

STONEWALL TAKES THE STAND

On the night of March 23, 1862 Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Jackson carried a division that numbered barely 2,500 effectives off the Kernstown battlefield. In four months he would lead ten times this number in victory after victory, but for now the general was forced to retreat with a crippled force.

Someone would have to be held responsible for his first and only defeat. Someone would have to be held responsible for the loss of 20% of his army. Someone would have to be held responsible for the two cannons left in Federal hands on Sandy Ridge.

That someone was Brig. Gen. Richard Brooke Garnett.

He was arrested one week after the battle and forced to defend his performance and reputation in a court-martial held the following August.

The trial was destined to be the most famous one in Confederate history, but little is known about the charges against Stonewall's brigadier or the trial itself.

Last year's BRCWRT president Gary Ecelbarger presents the details of the Richard Brooke Court Martial Trial at our April meeting. His book *We Are In For It! The Battle of Kernstown March 23, 1862* will be published by White Mane Publishing Co. later this spring.

GARY ECELBARGER

Thursday, April 10, 7:30 P.M.

MANASSAS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK VISITOR CENTER

**BULL RUN CIVIL WAR
ROUND TABLE**

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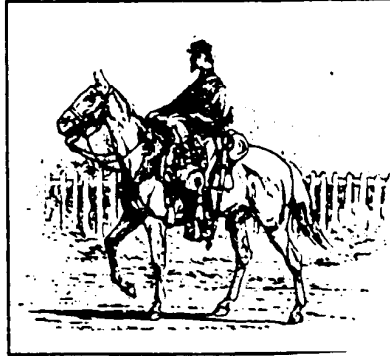
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Scott Patchan and Martha Hendley, *Co-
chairmen*

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 Round Table is:
[HTTP://OSF1.GMU.EDU/~CGRYMES/BRC
WRT/BRCWRTHP.HTML](http://OSF1.GMU.EDU/~CGRYMES/BRC
WRT/BRCWRTHP.HTML)

From the Firing Line



Dear Members,

As March leaves us with a final burst of wind and snow and Spring is actually upon us, it's time to execute the battle strategy we've planned and fine-tuned over the long winter. With the troops, weary from boredom and anxious for some action, we need to provide some outlet for their pent-up energies.

So it's off to the battlements of Manassas for our **April tour**. We'll be seeing a number of sites in and around Manassas which are all in their "before" state. Each is in need of restoration and is not generally open to the public.

We'd like to think that in 5 or 10 years these sites and buildings would actually be restored and we could revisit them in their "after" state.

This month we are elated to welcome back the round table's previous president, Gary Ecelbarger as our **speaker**. This is a particular treat since we haven't seen Gary at round table activities since his term ended. It would appear that the round table has a way of wearing out its presidents. They seem to drop off the face of the earth for a while after the completion of their duties: Bill Miller escaped to Churchville; Kevin Leahy went off to college; we welcome Armando Mancini each time he comes now, which is far too infrequent but he used to attend faithfully and tape each speaker's presentation; Scott Patchan, who finished Kevin's term as well as presiding the following season, vanished for about a year, but is now back with a helping hand. So, it's good to see that Gary has caught his second wind.

As to the count of ballots on the **resolutions** last meeting, the tally was slightly different on each question. The membership opposed constructing turn lanes at the Stone House intersection 52 to 2; opposed any route over Stony Ridge 51 to 3, and opposed the Western Transportation Corridor 50 to 1. The resolutions are printed again in this newsletter so that everyone who didn't attend March's meeting will have an accurate copy. Karen apologizes because somewhere in the translation from E-mail, or retyping from a fax copy, or laying out the newsletter, she jumbled the wording last month.

I remain your obedient servant,

Martha Hendley

COMING UP

BRCWRT TOUR: ABOUT TOWN *April in Manassas*

By Martha Hendley

We're staying very local this month and visiting sites in Manassas. We'll meet at 10 a.m. at the Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William Street, across the street from the railroad station.

Scott Harris, the director of the Manassas Museum, will guide us to the sites of the two remaining Civil War forts, one Union and one Confederate, and which are currently being restored under the guidance of the Manassas Museum.

Another stop is Liberia, which is a rare treat because it is not open to the public, not even the grounds. It used to be visible from the street, but is now well hidden by trees and other growth. We'll be able to see the outside, but the building is rented and inside tours are not allowed.

Afterwards will probably be a good time to stop for lunch; we have plenty of restaurants to choose from in town.

On the afternoon schedule are two structures owned by Prince William County. Ben Lomond Manor House with its Civil War graffiti and Brentsville Court House. Both need restoration and are open only by special arrangements.

The Conner House in Manassas is also a possibility.

And finally, since we met at the museum, we can spend any remaining time there.

Looks like Spring Feel's Like Winter Must Be March

By Chris Custode

Thirteen hale and hearty round table members and friends braved wind-chill temperatures in the teens and wind gusts of over 25 miles an hour on a deceptively beautiful, sunny day to gather in Frederick on Saturday, March 15th (Beware the Ides of March!) for an informative afternoon's worth of Civil War history of the area.

We started indoors at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, where our guide for the afternoon, Dr. Jim Hammond, a retired pathologist, guided us through the museum's exhibits and very patiently answered the many questions put to him.

After a short snack break, Dr. Hammond enthusiastically led us on a walking tour of the many Civil War sites to be found in Frederick, including some definitely off the beaten path. He also expounded on some of the sites along the way as they related to both present and non-Civil War Frederick, including those of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

Although generally leisurely, our sometimes brisk pace occasionally slowed for the rear guard, but also allowed us to see a lot and to try our best to keep warm. Approaching darkness finally halted our March march.

Your humble trip coordinator wants to thank Dr. Jim Hammond for his patience, enthusiasm, and generosity of spirit for a wonderful afternoon. He let us know from the very beginning that his time was ours. Also, a thank you to those who braved the Arctic blasts and made the afternoon a success.

Upcoming Events

April 12 Walking tour: Saunder Field, 10-11:30. Meet at the Wilderness Battlefield Exhibit Shelter, Rt. 20 in Spotsylvania. Friends of Wilderness Battlefield, (540) 972-9954.

April 13 Walking tour: Widow Tapp Farm, 2-3:30. Park on Hill-Ewell Dr in Spotsylvania. Friends of Wilderness Battlefield. (540) 972-9954.

April 14 Assassination program: 132nd anniversary of Lincoln assassination, at Ford's Theater, 12-2 pm. Two talks and slide presentation. Lincoln Group of NY City. (202) 426-6924.

April 19 Battlefield hike: Antietam, 1 pm, led by park rangers. Focuses on reinforcements that were rushed into the Cornfield. (301)432-5124.

May 10 Bus tour: Spotsylvania, led by Gordon Rhea. Reservations required. Friends of Wilderness Battlefield. (540)972-9954.

May 16-18 Reenactment: "First Blood" reenactment of the first skirmish of the war in Fairfax. Battles at Van Dyck Park. Fairfax City. (703) 273-6130.

May 25-26 Battlefield tours: "We are Here to Mark the Spot" ranger-led two-hour tours to monuments in Antietam National Battlefield. Focus on monument history, architecture, and construction. 1 p.m., at the visitor's center. (301)432-5124.

Preservation Watch

By John McAnaw

Stand Down of the Guardians of Brandy Station Battlefield

Like many of our members, I have closely followed events relevant to the Brandy Station Battlefield for a number of years. One of the organizations responsible for the preservation of that important site is the Brandy Station Foundation (BSF). As you know, the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS) is the other.

Permit me to focus on the BSF in this article. No organization can achieve success unless it has a solid core of dedicated and talented individuals willing to make the necessary sacrifices to achieve their desired goal. The BSF is so blessed. However, many years of service had taken its toll among the Old Guard members. Thus, at the January 1997 meeting of the BSF Board of Directors, four new executive officers were elected. Worthy of note, all four members of the outgoing executive board had been in place since the formation of the BSF in March 1989.

The new officers of BSF are William H. Martin, president; Gregory A. Mertz (well known to our round table's members), vice president; Christina Stockton, secretary; and Arthur Larson, treasurer.

Other officers of the foundation include Clark B. Hall, historian; Tersh Boasberg, general counsel; Michael Green, bulletin editor; Lisa Woodward, graphics and design. All have impressive bona fides as citizens dedicated to the preservation of our Civil War heritage.

Stepping down as president is an individual I know well, although I've never met him, B. B. Mitchell, III. We've spoken many times on the telephone regarding the many ups and downs in the fight to save the battlefield. I visited his property on the battlefield twice on tours but he was not at home. He provided me with a great deal of timely information, much of which I included in our newsletter. He and his wife, Page, devoted literally thousands of hours of service to BSF, and were indispensable to its success.

Mr. Mitchell was both sad and happy as he handed over the gavel to Mr. Martin, and said "I know the foundation will be in good hands." Reading those words, I thought of the oft-used lines of infantrymen when they departed for Vietnam: "I leave with mixed emotions which are complete joy and total ecstasy." I wonder if B.B. really felt the same. Further, he added, "Eight years is enough. 'Tis time to move on, now we'll have more time with the grandchildren."

Historian Clark "Bud" Hall summed up the sentiments of all BSF members, "What those men and women achieved for the benefit of Americans everywhere is nothing short of a miracle. On behalf of our round table's membership, I echo this praise with our sincerest thanks for a job well done. Let us hope their successors prove by their actions that they are cut from the same cloth.

Before I close, I would like to mention another individual materially responsible for the preservation of the Brandy Station Battlefield, and I might add, the Second Manassas Battlefield. General Counsel for the BSF, Tersh Boasberg is a remarkable lawyer who has performed a truly outstanding job protecting our Civil War heritage.

DATE CHANGE FOR COLD HARBOR

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the round-table's tour of Cold Harbor will be postponed until Saturday, May 17. A sign up roster will again be passed around at the April meeting.

The tour will track the routes of participating forces following the check of Union forces at Ox Ford on the North Anna River to the Cold Harbor battlefield. In addition to the battlefield itself, stops include Pamunkey River crossings, Haw's Shop/Enon Church, Totopotomoy Creek, Bethesda Church and Old Church.

NEW CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION ORGANIZATIONS

I write this article for the record to give interested readers some idea about several recently formed organizations dedicated to the preservation of our Civil War heritage. One of them has already made a mark due to the efforts to save for the National Park Service the nine-acre campus of Montfort Academy on Mary's Heights from the acquisition and development by Mary Washington College.

Central Virginia Battlefield Trust

I wrote about the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust and the acquisition of the Montfort Academy land in the Stone Wall's March 1997 issue. Permit me to begin by giving a rundown on this organization:

Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, Inc. (CVBT)'s purposes are: to preserve the unique heritage of the Rappahannock region by protection significant Civil War properties; and to serve as an advocate for battlefield preservation in central Virginia and throughout the country. (Please note the wording of the second purpose)

Future projects will be keyed to saving various important sites still unprotected on the Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania and The Wilderness battlefields. A brochure of the organization is now available.

Point of contact: Enos Richardson, 604A William Street, Ste. 1, Fredericksburg, Va. 22401, (540) 374-0900. Or Mike Stevens, 1300 Thornton Street, Fredericksburg, Va. 22401.

Friends of the Fredericksburg Area Battlefields

This organization held its first meeting of the board of directors on January 2, the same day the State Corporation Commission approved the incorporation papers of the FFAB. The purposes of the organization are: To provide advocacy, educational programs, and service projects for all of the Fredericksburg area battlefields operated by the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park - Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, The Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House; and to aid, in addition to the battlefields maintained by the National Park Service, in the preservation of other as yet unprotected battlefields in the area.

The organization's incorporation papers also state that it will serve as an umbrella organization with

similar goals and purposes. A flyer states the goal is to have a "power bond" of Civil War-related organizations working together to accomplish mutual goals of Civil War education and battlefield preservation. The Friends of the Wilderness Battlefield (FWB) and the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table (RVCWRT) have voted to seek affiliated status in the FFAB. (How do you like the way the acronyms are piling up?)

This ambitious organization plans to team up with the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust (CVBT) in its future efforts to acquire property for the National Park Service while the CVBT's role would be fundraising. The FFAB would key on such projects as establishing trails, providing interpretive signs and making other enhancements to property purchased by CVBT or other organizations.

In February the FFAB agreed to team up with RVCWRT and (another acronym!) APCWS to improve the Harris Farm site near the Spotsylvania Court House Battlefield (we visited this farm during our Spotsylvania tour last June.) The easement to the sites was provided by APCWS. The RVCWRT took care of expenses for the project while the FFAB will lay out a trail and install period fencing. The project is expected to be completed in the spring of 1998 (if no more acronyms get in the way!).

If we keep piling on the acronyms, our round table will have to schedule a presentation on Buffbonics just so we can understand who is doing what with whom and to whom in the battlefield preservation field.

THE WARREN MAP OF GETTYSBURG AND HERITAGEPAC MEMBERSHIP

One of our round table tours projected for next year will be to Gettysburg. The so-called "Warren Map" of Gettysburg is an excellent reference in preparing for the tour. This one of a kind map, 27" x 33", was surveyed under the direction of Gouverneur K. Warren from October 1868 to October 1869, and is an accurate representation of troop locations and such features as wood lots, buildings and fences. It is available in return for a \$50 contribution to Heritagepac, P.O. Box 7281, Little Rock, AR 72218.

Jerry L. Russell, Heritagepac's director, is the individual who in such a timely manner, sent out the famous alert letter to organization members on the threats facing Manassas Battlefield. Anyone wishing to join this worthwhile political action committee, can send a contribution to P.O. Box 7281, Little Rock, AR 72217.

The Passed Resolutions

At the March meeting or by mail, members of the Round Table passed the following resolutions addressing the transportation proposals that impact the Manassas National Battlefield Park.

STONE HOUSE

The first is the issue of widening the Stone House intersection at Rts. 29 and 234 to accommodate turn lanes. Such widening would extend 1500' from the intersection along each direction of Rt. 29 and Rt. 234. There are also some individuals who would have Rts. 29 and 234 widened to four lanes all the way through the park.

Whereas the intersection of Route 29 and Route 234 at the Stone House is situated in the heart of the Manassas Battlefield,

Whereas both of those roads and their intersection were key elements of the Battles of both First Manassas and Second Manassas,

Whereas that site is one of the most important vantage points from which to understand the events of those battles, Whereas, since the Manassas National Battlefield Park is the major attraction for tourists in Western Prince William County, the tourism industry depends on the vitality of that Park,

Whereas any alteration of those roads and their intersection which would reduce the historical value of that site is not in keeping with the mission of Manassas National Battlefield Park and would be detrimental to the attraction of tourists,

Whereas the traffic congestion at that intersection during morning and evening weekday rush hours has altogether disappeared since the additional lanes on I-66 have been opened,

Whereas with the additional planned improvements to I-66 giving that highway excess capacity well on past the year 2020 according to the on-going MIS I-66 study,

Be it resolved that the Bull Run Civil War Round Table

1. supports the position of the National Park Service in opposing the widening of the intersection with left-turn lanes and the widening of Routes 29 and 234 through the Park and
2. supports diverting the Route 29 commuter traffic through the Park by designating Route 29 onto Rt. 66 between Gainesville and Centreville.

ROUTE 29 STUDY

Two of the proposals in the Rt. 29 Study for diverting commuter traffic out of the park would cut new swathe through rural areas north around the park. One of them is even over historic Stony Ridge. There are three routes south of the park which already exist in whole or part which could accomplish the same

Whereas VDOT has undertaken a study of the segment of Route 29 from Warrenton to Centreville concurrent with an MIS I-66 study,

Whereas there have been several routes around Manassas National Battlefield Park proposed in that study,

Whereas some of those proposed routes would cut new paths through Western Prince William County including over historic Stony Ridge, site of General Stonewall Jackson's headquarters during the Battle of Second Manassas, the encampment of his troops, his signal station, and artillery positions as well as the site of a field hospital and the Sudley Village site consisting of Sudley Mill, the Sudley Hotel, and the remount station. Sudley Ford where Union troops crossed Bull Run on their flanking maneuver at First Manassas, and innumerable cemeteries and grave sites, including the cemetery of Jennie Deans family and many such undocumented sites, thus making a negative impact upon those historic features in particular and the Battlefield as a whole,

Whereas the tourism industry is dependent on the ability of its major attraction in Western Prince William County, the Manassas National Battlefield Park, to bring visitors to that region,

Whereas the additional planned improvements to I-66 will give that highway excess capacity on past the year 2020 according to the MIS I-66,

Be it resolved that the Bull Run Civil War Round Table

1. supports diverting the Route 29 commuter traffic through the park by designating Rt. 29 onto Rt. 66 between Gainesville and Centreville and
2. opposes cutting any new route for Rt. 29 north of the Park.

RESOLUTIONS (CONTINUED)

THE WESTERN TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR

The Western Transportation Corridor is a reincarnation of the defunct Western proposal. The Bypass was dropped when Maryland (which owns the Potomac River) would not agree on putting a bridge where Virginia wanted one and when the study revealed that such a bypass would not relieve Beltway significantly. However, it got renamed and given a new destination of Dulles Airport. It would cover about 55 miles from Rt. 95 in Stafford County, through a lot of undeveloped rural land in Stafford, Fauquier, Prince William, and Loudoun Counties, to a stop light on Rt. 7 east of Leesburg. It is contrary to the comprehensive plans and future land use in all the local jurisdictions except Loudoun. The scenario is for an employment center at Dulles and bedroom communities in the other outlying counties. Such a through highway would be detrimental to the Park and indirectly detrimental in the development it would attract nearby.

Whereas VDOT has undertaken a Major Investment Study of a Western Transportation Corridor (MIS-WTC) to run from I-95 in Stafford County to Route 7 east of Leesburg,

Whereas the National Park Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Army Corps of Engineers each state that the need for such a north/south highway has not been demonstrated or justified.

Whereas a major factor in the economic growth of the region is tourism and the major attraction which drives the economic engine of tourism in Western Prince William County is the Manassas National Battlefield Park,

Whereas such through traffic would be detrimental to not only Manassas National Battlefield Park, but also to Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Parks and, if extended north of Rt. 7 to the C & O Canal,

Whereas Segment 7 between Conway Robinson Memorial State Forest and Manassas National Battlefield Park in particular would be adverse to the interests of the Forest, the Park, and their visitors by encroaching visually, generating a substantial increase in noise, encouraging uses incompatible with those sites, and creating an insurmountable divide between the two,

Be it resolved that the Bull Run Civil War Round Table

1. opposes the Western Transportation Corridor generally as unjustified and
2. opposes Segment 7 of the Western Transportation Corridor specifically as incompatible with the use and purpose of the Manassas National Battlefield Park.

THE CASE OF THE MISSING MAIL

For those of you wondering why your membership checks were never cashed in January or February, Martha Hendley recently discovered why.

The round table's post office box contained only junk mail for the longest time. Eventually Karen Fojt found a yellow card saying there was too much mail to fit in the box. "Ah," she thought, "the membership renewals." But she was given only a package from APCWS.

A week later, Martha found another yellow card. To her surprise and relief the postman presented her with a very full box. Guess what it contained. Apparently the Centreville post office stores packages and mail in separate bins.

Our apologies, and thank you for your patience.

EXCITEMENT IN DUMFRIES

To the delight of its members and to devotees of history in general and Prince William County in particular, the Weems Bott Museum recently received a \$35,000 matching grant from the State of Virginia. Together with the town of Dumfries, Historic Dumfries will use the grant to purchase the Lockett House, and if the bid is accepted this weekend, the adjacent Bishop House Plans are in the short term to put offices in the Lockett House and use the Bishop House as storage. The five year plan for this property is to build a large research center.

PRESERVATION OF "OLE PINE TOP" FOR A WORTHY PURPOSE

The *Culpeper Exponent's* July 12, 1917 reported the following: Resolution Offered on Seized Whiskey

At a meeting held in Chapman's cigar store over which Dr. John Aylor presided and Col. Newhouse acting secretary, the following resolution was offered by judge John Ambler Brook and unanimously passed:

Resolved, that all whiskey seized in Culpeper in violation of the Mapp bill, shall be turned over by Sheriff Yowell to the Confederate soldiers without pay for their private use, said resolution to be submitted to Dr. Jim Cannon, for his approval.

GHOSTS OF THE VALLEY

By John McAnaw

You have undoubtedly read or seen many accounts of ghosts that took their unearthly form as the result of tragedies that occurred during the War of Secession. In fact, in the past year there were several cable television programs devoted to apparitions who lost their lives during that war. One program was about the many ghosts haunting Gettysburg and environs. No doubt, these ghost stories add to visitor interest during the tourist season. Certainly books on Civil War ghosts, including the Gray Ghost himself, sell well.

Here in Virginia the main battleground of the War (in terms of the number of battles and other armed engagements) there are also accounts of unworldly beings that haunt a variety of locations. In fact, stories of apparitions that frequent leveled Civil War battlefields, cemeteries and homesites have begun to circulate.

If you rank yourself among the skeptics, I ask you to join us on our Round Table tour in June 14 to the battle of Cross Keys and Port Republic in the Shenandoah Valley. You may well change your mind about ghosts before the end of the tour. This is, by no means, a come on for the tour but rather a statement based on what happened recently to two members of our round table.

On Saturday, March 22, Mark Knowles and I conducted a reconnaissance at the battlefields at Cross Keys and Port Republic. It was a very profitable trip. At about 3 p.m. on that cool, blustery day we visited the impressive homestead located on one of those battlefields. One of the current occupants kindly provided us with historical material photographs and newspaper clippings that related to the property, including the home and its former residents. This intelligent and rational individual calmly, and convincingly, recounted in detail the numerous occasions when the resident ghost made her presence known.

The current occupant had absolutely no doubt as to the genuineness of cited encounters or to the identity of the ghost in the house. How convinced were we regarding the house haunting? Well, when we departed, we said good bye to our gracious hostess and also to the ghost.

During our June 14 tour, we will visit the grounds of the haunted house. At present I do not know whether or not the owners will be at home when we visit their property. But if they are present, tour members will have a great opportunity to talk to them about this unworldly resident of their home. Then we'll find out just how many of us remain doubting Thomases.

Oh yes, one more thing. If you are a born and bred Virginian, I recommend you make that fact known aloud during the course of your visit to this site. Trust me.

AROUND MANASSAS

Depot Rehabilitation Begins

The renovation of the railroad depot in Manassas began during March.

The former Norfolk-Southern Railroad Depot was built in 1914 on the foundations of a 1905 building that burned in 1912. Now a part of the Manassas Museum System, it will house a waiting area for AMTRAK and Virginia Railway Express passengers, a visitor center operated by Historic Manassas, Inc. and exhibits in the James and Marion Payne Railroad Heritage Gallery.

The project has been funded by the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), the Potomac & Rappahannock Transportation Commission, and the City of Manassas. The work is expected to be completed by July.

At the Manassas Museum

A hands-on interactive Discovery Room for children will be open at The Manassas Museum on April 12 and 15, May 3, 17 and 31, all Saturdays, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Children can experience 19th century activities such as carding wool, beating a rug, playing with jacks and marbles, and viewing pictures through a stereoscope. They can also try on reproduction clothing, design a quilt pattern, and use Discovery Boxes, which allow children to guess what is inside each compartment by simply touching the object. Each lid can then be lifted to see an object and learn more about it.

For information call the museum, (703) 368-1673.

FROM THE RANKS

Hot Time on Sandy Ridge

Most of the charges Stonewall Jackson placed against Richard Brooke Garnett dealt with his performance on Sandy Ridge. One of them concerned his placement of the 5th Virginia Infantry on the height. The following is an excerpt from Gary Ecelbarger's upcoming book about Kernstown. It describes the evening action of the 5th Virginia and Poague's artillery section. At this time they were the only organized Southern units on the ridge.

Only Poague's two bronze pieces remained, exposed to troops closing in on three sides. The 14th Indiana and portions of the 110th Pennsylvania, 5th Ohio, and 67th Ohio approached from points west and north while the 13th Indiana from Sullivan's brigade scaled Sandy Ridge and closed in from the east. Determined to follow their orders, the gunners ignored the torrent surrounding them. The 110th Pennsylvania appeared on the field first. The Southern artillerists opened upon them from a distance of 150 yards, killing eight men outright, wounding 38 others, and forcing the Pennsylvanians back into the woods. But Poague kept his pieces there too long. The Federal infantry closed in, forcing the artillerymen to quickly limber and take their guns into the woods and down the hill. The men escaped, but one of the wheel horses was hobbled by three bullet wounds. There was no time to replace the lame animal and it was forced to help pull the gun to the rear.

The guns rolled toward the woods just beyond the field where the 5th Virginia was patiently lying in front of them. Colonel

Harman rode forward to the crest of the wooded spur where he saw a field with straw stacks in his front and a heavily wooded hill beyond it. Elements of retreating Confederates worn fast approaching on his left, and coming directly in front of him were two regiments of Federal infantry. Harman returned to his men of the 5th Virginia on the downslope in the back field and prepared for the onslaught. The colonel watched the opposing infantry cross the brow in the shadows of the approaching darkness and ordered his men to open fire. His command responded with alacrity: the simultaneous discharge of 450 muskets flashed into the woods, sending a storm of lead directly at the unsuspecting Hoosiers and Buckeyes. "I do not think it possible for so many bullets to fly without hitting everybody," wrote a surprised Indianan who added, "and I fully expected to feel the sting of one every minute." This soldier escaped injury; however, five company officers and both color-bearers of the 14th Indiana dropped with bullet wounds. Another soldier picked up the grounded flags and also was shot down. Finally, a

private bore both colors defiantly to the front of the woodline while a section of the regiment took advantage of boulders and trees to keep the 5th Virginia in check.

While contesting the Indianans on his center and right, Colonel Harman observed another regiment attacking the left flank of the 5th Virginia. Colonel William Lewis had rallied his regiment for a second time and, in his words, chased after the retreating enemy by "driving them like sheep before us" until he smashed against Harman's concealed line. Harman felt overwhelmed by the new threat and after watching his center and left give way, he rode along his lines and ordered his men to cease firing. He retired his colors further to the rear and reformed his line around them.

By retiring his regiment, Harman inadvertently exposed one of Poague's guns. The six-pounder was hauled by the team with the horse that had been shot near the straw stacks minutes earlier. The wounded animal fell dead across the pole before it reached the safety of the woods, disabling the gun. As Poague's men frantically attempted to hitch up a

replacement, a platoon of 200 members of the 14th Indiana formed a battle line in the woods, howled another "Hoosier Yell," and charged the panicked artilleryists. Poague could see that the dead artillery horse could not be replaced in time, so he ordered his gunners to cut loose the other horses and ride them to safety. The Hoosiers swarmed over the disabled cannon after wounding one Southern sergeant and two cannoneers, and killing two more horses and wounding three others. George Reintzel, one of the Rockbridge artilleryists, was run over by one of the retreating limbers. The captured cannon was a special prize for the Northerners. Eight months earlier it had stood on Henry Hill as part of a Federal battery where it was captured during the battle of Manassas

The other members of Poague's section retired to safety, but McLaughlin's command suffered dearly this day. In addition to several slaughtered horses and the lost cannon, McLaughlin lost four men with mortal wounds, eight men with lesser wounds, and two

others captured. Privates Charles and Henry Gay were unscathed, although they may have had regrets about the decision they made earlier that day. The Gay brothers had wakened that morning as civilians and enlisted in the battery at the village of Kernstown, not knowing that their services were required immediately.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

11 --*Ephraim Elmer Ellsworth*, Col. USA (1837-1861) - Famous before the war for organizing the Chicago Zouaves and staging spectacular drill exhibitions throughout the country. Ellsworth was largely responsible for the wide-spread use of the Zouave motif among pre-war militia units which carried over into the Civil War military organizations. When the war began he organized the Fire Zoaves in New York. He was killed in May '61 by James T. Jackson, proprietor of the Marshall House Tavern in Alexandria, after removing a Confederate flag from the roof of that building

20--*John Gibbon*, Maj. Gen USV (1827-1896). Born in Pennsylvania, but raised in Virginia. Three of Gibbon's brothers fought for the Confederacy. Commanded the Black Hat Brigade at Second Manassas and in the Maryland campaign where the unit was dubbed the Iron Brigade. At Appomattox he was one of the commissioners designated to receive the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia. Became a regular army colonel in 1869 and General in 1885. Led the relief column to the Little Big Horn in 1876.

25--*James Dearing*, Brig. Gen CSA (1840-1865) - Resigned from West Point in April 1861, and served with the New Orleans Washington Artillery until after Gettysburg when he transferred to the cavalry. On the retreat to Appomattox, during an action at High Bridge, Dearing was mortally wounded while engaged in a pistol duel with the Federal General Theodore Read, who was killed. Dearing was the last Confederate general officer to die of wounds received in action.

BULL RUN
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
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