

LOWCOUNTRY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

March 2004 Issue 35

2ND MANASSAS/BULL RUN. A REVISIT, WITH NEW INSIGHTS, AS TOLD BY EDWIN C. BEARSS

The *Battle of 2nd Manassas/Bull Run* has been analyzed in detail for 140 years! The action on August 28-30, 1862 was the decisive battle of the Northern Virginia Campaign (June-September 1862). This major engagement was won by the Confederates led by Generals Lee, Jackson and Longstreet. The U.S. forces were led by General John Pope. The battle involved gross misjudgment on the Union's behalf versus some excellent decisions by the Confederates. All-in-all this resulted not only in a defeat for the Pope (Union) but rather severe casualties for both sides.

But let Ed Bearss tell you the whole story in his own inimitable way.



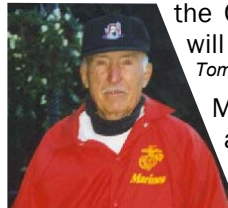
STATISTICS FOR 2ND BULL RUN

UNION	CONFEDERATES
Commanders	
Maj. Gen. John Pope	General Robert E. Lee
Armies	
of Virginia, of the Potomac	of Northern Virginia
Strengths	
about 63,000 all arms (or 70,000)	about 54,000 all arms (or 47,000)
Casualties	
1,747 dead, 8,452 wounded, 4,262 captured or missing (figures approximate: include Cedar Ridge and Kettle Run)	1,553 dead, 7,812 wounded, 109 captured or missing
Perspectives	
Poor intelligence and personality clashes with Porter and McClellan led to this crushing defeat. The Union had again surrendered the initiative	Again Jackson proved that leadership means more than numbers or material resources

Ed Bearss

On March 17, we will have an unparalleled opportunity to learn about 2nd Manassas/Bull Run when Ed Bearss returns to the Lowcountry. Mr. Bearss is the nation's preeminent battlefield historian and tour guide. Those of you fortunate enough to have heard Ed's talk on First Manassas last year will remember what a dynamic speaker he is. Those of you who have not yet had the pleasure of spending an evening with Ed are in for a rare treat. *By Bob Eberly*

It's getting so people think Ed Bearss may have *been* in the Civil War. Not so, he says, though he will admit to meeting a few survivors. *By Tom O'Brien*



Edwin Bearss

Mr. Bearss is an independent scholar and historian whose public career began at the National Park Service in 1955 in Vicksburg, Mississippi. While there, he conducted research leading to the recovery of the long-lost Union gunboat *Cairo*. He also located two forgotten forts at Grand Gulf, Mississippi, and was instrumental in having Grant Gulf named a State Military monument. In 1966, he transferred to Washington, D.C., and in 1981 he became the National Park Service chief historian for military sites. Mr. Bearss conducts detailed battlefield site tours and seminars for the Smithsonian Study Tours program. In 1990, he was a featured commentator for Ken Burns' PBS series, *The Civil War*, the most popular program broadcast by that network to date. *From The Smithsonian Associates Civil War E-Mail Newsletter*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks to Bob Ham for a very informative program on James Longstreet and family. We have many talented people in the Lowcountry Civil War Round Table and Bob Ham is a prime example of this talent. He brought the Longstreet family to life during our February meeting and each of us could identify with the General and his family. Great job, Bob!!

The BGES is presenting the 2004 South Atlantic Civil War Symposium on March 11, 12 and 13. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront on Hilton Head. Richard McMurry, the symposium moderator and our guest speaker in November, again has brought together an outstanding cast of speakers for this three-day event. Call BGES toll free at 1-888-741-2437 for last-minute reservations.

Our Corporate Sponsors will be our guests at this month's dinner/meeting - Norman Mackay, General Manager for Key Infiniti at the Auto Mall and Stew Butler of Butler Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep in Beaufort. Please let them know we appreciate their sponsorships!

The Program Committee is finishing the 2004-2005-program year. You will be very excited to hear about next year's programs! We are planning to open in September with a program on Civil War Music - very exciting! This group was featured in the March 2003, Hilton Head Symposium and they were a hit!!! There will be more information coming about the 2004 - 2005 programs.

Two members of our club, Mr. and Mrs. Oren Bell, have donated a framed print, "The Charge at Trevilian Station", by Mort Kunstler. This features General Wade Hampton and The Citadel Cadets. The print is a beautiful piece of art. It is signed and numbered and has a Certificate of Authenticity. The Executive Committee will decide how to best utilize this print for fund raising.

Remember the March meeting is the third Wednesday (March 17, 2004) - NOT the traditional second Wednesday.

I look forward to your attendance.

Bernie Covert



Louisa May Alcott, a nurse in 1862, wrote wartime newspaper letters, "Hospital Sketches," and later won renown as author of *Little Women*.

THE MINIÉ BALL GAZETTE
Lowcountry Civil War Round Table Inc.
P.O. Box 2252
Bluffton, SC 29910
843-705-9898

Dedicated to Historic Preservation and Enlightenment

Editors: Mitch & Marian Sackson

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Hospitality	Randi Lyon	705-7110
Historian	Carol Cutrona	705-6189
Photographer	Robert Reilly	705-6072

FOR SICK HEADACHE

One teaspoonful of pulverized charcoal and one-third of a teaspoonful of soda mixed in very warm water. Take with as much bourbon as is available. If no charcoal, just take bourbon.



UNION RETREAT OVER THE STONE BRIDGE TOWARD CENTREVILLE ON AUGUST 30, 1862

**2003-2004 PRESENTATIONS
THE CIVIL WAR YEAR OF 1862**

March 17	2nd Manassas/Bull Run. A revisit, with new insights, to this battle which resulted in another victory for the Confederacy. <i>As told by the energetic, indomitable Edwin C. Bearss, one of the best known Civil War lecturers and an ardent battlefield preserva-</i>
April 14	Battle of Sharpsburg/Antietam. Considered the bloodiest single day of the entire war! <i>Presented by Dr Tom Clemens, an Antietam Park Guide, a noted historian, lecturer, college professor and an expert on this important battle</i>
May 12	Seven Days Battle in Virginia. From June 25 to July 1, the hills & towns of Virginia were alive with fire. <i>Presented by R. E. L. Krick, a most informative young rising star as a Civil War historian and speaker</i>

There is a *Morning After* for all meetings (**except** as noted) at Palmetto Electric in River Walk

MORNING AFTER WITH ED

Don't miss the **Morning After** program on Thursday March 18th at the Palmetto Electric Building from 10-12. In this setting, Ed will field all questions about any aspect of the war. This is a great way to get a quick education on the War. To make sure we have enough chairs, please call Jim Hamilton at 705-7575 to reserve a chair and to allow for amount of coffee and cake.

A HERITAGE OPPORTUNITY

At our February meeting John Griffin from the Heritage Library on Hilton Head spoke in brief on what the Library is all about. He mentioned resources available that are of interest to Civil War enthusiasts and gave examples of the rewarding research that can be done there. The Library is not well known here but is a real "gold mine" for anyone who has a yen for history or genealogy. It also holds opportunity for some LCWRT members who would like to get involved in helping as volunteers. Tasks need to be done, such as getting the Civil War materials better organized to make them more useful to researchers, cataloging the Blue/Gray magazine collection, being a sort of expert available to help others find Civil War information, and, I'm sure, many other opportunities.

If this seems to be something you would like to get involved in, please call me (**Bill Trapp at (843)705-2455**). I'd like to get a task force together for a visit to the Library where we can begin by identifying how we can put our talents to use.

OUR MEMBERSHIP

Our Lowcountry Civil War Round Table now has 408 dues paying members. As of February 1 we have 56 new members.

Norman M. Mackay
General Manager



I N F I N I T I

KEY INFINITI
10 Auto Mall Boulevard
Hardeeville. S C 29927
Telephone: (843)208-9100
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THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2004	
9:30 AM	Alan Downs: The Responsibility is Great; General Joseph E. Johnston and his Revolutionary War Burden
10:45 AM	Art Bergeron: No Braver Cavalier Ever Rode to Death, The Civil War Career of John Rogers Cook
1:00 PM	Stuart McGehee: Wake of the Flood: Social Change in the Civil War South
2:15-3:30 PM	Panel Discussion: Alan Downs, Art Bergeron, Stuart McGehee, John Hennessy, Bill Freehling
FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2004	
9:30 AM	John Hennessy: The Army of the Potomac as Liberators? Reaction to the Emancipation Proclamation
10:45 AM	Bill Freehling: Did A Great Slave Power Conspiracy Help to Break Up the Union?
1:00 PM	John Simon: The Evolution of Union Command and Control, 1861-1864
2:15-3:30 PM	Panel Discussion: John Hennessy, Bill Freehling, John Simon, Wendy Venet, Gerry Prokopowicz
SATURDAY, MARCH 13	
9:30 AM	Gerry Prokopowicz: Did Lincoln Own Slaves? Questions and SOME Answers About Abraham Lincoln
10:45 AM	Wendy Venet: Women at War, Work, Family and Change Among Northern and Southern Women
1:00 PM	Richard McMurry: Confederate Journalism
2:15-3:30 PM	Panel Discussion: Gerry Prokopowicz, Wendy Venet, John Simon, Art Bergeron, Richard McMurry

A CIVIL WAR NURSE AMONG US

As told by Jay Kenaga of Sun City



MARY ANN WILES

While perhaps not recorded in the history books, Mary Ann (Scott) Wiles is known for having provided prompt medical care for soldiers who became casualties during the battle of Gettysburg in July, 1863.

She was a midwife who lived nearby in a rural area of Pennsylvania. In late June, a column of Lee's army marched confidently past her farm, with flags flying and bands playing as they advanced toward the Union army. On the way, her farm was foraged for food and horses, as was commonly done at that time.

After three days, the guns stopped firing and the smoke cleared. It began to rain, as seems usual after a battle. Disregarding the chaotic conditions of the countryside, she gathered her medical supplies and traveled to Gettysburg. She voluntarily roamed the grisly areas of combat, providing emergency medical care to any of the badly wounded men she found. There were many, and her prompt nursing help was critical to their survival.

When my uncle visited her in 1917, she seemed reluctant to speak of her actions and of the unspeakable horrors of what she saw, except to say that she did her best to help the first man she encountered, regardless of the type of uniform he wore. As a result, it was estimated that she saved some 300 men, of both sides of the fighting, from needless death. By her brave actions she became commonly known as the "Florence Nightingale of Gettysburg". She lived until 1919.

WOMEN AND THE CIVIL WAR

The Sixth Annual **Women and the Civil War** Conference, sponsored by the Society for Women and the Civil War and the Museum of the Confederacy, will be held in Richmond on June 25-27, 2004. This full and robust program is taking registrations. You may call for a form at 540-381-4518 or email womencivilwar@aol.com or visit their web site www.womenandthecivilwar.org.

Reservation for *March 17th* Meeting At McCracken Middle School Dinner @ 5:45pm—Program @ 7:00pm

Menu for This Meeting

BBQ Ribs • Pulled BBQ Pork

String Beans • Field Peas
Potato Casserole • Broccoli Salad

Chocolate Cake • Banana Pudding
Rolls • Ice Tea • Coffee



Catered by Duke's
of Ridgeland



Dinner For March 17th, 2004

Number of Dinners: ___ @ \$11 each = ___

Names: _____

Phone: _____ Ck# _____ Date _____

Make Check Payable to: LCWRT Inc

Mail or Deliver Check with this Form to: _____

Frank Bulson
37 Strobhar St.

Bluffton, SC 29909



TO ATTEND PROGRAM ONLY

(no dinner) Make your reservation by
calling Jim Hamilton at 705-9898

Dinner Form & Check Must be
RECEIVED no later than March 13th 2004



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CONTACT:
ORREN BELL

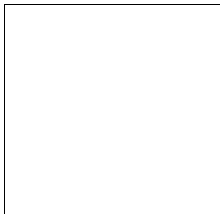
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UNION TROOPS RETURNING FIRE ON ADVANCING LINES OF CONFEDERATES AUGUST 29 1862 AT BULL RUN



THE MINIE BALL GAZETTE
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Battle of Sharpsburg/Antietam
Considered the bloodiest single day of the entire war!
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CONFEDERATE DEFENSES AT MANASSAS 2

Our Web Site: lowcountrycwr.org



TAKE NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING IS ON THE THIRD WEDNES-
DAY OF MARCH WHICH IS MARCH 17TH