

STONE WALL

February, 1999

**ROUNDTABLE Meets at
FAIRFAX COUNTY
GOVERNMENT CENTER
1200 Government Center Parkway
Thursday, February 11, 7:30 p.m.**

If We Build It, The Supplies Will Come -or- The Con- federates Construct The World's First Military Rail- road

Art Candenquist

The Centreville Military RR was the first railroad in the world constructed solely for military purposes. Like most things in the Confederacy, the CMRR was built out of a necessity. In the Winter of 1861-62, the Confederate Army of the Potomac was in winter quarters at Centreville. The main source of supply for the army was the railroad depot at Manassas Junction, where subsistence and supplies were delivered from Richmond. The Winter of 1861-62 was among the wettest on record, and it was not long before the Manassas-Centreville Road was a quagmire of mud two feet thick in some places. Supplying the needs of the army became a serious problem, as the horse and mule teams were consuming as much or more than the subsistence they were haul-

ing. To circumvent the roads and prevent the army from starving to death, General Johnson ordered the construction of a 5-1/2 mile railroad spur from Manassas Junction to Centreville. This process took 6 weeks, and the RR was in use supplying the army for about 3 weeks, at which time, in March, 1862, Johnston withdrew the army to south of the Rappahannock River to more defensible positions. The CMRR ceased to exist, and the line was destroyed before the Federal troops occupied the area.

The program for the Feb. 11th BRCWRT meeting will focus on the planning, construction, use, and subsequent events following the withdrawal of Confederate troops. There will be slides & narrative. Evidence of the CMRR exist today, and there will be some slides showing this, and a brief discussion of efforts to protect what's left of the rail line.

The Presenter: Arthur Candenquist, a founding member and former Vice-President of the BRCWRT, returns for his 4th presentation to the CWRT. His previous presentations to the group focused on Freemasonry and the War; Stonewall Jackson's "appropriations" of B&O RR equipment (some of which were used on the CMRR); and the "War Between the Sheets". He has been involved in the study of the War since 1956, and focuses on the lesser-known and more unusual aspects of the conflict. He has written several articles for CW publications on time-keeping during the War (when there was no Standard Time) and Jackson's B&O RR "appropriations". The topic of his presentation is the subject of a forthcoming article. He is a member of a number of historical organizations including APCWS; CW Education Association; Brandy Station Foundation; Virginia Historical Society; the SCV; Confederate Military Lodge of Research [a CW Masonic organization]; Titanic Historical Society; the Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia; and the Surratt Society. When not chasing down historical subjects, he is Amtrak's Manager of Emergency Preparedness working at corporate headquarters in Washington. He and wife Cindy, also a BRCWRT member, live near Amissville in Rappahannock County.

**BULL RUN
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

*P.O. Box 196
Centreville, VA 20122*

President: Dan Paterson
Vice President: Scott Patchan
Secretary and Webmaster: Ann Collins
Treasurer: Mark Knowles
Past President: John P. McAnaw
At Large: Michael J. Duggan, Bob Ford, Dan Jenkins
Newsletter: Karen Fojt
Field Trip: Scott Patchan
Preservation: John P. McAnaw
Membership/Publicity: Dan Paterson

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table meets the second Thursday of each month. Meetings are held at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Va at 7:30 p.m.

The deadline for items to be included in the newsletter is the 25th of the month. Contact Karen Fojt, 330-1965.

For information, you can reach the Round Table by calling Karen Fojt, 330-1965; by email at BRCWRT@aol.com; or by Internet <http://members.aol.com/brcwrt/index.htm>

President's Note

Greetings Members and Friends

I would first like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the forty hardy souls who attended the meeting last month. The ice storm was the worst in the area for quite some time but it did not stop us from having our meeting. For those who missed it, Scott Patchan gave a superb talk on Gen. Longstreet's attack at the second battle of Manassas from a unique perspective. All in attendance enjoyed the talk and there was a most productive question and answer session following. We all look forward to the publication of Scott's new book and as soon as it is available you will hear it from us. A special thanks to member Andrejs Lubkans for volunteering to serve the Round Table above and beyond the call of duty. His efforts are greatly appreciated.

We have received many renewals as well as many new members over the last 2 months. However, there are still many of you who have yet to renew. Please remember to bring your check to the February 11th meeting as the grace period ends with the March issue of the Stone Wall. The dates of our tours have been put together so please mark your calendars now. We are continuing our tradition of the having the best tours put together by our own members that money can buy. Remember, our tours are free! See you at the meeting!

Dan Paterson

Preservation

The Centreville Earthworks

In the last issue I addressed the situation relative to the impressive Civil War earthworks in Centreville that are threatened by development. A written description of the location of these field fortifications was provided. Included in that article was a map showing the site of the 14.33 acre wooded tract where the earthworks are located. This beautiful belt of green space in overdeveloped Centreville is slated for destruction later this calendar year. Current plans call for the construction of 126 more townhouses on the tract. At best, only a very small portion of the earthworks will be left undisturbed. The residents around the proposed construction site need a 14.33 acre park and not more townhouses. Of interest there are two other nearby sites where even more townhouses are slated for construction.

A number of distinguished Civil War historians have stepped forward, calling for the preservation of the two sets of earthworks located on cited property. These individuals include Edwin C. Bearss, Dr. Joseph Harsh, J. Michael Miller and Scott Patchan. Additionally, current BRCWRT president Dan Paterson and the immediate past President John McAnaw strongly support the preservation of the earthworks and the entire 14.33 acre tract.

The preservation of these field fortifications is extremely important. They represent fortifications constructed by both Confederate and Union soldiers and are extremely rare. On January 5th, 1999, Edwin C. Bearss noted that "The remaining Centreville earthworks are of national significance." In a letter dated 11 January 1999, Dr. Joseph Harsh stated, "They are a historical treasure of the first magnitude."

These fortifications along with the rest of the tract should be saved and I ask everyone in our organization to help in this worthwhile preservation effort. This matter will be discussed at our general membership meeting on 11 February 1999.

John P. McAnaw

Virginia Towers and the Manassas Battlefield

On 16 December 1998, the Fairfax County Planning Commission held a public hearing on a request for a 199 ft. speculative tower proposed for a site within the Luck Stone quarry property vicinity near the intersection of Lee hwy and the Bull Run Post Office Road. Superintendent Robert Sutton of the MNBSP spoke in opposition to the proposal. He pointed out that the tower would be seen from various locations within the park. Back in 1988 the U.S. Congress included in its legislation regarding the addition of the Williams Center tract to the MNBSP, that the scenic views from within the park were to be preserved. Also of interest, is the fact that as of the date of the public hearing there were no carriers committed to use the

tower. The county planning staff did not make a positive recommendation on the tower.

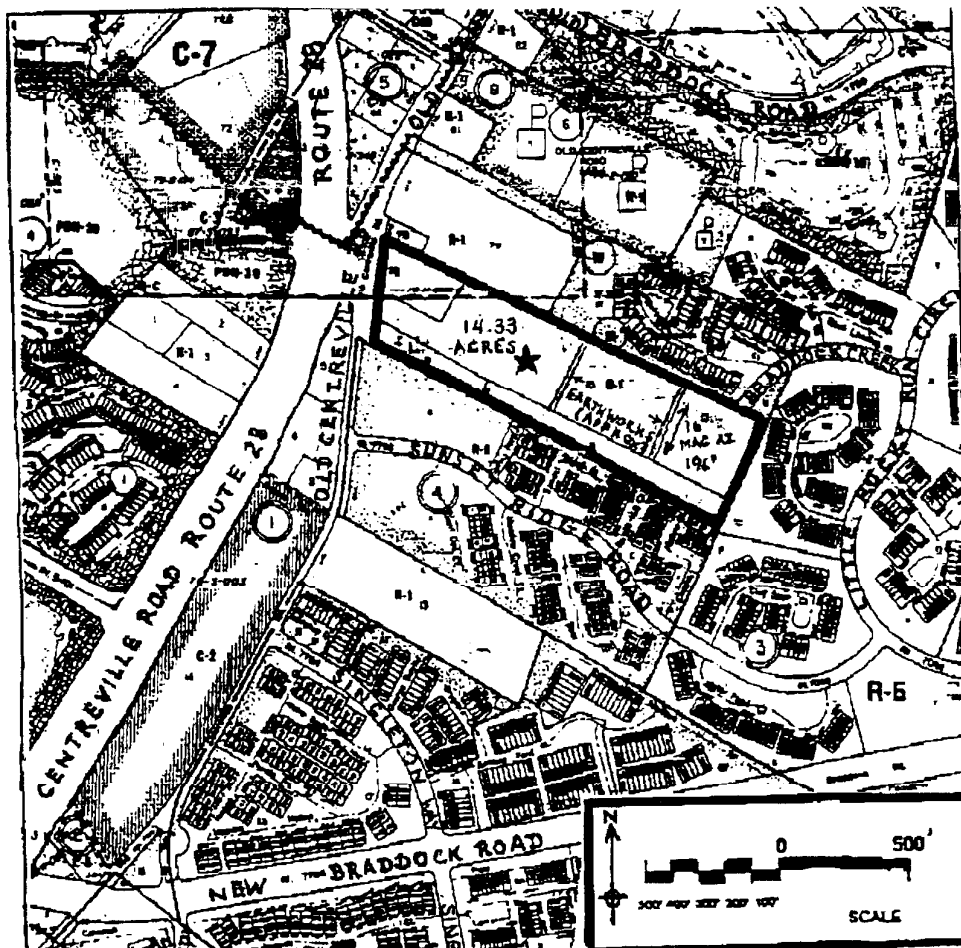
Planning Commissioner Koch moved "That the planning commission find that the facility proposed under 456-Y97-16 does satisfy the criteria of location, character and extent as specified in section 15.2-2232 of the code of Virginia and is substantially in accord with the provisions of the comprehensive plan."

During the discussion the following was quoted from the County's comprehensive plan. "Place telecommunication facilities to ensure that historically significant landscapes are protected..." Regardless, the vote on the motion was For: 3 (Kelso, Koch and Palatiello), Against-2 (Harsel, Alcorn), Abstain-3 (Hall, Wilson, Byers), Not present- 2 (Murphy and Thomas), Absent-2 Coan and Downer).

Thus, with only three commissioners out of twelve voting for the motion, the tower issue is tentatively slated to come before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on February 22nd. Fairfax County residents should be encouraged to express their position on the proposed tower at that time.

John P. McAnaw

Trench Site Map Shown Below



TRIVIA

February Birthdays

Feb 2 - Albert Sidney Johnston, Gen CSA (1803-1862) – In 1837, while senior BGen and chief commander of the Texas Army, he was seriously wounded in a duel with a jealous rival. Was second in seniority among the Confederate full generals at the start of the war (behind Samuel Cooper). Mortally wounded at Shiloh.

Abner Monroe Perrin, BGen CSA (1827-1864) – A brigade commander at Spotsylvania, before the battle Perrin is said to have declared: "I shall come out of this fight a live major general or a dead brigadier." He was killed in the Bloody Angle, and buried in the City Cemetery in Fredericksburg.

Feb 3 Joseph Eggleston Johnston, Gen CSA (1807-1891) – A classmate of R.E. Lee's at West Point. Johnston was the senior US Army officer to join the Confederate Army – before the war he was quartermaster general with the staff rank of BGen. Ranked fourth in seniority among the Confederate full generals. Served in the US House of Representatives from Virginia, 1879-1881. Died of pneumonia, supposedly contracted by standing hatless in the rain at Sherman's funeral. Buried in Green Mount Cemetery, Baltimore.

Nathan George Evans, BGen CSA (1824-1868) - At First Manassas, "Shanks" Evans' 7th Brigade of Beauregard's Army of the Potomac manned the extreme left of the Confederate line at the Stone Bridge. He detected McDowell's turning movement, redeployed to Matthew's Hill, and played a key role in delaying the Federal advance until reinforcements arrived. Brother-in-law of BGen M.W. Gary.

Feb 6 John Brown Gordon, MGen CSA (1832-1904) – Possessed powerful oratorical skills and was particularly adept at inspiring troops before a battle; but differed from most orators in that his actions outdid his exhortations. With no military experience before the war, Gordon rose to corps command. At Sharpsburg (Antietam) he was so severely wounded in the head that only a bullet hole in his hat prevented his drowning in his own blood as he lay on the ground unconscious. Became Lee's principal confidant during the winter of '64-'65.

James Ewell Brown Stuart, MGen CSA (1833-1864) – "Jeb" was the epitome of a Civil War cavalry commander. He was an unexcelled reconnaissance officer with a vast aptitude for analyzing intelligence reports. Stuart once said: "If we oppose force to force we cannot win, for their resources are greater than ours. We must substitute esprit for numbers. Therefore I strive to inculcate in my men the spirit of the chase." He twice led large cavalry reconnaissance operations completely around McClellan's army. Mortally wounded at Yellow Tavern. His father-in-law was Federal BGen Philip St. George Cooke and his brother-in-law was Confederate BGen John Rogers Cooke

William Dorsey Pender, MGen CSA (1834-1863) – Severely wounded while leading his division on the second day at Gettysburg, he died two weeks later after an amputation. At the time, he was one of the most outstanding of the young general officers of the Confederate army.

Feb 8 Richard Stoddard Ewell, LGen CSA (1817-1872) – Born in Georgetown, D.C.. Lost a leg at the battle of Brawner's Farm (Second Manassas). Commanded the 2nd Corps from Gettysburg to Spotsylvania, after which his health compelled his temporary retirement from active field duty. Captured at Saylor's Creek. He displayed an inability to transition from being a closely controlled division commander under Jackson to a corps commander under Lee's discretionary orders.

William Tecumseh Sherman, MGen USA (1820-1891) – When his father died (1829), he was taken in by Senator Thomas Ewing – whose daughter he later married. His 3rd Brigade of Tyler's Division suffered the highest number of killed (109) and wounded (252) of any Federal brigade at First Manassas. During the advance on Corinth, he convinced Grant not to submit his resignation. Became a LGen in 1866 and full General and commander-in-chief of the Army in 1869 (served in that capacity until 1883). He was the brother-in-law of BGens Charles and Hugh Ewing, and Bvt MGen Thomas Ewing, Jr.

Barnard Elliot Bee, Bgen CSA (1824-1861) – Commanded the 3rd Brigade of Johnston's Army of the Shenandoah at First Manassas where he fell mortally wounded soon after giving Jackson the sobriquet "Stonewall." Brother of BGen Hamilton P. Bee.

Feb 12 – Abraham Lincoln, Pres US (1809-1865)

Feb 14 – Winfield Scott Hancock, MGen USV (1824-1886) – One of twin brothers. Among the most charismatic and capable commanders of the Civil War. Closely associated with the vaunted II Corps. He led the 1st Division, II Corps, from Sharpsburg (Antietam) to Chancellorsville, and commanded the II Corps from Gettysburg until Nov of '64 (except while recovering from a Gettysburg wound). In July of 1864, Grant proposed to Lincoln the reassignment of Meade to command the Washington defenses, and the promotion of Hancock to command of the Army of the Potomac. Unsuccessful Democratic candidate for president in 1880 (lost to Garfield).

Feb 15 – Alexander Stuart Webb, Bvt MGen USV (1835-1911) -- At Gettysburg, commanded the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Div, II Corps, in the immediate vicinity of the "copse of trees" -- the primary objective of Pickett's charge.

Feb 17 – William Farrar Smith, MGen USV (1824-1903) – Although he had more hair than most men his age, he was given the nickname "Baldy" as a cadet at West Point because at that stage of his life his hair was thinner than normal. Smith was twice relieved of corps command: following Fredericksburg for his criticism of Burnside (VI Corps); and for his failure to seize the opportunity and attack the lightly defended Petersburg on June 15, 1864 – which might have shortened the war by nearly a year (XVIII Corps).

Feb 18 – Lewis Addison Armistead, BGen CSA (1817-1863) – Supposedly dismissed from West Point for breaking a mess hall plate over the head of Jubal Early. Mortally wounded while leading his brigade in Pickett's charge on the 3rd day at Gettysburg. Buried in St. Paul's Churchyard, Baltimore.

Feb 23 – Gilbert Moxley Sorrel, BGen CSA (1838-1901) – Was a member of Longstreet's staff from First Manassas until Longstreet's wounding at the Wilderness. In that battle, Sorrel led four brigades in a successful flank attack against the Federals from behind an unfinished railroad cut. Brother-in-law of BGen W.W. Mackall.

Feb 27 – William Buell Franklin, MGen USV (1823-1903) – Graduated first in the West Point class of 1843. While on sick leave, his train was captured by Early on 11 July 864, but he escaped the next night.

BRCWRT UPCOMING EVENTS

EXHIBITS

Ongoing – MEDICAL EXHIBIT. New exhibit "Every Kind of Wound and Disease – The Confederate Medical Department." Hospitalization methods during the war, advancements in medicine, and reality of death and disease. Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond. (804) 649-1861.

Thru Oct 99. FORAGE CAPS AND FEATHERED HATS: HEADGEAR OF THE CIVIL WAR. Free exhibit of Union and Confederate headgear for officers and enlisted men. Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, Alexandria, (703) 838-4848.

LECTURES

20 Feb – Living historian Linda Thomas will present "The Black Abolitionist Movement" at Germanna Community College in Locust Grove. 7-9pm.

TOURS

20 Feb – Guided walking tour of the Bloody Angle, Spotsylvania Battlefield, led by Lee Ann Williams. 2-3:30pm. Meet at NPS Tour Stop #14: Bloody Angle. (540) 972-9954.

27 Mar – BRCWRT tour of Civil War Arlington National Cemetery. Details will follow.

Mike Duggan

Quotable Quotes

"Beginning with the group that met in Chicago in 1940, the discussion groups we know as round tables have involved learning, good fellowship, and preservation focusing on the Civil War. The Civil War round tables have been in the forefront in enhancing our understanding and appreciation of the Civil War - the single most important experience that helped frame our national identity - and in maintaining the substance of this heritage."

Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus, National Park Service

Mark your calendar for our May meeting, when we will have "the dean of the civil war battlefield", Ed Bearss speak on the battle of Chickamauga. Ed is so popular, its best to get there early to grab a seat. In honor of Ed and his sweet tooth, 2 of his youngest fans plan on baking something from the Lee Family Cookbook. If you get a chance check out 10 year old Lisa's Civil War Page for Kids:

[Http://members.aol.com/brcwrt5/lisa.htm](http://members.aol.com/brcwrt5/lisa.htm)

Photos below of 5 year old Rachel Gauna with Ed Bearss during a battlefield tour of Manassas. The tour was sponsored by The Civil War Trust. Proof that you're never too young to enjoy history! (photos by Ann Collins)



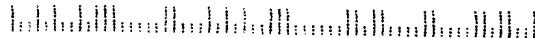
**BULL RUN
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

*P.O. Box 196
Centreville, VA 20122*



exp. Dec:99
Michael E. Duggan
5531 Winford Court
Fairfax, VA 22032

22032-4016 33



1999 Membership Dues Renewal!

Membership in the Bull Run Civil War Round Table runs from January to December.

Family \$25 Individual \$15 Student \$10

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to Bull Run civil War Round Table. Drop it off at the membership table, or mail to the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, 169 Applegate Drive, Sterling, VA 20164