



THE STONEWALL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BULL RUN CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
DECEMBER 1999

Stuart's Folly: The Battle of Dranesville **Pennsylvania Reserves Whip Stuart!**

In December of 1861, General JEB Stuart hoped to gain glory by gathering in the rich food supply at Dranesville (Near modern day Reston). Stuart Marched out of Centreville with 1,600 infantry, 150 cavalry, a four gun battery and "every available supply wagon in the army." Unknown to Stuart, Union General George McCall sent his Pennsylvania Reserves to Dranesville to gather in the same food supplies from the rich farmland of the area. The resulting meeting engagement would prove to be an embarrassment to Stuart. This December, BRCWRT will get the scoop on this little known engagement from:

Mike Henry, Historian
Colvin Run Mill
Fairfax County Park Authority

Date: Thursday, December 9, 1999, 7:30 PM

Location: Centreville Library

14200 Germaine Drive

Centreville, VA 20121

(703) 830-2223

Book Raffle Prizes:

"The War Years With Jeb Stuart." by William W. Blackford

"I Rode with Jeb Stuart" by Henry B. McClellan

"Guns for Cotton: England and the Confederacy" by Thomas Boaz

President's Letter

Dear Members:

The arrival of December 1999 brings us to another Christmas Season and the end of another year. Having listened to hundreds of politicians, pundits and philosophers exalt, analyze and pontificate on the new millennium, I'll spare you any further year 2000 retrospectives or Y2K premonitions. Instead, I would like to invite you all to hear our guest speaker, Mike Henry of the Fairfax County Park Authority, enlighten us all on the battle of Dranesville, a battle fought right in our own backyard.

Secondly, just when we thought that American Society could stoop no lower, Americans have once again, proved us wrong. Recently, vandals, supposedly an organized cult, have irreparably damaged monuments at Vicksburg and Gettysburg. I am told that they poured a substance on white marble monuments that turns them black permanently. The day prior to this writing, I was informed that this group struck at Manassas. As the story goes, the cult poured this substance on gravestones and memorials in the Groveton Confederate Cemetery. Given the realities of security costs and limitations, it is impossible to provide full time protection to all historical and cultural sites. Yet for the first two centuries of this country's existance, the inherent pride and respect of American citizens would have made such occurrences almost unthinkable. I guess there are just too many people who have no respect for anything. Their number must only be exceeded by those folks who whitewash vandalism by saying "boys will be boys" or like rationalizations.

The arrival of December also means that it is time to renew your membership with Bull Run Civil War Round Table. Right now

things are going well. The American Military University of Manassas has agreed to provide photocopying services for the news letter. Special thanks go to member Scott Cason, a native of the Buckeye State, for setting-up this arrangement. Currently, dues are \$15 per year per for individual memberships and \$25 for family. In the nine years of Bull Run Civil War Round Table's existence dues have never been raised--So please, renew ASAP.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and joyful holiday season. See you Thursday. Remember we're at Centreville Library now.

Yours in the cause,

Scott C. Patchan

COMMANDERS AT DRANESVILLE



Genl JEB Stuart



Genl Edward Ord

THE HICKSFORD OR "APPLEJACK RAID" BUS TOUR

The Petersburg National Battlefield Park is sponsoring an all-day bus tour on Saturday, 11 December 1999, commemorating the 135th anniversary of the Union (V Corps) raid from Petersburg to Hicksford (present day Emporia). Tour will depart from the park's Visitor Center off Route 36 at 8:00 a.m. and return at approximately 5:00 p.m. Cost per person is \$25.00 and includes a running narrative by a park historian, a copy of the publication, "The Hicksford Raid" by Raymond W. Watkins (remember him at the Center?), lunch, and visits to various historic sites along the way. Tickets may be obtained at the park's Visitor Center or with credit card by calling (804) 732-6094.

PRESERVATION CORNER

John P. McAnaw

UPDATE ON THE THREATENED CENTREVILLE EARTHWORKS

For the benefit of new members and old members with short memories, permit me to provide a little background information. The threatened earthworks are located on a 14.33 acre wooded tract that is bordered on the west/northwest by the Old Centreville Road; on the north by townhouses located west of Braddock Creek Road; on the east/southeast by townhouses west of Little Rocky Run Circle; and, on the south/southwest by townhouses north of Sunset Ridge Drive.

There are two lines of earthworks, running generally north-south on the tract. Both are over 100 yards in length. The eastern earthworks is the more impressive of the two. It is part of the main Confederate defense line that was constructed during the Fall-Winter of 1861-1862 to protect Confederate forces in and around Centreville and, also importantly, Manassas Junction. Roughly 100 yards to the west is a line of breastworks constructed, very probably, by Union troops in either 1862 or 1863.

Cited tract is owned by CENTEX Homes. According to regional CENTEX president, Bob Davis, 126 townhouses will be built on this property. Construction was originally slated to begin by mid-September 1999. According to area residents, work on the townhouse development, to be called Deerfield Ridge, had not begun as of 30 November 1999. However, the commencement of land mauling on this tract could begin any day.

Through the efforts of many BRCWRT members, supported by a number of other Civil War preservationists, at least 80-85% of the earthworks on the main Confederate line will be saved. Unfortunately, according to Michael Hummel, CENTEX project manager, the 100+ yards of Union breastworks will be destroyed.

The construction of the Deerfield Ridge development is slated to occur in two phases:

Phase I Dec 1999 (?) - Jul 2000 - Western half (including the destruction of the Union breastworks)

Phase II Aug 2000 (?) - Eastern half (including destruction of 15-20% of the Confederate earth-works)

The speed of townhouse construction will be dependent on demand.

The commencement of Phase II could begin by August 2000. Over 500 Virginians, most of them Centreville residents, indicated their opposition to land use practices in Sully District and the lack of political interest in protecting valuable historic sites, by signing petitions. These petitions called for the creation of a 14.33 acre County park and the protection of the earthworks on the Deerfield Ridge development site.

The BRCWRT will continue its fight, despite the daunting odds, to save the eastern half (including the Confederate earthworks) of 14.33 acre tract from development

**CONTINUATION OF THE
STONE HOUSE INTERSECTION CONTROVERSY**

John P. McAnaw

A copy of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), dated April 1998, concerning the construction projects at the U.S. Highway 29 and Route 234 Intersection, aka the Stone House Intersection, is included in this issue for your careful review. It will be an invaluable reference regarding future articles on controversial plans by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to widen U.S. Highway 29 vicinity the Stone House Intersection by adding turn lanes, etc.

Per the unanimous vote of the General Membership in 1997, the BRCWRT is opposed to so-called "improvements" at the Stone House Intersection. This remains the position of our Round Table. Several BRCWRT officers were advised, post facto, of some of the provisions of original (and unsigned) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of November 1998. They "noted" these provisions after the fact, but also reiterated the Round Table's opposition to planned "improvements" at cited intersection.

IMPORTANT!

PRESERVATIONIST ORGANIZATIONS COMBINE FORCES

John P. McAnaw

On Tuesday, 23 November 1999, I attended a news conference in the Buchanan Room of the historic Willard Hotel (remember Antonia Ford?) in Washington, DC. The purpose of the gathering was to announce the merger of two prominent Civil War battlefield preservation organizations -- the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS) and The Civil War Trust. The board of both organizations, representing 40,000 members, unanimously voted to merge on 12 November 1999.

The new organization is called the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT). The President of the CWPT is O. James Lighthizer. He is a former Maryland legislator and executive of Anne Arundel County. He also served as State Secretary of Transportation. Mr. Lighthizer is credited with a program that, through the use of the enhancement provision of a Federal Transportation bill (ISTEA), has saved more than 4,500 acres of Civil War battlefield land in Maryland. His program is the national model for the use of ISTEA and TER-21 funds by preservationists.

A well-known Northern Virginian, Carrington Williams, is the Chairman of the Board of the CWPT. His background includes 10 years in the Virginia House of Delegates, eight years as Director and Planning Chairman of the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority, and overseas service in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Mr. Williams also was a trustee of the George Mason Foundation for 23 years. In 1997, Mr. Williams was elected chairman of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District Commission.

A key objective of the newly formed CWPT is to conduct a \$16 million fund raising campaign that will provide a 2 to 1 match for \$8 million available from Congress for Civil War battlefield preservation through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. The \$8 million challenge from the U.S. Government is good for only the next 18 months. Material provided at the 23 November 1999 news conference listed two addresses for the CWPT (the old APCWS and TCWT addresses):

Hagerstown, Maryland Address:

11 Public Square Suite 200

Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Phone: (301) 665-1400, FAX: (301) 665-1416, Web Site: <http://www.apcws.com>

Arlington, Virginia Address:

1515 Wilson Boulevard Suite 350

Arlington, Virginia 22209

Phone: (703) 682-2350 or 1-800-CWTRUST, FAX: (703) 682-2353, Web Site: <http://www/civilwar.org>

BOOK SIGNING AT CLIO'S IN LEESBURG

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1999 1:00-5:00 PM

Meet Jeffrey Wert, Joe Harsh, John Heatwole, Richard Duncan and other noted authors.
Sorry, but Gary Ecelbarger's book on General Lander will not be out in time for this event.
We extend our thanks to Clio's for donating two books for the December book raffle

THE AMERICAN MILITARY UNIVERSITY

**BRCWRT WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK SCOTT CASON
OF THE AMU IN MANASSAS FOR PROVIDING COPYING
SERVICES FOR OUR NEWSLETTER.**

American Military University is an accredited, licensed institution of higher education specializing in Civil War and military studies through distance learning. Operating as a private university since 1993, AMU's worldwide student body has grown to over 1,500 students and its graduate and undergraduate programs are offered through a distinguished faculty of over 100 professors.

The AMU administrative offices are located about 20 minutes southwest of Washington, DC at:
American Military University
9104-P Manassas Drive
Manassas Park, VA 20111

Check them out on the WEB: www.amunet.edu

THE TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS HERE!!!

In ten years, BRCWRT has never raised its dues. We have the cheapest dues in the metro area. **Please renew promptly.**

Individual \$15 Family \$25

Bring your checkbook to the December meeting or mail it to:

**BRCWRT
PO Box 196
Centreville, VA 20122**

**BULL RUN
CIVIL WAR
ROUND TABLE**

PO Box 196
Centreville, VA 20122

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

20121X1600 30

