STONEWALL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



William Garrett Piston

LEE'S TARNISHED LIEUTENANT

James Longstreet and His Place in Southern History

April 8, 1999, 7:30 PM Fairfax County Government Center In the late eighties, Robert C. Thomas was halfway through a book when he became so infuriated, so incensed, he nearly threw the book across the room. The cause of this rage was he had finally, after years of hearing false statements and misperceptions, learned the truth about one of the Confederacy's commanders. That book was Lee's Tarnished Lieutenant: James Longstreet and His Place in Southern History and its author was William Garrett Piston. This book became the inspiration for the General James Longstreet Memorial Fund and what eventually became the Longstreet Memorial at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Reconstructing the military career of one of the Confederacy's most competent but also one of its most vilified corps commanders, *Lee's Tarnished Lieutenant* examines how James Longstreet became, in the years after Appomattox, the Judas of the Lost Cause, the scapegoat for Lee's and the South's defeat. Based on primary sources, the book contributes a reappraisal of Longstreet's military career and analyzes why southerners condemned him to historical purgatory. Piston sets the record straight on Longstreet's behalf as he describes the origins and uses of reputations in the overheated atmosphere in which ex-Confederates produced their history.

William Garrett Piston's other works include Carter's Raid: An Episode of the Civil War in East Tennessee, Kansan's at Wilson's Creek, Soldiers' Letters from the Campaign for Southwest Missouri, and most recently, two articles in the anthology James Longstreet: The Man, the Soldier, the Controversy. An article on the Missouri State Guard appears in the April edition of North and South magazine. His book Wilson's Creek: The Second Battle of the Civil War and the Men Who Fought It will be published by the University of North Carolina Press in November. Professor of history at Southwest Missouri State University, he teaches military history, the Civil War and Reconstruction. He has received awards for excellence in scholarship from the Center for Military History, the DAR, the UDC and the SCV.

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

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The **Stonewall** is published monthy by the Bull Run Civil War Roundtable. Submissions are welcome. Contact Karen Fojt, 330-1965.

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table meets the second Thursday of the month at the Fairfax County Government Center, 7:30 PM. OUR Website is:

http://members.aol.com/brcwrt



Greetings Members and Friends,

I would first like to apologize to every member present at the last membership meeting for the disruption during Preservation Chairman John McAnaw's address. The purchase of the shirts and hats with the Bull Run Civil War Round Table logo on them was discussed at three executive committee meetings and was then voted on unanimously by that committee. We were, however, misinformed as to our nonprofit status when that vote was conducted, and the issue was brought up before you, the general membership. Upon further review, and based upon our tax status (see Treasurer Mark Knowles address in this issue) we have decided to make the shirts and hats available to the members at cost. Once all shirts and hats are sold, we will make the second order if demand warrants it. The logo now appears on our web site. I would personally like to thank Bob Ford and Mark Knowles for their great teamwork toward getting this project done right.

Our speaker and topic this month is something that I have wanted to share with this organization since I joined in 1995. His story is not one of battles and casualties, but the story of how and why history is altered for individual reasons. It is not only significant to my family for obvious reasons, but to everyone who wants a better understanding of how history is written. It is not a story that puts General Longstreet on a pedestal by any means but a story of truth. As the general himself stated, "Error lives but a day, truth is eternal." As it turned out, unfortunately, error lived for almost 135 years culminating with the equestrian monument of General Longstreet being dedicated July 3rd, 1998. If Dr. Piston's presentation if half as good as his keynote speech was at that event, we will all be in for a real lesson and an historical treat! See you at the meeting!

Dan Paterson. President

TREASURER'S REPORT

Good evening,

As mankind moves forward into the new Millennium, so too shall the B.R.C.W.R.T. Over the past couple of years the Board of Directors has tried to position the Round Table in a fashion that will allow the organization to grow & benefit from the changes in technology & environment.

As the growth of the Internet and the accessibility to it became easier & more cost effective. the Round Table wanted to be a part of it. Through no small effort on behalf of Charlie Grymes our original Webmaster, & Ann Collins our current Webmaster, they developed a Web site that described our organization through vords, photographs & animation. This site has been designated as the "Civil War Interactive 3 Star Site" & was awarded the "Outstanding Site Award" from our peers within the Civil War community. From Charlie & Ann's efforts, the exposure of the Round Table to the public has resulted in an encouraging growth trend in new memberships.

While the growth in membership, the interest in studying the American Civil War, and our active touring schedule has caused our organization to reach new Plateau's, our Round Table is no longer a "Mom & Pop" operation.

As we all know, during any growth phase there are bound to be some growing pains. The officers of the Board have tried to minimize these pains while ensuring the Quality of our programs and the safety of our organization & its members has not been compromised.

The 1997 Board of Directors passed a resolution authorizing the incorporation of the B.R.C.W.R.T. As of 1/13/98, the Round Table became Incorporated in the State of Virginia as a non stock corporation. After incorporating, the Round Table applied for & received its EIN [Employee Identification Number]. Now that we are incorporated, the organization is responsible for filing Federal & State tax returns. This will be the first year [Tax year 1998] that the Round Table will be filing tax returns.

In order to complete the tax returns & provide an easily understood audit trail for the organization, I have changed. The method of accounting from an 'Incurred' reporting structure to a 'Cash Basis' structure. This means that the Income & Expense records will be based on the monthly bank statement. The result of this change will cause a \$115.32 Net loss to be reported for 1998, instead of a \$12.47 Net Gain previously reported. Most of the 1998 Tax year loss is attributed to the Prince William County - Ben Lomond donation [\$250] that was incurred in 1997, but did not clear the bank until 1/98. The financial health of the organization is good & should remain that way through 1999 with continued membership growth.

Side note: The Board of Directors discussed making the organization tax exempt for fund raising purposes, but decided not to pursue tax exempt status at this time. The Board felt that the \$500 tax exempt filing fee the organization would qualify for [This would cover a four year period & would have to be renew every four years], would force the Round Table to hold mandatory fund raising activities to cover the filing fee. The current Board felt this wasn't feasible, nor was it the direction they wanted to take the organization.

The Board of Directors would like to thank all our members for their patience & support over the years, and we look forward to continue providing you with excellent speaker & touring programs that have become the trademark of The Bull Run Civil War Round Table.

Should you have any questions, or would like to review the financial reports of the Round Table, you are welcome to stop by and see me during the membership meeting or you can give me a call at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Knowles Treasurer

MARCHING ORDERS for the Roundtable Tour

TOUR OF CIVIL WAR CENTREVILLE, UNION MILLS AND VICINITY Saturday, April 24, 8 AM

The BRCWRT tour of Civil War sites covering the vicinity of Centreville and Union Mills is unique; no other tour covers the range of historical sites as ours. Some of these locations are not open to the public and are rarely visited. The objectives of the tour are to acquaint participants with:

- Strategic importance of the area to the Union and Confederate armies.
- Significant events in the area during the war.
- Impact of the war on the people, economy and physical environment.
- The 1861-62 Confederate defense lines protecting Centreville/Union Mills.
- Union fortifications in Centreville/Union Mills.
- Other important Civil War sites.
- Surviving historical sites, including those threatened by development. (See Preservation column.

Meet Saturday, April 24, 8 AM at St. Andrews Roman Catholic Church parking lot at Union Mill and Compton Roads, Clifton.

Depart 8:10 A.M. Vehicle convoy.

Personal items & lunch Bring own water and lunch and dress appropriate to weather conditions.

Sign-up deadline Sign up sheets will be at the meeting. Or telephone John at 703.978.3371.

Contact John McAnaw, for more info call him at 703.978.3371.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EXHIBITS

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.

10-11 Apr – 27th Annual Civil War Memorabilia, Relic, Book, Art, and Antique Weapons Show at Capital Expo Center, Chantilly. Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm. Northern Virginia Relic Hunters Assn. (703) 823-1958.

29 May – Luminary honoring the 15,300 buried in Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 8pm-11pm. (540) 373-6122. *HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!!!!!*

LECTURES

- **9 Apr** Talk by Wanda S. Dowell, director of Fort Ward Museum, on "Women in Civil War Alexandria." Location: Washington Street United Methodist Church, Alexandria. 8pm; fee: \$5. (703) 838-4848.
- **10 Apr** "Union Drummer Boy: Children in the Civil War." Presentation by Joe Hirsh about drummer boys, their duties and experiences, games and music. At the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. (301) 695-1864.
- **11 Apr** Talk about the Louisiana Tigers by Jim Gannon. Stonewall Jackson Museum at Hupp's Hill, Strasburg. 3pm. (540) 465-5884.
- **16 Apr** "Hospital Sketches: Medical Care in Civil War Alexandria." Talk by Dr. W. Burns Jones at the Washington Street United Methodist Church, Alexandria. 8pm; fee: \$5. (703) 838-4848.
- 23 Apr "Alexandria's Own: 17th Virginia Volunteer Infantry" talk by T. Michael Miller, at the Washington Street United Methodist Church, Alexandria. 8pm; fee: \$5. (703) 838-4848.
- **7 May** "A Pictorial Heritage of Alexandria's Union Occupation and Defense" talk by Walton H. Owen at the Washington Street United Methodist Church, Alexandria. 8pm; fee: \$5. (703) 838-4848.
- **15 May** "Music and Medicine in the Civil War" at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick, MD. 10am-2pm. Presentation by George Wunderlich about music's role in medical care during the war. (301) 695-1864.

TOURS

26 Apr - BRCWRT Centerville Union Mills tour.

May – Car caravan guided tour of Chancellorsville Battlefield, 10:30am-12:30pm. Sponsored by the Friends of the Fredericksburg Area Battlefields, led by NPS historian Lee Ann Williams. Start at at the Chancellorsville Visitor's Center. Park entrance fee required. (540) 972-9954.

LIVING HISTORY

- **17-18 Apr** "In the Trenches" living history program with the 5th (Pridgeon's) Battalion at Stonewall Jackson Museum at Hupp's Hill, Strasburg. Proceeds benefit archaeological interpretation of the site which has 1864 infantry and artillery trenches. (540) 465-5884.
- **18 Apr** "The Life of the Civil War Soldier" at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick, MD; 11am-3pm. Presentation by living history company members including recruiting, camp life, hospitals. (301) 695-1864.
- **1-2 May** "Jubal Early's Raid on Washington 1864." Living history programs at Monocacy National Battlefield, Frederick, MD. (301) 662-3515.
- **8 May** 135th Anniversary of the Battle of the Wilderness, tentatively scheduled at historic Wilderness Baptist Church one mile west of the Chancellorsville Visitor's Center. 9am-4pm. (no info number available)
- 29-30 May Living history and encampment at Mt Gilead in Centerville. Camps open 10am-5pm both days. Civil War wagon display, Union and Confederate infantry, artillery, and cavalry. Cooking, camp life, hospital demonstrations, children's recruiting station and drill instruction. Tours of Mt Gilead house, Confederate HQs on Braddock Rd across from St John's Episcopal Church. (no info number available)

REENACTMENTS

- 1-2 May McDowell Battlefield Days at McDowell, Highland County. Regiment versus regiment reenactment of the first victory in Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign. Crafts and activities, lectures, period church service, horse drawn wagon tours of the camps, author's book signings. (540) 468-2250.
- 8-9 May "First Blood" 3rd annual reenactment of the first skirmish of the war in Fairfax. Battle scenarios both days at Van Dyck Park, Fairfax City. Mock court-martial at historic Fairfax Court House. (703) 273-6130. 15-16 May 135th anniversary Battle of New Market on the original battlefield. New battle scenario in addition to historically correct reenactment. Living history both days at New Market Battlefield State Historical Park and town of New Market. (540) 740-3212.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 --Simon Bolivar Buckner, LGen CSA (1823-1914) After declining a commission as brigadier in the Union Army in Aug, he was appointed brigadier general in the Confederate Army, Sep '61. He was the last survivor of the three highest grades in the Confederate Army. His son, LGen Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., USA, was killed in Okinawa in 1945.
- **2** --Henry Lewis Benning, BGen CSA (1814-1875) "Old Rock commanded a bde under Hood at Gettysburg, Knoxville, and Chickamauga, and at the Wilderness under Field. His nickname attested to his soldierly qualities.
- --Thomas Howard Ruger, Bvt MGen USV (1833-1907) Graduated third in the West Point class of 1854. Following the war he reverted to the rank of Colonel in the regular Army, was promoted to BGen in 1886, and MGen in 1895.
- **6** --Charles William Field, MGen CSA (1828-1892) Commanded Hood's Division from Feb '64 to Appomattox. Buried in Loudin Park Cemetery, Baltimore.
- 10 --Leonidas Polk, LGen CSA (1806-1864) Episcopal Bishop and close personal friend of Jefferson Davis. During the Atlanta Campaign, at Pine Mountain, near Marietta, Polk was killed by a cannon shot while examining the Federal position in the company of Generals Johnston and Hardee. Polk was an uncle of Confederate BGen Lucius E. Polk.
- --Lewis Wallace, MGen USV (1827-1905) His father was a governor of Indiana, In 1865 Wallace was a member of the military commission which tried the Lincoln conspirators, and he was president of the court-martial which tried and condemned Henry Wirz, commandant at Andersonville. Wallace authored Ben Hur: A Tale of the Christ (1880) -- written while he was serving as the Governor of New Mexico.
- --Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb, BGen CSA (1823-1862) A lawyer, he was one of the most potent forces in taking Georgia out of the Union. He bled to death in a field hospital from a leg wound received while defending the sunken road at Fredericksburg. Brother of Confederate MGen Howell Cobb.
- --David McMurtrie Gregg, Bvt MGen USV (1833-1916) Distinguished cavalry division commander under Stoneman, Pleasonton, and Sheridan. Gregg abruptly and unexpectedly resigned from service in Feb '65. First cousin of Andrew Gregg Curtin, Civil War governor of Pennsylvania.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS CONTINUED:









(PICTURES OF GRANT, BENNING, BUCKNER AND DEARING, COURTSEY OF GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE CIVIL WAR ON THE WEB AT: http://people.delphi.com/yatsuo/go_main.htm)

- 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 Zouaves (11th New York) He was killed in May '61, by James T. Jackson, proprietor of the Marshall House Tavern in Alexandria, after renoving a Confederate flag from the roof of that building.
- 13 -- Leroy Augustus Stafford, BGen CSA (1822-1864) Came from La. with Richard Taylor. Commanded a regt. and then a bde in the East until he was mortally wounded on the first day in the Wilderness.
- **16** -- Edward Johnson, MGen CSA (1816-1873) "Old Allegheny" was captured at the "Bloody Angle" at Spotsylvania, and exchanged a short time later. He was again captured at Nashville.
- -- Orlando Bolivar Willcox, Bvt MGen USA (1823-1907) At First Manassas Willcox was wounded and captured while in command of a brigade of Heintzelman's division; he remained a prisoner for more that a year. Commanded a division of the IX Corps, and sometimes the Corps itself, at Sharpsburg (Antictam), Fredericksburg, Knoxville, and during Grant's Overland campaign in '64. Appointed Colonel in the regular army on 1866, and promoted to BGen in 1886.
- 20 -- John Gibbon, MGen 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 BGen in 1885. Led the relief column to the Little Big Horn in 1876.
- 25 -- James Dearing, BGen CSA (1840-1865) Resigned from West Point in Apr '61, 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. -- John Wilkes Booth, Assassin (1836-1865)
- 27 -- Ulysses Simpson Grant, LGen USA (1822-1885) Baptized Hiram Ulysses; however, upon his admission to West Pount he was reported by the Congressman who had authored his appointment as Ulysses Simpson, Simpson being his mother's maiden name. Was appointed MGen in the regular army for his victory at Vicksburg, LGen in Mar '64, and full General in 1866. Elected eighteenth President of the US in 1868. In 1884 he lost his entire savings in a business venture and was reduced to a state of poverty. Completed his memoirs a few days before his death. Brother-in-law of Bvt BGen USA Frederick Dent.
- **29** -- Abram Duryee, BVt MGen USV (1815-1890) Recruited a regt. of volunteers, 5th NY, which became known as Duryee's Zouaves. Was wounded twice while commanding a brigade during the Second Manassas campaign. Later, following a 30-day leave, he returned to duty to find a junior officer, John Gibbon, had been promoted over him to division comand. Unable to obtain satisfaction through official channels, Duryee resigned his commission in Jan, 63.

Preservation Corner Threatened Centreville Earthworks

If you not already done so, please write or fax the following members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors regarding the preservation of the threatened earthworks in Centreville:

Chairman Katherine K. Hanley

12000 Govt. Ctr. Pky, Ste. 530 Fairfax, VA 22035-0071 Fax 703-324-3955

Supervisor Michael R. Frey

Sully District, Ft. Hill Bldg. 5900 Centreville Rd., Ste. 205 Centreville, VA 22020 Fax 703-803-9216

Below is the petition prepared by Centreville residents living near the earthworks who are concerned preservationists. This material, plus past articles in our newsletter, will provide you enough information to write a knowledgeable letter on the subject. Please write the individuals cited above, as this is an important and significant piece of ground that should be preserved. We must show them how important these earthworks are to us and to the Civil War community.

We, the undersigned, urgently pelition the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor to take the necessary action to stop the development of a 14.33-acre tract, named Deerfield Ridge, that is located on the east side of Old Centreville Road at its intersection with Centreville Road (Route 28). According to the County staff report, dated 13 May 1998, the proposed townhouse development by Centex Homes is on Parcels 54-4(1)76(1)9. This site is located in an area that is already densely populated and lacking in accessible parks or green space for residents. The proposed Deerfield Ridge development will result in an unacceptably high increase in vehicular traffic and further, this traffic will Markedly increase the risk of accidents to the many children and other pedestrians living in the area. The County hearings on the cited Deerfield Ridge development (Application RZ/FDP 1997-SU 057) failed to address the great historical importance of the Civil War earthworks, used by both the Union and Confederate soldiers, on the 14.33 acre site. The County staff report, dated 13 May 1998, mentioned only one trench. A number of distinguished Civil War Historians have stated that these extensive earthworks should be preserved, including Chief

Historian Emeritus of the NPS, Edwin C. Bearss, and GMU professor Dr. Joesph L. Harsh.

In conclusion, we urgently petition the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to take the necessary steps to convert the cited 14.33 acre tract, known as the proposed site of the Deerfield Ridge development, to a county park, thus preserving the nationally important and priceless Civil War earthworks on that site, providing the citizens of the densely populated area with a badly needed green space.

For members that subscribe to the Civil War News, please see the article by Deborah Fitts on the Centreville Earthworks in the most recent issue on page 63, column 2 of the April 1999 edition. Thanks to Deborah for her support and for showing the Civil War Community how the BRCWRT supports preservation.

The Proposed Telecommunications Tower

The following is a letter from BRCWRT Preservation Chairman, John P. McAnaw to the members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors dated 22 March 1999.

I expressed my opposition to the proposed telecommunications tower, planned for construction on the Luck Stone Quarry property vicinity of the intersection of US Hwy 29 and Bull Run Post Office Road, at the public hearing on 8 March 1999. I stated that the proposed tower would, if constructed, adversely affect the historic view shed from various locations within the Manassas National Battlefield Park. Of note, the MNBP, located in both Prince William and Fairfax Counties, draws over 1 million visitors per year.

I stated that this intrusion was in contravention to policy contained in the County Comprehensive Plan and in congressional legislation passed in 1988 relative to the taking of the Williams Center Tract (now part of the MNBP). Another speaker spoke in error when he remarked that scenic preservation of views, addressed in the 1988 legislation, pertained only to the incorporated Williams Center Tract and not to the entire Manassas National Battlefield Park.

Permit me to cite information that corroborates my position:

1. Verbatim excerpts of the Planning Commission Meeting on 13 January 1999, pgs. 2-3:

"Mr. Michael Hines: In the staff report, as one of the appendices to the staff report, yellow cover, there is a 2232 or 456 memo. We site Objective 43 of the Policy plan which talks about locating mobile land based wireless telecommunications cell networks facilities, etc. Then we reference down to policy D which states: Place telecommunications facilities to ensure that historically significant landscapes are protected and that views of and vistas from architecturally and/or historically significant structures should not be impaired or diminished by the placement of telecommunications facilities.

Section 10003 (a) (2) Public Law 100-647, 2d Session, Title X, Manassas National Battlefield Park states as follows:

"The Secretary shall cooperate with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the political subdivisions thereof, and other parties as designated by the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions in order to promote and achieve scenic preservation of views from within the park through zoning and such other means as the parties determine feasible." Regarding the above, it is clear that the term "promote and achieve scenic preservation of views from within the park" pertains not only to the incorporated Williams Center Tract but also to the entire Manassas National Battlefield Park. In summary, I urge you to disapprove SE-Y-058.

Very Respectfully Submitted,

John P. McAnaw

BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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exp. Dec:99 Kevin Anastas 6306 Drill Field Court Centreville, VA 20121

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