

POWHATAN  **CIVIL WAR**  **ROUNDTABLE** 
A Society For Civil War Studies
Established 2003

JANUARY 2013
STORIES FROM MOSBY'S RAIDERS

Happy New Year! We are proud to recognize that in 2013 we will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the PCWRT! In the previous decade we have had the pleasure of hosting historians, authors and educators, from Ted Alexander to William Young, Jr. We begin our second decade by welcoming back author Erick W. Buckland with "Stories From Mosby's Raiders."

Known as the "Gray Ghost of the Confederacy," John Singleton Mosby was cited by Robert E. Lee for meritorious service more than any other officer in the Army of Northern Virginia. Legend remembers Mosby as the daring, dashing, Rebel who never surrendered. In reality, he was a youthful, unimposing lawyer who introduced a style of warfare to the Confederate army that was both praised and criticized. Fighting from behind enemy lines, surprising Federal picket-posts and attacking under cover of darkness, Mosby and his band of partisan rangers broke all the rules of "Civilized Warfare." Playing havoc with Union supply trains and creating panic within Union troops, Mosby's Raiders took chances few in the regular army would dare.

Our speaker Eric Buckland, has had a life-long interest in the War Between the States and in keeping with his own military career; has always been fascinated by the irregular and unconventional aspects of the war. This interest has led him to author several books on Mosby and his men.

Eric received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army upon graduating from the University of Kansas in 1977. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1999 after a 22-year career, which included initial assignments as an Infantry Officer and then multiple assignments as a Special Forces Officer. He had multiple tours in El Salvador, Honduras and Panama in the 1980's. He is Ranger and Special Forces qualified and has also earned the Special Operations Diver Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Eric has been married to his wife, Maureen, for over thirty years. They live just a few minutes outside "Mosby's Confederacy" Centreville, Virginia and have three sons – Bryan, Andrew and Jonathan. We invite you to join us!

NEXT MONTH

Thursday, February 24th - fine art conservator Andrew Baxter on Richmond's Civil War Monuments, 6:30 P.M.
County Seat Restaurant



JANUARY 2013

PCWRT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

As we noted last month, the PCWRT is experiencing some changes on the Leadership front this New Year. We have a ten member Leadership Committee that manages our meetings, speakers, meals, and newsletters, etc. We operate on a calendar year, and each year we have vacancies on this committee. Such is the case for 2013.

In this New Year, we will create several new leadership committee positions that we will call At Large. These positions will not have specific duties, but will enable new leadership committee members to join the committee, observe the work we do, and then select the work or task to be done that may appeal to him/her.

After a few months of observing, the new committee member could then become a member with agreed to responsibilities. Spreading the work around this way ensures that a few members do not have to do most of the work.

If you have an interest in becoming more involved, or have a special skill to offer, we hope you will consider this proposal. New ideas and new people are the life-blood of any organization, and the PCWRT is no

CIVIL WAR QUOTES

The camp fires blaze with unwanted brightness, the sentry's tread is still but quick - the acres of little shelter tents are dark and still as death, no wonder for us as I gazed sorrowfully upon them. I thought I could almost bear the slow flap of the grim messenger's wings, as one by one he sought and selected his victims for the morning. Sleep weary one, sleep and rest for tomorrow toil. Oh! Sleep and visit in dreams once more the loved ones nestling at home. They may yet live to dream of you, cold lifeless and bloody, but this dream soldier is thy last, paint it brightly, dream it well. Oh northern mothers wives and sisters, all unconscious of the hour, would to Heaven that I could bear for you the concentrated woe which is so soon to follow, would that Christ would teach my soul a prayer that would plead to the Father for grace sufficient for you, God pity and strengthen you every one.

different. We need new volunteers with new ideas to move forward into our second decade.

If you are interested, please see one of our Leadership Committee members at our next meeting!

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LOCAL EVENTS

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~Clara Barton before the Battle of Fredericksburg~

CIVIL WAR
POWHATAN  **ROUNDTABLE**
 
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THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

January 1, 1863 - President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. General Ambrose Burnside accepted responsibility for the defeat at Fredericksburg and offered to resign. Lincoln told him to reconsider.

January 2, 1863 - The Confederates suffered a defeat at Stone's River, Murfreesboro. They lost a total of 14,560 killed, wounded and missing. However, the North also suffered major losses with 11,578 killed, wounded and missing. This, along with appalling weather that made the movement of troops and horses all but impossible, meant that The North could not follow up its success.

January 5, 1863 - The defeat at Murfreesboro gave the North control over much of Tennessee though Confederate raiding parties were a continual problem in the state.

January 10, 1863 - The French government made it clear that it was willing to mediate in the war should the government in Washington wish it to do so.

January 11, 1863 - A Union force commanded by General McClelland captured Fort Hindman on the Arkansas River. Nearly 4500 Confederate troops were taken prisoner.

January 13, 1863 - McClelland was ordered to blow up Fort Hindman as it had no strategic value to the Unionists.

January 16, 1863 - The Confederate commerce raider 'Florida' evaded a Union blockade and slipped out of Mobile Bay. In the next 18 months the 'Florida' sank fifteen Union ships, mostly off the waters of the West Indies.

January 19, 1863 - General Burnside made preparations to move the Army of the Potomac against Richmond.

January 20, 1863 - It soon became clear that the Army of the Potomac was in no fit state to campaign. Snow had turned to heavy rain and the barracking arrangements simply were not good enough. Many men fell ill due to the conditions they lived in; food was poor, water frequently

unsanitary and the whisky that was provided of dubious quality. One senior Union officer wrote: "I have ridden through a regimental camp whose utterly filthy condition seemed enough to send malaria through a whole military department, and have been asked by one colonel, with tears in his eyes, to explain to him why his men are dying at a rate of one a day."

January 21, 1863 - A rainstorm that lasted 30 hours made a crossing of the Rappahannock River extremely hazardous. However, Burnside had to do this if he was to reach Richmond.

January 22, 1863 - Burnside gave up on trying to cross the Rappahannock River as it had become too dangerous. Frustrated that he had not been given all the support he believed he should have got from his senior officers, Burnside decided to sack a number of them.

January 24, 1863 - Burnside met with Lincoln and gave him a list of those he wanted dismissed. Burnside told Lincoln if he did not get the support of the President, he would tender his own resignation.

January 25, 1863 - Lincoln removed Burnside from his command of the Army of the Potomac. The post was given to General Hooker. Burnside was very supportive of the President's decision as he had always felt that he was out of his depth and he offered Hooker his full support and loyalty.

January 26, 1863 - 'Fighting Joe' Hooker formally took charge of the Army of the Potomac. Whereas Burnside had never been confident about his ability to command a whole army of 100,000+ men, Hooker was fully confident about his own ability.

January 28, 1863 - Hooker was told that desertions in the Army of the Potomac were at 200 men a day, nearly 1500 a week or 6000 a month. Hooker had to stem this but it was a serious problem. He was also not popular with senior officers, as he had played a major part in undermining General McClelland's position when McClelland was commander of the Army of the Potomac.



FEBRUARY 2013 - ANDREW BAXTER - RICHMOND'S CIVIL WAR MONUMENTS

Richmond's beautiful Monument Avenue was conceived during a site search for a memorial statue of General Robert E. Lee after Lee's death in 1870. The plan for the statue included building a grand avenue extending west, lined with trees along a central grassy median.

Unveiled on May 29, 1890, the Lee Monument was the first monument on the Avenue commemorating the Civil War. Monuments of JEB Stuart, Jefferson Davis, Stonewall Jackson, and Matthew Fontaine Maury would follow Lee.

Monument Avenue, which shares the distinction with Jackson Ward of being one of only two National Historic Landmark districts within the City of Richmond, is the nation's only grand residential boulevard with monuments of its scale surviving almost unaltered to the present day. However, the bronze statues on this historic Avenue are in dire need of restoration. This month, Andrew Baker brings this need to the attention of the members and guests of the PCWRT.

Our speaker, Andrew Baxter, has decades of experience with the application of patinas on bronze. He began as a metal finisher on bronze sculptures, then as a patina artist at Tallix, an art foundry in New York State, where he often worked directly with artists or their foundations. This experience stimulated his own creative style and gave him a broad vocabulary with the coloration of metal.

NEXT MONTH

Celebrate the PCWRT's 10th Anniversary with John Quarstein speaking on Prince John Magruder. Thursday, March 21, 2013

As owner of Bronze et al, Ltd., a significant part of Andrew's time is spent with the conservation treatment of sculpture and monuments. Bronze et al, Ltd. has worked extensively with The National Gallery of Art, most notably for structural repairs and complete repatination of Henry Moore's monumental work Knife Edge Mirror, Two Piece. Similar work was completed for three other important sculptures by Moore for the Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden. Bronze et al, Ltd. has also been hired to conserve works by Calder, Hepworth, Arp, Manzu, Rickey, and Lachaise at the museum.

The Office of the Curator at The White House selected Andrew and his firm for extensive work on the Monroe Plateau, purchased by President Monroe in Paris in 1817. Recent projects at The White House also include treatment of a bronze maquette for the Iwo Jima Memorial, a large-scale bust of Lincoln by Gutzon Borglum, and a hand inscribed silver dedication plaque from Jacqueline Kennedy in The Rose Garden.

Bronze et al, Ltd. restored the Virginia Museum of Art's Moghul Empire Marble Pavilion over a five-year period. The 27-ton pavilion was installed in the new wing of the museum for the May 2010 grand opening.

To learn more about Andrew and Richmond's Civil War Monuments, click [here](#), or better yet, join us at The County Seat on February 21st to learn from Andrew first hand!



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2013

IN REMEMBRANCE

Our heartfelt condolences go to Janie Glenn and the rest of our County Seat Restaurant family on the loss of Janie's mother, Mattie Clayton.

For those of you who never had the pleasure of knowing Mattie, she was the culinary genius behind the Seat's out of this world pies. Until recently she was present at the County Seat often and was always busy helping the staff and talking to customers. She was truly a great lady and befriended everyone she met. The huge crowds who attended her reception and funeral this week, are a testament to her friendship, and love that she displayed during her 94 years. She was especially supportive of veterans and both of her husbands were WW II veterans. Our thoughts and prayers are with Janie and her family. Mattie will be missed.

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CIVIL WAR QUOTES

I was rather in hopes the manufacture of salt would have exempted you from Military duty--But your country has a right to your services and I must not complain. Hundreds of families are left helpless and desolate by this terrible war--I cannot but feel more anxiety concerning you if you are called to the battle-field, but the same over-ruling Providence is there as well in more peaceful abodes.

Mary W. Milling, January 16, 1863

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

February 1, 1863 - The dollar used in the Confederacy was worth just 20% of what it did when the war broke out. Such was the success of the Federal Navy in the rivers of the South that a decision was taken to remove any stores of cotton away from rivers. Any cotton that could not be moved was burned to save it falling into the hands of the Union.

February 2, 1863 - Grant started his attempt to build a canal around to the rear of Vicksburg using the Yazoo River as his source of water. By

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Click [here](#) for a list of our most frequently asked questions. Don't see your question addressed here? E-mail us at info@PowhatanCWRT.org

NOTICE:

Thank you to our members for responding to our request to send future newsletters via e-mail! Your Roundtable is always striving to reduce expenses, and one of our main expenses has been the mailing of our monthly newsletter. If you are currently receiving your newsletter via US Mail, but would prefer to receive it electronically via e-mail, please let us know at info@PowhatanCWRT.org.

doing this, Grant's men would avoid the Confederate artillery stationed in Vicksburg.

February 3, 1863 - The French continued to offer attempts at mediation. Secretary of State Seward met the French ambassador in Washington DC to discuss such a move.

February 5, 1863 - The British government announced that any attempts at mediation would result in failure. Their lack of action was in stark contrast to the pro-active stance of the French government.



THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR - Continued

February 6, 1863 - The Federal government officially announced that it had rejected French offers of mediation.

February 9, 1863 - General Hooker started his reorganization of the Army of the Potomac. He decided that his first task was to improve its intelligence gathering. On his arrival at his headquarters he found no document that could inform him about the strength of the Army of Virginia. General Butterfield wrote: "There was no means, no organization, and no apparent effort to obtain such information. We were almost as ignorant of the enemy in our immediate front as if they had been in China. An efficient organization for that purpose was instituted, by which we were so enabled to get correct and proper information of the enemy, their strengths and movements."

February 11, 1863 - Hooker then turned his attention to the conditions his men lived under, which he linked to the high levels of desertion. New huts were built that could cope with the winter weather and fresh fruit and vegetables were provided. Medical facilities were also improved. The impact on desertions was dramatic and even men who had deserted returned to their regiments.

February 12, 1863 - The Union's naval blockade had a disastrous impact on the South's economy and the river patrols of its flat-bottomed boats were equally as successful. However, the sheer

size of the fleet operating meant that the Federal government faced a supply problem no one had encountered before. It was estimated that the North had to supply 70,000 bushels of coal each month to keep the fleet on the move. Food and water could be obtained locally but there was little chance of getting hold of large quantities of coal.

February 13, 1863 - General Hooker made what was to prove to be one of the most important changes to the Army of the Potomac during the war. Scattered cavalry units were amalgamated into one corps. No one was immediately appointed to command it as no army commander had ever had access to one concentrated cavalry unit. Hooker was willing to wait to appoint the most suitable candidate – he later selected General Stoneman to command it.

February 16, 1863 - The Senate passed the Conscription Act, which was passed, as volunteers for the Union army were not forthcoming.

February 22, 1863 - Hooker believed that his changes were starting to have an impact as the levels of scurvy and intestinal diseases dropped quite markedly.

February 25, 1863 - Congress authorized a national system of banking



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MARCH 2013

JOHN V. QUARSTEIN – PRINCE JOHN MAGRUDER

This month, the PCWRT celebrates its 10th Anniversary with the only speaker to have presented to our group, each and every one of our ten years. In March 2003, our members and guests were introduced to John Bankhead Magruder, and in celebration of that event, we will revisit “Prince John” with our own “prince,” John V. Quarstein.

Possibly best known for his theatrical bent, John Bankhead Magruder completely deceived the Federal army during the Battle of Yorktown, by creatively marching small numbers of troops past the same position multiple times, appearing to be a larger force. He moved his artillery frequently and liberally used ammunition when Union troops were sighted, giving the impression of a large, aggressive defending force. This subterfuge caused McClellan's Army of the Potomac weeks of needless delay and brought Magruder praise from his superior, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. We'll let our speaker tell the rest of the tale.

John V. Quarstein is an award-winning historian, preservationist, lecturer, and author. He served as historian for the city of Hampton's 400th anniversary. He previously worked for thirty years as the director of the Virginia War Museum and as consultant to The Mariners' Museum's MONITOR Center.

Quarstein has been involved in a wide variety of historic preservation initiatives including the creation of Civil War battlefield parks like Redoubt Park in Williamsburg or Lee's Mill Park in Newport News as well as historic house museums such as Lee Hall Mansion and Endview Plantation. His current preservation endeavors feature the Rebecca Vaughan House, Lee Hall Depot, Causey's Mill, Big Bethel

Battlefield and Fort Monroe. John Quarstein also serves on several boards and commissions such as Virginia Civil War Trails, Virginia War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Advisory Council and the Newport News Sesquicentennial Commission.

John Quarstein is the author of fourteen books, including FORT MONROE: THE KEY TO THE SOUTH, A HISTORY OF IRONCLADS: THE POWER OF IRON OVER WOOD, BIG BETHEL: THE FIRST BATTLE, and THE MONITOR BOYS: THE CREW OF THE UNION'S FIRST IRONCLAD. His newest book is SINK BEFORE SURRENDER: THE CSS VIRGINIA. He also has produced, narrated and written several PBS documentaries, such as JAMESTOWN: FOUNDATIONS OF FREEDOM and the film series CIVIL WAR IN HAMPTON ROADS, which was awarded a 2007 Silver Telly. His latest film, HAMPTON: FROM THE SEA TO THE STARS, is a Bronze Telly winner. His current film projects are PYRATES OF THE CHESAPEAKE and TREAD OF THE TYRANTS HEEL: VIRGINIA'S WAR OF 1812 EXPERIENCE.

Quarstein is the recipient of the national Trust for Historic Preservation's 1993 President's Award for Historic Preservation; the Civil War Society's Preservation Award in 1996; the United Daughters of the Confederacy's Jefferson Davis Gold Medal in 1999; and the Daughters of the American Revolution Gold Historians Medal in 2009. Besides his lifelong interest in Tidewater Virginia's Civil War experience, Quarstein is an avid duck hunter and decoy hunter and decoy collector. He lives on Old Point Comfort in Hampton, Virginia, and on his family's Eastern Shore farm near Chestertown, Maryland.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MARCH 2013

FINAL REMINDER 2013 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

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CIVIL WAR QUOTES

Many things invite comment, and some of them sharp criticism, in these hospitals. The Government, as I said, is anxious and liberal in its practice toward its sick; but the work has to be left, in its personal application to the men, to hundreds of officials of one grade or another about the hospitals, who are sometimes entirely lacking in the right qualities. There are tyrants and shysters in all positions, and especially those dressed in subordinate authority. Some of the ward doctors are careless, rude, capricious, needlessly strict. One I found who prohibited the men from all enlivening amusements; I found him sending men to the guard-house for the most trifling offence. In general, perhaps, the officials—especially the new ones, with their straps or badges—put on too many airs. Of all places in the world, the hospitals of American young men and soldiers, wounded in the volunteer service of their country, ought to be exempt from mere conventional military airs and etiquette of shoulder-straps. But they are not exempt.

Walt Whitman February 23, 1863

NEXT MONTH

The Museum of the Confederacy's Kelly Hancock, speaking on "Belles to Battle Axes."

Thursday, April 18, 2013



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MARCH 2013

WHAT THE PCWRT MEANS TO ME

My name is Judy Gallegos, and I became a volunteer with the PCWRT in 2004. When I attended my first meeting of the Roundtable in October of 2003, I happened to win a door prize of a membership to the Museum of the Confederacy. Showing enthusiasm at this super cool prize I attracted the attention of Sam Craghead, one of the group's founders who eventually brought me on board as the Secretary of the Roundtable, and I filled several different roles with the group in the following years.

Volunteering for the PCWRT brought a sense of belonging that would have been hard to come by for someone new to the area, as I was. It introduced me to so many members of the community, helped me establish friendships that last to this day, and gave me an outlet for creativity that never came with my day job. I was blessed to work so closely with the group's founders, Max Travis, Bobby Wilcox, Sam Craghead, John & Susan Weigly, not to mention all of the other dedicated volunteers who came after, including our current Leadership.

I still volunteer remotely from my home in the St. Louis region, working as closely as 1500 miles will let me. Our volunteer Leadership is a hard-working bunch, and our members should be proud to have such a dedicated crew leading us into our second decade. I couldn't be more proud to be involved and appreciate the opportunities the PCWRT has shown me. Here's to a successful future!

PCWRT 10th ANNIVERSARY *Contributed by Susan Weigly*

For those of you who don't know me, I am Susan Weigly, and last fall Grant asked me if I would give some background history on the formation of the Roundtable on the tenth anniversary.

In the fall of 2002, Bobby Wilcox and Max Travis got some local folks together to evaluate the possibility of creating a Society for Civil War studies.

Eventually that group became five who took the responsibility of bringing an organization together, naming it the Powhatan Civil War Roundtable. Those five were Bobby, Max, Sam Craghead, my husband John, and me. Max gave a donation as seed money, with the rest of us following his lead, to give the Roundtable a start to pay for speaker costs and any operational expenses.

We had a vision, but none of us ever expected it to be such an incredible success. Our first year we mostly focused on local speakers, but with Sam's encouragement we began to bring in nationally known speakers and that continues to this day.

Our first meeting was scheduled in the County Administration Building for February 2003. Due to bad weather, that meeting was cancelled, making our first meeting in March 2003 with John Quarstein. I'm glad to see that his topic tonight is the same as in 2003 because no one could should miss John's presentation on Prince John Magruder.

John has been the Roundtable's March speaker (except for 2009 in February); tonight is his eleventh visit.

Through this dinner format, which was Max's idea, the Roundtable is not only an event for learning more about the civil war, but a social event in Powhatan for making new friendships and enjoying old.

Many others volunteered in those early months. The first logo was created by Lee Wilcox and his wife served as secretary for a while. After the first meeting, Judy Gallegos came on board, and although she now lives out of state, she still works on the roundtable's web site.

Katrina Blankenship designed our first web page. Susan Kuroski and Grant Atkinson scheduled great programs – great enough for this roundtable to be called "the other Richmond Roundtable."

There have been so many that have done so much, and I can't name them all for I certainly would not want to leave anyone out, but those of you who have taken leadership roles, I thank you.

And I would also like to mention, that one of our earliest members and staunch supporters, Dave Penhallow, just recently passed away. He will be missed.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MARCH 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

March 1, 1863 - Lincoln met with Secretary of War Edwin Stanton to discuss future military appointments.

March 2, 1863 - Congress approved the President's list of promotions but also dismissed 33 officers for a variety of offences.

March 3, 1863 - Both Senate and House passed The Enrolment Act. All able-bodied men between 20 and 45 were to serve for three years. The act was unpopular with the public because of its compulsion. Congress must have sensed this as in 1863 only 21,000 men were conscripted and by the end of the war conscription only accounted for a total of 6% of the North's army. Congress also suspended habeas corpus on this day – much to the anger of the Democrats in Congress.

March 6, 1863 - One of Hooker's attempts to develop the Army of the Potomac was to ensure that it had the most modern weapons available. By this day, his men were starting to be equipped with the Sharp's breech-loading carbine. This rifle gave Hooker's army unrivalled firepower at close range.

March 10, 1863 - Such was the problem of desertion across all armies of the Union, that Lincoln pronounced an amnesty on this day for all those who were absent without leave. Any deserter who returned to duty before April 1st would not be punished.

March 13, 1863 - 62 women workers were killed in an explosion in a munitions factory near Richmond. The Confederacy was to become more and more reliant on female workers as the war progressed.

March 24, 1863 - The last Union attempt to take Vicksburg failed. The Mississippi River was very high for this time of the year and it made navigation very difficult. Grant wanted to use the many waterways that surrounded Vicksburg to his advantage – but his plan failed.

March 26, 1863 - West Virginia voted to emancipate its slaves.

March 30, 1863 - Lincoln announced that April 30th would be a day of prayer and fasting throughout the Union.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER APRIL 2013

KELLY HANCOCK – FROM BELLES TO BATTLE AXES

During the Civil War, Richmond was not just the capital of the Confederacy or a military objective for the Union, but it was also a crowded, vibrant city populated by some of the most fascinating women of the mid-nineteenth century.

We hope you will join us on April 18, 2013 when we welcome Kelly Hancock, Manager of Education and Programs for the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. Kelly will discuss the stories of Richmond women, from daring spies and devoted nurses, to star-crossed lovers and captivating socialites. We will learn how women dealt with the stresses of life on the home front, how they carried on in the face of tragedy and how they contributed to the war effort. Rose O'Neal Greenhow, Elizabeth Van Lew, Mary Chesnut, Hetty Cary, and Buck Preston are just a few of the women highlighted in this one hour talk.

Our speaker oversees the Museum of the Confederacy's educational efforts focused on

students, teachers, and the general public. In addition to guiding student groups through the galleries and presenting outreach programs, she works with area schools to provide teacher resources and workshops, including the Museum's annual week long Teachers Institute. Kelly chairs the programs committee and coordinates the Museum's Brown Bag Lunch talk series, as well as outreach efforts to senior adult groups. She is a frequent presenter for Lifelong Learning, the Shepherd Center, and Roads Scholars and has given talks to numerous community groups.

A native of New Mexico, Kelly received her B. A. in history along with her teaching certification from Eastern New Mexico University. She taught 7th grade social studies in Hobbs, New Mexico before moving to Richmond in 1997 to make a career change. Kelly has been with the Museum since 1998, spending the majority of her time in the Education Department. She assumed her current position in 2002. Please be sure to join us!

NEXT MONTH

Elizabeth Brown Pryor: Reading the Man - Lee's Private Letters. Thursday, May 16, 2013



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER APRIL 2013

ARLINGTON HOUSE, THE ROBERT E. LEE MEMORIAL RE-DEDICATION & GRAND OPENING - APRIL 20, 2013 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Join the National Park Service at Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial for a special program rededicating the historic mansion as the nation's memorial to General Robert E. Lee and celebrating the completion of the interior restoration and the return of the historic furnishings. The program will kick off with a rededication ceremony and ribbon cutting at 10:00 a.m. followed by tours, talks, living history, musket firing, period music and dancing. A complete schedule will be posted on the Arlington House website.

During the past six years, the mansion has been undergoing an extensive restoration process, which also included the installation of new fire suppression and climate management systems. During that time, all historic furnishings, including many original pieces, were removed from the house for their protection. This event will mark the first time the entire house has been open and furnished since 2006.

The program will include a rededication ceremony and ribbon cutting at 10:00 a.m., brass band concert 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., period dancing demonstrations and lessons 11:30a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

and 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. At 1:00 p.m., author and military historian Scott Bowden will lecture on Robert E. Lee's generalship.

Arlington House was first dedicated as a memorial to Robert E. Lee on March 4, 1925. It was dedicated as a permanent national memorial in 1955. It remains the only national memorial to honor a Confederate leader or any person who ever fought a war against the United States. Talks and tours will focus on the meaning of why the memorial was dedicated.

The program is free and appropriate for all ages. Arlington House is in the center of Arlington National Cemetery, which is accessible by the Blue Line of the Metrorail. Reservations are not required, but limited parking at Arlington House is available with a reservation for the program. Email: arlingtonhouseevents@nps.gov for reservations.

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial is a unit of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Additional information is available on the Internet at www.nps.gov/arho or by calling [\(703\)235-1530](tel:(703)235-1530), Monday through Friday.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER APRIL 2013

THE RICHMOND BREAD RIOT

A Richmond woman described the scene in a letter written to a friend on April 2, 1863:

"Something very sad has just happened in Richmond - something that makes me ashamed of all my jeremiads over the loss of the petty comforts and conveniences of life - hats, bonnets, gowns, stationery, books, magazines, dainty food.

Since the weather has been so pleasant, I have been in the habit of walking in the Capitol Square before breakfast every morning. . . Yesterday, upon arriving, I found within the gates a crowd of women and boys - several hundreds of them, standing quietly together.

I sat on a bench near, and one of the number left the rest and took the seat beside me. She was a pale, emaciated girl, not more than eighteen. . . As she raised her hand to remove her sunbonnet and use it for a fan, her loose calico sleeve slipped up and revealed the mere skeleton of an arm. She perceived my expression as I looked at it, and hastily pulled down her sleeve with a short laugh. "This is all that's left of me!" she said. "It seems real funny, don't it? . . . We are starving. As soon as enough of us get together, we are going to the bakeries and each of us will take a loaf of bread. That is little enough for the government to give us after it has taken all our men."

. . . The crowd now rapidly increased, and numbered, I am sure, more than a thousand women and children.

It grew and grew until it reached the dignity of a mob - a bread riot. They impressed all the light carts they met, and marched along silently and in order. They marched through Cary Street and Main, visiting the stores of the speculators and emptying them of their contents. Governor Letcher sent the mayor to read the Riot Act, and as this had no effect on the crowd. The city battalion came up. The women fell back with frightened eyes, but did not obey the order to disperse.

The President [Jefferson Davis] then appeared ascended a dray, and addressed them. It is, said he was received at first with hisses from the boys, but after he had spoken some little time with great kindness and sympathy, the women moved quietly on, taking their food with them. General Elze and General Winder wished to call troops from the camps to 'suppress the women,' but [Secretary of War James] Seddon, a wise man, declined to issue the order. While I write women and children are still standing in the streets, demanding food, and the government is issuing to them rations of rice."

"Bread Riot in Richmond, 1863" EyeWitness to History, www.eyewitnesstohistory.com (2009)



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER APRIL 2013

PCWRT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

As we noted last month, the PCWRT is experiencing some changes on the Leadership front this New Year. We have a ten member Leadership Committee that manages our meetings, speakers, meals, and newsletters, etc. We operate on a calendar year, and each year we have vacancies on this committee. Such is the case for 2013.

In this New Year, we will create several new leadership committee positions that we will call At Large. These positions will not have specific duties, but will enable new leadership committee members to join the committee, observe the work we do, and then select the work or task to be done that may appeal to him/her.

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THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

April 2nd: Riots occurred in Richmond where people were becoming desperate at the economic plight of the Confederacy. Food in particular was in short supply. The riot was termed a "bread riot" by locals though it turned into a general looting session. It was only quelled when the rioters listened to Jefferson Davis who spoke to them in person and then threw the money in his pockets at them. It was a sufficient gesture to disperse the rioters.

April 3rd: Lincoln visited Hooker and pressurized him into an attack on Richmond. In response Hooker put in for 1.5 million ration packs.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER APRIL 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR *continued*

April 4th: Hooker prepared the Army of the Potomac for an attack on Richmond. The Army's Secret Service Department was ordered to prepare updated maps on the defenses at Richmond.

April 5th: Several Confederate ships were detained in Liverpool docks, as it was believed that they were blockade-runners.

April 10th: Lincoln reviewed the Army of the Potomac at its winter quarters in Falmouth, Virginia. The troops he met expressed their full confidence in Hooker – a view not totally shared by the president. Lincoln had to dampen down Hooker's rhetoric about capturing Richmond and remind him that defeating Lee's Army of Virginia was far more important and that Richmond was the bait to lure Lee into battle.

April 13th: General Burnside issued his General Order Number 38, which threatened the death penalty for anyone found guilty of treasonable behavior.

April 17th: This day saw the start of Colonel Ben Grierson's Union legendary raid into the Confederacy. With 1700 cavalymen, Grierson roamed 600 miles during his raid deep into the South. The raid lasted 16 days and within the Union army Grierson became a legend.

April 20th: Lincoln announced that West Virginia would join the Union on June 20th 1863.

April 21st: Hooker finalized his plan of attack. He hoped to fool the South into thinking that Fredericksburg was his main target while moving three corps of troops against

Lee's left flank. 2000 mules were acquired by Hooker to speed up the movement of his army.

April 24th: The Confederate Congress passed a tax set at 8% on all agricultural produce grown in 1862 and a 10% tax on profits made from the sale of iron, clothing and cotton. There was much public hostility to these new taxes but a general acceptance that they were needed. The biggest problem facing the South's economy was the fact that much land was used for the growing of cotton and not for food.

April 26th: Hooker's offensive against Lee's Army of Virginia and Richmond started. However, torrential rain turned many of the roads/tracks he used to mud and made movement very difficult.

April 28th: The rain has made movement so difficult that engineers had to lay logs on the surface of roads/tracks to allow wagons to move.

April 29th: Lee's scouts informed him that it was their belief that the attack on Fredericksburg was a feint and that their observed movement of many men on Lee's left flank was the real target of Hooker. Lee accepted the advice of his scouts and ordered Stonewall Jackson not to attack Union troops at Fredericksburg – despite Jackson's request to do just this.

April 30th: Hooker ordered 10,000 cavalymen to raid Lee's communication bases. The raids, while impressive with regards to the number of men involved, achieved very little and if anything served to boost the confidence of Lee's Army of Virginia.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MAY 2013

PROGRAM CHANGE – MICHAEL D. GORMAN OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE – EXPLOSION ON BROWN’S ISLAND

Virginia State Historical Marker SA 101 relays the story of the “massive explosion” in March 1863 that destroyed the building on Brown’s Island which housed an assembly production for cartridges and other ammunition:

“In 1861, during the Civil War, Confederates established an ordnance laboratory and complex on nearby Brown’s Island. Workers there, many of them women and children who were forced to find employment because of the economic disruption occasioned by the war, assembled cartridges and other ammunition. Despite Col. Josiah Gorgas’s stringent safety guidelines, on 13 Mar. 1863, worker Mary Ryan accidentally ignited a friction primer, resulting in a massive explosion that destroyed the building. Richmond residents, responding to the ‘terrific report’ found a scene of horror, with many victims ‘burnt from head to toe.’ Ryan and at least 40 others, died from the explosion.”

This month, our friend Michael D. Gorman returns to speak on what could arguably be considered the worst wartime disaster in Richmond, which occurred just over 150 years ago. A Richmond native, Mike attended VCU and VMI. He began working for

National Park Service in 1999, and was heavily involved with the creation of both the Civil War Visitor Center at Tredegar Ironworks, and the Chimborazo Medical Museum. He researched and created a website for the Battle of New Market Heights, which was recognized by the National Park Service for excellence, and is also recognized as an expert on maps and Civil War photography. As our members who attended our first summer picnic in 2004 know, Mike operates the outstanding Civil War Richmond website www.mdgorman.com. More recently, he served as an historical advisor on the set of Stephen Spielberg's movie “Lincoln.” Mike is married to Tina, and lives in Richmond. We hope you will join us!

To read more on the Confederate Lab Explosion, please see the followings web links:

http://www.mdgorman.com/Events/friday_the_13th.htm

http://www.timesdispatch.com/news/local/city-of-richmond/brown-s-island-munitions-explosion-was-worst-wartime-disaster-in/article_9683aac6-847f-11e2-b033-0019bb30f31a.html

NEXT MONTH

Chris Kolakowski on The Stones River & Tullahoma Campaigns. Thursday, June 20, 2013



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MAY 2013

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CIVIL WAR QUOTES

"I see from the number of physicians that you think my condition dangerous, but I thank God, if it is His will, that I am ready to go." ~General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson on his Death Bed, May 10, 1863~



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MAY 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

May 1, 1863 - Stonewall Jackson halted the Union advance against Lee near Charlottesville. Hooker told his junior commanders, much to their astonishment, that the Union army would go on the defensive as a result of this setback despite having a 2 to 1 advantage in terms of men over the South (90,000 to 40,000).

May 2, 1863 - Jackson commanded a force of 25,000 men in an attempt to get behind Hooker's main force and to attack them in the rear. It was a very bold plan that had to work. If Jackson's army was wiped out, Lee would have been left with just 15,000 men. To convince Hooker that his men were retreating, Lee ordered numerous trains to ride up and down the Fredericksburg/Richmond railway – even if their carriages were empty. His plan worked and Hooker became convinced that Lee was pulling back his men. Lulled into a false sense of security, Hooker may well have taken his eye off of what was going on and when Jackson launched his attack behind Hooker's line, the Union army was unprepared. Many parts of the Union army were driven back. However, in an attempt to know what was going on at the front, Jackson went to the front line to assess the situation for himself. One of his own men did not recognize him and shot him. Jackson was badly wounded.

May 3, 1863 - Hooker lost the Battle of Chancellorsville and he ordered the Army of the Potomac to prepare for a retreat. However, not knowing of this, General Sedgwick, believing that an

attack on Fredericksburg would be successful, ordered such an attack. Initially he was very successful and captured 15 cannon and 1000 prisoners. However, without any support from Hooker he was totally isolated and at the mercy of Lee's army.

May 4, 1863 - Sedgwick's men held off the first assaults on their positions by Lee's army. Then in a stroke of fortune, the whole area was shrouded in fog and Sedgwick used this to get his men out of Fredericksburg without further loss. In a Council of War, Hooker announced that the Army of the Potomac was to retreat to Falmouth, Virginia.

May 5, 1863 - Very heavy rain helped Hooker's army in their retreat as it greatly hindered Lee's army in its efforts to follow up its successes in May.

May 6, 1863 - The last of the Union's army had withdrawn. The Battle of Chancellorsville was a huge success for Lee and Jackson and if the weather had been better could have been a lot worse for Hooker. Hooker lost 17,000 men despite a 2 to 1 advantage over Lee. However, while the Union could sustain such losses, the South lost 13,000 men and they could not survive such a rate of attrition. The Confederacy agreed to spend \$2 million on purchasing European naval ships. The requirement for the ships was simple: they had to be able to operate in the Atlantic yet be able to sail up the River Mississippi. The leaders of the Confederacy believed that such a ship would be able to break the Union blockade of southern ports.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MAY 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

May 8, 1863 - Nearly a week after being accidentally shot by one of his own men, it became obvious that the wounds suffered by “Stonewall” Jackson were life threatening. An arm had already been amputated but a chronic infection meant that he wasn’t expected to live. Nearly one week after the shooting, Jackson was drifting in and out of consciousness.

May 9, 1863 - General Grant threatened to take Vicksburg, the key to the Mississippi. The Confederate leader, Davis, promised commanders in the city every means of support. The Confederate defenders of Vicksburg had a dislocated intelligence system and so had little knowledge of Grant’s movements.

May 10, 1863 - ‘Stonewall’ Jackson died.

May 14, 1863 – Jackson, Mississippi fell to Generals Sherman and McPherson. The Union government continued to put pressure on Great Britain not to sell naval boats to the South.

May 15, 1863 - Sherman destroyed manufacturing centers and railroads in and around Jackson so that when Union forces moved on, they could not be

reused by those who lived in Jackson – and supported the Confederacy. It was a foretaste of what he would do in future months.

May 16, 1863 - Union forces attacked Southern forces defending Vicksburg at Champion’s Hill. The South had 22,000 men and faced a Union force of 27,000. Both sides suffered 2,000 casualties – though the Union army was better able to cope with such casualties. However, the South commander, John Pemberton, made one major error. Rather than keeping his men out in the field to face Union forces, Pemberton withdrew them to the poorly defended Vicksburg.

May 17, 1863 - At dawn Union forces attacked Confederate defenses at Big Black Rock, just outside of Vicksburg. The attack was so swift that the defenders only had time to get off one volley of shots before being overrun. The North captured 1,700 Confederate troops and 18 cannon and lost just 39 dead and 237 wounded.

May 18, 1863 - Sherman’s leading men reached the outskirts of Vicksburg.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER MAY 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

May 19, 1863 - General Grant ordered a hasty and not well-prepared attack on Vicksburg. There were two reasons for this. The first was that he hoped to take advantage of what he hoped would be Confederate demoralization within Vicksburg. The second was that prior to the success at Big Black Rock he had ignored and effectively disobeyed an

May 20, 1863 - Grant's men dug themselves in around Vicksburg. Union warships patrolled the Mississippi River around Vicksburg to hinder any Confederate use of the river. However, despite their military success, Union forces had not had it all their own way. They had to make do with five days rations over a three-week stretch.

May 21, 1863 - Grant's troops received their first batch of food in weeks when bread arrived along with coffee. Grant hoped that this would boost the morale of his men and ordered an attack on Vicksburg the following day.

May 22, 1863 - The attack was a failure and the North lost 500 killed and 2,500 wounded. The ruined Grant's misguided belief that Vicksburg was not well defended. He withdrew his men and ordered Vicksburg to be besieged. Grant later described this as an attempt to "out-camp the enemy." Grant's siege line stretched for 15 miles around Vicksburg.

May 27, 1863 - Union forces attacked Port Hudson. It was a failure as Confederate troops were well dug in.

order by his superior, General Halleck, to withdraw his men from Vicksburg and march to Port Hudson to assist General Banks in an attack there. One way of smoothing over this breach of military discipline would have been a swift, decisive and successful attack on Vicksburg. However, the attack failed and the North lost 900 men.

The North lost 293 dead and 1545 wounded. As at Vicksburg, a decision was taken to besiege Port Hudson.

May 28, 1863 - The Union siege at Vicksburg was hampered by the fact that Grant had marched with small and maneuverable artillery. Therefore he did not have the necessary artillery to bombard Vicksburg. However, this problem was solved when large Union naval guns were brought up the Mississippi and installed ashore. Once operational, they were used to destroy known Confederate defenses. In 1862, extensive defense lines had been built around Vicksburg. However, during the winter of 1862/63, they had fallen into disrepair and were only repaired after the clash at Big Black Rock on May 17th. 30,000 Confederate troops manned these defenses commanded by General John Pemberton. They faced 41,000 Union troops commanded by Grant – though this figure was to rise to 70,000 men by the summer. Life for the besieged citizens of Vicksburg and Port Hudson was hard as food and fresh water supplies dwindled.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JUNE 2013

CHRIS KOLAKOWSKI ON THE STONES RIVER AND TULLAHOMA CAMPAIGNS

Coming six months after the costly and inconclusive Battle of Stones River, the armies of Generals William Rosecrans and Braxton Bragg clashed in middle Tennessee 150 years ago. Culminating on July 3, 1863, the Tullahoma Campaign was ultimately overshadowed by the Union victories at Vicksburg, and Gettysburg, but is known among historians as Rosecrans' most significant achievement of the war.

To uncover the details, we welcome the return of Civil War historian and preservationist Christopher Kolakowski. Chris is the author of several articles on the Civil War, the American Revolution, the Napoleonic Wars, and both World Wars. His first book, *The Civil War at Perryville: Battling for the Bluegrass State* was published in August 2009. His most recent work is *The Stones River and Tullahoma Campaigns: This Army Does Not Retreat*, which can be ordered on our website.

Chris was born and raised in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He received his B.A. in History and Mass Communications from Emory & Henry College and his M.A. in Public History from the State University of New York at Albany. He has spent his career interpreting and preserving American military history with the National Park Service, the State of New York, the Rensselaer County (NY) Historical Society, and the Civil War Preservation Trust. From 2005 to 2008, Chris was Executive Director of the Perryville Enhancement Project. During his tenure there he added 152 acres of critical battlefield land, and increased Perryville's national profile. He was also Chief Curator of the National Museum of the Army Reserve in Fort McPherson, Georgia. He currently serves as Director of the General George S. Patton Museum of Leadership in Fort Knox, Kentucky.

To learn more about Chris and this month's topic see our website. We look forward to Chris' presentation and hope you will join us!

NEXT MONTH

Colonel Black Jack Travis on the Men & Guns at Gettysburg. Thursday, July 18, 2013

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CIVIL WAR QUOTES

Dear Mother, I have not received any letter from George. I write to him & send papers to Winchester. Mother, while I have been writing this, a very large number of southern prisoners, I should think 1000 at least, has past up Pennsylvania avenue, under a strong guard. I went out in the street, close to them, to look at them. Poor fellows, many of them mere lads—it brought the tears, they seemed our own flesh & blood too, some wounded, all miserable in clothing, all in dirt & tatters—many of them fine young men. Mother, I cannot tell you how I feel to see these prisoners marched . . .

Walt Whitman, May 5th 1863



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JUNE 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR *Courtesy of the History Learning Site*

June 2, 1863 - General Lee decided to move north his Army of Northern Virginia. His hope was to draw General Hooker's Army of the Potomac after him and away from Virginia. Lee did not want a battle with Hooker as his motives were entirely defensive but he also realized that a further defeat for the Army of the Potomac would be a serious blow to the Union. So while Lee wished to be defensive, he also prepared to be offensive.

June 3, 1863 - The Army of Northern Virginia left Fredericksburg and moved north – 70,000 men with 300 artillery guns. Hooker's Army of the Potomac was 120,000 strong. Hooker also had the advantage of intelligence as two Confederate deserters had given themselves up to Union forces and had told them about the planned movements of Lee's army.

June 4, 1863 - Rationing was introduced in Vicksburg for the besieged population – soldiers and civilians.

June 5, 1863 - A rearguard Confederate force at Fredericksburg clashed with probing Union forces in what was called the Battle of Franklin's Crossing. The Union force learned that the defenses of Fredericksburg were strong, while the Confederate force, commanded by General Stuart, decided that the 'attack' was merely a demonstration of strength to unsettle the remaining Confederate defenders.

June 6, 1863 - President Lincoln and General Hooker clashed over what to do with Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Lincoln wanted Hooker to pursue Lee (as Lee himself had hoped for) while Hooker wanted to take the opportunity to attack what was now a poorly defended Richmond. Not for the first time did the President, as Commander-in-Chief, clash with his generals. In this case, Hooker's desire was warranted as Lee had already decided that if Richmond, at any time, was threatened he would call off his march north and return to the Confederate capital. This was the one opportunity when Hooker could have attacked Richmond when it was poorly defended. Lincoln wanted a more aggressive campaign.

June 9, 1863 - Union cavalry attacked General Stuart's cavalry force near Brandy Station. Some 22,000 men fought here – the largest cavalry clash of the war. Both sides were evenly matched and the Union force, commanded by Pemberton, nearly defeated Stuart's men, but news of advancing Confederate infantry convinced Pemberton that withdrawal was his best option rather than continuing the fight. Stuart's men had a high reputation among Pemberton's men, so this near victory did a great deal to boost Union morale, especially among the cavalry.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JUNE 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR *Courtesy of the History Learning Site*

June 11, 1863 - Two 10-inch artillery guns arrived at Vicksburg for Grant's army. They greatly boost the Union's ability to destroy the defenses there. Citizens in Vicksburg took to living in caves to ensure their safety from the artillery bombardment.

June 12, 1863 - Rumors of an invasion by Lee's men led to many fleeing their homes in Union areas near to the border with the South. Few responded to a call by the Pennsylvania governor for volunteers for a state militia.

June 14, 1863 - A Unionist force tried to end the siege at Port Hudson. While Northern troops were doing the besieging, they were suffering acute medical casualties as a result of the dire environment they were in. The attack was an attempt to end all this. It failed and the Confederate defenders held out. The Union lost 4000 men in the attack.

June 15, 1863 - The Confederates captured Winchester. They took 4,500 prisoners along with 200,000 rounds of ammunition, 300 wagons and 300 horses.

June 17, 1863 - The South lost one of its ironclads, the *CSS Atlanta*.

June 20, 1863 - The citizens of Baltimore started to build defenses around their city fearing an attack by Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Cavalry units from both Lee's and Hooker's armies clashed almost on a daily basis.

June 27, 1863 - Hooker resigned as commander of the Army of the Potomac after one argument too many with his superior General Halleck. Hooker believed that Halleck was deliberately undermining his authority by refusing to allow him to do as he wished with the men under his command. Hooker's resignation was accepted and General George Meade replaced him.

June 29, 1863 - Meade immediately ordered the Army of the Potomac to hunt out the Army of Northern Virginia. Whereas Hooker wanted to wait and see what Lee intended, Meade wanted to engage him as soon as was feasible.

June 30, 1863 - Lee's scouts kept him well-informed to the whereabouts of the Army of the Potomac. He ordered his men to march on Cashtown. A unit of Confederate troops was sent to Gettysburg where it was believed a stash of military boots was kept. The men, from III Corps, came across Unionist troops from Brigadier-General Buford's cavalry division and withdrew.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JULY 2013 – PROGRAM CHANGE

It is with great sadness that we must announce a program change for July. Our scheduled speaker, Jack "Colonel Black Jack" Travis passed away on May 2nd. Jack was an author, historian, professional civil war re-enactor, and founder of Alexander's Battalion of Artillery which was attached to Longstreet's Corps, consisting of 25 guns and over 400 re-enactors. His historical articles were featured in national publications such as *The Civil War News*, *Artilleryman Magazine*, and the *Confederate Veteran*. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

SOUTHERNERS IN BRAZIL: THE CONFEDERADOS

Col. Travis' passing provides a bittersweet opportunity for the PCWRT to welcome a new voice to our Civil War conversation. Dr. Casey Clabough is the author of *Confederado: A Novel of the Americas*. The end of the Civil War saw substantial ruin and poverty in the former Confederacy and as a result, many American Southerners departed to begin anew elsewhere, most commonly in the American West. However, Emperor Dom Pedro II of Brazil, wishing to cultivate cotton, offered potential immigrants subsidies on transport, affordable land, and tax breaks. Such an offer was attractive to many former Confederates, who chose instead to settle in Brazil. *Confederado* tells the story of one such Civil War veteran. Dr. Clabough is the author of the travel memoir *The Warrior's Path: Reflections Along an Ancient Route*, and five scholarly books on southern and Appalachian writers, including *Inhabiting Contemporary Southern & Appalachian Literature: Region & Place in the 21st Century*. Dr. Clabough serves as editor of the literature section of the Virginia Foundation for the

Humanities' *Encyclopedia Virginia* and as general editor of the literary journal *James Dickey Review*

His work has appeared in over seventy anthologies and magazines, including *Creative Nonfiction*, the *Sewanee Review*, and the *Virginia Quarterly Review*. Clabough's awards include the 2013 Bangladesh International Literary Award, an artist's fellowship from the Brazilian Government, and several U.S.-based fellowships. He lives on a farm in Appomattox County, Virginia and teaches at Lynchburg College. His forthcoming books include a biography of legendary southern writer George Garrett (Fall 2013) and an edited anthology entitled *Women of War: Selected Memoirs, Poetry, and Fiction by Virginia Women Who Lived through the Civil War* (Fall 2014).

We hope you will join us on July 18th for this opportunity to learn of a piece of American history rarely discussed. See our website to read more about *Confederado*, and to order the book!

NEXT MONTH - Scott Williams - The War on the James River Thursday, August 15, 2013



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JULY 2013

THANK YOU

To author Brian Burns for stepping in with his presentation on *Curiosities of the Confederate Capital* when Chris Kolakowski, our previously scheduled speaker for June, had an unexpected conflict and was unable to appear. We enjoyed Brian's presentation (see our website to order his book) and hope to be able to reschedule Chris in the future.

POWHATAN STATE PARK

The PCWRT will be among many other local groups represented at the grand opening of Powhatan State Park, Saturday July 6th. Be sure to stop by and say hello! See our website for more information.

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POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JULY 2013

CIVIL WAR QUOTES

*HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
July 1, 1863-3.20 p. m.*

I am satisfied that Longstreet and Hill have made a junction. A tremendous battle has been raging since 9.30 a.m., with varying success. At the present moment the battle is raging on the road to Cashtown, and within short cannon-range of this town. The enemy's line is a semicircle on the height, from north to west. General Reynolds was killed early this morning. In my opinion, there seems to be no directing person.

JNO. BUFORD, Brigadier General of Volunteers

General Pleasonton

P. S. -We need help now.

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR *Courtesy History Learning Site*

July 1, 1863 - The Confederates believed that the men at Gettysburg who had repulsed their advance on June 30th were militia and not regular soldiers. The commander of the Confederate force in the area, Henry Heth, decided to continue to advance on Gettysburg to secure what he deemed to be much-needed shoes. What started as a minor clash soon developed into something more. 2,500 Union infantrymen advanced to Gettysburg to give support and ended up capturing 1,000 Confederate troops and Brigadier-General Archer. More and more Confederate and Union infantry advanced on Gettysburg until seemingly overnight 22,000

Confederate troops and 16,500 Unionists are based in and around Gettysburg.

July 2, 1863 - Believing that he has superior numbers Lee ordered a full-scale attack against Union forces at Gettysburg. However, overnight, the Army of the Potomac had greatly increased its numbers so that Lee now faced 30,000 men. However, some units like the VI Corps had marched 30 miles overnight to be at Gettysburg and were hardly in a fit state to fight. In the initial stages of the Battle of Gettysburg, the upper hand rested with Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JULY 2013

July 3, 1863 - Lee was suffering from dysentery and this may have affected his decision-making. He believed that the Union force had shored up its flanks fearing that Lee would try to outflank them – not an unusual tactic used by Lee in the past. Lee decided to attack the heart of the Union's forces believing that he could drive a wedge through the Union forces, and that once separated they would withdraw in disarray. However, Lee's calculations were wrong. By now, Meade's Army of the Potomac numbered 85,000 to Lee's 75,000. At 13:00 the South started an artillery bombardment on Union positions. However, by 15:00, the South's supply of artillery shells had run low and they could not sustain the bombardment. Lee resorted to a full-scale infantry charge. 13,000 men armed with rifles and bayonets from Major-General Pickett's division charged Union positions. 7,000 were killed or wounded and the division retreated in disorder. Acknowledging that he had made the wrong decision, Lee, riding among the survivors said, "This was all my fault. It is I that has lost this fight, and you must help me out of it the best you can."

On what was a disastrous day for the Confederacy, on July 3rd John C. Pemberton offered the surrender of Vicksburg. Ulysses S. Grant insisted on, and got an unconditional surrender of the Confederate forces based in the besieged town.

July 4, 1863 - Both armies continued to face each other at Gettysburg, but neither was inclined to fight. That night Lee ordered a withdrawal: his army had lost 22,000 men killed or wounded in just 3 days – 25% of the Army of Northern Virginia. Meade had lost 23,000 men but had emerged from the Battle of Gettysburg as the victor. The Union was also better able to cope with such losses. Bodies of those killed at Gettysburg took weeks to clear and by November 1863 only 25% of those killed had received a proper burial. The local undertaker claimed that he could only manage to move, clean and bury 100 bodies a day.

On this day, Vicksburg formally surrendered to Grant.

July 5, 1863 - Lee retreated with his severely weakened army, but no attempt was made by Meade's Army of the Potomac to pursue them, such was the weakened state of his force. While Lee's defeat at Gettysburg is seen as the turning point in the war, it has to be remembered that he withdrew with many Union prisoners.

July 6, 1863 - Meade's army started to move out of Gettysburg, and followed Lee's army but did nothing to actively engage it.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER JULY 2013

July 8, 1863 - Port Hudson surrendered. The Confederate force there had been severely weakened by lack of food and fresh water. Only 50% of the Confederate troops there were capable of fighting. They surrendered 20 cannon and 7,500 rifles.

July 11, 1863 - Meade decided that his men were sufficiently rested after Gettysburg and decided that the Army of the Potomac had to become more proactive. The last thing that Meade wanted was for Lee's men to cross the Potomac River.

July 13, 1863 - New York experienced race riots. The first draft in the city was heavily slanted towards the Irish community of New York. They also believed that while they were away fighting African-Americans would take their jobs. This belief was enflamed by the Democrat state governor, Horatio Seymour. Homes of Republican politicians within the city were attacked. Any African-Americans that the mob could find were also attacked.

That night the Lee's Army of Northern Virginia crossed the Potomac River and fooled Meade's Army of the Potomac by leaving campfires alight giving the appearance that the men from Lee's army were still in camp.

July 14, 1863 - riots continued in New York City; African Americans were murdered in the streets and city law enforcement agencies were unable to cope. Men from the Army of the Potomac were ordered to the city to restore law and order.

When President Lincoln was informed that Lee's army had crossed the Potomac, he very publicly expressed his anger with Meade for allowing this. "We had them within our grasp. We had to only stretch forth our hands and they were ours."

July 15, 1863 - the riots in New York were finally brought to an end. However, 1,000 people were killed by the army, which caused huge resentment among the Irish community in the city.

July 16, 1863 - General Sherman, fresh from his success at Vicksburg, advanced on Jackson, Mississippi. The Confederate forces there, commanded by General Johnston, withdrew.

July 18, 1863 - Union forces suffered losses in their attempt to capture Battery Wagner, near Charleston. Battery Wagner was a Confederate redoubt about 2,500 meters from Fort Sumter. 1,515 Union men were lost in the attack, including seven senior Union commanders. The Confederacy lost 174 men.

July 25, 1863 - Union ironclads joined the assault on Battery Wagner. However, shore defenses were far better than anticipated by the Union troops.

July 29, 1863 - Union forces occupied the whole of Morris Island except Battery Wagner. If Wagner was captured, the Union could start a bombardment of Charleston.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2013 – THE WAR ON THE JAMES

As capital of the Confederate States of America, Richmond was the constant target of Northern troops. During the Civil War the Union army made numerous attempts to capture the city by land. However, as gunboats could not navigate the James River all the way to Richmond, the Confederate Capital was vulnerable by water as well. Conflicts such as the Battle of Drewry's Bluff and the Bermuda Hundred Campaign would challenge Richmond's defenses on the James River.

This month, we welcome Scott Williams and his discussion on the *Civil War on the James River*. Scott is the Chairman of the Military History Committee for the Chesterfield Historical Society. He was the mapmaker and a contributing author for the recently

published Bermuda Hundred Campaign Tour Guide. Scott is also an active Civil War reinator for numerous events staged throughout the State annually. He has faithfully traveled around Virginia to reinspect many of the Civil War's battles. Scott spends many a night reading books about the Civil War, and has even helped create a few too. He is a mapmaker, and worked on the maps that grace the pages of a book about the Bermuda Hundred campaign. Close to home, Scott enjoys working on the Discovery Barge II, giving vivid descriptions of accounts during the Civil War from nearly 150 years ago. Scott lives in Richmond with his wife Sandy.

To read more about Scott, and the Civil War on the James, see our website, www.powhatancwrt.com

NEXT MONTH

Eric Wittenberg on Colonel Ulric Dahlgren Thursday, September 19, 2013

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POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

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CIVIL WAR QUOTES

Rocketts, from being a place of business and bustle, has become as quiet as a deserted village. Now and then a Government wagon or a street cart disturbs the reigning quiet, and occasionally a lame soldier or an intoxicated struggler arouses the denizens by loud talk and boisterous words, but with these exceptions Rocketts is as quiet as a city of the dead. No vessels line its wharves, as in days gone by — no crowds gather to receive or ship goods. The river is blockaded and Rocketts is Rocketts no more.

~ Daily Dispatch, July 29, 1863 ~

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POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

Courtesy History Learning Site

August 1, 1863 - The Confederate spy Belle Boyd was arrested and imprisoned in Washington DC. Jefferson Davis offered an amnesty to any Southern soldier absent without leave. This was becoming a chronic problem for the South and Davis hoped to rectify it in this manner. However, he was unaware that the North was experiencing a similar problem.

August 2, 1863 - plans were submitted to build a suitable artillery gun platform in the marshland near Charleston to enable the North to use large caliber guns against the city. However, as the city was nearly 8,000 meters from this platform, even the largest caliber guns would have been at the end of their range.

August 4, 1863 - Union engineers started to build the gun platform on Morris Island to allow for the bombardment of Charleston. Logs were forced vertically down 20 feet through the mud into the sand substratum. Pine logs were then laid across these logs, which in turn were covered with 13,000 sandbags that contained 800 tons of earth. This was capable of supporting an 8-inch 200-pounder Parrott rifle. It was impossible to disguise what they were doing and the defenders of Charleston responded with strengthening the city's defenses.

August 6, 1863 - President Lincoln proclaimed this day as a day of thanksgiving for the recent Union victories. Businesses in the North were shut as all were encouraged to attend church services.

August 8, 1863 - Robert E Lee offered his resignation and took full responsibility for the disaster at Gettysburg. On no occasion did he try to blame a subordinate officer – a problem in the Union's Army of the Potomac that created many divisions among senior generals who could never be totally sure who they could trust. Davis refused Lee's offer.

August 12, 1863 - Union gunships arrived off Charleston to give the engineers more cover from Confederate artillery attacks. In particular the 10-inch guns at Battery Wagner were proving a real concern. Battery Wagner was at the far seaward end of Morris Island and had originally been built to defend the harbor entrance into Charleston. Its guns were in easy range of the Union engineers still constructing their platform but also now very open to a naval assault by Union gunships.

August 17, 1863 - 450 Union soldiers managed to move the 200-pounder Parrott gun to its base. It was nicknamed the "Swamp Angel". All day, hundreds of men moved the required supplies to its base – gunpowder, shot etc.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR - CONTINUED

August 18, 1863 - President Lincoln tried out the new Spencer Repeating Carbine. Suitably impressed, he gave it his approval. The rifle was more accurate than previous ones issued to Union troops and, correctly used, it could fire more bullets over the same period of time. The Spencer rifle was to give the North's infantrymen a major advantage over the South's and 60,000 were eventually supplied.

August 21, 1863 - The "Swamp Angel" was ready for use. The North demanded that the South had to evacuate Battery Wagner or that they would fire on Charleston.

August 22, 1863 - As the South had not agreed to the North's demands, the first shot by the "Swamp Angel" was fired at Charleston at 01.30. The gunners could not actually see their target but artillery officers had spent the previous day working out the necessary predicted range and angle of fire. In total 12 shots were fired in quick succession, including four incendiary rounds.

August 23, 1863 - The officer in command of defending Charleston, General Beauregard, wrote to the Union commander on Morris Island, General Gillmore, claiming that he was firing on innocent women and children, none of whom had been given the chance to leave the city. "You're firing a number of the most destructive missiles ever used in war into the midst of a city taken unawares and filled with sleeping women and children will give you a bad eminence in History." Gillmore replied that the city had been given fair warning and that if women and children were in the city, it was the fault of the city's commanders and not his. The issue was solved not by diplomacy but by the "Swamp Angel" itself. After firing a further 20 rounds, the breech exploded and put the gun out of use.

August 24, 1863 - Fort Sumter, also built to guard Charleston, surrendered after a 7-day artillery bombardment. Hit by over 2,500 rounds, the fort was reduced to ruin. However, when the troops in the fort were seen trying to remove the remaining artillery guns, which were going to be shipped to Charleston to bolster the city's defenses, a further 627 rounds were fired at it.

August 26, 1863 - Union troops moved to within 250 meters of Battery Wagner, which had yet to be put out of action. However, any further movement forward was severely hampered when it became clear that the battery had been surrounded by "sub-surface torpedo mines" activated by foot pressure. However, General Beauregard believed that the fall of Battery Wagner was inevitable and planned for its evacuation.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013 – COLONEL ULRIC DAHLGEN

In the foreword of [*Like a Meteor Blazing Brightly*](#) authored by Eric J. Wittenberg, noted author and historian, Stephen W. Sears wrote “This is the first biography of Ulric Dahlgren, a brilliant, ambitious young man who became the youngest full colonel in the United States Army at the age of twenty-one, yet died before his twenty-second birthday. This account chronicles his full life story, looking at his military career and extensive connections in the nation’s capital, and addressing the notorious Dahlgren Raid within the context of the his entire life.

An expert artilleryman, a bold cavalryman, a recklessly daring scout—Dahlgren played all of these roles, and more, in his brief, incandescent Civil War career. His final role, in the notorious Kilpatrick-Dahlgren raid on Richmond in 1864, has until now defined him in history’s judgment. By unearthing new sources and re-examining old ones, biographer Wittenberg offers a new and clearer definition of this complex character.

Even though Dahlgren was killed in action just short of his twenty-second birthday, he left an invaluable paper trail—letters and diaries and other documents—that unlock mysteries of his short and violent military career. Here for the first time, too, is an in-depth examination of his formative years. The dominant figure in this all-too-brief life was his father, Rear Admiral John A. Dahlgren, a close friend of President Lincoln’s and a man whose own ambitions fed Ulric’s soldierly ambitions. Of equal importance, there is much newly discovered source material here to clarify and give a defining focus to the Kilpatrick-Dahlgren raid.”

This month, we welcome the return of our friend, Eric Wittenberg to speak on the topic of the book Sears wrote so passionately about, Colonel Ulric Dahlgren.

Our speaker, who makes his third appearance before the PCWRT, was born in the Philadelphia suburbs, and raised in southeastern Pennsylvania. He made his first trip to the Gettysburg battlefield as a third-grader, and by the end of that trip, he was fully hooked on the Civil War. An award-winning Civil War historian, Eric’s specialty is cavalry operations, with a particular emphasis on the Army of the Potomac’s Cavalry Corps. He is the author of sixteen published books, all of which are available for purchase on his website, [*Rantings of a Civil War Historian*](#).

His first book, *Gettysburg’s Forgotten Cavalry Actions*, was named the third winner of the Robert E. Lee Civil War Roundtable of Central New Jersey’s Bachelor-Coddington Literary Award, as the best new work interpreting the Battle of Gettysburg of 1998. He is also the author of more than two dozen published articles which have appeared in *Gettysburg Magazine*, *North & South*, *Blue & Gray*, *Hallowed Ground*, *America’s Civil War*, and *Civil War Times Illustrated*.

Battlefield preservation work is very important to him. He sits on the boards of advisors of the Trevilian Station Battlefield Foundation and the Friends of the Alligator, and has regularly worked with the Civil War Preservation Trust in helping to save battlefield land. He is an original member of, as well as past president and program chairman of, the Central Ohio Civil War Roundtable. He is the vice president of the Buffington Island Battlefield Preservation Foundation and serves as one of 18 members of the Governor of Ohio’s Advisory Commission on the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

Eric, his wife Susan, and their two golden retrievers live in Columbus, Ohio.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013 - NEXT MONTH

Brian Steel Wills on George Henry Thomas. Thursday, October 17, 2013

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POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013 - CIVIL WAR QUOTES

Col. Shaw was not what might be expected, familiar with his men; he was cold, distant, and even austere, to a casual observer. When in the line of duty, he differed totally from what many persons would suppose he would be, as commander of a negro regiment. If there was any abolition fanaticism in him, he had a mind well balanced, so that no man in the regiment would ever presume to take advantage of that feeling in their favor, to disobey, or use insolence; but had any man a wrong done him, in Colonel Shaw he always found an impartial judge, providing the complaint was presented through the proper channels. For he was very formal in all his proceedings, and would enforce obedience merely by his tones which were not harsh, but soft and firm. The last day with us, or I may say the ending of it, as we lay flat on the ground before the assault, his manner was more unbending than I had ever noticed before in the presence of his men; he sat on the ground, and was talking to the men very familiarly and kindly; he told them how the eyes of thousands would look upon the night's work they were about to enter on; and said he, "Now boys I want you to be MEN!" He would walk along the entire line and speak words of cheer to his men. We could see that he was a man who had counted the cost of the undertaking before him, for his words were spoken so ominously, his lips were compressed, and now and then there was visible a slight twitching of the corners of his mouth, like one bent on accomplishing or dying. One poor fellow, struck no doubt by the Colonel's determined bearing, exclaimed as he was passing him, "Colonel, I will stay by you till I die," and he kept his word; he has never been seen since. For one so young, Col. Shaw showed a well-trained mind, and an ability of governing men not possessed by many older and more experienced men. In him, the regiment has lost one of its best and most devoted friends. *Requiescat in pace.*

James Henry Gooding, Private - 54th Massachusetts
Aug. 16, 1863

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

Courtesy History Learning Site

September 1, 1863 - Six more Union gun ships sailed into Charleston harbor to assist with the attack on the city.

September 2, 1863 - Union forces captured Knoxville, Tennessee. This cut in half the railroad from Chattanooga to Virginia and meant that the South would have to supply its men in Virginia via railways through Atlanta.

September 4, 1863 - General Grant was injured falling from his horse. Observers claimed that it

was because he was drunk – possibly with some justification. Allegations of drunkenness were to follow Grant for many years.

September 5, 1863 - An infantry assault on Battery Wagner started after the "sub-surface torpedo mines" had been cleared. General Rosecrans started his attack on Chattanooga. The British government seized two ironclads being built for the South in Liverpool after strenuous pressure from Washington DC.



THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR - *continued*
Courtesy History Learning Site

September 6, 1863 - Chattanooga was evacuated on the orders of General Braxton Bragg.

September 7, 1863 - A full-scale infantry assault on Battery Wagner was planned for 09.00. However, by this time the battery had been evacuated.

September 9, 1863 - President Davis ordered 12,000 troops to Chattanooga, as he believed that the city could not be allowed to fall. They were to come from Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

September 10, 1863 - The South's commander at Chattanooga, Bragg, ordered an attack on the Union forces as they approached the city. However, he was unaware of the size of Rosecrans force or where they all were. The dense forests that surrounded the city hid many Union soldiers. Bragg chose not to use trained scouts. He used his own cavalry for reconnaissance and they failed to spot that the Union army approaching Chattanooga had split into three.

September 12, 1863 - General Polk was ordered by Bragg to attack the Union's known positions. Polk refused to do so. No one accused Polk of cowardice, as he had a reputation for enjoying battle, such as his fiery temperament. What stopped Polk was his lack of information – he did not know the size of the army he was meant to attack. Polk also knew from past experience that Bragg was rarely keen to gather as much intelligence as was possible. Even Bragg did not know the whereabouts of the main force of

Union troops and his subordinate generals started to think that he was bewildered by what was going on around Chattanooga. It did not help matters that Bragg pointed the finger of blame at everyone except himself.

September 13, 1863 - Bragg was informed by officers on the ground that Rosecrans force was scattered and any one section was open to a concerted attack. Bragg refused to accept this and planned for an attack against a sizeable and concentrated enemy. If he had followed the information given to him by his subordinates, the outcome of the battle to come may have been different. As it was, Bragg's indecision allowed Rosecrans the time to move his XX Corps commanded by General McCook to the frontline. XX Corps was the furthest away of Rosecrans army. McCook's men had to march 57 miles to reach where the bulk of Rosecrans force was.

September 15, 1863 - Bragg planned for an attack on September 18th. However, chaotic communications within the Confederate camp meant that there were delays in getting this information to the generals in the field.

September 17, 1863 - Rosecrans correctly guessed what Bragg planned to do. He moved his units accordingly. The move took place at night to ensure that they were not seen.

September 18, 1863 - Bragg issued his orders to attack. With the additional men, he had an army that had numerical supremacy over Rosecrans – 75,000 troops against 57,000.



THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR - *continued*
Courtesy History Learning Site

September 19, 1863 - Neither side had made any ground against the other. Just before midnight both Rosecrans and Bragg met with their junior generals to discuss the battle.

September 20, 1863 - The battle recommenced at Chickamauga. On this day Ben Hardin Helm was killed fighting for the South. He was brother-in-law to President Lincoln's wife. A major misinterpretation of orders sent by Rosecrans left the Union's middle front line exposed to attack after the men who had been there were moved to the Union's left flank – not what Rosecrans had wanted. The attack duly came when three Southern divisions attacked and inflicted major casualties on the Union forces in front of them. The senior Union commander in the field, Major-General Thomas stopped the rout from becoming a disaster by a valiant and well coordinated rear guard action
 September 22, 1863 - Rosecrans informed President Lincoln about the scale of his defeat. Lincoln had put a great deal on capturing Chattanooga and viewed Rosecrans' failure as a bitter blow.

September 23, 1863 - Rosecrans informed Lincoln that he could hold Chattanooga unless he had to face a much superior force in terms of numbers.

September 24, 1863 - Lincoln, believing that Chattanooga had to be held, ordered that 20,000 extra men should be sent there. However, supplying Rosecrans would be problematic, as Bragg had captured Lockout Valley cutting in half the Union's supply line.

that earned him the nickname "The Rock of Chickamauga". The battle cost the Union 1,656 dead, 9,749 wounded and 4774 captured – 28% of Rosecrans' total force. The South lost 2,389 killed, 13,412 wounded and 2,003 missing – 24% of the Army of Tennessee's total.

September 21, 1863 - Union forces headed for Chattanooga. Observer's for Bragg sent him word that Rosecrans Army of the Cumberland was disorganized and scattered and that a robust chase could destroy what was left. Brigadier-General Nathan Bedford Forrest wrote to Bragg "every hour (lost) is worth a thousand men". Bragg did not seem to fully comprehend the magnitude of the South's victory. Some elements of the Confederate Army did attempt a follow up but it was piecemeal and Rosecrans was let off of the hook.

September 25, 1863 - Lincoln described Rosecrans as "confused and stunned like a duck hit on the head". 20,000 Union troops started their journey to support Rosecrans.

September 28, 1863 - Rosecrans brought charges against some of his commanders - Generals McCook and Crittenden. Both were ordered to face a court of inquiry. Conditions in Chattanooga were becoming worse as food was in short supply.

September 29, 1863 - General U Grant was ordered to direct towards Chattanooga as many men as he could spare. Grant had pre-empted this command and sent a force led by Sherman.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2013 – THE ROCK OF CHICKAMAUGA

Born into a slave holding family in Virginia in 1816, George Henry Thomas graduated from West Point in 1840, 12th in a class of 42, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After serving with Braxton Bragg in the Mexican-American War, he was appointed instructor of cavalry and artillery under West Point superintendent Lt. Col. Robert E. Lee.

At the onset of Civil War hostilities, and despite the offer of several prominent commissions in the Confederate army, Thomas did not resign his commission in the U.S. Army, but stayed loyal to the Union. This decision would create a deep rift with his family that would not heal in his lifetime.

Possessing a deep tactical understanding of warfare, Thomas held his position during the Battle of Chickamauga, rallying scattered troops to prevent disaster. Future president James Garfield reported to Army of the Cumberland commander William Rosecrans that Thomas was “standing like a rock,” and the name the “Rock of Chickamauga” would endure. Thomas was soon elevated to command and rose to greater fame.

Yet Thomas’s desire for privacy and early death prevented him from publishing his memoirs. Having destroyed his private papers to keep his life from being “hawked in print” the Rock of Chickamauga has been an enigma for biographers to decipher.

This month, Brian Steel Wills will unveil the mysteries of the Union General who may now only be receiving the acclaim so long overdue.

Brian Steel Wills is the Director of the Civil War Center and Professor of History at Kennesaw State

University in Kennesaw, Georgia, after a long tenure at the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

He is the author of numerous works relating to the American Civil War, including a new biography - *George Henry Thomas: As True As Steel*. His other titles include: *A Battle From the Start: The Life of Nathan Bedford Forrest* Reprinted: *The Confederacy's Greatest Cavalryman: Nathan Bedford Forrest*. This work was chosen as both a History Book Club selection and a Book of the Month Club selection.

He also authored, *The War in Southeastern Virginia*, released in October, 2001, and *No Ordinary College: A History of The University of Virginia's College at Wise*, (2004), both by the University Press of Virginia. *Gone with the Glory: The Civil War in Cinema* appeared in 2006 with Rowman and Littlefield. An updated edition of the James I. “Bud” Robertson, Jr., *Civil War Sites in Virginia* (Virginia, 2011) has appeared just in time for the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War.

In 2000, Dr. Wills received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the state of Virginia, one of eleven recipients from all faculty members at public and private institutions across the state. He was named Kenneth Asbury Professor of History and won both the Teaching award and the Research and Publication award from UVA-Wise.

You are invited to join us on Thursday, October 17th at the County Seat Restaurant for what is sure to be an informative presentation. We look forward to seeing you!



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2013 - NEXT MONTH

Thursday, November 21, 2013: Chris Mackowski on The Last Days of Stonewall Jackson

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The PCWRT has a 10 member Leadership Committee that manages our meetings, speakers, meals, and newsletters, etc. We operate on a calendar year, and each year we have vacancies on this committee. Such is the case for 2013.

This year, we will create several new leadership committee positions that we will call At Large. These positions will not have specific duties, but will enable new leadership committee members to join the committee, observe the work we do, and then select the

work or task to be done that may appeal to him/her.

If you have an interest in becoming more involved, or have a special skill to offer, we hope you will consider this proposal. New ideas and new people are the life-blood of any organization, and the PCWRT is no different. We need new volunteers with new ideas to move forward into our second decade.

If you are interested, please see one of our Leadership Committee members at our next meeting!

SEE WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2013

Click [here](#) so see our 2013 calendar of events!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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LOCAL EVENTS

Don't miss out on the incredible events happening all over the Richmond Region. Click [here](#) for links to events of Civil War interest, as well as links to sites on the 150th Anniversary of the start of the American Civil War.

NOTICE:

Thank you to our members for responding to our request to send future newsletters via e-mail! Your Roundtable is always striving to reduce expenses, and one of our main expenses has been the mailing of our monthly newsletter. If you are currently receiving your newsletter via US Mail, but would prefer to receive it electronically via e-mail, please let us know at info@PowhatanCWRT.org.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2013 - CIVIL WAR QUOTES

My little garden has been a great comfort to me, and has afforded vegetables every day for a month past. My potatoes, however, which occupied about half the ground, did not turn out well. There were not more than a dozen quarts—worth \$10, though—in consequence of the drought in June and July; but I have abundance of tomatoes, and every week several quarts of the speckled lima bean, which I trailed up the plank fence and on the side of the wood-house—just seven hills in all. I do not think I planted more than a gill of beans; and yet I must have already pulled some ten quarts, and will get nearly as many more, which will make a yield of more than 300-fold! I shall save some of the seed. The cabbages do not head, but we use them freely when we get a little bacon. The okra flourishes finely, and gives a flavor to the soup, when we succeed in getting a shin-bone. The red peppers are flourishing luxuriantly, and the bright red pods are really beautiful. The parsnips look well, but I have not yet pulled any. I shall sow turnip seed, where the potatoes failed, for spring salad. On the whole, the little garden has compensated me for my labor in substantial returns, as well as in distraction from painful meditations during a season of calamity.

~John B. Jones, Richmond, VA,
September 22, 1863~

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

Courtesy History Learning Site

October 1, 1863 - Rosecrans' supply route after the Battle of Chickamauga was a tortuous 28-mile mountain road that followed along the side of the Tennessee River. It would have been impossible to supply 50,000 men throughout the winter using just this route. Rosecrans ordered the building of flat-bottomed boats that would be able to navigate the Tennessee River.

October 2, 1863 - The first reinforcements for the Army of the Cumberland arrived in Chattanooga. Their journey of over 1100 miles took just over a week, showing the

importance of controlling the railways during the war.

October 4, 1863 - Union engineers completed the first of the flat-bottomed steamboats that they hoped to use to help supply the Army of the Cumberland.

October 6, 1863 - The weather in Chattanooga took a turn for the worse. Persistent heavy rain made living conditions difficult at best, especially as all the wooden homes in the town had been destroyed for use in strengthening trenches and redoubts. The town's 2,500 citizens crammed themselves into a few stone buildings.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR - *continued* *Courtesy History Learning Site*

October 8, 1863 - The lack of food in Chattanooga started to take a hold with many Union soldiers falling ill due to malnourishment. The soldiers in the town had slaughtered most of their animals in an effort to feed themselves but by now even these had run out.

October 9, 1863 - Confederate cavalry attacked a major Union supply column bound for Chattanooga. Hundreds of supply wagons – along with their contents – were lost.

October 10, 1863 - Despite the victory at Chickamauga, senior Confederate officers under Bragg's command expressed to Jefferson Davis their discontent with regard to his leadership. They all agreed that his skills "would be better employed elsewhere". As a friend of Bragg, Davis was angered by their lack of support for him.

October 11, 1863 - General Longstreet, who played such an important role in the victory at Chickamauga, again asked Davis to replace Bragg. Once again, Davis refused.

October 16, 1863 - The North introduced a major reorganization of its armies. The armies of the Cumberland, Tennessee and Ohio were all combined into the Military Division of the Mississippi and put under the command of General Ulysses S. Grant.

October 18, 1863 - Rosecrans was relieved of his command, which was handed over to Major-General George Thomas. Rosecrans was never given another meaningful command.

October 20, 1863 - Since their victory at Gettysburg, the Army of the Potomac had followed Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Neither was in a position to launch a major attack against the other but numerous skirmishes had occurred up to this date when Lee crossed the Rappahannock River to return to his old base. Meade had no intention of following him across the river. The skirmishes that had occurred since Gettysburg had cost Meade 2292 killed and wounded while Lee lost 1381 men.

October 23, 1863 - General Grant arrived at Chattanooga. The plight of the Unionists in the town was aided somewhat by the continuing infighting that Bragg was still experiencing among his senior officers.

October 24, 1863 - President Lincoln expressed his disappointment that Meade had not crossed the Rappahannock River in pursuit of Lee. However, as a politician, he still failed to fully understand the impact Gettysburg had on both armies even though it was some four months after the battle. In fact, Lincoln assumed that as four months had passed the Army of the Potomac should have been in a position to pursue Lee's army.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR - *continued* *Courtesy History Learning Site*

October 25, 1863 - The first of the flat-bottomed supply ships was launched in Chattanooga.

October 26, 1863 - The Tennessee River had to be made safe for the Unionists if the supply-boat was to succeed. General Thomas ordered the capture of Brown's Ferry, across the neck of Moccasin Point, which was the old high-water route.

October 27, 1863 - At 05.00, 1,800 Unionist soldiers attacked Brown's Ferry, having been moved along the Tennessee River by pontoons. By 10.00 some 4,000 Unionist soldiers had control of both sides of the river. The supply ship could now sail from Chattanooga passed Moccasin Point in relative safety.

October 28, 1863 - The South attempted to re-capture Brown's Ferry. The night attack lasted until early the next day. However, it was now that the infighting among the senior Confederates officers hit home. Bragg would have been aware that General Longstreet had asked Jefferson Davis to remove Bragg from

his post. Bragg and Davis had known each other as good friends for over 20 years so it is inconceivable that Davis had not informed Bragg of what Longstreet had requested. The Confederate attack at Brown's Ferry was to be led by Longstreet. Without telling Longstreet, Bragg removed from the attack some of the units that Longstreet had chosen to use. Instead of having 8,000 men in the attack, Longstreet had 4,000 and they were up against the Union force that now numbered 5,000. The North lost 77 men killed while Longstreet lost over 300 men killed. The Union remained in control of Brown's Ferry. The failure of Longstreet to succeed at Brown's Ferry - information that was swiftly conveyed to Davis - was sufficient to convince Davis that his decision to keep Bragg was the correct one.

October 30, 1863 - The flat-bottomed steam ship returned to Chattanooga at night towing several barges full of 40,000 rations. It arrived just in time as the soldiers in the town only had half a breakfast ration left. The citizens in the town only had four boxes of hard bread left for all of them.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2013 – THE LAST DAYS OF STONEWALL JACKSON

The American Civil War produced countless legendary icons, but perhaps none more so than Thomas J. Jackson. A graduate of West Point, hero of the Mexican war, and instructor at the Virginia Military Institute, his fearless leadership on the battlefield at First Manassas, led Confederate General Bernard Bee to bestow the now well-known moniker “Stonewall” upon him. It was a nickname he disdained, insisting all credit go to his troops.

Humble, pious, disciplined, and by some accounts eccentric, he became Robert E. Lee’s “right arm” through determined marches with his famous foot cavalry, and daring, unwavering tactics on the field. After leading his outnumbered followers to victory at the battles of Second Manassas, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville, he tragically met an untimely end, under improbable circumstances

In a time of war, heroism and sacrifice, Stonewall Jackson’s life and death quickly became legend, both North and South. Please join us on November 21st, as we are joined by educator, author and historian, Chris Mackowski. Chris is a writing professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, NY. He also works as a historian with the National Park Service at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National

Military Park, where he gives tours at four major Civil War battlefields (Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania), as well as at the building where Stonewall Jackson died

He's the author of *Chancellorsville: Crossroads of Fire and The Dark*, *Close Wood: The Wilderness, Ellwood*, and the *Battle that Transformed Both*, and his writing has appeared in several national magazines. He blogs regularly for Scholars and Rogues (www.scholarsandrogues.com).

Chris and co-author Kristopher D. White, longtime friends, have co-authored several books, including *The Last Days of Stonewall Jackson*, *Chancellorsville's Forgotten Front: The Battles of Second Fredericksburg and Salem Church*, and *Simply Murder: The Battle of Fredericksburg*, along with monograph-length articles on the battle of Spotsylvania for *Blue & Gray*. Mackowski and White have also written for *Civil War Times*, *America's Civil War*, and *Hallowed Ground*. They are co-founders of the blog Emerging Civil War (www.emergingcivilwar.com). Chris has an M.F.A. from Goddard College and a Ph.D. from Binghamton University.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, November 21, at the County Seat!

NEXT MONTH

Thursday, December 19, 2013: Christmas Dinner - Myra Reichart, *Ought Not To Be A Merry Christmas*



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF THANKSGIVING

“The year that is drawing towards its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God...

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be reverently, solemnly, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and voice, by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea,

and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and prayer to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens...

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.”

Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

CIVIL WAR QUOTES

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

~President Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania November 19, 1863 ~



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

Courtesy History Learning Site

November 2, 1863 - President Lincoln was invited to make a speech at the dedication of the new cemetery at Gettysburg. Jefferson Davis visited Charleston and publicly stated that he believed the city would not fall.

November 3, 1863 - Sherman continued his march to Chattanooga. Unwilling to rely on a single rail line from Decatur to Nashville for his supplies, he ordered that it was rebuilt as double tracked.

November 4, 1863 - General Bragg, supported by Jefferson Davis, rid himself of General Longstreet and his 20,000 men who were sent to support Confederate troops at Knoxville.

November 7, 1863 - General Meade, commander of the Army of the Potomac, attacked Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Several Confederate redoubts were captured at Kelly's Ford on the Rappahannock River and 1,629 prisoners were taken. However, the North lost far more men killed – 83 to 6.

November 8, 1863 - Meade continued his assault on Confederate positions but by now they are no more than skirmishes as opposed full-scale assaults.

November 9, 1863 - Lincoln visited the theatre to see a play called "The Marble Heart" which starred John Wilkes Booth.

November 14, 1863 - Sherman arrived at Bridgeport at the head of 17,000 men. His men had covered 675 miles in just fourteen days. At Bridgeport, Sherman was briefed by Grant as to the state of play at Chattanooga. Sherman was told not to expect any help from the Army of the Cumberland, as it would maintain its defensive position rather than an offensive one.

In the South, the Confederate Government ordered the use of force in its efforts to collect taxes. This included the confiscation of property and was primarily directed at farmers in North Carolina who were refusing to pay their taxes.

November 15, 1863 - Sherman started his campaign against Chattanooga. Accepting Grant's advice, Sherman viewed the role of the Army of the Cumberland to be solely defensive.

November 16, 1863 - Longstreet finally reached Knoxville. However, lacking heavy artillery, Longstreet was unable to besiege the town, which was well defended by Union troops commanded by General Burnside.

November 18, 1863 - Lincoln left Washington DC en route to Gettysburg.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

Courtesy History Learning Site

November 19, 1863 - The dedication of the cemetery at Gettysburg took place. 15,000 people assembled there. The dedication started with a two-hour speech by Edward Everett as to the course of the battle. Lincoln spoke after Everett and for only ten minutes and received polite applause. Some in the gathering were unaware that he had even spoken. 'The Times' in London considered Everett's speech to have been very good while the President's was a disappointment. His speech was carefully prepared and not, as was once thought, put together on the train journey from Washington to Gettysburg. Lincoln himself said "the world will little note, nor long remember what we say here."

November 20, 1863 - Sherman's advance on Chattanooga was delayed by heavy rain.

November 21, 1863 - With better weather, Sherman prepared for his attack on Chattanooga.

November 23, 1863 - Unionist troops took Orchard Knob just outside of Chattanooga. The capture of this position gave them a height advantage over Confederate positions around Chattanooga. Such was the strategic advantage of Orchard Knob, Grant made it his headquarters.

November 25, 1863 - Sherman started his main assault against Confederate positions around Chattanooga, especially the men based on Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. By 15.00 the positions held by the Army of Tennessee had fallen. Seven Congressional Medals of Honor were awarded for the Union assault on Missionary Ridge. One went to Lieutenant Arthur MacArthur, the father of Douglas MacArthur.

November 26, 1863 - The Army of the Potomac threatened an attack on Richmond. Bragg withdrew his forces from the Chattanooga area To Dalton, Georgia, having lost 10% of his men – 6,667 out of 64,000. Bragg was not to know that Sherman's army had suffered a similar percentage of casualties – 5,824 out of 56,000 men. By withdrawing, Bragg kept his army as an effective fighting unit. However, Sherman's army was free to advance on Atlanta.

November 27, 1863 - The Army of the Potomac meets that Army of Northern Virginia at Mine Run.

November 30, 1863 - An attack on the Army of Northern Virginia was cancelled at the last minute when Meade decided that Lee's men were too well dug in.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2013

UGHT NOT TO BE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

December 1863 saw the third observation of Christmas since the start of the war. With loved ones away from home, and families on both sides of the conflict suffering loss, how did Americans, both Northern and Southern, find it within themselves to “celebrate?” Yet during this terrible time of national struggle, many of the customs and observances, some of which we cherish to this day, grew to be widely accepted.

In this season of Peace on Earth, living historian Myra Reichart joins us from *Places Through Time Living History*, for a bittersweet exploration of the heartache felt both by those at home, and those on the battlefield far from home, during the Christmas season.

Myra Reichart combines her life-long fascination with Civil War history in general and the Battle of Gettysburg in particular with her love of theater and teaching. Her persona is created from personal reminiscences of Gettysburg citizens, bits and pieces found in her research into the battle, the community and 19th century life. The beautifully crafted and period-perfect dialogue that Reichart employs makes listeners think they’re having an intimate conversation with someone who was there, and her characters often speak to issues and ideas that resonate for contemporary society.

Myra was a Communications / Organizing Specialist for the Pennsylvania State Education Association from 1997-2011. Prior to joining the PSEA staff, she taught in Pennsylvania public schools from 1970-74 and 83-96. She is also trained as a community crisis intervener by the National Organization for Victim Assistance. Reichart has received numerous national awards for her writing and her innovative training and

presentations skills from both the National Education Association Public Relations Council of the States and the Society of Education Editors.

A western Pennsylvania native, Myra and her husband Paul live just outside of Gettysburg surrounded by the battlefield. She is a volunteer docent at both the David Wills House and the Historic Train Station in Gettysburg. She is a charter member of the National Civil War Museum, a member of the Gettysburg Foundation, and The Society for Women and the Civil War. She also belongs to and supports The Civil War Trust, the Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society and the Adams County Historical Society.

Myra tells us, “Using excerpts from letters, diaries and journals of civilians and soldiers we will explore how their feelings about the war and being separated from loved ones at Christmas deepened and changed over the course of the conflict.

At the end of the presentation we will share with each other the fates of each of the people whose words make up the program.

It was a very emotional experience to put this program together as I soon came to understand that the only thing that made these letters different from those that soldiers write today was the names of the battles. It continues to have a strong effect on me each time I perform it.”

We invite you to join us on Thursday, December 19, 2013 at The County Seat Restaurant, as we celebrate Christmas in this very special way.



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2013

NEXT MONTH

Thursday, January 16, 2014: Eric App explores The Streets of Richmond, 1861-1865.

PCWRT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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CIVIL WAR QUOTES

But what a cruel thing is war; to separate and destroy families and friends, and mar the purest joys and happiness God has granted us in this world; to fill our hearts with hatred instead of love for our neighbours, and to devastate the fair face of this beautiful world! I pray that, on this day when only peace and good-will are preached to mankind, better thoughts may fill the hearts of our enemies and turn them to peace.

Robert E. Lee to his wife, December 25, 1862



POWHATAN CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2013

THIS MONTH IN THE CIVIL WAR - Courtesy *History Learning Site*

December 1, 1863 - Meade decided to withdraw the Army of the Potomac away from Richmond. In the previous few days, his army had suffered badly from the very poor weather. Braxton Bragg offered his resignation to Jefferson Davis after the defeat at Chattanooga. Even now, in the aftermath of a significant defeat, Bragg chose to blame others in his army, namely Major-General John Breckenridge, who he described as a drunk, and Cheatham who Bragg claimed was unfit for duty.

December 2, 1863 - Lieutenant-General W H Hardee was appointed on a temporary basis to succeed Bragg as commander of the Army of the Tennessee.

December 3, 1863 - General Longstreet concluded that he did not have sufficient resources to take Knoxville, so he ordered his army to withdraw to its winter quarters at Greeneville.

December 7, 1863 - The fourth session of the Confederate Congress met in Richmond. Despite brave words from Jefferson Davis, all present knew that it had been a bad year for the Confederacy.

December 8, 1863 - President Lincoln announced the Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction to Congress. He offered a full amnesty to those who fought for the Confederacy except to former Federal army officers who had resigned their commission to fight for the South. Anyone who was found guilty of mistreating Union prisoners was also exempt from any Presidential pardon as were senior government officials. Lincoln also promised that all property in the South (except former slaves) would be restored to their legal owners. He also guaranteed that any Southern state would be allowed back into the Union if just 10% of those in a state swore allegiance to the Union. Each of these states would also have to abandon slavery.

December 15, 1863 - The lack of money available to the Confederacy was all too clear to Brigadier-General E P Alexander, part of Longstreet's command, when he noticed men marching in their bare feet as there were no replacements for broken shoes. Longstreet ordered his

men to exchange their footwear with the boots worn by captured Union soldiers.

December 16, 1863 - General J E Johnston was appointed commander of the Army of Tennessee. General Bragg went to Richmond and became the military adviser to President Jefferson Davis.

December 18, 1863 - Union troops were suffering the same hardships as those in the South. Union troops at Knoxville had no winter clothing and they slept under their ponchos as no tents had been sent there. Both North and South had more casualties as a result of ill-health and disease as opposed to actual combat. Despite their hardships, General Grant applauded the work done by the men at Knoxville and praised Burnside's leadership.

December 21, 1863 - By this day most military operations had ceased because of the weather.

December 26, 1863 - The strength of the Confederacy was put at 465,000 men but only 278,000 were actually present at their colors. The discrepancy was accounted for by those men off through illness and the many thousands who had deserted. Those that remained at their colors were experienced soldiers. The North was not in a particularly good position either as it was having major problems enforcing conscription.

December 29, 1863 - The first signs of scurvy were reported in both camps along with frequent outbreaks of dysentery.