

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

September 2005  
Volume 55, Number 1

### Generals In Bronze

In his delightful new book, **Generals in Bronze**, Bill Styleple has compiled the records of illustrator/sculptor James Kelly, who met with many of the generals after the war. Mr. Styleple discovered a treasure trove of 24 boxes of Kelly's interviews with more than 40 Civil War Generals. Mr. Styleple will be sharing some of those long lost interviews with us and discussing the insights they give us into these chieftains of the Civil War.

William Styleple is the town historian of Kearny, New Jersey, and the author and editor of many works on the Civil War, including **The Little Bugler** and **With a Flash of His Sword: The Writings of Major Holman S. Melcher, 20th Maine Infantry, Writing and Fighting the Civil War - Soldier Correspondence to the New York Sunday Mercury**, and a biography of Civil War General Philip Kearny. His most recent work is **Generals in Bronze**. Mr. Styleple also takes part in Civil War reenactments.

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### September 2005 Meeting

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, September 13, 2005	<b>Place:</b>	Officer's Club
<b>Price:</b>	Dinner \$28.00 per person. Lecture only \$5.00.		Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour: Cash Bar		
	7:00 pm Dinner: Prime Rib		(Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.)
			Cheesecake
	8:00 pm Speaker: William Styleple		
	Topic: Generals In Bronze		

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, September 7, 2005. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942  
Email: [restall@joimail.com](mailto:restall@joimail.com)

As the Round Table must pay for all meals ordered, members and guests are obligated to pay for the meal in the event they do not attend.

**PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE ON PAGE 2**

## Officers and Board of Governors for 2003-2004

President: Susan Claffey Home: 301-585-7917 Office: 202-654-2907 Email: sclaffey@americasblood.org	Vice President: Wendy Swanson Home: 703-536-5464 Office: 703-605-7123 Email: wendy.swanson@ssa.gov	Board Member: Robert L. Cantrell Home: 703-407-2636 Office: 703-682-4845 Email: rlc@centerforadvantage.com
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**M**embership in the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia is open to anyone interested in the study of the American Civil War or American history. Our program year runs from September through May of the following year. Dues are \$25.00 per year (\$12 if you join after January 31, 2006) and should be mailed with a membership application form (available on our web site or from the address below) to:

CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005

Checks should be made out to **The CWRT of DC**. Membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter which contains notice of dinner meeting dates, speakers, and topics; information on field trips, and various Civil War related articles. Dinner meetings are held from September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fort Leslie J. McNair Officer's Club in Washington, DC. Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

### Books Needed

**I**f you have some Civil War books you no longer need, please considered donating

them to our monthly book raffle. This is an easy way to share books with others.

### IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

**W**e have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

### Newsletter by Email

**T**his newsletter is now available by email as an alternative to US mail. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, please indicate so on your membership form. You may also request this by emailing the newsletter editor. The newsletter is also published on our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>.

The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

## President's Column by Susan Claffey

### The Edwin C. Bearss Preservation Award—What is it?

Each dinner meeting reservation form has a spot for a contribution to the *Edwin C. Bearss Award*. It occurred to me that we never really explained to you what we are asking you to contribute to and why. I hope to clear that up. *The Edwin C. Bearss Award is an annual gift given by the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia to a Civil War preservation cause of Ed Bearss' choosing.*

I think you all know Ed and I hope you know that we are privileged to call him a member of our Round Table. I know we don't see him much but that is because he is busy beating the drum to recruit folks to the cause of remembering the history of the Civil War and preserving its sites for the generations that will follow. *Also, do you know that Ed selflessly and, without compensation, speaks to our Round Table each program year and leads our annual field trip?* Well, he does. So, when we (your board) decided that this Round Table should be about more than just "talking" about the Civil War and we determined to make an annual award to Civil War preservation, we couldn't think of anyone more worthy to name our award after than Ed Bearss. So, we have the *Edwin C. Bearss Award*.

*What do we do with the contributions?* Good things. This past June, at Ed's birthday party, the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia gifted the award in the amount of \$1,000.00 to assist the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (GBPA) with their current project, restoration of the *Daniel Lady Farm in Gettysburg!*

The Daniel Lady Farm was the left flank of the ANV at Gettysburg, a Confederate HQ (Allegheny Johnson's Division was in bivouac there on July 1-2), and scene of some skirmishing on July 1, and July 2. Purchased in

1999, the Daniel Lady Farm was in horrific condition.. a 140 acre farm covered in construction left-overs, ancient calving pens, abandoned vehicles, and fences to split up the land into quarter acre pens for the deer that were raised there. The barn was overloaded with tons of old hay and dried manure. The house, built in 1840, needed new water and heating, a new roof, and most of the exterior required restoration. The inside of the house was a mess too.

The GBPA set about making the repairs as money became available. A little bit here, a little there. Over 60 industrial dumpsters were filled and removed. Soon the Lady Farm was a gorgeous farmstead again and the community was talking about it in a positive light. The roof was restored with cedar shakes and some temporary repairs were made on the porch using state and Federal grants. Rafters in the attic, with holes in them from Union artillery shells, were braced with new lumber to provide support—preserved rather than discarded. The front entrance and parlor got new plaster. That parlor still has blood stains on the floor from use as a field hospital and the house is still in much need of more tender-loving care.

I could go on but you get the picture and I hope you also understand how valuable our gift is to this farm and its future. The GBPA is trying to develop new funding sources, but donations such as ours are what keeps the ball rolling. The GBPA was founded in 1959 by President Eisenhower, and TV personality Cliff Arquette (Charlie Weaver). The GBPA is a non-profit, completely volunteer organization. No members receive any compensation for serving the association. If you would like to learn more about the GBPA and the Daniel Lady Farm Project, visit their website at:

<http://www.gbpa.org/index.htm>

We have arranged a tour of the Lady Farm for the Round Table. That will allow you to see first hand how our gift is helping preserve this grand old farm. And Ed hasn't yet decided

on the recipient of this year's award, or if he has, he hasn't told us, but I know it will be a commendable one. The Round Table will make the award again at Ed's 83rd birthday party next June and we will be sure to keep you posted on it. *So, I hope you will contribute what you can, when you can.* There is so much to be done.

### **Tour of Daniel Lady Farm**

**T**his past June, the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia gifted \$1,000.00 to assist the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association with their restoration of the Daniel Lady Farm in Gettysburg! Ed Bearss has agreed to join us at the Lady Farm to give us a tour and to fill us in on the significance of the Lady Farm and its role in the battle of Gettysburg. This will allow you to see first hand how our Round Table's gift is helping to preserve this grand old farm.

The only day that Ed has available to do this is Monday, September 5, Labor Day. Interested participants need to make their own transportation arrangements to Gettysburg. The tour group will meet at the Gettysburg Visitor Center parking lot at 10:00 am. For further information, please contact Susan Claffey at 301-585-7917 (home), 202-654-2907 (office) or by email at [sclaffey@americasblood.org](mailto:sclaffey@americasblood.org).

### **In the Foot Steps of Little Phil**

by Susan Claffey

**T**his year our Round Table was all about Sheridan all of the time! In addition to our annual weekend field trip on June 11 and 12, we also hosted a day tour on Saturday, June 18, 2005. Both tours followed routes of General Philip Sheridan with the weekend trip focusing on Sheridan's 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign and the day tour tracking his Richmond Raid. Our peerless leader for the weekend campaign was the incomparable Ed Bearss and Marc Thompson tossed a gauntlet down with his lead of our raid on Richmond.

The weekend tour departed Ft. McNair at 0730 Saturday morning, June 10, under sunny skies but very muggy conditions. The troops prepared themselves for the hot, humid marches they knew were to come by wolfing down 3½ dozen Reeve's donuts! On the way to Harper's Ferry, Ed recounted the spring of 1864 events in the Shenandoah Valley. Ulysses S. Grant's plan was to force Robert E. Lee to fight on two fronts---Petersburg and the Shenandoah. He set General Franz Sigel in motion with orders to "move up the valley" and destroy the Confederate rail center at Lynchburg. The Confederates victory at New Market led to Sigel's replacement by General "Black Dave" Hunter who resumed the offensive. Hunter was victorious at the Battle of the Piedmont and moved on to Lynchburg. This forced Lee to send General Jubal Early to Lynchburg where he defeated Hunter. Lee then ordered Early to clear the Shenandoah and menace Washington. Early's threat to Washington, Crook's defeat at 2nd Kernstown, and the burning of Chambersburg, forced Grant to move decisively to end the Confederate threat in the lower Shenandoah Valley. Grant's strategy was to return two corps to the Valley, reinforced by two divisions of cavalry, and to consolidate the various military districts of the region under General Philip Sheridan. Sheridan assumed command of the Middle Military District at Harpers Ferry where we began our tour. The stage was set for the 1864 Valley Campaign.

After Harper's Ferry, we moved on to the sites of various skirmishes and actions around Charles Town, Leetown and Berryville. Arriving in Winchester, Ed regaled us with the history of Union General Crook's defeat at the 2nd Battle of Kernstown and we visited the site of the most furious fighting---Pritchard Hill. A member of the Kernstown Battlefield Association (KBA) treated us to a special tour of the inside of the Pritchard House. The house is in need of substantial work but the KBA has high hopes of restoring it.

Next our hardy band traveled to the sites of the 3rd Battle of Winchester, the first climatic

battle of the Valley Campaign and, because of its size and intensity, the battle many consider to be the most significant fought in the Shenandoah. The “Bearss brigade” survived a sweaty mile long march and ford of Redbud Run to the scene of the heaviest fighting on the Hackwood Farm. Ed followed this by a tour of the remaining earthworks of Ft. Collier. Sheridan began to gain the upper hand on Early with his victory at 3rd Winchester.



Ed Bearss in action.

Now, the only obstacle between us and a shower was Fisher’s Hill. We arrived there about 4:30 p.m. and were grateful that the sun was no longer at its peak, bringing some small respite from the day’s heat and humidity. We gazed up the hill in dismay and then began our pursuit of Ed, who was charging up it as if it was the first thing we’d done all day! After his defeat in Winchester, Early had taken up a formidable position here and Sheridan soon followed. The Union managed to flank and route the Confederates and Early withdrew. We were delighted to do the same to our hotel in New Market for that much needed shower and dinner.

The next day dawned sunny, hot and humid and, after a hearty breakfast but before the morning haze had lifted, we hiked to the top of Shirley Hill and commenced our review of the battle of New Market. After describing the battle and the role of the VMI cadets, Ed took us to the VMI Hall of Valor for the film and a quick visit of the museum. It was then on to the

Bushong farmhouse and the “Field of Lost Shoes”.

Lunch was at the Old Mill Restaurant in Strasburg. The mill was spared destruction during the Civil War and still has some visible Union graffiti. Our next stop was the cavalry battle at Tom’s Brook. In October 1864, the Confederate cavalry was enraged by the Burning and, hoping to prevent further destruction, had been harassing Federal forces for a week. Sheridan ordered his cavalry to ‘whip or get whipped’ by the enemy. His cavalry found and routed the Confederate cavalry here and demoralized them for the rest of the campaign.

Then it was on to Cedar Creek where the Federals were surprised in their camps. Sheridan, in Winchester at the time of the attack, returned to the field and organized a furious counterattack. The Confederate’s stunning morning victory had turned into a devastating defeat by afternoon. After a tour of Belle Grove Manor, our weary but happy troops climbed on the bus for our return.



Marc Thompson’s tour group.

The next Saturday, June 18, we joined Marc Thompson for Sheridan’s May 1864 Richmond Raid. We had a beautiful, sunny day with comfortable humidity. On the way to Sheridan’s departure point from Aldrich’s Plantation near Fredericksburg, Marc provided us background on “the players” from both sides. He briefed us on how, since the Kilpatrick-Dahlgren raid on February 28-March 3, the Union cavalry had only provided flank protection for the Army of the Potomac, and that Sheridan was unhappy with this role

assigned to his horsemen by General George Meade. Sheridan won permission from General Grant to “cut loose” from the army, disrupt General Lee's road and rail communications, and draw the Confederate cavalry into a fight. This last task made Sheridan's objective in this raid fundamentally different than previous uses of the Federal cavalry because the focus was on meeting General J.E.B. Stuart in a “force on force” engagement in order to defeat the South's “Bold Dragoon.” Stuart was the objective but that fact escaped him.

From Aldrich's, Sheridan's three divisions of more than 10,000 troopers set out in a 13 mile long column of four down the Telegraph Road, as did we. Confederate cavalry harassed Sheridan's rear and resulted in a number of skirmishes. Our next stops were to visit the sites of the skirmishes at Jarrald's Mill and Mitchell's Shop. It was then on to Beaver Dam Station where Sheridan severed the Virginia Central Railroad and telegraph, destroyed an immense quantity of supplies destined for Lee's army and the depot too. They, and we, continued south toward Richmond. We made a stop at Sheridan's bivouac near Ground Squirrel bridge over the South Anna. Here, again, Confederate cavalry attacked their rear guard.

Stuart's 5,000 cavalymen galloped for two days in order to intercept Sheridan north of the Richmond defenses—at Yellow Tavern. Here the Confederate cavalry mounted a spirited and tenacious defense of their capitol, repulsing a series of Federal frontal assaults. General George Custer's brigade broke the Confederate center. Stuart rode up with part of the 1st Virginia Cavalry to repair the breach. As his cavalry counterattacked, Stuart was mortally wounded, dying the next day in Richmond. We toured the battleground and site of Stuart's wounding. Sadly, Yellow Tavern is badly preserved, suffering from heavy development and split by I-64.

Sheridan, had realized his objective of whipping the Confederate cavalry. Knowing

that he could not hold Richmond, he determined to obtain supplies from General Benjamin Butler's army before rejoining Grant. He started his column forward toward Seven Pines but a missed turn brought them inside the outer defenses of Richmond. They found themselves boxed in and threatened from all sides. We stopped at this location on Chickahominy Bluffs and then made our final stop at Meadow Bridge where Sheridan fought his way to escape. The tour now concluded, our happy band climbed on board our bus to return home.

### **Twilight at Little Round Top** **July 2, 1863—The Tide Turns at Gettysburg** by Glenn W. LaFantasie

A book review by Henry Rivera

**T**his is a multidimensional book. Most obviously, it is a recounting of the battle for Little Round Top, which most students of the Civil War know took place in the afternoon and early evening of the second day's fighting at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863. On another level, the book is about the men and units who fought there and what motivated them to fight and how they dealt with the carnage and death around them. Indeed, and unusual for a battle history, the author devotes an entire chapter to how Americans dealt with death in Victorian America and how they dealt with the violent deaths of their loved ones on some far-off battlefield in places they never heard of. Finally and most subtly, the author uses the Battle for Little Round Top as a microcosm of the entire War, particularly in analyzing why the men of both armies committed themselves to the extermination of their opponents.

I readily admit that I became interested in this part of the Battle of Gettysburg as a result of reading *Killer Angels*. Since reading that book many many years ago, I have become a student of the struggle for the Round Tops—I have walked the ground many times and have read many books and articles about it. This book is one of the most frustrating reports of the battle I have yet to encounter.

On the one hand, it is unquestionably one of the best accountings of the battle that I have read. The troop movements for both sides are well described and the author helps the reader follow individual units from the battle's beginnings to their eventual destiny at what he describes as: "...a small hill that was probably known by no formal name until a great battle—the Civil War's most costly—made it necessary to give it a name everyone could recognize, a name that had a ring to it and would stand the test of time." On the other hand, there are far too few maps. I counted seven in the entire text and only three that deal with the Battle for Little Round Top. The book would have benefited greatly from many more, taking advantage of the author's superb descriptions of the movements and engagements of the units involved.

The extensive use of quotes from the letters, articles and books of the men who fought the battle will make it obvious to all readers that the book is well-researched. Furthermore, the dust jacket says it "...is based on newly discovered documents as well as other rare firsthand sources—some of which were mined for the first time from the Oates Family Papers and other private collections—to reconstruct this decisive battle with dramatic intensity." The extensive bibliography is further evidence of the extent of the author's outstanding research.

One of the book's best features, as far as I am concerned, is its well-done index. This greatly facilitates being able to return to specific items that might be of interest now or, more importantly, as one takes the field for another important journey of discovery to walk the ground weeks and months after a first read.

Students of this particular part of the Battle of Gettysburg know that the testimony of those who fought there is sometimes contradictory. When such contradictions are apparent, the author does a nice job of sorting through this conflicting information to present a cogent and thorough account of what happened.

I found the book's treatment of William Oates, the commanding officer of the 15th Alabama to be very insightful. This is likely attributable to the author's access to the Oates Family Papers mentioned above. For example, light is shed on Oates' relationship with his brother John and with Barnett C. Cody, one of Oates' childhood friends, both were members of the 15th Alabama and both were killed in the fight for Little Round Top.

The book also contains new information, at least for me, about Lincoln. For example, the author states that Lincoln was not feeling well at Gettysburg. He says that after Lincoln gave his address at the dedication of the new Soldiers' National Cemetery, he attended a patriotic meeting held at the Presbyterian Church in Gettysburg. However, he left the building before the meeting was concluded to catch his train back to Washington. "A mild case of varioloid, a form of small pox, was making him ill."

I found the author's parsing of the Gettysburg Address in the Epilogue to be very interesting. He notes how Lincoln's mind was very much on the dead to be buried and he gives several examples of how Lincoln had personally come to know death in his own life. He then dissects the speech to explain how, in 272 words, Lincoln defined the meaning of the War.

In his effort to set the "mood" for the beginning of a chapter or underscore the mood he tried to set within a chapter, the author's prose sometimes becomes a little purple. I found this to detract from the solid work historical work that otherwise characterizes the volume.

A prospective reader should note that because of its multidimensional nature, which includes is broad scope, it is a very different kind of battle history. I found the technique enhanced the telling and, notwithstanding the shortcomings noted above, agree with Gary Gallagher, whose appraisal of the book appears on the dust jacket, that "All readers interested in the battle of Gettysburg will read this book with enjoyment and profit."



## 50 Years Ago

Clifford Dowdy was the speaker at the September 1955 meeting of the Round Table. His topic was "Richmond in War Times." That month also saw the tenth semi-annual field trip, which was a tour of Mosby's Country led by V. C. "Pat" Jones.

## 25 Years Ago

In September 1980, Howard C. Westwood opened the program year for the sixth successive year, and with his fifteenth talk to the Round Table. His topic was the planned pincers movement to capture Vicksburg, which didn't come to pass.

## Special Book Raffle

A copy of **Great Maps of the Civil War** has been donated to the Round Table for use as a fund raising raffle prize by the Rutledge Hill Press. This book has 32 removable replica maps from the Civil War, and a fascinating narrative to go with each map. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the dinner meetings, and the drawing will be held at the December meeting. For those who wish to forgo the blessings of Lady Luck, the book is available at local book stores.

## Staff Ride to Chancellorsville

The Army Historical Foundation is offering its members and others the opportunity to go on a staff ride conducted by an expert, former Chief of Military History and former President of AHF, BG (USA-Ret) Hal Nelson. If you haven't been on one before, you are in for a treat, an experience which will change how you read and think about Army history.

On Saturday, September 17, 2005, Hal Nelson will conduct a staff ride to Chancellorsville, a battlefield which looms large in Civil War history. The cost is \$60 (to defray costs, this is not a fundraiser) and includes

round trip transportation by bus, maps, box lunches and drinks.

For reservations or information, please contact Matt Seelinger at 703-522-7901, x23 or by email: [ahf@armyhistory.org](mailto:ahf@armyhistory.org)

Once they know who's coming, they'll give you more details, like directions to their assembly point. Because we will have only one leader and one bus, seating is limited, so we will take reservations in the order in which we receive them.

## Ed Bearss Presentation

National Park Service (NPS) Historian Emeritus, noted author and combat veteran of World War II, Edwin Cole Bearss, will present a lecture entitled, "2nd Lieutenant David Potts and the Battle of Second Manassas" on Wednesday, August 31, 2005 in the Sidney Yates Auditorium at the Department of the Interior (DOI) building at 1849 C Street, NW.

The lecture is free to the public and will begin at noon. It is being held in conjunction with the on-going exhibition in the DOI museum, "The Power of Context: National Park Service Museums at 100 Years." In the museum exhibit is the Model 1850 foot officer's sword carried by Lt. Potts at the Battle of Second Manassas. He is thought to have damaged the sword and scabbard when he fell in battle. The sword and scabbard, now in the NPS collection, was donated to Manassas National Battlefield Park in 1982 by his family, along with a photographic portrait of Potts in uniform.

## October Program

Please mark your calendars for our next meeting on October 11. Our speaker will be Warren Getler and his topic will be "Shadow of the Sentinel, One Man's Quest to Find the Hidden Treasure of the Confederacy".



**Membership and Annual Dues For the 2005-2006 Program Year**

Annual Dues are \$25.00 (\$12.00 after January 31, 2006). The dues must be received by October 1, 2005, for you to continue receiving the newsletter. Please make your check payable to **The CWRT of DC**.

New Member       Renewal       Address Change      Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip (plus 4): \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_      Office Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you prefer to receive the newsletter by email instead of USPS mail.

The above information is for the membership files and will be published in the membership roster.

Please mail this form and your dues to: CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
 Kenneth R. Rice  
 4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Arlington, VA 22207-3005

If you have any speaker or topic preferences for future meetings, please list on them on the back.

**Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, September 13, 2005.**

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, September 7, 2005.  
 The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled.)

Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
 3324 Glenmore Dr.  
 Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

October 2005  
Volume 55, Number 2

### Shadow of the Sentinel

Investigative reporter Warren Getler, the co-author of **Shadow of the Sentinel, One Man's Quest to Find the Hidden Treasure of the Confederacy**, will speak to us about the underground Confederate group Knights of the Golden Circle (KGC) and their actions before and after the Civil War. Mr. Getler believes the KGC's long-term plans consisted of extending the slave-owning power into takeovers of Cuba and other territories in the Caribbean and Latin America. Remaining in the Union would make that impossible, while an independent Confederacy would be free to conquer away. By late 1863, the reality for the Confederacy was that it was going to lose. The KGC's

response was to organize for the next time the South would rise again. The theory is its members buried caches of gold and other valuables worth millions in many scattered locations and posted loyal sentinels to guard them. That this shadowy organization existed is unquestionable. How far it went is unknown, and it was officially abolished in 1908--but the caches existed. How do we know? Because Mr. Getler's co-author, Bob Brewer, broke the esoteric code system they used, pictographs and carved symbols, which offered geographic clues as to where some of the KGC treasures were allegedly buried, and he uncovered one cache.

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<b>Price:</b>	Dinner \$28.00 per person Lecture only \$5.00		Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour: Cash Bar		
	7:00 pm Dinner: Mahi Mahi		(Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.)
			Key Lime Pie
	8:00 pm Speaker: Warren Gettler		
	Topic: Shadow of the Sentinel, One Man's Quest to Find the Hidden Treasure of the Confederacy		

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Past President: Thomas R. Devaney Home: 703-385-6546 Office: 202-413-7200 Email: trdevaney48@msn.com	Board Member: Gail Stephens Home: 410-544-3041 Email: gmsteph@worldnet.att.net	Board Member: James Hurdle Home: 703-525-3681 Email: hurdle.jim @verizon.net
Treasurer: John W. Restall Home: 703-578-1942 Email: restall@joimail.com	Secretary: Robert A. Busillo Home: 301-855-6391 Email: bobbusillo@aol.com	Newsletter Editor: Kenneth R. Rice Home: 703-527-0077 Email: kennrice@erols.com

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them to our monthly book raffle. This is an easy way to share books with others.

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**W**e have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

### Newsletter by Email

**T**his newsletter is now available by email as an alternative to US mail. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, please indicate so on your membership form. You may also request this by emailing the newsletter editor. The newsletter is also published on our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>.

The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

## President's Column

### by Susan Claffey

A day tour to the Seven Days' Battlefields is planned for Saturday, November 12 and I hope to see you there. Our tour leader is Marc Thompson, who will also speak on the Seven Days' Battles at our November 8 meeting. You may remember that Marc spoke to our group last year as a "stand in" speaker. His presentation on Sheridan's Richmond Raid was so engaging that members of the Round Table asked to "see the ground." I was delighted that Marc accepted our invitation to lead that tour this past June. It was a fabulous trip and I am confident this one will be just as absorbing and informative. Tour information and the registration form are located in this news letter and on our website.

At our April 2006 meeting, our very own Gail Stevens, along with Gloria Swift, will present an overview of "Monocacy--The Battle that Saved Washington." The following Saturday, April 15, they will lead us on a day trip to that battlefield. The last few years, good things have been happening at Monocacy with the recent addition of the Thomas Farm to the battlefield, the opening of the Hermitage Farm to the public and the exterior restoration of the Worthington farm house. This tour will be a little bit different for us as we will meet at the battlefield rather than chartering a tour bus. I hope you will put this one on your calendar too and plan on coming.

Last, but certainly not least, on June 25 and 26, 2006, Ed Bearss will again lead our weekend field trip. I think you will agree with me when I say that you haven't been on a Civil War tour, if you haven't been on one with Ed Bearss! We are fortunate indeed to have him as our leader. The destination has not been finalized but we hope to have that locked and loaded by the first of the year. So, save the dates, stay tuned for the announcement and join us.

As you can see, we have several battlefield tours planned for this program year rather than just the traditional weekend field trip. Last year's survey of the Round Table membership indicated significant interest in having some day tours. I am excited about these extra tours and I hope you are too. If these day tours are well-received, the plan is to continue them next program year and possibly add more. It is up to you. If you want these types of tours, please support them by attending and sharing the tour information with other folks that might have interest in participating. If you have suggestions for day tours that interest you, please pass them along to me or one of the other board members.

## Butternut and Blue Open Shop

For over twenty years, Butternut & Blue, a Civil War bookstore, has been serving individuals interested in this dramatic period of our nation's history. They offer new, used, and rare titles for sale. Also, they carry painted metal toy soldiers. Twice a year, they open their doors to their customers and offer discounts and refreshments. Their next open shop will be on Saturday, October 1, 2005, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm.

### Directions:

- Take the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) to exit 31 North (marked Carney).
- This places you on Harford Rd. Stay on Harford for about 2 miles. You will pass through only one traffic light (Joppa Rd.). Stay on Harford Rd.
- At the next traffic light (near High's store), turn right onto Northwind Rd.
- Proceed ½ mile to 3411 Northwind Road (on the right, across from the game & fish club).
- Enter by the French doors

Butternut and Blue  
 3411 Northwind Road  
 Baltimore, Maryland 21234  
 Telephone: 410-256-9220  
 Email: [butternutandblue@hotmail.com](mailto:butternutandblue@hotmail.com)  
 Web site: [butternutandblue.com](http://butternutandblue.com)

## A Grand Day Down on the Farm

**O**n Labor Day, we were treated to a special tour of the Daniel Lady Farm in Gettysburg. Ed Bearss joined us and, after the tour of the farm house and barn, led us on a walk over the ground covered by the Confederates in their advance from the farm to attack the Union position at Culp's Hill.

Kathi Schue and Barb Mowery of the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (GBPA) led us through the house and barn. They provided us detailed information on the farm, its history, the work done to date and the work remaining to preserve this wonderful farm for coming generations. They pointed out the blood stains on the house's parlor floor and the carved initials of Confederate soldiers preserved in the barn.

Kathi and Barb are truly dedicated and have put in many hours of advocacy, blood, sweat and tears into this, their labor of love. They are extremely concerned, as were we, with the booming development that is surrounding and threatening to engulf the farm. It was a genuine warm, fuzzy feeling to know that our Round Table has made a contribution to this farm's preservation.

The visit to the farm buildings alone would have been enough to call it a great day but things continued to get better and better. After a quick lunch, Ed took over as tour guide and led us on a two mile walk through farm fields and brush to the edge of Rock Creek and the base of Culp's Hill. This was the ground the Confederates crossed to launch unsuccessful attacks of the right flank of the Union fish hook on July 2 and 3, 1863.

It was a grand day with marvelous weather, good company and enthusiastic, knowledgeable guides—what more could you ask for!

## Warren Getler

**W**arren Getler is an investigative journalist, based in Washington, D.C. Previously, he has been an New York-based financial reporter for the Wall Street Journal and a London and Frankfurt correspondent for the International Herald Tribune. From 1995-2000, he served as a senior writer for the Discovery Channel. He graduated from Princeton University in 1983.

## Special Book Raffle

**A** copy of **Great Maps of the Civil War** has been donated to the Round Table for use as a fund raising raffle prize by the Rutledge Hill Press. This book has 32 removable replica maps from the Civil War, and a fascinating narrative to go with each map. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the dinner meetings, and the drawing will be held at the December meeting. For those who wish to forgo the blessings of Lady Luck, the book is available at local book stores.

## 50 Years Ago

**I**n October 1955, the Round Table was treated to "An Unorthodox View of the Civil War" by Dr. Otto Eisenschiml, noted Chicago historian, author, and the son of a Union veteran, who promised a review of the great conflict minus any hero worship. "Instead," said Dr. Eisenschiml, "I shall try to analyze the outstanding events and personages cold - bloodedly, without prejudice, without partisanship, letting the chips fall where they may."

## 25 Years Ago

**I**n October 1980, The Round Table's own Col. William P. Jones spoke to the members about the "Mexican War, Field Service School for Civil War Leaders."

**Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia**  
presents  
**“LEE TAKES COMMAND—THE SEVEN DAYS BATTLES”**  
**Tour Leader--MARC THOMPSON**

On November 12, 2005, Marc Thompson will lead a one-day tour covering The Seven Days Battles. The Seven Days Battles were a series of engagements near Richmond over the seven days from June 25 to July 1, 1862. It is sometimes known as the Seven Days Campaign but it was actually the culmination of the Peninsula Campaign, not a separate campaign.

**BACKGROUND:** The Peninsula Campaign was the unsuccessful attempt by Union Major General George McClellan to capture the Confederate capital of Richmond and end the war. It started in March, 1862, when McClellan landed his Army of the Potomac at Fort Monroe. Moving slowly and cautiously up the peninsula, McClellan fought a series of minor battles and sieges against General Joseph Johnston, who was equally cautious, retreating step by step to within six miles of Richmond. There, the Battle of Seven Pines (also known as the Battle of Fair Oaks) took place on June 1, 1862. It was a tactical draw, but it had wide-ranging consequences for the war—Johnston was wounded and replaced by the much more aggressive General Robert E. Lee. Lee spent almost a month extending his defensive lines and organizing his Army of Northern Virginia. McClellan accommodated by sitting passively to his front until the start of the Seven Days. Those series of battles ended the Peninsula Campaign with McClellan withdrawing to the safety of the James River where he remained until August. The Army of the Potomac was finally withdrawn by order of President Lincoln in the run-up to the Second Battle of Bull Run. The casualties to both sides were dreadful. Lee suffered a total of 3,286 killed, 15,909 wounded, and 946 captured or missing out of a total of over 90,000 soldiers during the Seven Days. McClellan reported casualties of 1,734 killed, 8,062 wounded, and 6,053 captured or missing out of a total of 105,445.

The effects of the Seven Days Battles were widespread. After a successful start on the Peninsula that foretold an early end to the war, Northern morale was crushed by McClellan's retreat. Despite heavy casualties and Lee's clumsy tactical performance, Confederate morale skyrocketed and Lee was emboldened to continue his aggressive strategy through Second Bull Run and the Battle of Antietam.

*Marc Thompson* is an associate with Booz Allen Hamilton as a consultant to the office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence. He is a retired USAF Colonel, with 28 years service as an intelligence officer. Marc has worked for the past 9 years as a volunteer tour guide and historian with the National Park Service at Chancellorsville Battlefield. Besides his work at Chancellorsville, Marc was also President of the Omaha Civil War Roundtable and is currently on the Executive Board for the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Roundtable in Fredericksburg, VA. He has addressed Civil War Roundtable organizations in several states and led battlefield bus tours throughout Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

The cost of the tour is \$60 per person. *If you would like to join us, send your registration as soon as possible and no later than November 5, 2005.* Plans are to depart the Horner Road Commuter Bus Lot (I-95 Exit 158B for the Prince William Parkway) at 7 a.m. with a return at 7 p.m. **WE WILL NOT STOP FOR LUNCH SO BRING A BAG LUNCH! There will be beverages on board the bus.** For details about this trip, contact John Restall at 703-578-1942 or by email to restall@joimail.com.

**Registration for November 12, 2005 “Lee Takes Command” Day Tour**

The deadline for registrations is November 5, 2005. The cost is \$60 per person. (Bring a bag lunch. There will be beverages on board the bus.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Registration & Check (make payable to CWRT of DC) to:

John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Drive  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information required in the event tour is cancelled. If tour is cancelled, you will receive a full refund.

### **Seven Days Battlefields Preliminary Itinerary**

- 7:00 a.m. Depart Horner Road Commuter Bus Lot (I-95 Exit 158B for the Prince William Parkway)
- Stop 1: Dabbs House (Lee's Headquarters)
- Stop 2: Trent House (McClellan's Headquarters)
- Stop 3: Oak Grove Battlefield (June 25, 1862)
- Stop 4: Chickahominy Bluff (Lee-Longstreet observation point)
- Stop 5: Beaver Dam Creek Battlefield (June 26, 1862) - Walking tour
- Stop 6: Walnut Grove Church (Lee-Jackson Conference)
- Stop 7: Gaines Mill Battlefield (June 27, 1862) - Walking tour
- Stop 8: Savage Station Battlefield (June 29, 1862)
- Stop 9: White Oak Bridge
- Stop 10: Glendale/Frayser's Farm Battlefield, North (June 30, 1862)
- Stop 11: Glendale/Frayser's Farm Battlefield, South (June 30, 1862)
- Stop 12: Malvern Hill Battlefield (July 1, 1862) - Walking tour
- 7 p.m. Estimated Return to Horner Road Commuter Bus Lot

### **Upcoming Events**

Oct 2: The Ship's Company at Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, Alexandria, 12-4. Free. For more information, contact: (703) 838-4848; [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org)

Oct 6 - 8: How to Study a Battlefield, A Hands on Primer at Antietam. Fee charged. For more information, contact: Blue & Gray Education Society (888) 741-2437, [www.blue-and-gray-education.org](http://www.blue-and-gray-education.org)

Oct 7-9: 15th annual Civil War encampment, reenactment & living history at Laurel Hill near Ararat. For more information, contact: [www.laurelhill@jebstuart.org](mailto:www.laurelhill@jebstuart.org)

Oct 8: "Lee's Masterpiece" all-day bus tour of Chancellorsville hosted by Friends of Fort Ward Museum, Alexandria, from the museum. Led by Philip Bolté. \$75 members, \$85 nonmembers, includes lunch, entry fees, refreshments & transportation. Registration deadline Oct. 5. For more information, contact: (703) 838-4848; [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org).

Oct 14-15: Gettysburg Focus Weekend. Pick from Licensed Battlefield Guide's finest four and eight hour tours. Fee charged. For more information, contact: Blue & Gray Education Society (BGES), (888) 741-2437; [www.blue-and-gray-education.org](http://www.blue-and-gray-education.org)



**Membership and Annual Dues For the 2005-2006 Program Year**

Annual Dues are \$25.00 (\$12.00 after January 31, 2006). The dues must be received by October 1, 2005, for you to continue receiving the newsletter. Please make your check payable to **The CWRT of DC**.

New Member       Renewal       Address Change      Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip (plus 4): \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_      Office Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you prefer to receive the newsletter by email instead of USPS mail.

The above information is for the membership files and will be published in the membership roster.

Please mail this form and your dues to: CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
 Kenneth R. Rice  
 4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Arlington, VA 22207-3005

If you have any speaker or topic preferences for future meetings, please list on them on the back.

**Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, October 11, 2005.**

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, October 5, 2005.  
 The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$\_\_\_\_\_

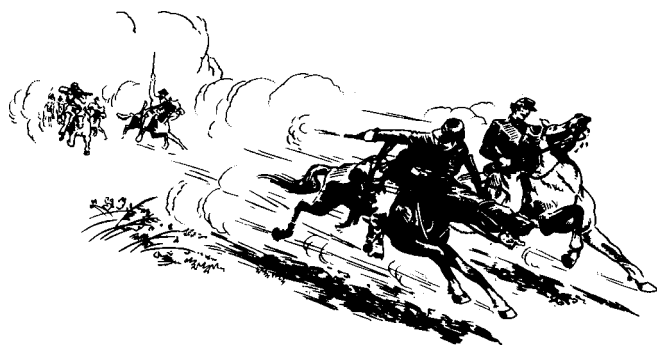
Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled .)

Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
 3324 Glenmore Dr.  
 Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

November 2005  
Volume 55, Number 3

### Lee Takes Command - The Seven Days Battles

**T**he Peninsula Campaign was the unsuccessful attempt by Union Maj. Gen. George McClellan to capture Richmond and end the war. It started in March, 1862, when McClellan landed his Army of the Potomac at Fort Monroe. Moving slowly and cautiously up the peninsula, McClellan fought a series of minor battles and sieges against General Joseph Johnston, who was equally cautious, retreating step by step to within six miles of Richmond. There, the Battle of Seven Pines (or Fair Oaks) took place on June 1, 1862. It was a tactical draw, but it had wide-ranging consequences for the war. Johnston was wounded and replaced by the much more aggressive Gen. Robert E. Lee. Lee spent almost a month extending his

defensive lines and organizing his Army of Northern Virginia. McClellan accommodated by sitting passively to his front until the start of the Seven Days. Those series of battles ended the Peninsula Campaign with McClellan withdrawing to the safety of the James River where he remained until August. The Army of the Potomac was finally withdrawn in the run-up to the Second Battle of Bull Run. The casualties to both sides were dreadful. Lee suffered a total of 3,286 killed, 15,909 wounded, and 946 captured or missing out of a total of over 90,000 soldiers during the Seven Days. McClellan reported casualties of 1,734 killed, 8,062 wounded, and 6,053 captured or missing out of a total of 105,445.

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### November 2005 Meeting

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, November 8, 2005	<b>Place:</b>	Officer's Club
<b>Price:</b>	Dinner \$28.00 per person Lecture only \$5.00		Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour:	Cash Bar	
	7:00 pm Dinner:	Herb Roasted Chicken	(Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.)
		White chocolate Mousse Cake	
	8:00 pm Speaker:	Marc Thompson	
	Topic:	The Seven Days Battles	

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, November 2, 2005. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942  
Email: restall@joimail.com

As the Round Table must pay for all meals ordered, members and guests are obligated to pay for the meal in the event they do not attend.

**PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE ON PAGE 2**

## Officers and Board of Governors for 2003-2004

President: Susan Claffey Home: 301-585-7917 Office: 202-654-2907 Email: sclaffey@americasblood.org	Vice President: Wendy Swanson Home: 703-536-5464 Office: 703-605-7123 Email: wendy.swanson@ssa.gov	Board Member: Robert L. Cantrell Home: 703-407-2636 Office: 703-682-4845 Email: rlc@centerforadvantage.com
Past President: Thomas R. Devaney Home: 703-385-6546 Office: 202-413-7200 Email: trdevaney48@msn.com	Board Member: Gail Stephens Home: 410-544-3041 Email: gmsteph@worldnet.att.net	Board Member: James Hurdle Home: 703-525-3681 Email: hurdle.jim@verizon.net
Treasurer: John W. Restall Home: 703-578-1942 Email: restall@joimail.com	Secretary: Robert A. Busillo Home: 301-855-6391 Email: bobbusillo@aol.com	Newsletter Editor: Kenneth R. Rice Home: 703-527-0077 Email: kennrice@erols.com

**M**embership in the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia is open to anyone interested in the study of the American Civil War or American history. Our program year runs from September through May of the following year. Dues are \$25.00 per year (\$12 if you join after January 31, 2006) and should be mailed with a membership application form (available on our web site or from the address below) to:

CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005

Checks should be made out to **The CWRT of DC**. Membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter which contains notice of dinner meeting dates, speakers, and topics; information on field trips, and various Civil War related articles. Dinner meetings are held from September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fort Leslie J. McNair Officer's Club in Washington, DC. Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

### Books Needed

**I**f you have some Civil War books you no longer need, please considered donating

them to our monthly book raffle. This is an easy way to share books with others.

### IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

**W**e have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

### Newsletter by Email

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The editor's address is:

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Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

## President's Column

by Susan Claffey

At our November 8 meeting, retired Air Force Colonel Marc Thompson returns to present on "Lee Takes Command—The Seven Days Battles". Marc spoke to our group last winter about "Sheridan's Richmond Raid" and then led us on a marvelous tour of that ground in June. Marc has an extremely interesting and unique approach to interpreting military history. I think of it as a military intelligence briefing—not that I have ever been privy to a military intelligence briefing.

And, I am delighted to let you know that Marc's son, Stephen, will be bringing along his photographs from four Civil War battlefields: Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House. Stephen Thompson is 18 years old and a senior at Osbourn High School in Manassas. He is also a very talented photographer and his interest in photographing the battlefields came from "Dad". Stephen's photographs were recently exhibited at Valor Art & Frame Ltd. in Fredericksburg.

Stephen's photos will be available for us to enjoy and to purchase. He donates half the proceeds from the sale of his pictures to the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust. The Central Virginia Battlefields Trust (CVBT) is an organization dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's Civil War battlefields. They began in 1996 as a group of concerned citizens in the Fredericksburg area. They decided it was time to stand up to the destruction of the area's battlefields and formed a historic lands trust. The CVBT has a two-fold mission: to purchase significant Civil War battlefields and landmarks, both in fee and in easement, to preserve them in perpetuity; and to serve as a facilitator and advocate for battlefield preservation on a local, state and federal level. At Fredericksburg, CVBT helped purchase Willis Hill, a 9-acre tract in the center of Marye's Heights overlooking the Sunken Road. At the Chancellorsville battlefield, the trust has saved

over 135 acres of land, including significant portions of Stonewall Jackson's renowned flank attack. Its website, [www.cvbt.org](http://www.cvbt.org), gives more details on its acquisition of almost 500 acres of historic land.

I hope you will come to our November 8 meeting to enjoy a fascinating presentation on the Seven Days and the special treat of Stephen's exhibit. Don't forget that Marc is going to follow-up his presentation with a tour of the Seven Days Battlefields on Saturday, November 12. Please register with John Restall to join us.

## Civil War Maps Available Online

The Library of Congress's Geography and Map Division is pleased to announce the release of a new American Memory collection: "The Hotchkiss Map Collection: Confederate Army Maps" <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/maps/hotchkiss/>.

The Hotchkiss Map Collection contains cartographic items made by Major Jedediah Hotchkiss (1828-1899), a topographic engineer in the Confederate Army. Hotchkiss made detailed battle maps primarily of the Shenandoah Valley, some of which were used by the Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson for their combat planning and strategy. Several of the maps have annotations of various military officers, demonstrating their importance in the military campaigns. The collection also includes maps made or used by Hotchkiss during his post-war years, including maps with information about railroads, minerals and mining, geology and history.

The collection consists of 341 sketchbooks, manuscripts, and annotated printed maps, the originals of which reside in the Library of Congress' Geography and Map Division. Some of the maps also appear in the collection: "Civil War Maps, 1861-1865" [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil\\_war\\_maps/](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil_war_maps/).

## **National Park Service The American Civil War**

<http://cwar.nps.gov/civilwar/>

**T**he American Civil War remains a complex and interesting subject. The National Park Service continues to offer a host of introspective perspectives on this military conflict through their creative use of interpretative facilities located on a number of important historic sites across the country. This omnibus website, provided by the National Park Service, provides a number of thematic sections that include "Civil War Education", "Civil War Parks", and "African Americans in the Civil War". For those who may be less familiar with the basic events and chronology of the Civil War, there is a section titled "About the Civil War" which provides a detailed timeline of events, an area of stories about the Civil War, and information about the Sesquicentennial Initiative, which is designed to prepare for the events that will happen from 2011 to 2015. Taken together, this collection of materials will be of great interest both to educators and the general public.

### **On the March at Shiloh in the Footsteps of Lew Wallace**

By Gail Stephens

**I** just returned from Shiloh, and while there, with 7 NPS ranger/historians, I walked the entire route of Lew Wallace's 1862 march to Shiloh. One of the historians had overlaid the most accurate map of the 1862 route on the modern road system, and using USGS maps and aerial photographs, found the route.

We had a GPS monitor with us and it turns out that the redoubtable Lew and his division marched not 12 or 14 miles, as had been thought, but 16.8 miles. It took him about 7 hours, encumbered with artillery and wagons, and floundering in the April mud. It took us

about 7 hours and 15 minutes with no wagons or artillery, just backpacks. Lew! What A Guy!

About one third of the route is on either paved or gravel road. The rest of it is literally bushwhacking across some very tough territory. I'd been trying to get ready for this with daily walks of between 4 and 5 miles plus some light weight training, and I was nowhere near ready, nor were any of us. We had to make our way across fields through cane breaks and "braars" (Tennessee for briars), and under, through and over electric and barbed wire fences. The worst of it were the streams. We had to cross 3 major streams without bridges, (Wallace did have bridges for two of them), and one of those had to be crossed twice because Wallace had to turn back. The streams all had vertical sandy banks of about 10 feet. As we got toward the end, I simply slid down the banks and crawled up. I have new respect for the Civil War soldier. And of course, particularly in the Snake Creek bottom, there were mosquitoes, hundreds of the little critters. The moment when I realized how dedicated, or more probably crazy I was, came about two thirds of the way through the march, when I crawled under an electric fence and came nose-to-nose with a pile of horse manure!

It was a day I'll never forget. I learned a lot about Wallace's march to Shiloh and I learned a lot about the ordinary day of a common Civil War soldier.

### **Special Book Raffle**

**A** copy of **Great Maps of the Civil War** has been donated to the Round Table for use as a fund raising raffle prize by the Rutledge Hill Press. This book has 32 removable replica maps from the Civil War, and a fascinating narrative to go with each map. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the dinner meetings, and the drawing will be held at the December meeting. For those who wish to forgo the blessings of Lady Luck, the book is available at local book stores.

**Marc Thompson**

**M**arc Thompson is an associate with Booz Allen Hamilton as a consultant to the office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence. A retired USAF Colonel, with 28 years service as an intelligence officer, Marc has worked for the past 10 years as a volunteer tour guide and historian with the National Park Service at Chancellorsville Battlefield. Marc was President of the Omaha Civil War Roundtable and is currently on the Executive Board for the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Roundtable in Fredericksburg. He has addressed Civil War Roundtable organizations in several states and led battlefield bus tours throughout Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

**25 Years Ago**

**I**n November 1980, the Round Table heard H. Paul Porter speak about "Secession, the Proximate Cause." His talk covered the legal and historic antecedents of secession – state's rights, strict construction of the Constitution and similar principles." Among other things, he pointed out that there were many strong believers in state sovereignty in the North as well as the South.

**50 Years Ago**

**S**tonewall Jackson's Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1862 was the topic of discussion at the November 1955 meeting of the Round Table. The talk was given by Rupert H. Johnson, who prepared his own maps for use with the presentation.

Also in November 1955, the Round Table moved its meeting place from the Army Navy Club to Braun's Armon restaurant on G St., because of the increasing number of members, and because of changes in the liquor laws which deprived the Army Navy Club, and every private club, of bar facilities. The dinner price was increased to \$3.00 (up from \$2.70), and drinks cost 50¢ and 60¢.

**The Railroad Gun at Savage Station**

by Joseph L. Brent  
A Confederate Officer

**T**he gun was protected by a sloping front of railway rails, from which rose a rampart of the rails extending above the gun, and curved, so as to protect in part, the sides of the gun, and pierced by an embrasure in front which allowed the gun a very limited range of fire, and the sides of the car in rear of the gun were unarmored.

**Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, November 8, 2005.**

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, November 2, 2005.

The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled.)

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

This armoured gun had been fired, while the enemy's artillery was firing on us, and now accompanied us in our advance.

After reaching and reporting to the General, I noticed the armoured railway battery engaged in firing rapidly. It stood on the railway in a deep cutting through hills which afforded it complete shelter. It was then firing at the enemy's reserves, which extended from the hospital towards the White Oak Swamp. I saw a few of its shells explode in front of the lines, but I do not know whether it principally fired shell or solid shot. I looked upon this unusual sight of a movable railway battery with great curiosity and abiding interest.

In a little time, I discovered a movement amongst the enemy's reserves, and their right flank which was exposed to the rifled 32 pds. was marched towards the rear, whether from the effect of the artillery or in pursuance of their general plan of retreat, I cannot say.

General Magruder then gave an order to the railway battery to advance out of and beyond the cutting, and fire upon or enfilade the enemy's line of battle, which was nearly at right angle to the railway. The battery slowly

advanced, firing, and passed out of the shelter of the cutting, and when it had gone a little further, it was assailed on its side by a sharp rifle fire of the enemy, which side was either unprotected or badly protected. Then the battery stopped and immediately began to retreat as rapidly as possible. Its exposure to flank fire without adequate armour protection revealed its weak point. When it returned, it was ordered back to Richmond. If it had been equipped with all-around armour protection and some light guns, it would have been able to enfilade the enemy's line of battle and perhaps might have influenced the fortunes of the combat. I suppose this was the first time that an armoured gun was ever fired from a railway battery movable on rails by steam.

I have never lost the remembrance of what I then saw, and I have constantly thought of the means and appliances by which railways could be armed and controlled by armoured railway batteries, and thereby converted into strategic lines dominating the field of operations.

Joseph L. Brent, *Memoirs of the War Between the States*, (New Orleans: Fontana, 1940), pages 182-83.



**Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia**

presents

**“LEE TAKES COMMAND—THE SEVEN DAYS BATTLES”****Tour Leader--MARC THOMPSON**

On November 12, 2005, Marc Thompson will lead a one-day tour covering The Seven Days Battles. The Seven Days Battles were a series of engagements near Richmond over the seven days from June 25 to July 1, 1862. It is sometimes known as the Seven Days Campaign but it was actually the culmination of the Peninsula Campaign, not a separate campaign.

The cost of the tour is \$60 per person. *If you would like to join us, send your registration as soon as possible and no later than November 5, 2005.* Plans are to depart the Horner Road Commuter Bus Lot (I-95 Exit 158B for the Prince William Parkway) at 7 a.m. with a return at 7 p.m. **WE WILL NOT STOP FOR LUNCH SO BRING A BAG LUNCH! There will be beverages on board the bus.** For details about this trip, contact John Restall at 703-578-1942 or by email to restall@joimail.com.

**Preliminary Itinerary**

7:00 a.m. Depart Horner Road Commuter Bus Lot (I-95 Exit 158B for the Prince William Parkway)

- Stop 1: Dabbs House (Lee's Headquarters)
  - Stop 2: Trent House (McClellan's Headquarters)
  - Stop 3: Oak Grove Battlefield (June 25, 1862)
  - Stop 4: Chickahominy Bluff (Lee-Longstreet observation point)
  - Stop 5: Beaver Dam Creek Battlefield (June 26, 1862) - Walking tour
  - Stop 6: Walnut Grove Church (Lee-Jackson Conference)
  - Stop 7: Gaines Mill Battlefield (June 27, 1862) - Walking tour
  - Stop 8: Savage Station Battlefield (June 29, 1862)
  - Stop 9: White Oak Bridge
  - Stop 10: Glendale/Frayser's Farm Battlefield, North (June 30, 1862)
  - Stop 11: Glendale/Frayser's Farm Battlefield, South (June 30, 1862)
  - Stop 12: Malvern Hill Battlefield (July 1, 1862) - Walking tour
- 7 p.m. Estimated Return to Horner Road Commuter Bus Lot

**Registration for November 12, 2005 “Lee Takes Command” Day Tour**

The deadline for registrations is November 5, 2005. The cost is \$60 per person.  
(Bring a bag lunch. There will be beverages on board the bus.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Registration & Check (make payable to CWRT of DC) to: John Restall  
Contact information required in the event tour is cancelled 3324 Glenmore Drive  
If tour is cancelled, you will receive a full refund. Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Upcoming Events

Oct 29-30: "The Battlefield Embalmer: Preserving the Civil War Dead" with historian James W. Lowry, as "Dr. Lowry, Embalming Surgeon," at National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick, 11-3. Display of 19th-century coffins is included in the presentation. For more information, contact: (301) 695-1864, [museum@civilwarmed.org](mailto:museum@civilwarmed.org); [www.CivilWarMed.org](http://www.CivilWarMed.org)

Oct 30: "Duffie at Stevensburg" lecture at the Graffiti House, Brandy Station, 2-3:15 p.m., by retired Lt. Col. Joe McKinney. Reservations required. \$5 donation fee goes to Brandy Station Foundation. For more information, contact: Jim, (540) 439-3549, [SumerduckWood@aol.com](mailto:SumerduckWood@aol.com).

Nov 4-5: "The Union Army on the Roads to Gettysburg" Chambersburg Seminar. Study-tour with John Schildt & Jeffry Wert following the route of the Army of the Potomac to Gettysburg. Sponsored by the Greater Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce. For more information, contact: (717) 264-7101.

Nov 5: "The Pen and the Sword: Researching the American Civil War," part of the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg John Scott Adams Seminar Series. Focus on conducting Civil War Research led by Wayne E. Motts. \$60. Registration deadline October 24. For more

information, contact: (717) 334-0772; [www.friendsofgettysburg.org](http://www.friendsofgettysburg.org)

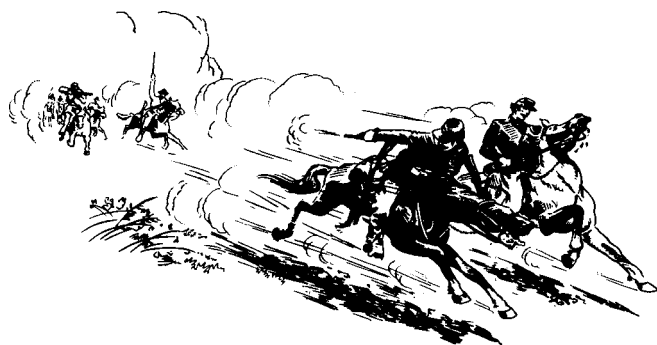
Nov 19: 142nd Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address annual observation with brief memorial services in the Soldiers' National Cemetery at 10 a.m. Sponsored by Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania. For more information, contact: Gettysburg National Military Park, (717) 334-1124, ext. 422 or 431; [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett)

Also, the W.S. Hancock Society 10th annual Remembrance Day tribute to Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock at the Hancock equestrian statue on East Cemetery Hill, Gettysburg. 11 a.m. Historian Bruce Stocking on "The Man of the Hour," wreath laying, bagpipes by Joseph Cassidy.

And the Meade & Reynolds Monuments Dedication Ceremonies and wreath-laying. At the Reynolds Monument in the National Cemetery, 10 a.m., at Meade Equestrian Monument on Hancock Avenue, 11 a.m.

Nov 19: 3rd Annual Remembrance Illumination at Soldiers' National Cemetery, Gettysburg. Luminary candles will be placed on each Civil War grave. Sponsored by Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg. For more information, contact: (717) 334-0772).

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

December 2005  
Volume 55, Number 4

## **Curmudgeons, Drunkards, and Outright Fools: The Greatest Hits of the Courts-Martial**

**T**he Civil War records are like a vast Whitman's Sampler. Where does one start? Surely not with the oft-told tales of Pickett's Charge or the signing table at Appomattox. In this presentation, "Curmudgeons, Drunkards, and Outright Fools: The Greatest Hits of the Courts-Martial," Dr. Lowry will lead us on an exploration of such diverse tales as: a man to be shot until he is "dead, dead, dead;" an 1861 trial in which every participant was famous two years later; Union

officers running riot in Louisiana in episodes of carnal desire; a man who tortured Lincoln's White House milk cow; massacre by the Texas Rangers; two over-sexed chaplains; the oldest living Civil War veterans - frauds all; the madam who destroyed a cavalry company; seventy men who cursed Lincoln's corpse; Civil War "Valium;" a handful of weird names; poisoning by ground puppies; death from "hysteria;" county clerks - history's Death Angels; and sex at Gettysburg.

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### **December 2005 Meeting**

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, December 13, 2005	<b>Place:</b>	Officer's Club
<b>Price:</b>	Dinner \$28.00 per person Lecture only \$5.00		Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour:	Cash Bar	
	7:00 pm Dinner:	Beef Tenderloin Tips Noodles Alfredo Tiramisu	(Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.)
	8:00 pm Speaker:	Dr. Thomas P. Lowry	
	Topic:	Curmudgeons, Drunkards, and Outright Fools: The Greatest Hits of the Courts-Martial	

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, December 7, 2005. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942  
Email: john.restall@earthlink.net

As the Round Table must pay for all meals ordered, members and guests are obligated to pay for the meal in the event they do not attend.

**PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE ON PAGE 2**

## Officers and Board of Governors for 2003-2004

President: Susan Claffey Home: 301-585-7917 Office: 202-654-2907 Email: sclaffey@americasblood.org	Vice President: Wendy Swanson Home: 703-536-5464 Office: 703-605-7123 Email: wendy.swanson@ssa.gov	Board Member: Robert L. Cantrell Home: 703-407-2636 Office: 703-682-4845 Email: rlc@centerforadvantage.com
Past President: Thomas R. Devaney Home: 703-385-6546 Office: 202-413-7200 Email: trdevaney48@msn.com	Board Member: Gail Stephens Home: 410-544-3041 Email: gmsteph@worldnet.att.net	Board Member: James Hurdle Home: 703-525-3681 Email: hurdle.jim @verizon.net
Treasurer: John W. Restall Home: 703-578-1942 Email: john.restall@earthlink.net	Secretary: Robert A. Busillo Home: 301-855-6391 Email: bobbusillo@aol.com	Newsletter Editor: Kenneth R. Rice Home: 703-527-0077 Email: kennrice@erols.com

**M**embership in the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia is open to anyone interested in the study of the American Civil War or American history. Our program year runs from September through May of the following year. Dues are \$25.00 per year (\$12 if you join after January 31, 2006) and should be mailed with a membership application form (available on our web site or from the address below) to:

CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005

Checks should be made out to **The CWRT of DC**. Membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter which contains notice of dinner meeting dates, speakers, and topics; information on field trips, and various Civil War related articles. Dinner meetings are held from September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fort Leslie J. McNair Officer's Club in Washington, DC. Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

### Books Needed

**I**f you have some Civil War books you no longer need, please considered donating

them to our monthly book raffle. This is an easy way to share books with others.

### IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

**W**e have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

### Newsletter by Email

**T**his newsletter is now available by email as an alternative to US mail. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, please indicate so on your membership form. You may also request this by emailing the newsletter editor. The newsletter is also published on our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>.

The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

## President's Column

by Susan Claffey

In reviewing my blessings this past Thanksgiving Thursday, I thought about the people who help me to make the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia happen. I want to thank them and to let you know what they do for us.

Our newsletter appears monthly because of the labors of the editor, **Ken Rice**. Ken volunteers his time every month to layout the newsletter, search the archives, seek out news articles and otherwise make the newsletter a reality. He also manages the Round Table's website and updates it as needed.

**John Restall** is our trusty treasurer and puts in lots of hours each month to compile the meeting registrations and receipts. When we have tours, he also manages our the registrations. He dutifully arrives early at each meeting so that he can check everyone in at the door and sell the raffle tickets. He oversees our checking account and reports periodically to the board on our financial state.

This year, one of our past presidents and current board member, **Jim Hurdle** stepped down after serving for several years as our treasurer. However, he remains committed to the Round Table and coordinates our menu and meals with the staff at Ft. McNair. He works very hard to keep our dinner costs within budget and that is no easy job. Some months we lose money and others we make a little, that all needs to be balanced so that we break even at the end of the year. And, trying to satisfy the palates of 25+ people is no easy task.

**Wendy Swanson**, our vice-president, is charged with planning next year's speakers and will be our president next program year. Having just completed my stint as VP, I can attest that it is no small job to identify potential speakers, search out contact information for them, get in touch with (and sometimes persuade) them to speak to our group and juggle their schedules so

that they fit into our meeting schedule for the year. Wendy has committed to do this despite a busy job and her obligation to edit the Lincoln Group newsletter.

Our secretary, **Bob Busillo**, and our other board members: **Bob Cantrell** and **Gail Stephens** attend board meetings (Bob takes the minutes) and impart valuable advice and guidance.

Last year's president, **Tom Devaney**, continues his participation with the board and runs our book raffle each meeting. He is also a valuable source of area "Civil War Happenings" that he shares at each meeting.

Several members of the Round Table, particularly **Henry Rivera**, have provided me with tremendous help in planning tours, providing speaker suggestions, writing or forwarding articles for the newsletter and generally acting as a "sounding board."

I couldn't do it without you folks so thank you!

I wish that you will join me in thanking them for all that they do. **I also hope that if you have an hour or two to spare that you will volunteer to help make our Round Table a fun, educational and meaningful experience.**

We can always use articles or information for the monthly newsletter. I am sure Ken wouldn't mind some assistance with our website. Suggestions to help us with topics for the speaker program or speakers themselves are always welcome. We will never turn down a spare hand to assist with the day tours and the weekend field trip each year. And don't forget, if you would like to serve, we will put forth a slate of officers and board members in May 2006. Please let me or one of the other board members know if you would like to help or serve as leadership for the CWRT of the DC.

## Special Book Raffle

A copy of **Great Maps of the Civil War** has been donated to the Round Table for use as a fund raising raffle prize by the Rutledge Hill Press. This book has 32 removable replica maps from the Civil War, and a fascinating narrative to go with each map. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the dinner meetings, and the drawing will be held at the December meeting. For those who wish to forgo the blessings of Lady Luck, the book is available at local book stores.

### Thomas Nast's Original Civil War "Santa Claus In Camp"

This is Thomas Nast's earliest published picture of Santa Claus. Nast is generally credited with creating our popular image of Santa. This illustration appeared in the January 3, 1863 edition of Harper's Weekly, and shows Santa Claus visiting a Civil War Camp. In the background, a sign can be seen that reads "Welcome Santa Claus." The illustration shows Santa handing out gifts to Children and Soldiers. One soldier receives a new pair of socks, which would no doubt be one of the most wonderful things a soldier of the time could receive. Santa is pictured sitting on his sleigh, which is being pulled by reindeer. Santa is pictured with a long white beard, a furry hat, collar and belt. We can see that many of our modern perceptions of Santa Claus are demonstrated in the 140 year old print.

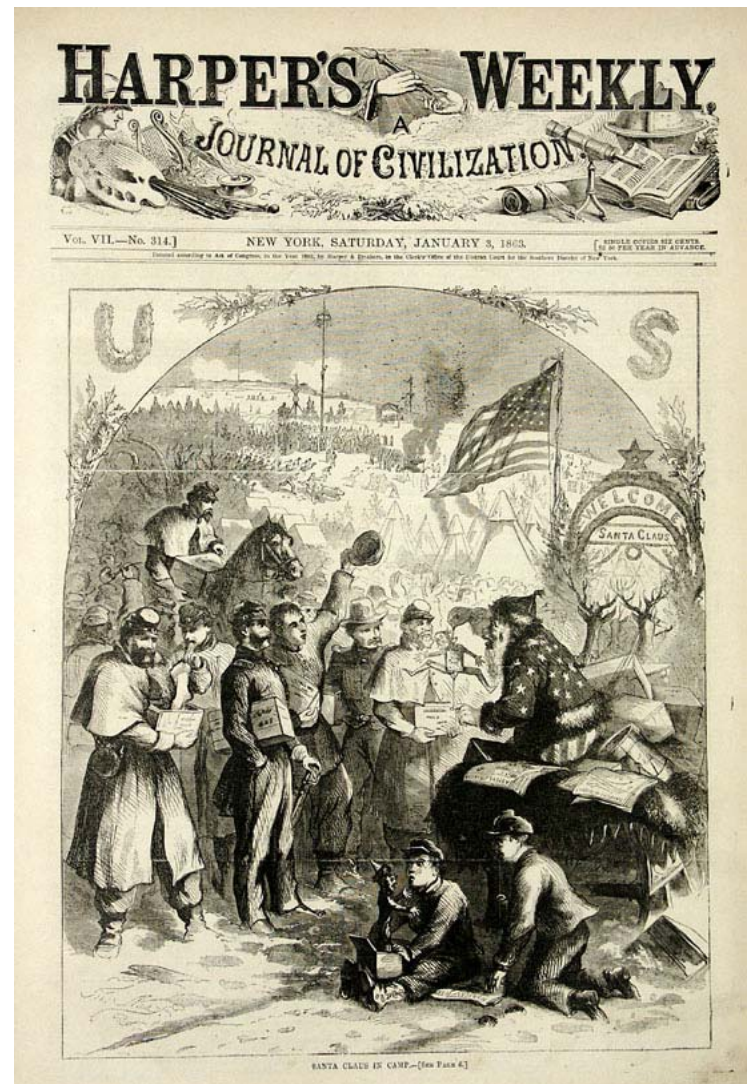
Perhaps most interesting about this print is the special gift in Santa's hand. Santa is holding a dancing puppet of none-other-than Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America. The likeness to Jefferson Davis is unmistakable. Even more interesting, Davis appears to have the string tied around his neck, so Santa appears to be lynching Jefferson Davis! This is a classic Thomas Nast illustration. This is Nast's first published picture of Santa Claus, and we can see many of our present images of Santa demonstrated in this Civil War illustration.

## 25 Years Ago

In December 1980, the Round Table heard Colonel Joseph B. Mitchell speak about General Joseph Eggleston Johnston. It was the eleventh present Colonel Mitchell made to the Round Table.

## 50 Years Ago

The Red River Expedition was the topic of Captain Samuel G. Kelly's presentation to the Round Table in December, 1955.





## **The Seven Days Battles in Seven Hours (Plus One)!**

By Susan Claffey

Saturday, November 12, 2005, dawned sunny and brisk as we gathered in the Horner Road commuter lot at 7:00 AM. After a brief fifteen minute delay, we were on the way to the Dabbs House, where we arrived about 8:30 AM. The Dabbs House, outside Richmond, was General Robert E. Lee's first headquarters which he opened June 1, 1862. Marc Thompson, our most capable tour leader, informed us that here was where Lee laid his strategy to free Richmond from the threat of McClellan's Union Army which was only miles from the Confederate capitol. Lee had just taken command after the wounding earlier that day of General Joe Johnston at the battle of Seven Pines. Lee immediately began to strengthen his army and the Richmond defenses and to make plans to drive McClellan's forces from Richmond's doorstep and perhaps to even destroy them. Marc related to us that Lee held two notable conferences at the Dabbs House. The first with General J.E.B. Stuart to plan a reconnaissance of the Union positions that ultimately led to the famous ride around the Union Army and the second with his top subordinates: Generals A.P. Hill, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, and James Longstreet. Marc drew our attention to the interesting and telling fact that several of Lee's other generals that were to take part in the Seven Days Battles were not included in this meeting. We then made a stop by the Trent House which served as McClellan's Headquarters at the start of the Seven Days Battles. Marc related that McClellan was connected with his army via extensive telegraph communications from this location and did not often manage his army from the field of battle. Thaddeus Lowe also launched several balloon reconnaissance flights from the Trent House property. After the Battle of Gaines Mill, McClellan summoned his corps commanders here to announce his plan to abandon the Richmond lines and establish a new base on the James River.

Our next stop was the earthwork remnants of the Richmond defenses remaining on the grounds of the Richmond Airport. Here Marc discussed the battle of Seven Pines/Fair Oaks. Now that Marc had provided us the background and situation at the start of the Seven Days Battles, we began our campaign to the battlefield sites with a stop at Chickahominy Bluff. This spot was part of the outer defensive works for Richmond and where Lee and Longstreet observed the starting battle of the Seven Days, Mechanicsville, on June 26, 1862. Lee's plan was to cut off the Union Army from their supply base at White House. The brunt of the attack was borne by A.P. Hill on the Union's far right flank as Stonewall Jackson's troops did not participate as planned. We moved on to Beaver Dam Creek to observe the formidable ground that Hill's Confederates covered to attack the Union lines. Although the attack was unsuccessful, McClellan made the decision to withdraw to a more defensible position at Gaines Mill. McClellan also decided to abandon his supply base at White House and relocate it to Harrison's landing. We made a brief stop at Walnut Grove Church to observe the spot of a conference between Lee and Jackson on June 27 prior to the battle of Gaines Mill.

At Gaines Mill, we learned that Lee expected to find McClellan's men behind Powhite Creek. Instead, the Confederates found them behind Boatswains Creek. Lee's forces launched repeated, uncoordinated attacks but Union soldiers under General Fitz John Porter made a spirited defense before Texas and Georgia troops broke their line and precipitated another Union withdrawal. The defeat at Gaines Mill had McClellan headed for the James River having abandoned his designs on Richmond. Having freed Richmond, Lee was now determined to destroy McClellan's army.

On June 29, Lee ordered General Magruder to force the Federals to stand and fight. Magruder attacked the rear guard of the Union forces at Savage Station. Once again, Stonewall's troops did not make the field as was planned. Lee also pulled support from Magruder



by ordering General Huger away from the scene. At our stop in this obscure location, Marc noted that Savage Station was the first known use of railway artillery when the Confederates used the "Land Merrimack," the first iron-clad armored railroad battery. Union General Sumner mounted a ferocious defense against Magruder though McClellan had left no one in charge of the rear guard retreat. The battle was a stalemate but the Confederates captured the Union field hospital here.

We moved on, as did both armies, to the crossroads of Glendale/Fraser's Farm. The retreating Union army desperately needed to maintain control of this road junction if they were to successfully retreat to Harrison's Landing on the James. Here was Lee's best chance to cut them off and he threw his army against the Federals on June 30, 1862. Longstreet's and Hill's attacks penetrated the Union defenses here but, again, Jackson did not execute his portion of the battle plan, failing to cross White Oak bridge to attack the Federal rear guard. Reinforcements allowed the Union to hold the all important crossroad and they continued their withdrawal during the night, setting up a strong defensive position at Malvern Hill.

Our last stop of the day was a walking tour of Malvern Hill. Here Lee, disappointed that the Union army had escaped, decided to hit McClellan one more time, on July 1, 1862. In a series of uncoordinated assaults, typical of the Confederate efforts the entire week, Magruder's, D.H. Hill's and Huger's divisions vainly attacked the massed Federal artillery and infantry positions on Malvern Hill. By the end of the day more than 5,000 Confederate soldiers lay dead and wounded on the slopes. General D.H. Hill was moved to say that, "It was not war, it was murder." Marc brought our attention to the fact that Malvern Hill had haunting similarities to a battle that Lee would launch against the Federals almost one year later---the final day at Gettysburg, Pickett's Charge. That evening McClellan continued his retreat to Harrison's Landing and the Seven Days Battles

were brought to an end. And so was our tour, it was a little past 4:30 PM and the sun was low on the horizon. We hopped back on the bus for the ride back to the parking lot. We all agreed that our most excellent leader, Marc Thompson, had risen admirably to a sizeable challenge---the Seven Days Battles in seven hours (plus one). He had lead us on a visit to all of the significant sites, explained the events succinctly and in a clear manner---bringing the battles to life, and all in record time. The weather lived up to the predictions and we enjoyed a stunning, warm, sunny autumn day. Thanks, Marc, for another memorable tour!

### Thomas P. Lowry, MD

**T**homas P. Lowry, MD is a physician, retired associate clinical professor of psychiatry at UCSF, and an independent scholar with an enormous interest in the Civil War. Dr. Lowry has made a significant contribution to our knowledge of the Civil War and its times through his research and writing into such overlooked subjects as sex and military justice. As the recipient of a Rear Admiral Hooper Fellowship, Dr. Lowry completed a computer database of over 75,000 Union courts-martial. His wife, Beverly, is his dedicated colleague and was instrumental in the research for and creation of the database.

He is the author of many books, including: **The Story the Soldiers Wouldn't Tell: Sex in the Civil War**, **The Civil War Bawdy Houses of Washington D.C.**, **Tarnished Scalpels: The Courts-Martial of Fifty Union Surgeons, Curmudgeons, Drunkards, and Outright Fools: Courts-Martial of Civil War Union Colonels**, **Abraham Lincoln and Military Justice**, and **Tarnished Eagles: The Courts-Martial of Fifty Union Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels**. His most recent book, **Venereal Disease and The Lewis and Clark Expedition**, was published in April this year with a foreword by Ed Bearss.

### Upcoming Events

Dec 3: 17th Annual Illumination: Antietam Battlefield; Volunteers place over 23,000 candles on the battlefield; each representing a casualty from the bloodiest single-day-battle in American History. Driving tour begins at 6 P.M. on Route 34 east of Sharpsburg. In case of very high winds or very heavy rain, this event will be rescheduled to December 10th. For details call 304-535-6298 or visit their web site at:

<http://www.nps.gov/anti/Luminary.htm>.

Dec 3: Living history: "A Civil War Christmas at Liberia Plantation," Manassas, 5:00 - 9:00 PM; Admission: \$15.00. For details, please call 703-368-1873, or visit their web site at:

<http://www.manassascity.org/index.asp?nid=97>

De 3: Living history: "Prospects of Peace: A Soldier's Prayer," Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Free with admission to the Park. Meet citizens and soldiers in 1864 Harpers Ferry. For additional information, please call 304-535-6029 or visit their web site at:

<http://www.nps.gov/hafe>

Dec 10: Preservation: "Constellation's Restoration," Noon, Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD. Cost: Free with admission to the Park. Program examines the restoration and constant maintenance and upkeep of the USS Constellation. For additional information, please call 410-539-1797 or visit their web site at:

<http://www.constellation.org/>

Dec 10: Seasonal Program: "Museums by Candlelight," 2:00 - 7:00 PM, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Frederick, MD. Cost: Free with admission to the Park. Programs include living history and music For additional information, please call 301-695-1864 or visit:

<http://www.civilwarmed.org/> or

Dec 10: Seasonal Program: "Christmas in Camp Open House," Noon - 4:00 PM; Fort Ward, Alexandria. Cost: \$2.00 (Adults). Program includes soldier and civilian living history, Victorian decorations, music, refreshments and tours of the fort. For additional information, please call 703-838-4848 or visit their web site:

<http://oha.ci.alexandria.va.us/forward>

### Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, December 13, 2005.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, December 7, 2005.

The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled .)

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Dec 10-11: "Reenactment of the Battle of Fredericksburg," Fredericksburg, VA. Events scheduled on both sides of the Rappahannock River. Activities included in downtown Fredericksburg and at Ferry Farm. For updates and additional information, please visit:

<http://www.47thva.org/>

Dec 11: Memorial Ceremony: Fredericksburg National Battlefield, Fredericksburg, VA; Wreath-laying: 2:00 PM. Commemorates the battle, includes a walking tour of the Irish Brigade march from City Dock. For updates & additional information, please visit:

<http://www.47thva.org/>

Dec 17-19: Holiday Tours: Surratt House Museum, Surratt House Museum, Clinton, MD; 6:00 - 9:00 PM. Admission: \$3.00. For additional information, please call 301-868-1121 or visit:

<http://www.surratt.org>.

## **A Logical Answer**

To Major General Early:

General: General Jackson desires to know why he saw so many of your stragglers in the rear of your division today?

(Signed) A.S. Pendleton  
A.A.G.

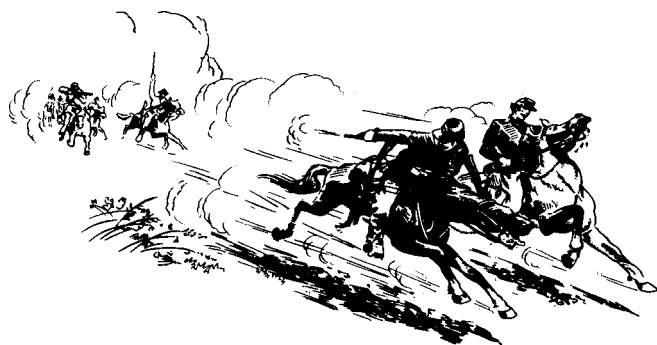
Dear General Jackson,

In answer to your note I would state that I think it is probable that the reason you saw so many of my stragglers on the march today is due to the fact that you rode in the rear of my division.

Respectfully

Jubal Early  
Major General

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

January 2006  
Volume 55, Number 5

### The War Between The Sheets

To the casual observer and the dedicated researcher, America in the 1860s appeared to be a rather antiseptic and sterile society, strictly adhering to Victorian morals and principles. But, if one reads between the lines of letters, diaries, journals, and memoirs, and knows where to look to find documents of public record, the researcher will find that the years of the War Between the States were just as passionate and human as in recent decades. Why do we have this view that wartime personalities were all of high standards and pure in thought and deed? Both soldiers and civilians of the era chose to leave a legacy carefully expunged of any behavior and activity which might reflect unfavorably upon them and their families for future generations.

In the talk that Arthur Candenquist presents to us January 10, with both narration and slides, we will look behind the closed doors and tent flaps and read between the lines of reports, letters and diaries, to examine the little known episodes involving legalized prostitution, venereal diseases, rape, homosexuality, the dalliances of some well-known wartime personalities; and we will look at surely what must be the most incredible medical story to come out of the War. Fact or fiction? You decide. By the conclusion of the presentation, you will have a better understanding that, when it comes to the unmentionable, people of the 1860s were really not much different from people today.

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### January 2006 Meeting

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, January 10, 2006	<b>Place:</b>	Officer's Club
<b>Price:</b>	Dinner \$28.00 per person Lecture only \$5.00		Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour: Cash Bar		
	7:00 pm Dinner: Chicken Marsala (Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.) Chocolate Cake		
	8:00 pm Speaker: Arthur Candenquist		
	Topic: The War Between The Sheets		

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, January 4, 2006. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall

3324 Glenmore Dr.

Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942

Email: john.restall@earthlink.net

As the Round Table must pay for all meals ordered, members and guests are obligated to pay for the meal in the event they do not attend.

**PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE ON PAGE 2**

## Officers and Board of Governors for 2003-2004

President: Susan Claffey Home: 301-585-7917 Office: 202-654-2907 Email: sclaffey@americasblood.org	Vice President: Wendy Swanson Home: 703-536-5464 Office: 703-605-7123 Email: wendy.swanson@ssa.gov	Board Member: Robert L. Cantrell Home: 703-407-2636 Office: 703-682-4845 Email: rlc@centerforadvantage.com
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**M**embership in the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia is open to anyone interested in the study of the American Civil War or American history. Our program year runs from September through May of the following year. Dues are \$25.00 per year (\$12 if you join after January 31, 2006) and should be mailed with a membership application form (available on our web site or from the address below) to:

CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005

Checks should be made out to **The CWRT of DC**. Membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter which contains notice of dinner meeting dates, speakers, and topics; information on field trips, and various Civil War related articles. Dinner meetings are held from September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fort Leslie J. McNair Officer's Club in Washington, DC. Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

### Books Needed

**I**f you have some Civil War books you no longer need, please considered donating

them to our monthly book raffle. This is an easy way to share books with others.

### IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

**W**e have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

### Newsletter by Email

**T**his newsletter is now available by email as an alternative to US mail. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, please indicate so on your membership form. You may also request this by emailing the newsletter editor. The newsletter is also published on our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>.

The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

## President's Column

by Susan Claffey

**W**elcome to 2006! I hope that your holidays were enjoyable and that the coming year is a joyful, healthy and successful one for you, your friends and family. Since the New Year brings wishes, hopes and resolutions, I decided to share a few of mine with you.

First, I will share my resolutions for the year, at least as regard the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia. One, I resolve to recommit myself to a goal that I set for my presidency, reaching out to other area Civil War Round Tables to discover if there are ways for us to combine our forces and efforts. Perhaps we could co-sponsor speakers or tours or seminars. Most importantly, can we put our common interest in the Civil War to work on preserving its hallowed ground and history for future generations of Civil War buffs? We are fortunate to have so many Round Tables in this area but the downside is a lot of dilution and duplication of effort on speakers, tours and preservation. It seems to me that the sum of the whole will be bigger than its parts and I would like to test that theory. Marc Thompson is enthused with the idea as well, and we have agreed that we will gather representatives from five or so of the Maryland, DC and Virginia Round Tables to begin discussion of the opportunities we are missing.

My second resolution is to make a field trip to Chickamauga happen this June 2006. Yup, you heard right, I want us to travel to Georgia for our weekend field trip this June. Wendy and I discussed this with Ed Bearss and he has agreed that it can be done in a weekend (if we don't do Chattanooga too) and I want to do it and make it a success. Logistically, participants would fly to Atlanta that Friday evening, June 23, and we would board the bus early on Saturday to travel the 120 miles to the Chickamauga Battlefield (no further than DC to Petersburg!) and begin the tour. We would return to the Atlanta airport in late afternoon Sunday to return to DC. I hope you will support

this trip to visit a significant Civil War site outside our "backyard."

Now, for my hopes for this Round Table, and I need your help with these too. I want to see the Bearss Bear stuffed with spare change by May! Every penny will go to our preservation award in Ed's name that we will make at his birthday party in June. I hope for some new volunteers to come forward to help with the Round Table—serve on the board, be an officer, help with tours, the newsletter, website and meeting planning—PLEASE. I also hope to see our membership grow so I am asking that you bring a guest and/or invite those you know with an interest in all things Civil War to come to one of our meetings. More members will mean better speakers and the more we can do in the way of tours and preservation. Finally, I hope to see the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia incorporate as a non-profit organization under the IRS Code 501(c)(3). How do we make that happen? I know there are lots of attorneys in our midst and I promise that I will find you.

That's it. Maybe you have a few resolutions, hopes and wishes for our Round Table too. If any of mine are a match for yours or if you have others that I have not mentioned, please let me know about them. Happy New Year, everybody!

### 50 Years Ago

**T**he Hon. George A. Dondero, M.C., a member of the Round Table, spoke about "Some Civil War Reminiscences" at the January 1956 meeting. The master story teller related incidents and anecdotes given him first hand by individuals who lived during the Civil War.

### 25 Years Ago

**I**n January 1981, the Round Table heard Dr. Benjamin Franklin Cooling, III, speak about Gideon Pillow and Lew Wallace, Enigmas of the Henry/Donelson Campaign.

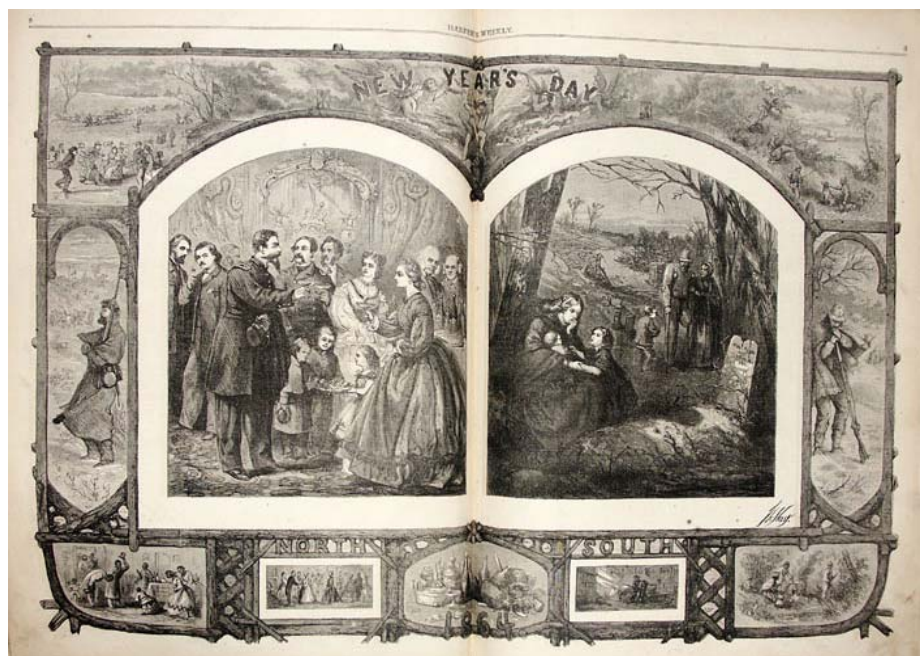


## Civil War New Years

The illustration is from the January 5, 1861 edition of Harper's Weekly. It is by Winslow Homer, and is entitled, "Seeing the Year Out". To the right in the illustration is an image of a large group of people in what appears to be sincere and earnest prayer in a church. Women appear to be weeping, and on their knees in prayer. In the background there seems to be a preacher in the pulpit with what looks like heavenly rays of light illuminating him. This portion of the image is captioned, "Watch Night". In the upper left of the overall picture is a group of heavenly beings, some have the wings of angels. To the upper right of the image seems to be tortured souls wandering in hopelessness.



Compare Homer's illustration with the Thomas Nast drawing illustrating New Years Day which was published three years later in the January 1864 edition of Harper's Weekly. The illustration shows a variety of images of things the Nation was dealing with at the time. The left image shows a proud Union soldier, home from the war and toasting his friends and family. On the right is an image of a desperate Southern family, crying over the grave of their father and husband. In the background, another family looks on and the man has lost a leg. Surrounding the two main images are a number of smaller illustrations of war and slavery. Slaves in the North are shown celebrating their freedom, while slaves in the South are shown hiding in the woods. A Union soldier on picket duty is shown standing tall and proud, well equipped and well fed with a nice coat. A Confederate soldier is shown huddling against a tree, cold and hungry, with a tattered coat. Nast also shows heavenly beings watching over, both angelic and demonic.





### Arthur Candenquist

Arthur Candenquist is Amtrak's Manager, Emergency Preparedness, and began working for the railroad in 1974 as a signal tower operator before being promoted to train dispatcher and assistant chief train dispatcher. His area of responsibility covers the 46 states where Amtrak operates. He attended Temple University and has a BS in Communications. After college he served with the U.S. Air Force for six years, including service in Vietnam.

Mr. Candenquist has been a serious scholar of the War Between the States since 1956, and focuses his attention on the more unusual and lesser-known aspects of the War. He has published two articles on keeping time during the War (there was no Standard Time during the 1860s); an article on Stonewall Jackson's appropriation of the B&O Railroad equipment in 1861; and an article on the world's first military railroad, the Centreville Military Railroad, constructed in 1861 between Manassas Jct. and Centreville, VA. He conducts field trips on various aspects of the War, and has lectured extensively on wartime railroads; the role of Masons during the War; the Kilpatrick-

Dahlgren Raid on Richmond; and the War in Virginia. He is currently working on a biography on the Confederacy's counterpart to Herman Haupt.

He is a member of a number of historical organizations including the Civil War Preservation Trust; a life member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans; a life member of the Summers-Koontz Camp 490 SCV in Luray, Va.; Blue Ridge CWRT; a life member of the Surratt Society; Brandy Station Foundation; Virginia Historical Society; Confederate Military Lodge of Research; C.W. Lodge of Research 1865 (two Masonic organizations); Museum of the Confederacy; Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia; Society of Civil War Surgeons; Civil War Education Association; New-York Historical Society; and the Titanic Historical Society. He is also a 32 degree Mason.

When not dabbling in history or working, Mr. Candenquist serves his community as a volunteer firefighter and has 43 years of fire service. He currently serves as Safety Officer with the rank of Captain. He lives near Amissville in Rappahannock County, Virginia.

### Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, January 10, 2006.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, January 4, 2006.

The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled .)

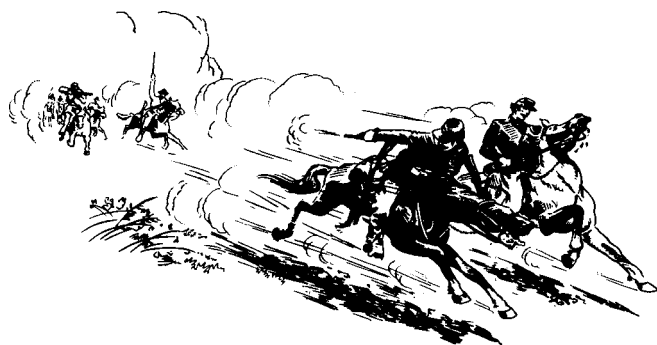
Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

## Upcoming Events

- Jan 21 Birthday Ceremony; Baltimore, 11 AM. Annual General Lee & General Jackson Birthday Ceremony at Lee/Jackson Double Equestrian Monument at Art Museum & Wyman Park Drive. All uniformed reenactors, period civilians, heritage groups & others invited. Sponsored by Col. Harry W. Gilmor Camp #1388, Sons of Confederate Veterans & Maryland Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy. Refreshments following ceremony. For more information, contact: Elliott Cummings, (410) 296-9235.
- Jan 21 Commemoration; Richmond. 181st Anniversary of Gen. George Pickett's birth at Capital Ale House, Richmond. Speaker historian Larry S. Chowning on his book "Soldiers at the Doorstep." Sponsored by the Pickett Society. For more information visit their web site at [www.pickettsociety.com](http://www.pickettsociety.com), or contact: [phwood@pickettsociety.com](mailto:phwood@pickettsociety.com);
- Jan 28 Civil War Ball at Gadsby's Tavern Ballroom, Alexandria, 8-11 PM. Live music, dance instruction, period desserts. Period attire, civilian or military, encouraged. Dance classes at Gadsby's Tavern from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Jan 12, 19 & 26. Classes \$12 each, \$30 for series. Ball \$30 in advance, \$40 at door. Reservations for both recommended. For more information, contact: (703) 838-4242; [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org)

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

February 2006  
Volume 55, Number 6

### **River of Blood - Chickamauga**

**O**n Tuesday, February 14, 2006, Ed Bearss will present on the battle of Chickamauga. During the fall of 1863, on the fields and hills in northwest Georgia, Union and Confederate armies clashed in some of the hardest fighting of the Civil War. The prize was Chattanooga, key rail center and gateway to the heart of the Confederacy. The campaign that brought the armies here began late in June 1863 when General William S. Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland, almost 60,000 strong, moved from Murfreesboro, Tennessee against General

Braxton Bragg's 43,000 Confederates dug in 20 miles to the southwest, defending the road to Chattanooga. Through a series of skillful marches, Rosecrans forced the Southerners to withdraw into Chattanooga. There Bragg dug in again, guarding the Tennessee River crossings northeast of the city, where he expected Rosecrans to attack. But early in September the Federals crossed the Tennessee well below Chattanooga and again Bragg had to withdraw southward.

(Continued on page 4.)

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### **February 2006 Meeting**

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<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour: Cash Bar		
	7:00 pm Dinner: Prime Rib		(Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.)
			Apple Pie
	8:00 pm Speaker: Edwin C. Bearss		
	Topic: River of Blood - Chickamauga		

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, February 8, 2006. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942  
Email: [restall@joimail.com](mailto:restall@joimail.com)  
If reserving a dinner by email, make  
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 Email: sclaffey@americasblood.org

Vice President: Wendy Swanson  
 Home: 703-536-5464  
 Office: 703-605-7123  
 Email: wendy.swanson@ssa.gov

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 Home: 703-385-6546  
 Office: 202-413-7200  
 Email: trdevaney48@msn.com

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 Home: 410-544-3041  
 Email: gmsteph@worldnet.att.net

Board Member: James Hurdle  
 Home: 703-525-3681  
 Email: hurdle.jim@verizon.net

Treasurer: John W. Restall  
 Home: 703-578-1942  
 Email: restall@joimail.com

Secretary: Robert A. Busillo  
 Home: 301-855-6391  
 Email: bobbusillo@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Kenneth R. Rice  
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The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
 4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
 Email: kennrice@erols.com

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## President's Column

by Susan Claffey

**W**e are truly blessed to have the remarkable Ed Bearss as our speaker this month. Ed is, without a doubt, the Civil War historian's historian. However, what I believe makes Ed the "national treasure" he is often called is his talent to make history become something living and breathing to those fortunate enough to hear him. I had just begun to succumb to the Civil War bug when I moved to DC in 1999. I did not understand the battlefields and couldn't make out on my own the ebb and flow of battle from the "monuments and placards" placed on them. On coming to DC, I had decided to take advantage of the Smithsonian in my backyard and joined the Associates. I noticed they offered Civil War battlefield tours and I said "Hey, this might be just the thing to figure this out." I signed up and went on a tour with Ed Bearss as the study leader, I think it was Chancellorsville. I didn't know Ed Bearss from the man in the moon. Actually, I knew more about the man in the moon. Well, I have lost count of the Ed Bearss tours I have taken since then. I am now beginning to understand what happens on a battlefield, and I am more engaged than ever in Civil War history and history in general. And, thanks to meeting Captain Jack Westervelt on one of those tours, and his willingness to send me information about this group, I joined our Round Table and the rest is history. (So, you can blame Ed Bearss, Jack and Tom Devaney for your current Round Table presidential dilemma.)

I believe we have a marvelous opportunity this month. We have the chance to introduce those who have never heard Ed to the "Pied Piper" of history. We have the occasion to show them what they are missing. So, I hope you will invite and bring a guest (or two or three...) to our February meeting. I know it is Valentine's Day but celebrate it the weekend before or after. Better yet, bring your spouse or significant other to the meeting.

And, since hearing Ed in a room is definitely second rate compared to walking the ground of a battlefield with him. (The Wall Street Journal wrote that he evokes "almost hallucinatory sensations". Historian Dennis Frye described a "battlefield with Ed Bearss [as a] transcendental experience.") We have the spectacular prospect of touring Chickamauga with Ed in June. Chickamauga is the bloodiest two-day battle of the Civil War but is often overlooked by the Civil War tour groups. I also encourage you to share the news of our June field trip with those you know. Give them the chance at a real treat—a Civil War battlefield tour with the impresario of tour guides, Ed Bearss.

Finally, I want you to break into your piggy bank and haul in all of that spare change I know you have to fill up Bearss Bear. Wouldn't it be great if we could fill it up while Ed is with us! I promise to remember to bring the Bear this month. I was quite unhappy with myself when Ed appeared at last month's meeting, and I failed to bring Bearss Bear. So, they have not been officially introduced! What more appropriate for Valentine's Day?

### 50 Years Ago

**B**ruce Catton spoke to the Round table on February 14, 1956. His topic was "Union Discipline and Leadership in the Civil War." His talk focused on the "loose-jointed and haphazard type of discipline which got results in the costliest and deadliest war America ever fought."

### 25 Years Ago

**I**n February 1981, Horace E. Jones, Jr., spoke to the Round Table about Andrew Johnson, Abraham Lincoln's Vice-President and successor. This was Horace Jones' fourth talk to the Round Table.

## River of Blood—Chickamauga

(Continued from page 1.)

Eluding his Federal pursuers, Bragg concentrated his forces at LaFayette, Georgia, 26 miles south of Chattanooga. Here reinforcements from East Tennessee, Virginia, and Mississippi swelled his ranks to more than 66,000 men. Twice he unsuccessfully tried to destroy isolated segments of Rosecrans' army. Then, on September 18, hoping to wedge his troops between the Federals and Chattanooga, Bragg posted his army on the west bank of Chickamauga Creek. Fighting began shortly after dawn on September 19 when Union infantry encountered Confederate cavalry at Jay's Mill. This brought on a general battle that spread south for nearly 4 miles. The armies fought desperately all day, often hand-to-hand, and gradually the Confederates pushed the Federals back. On September 20, Bragg again tried to drive between the Union force and Chattanooga, but failed to dislodge Rosecrans' line. Then a gap opened in the Federal ranks, and General James Longstreet's Confederates smashed through the hole, routing Rosecrans and half his army. General George H. Thomas took command of the remaining Federals and formed a new line of battle on Snodgrass Hill. Here his men held their ground against repeated assaults, earning for Thomas the *nom de guerre*, "Rock of Chickamauga." After dark, Thomas withdrew his men from the field and the bloodiest two day battle of the Civil War, Chickamauga, was over. Estimated Casualties: 34,624 total (US 16,170; CS 18,454).

The defeat forced the Union troops to retreat into Chattanooga. The Confederates pursued, occupying Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, and Chattanooga Valley. By placing artillery on the heights overlooking the river and blocking the roads and rail lines, the Southerners prevented Federal supplies from entering the city. This set the stage for the battle of Chattanooga, to relieve the Confederate stranglehold on the Union Army.

Bearss believes that "To really understand the full meaning of events, you have to appreciate the lay of the land, the topography of history." In June, he will lead our annual weekend field trip to explore that very ground. Please plan on joining us for "River of Blood—Chickamauga" and what is sure to another unforgettable Bearss' tour.

### Edwin C. Bearss

We are honored to have the chief historian emeritus of the National Park Service, Ed Bearss, as our February speaker. The dean of Civil War historians, Bearss is nothing short of a legend to those interested in history and a tireless tour guide to the sacred grounds of America, particularly Civil War battlefields. He is also a noted author and combat veteran of World War II.

Bearss grew up on an isolated Montana ranch listening to firsthand Civil War reminiscences by a local veteran and reading books on the Civil War. After graduating from high school in 1941, he hitchhiked his way around the country to visit the Civil War sites he had read and heard so much about while growing up. When World War II began he joined the Marines and the fighting against the Japanese in the South Pacific. In 1944, Bearss learned firsthand the value and meaning of battlefield terrain. Both of his arms were badly wounded and, with bullets in his back and foot, he crawled out of the line of fire inch by inch. The other soldiers around him who raised their heads did not make it off the field. After nearly two years of recuperation, Bearss went to Georgetown on the GI Bill. Graduating in 1949, he worked for the government and then returned to Indiana University where he earned his masters in 1955. Bearss then went to work for and made a career of the National Park Service as a historian. Bearss is devoted to the preservation of Civil War battlefields and gives freely of his time to Civil War Round Tables and other historical groups.

## Valentine's Day in the Civil War

Pragmatic, puritanical America long withstood Europe's festivities, fending off even Valentine's Day. It wasn't until the Civil War that the country relented: long, lonely rifts in families endeared the saint to them at last. Prior to the war, elaborate commercial valentines (including "mechanical" types) had begun to flood the market and grow more affordable. During the Civil War, many a lonely, crestfallen soldier had Valentines made with a heart split in two, reflecting their loved one's absence and their longing for home. For troops encamped in tents, flaps were made onto the Valentine to reveal a soldier inside (the tent) awaiting his sweetheart with open arms. This became the window Valentine. Another Civil War novelty Valentine, circa 1862, included a real lock of hair from the distant girlfriend, which the military man proudly treasured and shared with his fellow soldiers. Other Valentines to have survived the Civil War were



the paper doll variety and elaborate white lace embroideries.

When the war ended, and Americans crept into the light of Reconstruction, they found a freshly industrialized nation. Along with it came a transcontinental railroad, typewriters, an internal combustion engine, and -- most importantly for Valentine's Day -- heart-shaped boxes full of commercial chocolates (a gimmick invented by the Cadbury brothers during the 1860s). Although fine diamonds and jewelry never quite became the norm among Americans, the standard "recipe" of cards, flowers, and a heart-shaped box of chocolates had been carved in the national psyche. Now Valentine's Day is only second to Christmas in number of cards bought and sent.

The poem on the card reads:

*Love and Patriotism*

*My country's cause to serve,  
For her to do or die;  
Thy love my arm to nerve,  
Thy name my battle cry.*

### Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, February 14, 2006.

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The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled.)

Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

## Upcoming Events

Feb 11: "Hearts at War" at The Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, 1-3 PM. Program for adults using artifacts, documents & stories to look at Valentine traditions & courtship during the Civil War. Preregistration \$10 required. For more information, contact: (804) 649-1861.

Feb 17-18: "Lincoln at Gettysburg" Gettysburg. Weekend reliving Lincoln's visit to Gettysburg. Friday evening at Grand Army of the Republic Hall with local historian Tim Smith. Saturday morning walking tour of National Cemetery with Licensed Battlefield Guide. Saturday dinner at Dobbin House with Lincoln historian James Getty. For more information, contact: (800) 220-0025, [battlefielddinn@earthlink.net](mailto:battlefielddinn@earthlink.net); [www.gettysburgbattlefield.com/page29.htm](http://www.gettysburgbattlefield.com/page29.htm)

Feb 25: "Controversial Confederates" symposium at the Library of Virginia, Richmond, 9 AM - 4 PM. Speakers Gary Gallagher, Lesley Gordon, Brian Wills & Jeffrey Wert address controversial careers of Confederate officers Jubal Early, George Pickett, James Longstreet, John S. Mosby & Nathan Bedford Forrest. Co-sponsored by Museum of the Confederacy. Pre-registration required. For more information, contact: (804) 649-1861, Ext. 28

## 4 Days In May

**T**he Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston will be visiting Arlington national Cemetery and Gettysburg from May 18-21, 2006. They will have one day wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier on Friday May 19, 2006. The next day, they will travel to Gettysburg as they head home to Boston.

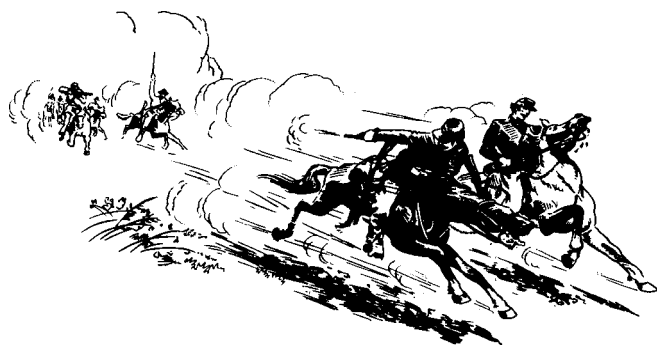
They have extended an invitation to our members to join them at The Tomb, to share this great honor with them. They will be sharing this with other Round Tables from New England, and would welcome our members as well.

This will, to the best of our knowledge, be the first time a Civil War Round Table has ever laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

If anyone wishes to join the Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston for this ceremony, and dinner that evening, please contact Dave Smith, President CWRT of GB, by email at [cwrtmass@comcast.net](mailto:cwrtmass@comcast.net) or by telephone at 781-647-3332.



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

March 2006  
Volume 55, Number 7

### **A Shattered Nation: Rise and Fall of the Confederacy**

**B**y delving into the establishment, preservation, and transformation of Confederate identity during the Civil War and Reconstruction, Dr. Anne Rubin will explain the ways Confederates connected to their national creation. She will provide a thought provoking illustration of what happens when a nation disintegrates and its people are left to forge a new identity. Although it is often held that the origin of Confederate nationalism predated the Civil War, peaked at its start and then faded quickly after the end of hostilities, Rubin will instead argue that white Southern national

identity did not begin to gel until it became clear that the Confederacy was fated to a long, destructive war with the Union. She will point out that a symbolic or sentimental Confederacy existed independent of the political Confederacy making it able to persist long after the collapse of the Confederate States of America as a nation. Rubin will show how white Southerners reframed symbols and persons of the Confederacy as emotional touchstones and political rallying points to retain local and racial control, even as many former Confederates took the loyalty oath and applied for pardons.

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### **March 2006 Meeting**

**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2006

**Price:** Dinner \$28.00 per person  
Lecture only \$5.00

**Agenda:** 6:00 pm Social Hour: Cash Bar

7:00 pm Dinner: Lasagna  
Cake

8:00 pm Speaker: Anne Rubin

Topic: A Shattered Nation: The Rise and Fall of the Confederacy

**Place:** Officer's Club  
Fort Lesley J. McNair  
Washington, DC

(Vegetarian meals are available  
upon request in advance.)

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, March 8, 2006. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942  
Email: [restall@joimail.com](mailto:restall@joimail.com)  
If reserving a dinner by email, make  
such you receive a confirmation email.

As the Round Table must pay for all meals ordered, members and guests  
are obligated to pay for the meal in the event they do not attend.

**PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE ON PAGE 2**

## Officers and Board of Governors for 2003-2004

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 Home: 301-585-7917  
 Office: 202-654-2907  
 Email: sclaffey@americasblood.org

Vice President: Wendy Swanson  
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 Email: restall@joimail.com

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 Home: 717-209-7144  
 Email: bobbusillo@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Kenneth R. Rice  
 Home: 703-527-0077  
 Email: kennrice@erols.com

**M**embership in the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia is open to anyone interested in the study of the American Civil War or American history. Our program year runs from September through May of the following year. Dues are \$25.00 per year (\$12 if you join after January 31, 2006) and should be mailed with a membership application form (available on our web site or from the address below) to:

CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
 Kenneth R. Rice  
 4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Arlington, VA 22207-3005

Checks should be made out to **The CWRT of DC**. Membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter which contains notice of dinner meeting dates, speakers, and topics; information on field trips, and various Civil War related articles. Dinner meetings are held from September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fort Leslie J. McNair Officer's Club in Washington, DC. Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

### Books Needed

**I**f you have some Civil War books you no longer need, please considered donating

them to our monthly book raffle. This is an easy way to share books with others.

### IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

**W**e have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

### Newsletter by Email

**T**his newsletter is now available by email as an alternative to US mail. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, please indicate so on your membership form. You may also request this by emailing the newsletter editor. The newsletter is also published on our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>.

The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
 4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
 Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

## President's Column A Visit to Andersonville

by Susan Claffey

On a recent business trip to Atlanta, I treated myself to a side trip to Andersonville National Historic Site. Andersonville was known as Camp Sumter during the Civil War. The park contains the historic prison site, a National Cemetery and the National Prisoner of War Museum. The museum tells the overall prisoner of war (POW) story, both of the Civil War and that of prisoner of war camps throughout history. As such, Andersonville serves as a memorial to all prisoners of war throughout our nation's history. The museum opened in 1998 and is dedicated to all of the men and women of this country who have suffered captivity. It tells their stories of sacrifice and courage.

After wandering miles and miles of two lane road through sleepy little towns, pecan and peach orchards and cotton fields, my first question was "why here?" I learned that it was precisely because of its remote location that Andersonville, Georgia was selected for a POW camp. Prior to October 1863, the Dix-Hill Cartel authorized the exchange of prisoners between the North and the South. In reality, exchange had existed since the beginning of the war and the Cartel simply formalized the practice.

All of that changed in late October 1863 when U.S. Secretary of State, Edwin Stanton, charged Confederate authorities with violating the Cartel and with having mistreated captured black soldiers and their white officers. Stanton halted any prisoner exchange and this resulted in swelling POW populations on both sides. A few days later, Confederate General Robert E. Lee advised CSA Secretary of War, James Seddon, to move the Union military prisoners held near Richmond, Virginia to a state further south where there would be greater security and a more abundant food and water supply. In November 1863, Seddon ordered Captain W. Sidney Winder to Georgia to choose a suitable

location. Winder deemed that the availability of fresh water, and its proximity to the Southwestern Railroad, made Andersonville a favorable prison location. In addition, Andersonville's population of less than 20 rendered it politically unable to resist the building of such an unpopular facility. So Andersonville was chosen as the site for a prison that would become infamous in the North for the thousands of prisoners that would die there before the war ended.

Winder was charged with Camp Sumter's construction and work began in early 1864. The design was for a prison of roughly 16 acres to hold 10,000 prisoners. The stockade was rectangular with a small creek flowing through the center of the compound. Slaves from local farms were impressed to fell trees and dig ditches. The stockade enclosure was approximately 1010 feet long and 780 feet wide and constructed of pine logs cut on site.

A light fence, known as the deadline, was erected approximately 19 feet inside the stockade wall to demarcate a no-man's land. Any prisoner caught crossing this line was immediately shot to keep them away from the stockade wall. Unfortunately no trees were spared within the stockade, leaving prisoners without shade from the heat and intensity of the sun. Sentry posts were built at intervals around the stockade and two gates were positioned along the west stockade wall.

Prisoners began arriving in late February of 1864 and by early June the prison population had climbed to 20,000. Consequently, it was decided that a larger prison was necessary and by mid-June work began to enlarge the compound. The prison's walls were extended 610 feet to the north, encompassing an area of roughly 10 acres and bringing the total prison area to 26.5 acres. The extension, built by a crew of Union prisoners in about 14 days, was opened on July 1. Prisoners subsequently tore down the original north stockade wall and used the timbers for fuel and building materials. By

August 1864, Camp Sumter was teeming with over 33,000 Union prisoners.

Sherman's troops were now marching on Atlanta and cavalry raids were feared. Winder, now a general, ordered defensive earthworks to be built along with middle and outer stockades around the prison. The middle and outer stockades were hastily built and the outer stockade was never completed. When Sherman's troops occupied Atlanta, most of the Union prisoners were transferred to other camps in Georgia and South Carolina. By mid-November, all but about 1500 prisoners had been shipped out of Andersonville and only a few guards remained to police them. Although, transfers to Andersonville in late December increased the numbers of prisoners again, the population totaled only about 5000. The count would remain this low until the war ended in April of 1865.

During the 15 months during which Camp Sumter was operated, more than 45,000 Union soldiers were confined there and almost 13,000 of these prisoners died of malnutrition, overcrowding, exposure, poor sanitation and disease. The reality was that captives on both sides of the conflict suffered horribly. Of the 194,732 Union POW's, some 30,000 died while captive. The North held nearly 220,000 Confederate prisoners and nearly 26,000 of them died. Elmira New York's 24% death rate nearly matched the 29% rate at Andersonville. Nevertheless, Andersonville became synonymous with the atrocities experienced by prisoners of war.

After the war ended, Confederate Captain Henry Wirz, commandant of Camp Sumter, became the scapegoat for an outraged Northern public. Wirz was arrested, tried and hung as a war criminal on the grounds of Ft. McNair, then the Washington Arsenal. As for Andersonville, the plot of ground near the prison where nearly 13,000 Union soldiers were buried became a National Cemetery. In July 1865, Clara Barton came to identify and mark

the graves. The prison ground reverted to private hands and was planted in cotton and other crops. In 1891, the land was acquired by the Grand Army of the Republic of Georgia. During their administration, stone monuments were constructed to mark various portions of the prison including the four corners of the inner stockade and its north and south gates. In 1910 the prison site was donated to the people of the U.S. and in 1971 turned over to the administration of the National Park Service.



For 15 months, Andersonville was as miserable a spot as can be imagined. Today, it is a beautiful, peaceful, remote place whose ghosts solemnly whisper to their visitors of the misery, suffering and death that occurred here.

### **50 Years Ago**

**D**r. Bell Irwin Wiley spoke to the Round Table on March 13, 1956. His topic was "Johnny Reb and Billy Yank." This was a human interest portrait of the common soldiers of the North and South as they revealed themselves in letters and diaries.

### **25 Years Ago**

**I**n March 1981, Elden E. (Josh) Billings spoke to the Round Table about the battle of Mobile Bay. This was past-president Jose Billings' ninth presentation to the Round table.

## Dr. Anne Rubin

Anne Sarah Rubin is an associate professor of history at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She earned her B.A. from Princeton University and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. Rubin is the recipient of one of the most prestigious prizes in her field, the e-Lincoln Prize, for scholarly work in Civil War-era history. Her dissertation on Confederate nationalism between 1863 and 1868 formed the backbone for her book, **A Shattered Nation: The Rise and Fall of the Confederacy, 1861-1868**. That book has been awarded the 2006 Avery O. Craven Award for the most original book on Civil War and Reconstruction from the Organization of American Historians.

The e-Lincoln Prize was the result of Anne Rubin's work on the electronic project, **Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War - The Eve of War. Valley of the Shadow** is a richly detailed portrait of antebellum life in two rural communities, one in Pennsylvania, the other in Virginia. Rubin joined the project's staff while a graduate student at the University of Virginia.

The original concept of the project, begun by Rubin's advisor Edward Ayers in the early 1990s, was to produce a traditional scholarly book, but "this is a case where technology caught up with what we wanted to do," explains Rubin. Combining the power and flexibility of the new digital formats with the depth and detail of primary documents, **Valley of the Shadow** brings the communities vividly to life, and allows visitors to work with the historian's tools, including a trove of original letters, diaries, census data, business and military records, even newspaper articles and contemporary music.

She served as the Valley project manager from 1994 through August 1996, taking her 1995-1996 school year off from graduate study to work full time on this

outstanding project. As project manager for several years, Rubin supervised the staff's digging for historical nuggets in the field (tucked away in libraries, tiny historical societies, and house attics) and then oversaw the translation of these documents into digital format. She continues to work for the project as a part-time consultant. To view the website, visit [valley.vcdh.virginia.edu](http://valley.vcdh.virginia.edu).

## 4 Days In May

The Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston will be visiting Arlington national Cemetery and Gettysburg from May 18-21, 2006. They will have one day wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier on Friday May 19, 2006. The next day, they will travel to Gettysburg as they head home to Boston.

They have extended an invitation to our members to join them at The Tomb, to share this great honor with them. They will be sharing this with other Round Tables from New England, and would welcome our members as well.

This will, to the best of our knowledge, be the first time a Civil War Round Table has ever laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

If anyone wishes to join the Civil War Round Table of Greater Boston for this ceremony, and dinner that evening, please contact Dave Smith, President CWRT of GB, by email at [cwrtmass@comcast.net](mailto:cwrtmass@comcast.net) or by telephone at 781-647-3332.

## New Member

Please welcome Joyce A. Mader, our newest member, to the Round Table.

## Upcoming Events

**Mar 4** Premiere of Independent Film "The Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill)," 10 a.m., Cinema Arts Theatre, Fairfax. Admission \$5. For more information: Chuck Mauro, (703) 787-9879, [cmauro10@aol.com](mailto:cmauro10@aol.com); [www.cinemaartstheatre.com](http://www.cinemaartstheatre.com)

**Mar 4** 7th Annual Civil War Seminar, "Technology & Advancements in the Civil War," at Longwood University, Farmville, 9:30 a.m. Speakers include Don Markle, Michael Boehme, John Hennessy, John Arnold. Free. Sponsored by Appomattox Court House National Historical Park & Longwood Dept of History & Political Science. For more information: Dr. David Coles, (434) 395-2220 or Patrick Schroeder, (434) 352-8987, Ext. 32; [www.longwood.edu](http://www.longwood.edu)

**Mar 17** "Another Evening with A.P. Hill" with Patrick Falci as Hill at Culpeper Best Western, 6:30 p.m. Fundraiser to benefit Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield and battlefield restoration & interpretation. Reenactors, social hour, silent auction, 3-entree buffet. For more information: tickets by March 14, FCMB, P.O. Box 1853, Culpeper, VA 22701, (540) 825-5549

**Mar 17 - Mar 18** "The Irish at Gettysburg" weekend in Gettysburg. Saturday, Licensed Battlefield Guide Rich Kohr tour of path of Irish Brigade across Gettysburg battlefield. Followed by Irish food & song with troubadour John DuRant. For more information: (800) 220-0025, [battlefieldinn@earthlink.net](mailto:battlefieldinn@earthlink.net); [www.gettysburgbattlefield.com/page29.htm](http://www.gettysburgbattlefield.com/page29.htm)

**Mar 18** "Women's Fashions of the Civil War Era" at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, Alexandria, 1 p.m. Linda R. Duffy slide lecture survey of women's dress, from undergarments to day and evening wear, and exhibit, Off the Pages of Godey's: A Guide to the "Domestic Sciences." Admission \$6. For more information: reservations, (703) 838-4848

**Mar 18** "Defending the Peninsula" tour from Lee Hall Mansion, Newport News, 9-4. Following the advance of the Army of the Potomac with Michael Moore. Includes Fort Monroe, Monitor-Merrimack Overlook, Young's Mill, Warwick C. H., Lee's Mill, Skiffes Creek Redoubt & Dam No. 1. \$40. For more information: (757) 888-3371; [www.leehall.org](http://www.leehall.org)

**Mar 23** Tour of historic Orange County, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., from Lake of the Woods Clubhouse lower parking lot with county historian Frank S. Walker Jr. Includes the Plank Roads, Blue Ridge Turnpike, Barboursville, Germanna, Gordonsville, Orange & Montpelier. \$55 includes snacks, lunch. Hosted by and benefit for Friends of Wilderness Battlefield. For more information: and reservations, Dwight Mottet at (540) 972-3204 or [dwightmottet@aol.com](mailto:dwightmottet@aol.com). Checks payable to Friends of Wilderness Battlefield to Mottet at 215 Creekside Dr., Locust Grove, VA 22508.

**Mar 25** Anniversary of March 23, 1862, First Battle of Kernstown near Winchester. Walking tours of the Pritchard-Grim Farm and Rose Hill by historian Gary Ecelbarger. Artillery & infantry demonstrations. Hosted by Kernstown Battlefield Association. Free to KBA and Museum of the Shenandoah Valley members. \$5 at both sites for nonmembers. For more information: Gary Crawford, (703) 478-9530; <http://www.kernstownbattle.org>

**Mar 31** Culpeper Remembrance Weekend dinner with Gen. WJF Rooney Lee & Maj. HB McClellan. Hosted by Brandy Station Foundation, 6:30 p.m. \$20 by reservation. Tours of the Foundation's Graffiti House. For more information: [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com). Reservations to BSF, P.O. Box 165, Brandy Station, VA 22714.

**THE CIVIL WAR,  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
AND THE IRISH REGIMENTS**

Perhaps the most eagerly anticipated day of the year for an Irishman fighting in the Civil War was St. Patrick's Day. Always celebrated in high-style back on the "Ould Sod" and in Irish neighborhoods in the US, the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac's Irish units kept this tradition alive and perhaps even enhanced it a bit. The St. Patrick's Day celebrations of the Irish Brigade are well-documented.

During the four years of the war, Irish soldiers observed four St. Patrick's Days. Each was marked in varying styles, depending on their unit, its military situation, and its ability to procure what was necessary for a "good" celebration. Just as the Irish Brigade was famous for its celebrations of St. Patrick's Day, so too were most of the "lesser-known" Irish regiments serving in the Army of the Potomac.

Following is an excerpt on the Irish Brigade's 1863 St. Patrick's Day festivities from "Campaigning With the Irish Brigade: John Ryan, 28th Massachusetts," published by AST Press. Ryan had a lengthy Army career

starting in late 1861 when he enlisted in the 28th Massachusetts Infantry, destined to become a part of the famed Irish Brigade, and lasting until December 1876. Ryan served on the Plains for 10 years with the 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment under Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer.

"It appears after the disastrous battle of December 13, 1862, the Irish Brigade remained in winter quarters near Falmouth doing the usual guard and picket duty and along towards St. Patrick's Day preparations were made by the officers of the brigade at General Meagher's headquarters to celebrate it in a fitting way. On the morning of the 17th of March, the sports commenced on the division drill ground that laid between the Irish Brigade and General Hancock's headquarters, our division commander. They started in by horse-racing and hurdle jumping, for which there were prizes offered and for mule racing. In the mule race, the prize was for the one that came in last, as the mules are known to be very stubborn animals. They also had foot racing, sack racing, picking up stones, climbing the greased pole, which had a thirty-day furlough and thirty dollars in money attached to it. The man that climbed the pole received it. There were many other sports too numerous to mention, which the enlisted men and officers enjoyed very much. (Cont'd on page 8)

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**Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, March 14, 2006.**

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, March 8, 2006.

The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled .)

Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

“Along towards evening, the troops and officers adjourned to their respective camps. At Gen. T.F. Meagher's headquarters, a large platform was erected and there were all kinds of jig dancing on this platform; also all kinds of refreshments and drinks served, such as the quartermaster of the brigade brought with him from Washington for the occasion, consisting of the side of an ox, thirty-five hams, two pigs stuffed with boiled chickens, and any amount of chickens, ducks and game. The drinks consisted of about eight baskets of champagne, eight gallons of rum, and twenty-five quarts of whiskey.

“There were assembled at this time probably ten thousand men from the different corps and regiments in the Army of the Potomac. Among them were Generals Hancock, Slocum, Griffin, Sedgwick, Franklin and others. Among the officers present on the occasion were Lt. [John H.] Gleeson of the 63rd New York, supposed to be one of the jolliest and best officers of the Irish Brigade. He was the tallest officer in the Army of the Potomac. Also the brave and gallant Lt. Gosson better known as

‘Jack’ Gosson, of the Irish Brigade. He was a fine looking soldier and always appeared in a very handsome uniform on all occasions. Also the brave and gallant Lt. (Richard Riker) Emmet. Gosson and Emmett were both staff officers on the brigade staff, Gosson being adjutant general.

“While the sport was going on and the men and officers were enjoying themselves, all of a sudden we heard the booming of the cannons and we knew then that something was up and that put a stop to a good deal of the amusements, as the long roll sounded and the troops were all ordered into line in light marching order. We remained in line for sometime. Finally, we had orders to stack arms, which we did. This cannonading that we heard happened to be our cavalry and the Confederates having a sharp fight at Kelly's Ford a few miles up the Rappahannock River. We broke ranks and had considerable amusements in the camps. The sports at brigade headquarters continued until late into the night when darkness set in. That finally wound up the sports and amusements on that date.”



**Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia  
2006 Field Trip  
River of Blood--Chickamauga with Ed Bears  
June 24 & 25, 2006  
TOUR INFORMATION**

What Is Included:

Expert Tour Leader.

Hotel accommodations for two (2) nights.

Shuttle to hotel from Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport.

Meals, breakfast Saturday and Sunday, and dinner Saturday.

Service charges and gratuities.

All on-tour transportation. Motor coach to and around battlefield Saturday and Sunday, transportation to hotel and dinner Saturday evening and return motor coach to Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport on Sunday.

What is not included:

Airfare, transportation to/from your home to Atlanta.

Personal items such as wines, liquors, a-la-carte orders, meals other than specified above, in-hotel movies.

Other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Registration

Space is reserved in the order of receipt of reservation request. To submit a request for a reservation, please submit the completed Registration Request, the signed and dated Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer and deposit or payment in full. Deposits are applied to payment of the tour price. Submitting the Reservation Request does not guarantee you a space on this tour. You will be notified of your status when your request has been received and processed. If there is no space available, you will automatically be placed on a waiting list, notified of your status, and any payment included with the Reservation Request will be refunded.

The registration package, including the request form, is available on our web site at:

<http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

You may call 202-654-2980 or e-mail [cwrtdc@verizon.net](mailto:cwrtdc@verizon.net) for up-to-date tour information.

The tour is designed for adults but may be suitable for children 14 years or age or older, with the necessary curiosity and interest. Regardless of age children must pay full price and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

**River of Blood—Chickamauga (September 19-20, 1863)**  
**Itinerary with Tour Leader, Ed Bearss:**

Itinerary is subject to minor change

Friday, June 23, 2006

Arrive Atlanta (transportation to Atlanta NOT included in registration price).  
Hampton Inn Atlanta-Airport has complimentary airport shuttle.

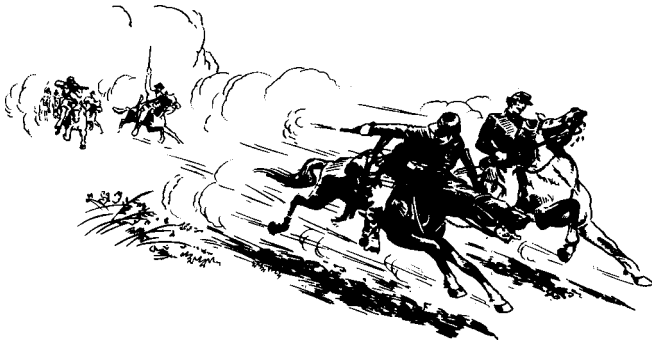
Saturday, June 24, 2006

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Hampton Inn Atlanta-Airport (included in registration price)
- 7:30 a.m. Depart hotel for Chickamauga National Military Park
- 9:45 a.m. Visitor Center--Rest stop, exhibits, A/V program, bookstore
- 11:00 a.m. Depart Visitor Center for first day's fighting, Crawfish Springs Lee and Gordon's Mill
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch (Ft. Oglethorpe)—fast food (not included in registration price)
- 1:30 p.m. Return to Battlefield, Reed's Bridge, Jay's Mill, Winfrey's Field, Brotherton's Cabin, Widow Glenn's Cabin
- 6:00 p.m. Depart for hotel
- 6:30 p.m. Arrive by bus at hotel: Wingate Inn, Dalton GA
- 7:30 p.m. Depart for dinner at Dalton's Depot (food, but not liquor, included in registration price)

Sunday, June 25, 2006

- 6:45 a.m. Breakfast at hotel (included in registration price)
- 7:15 a.m. Depart for battlefield
- 7:45 a.m. Arrive battlefield for second day's fighting, Thomas' Line of Battle, Texas Monument, Longstreet's Breakthrough
- 11:15 a.m. Lunch (Ft. Oglethorpe)—fast food (not included in registration price)
- 1:00 p.m. Return to Battlefield, Hood's Wounding, South Carolina Monument, Snodgrass Hill
- 3:30 p.m. Depart for Atlanta Hartsfield Airport
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive Airport (plan your flight departures for 7:00 p.m. or later)

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

April 2006  
Volume 55, Number 8

### **Monocacy - The Battle That Saved Washington**

**S**pring has sprung! We are going to celebrate the arrival of good weather by taking a tour of the Monocacy Battlefield on Saturday, April 15. Known as the "battle that saved Washington, D.C.," the battle of Monocacy took place on July 9, 1864, on the outskirts of Frederick City, Maryland, just 35 miles from the capital city. Union General Lew Wallace cobbled together enough resistance at Monocacy Junction to buy the time for U.S. Grant to reinforce Washington's defenses and rebuff Confederate General Jubal Early's advance on the US Capitol.

Our expert tour leaders will be our very own Gail Stephens and her partner in "Lew Wallace-ness", Gloria Swift. This tour is **FREE**. We plan to meet at the Gambrill Mill Visitors Center at 9:30 AM. Everyone is responsible for their own transportation to the battlefield. We plan to picnic at the battlefield if the weather permits. So do watch the weather report Friday and bring a bag lunch if there is no precipitation in the forecast. If the weather is not cooperative, we will break and drive the short distance to Frederick for a quick lunch. Gail and Gloria tell me the tour will conclude around 3:30 PM.

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### **April 2006 Meeting**

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, April 11, 2006	<b>Place:</b>	Officer's Club
<b>Price:</b>	Dinner \$28.00 per person Lecture only \$5.00		Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour:	Cash Bar	
	7:00 pm Dinner:	Chicken Piccata	(Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.)
		Tiramisu	
		And a Vegetable that is not Green Beans	
	8:00 pm Speaker:	Gloria Swift and Gail Stephens	
	Topic:	Monocacy - The Battle that Saved Washington	

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, April 5, 2006. Please send them to:

Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

Phone: 703-578-1942  
Email: [restall@joimail.com](mailto:restall@joimail.com)  
If reserving a dinner by email, make  
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## Officers and Board of Governors for 2003-2004

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Email: wendy.swanson@ssa.gov

Board Member: Robert L. Cantrell  
Home: 703-407-2636  
Office: 703-682-4845  
Email: rlc@centerforadvantage.com

Past President: Thomas R. Devaney  
Home: 703-385-6546  
Office: 202-413-7200  
Email: trdevaney48@msn.com

Board Member: Gail Stephens  
Home: 410-544-3041  
Email: gmsteph@worldnet.att.net

Board Member: James Hurdle  
Home: 703-525-3681  
Email: hurdle.jim@verizon.net

Treasurer: John W. Restall  
Home: 703-578-1942  
Email: restall@joimail.com

Secretary: Robert A. Busillo  
Home: 717-209-7144  
Email: bobbusillo@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Kenneth R. Rice  
Home: 703-527-0077  
Email: kennrice@erols.com

**M**embership in the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia is open to anyone interested in the study of the American Civil War or American history. Our program year runs from September through May of the following year. Dues are \$25.00 per year (\$12 if you join after January 31, 2006) and should be mailed with a membership application form (available on our web site or from the address below) to:

CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005

Checks should be made out to **The CWRT of DC**. Membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter which contains notice of dinner meeting dates, speakers, and topics; information on field trips, and various Civil War related articles. Dinner meetings are held from September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fort Leslie J. McNair Officer's Club in Washington, DC. Guests are always welcome at our meetings.

### Books Needed

**I**f you have some Civil War books you no longer need, please considered donating

them to our monthly book raffle. This is an easy way to share books with others.

### IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

**W**e have been entering and leaving through the P Street gate. Please be prepared for a short delay getting through the gate when you arrive. This is for both vehicles and pedestrians. They will ask for a picture ID, search bags, and cars without a current DOD sticker.

### Newsletter by Email

**T**his newsletter is now available by email as an alternative to US mail. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, please indicate so on your membership form. You may also request this by emailing the newsletter editor. The newsletter is also published on our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>.

The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

**President's Column**

by Susan Claffey

**D**on't forget to sign-up for our June 23-25 weekend field trip to Chickamauga with Ed Bearss. It is sure to be an unforgettable tour. If you can't make it but know of someone who might be interested in joining us, please share the tour information with them or direct them to our website for the information. Our website is <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>. We have high hopes that this field trip will be a huge success and appreciate your help to promote it. We are extending an invitation to many of our fellow Round Tables around the country to join us on this tour and to help us celebrate Ed's 83rd birthday while on the trip.

Finally, those of you who attended last month's meeting know that our speaker, Dr. Anne Rubin, was taken ill with the flu at the last minute and had to cancel. I want to thank you for helping to make the best of a very difficult situation. I am very pleased to announce that the Mary Cutis Lee-17th Virginia Regiment Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy has very graciously extended an invitation to our Round Table to join them at their Saturday, April 1 meeting to hear Dr. Rubin speak. She will present on the role of Confederate women in the Civil War and her

talk will begin at 10:15 AM. The UDC meets at 806 Prince Street, Alexandria. They warn us that parking can be a problem. I hope that some CWRT-DC members will take them up on this generous invitation and attend to hear Dr. Rubin.

**50 Years Ago**

**M**ajor Joseph Mills Hanson received the 4<sup>th</sup> Gold Medal award at the April 10, 1956, meeting of the Round Table. The Round Table also heard the following special message from President Eisenhower. "Please convey my greetings to those who will attend this year's Gold Medal Award Dinner of the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia. To Major Joseph Mills Hanson, honored on this occasion, I extend warm congratulations. I know all of you will have an interesting and enjoyable evening, one which will add to your enthusiasm for knowledge of the Civil War period and stimulate further investigations into this important chapter of the history of America."

**25 Years Ago**

**I**n April 1981, the Round Table held their first joint meeting with the American Revolution Round Table of DC. The topic was "Aaron Burr, Rascal of the Revolution" presented by Michael J. Goergen.

**Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, April 11, 2006.**

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, April 5, 2006.

The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
(Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled .)

Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. John Restall  
3324 Glenmore Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3317

**The Montgomery County CWRT  
Presents Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr.**

Thursday, May 4, 2006  
Holiday Inn, Gaithersburg

**T**he Montgomery County Civil War Round Table will hold its annual banquet with an appearance by Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr. at our annual banquet to be held Thursday, May 4 at the Holiday Inn in Gaithersburg, Maryland. As Executive Director of the Civil War Centennial Commission, Dr. Robertson was instrumental in forming the policies that were implemented in the nation's commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Civil War. His topic will cover the work of the Commission from his appointment by the late President Kennedy through the four years of commemoration and work to honor the men and women who had lived and died in the 1861-1865 era. You will meet the political movers and shakers of the day, as well as the historians who molded the policies and procedures for the nation's 100th remembrance of our Civil War.

A cash bar will be available at 6:00 PM. There will be a Silent Auction all evening. There will be a book sale and signing for Bud's latest book – **Robert E. Lee: Virginian Soldier, American Citizen** as well as other Robertson tomes.

Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM. Dinner will be London Broil and strawberry cheesecake for dessert. A vegetable plate or fruit plate, is also available.

Special events, awards, book raffle and speaker start at 8:00 PM

Dinner Fee: \$25.00 per person, or to hear the speaker only, \$5.00 per person. Whether you are coming for dinner or to hear the speaker only, you must have a pre-paid reservation. The deadline for paid reservations is Monday, May 1, 2006

For further information, contact: Vicki Heilig, 11843 Summer Oak Dr., Germantown, MD 20874, Phone: 301-972-3496

Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia 2006 Field Trip

# River of Blood — Chickamauga with Ed Bearss

## June 24 & 25, 2006

### TOUR INFORMATION

#### What Is Included:

- Expert Tour Leader.
- Hotel accommodations for two (2) nights.
- Shuttle to hotel from Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport.
- Meals, as indicated on the itinerary below.
- Service charges and gratuities.
- All on-tour transportation. Motor coach to and around battlefield Saturday and Sunday, transportation to hotel and dinner Saturday evening and return motor coach to Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport on Sunday.

#### What Is Not included:

- Airfare, transportation to/from your home to Atlanta.
- Personal items such as wines, liquors, a-la-carte orders, meals other than specified on itinerary below, in-hotel movies.
- Other items not specifically mentioned as included.

#### **Registration**

- Space is reserved in the order of receipt of reservation request. To submit a request for a reservation, please submit the completed Registration Request, the signed and dated Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer (both below) and deposit or payment in full. Deposits are applied to payment of the tour price.
- Submitting this Reservation Request does not guarantee you a space on this tour. You will be notified of your status when your request has been received and processed.

If there is no space available, you will automatically be placed on a waiting list, notified of your status, and any payment included with this Reservation Request will be refunded.

The tour is designed for adults but may be suitable for children 14 years or age or older, with the necessary curiosity and interest. Regardless of age children must pay full price and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

To complete your registration request, the following is necessary:

Deposit of \$200 per person, due with this Registration Request. Please note: Balance due 30 days prior to the tour. You will not be invoiced. **If the balance is not received 30 days prior to departure, your place cannot be guaranteed.** Full payment is due if you register within 15 days of the date of departure, please call 202-654-2980 to confirm availability.

### **Cancellations and Refunds**

- Cancellation within 30 days of departure: \$50.00 retained; remainder refunded.
- Cancellation within 15 days of departure: \$150.00 retained; remainder refunded.
- Cancellation within 7 days of departure: no refund.
- Cancellation by the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia: full refund.
- No refund for unused portions of this tour, including but not limited to missed meals, hotel nights.
- Refunds will be processed within 45 days of cancellation.

You may cancel your participation in the tour 2 ways: Phone: 202-654-2980 prior to June 23, 2006 or by Email: [cwrtdc@verizon.net](mailto:cwrtdc@verizon.net) prior to June 23, 2006

**PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO OUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS POLICY.**

### **Rating of Outdoor Trips**

Participants should be in good physical condition with some hiking experience because this tour will involve daily walks. On the afternoon of day two of the tour, there will be a moderately difficult walk of approximately 1/3 mile and an easy walk of approximately 2/3 mile.

### **Preparing for this Tour**

Prior to departure, you may visit the following website: <http://ngeorgia.com/history/chickam.html> for a summary of the battle and links to Chickamauga National Military Park, maps of the period and additional information on the battle.

Suggested Reading in anticipation of this tour:

**Chickamauga and Chattanooga : The Battles That Doomed the Confederacy** by John Bowers--As do many students of the Civil War, the author endeavors to prove that the battles of Chickamauga and Chattanooga meant the end of the Confederacy

**A Deep Steady Thunder : The Battle of Chickamauga(Civil War Campaigns and Commanders)** by Steven E. Woodworth, Grady McWhiney--This exciting work tells the story of Chickamauga more like a novel than historical fact.

**Chickamauga : River of Death**, Starring: John Cissell. This is a detailed video on Chickamauga.

**Paths to Victory : A History and Tour Guide of the Stone's River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Nashville Campaigns** by Jim Miles--A must-have for any traveler visiting this area and interested in the Civil War. A Georgia schoolteacher, Jim Miles is not only familiar with the area, he knows the Civil War.

**Blue Lightning : Wilder's Mounted Infantry Brigade in the Battle of Chickamauga** by Richard A. Baumgartner--Wilder's attack, it can be argued, saved the Union effort in the West in 1863.

For Addition Information about the hotel accommodations for this tour:

Hampton Inn Atlanta-Airport: phone (770) 996-2200  
Wingate Inn—Dalton: phone (706) 272-9099



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **How do I get the complimentary shuttle from Atlanta Hartsfield Jackson Airport to the Hampton Inn Atlanta Airport?**

When you arrive at the Atlanta Hartsfield Jackson Airport, follow the signs to baggage claim and locate the hotel courtesy phones. Dial 50 for the Hampton Inn Atlanta Airport and inform the hotel that you are ready for pick-up. They will provide you with any additional information to locate the shuttle.

### **How can I find up to date information about the tour?**

You may call **202-654-2980** or email **cwrtdc@verizon.net** for up to date tour information. If you have any concerns about weather, we suggest you call 202-306-4988 prior to departing from home.

### **How can I order a meal that fits my dietary needs (food allergies/vegetarian)?**

Persons with special dietary requirements should complete the section provided on the Registration Request for these special requirements. You will be notified if your request cannot be met.

### **Does the tour operate rain or shine?**

Yes, the tour operates rain or shine. However, in the case of severe weather, the tour may be rescheduled, please call **202-306-4988** for last minute tour information prior to the tour.

### **How do I know if I meet the physical requirements for the tour?**

Please review the *Rating of Outdoor Trips* above for the physical requirements. If you are still doubtful of your physical abilities, please contact 202-654-2980 to discuss requirements for the tour.

### **What do I need to bring/wear on tour?**

Bring comfortable walking shoes and clothes suitable for the weather, hats, sunglasses, and be prepared for rain. ***Historically, for the Chattanooga area in late June, the weather is humid with an average high temperature of 88°F and an average low of 67°F.***

### **Is travel insurance provided?**

No, travel insurance is not provided.

### **Do you wait for everyone before the tour departs?**

Tour departs ON-TIME and does **not** wait for late arrivals.

### **How are seats determined on the bus?**

Seats on the bus are first-come/first-served but seats at or near the front of the bus may be reserved for those with special needs.

### **Important Tour Policies:**

- Signed Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer is required by all participants.
- Smoking is not permitted on the bus.
- Our Cancellation and Refund Policy is strictly enforced.  
Itinerary subject to minor changes as determined by the tour leader.

## **River of Blood--Chickamauga** (September 19-20, 1863)

### **Itinerary with Tour Leader, Ed Bearss:**

This itinerary is subject to minor changes.

#### **Friday, June 23, 2006**

Arrive Atlanta (transportation to Atlanta is NOT included in registration price).  
Hampton Inn Atlanta-Airport has complimentary airport shuttle.

#### **Saturday; June 24, 2006**

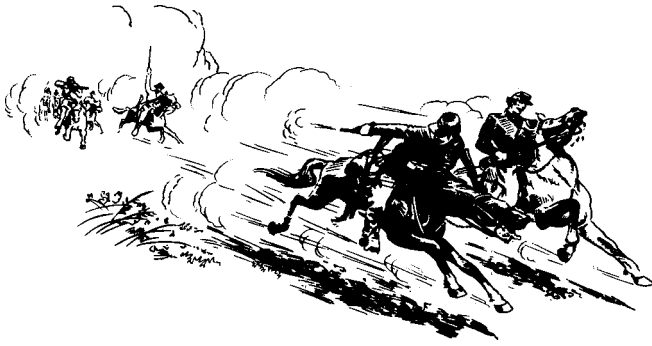
- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Hampton Inn Atlanta-Airport (included in registration price)
- 7:30 a.m. Depart hotel for Chickamauga National Military Park
- 9:45 a.m. Visitor Center--Rest stop, exhibits, A/V program, bookstore
- 11:00 a.m. Depart Visitor Center for first day's fighting
  - Crawfish Springs
  - Lee and Gordon's Mill
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch (Ft. Oglethorpe)—fast food (not included in registration price)
- 1:30 p.m. Return to Battlefield
  - Reed's Bridge
  - Jay's Mill
  - Winfrey's Field
  - Brotherton's Cabin
  - Widow Glenn's Cabin
- 6:00 p.m. Depart for hotel
- 6:30 p.m. Arrive by bus at hotel: Wingate Inn, Dalton GA
- 7:30 p.m. Depart for dinner at Dalton's Depot (food, but not liquor, included in registration price)

#### **Sunday; June 25, 2006**

- 6:45 a.m. Breakfast at hotel (included in registration price)
- 7:15 a.m. Depart for battlefield
- 7:45 a.m. Arrive battlefield for second day's fighting
  - Thomas' Line of Battle
  - Texas Monument
  - Longstreet's Breakthrough
- 11:15 a.m. Lunch (Ft. Oglethorpe)—fast food (not included in registration price)
- 1:00 p.m. Return to Battlefield
  - Hood's Wounding
  - South Carolina Monument
  - Snodgrass Hill
- 3:30 p.m. Depart for Atlanta Hartsfield Airport
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive Airport (plan your flight departures for 7:00 p.m. or later)



# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



## *News Letter*

May 2006  
Volume 55, Number 9

### **Twilight at Little Round Top: July 2, 1863 The Tide Turns at Gettysburg**

**L**ittle Round Top has become iconic in Civil War literature and American memory. Glenn LaFantasie, noted Civil War historian, will tell us the story of the battle for Little Round Top from the perspective of the soldiers who fought and died in July 1863.

LaFantasie will address that epic struggle, how those warriors felt then and later, and their physical and emotional attachment to a piece of ground that linked them forever with their nation's fate. He sorts through a welter of contradictory testimony to present a splendid

account of the action and will place the events on Little Round Top, which often are exaggerated, within the broader sweep of the battle. LaFantasie sheds new light on this legendary battle by telling the story as it really happened—through the experiences of both high-ranking officers and low-ranking privates. He will guide us to look beyond the legendary exploits and heroic tales of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain to offer piercing portraits of the other individuals who played a much more pivotal role on the hill.

---

### **May 2006 Meeting**

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, May 9, 2006	<b>Place:</b>	Officer's Club Fort Lesley J. McNair Washington, DC
<b>Price:</b>	Dinner \$28.00 per person Lecture only \$5.00		
<b>Agenda:</b>	6:00 pm Social Hour: Cash Bar 7:00 pm Dinner: Prime Rib Cheesecake	(Vegetarian meals are available upon request in advance.)	
	8:00 pm Speaker: Glenn LaFantasie Topic: Twilight at Little Round Top		

Guests are always welcome to attend our meetings.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, May 3, 2006. Please send them to:

Mr. Jim Hurdle  
1632 N Randolph St.  
Arlington, VA 22207-3025

Phone: 703-525-3681  
Email: [hurdle.jim@verizon.net](mailto:hurdle.jim@verizon.net)  
If reserving a dinner by email, make  
such you receive a confirmation email.

As the Round Table must pay for all meals ordered, members and guests  
are obligated to pay for the meal in the event they do not attend.

**PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE ON PAGE 2**

## Officers and Board of Governors for 2005-2006

President: Susan Claffey Home: 301-585-7917 Office: 202-654-2907 Email: sclaffey@americasblood.org	Vice President: Wendy Swanson Home: 703-536-5464 Office: 703-605-7123 Email: wendy.swanson@ssa.gov	Board Member: Robert L. Cantrell Home: 703-407-2636 Office: 703-682-4845 Email: rlc@centerforadvantage.com
Past President: Thomas R. Devaney Home: 703-385-6546 Office: 202-413-7200 Email: trdevaney48@msn.com	Board Member: Gail Stephens Home: 410-544-3041 Email: gmsteph@worldnet.att.net	Board Member: James Hurdle Home: 703-525-3681 Email: hurdle.jim @verizon.net
Treasurer: John W. Restall Home: 703-578-1942 Email: restall@joimail.com	Secretary: Robert A. Busillo Home: 717-209-7144 Email: bobbusillo@aol.com	Newsletter Editor: Kenneth R. Rice Home: 703-527-0077 Email: kennrice@erols.com

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The editor's address is:

Kenneth R. Rice  
4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22207-3005  
Email: kennrice@erols.com

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Visit our web site at: <http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

## President's Column

by Susan Claffey

**T**his is my final column as President of the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia. May is our final meeting of the program year, leaving only the field trip to Chickamauga in June. I have enjoyed the year immensely. *Thank you for allowing me be your President.*

This past year, the board and I have focused on rebuilding and, to a certain extent, reinventing this Round Table. We have experimented a bit by adding a couple of day tours to the schedule — Sheridan's Richmond Raid in November and a terrific tour of Monocacy we enjoyed just this past month. The speaker explored the Civil War beyond the battle and military aspects. After all, the war was far more than battles as it reached into and irrevocably altered every segment of this nation's life. Our field trip will be to the Western Theater for the first time. If it isn't a first, it is the first time in a long, long time. Many scholars of the Civil War believe that the war was truly won in the West so we should go look for ourselves and see if we agree.

The board and officers need your feedback on these efforts. Do they work for you? What do you like, what don't you like? What's missing and what can we let go? This is your Round Table and the only way we can best meet the wants and needs of our members, is if you tell us how we are doing and what you would like to see going forward. Please take the time to introduce yourself to the board and officers and let us know how we are doing.

What else can you do to help? Besides providing feedback and supporting the monthly meetings and tours, there are lots of things that you can do to help this Round Table grow and thrive. Promote the Round Table. Invite someone you know who is also interested in the Civil War to join, attend one of our meetings or tours. Have you read a good book (or a bad one)

about the War? Write a quick article for the newsletter and pass it along to Ken Rice, the editor. You don't have to be a James MacPherson to write a brief review and it won't take more than 30 minutes of your time. Pass along any news about the Civil War, be it a lecture, a tour, a preservation activity or just a little tidbit, to be included in the newsletter. Just because you know about it doesn't mean that everyone else is aware and they might be happy to hear it. Please give us ideas about speakers you would like to hear or tours you would like us to take. Contact information is always welcome as it is difficult to track someone down when all you have is a name. Volunteer to help with a tour or just ask if there is some way you can help or tell us if you know a way to help.

Finally, I want to leave you with this thought and encourage you to serve — ***THERE IS NO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS.*** Having the hindsight of serving on the board for several years and as Vice President and President, I can positively tell you that it doesn't take up hours and hours of your time. My VP year, I arranged the speaker schedule entirely through email invitations. I only had a couple of turndowns. How long does it take to send 12 emails? Not much. Getting the contact information to issue the invites took more time but we have started a list of potential speakers so future VPs will have an easier job. Your Presidential year is probably the most time consuming as you attend all the monthly meetings (though I am sure if you needed the VP or another officer to pitch hit a time or two, there would be no coup d'état) and confirm your speakers and any travel or A/V needs they might have. I hope the President's Column will continue. These only take an hour or two a month. If you want to go beyond these basics, and I hope you will, it may take another hour or two a month but I believe most of us can spare a few hours a month.

That's it! That's all folks. It's been fun. I am glad that I did it and I hope that you enjoyed it too!

## 50 Years Ago

**B**rigadier General Carl A. Baehr, a member of the Round Table, spoke about the Washington Artillery of New Orleans on May 8, 1956. He had previously spoken about the artillery at Gettysburg, in October, 1952.

## 25 Years Ago

**I**n May 1981, the Round Table heard fellow member Thomas B. Worsley speak about "The Extraordinary Memoir of a Confederate Naval Officer," Hardin Beverly Littlepage. The guests that evening included Mrs. Esther Crews, the granddaughter of Capt. Littlepage, and Col. Alvan Crews, her son and Capt. Littlepage's great-grandson.

## Glenn W. LaFantasie

**G**lenn W. LaFantasie, Ph.D. is the former deputy historian of the U.S. Department of State. He is the editor of **Gettysburg: Lieutenant Frank A. Haskell and Colonel William C. Oates**. In 1994 **New York Times Book Review**, he published an influential essay on Gettysburg books. He has also written for several magazines and newspapers, including **MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History, North & South American History, Constitution, America's Civil War, The Washington Times, and The Providence Journal**. His biography of William C. Oates is scheduled for release in June 2006.

LaFantasie received his B.A. from Providence College, M.A. from the University of Rhode Island and his Ph.D. from Brown University. He teaches US history, specializing in the Civil War and Reconstruction, Early America, and Nineteenth-Century America at the University of Maine-Farmington. He has just been named the Frockt Family Professor of Civil War History at Western Kentucky University, where he will begin his duties in August.

## Officer Nominations for 2005-2006

**T**he following candidates have been nominated for the board and officer positions for the coming year.

President:	Wendy Swanson
Vice-President:	Gordon Berg
Secretary:	Jacqueline Lussier
Treasurer:	John Restall
Board Member:	Gail Stephens
Board Member:	Jim Hurdle
Board Member:	Robert Cantrell

If you wish to nominate of yourself or another member for one of these positions, please do so at the next meeting. The election will be held at the May business meeting.

## Joint Meeting of Local Civil War Round Tables

**T**he next meeting of the Capitol Hill Civil War Round Table will be held on May 8, 2006 in Room 1300 of the Longworth House Office Building. Local Civil War Round Tables are invited to attend this meeting.

At 5:00 pm a panel will discuss Cooperation between local area Round Tables. Panelists will include: David Myers, Civil War Preservation Trust, and Professor Edward Smith, the author and lecturer responsible for placing the Lincoln statue in Richmond.

At 6:00 pm a Capitol Hill reception will be held for our distinguished guests.

At 7:00 pm James L. Swanson, author of **Manhunt, The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer**, will speak about his book, which is currently being made into a movie starring Harrison Ford.

For further information, call Larry Packet at 703-522-0341 or John Edward Hurley at 202-483-5700

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Presents Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr.  
Thursday, May 4, 2006  
Holiday Inn, Gaithersburg**

**T**he Montgomery County Civil War Round Table will hold its annual banquet with an appearance by Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr. at our annual banquet to be held Thursday, May 4 at the Holiday Inn in Gaithersburg, Maryland. As Executive Director of the Civil War Centennial Commission, Dr. Robertson was instrumental in forming the policies that were implemented in the nation's commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Civil War. His topic will cover the work of the Commission from his appointment by the late President Kennedy through the four years of commemoration and work to honor the men and women who had lived and died in the 1861-1865 era. You will meet the political movers and shakers of the day, as well as the historians who molded the policies and procedures for the nation's 100th remembrance of our Civil War.

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There will be a book sale and signing for Bud's latest book – **Robert E. Lee: Virginian Soldier, American Citizen** as well as other Robertson tomes.

Dinner will be served at **7:00 PM.**

Dinner will be **London Broil** and **strawberry cheesecake** for dessert.

(If you would like a vegetable plate or fruit plate, please specify that below.)

Special events, awards, book raffle and speaker start at **8:00 PM.**

**Dinner Fee: \$25.00 per person, or to hear the speaker only, \$5.00 per person.**

**WHETHER YOU ARE COMING FOR DINNER OR TO HEAR THE SPEAKER ONLY,  
YOU MUST HAVE A PRE-PAID RESERVATION.**

Make the check out to **MCCWRT** and mail with the form below to:

Vicki Heilig  
11843 Summer Oak Drive  
Germantown, MD 20874  
Phone: 301-972-3496

The deadline for paid reservations is **Monday, May 1, 2006**

---

Your name _____	Guests' Names (w/tag names) _____
Your nametag name (if different) _____	_____
Your address _____	_____
Your phone number _____	_____
Number of guests _____	_____

Check Amount (\$25 per person for dinner or \$5 per person for the speaker only) \_\_\_\_\_

Do any of your guests prefer a vegetable or fruit plate? Please designate choice by guest's name.



**Civil War Round Table of DC  
2006 Field Trip  
River of Blood—Chickamauga  
with Ed Bears  
June 24 & 25, 2006  
TOUR INFORMATION**

What Is Included:

Expert Tour Leader.  
Hotel accommodations for two (2) nights.  
Shuttle to hotel from Atlanta Hartsfield-  
Jackson Airport.  
Meals, breakfast Saturday and Sunday, and  
dinner Saturday.  
Service charges and gratuities.  
All on-tour transportation. Motor coach to and  
around battlefield Saturday and Sunday,  
transportation to hotel and dinner Saturday  
evening and return motor coach to Atlanta  
Hartsfield-Jackson Airport on Sunday.

What is not included:

Airfare, transportation to/from your home to  
Atlanta.  
Personal items such as wines, liquors, a-la-  
carte orders, meals other than specified  
above, in-hotel movies.  
Other items not specifically mentioned as  
included.

Registration:

Space is reserved in the order of receipt of reservation request. To submit a request for a reservation, please submit the completed Registration Request, the signed and dated Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer and deposit or payment in full. Deposits are applied to payment of the tour price. Submitting the Reservation Request does not guarantee you a space on this tour. You will be notified of your status when your request has been received and processed. If there is no space available, you will automatically be placed on a waiting list, notified of your status, and any payment included with the Reservation Request will be refunded.

The registration package, including the request form, is available on our web site at:  
<http://users.erols.com/kennrice/cwrtdc.htm>

You may call 202-654-2980 or e-mail [cwrtdc@verizon.net](mailto:cwrtdc@verizon.net) for up-to-date tour information.

The tour is designed for adults but may be suitable for children 14 years or age or older, with the necessary curiosity and interest. Regardless of age children must pay full price and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Registration Request and Responsibility Statement & Liability Disclaimer

<b>RIVER of BLOOD—CHICKAMAUGA June 24 &amp; 25 - Registration Deadline: June 8, 2006</b>		
<b>Maximum of One Registrant per Form.</b> Please submit additional forms as required.		
Name:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if sharing room. Please indicate name of your roommate:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone:	E-mail:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Smoking Room <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking Room <input type="checkbox"/> King/Queen or <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Doubles		
<b>Please specify any other special room, limited mobility or dietary requirements:</b>		
Field Trip Cost is: \$ 365.00 per Person for CWRT-DC MEMBERS & Significant Others \$ 405.00 per Person for NON-MEMBERS of CWRT-DC		TOTAL Enclosed:
<b>CANCELLATION POLICY: SEE "CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS".</b>		
Mail completed and signed <b>Registration Request and Responsibility Statement &amp; Liability Disclaimer with check</b> payable to the CWRT of DC to: <b>John Restall</b> <b>3324 Glenmore Drive</b> <b>Falls Church, VA 22041-3317</b>		

**READ CAREFULLY:      RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT & LIABILITY DISCLAIMER**

The undersigned agrees that:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I will not hold the Civil War Round Table of the District of Columbia ("CWRT"), its officers, board members or members liable for personal injury, death, property damage or accident, delay or irregularity arising out of any act or omission of any entity supplying any goods or services in connection with this tour.</li> <li>2. I will not hold the CWRT, its officers, board members or members liable for personal injury, death, property damage or loss that I suffer in connection with this tour.</li> <li>3. The CWRT may, without penalty or liability, make changes in the itinerary of this tour, withdraw the tour announced, decline to accept any person as a participant in this tour and require any participant to withdraw from this tour at any time whenever, in the judgment of its authorized agent, any of these actions are necessary.</li> <li>4. My baggage and personal effects are at all times my sole responsibility.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Dates, schedules, itinerary, tour details, and costs, although provided in good faith based on information available, are subject to change and revision.</li> <li>6. I have read this Responsibility Statement and Liability Disclaimer, the itinerary for this tour, as well as the terms and conditions of application and participation as set forth in the tour information and this Registration Request, and recognize and accept any and all risks associated with this tour, and the conditions, including the Cancellations and Refunds Policy, set forth herein.</li> <li>7. In consideration of, and as part payment for, the right to participate in this tour, I, on behalf of my dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, agree to release, hold harmless and indemnify the CWRT, its officers, board members and members from any and all liability for any loss, death, or injury to my person or property suffered in connection with this tour.</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

Signature of Registrant /Tour Participant	Date
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If the registrant is under 21 years of age, the signature of a parent or legal guardian is required. (Note that the minimum age is 14.)

Parent or legal guardian (print name or names)

Signature	Date
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### Membership and Annual Dues For the 2006-2007 Program Year

Annual Dues are \$30.00 (\$15.00 after January 31, 2007). The dues must be received by October 1, 2006, for you to continue receiving the newsletter. Please make your check payable to **The CWRT of DC**.

New Member       Renewal       Address Change      Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip (plus 4): \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_      Office Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you prefer to receive the newsletter by email instead of USPS mail.

The above information is for the membership files and will be published in the membership roster.

Please mail this form and your dues to: CWRT of DC Membership Committee  
 Kenneth R. Rice  
 4110 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Arlington, VA 22207-3005

If you have any speaker or topic preferences for future meetings, please list on them on the back.

### Dinner Reservation Form For Tuesday, May 9, 2006.

The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, May 3, 2006.  
 The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please make your check payable to CWRT of DC.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of dinners: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Edwin C. Bearss Award: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Needed in case the meeting must be cancelled .)

Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and your check to: Mr. Jim Hurdle  
 1632 N Randolph St.  
 Arlington, VA 22207-3025