northern Virginia. In fact, the Union Mills area ranks among the most photographed areas of the Civil War.

Don't miss this chance to see this scenic and historic area before development encroaches on the terrain just outside the Northern Virginia Regional Park.

ASSEMBLY POINT: Entrance to Hemlock Overlook Regional Park.

ASSEMBLY TIME: 7:50 A.M.

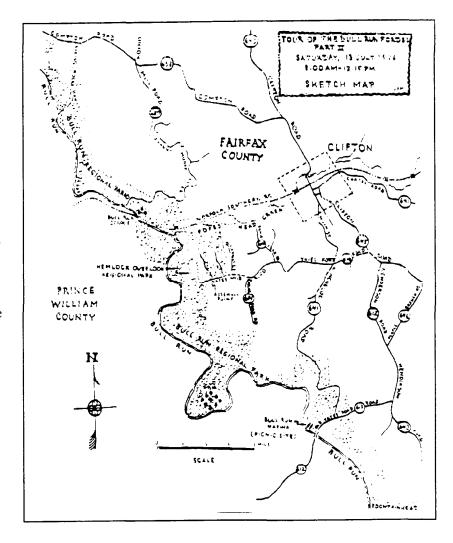
MOVE OUT TIME: 8:00 A.M.

TOUR DURATION: 8:00 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.

ATTIRE: Dress appropriate to weather conditions. Long trousers and hiking boots are recommended.

PERSONAL ITEMS: Bring a minimum of two canteens of water, trail snacks and lunch. A camera is recommended.

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



Highly Important Preservation News

Good News on Brandy Station

The long wait on the future of the Brandy Station Battlefield is over.

During its meeting on July 27, the Board of Directors of The Association for the Protection of Civil War Sites (APCWS) signed the contract to acquire 1,543 acres of the battlefield. The property had been owned by Elkwood Downs, Ltd. For reasons best known to APCWS, this important event was not made public until more than two weeks after the contract was signed.

The total cost for this acreage is approximately \$6.2 million, of which \$3.2 million must still be raised. APCWS has three years to raise these funds. The deadline clock began running on July 27. According to the agreed-upon contract, the next payment deadline is November 1, 1996, at which time APCWS must present a check for \$500,000.

As I have stated in previous articles, APCWS officials are working very closely with their counterparts in the Brandy Station Foundation, particularly BSF's outstanding legal counsel, Tersh Boasberg. Negotiations are ongoing to sell a portion of the acquired 1,543 acres to an agricultural group that has agreed to leave the battlefield property as is, i.e., in its current undeveloped state. Thus, a significant amount of

money can be raised to help make the remaining payments on the property. The agricultural organization that is so *very* interested in purchasing part of the battlefield is the Culpepper County Farm Consortium. Let me stress that, if part of the battlefield is sold by APCWS to this organization, the land will remain zoned agricultural in perpetuity.

I strongly encourage contributions to either The Brandy Station Foundation or to APCWS.

APCWS has initiated a \$500K Challenge to attract the interest of potential contributors. If you participate now, your donation will be matched, thus doubling your contribution. For the following donations, you will also get certain items: \$50 - one year APCWS membership and a personalized certificate: \$100 - Entry for drawing on 100 Troiani prints, chance to win autographed Civil War books, and a personalized certificate; \$150 - Participation in Troiani print drawing, chance to win free trip to 1997 APCWS conference, a poster, and a personalized certificate.

Mail the form below to APCWS, 11 Public Square, Suite 200, Hagerstown, Md. 21740.

We Must Act Now!	<u> </u>
vye iyiusu ate i iyow.	Payment Method (please print)
Challenge expires November 1, 1996	My check is enclosed (please make payable to APCWS)
You Can Save This Ballefield Yes! I Will Help Save Brandy Station.	Visa MasterCard
Enclosed please find , the amount of my donation. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.	Card NoExpires
	Signature
Name	& Thank You?
Address	A BINGSHIE BANGE

Best General-Poet of the Civil War: A Buckeye?

By JOHN P. MCANAW

In a previous issue of the Stone Wall, Gary Ecelbarger cited Brig. Gen. Frederick West Lander, U.S.A., as the best poet-general of the War of Secession. I offer another candidate for that honor.

Another of the many general officer practitioners of this art of the Muses was Brig. Gen. William H. Lytle, U.S.A., of Cincinnati, Ohio. He came from a family distinguished for its citizen soldiers. General Lytle was an intelligent and well-educated man who was known for his bravery on the battlefield, along with a penchant for getting hit by enemy fire.

Then Colonel Lytle was hit while commanding the 10th (Irish) Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment in 1861 near Carnifax Ferry. He was again wounded and captured at the Battle of Perryville. Finally he was mortally wounded at the Battle of Chickamauga. To quote the noted writer and reporter, Whitelaw Reid, "It may be truly said of General Lytle that 'his mourners were two hosts — his friends and his foes.'"

I offer the following poem Antony and Cleopatra as proof of his artistic talents. It was published prior to the War of Secession in the Cinicinnati Enquirer. The poem was very popular and often referred to as Egypt Dying.

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA

I am dying, Egypt, dying, Ebbs the crimson life-tide fast, And the dark Plutonian shadows Gather on the evening blast; Let thine arm, oh Queen, enfold me. Hush thy sobs and bow thine ear, Listen to the great heart secrets, Thou, and thou alone, must hear.

Though my scarred and veteran legions Bear their eagles high no more, And my wrecked and scattered galleys Strew dark Actium's fatal shore; Though no glittering guards surround me, Prompt to do their master's will, I must perish like a Roman, Die the great Triumvir still.

Let not Caesar's servile minions
Mock the lion thus laid low:
'Twas no foeman's arm that felled him,
'Twas his own that struck the blow —
His who, pillowed on thy bosom,
Turned aside from glory's ray —
His who, drunk with thy caresses,
Madly threw a world away.

Should the base plebeian rabble
Dare assail my name at Rome,
Where the noble spouse, Octavia,
Weeps within her widowed home,
Seek her; say the gods bear witness,
Altars, augurs, circling wings.
That her blood, with mine commingled,
Yet shall mount the thrones of Kings.

And for thee, star-eyed Egyptian! Glorious sorceress of the Nile, Light the path to Stygian horros With the splendors of thy smile; Give the Caesar crowns and arches, Let his brow the laurel twine, I can scorn the Senate's triumphs, Triumphing in love like thine.

I am dying, Egypt, dying; Hark! the insulting foeman's cry, They are coming; quick, my falchion, Let me front them ere I die. Ah, no more amid the battle Shall my heart exulting swell; Isis and Osiris guard thee, Cleopatra, Rome, farewell!

Why do I remember this poem more than a century after Antony and Cleopatra was written? While attending high school in Cincinnati, I had to memorize it one afternoon prior to getting out of jug (detention). It beat Homer and his "wine dark sea."

From the Ranks

Found on the Battlefield

BY A MEMBER OF THE 5TH ALABAMA WHILE AT SHARPSBURG.

In Camp September 16, 1862

My Dearest Parents,

I once more sit down to drop you a few lines this pleasant morning. I am still in the land of the, thanks to God, and in tolerable health. I had a severe attack of the diarrhea from eating green corn on our march, but am now getting over it. We had some very hard times since I wrote to you last. We have had hard marching and but little to eat. I often thought of home and its comforts and compared them with my present hardships but it is useless to complain, there are no kind hearts here to pity, and no father's words of consolation, no mother's look of sympathy, no brothers to share our burdens, and no kind sister to console us in our sorrows. O! how I miss the social endearments of home. I never could fully appreciate all the blessings of a good home until I entered camp. So were not for the consolation of religion I do not know how I should be able to bare up under it, but whenever I feel oppressed I fly to my Bible and there I can always find consolation, dear Mother, you do not know how much I have been comforted from the dear little Bible you gave me when I left home, and how much I have thought of your parting advice. There is so much wickedness in camp. Almost every moment you hear someone taking God's name in vain. I am so sick of camp life, I wish I were out of it, I have no heart in this war. How many thousands of poor creatures are hurled unprepared into the presence of their Maker. A soldier of all men should live close to God, and yet it seems to me they never think of dying although their comrades fall all around them.

We had a severe fight on Sunday. Our regiment was cut up terribly. I was sick

and was not in the fight, they say it was awful, our men fell back with great loss, our company was nearly all killed or wounded, the slaughter was terrible, it is generally though we will have much hard fighting soon, as the Yankees are close after us. I have had many chances to desert since we have been in Maryland but my pride will not permit me, although I was always opposed to this war and think it was begun without good cause, and only to gratify the ambition of broken politicians, yet I cannot bear the disgrace of being called a deserter! Besides, I could not come home to see my dear parents, and brothers and sisters anymore, and so I think I will try to stick it out and trust my life in the hands of my Heavenly Father, and if it should be his Divine Will that we are never to meet again on earth, we have his promise of a happy meeting beyond. This vale of tears where brother will no longer war with brother and death will never come, but I would love to be at home with you all once more. When I think over it it seems as though it cannot be that we are separated. I often dream of home and the loved ones I leave behind me. When I came over the mountains a few days ago I stopped and looked down on the beautiful fields and the happy farmhouses and cattle grazing, none of those desolating marks of war was here, I then could not restrain the falling tears. I compared the happy land before me with the desolate appearance of my own loved native land in the parts of Virginia we came through. You have no idea of the horrors of war, language cannot describe it, men seem to live and die without a thought of God or eternity. many with a terrible oath or blasphemy in their mouth going right into the presence of a Holy God with a horrid curse of imprecations on their tongues

— May the merciful Lord have pity upon their poor souls and save them from the gnawing of the worm that never dies.

There is much more Union sentiment here than we expected to find, I think our officers are sadly disappointed with their reception here, although they don't say much. I don't think the people of Maryland generally wish to cast their destiny in our hands. There are many here who wish us well, but few will come forward to assist us. I think our leaders have been greatly deceived [line missing] sentiment of the people here. They are not with us.

Dear Father, when you write again please send some post stamps and a couple of dollars in gold as our money will not pass here, and if I had a little good money I could get a many little things I want as things are cheap here, if I only had the right sort of money. If you have a chance you may send me \$50 or \$60. If you get U.S. or Northern money I can get clothing here much cheaper than at the South, but don't send it in a letter as I may not get it, perhaps someone will be coming up shortly and then you can send it with safety. Give my love to all inquiring friends and tell Lizzie and Mary to be good girls and tell Eddie to do what he is told and not to pout anymore, tell brother William I got the blanket he sent me and it comes quite good these nights, with love to you all I must now close, and beg you dear Father and Mother not to forget me in your prayers as I know you will not, and I will strive to live close to my Savior and should we never see each other again on earth, may we all meet in the kingdom of our blessed Redeemer where live and its sorrows are over. Nothing more at present, but remain as ever your dutiful and affectionate son until death.

LONGSTREET SYMPOSIUM Above & Beyond Duty

SEPT. 28-29

ROBERT KRICK, The Battle of the Wilderness & the Wounding of Longstreet RICHARD DINARDO, Longstreet & his Staff CAROL REARDON, Longstreet and Seven Pines WILLIAM GARRETT PISTON, Longstreet in Mexico

\$125 for entire symposium \$50 for reception only

Make check payable to The General James Longstreet Memorial Fund, and mail to c/o Ray and Debbie King, 4000 March Creek Road, Raleigh, NC 27604.

Proceeds go to the General James Lonstreet Memorial Fund. A model of the monument, designed by sculptor, Gary Casteel, will be on display.

Richmond Marriott Hotel 500 East Broad Street Richmond, Virginia

For information, contact Report C. Thomas, Chairman, 112 Offset Farm Road, Sanford, NC 27330, (919) 258-6966.

Or contact our round table's Dan Paterson at the meeting.

September Birthdays

- 2 Maj. Gen. James Harrison Wilson USV, 1837-1925 When detached from Sheridan's cavalry and sent west to join Sherman, Grant told Sherman "I believe Wilson will add 50% to the effectiveness of your cavalry."
- 8 Maj. Gen. George Crook USV, 1829-1890 Was captured by McNeil's Rangers at Cumberland, Maryland on Feb. 21, 1865.

14 Maj. John Pelham CSA, 1838-1863 — Killed at Kelly's Ford. After witnessing Pelham's maneuvering and deployment of Horse Artillery in an advanced position on the Confederate right at Fredericksburg, Lee remarked, "It is glorious to see such courage in one so young!"

Civil War Tea & Fashion Show

September 14, 10 A.M.

BEN LOMOND MANOR HOUSE 10300 Sudley Manor Drive, Manassas

The Rose garden will be dedicated. Donations go toward the restoration of the manor house. See Martha Hendley, or call Holley, 361-7126 for information.

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE P. O. Box 196 Centreville, VA 20122



Michael E. Duggan 5531 Winford Court Fairfax VA 22032