The Signal Flag

Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table

Campaign # 22 **Skirmish # 3** **November 2008**

From the Rear Ranks:

I just wanted to let everyone know it's now official we have been named 2008 Civil War Roundtable of the year by The Civil War preservation Trust and I now have the plaque to prove it I will bring the plaque to the January meeting for all to gaze upon but not touch. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped us achieve national recognition as a superior roundtable.

Our own Roger Arthur has one again managed to bring a national known name to our roundtable. Roger tells me that Noah Andre Trudeau will be our guest speaker in April. I'm sure he will be talking about his newest book *Southern Storm,* so if you are interested you might want to get a copy to read before the meeting. I'm also sure he would be available to sign any books you bring in plus he may even have copies available at the meeting.

Now, I can't resist bringing up a "what if situation" (Roger and historians just hate it when I do this). I have read that Robert E. Lee was in charge of the Department of Texas a few months before Twiggs was sent by John B. Floyd the Secretary of War to replace him because local secessionist were uncertain of Lee's loyalty. Twigg surrendered 19 Army posts and 2,400 men plus millions of dollars in equipment to the Texans. The question is, if Lee had been in charge- if Twiggs arrival had been delayed for some reason would Lee have surrendered the Federal forts, men and equipment to the Texas commissioners. Given Lees's background I think without any question he would have refused to surrender the Government property in his charge. This means it might have been Lee not Robert Anderson who received and returned the first fire of the Civil War and San Antonio, rather than Fort Sumter would have been the scene of the fight that began a great war. Subsequent history would have been substantially changed.

John Walls.
Acting President
BCWRT

~ Officers ~

President: **Vacant** – Acting- John Walls
Vice President: Chip Crowe - acting
Secretary: Ted Pawlik
Treasurer: Dave Walter

~ Committee Members ~

Preservation: Bob Sprague
Nominating / Speakers Committee: Vince Carosella
Speakers: Roger Arthur, Joe Lehman
Trips: **Vacant**
Credentials: **Vacant**
Greeter: Loretta Thomas
Publicity: Bill Stiman
Historians: Bill Sitman
Social Dir: Flo Williams

~Members at Large ~

David Hoffritz, James Lawler, Lynne Fulton

~ Official Sutler ~

Bob Sprague: Books / Periodicals
610-644-0353

~ Annual Membership ~

Individual $25.00; Family $40.00; Student $15.00
(Full time student up to age 23)

? Questions ? Contact:
John Walls
1109 Debra's Way,
West Chester, Pa 19382
610-692-0435
JohnFWalls@verizon.com

BVCWRT Web Site:
http://bvcwrt.home.comcast.net

Webmaster: Jim Lawler
dtownjim@comcast.net

Signal Flag Editor:
Lynne Fulton
610-647-1039
fultonlm1949@aol.com

Unsolicited articles from our members are welcome. Please contact Lynne!

* Our meetings are handicap accessible *

What is the BVCWRT all about???

We were founded in 1987. According to our by-laws, "the purpose of the Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table shall be to provide a congenial medium through which persons having a common interest in the events of the American Civil War - its causes and effects, engagements, personages, units, armaments and other things pertaining thereto - may satisfy their interest and broaden individual knowledge through discussion, lectures, field trips and the exchange of books, paper and other data. The purposed is also to consider the preservation and protection of the battlefields, sites, landmarks, relics and collection of the period."

In plain English, we are an organization of diverse people brought together by our common interest in the American Civil War. This interest can range from the casual to the obsessive. We intend to tailor our activities and presentations to appeal to all our members, novice or expert.

Welcome New Members & Reenlistments

The Round Table welcomes our new members since our last meeting. Please welcome them and share your Civil War enthusiasm.

New Members:

Barbara Boor
Art and Doris Strawbridge

Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table
Come to our next meeting
November 5, 2008

Speaker: **Jari Villanueva**
Topic: **"Civil War Bugle Calls"**
Time: **7:00 PM**
Place: **West Chester Borough Hall, Gay Street**

Jari A. Villanueve is a musician and historian. He has sounded Taps at Arlington National Cemetery at least 1600 times over sixteen years as a member of the United States Air Force Band. He entered the Air Force in 1985 and was a trumpeter and arranger for the Ceremonial Brass. As a trumpet player, Master Sergeant Villanueva has sounded Taps at funerals and ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery including many at The Tomb of the Unknowns. He served as assistant Drum Major and lead the Air Force Band in ceremonies at Arlington, Bolling Air Force Base, and the Pentagon. He has performed with the Concert Band and The Airmen of Note and was featured soloist on Tattoo performances in Europe. His arrangements are featured on four Air Force Band CDs. His arrangement of Goin' Home was featured in the Tom Clancy Movie "Clear and Present Danger".

Military awards include the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Medal, The National Defense Medal and numerous letters of appreciation.

A graduate of The Peabody Conservatory of the John Hopkins University and Kent State University, he is a curator of the Taps Exhibit at Arlington and has written a book entitled "Day is Done... A History of Bugles in the United States Military". He arranged two volumes of Civil War Music for brass quintet, and published articles on the history of bugle calls and brass bands of the Civil War. The articles have been published in The International Trumpet Guild Journal, NY Brass Conference for Scholarship Newsletter, the Washington Times and The Navy Times. His is also an active Civil War re-enactor, sounding bugle calls for Co. D 3rd U.S. Infantry and as Chief buglar for Vincent's Brigade. He has also served as assistant music producer and buglar for the movie "Gods and Generals." He resides in Catonsville, MO, a suburb of Baltimore.

Editor's Note

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES. ***Please fill out the attached membership form and bring it to our meeting on Wednesday, November 5, with your check. All dues should be given to our Treasurer, Dave Walter.***

We are looking for volunteers to fill some open positions on the Executive Board, we need the following people; someone to organize Trips, handle Publicity, someone for the Nominating Committee and Credentials. If you are interested, please contact the President or any member of the Executive Board. These positions do not require much of your time so please consider volunteering.

Lynne Fulton, Editor Signal Flag.

The worst U.S. President was James Buchanan according to London Times ***From: Temple website 10/31/2008***

The Times of London rates all U.S. presidents in a survey ending tomorrow with the final 10. Clinton, both Bushes, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Johnson and Kennedy did not make that final 10. I'm as curious as you are what they say about (and where they rank). Here's the panel of their experts and an excerpt that includes how they describe the worst U.S. president, ever.

Worst #42. James Buchanan 1857-61 (Democratic)

A poll of American historians recently selected Buchanan's failure to prevent the American Civil War as the greatest single mistake made by any president and our panel agree that he was the worst ever President.
and he struggled to maintain the fragile peace as the southern states agitated for more freedom. He denied the legal right of states to secede from the Union but at the same time he insisted that the federal government was not legally able to prevent them. By the time he left the White House his Democratic Party had split in two, seven slave states had rebelled and formed the Confederacy and the country was embroiled in the American Civil War. "Failed to prevent the near disintegration of the nation."

Check out the worst to first Presidents from an outsiders perspective;

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/us_and_americas/us_elections/ar

New Law Authorizes Veterans' Salutes during National Anthem

From: Temple Website: William Vossler

VA Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Public Affairs, Media Relations, Washington, DC 20420
www.va.gov News Releas, October 30, 2008

WASHINGTON (Oct. 30, 2008) -- Veterans and active-duty military not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect this month.

"The military salute is a unique gesture of respect that marks those who have served in our nation's armed forces," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation's flag."

The new provision improves upon a little known change in federal law last year that authorized veterans to render the military-style hand salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, but it did not address salutes during the national anthem. Last year's provision also applied to members of the armed forces while not in uniform.

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The most recent change, authorizing hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel, was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran. It was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14. The earlier provision authorizing hand-salutes for veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag was contained in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect Jan. 28, 2008.

Bugle Calls

The bugle was essential to all military communication until its displacement by electronics. The primary bugler was assigned to the headquarters staff, and kept close to the commander at the front. Soldiers were quick to learn the calls of the bugle, and on a routine day at least four, and as many as ten, were made.

Today the sound of the bugle is heard across Army Forts from early morning to late at night. Literally, the bugle regulates the soldier's day. In a bow to the modern electronic age, the calls are recorded, then broadcast on schedule through loudspeakers located around the post. Bugle calls are musical signals that announce scheduled and certain non-scheduled events on an Army installation. Scheduled calls are prescribed by the commander and normally follow the sequence shown below. Non-

scheduled calls are sounded by the direction of the commander. Individual calls sometimes have interesting histories and antecedents. The bugle was first used as a signal instrument in the American Army during the Revolutionary War. The bugle calls evolved from Continental Army contacts with the French and English armies during the Revolutionary War. These two nations have had the most effect on our present system of calls. In the early years of our nation's independence, each arm and branch of the Army developed its own set of "sound signals" - drum beats in the Infantry; bugle calls in the Cavalry and Artillery. By the end of the Civil War the artillery, cavalry, and infantry were sounding bugle calls. In 1867, General Emory Upton directed Major Truman Seymour, 5th U.S. Artillery, to prepare a definitive system of calls with the object of eliminating the confusion evident during the Civil War. Major Seymour reviewed all the calls then in use in the Army. He discarded some, revised others, and finally fashioned the set of calls which have remained in use up to the present time. In 1867, bugle calls were standardized for all branches of the Army. The enlisted soldiers life was regulated by bugle calls: the daily routine included breakfast, dinner, and supper calls; fatigue call, drill call, stable and water calls, sick call, and taps. On Sundays, the church call was added to the daily schedule.

Times & Meaning

5:50 AM - Assembly of Trumpeters for Reveille [First Call] RM / MP3
The first signal for the soldiers to rise and shine. This call was historically sounded between 4:45 AM - and 6:00 AM - depending on the season. It bears a similarity to the French Cavalry call "La Garde a Vous."

6:00 AM - Reveille RM MP3
Upon the last note of this call, the flag was raised, the morning gun fired and the men all had to assemble for morning roll call. It is the same as a French call which dates from the time of the Crusades.

6:15 AM - Stable Call
Soldiers in the cavalry would report to the stables to feed and groom their mounts.

6:30 AM - Breakfast Call [Mess Call] RM / MP3

7:00 AM - Sick Call
Soldiers who were ill were to report to the hospital for examination by the surgeon.

7:30 AM - Fatigue Call
Those soldiers appointed to a work party would report to their assignments.

8:50 AM - Guard Mounting, Assembly of Trumpeters
First call for "Guard Mount", or the changing of the 24-hour guard detail.

8:55 AM - Guard Mounting, Assembly of Guard Detail
Men assigned to guard duty assemble in front of their respective barracks.

9:00 AM - Guard Mounting, Adjutant's Call RM / MP3
The guard details were marched to the guardhouse where the Guard Mount ceremony took place.

9:15 AM - Water Call - Horses received their watering.

9:55 AM - Drill, First Call - Preparatory call for soldiers assigned to morning drill.

10:00 AM - Drill, Assembly
Soldiers would practice the Manual of Arms, bayonet drills and marching. New recruits would be taught more basic skills.

11:00 AM - Recall from Drill RM / MP3 - Morning drill was to cease.

11:30 AM - Recall from Fatigue RM / MP3 - Morning work parties were to cease at the sound of this call.

12:00 Noon. Dinner Call [Mess Call] RM / MP3 - Dinner was the main meal of the day.

1:00 PM - Fatigue Call - Afternoon work parties.

1:30 PM - First Sergeant;s Call
Company First Sergeant;s were to report to the post headquarters with their "Morning Reports" on the number of their men sick in the hospital, on guard duty, on drill or fatigue, or on special assignment.

2:00 PM - Mounted Drill, Boots and Saddles
This signal alerted cavalrymen to put on their riding boots and saddle their horses.

2:30 PM - Dismounted Drill
Cavalrymen are to practice all movements on foot before attempting them on horseback. This drill also allows cavalry men to prepare for battle on foot.

3:30 PM - Recall from Drill RM / MP3 - Afternoon drill was to cease.

4:30 PM - Water and Stable Call
Horses received their afternoon watering and cavalrymen repeated the morning care of their horses.

5:00 PM - Recall from Fatigue RM / MP3 - Afternoon work parties were to cease at the sound of this call.

5:15 PM - Assembly of Trumpeters for Retreat - Preparatory call for Retreat Parade.

5:30 PM - Assembly RM / MP3
The entire garrison would turn out for the Retreat ceremony. The actual lowering of the flag and playing of Retreat would occur at sunset.

5:45 PM - Adjutant's Call RM / MP3
The Captains march the companies (musicians playing) to the regimental parade grounds, where they take positions in the order of battle. After reporting to the senior officer present, the Retreat ceremony would commence.

6:00 PM - Retreat RM / MP3 -The flag-lowering ceremony.

8:55 PM - Assembly of Trumpeters for Tattoo

9:00 PM - Tattoo RM / MP3 - "Tattoo" was the signal for the men to prepare for bed and to secure the post.

9:05 PM - Assembly RM / MP3 - Bed check, the last roll call of the day.

9:15 PM - Taps RM / MP3
By the final note of "Taps" all lights were to be extinguished, all men bedded down in their bunks, and all loud talking was to cease.

Additional Calls include:

- To The Colors RM / MP3 - To the Color is a bugle call to render honors to the nation. It is used when no band is available to render honors, or in ceremonies requiring honors to the nation more than once. To the Color commands all the same courtesies as the National Anthem.
    - Attention RM / MP3 - Sound as a warning that troops are about to be called to attention.
    - Carry On RM / MP3
- TO ARMS -- Signals all troops to fall under arms at designated places without delay.
    - Charge -- Wav
    - Church Call -- It is exactly the same as the French "Church Call." It predates the Seymour revisions of 1867, having been adapted from the "Sonneries de Chasseurs d'Orleans of 1845.

Tattoo

Tattoo originated during the Thirty Years War, 1618-1648, and in German was called "Zapfenstreich." At 9:00 P.M., as the call was sounded, all bungs (zapfen) had to be replaced in their barrels, signifying the end of nightly drinking. The provost guard then drew a chalk line (streich) across the bung so that it could not be reopened without evidence of tampering. Tattoo is the longest U.S. Army call, consisting of twenty- eight measures. The first eight are from the French call "Extinction de Feux" and the last twenty measures are from the British "First Post" - in turn adapted from an old Neapolitan Cavalry call "Il Silencio".

Retreat

The bugle call sounded at retreat was first used in the French Army and dates back to the crusades. When you hear it, you are listening to a beautiful melody that has come to symbolize the finest qualities of the soldiers of nearly 900 years. Retreat has always been at sunset and its purpose was to notify the sentries to start challenging until sunrise, and to tell the rank and file to go to their quarters and stay there. In our times the ceremony remains as a tradition. When you are outdoors and hear retreat

played, you face toward the flag if you can see it and stand at parade rest. If the flag is not within sight. then face toward the music.

The History of Taps

The melody that gave the present day "Taps" was made during the Civil War by Union General Danial Adams Butterfield, in command of a brigade camped at Harrison Landing, Virginia, near Richmond. Up to that time, the U.S. Army infantry call to end the day was the French final call "L'Extinction des feux". General Butterfield decided the "lights out" music was too formal to signal the end of the day. One day in July 1862, he recalled the "Tatoo" music and hummed a version of it to an aide who wrote the melody down. Butterfield asked the brigade bugler, Oliver W. Norton, to play the notes, and after listening, he lengthened and shortened them while keeping the original melody. Thereafter, General Butterfield ordered Norton to play this new call at the end of each day instead of the regular call. The music was heard and appreciated by the other brigades, who asked for copies and adopted it for own use. It was even adopted by the Confederates.

The first time "Taps" was played at a military funeral may have been in Virginia, soon after Butterfield composed it. Union Captain John Tidball, head of an artillery battery, ordered it played for the burial of a connoneer killed in action. Not wanting to reveal the position of the battery, Tidball substituted "Taps" for the three rifle vollys fired over the grave.

Major Seymour, in 1867, was evidently not aware of General Butterfield's composition. The major did not include it in his system of calls, and it was not officially adopted until 1874. Considered to be the most beautiful of calls, Taps provides a fitting close to the soldier's day, and when the time comes, to his or her final departure from the ranks. The melody was made the official Army bugle call after the war, but was not given the name "Taps" until 1874.

Source "U.S. Army Military District of Columbia Fact Sheet"

Taps' Lyrics

While there are no official words to the bugle call "Taps", the commonly used lyrics are:

Fading light dims the sight,
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.
From afar drawing nigh -- Falls the night.

Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Then good night, peaceful night,
Till the light of the dawn shineth bright;
God is near, do not fear -- Friend, good night.

Retreat

Retreat is a daily ceremony held at all army installations as the national flag is lowered at the end of the work day. It is scheduled at a definite time in late afternoon: the precise time left to the discretion of the installation commander. At fort monmouth the time designated is 1700 hours (5:00 pm). The ceremonies of retreat in the afternoon, coupled with reveille in the morning constitute a dignified homage to the national flag from its raising to its lowering. The bugle call "retreat" is sounded just before the actual lowering of the flag. At the last note of this call, a cannon is fired. Then, if a band is present, the national anthem will be rendered. In the absence of a band, the bugle call "to the colors" is substituted. As the anthem, or "to the colors" is sounded, the flag is lowered. The lowering of the flag will be regulated so as to be completed with the last note of the music. All personnel within sight or sound of the ceremony will come to attention and render the appropriate salute, facing the flag. Vehicular traffic will come to a halt, and the driver or individual in charge of the vehicle will dismount to render honors. The retreat ceremony is known to have been in use in the American army since the revolutionary war. At that time it was sounded by drums-the normal musical instrument found in the infantry units of that period. The history of the evening gun is much older. Initially it was not connected with a flag lowering. One legend has it that it was initially fired to drive away evil spirits. That would put its origin back in the middle ages when gunpowder was introduced into europe, and much earlier in the orient. It seems logical in more modern times that the firing of a gun near sunset was intended to call the troops back to the fort or camp from their fatigue duties of the day. The booming of the cannon could be heard at a greater distance than the sound of either drum or bugle. Finally, a parade can be held in conjunction with the retreat ceremony. The combination of ranks of smartly uniformed troops, the sound of the evening gun and the band playing the national anthem constitutes one of the most inspiring of United States Army ceremonies.

Rources and Resources

- BUGLE CALLS @ Army Bands Online
- Bugle Calls
- Bugle Calls @ Frederick Military Academy
- Ceremonial Music Online
- The Bugle Calls Homepage
- Military Sounds & Sound Effects Page
- THE TAPS PROJECT

http://www.fas.org/man/dod-101/sys/land/bugle.htm

==========

Hardee's General Bugle Calls

The following Bugle calls are used today in the reenacting of the American Civil War in camp.
These are the "Must Know" calls that are used today.

In Camp Calls

The Reveille	There has been much discussion regarding this call. Due to some new books containing memoirs and diary entries written by buglers and other field musicians during the war. It has been decided this call was truly used to awaken the men for the beginning of their day. The reference in John Billings HARDTACK and COFFEE about roll call being taken after reveille was most likely in regards to the Drum and Fife reveille, which is the signal for troops to begin to assemble for morning roll call. Oliver Norton wrote he remembered hearing the brigade bugler sound the brigade call followed by reveille, and echoed by regimental buglers sounding the regimental calls then reveille. Command "
Assembly on Company Streets	After the Drum and Fife Corps finish their reveille sequence the morning role call was taken. Assembly by the bugle would also be acceptable to form for roll call, either by choice or if there is no Drum and Fife reveille. Command "Bugler sound Assembly"
Breakfast Call (Peas Upon a Trencher)	Sounded immediately after morning role call or when breakfast is prepared. Command "Sound Breakfast Call"
Sick Call	Call for the sick to assemble on company streets to be marched to the Surgeons quarters.
Fatigue Call	This call signaled men to assemble for various work details. Today it also includes de-farb the camp and time to remove the cars from the camp. Command "Bugler sound fatigue call" or "Bugler sound Pioneer's call"
Assembly of the Guard	This call was to assemble soldiers for Guard Mount. The troops would march to the Camp or Garrison parade ground where the First Sgt and/or the Adjutant would inspect them. Command" Bugler Assemble the Guard" or "Bugler Sound Guard Mount"
First Call (Assembly of the Buglers or Attention)	This call is used to alert the troops to begin to suit up and prepare for Assembly. At Florida 4th Brigade events we use Assembly of the Buglers for first call. At all National Events we will use Assembly *(This will serve as our first call to prepare for battles)* Command – "Bugler Sound the First Call"
Second Call (Assembly)	This call was used to assemble troops in the company streets and prepare on the next call to begin to move to their assigned destination on the color line. *(Also for our reenacting purposes will serve as second call)* Command – "Attention Company"
To the Color	Used to bring Companies to the color line, form battle line, Battalion dress parade and inspections, and to honor the national colors. Command "
Attention - Battalion	Assume the position of the soldier (the position of attention).
Orders for Orderly Sergeants OR First Sergeants Call	Sounded sometime after morning role call to signal 1stSgts to submit their morning reports to the Adjutant. This call might also be sounded during other times of the day to summon the company1stSgts. Command "Bugler sound First Sergeants call" or "Bugler sound the call for first Sergeants"
Drill Call	This call was used to summon troops for battalion or brigade drill. Command " Bugler sound Drill Call" See the Skirmishers Calls for specific drill calls.

Recall (from sutlers,fatigue detail, etc)	Used in camp as well as battle to summon men to battalion for further instruction. This call can also be used to dismiss men from an activity such as morning drill. Also used to bring detached companies back to the Main Battalion or Reserve. Command “Bugler Sound Recall”
Dinner Call (Roast Beef)	Signal for afternoon and evening meal
Church Call	This was used as a call to worship. It was also used to call a truce between sides.
Supper (dinner)	Is the same call as Dinner (lunch). Tells the troops to gather at the mess tents or to being making their own supper.
Extinguish Lights	Until 1862 this was signal to cease all activity for the evening.
Taps	After 1862 TAPS gradually replaced To Extinguish Lights. This call was arranged by General Daniel Butterfield and his Chief Bugler Oliver Wilcox Norton (for more information on TAPS please visit www.tapsbugler.com)
Officers' Call	This call was used to assemble officers in camp or on the field when presence was required by the Commanding officer. Command “Bugler Sound Officers Call”

Hardee's Skirmishers Bugle Calls

The following Bugle Calls are used today in the reenacting of the American Civil War on the battlefield. These are the "Must Know" calls used today on the field.

Battlefield (Skirmishers) Calls

To the Colors **This call serves several purposes:**

1. **Morning colors as the flag is raised.**
2. **During battle, troops rally back to where the flag is on the field.**

Fix Bayonets	This call was sounded for when soldiers needed bayonets. Command "Fix Bayonet"
Unfix Bayonets	This call signaled soldier to remove their bayonet and return to the previous position. Command "Unfix Bayonet"
Quick Time	110 steps to the minute Command "At the Quick step"
Double Quick Time	165 steps to the minute but could be increased in battle as needed. Command "At the double quick ….march"
Run	Used in extremely urgent situations. Command "Forward at the run…..march"
Deploy as Skirmishers	Sounded to activate the skirmisher company. Command "As skirmishers …march"
Forward	On the command forward the bugler will begin to sound this call. When the command march is called the call will be completed. The purpose for this is to allow the color company to move forward it's six paces on the command march the main body of men move forward. Command "Forward ……..March"
Retreat	This call signaled soldier to fall back to the main force while facing the enemy. Command "In Retreat March"
Halt	Whenever troops were moving in any direction this call was used to bring them to a halt. Command "Halt"
By the Right Flank	Troops will turn 90 degrees to the right and continue to march. The last note ascends. Command "By the right flank ….march"
By the Left Flank	Troops will turn 90 degrees to the left and continue to march. The last note descends. Command "By the left flank ….march"
Commence Fire	This command was the signal for troops to begin firing their weapons. Command "Commence Fire"
Cease Fire	When this call was sounded it was for soldiers to cease firing their weapons. Command "Cease Fire"

Change Direction to the Right	This would signal a body of men to wheel to the right while continuing to march. When moving to the right the last note ascends. Command "by file right …march.
Change Direction to the Left	This would signal a body of men to wheel to the left while continuing to march. When moving to the left the last note descends. Command "by file right …march
Lie Down	This command ordered troops to lie down. Command " Lie Down."
Rise Up	This command was used to order troops to rise up either to advance or fire on the enemy. Command "Rise Up"
Rally by Fours	During a Cavalry attack this call signaled the skirmishers to assemble in groups of four called comrades in battle. The four soldiers would stand back-to-back facing outward with fixed bayonets. Command "Rally by Fours"
Rally by Sections	Signaled skirmishers to assemble in groups of 25 in a similar formation to rally by fours. Command "Rally by Section"
Rally by Platoons	If the Rally by sections is ineffective the Commander would command rally by platoons (approx 50 men). Command "Rally by Platoons"
Rally on the Reserve	When this signal is sounded the skirmishers would quickly fall back to the reserve company and fall in to complete the reserve companies formation.
Rally on the Battalion	When this call is sounded all skirmish companies would fall back into companies and reform on the battalion. Command "Rally on the Battalion"
Assemble on the Battalion	This call signaled skirmishers to reform with the reserve and return to their Battalion. Command "

NYC museum exhibit compares Civil War icons: Grant & Lee, BUT where is Meade?

from: Temple website 10/27/08

NEW YORK — Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee met face-to-face only twice — once toward the end of the war with Mexico in 1848, and 17 years later at Appomattox, where then-Union commander Grant accepted the surrender of Lee's battered Confederate army. But the lives of these two iconic figures of 19th century America were both parallel and intertwined, as a new exhibit opening Friday at the New York Historical Society makes clear. "Grant and Lee in War and Peace" illuminates two men who in their similarities, differences and self-contradictions embodied the travails, successes and failures of the fast-expanding nation.

A 1920 painting of the Appomattox meeting, by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris, Dramatically underscores these themes: Lee, the loser — tall, dignified and resplendent in gray uniform and gilt sword — shaking hands with Grant, the victor — a rough-cut figure in muddy boots and an ordinary solder's tunic with shoulder bars tacked on.

"It's really a `Lost Cause' version of the event, in which Lee is the central figure and Grant looks as if he is the one who's surrendering," says Kathleen Hulser, curator of the exhibit.

That image reflects the post-Civil War adulation heaped on Lee as an American hero, while Grant's efforts as president to make postwar Reconstruction succeed received little credit and are not well-known today. "Few people are aware that Grant sent federal troops south to try to break up the Ku Klux Klan, and to protect the rights of blacks," Hulser said. "He was the only president to do that before Eisenhower sent troops to Little Rock in 1957."

The exhibit, to run through March 2009, grew out of an earlier presentation by the Virginia Historical Society, which began as an observance of Lee's 200th birthday in 2007 but eventually merged into a co-production by the two societies. Although the emphasis in Richmond was more Lee, less Grant, simply including the latter "was rather courageous on the part of the Virginia Historical Society," says Louise Mirrer, president and CEO of the New-York Historical Society. "It was a very big risk for them, as complaints from visitors bore out. Grant is still considered the enemy there."

Mirrer says the New York exhibit seeks to convey how Grant and Lee helped to reshape relationships between America's military and civilian authority — through wars, westward expansion and the difficulties of post-Civil War Reconstruction in the South — which, she said, might even offer some lessons for Iraq today.

Along with military items — including Lee's dress uniform, Appomattox sword, pistol and spurs; and Grant's black frock coat and padded leather saddle — artifacts in the exhibit reveal lesser-known aspects of the rival leaders. There are sketches by

Lee as an Army engineer and two remarkable water color paintings by Grant. Lee's black dancing slippers rest near a pair of beaded moccasins worn by Oglala Sioux chief Red Cloud when he met with President Grant in Washington.

Also displayed are portraits, photographs, colored drawings by Union officer Abner Doubleday, a Lincoln letter to Grant, and a Bowie knife confiscated from anti-slavery rebel John Brown after his capture by militia troops led by Lee at Harper's Ferry, Va., in 1859.

Lee was a Virginia aristocrat whose father had fought with George Washington, and who himself married into the Custis family, Washington's in-laws. He ranked second in his West Point class and later became its superintendent. He professed to hate slavery, yet commanded an army that fought for its preservation.

Grant, 15 years younger, was the son of an Ohio tanner and finished 21st in a class of 39 at the military academy. He also abhorred slavery, yet had a personal slave until 1859. And like Lee — and Abraham Lincoln — he married a woman whose relatives owned slaves.

Both men served with distinction in the war with Mexico, yet both regarded that war as an act of aggression. Lee told his wife, Mary Custis Lee, that the United States had "bullied" Mexico, adding, "of that I was ashamed as she was the weaker party." In his memoirs, Grant recalled he had "bitterly opposed" the Mexican war as "one of the most unjust ever waged by a stronger nation against a weaker nation."

Having lived in Ohio and Illinois — then the "west" — and served in frontier army posts as distant as Oregon, Grant had a personal affinity for Indians and as president tried to advance their tribal interests along with those of blacks. Both men had New York connections beyond West Point. Grant served in 1852 on Governors Island, where his former quarters still exist. Lee spent much time in New York state and in 1841-46 was a captain of Army engineers at Fort Hamilton on the Brooklyn side of New York harbor. "The sea breezes are very cool and refreshing," he wrote to Mary.

As southern states seceded in 1861, Lee rejected Lincoln's offer to command the Union army to side with his native Virginia — a decision that got him branded a traitor in the North. The next year, Lee freed the Custis family's 170 slaves — but was then angered by Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation a few days later. Had Lee accepted the Union command, he might have ended the war quickly, leaving the South and its "peculiar institution" of slavery intact. Years later, Grant saw it that way. In a conversation with German chancellor Otto von Bismarck, he suggested it was a good thing the war had lasted long enough to guarantee slavery's demise.

Both men were seen as brilliant commanders despite blunders that led to appalling casualties. Grant admitted that ordering an attack at Cold Harbor that claimed 7,000 of his men was the worst decision he ever made; Lee said the ill-fated "Pickett's charge" that sealed a Union victory at Gettysburg was "all my fault."

Hulser says a key topic in the exhibit is how West Point not only produced officers trained to fight wars but, as the nation's only engineering school at the time, trained them to design and construct dams and other civic works.

Thus it includes Lee's engineering sketches for rediverting the Mississippi River from its meandering course back toward St. Louis, a project that effectively restored that city's commercial waterfront.

A centerpiece of the exhibit is Grant's famous order at Appomattox, spelling out surrender terms and allowing Confederates to retain their horses and side-arms — handwritten by his secretary, Col. Ely Parker, a Seneca Indian who later became commissioner of Indian Affairs in the Grant administration.

Lee and Grant never met again after Appomattox. Lee retired to semi-private life as the president of Washington College in Lexington, Va., which was renamed Washington and Lee University. He died in 1870, two years after Grant was elected president, but remained the symbol of the "Lost Cause" — a cult of southern sentiment that continues today in some places.

The same unrepentant rebels who mythologized Lee vilified Grant as a "butcher" and drunkard. Bribery scandals that plagued his second term as President — though not of his making — made matters worse. Financially ruined later by bad business deals, Grant recouped his fortune with his memoirs, completed just days before his death from throat cancer in 1885. Like Lee, he had lived 63 years.

His funeral procession in New York City covered seven miles and was seen by more than a million people. Just as his badly deteriorated tomb overlooking the Hudson was renovated in the 1990s, only in recent decades has Grant's personal reputation been rehabilitated by biographers and historians.

"In the past 20 years there has been a really fresh look at Grant, as the man who tried in a forthright manner to address the unfinished business of the Civil War," said Josiah Bunting III, a retired three-star general and historian who has written his own Grant biography and is an adviser to the exhibit see; http://www.nyhistory.org

Southern general's name may come off Fla. school

By RON WORD Associated Press Writer 10/28/08

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Nathan Bedford Forrest was a millionaire slave trader, a ruthless Confederate general, an early Ku Klux Klan leader — and the namesake of what is now a majority African-American high school. After almost a two-year delay, the Duval County School Board next week will consider whether to change the name of Nathan Bedford Forrest High School to Firestone High, after the street it sits on. The board joins other Southern districts that have hotly debated whether to strip Confederate leaders' names from schools and other buildings.

The squabble is part of the modern South's never-ending soul searching over the Civil War and its legacy, a discussion that often finds Forrest at the center. "This guy was a brutal monster," said Steven Stoll, an adjunct sociology instructor at Florida Community College who is white and supports changing the name of the high school. "Why would you want to keep honoring a person like this? It is an insult to black people."

Forrest is hardly the lone Confederate hero whose name adorns streets, buildings and other public projects, or used to. But efforts to strip Confederates' names and take down memorials to them have mostly been thwarted throughout the South, often after being denounced as part of an effort to remove all references to the Confederacy. In Hampton, Va., for example, attempts to rename Robert E. Lee Elementary School and Jefferson Davis Middle School failed.

Some say Forrest's deeds have been exaggerated and have to be considered in the context of the Civil War. "Forrest was revered all over the world and his tactics are still studied today," said Lee Millar, president of the General N.B. Forrest Historical Society in Memphis, Tenn. "He became a hero to all."

Born poor in Chapel Hill, Tenn., in 1821, Forrest amassed a fortune as a plantation owner and slave trader, importing Africans long after the practice had been made illegal. At 40, he enlisted as a private in the Confederate army at the outset of the Civil War, rising to a cavalry general in a year. Some accounts accuse Forrest of ordering black prisoners to be massacred after a victory at Tennessee's Fort Pillow in 1864, though historians question the validity of the claims. "He did not order a massacre. He did order wholesale killing, but I do believe he lost control of the battle and there were people killed who should not have been killed," said Brian Steel Wills, a professor at the University of Virginia's College at Wise, who wrote a biography of Forrest.

In 1867, the newly formed Klan elected Forrest its honorary Grand Wizard or national leader, but publicly denied being involved. In 1869, he ordered the Klan to disband because of the members' increasing violence. Two years later, a congressional investigation concluded his involvement had been limited to his attempt to disband it.

After his death in 1877, memorials to him sprung up throughout the South, particularly in Tennessee. Forrest High School in Jacksonville opened as an all-white school in the 1950s, getting its name at the suggestion of the Daughters of the Confederacy. They saw it as a protest of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that eventually integrated the nation's public schools.

Now, blacks make up more than half of the student body. Two 17-year-old seniors at the school say the consensus among students is to leave the name alone. "As students, (the name is) not a big deal to us," said Jamal Freeman, a black student, who noted it would cost a lot to change uniforms for the band and sports teams, nicknamed the Rebels.

Sabrina Lampp, a white student, said a change "takes all the memories away." Jacksonville has three other schools named after Confederate generals, none as sensitive as Forrest. "He got a bad rap," said L.A. Hardee, a member of the board at Jacksonville's Museum of Southern History. "He was an honorable man. People don't take into consideration the times. It's a Southern thing. They ought to keep the name."

Scheduled Speakers for 2008 – 2009:

Sep 3, 2008: **NO MEETING**
Oct 1, 2008: Bill Sitman - "Revenue Cutters (Coast Guard)"
Nov 5, 2008: Jari Villanueva - "The Civil War Bugle"
Dec 3, 2008: BVCWRT Members - Discussion of selected topics, plus our Christmas Social
Jan 7, 2009: Dennis Kelly – The Army of Tennessee
Feb 4, 2009: Roger Arthur - "Lincoln's Legacy"
Mar 4, 2009: Chip Crowe - "Chickamauga: the Real Story"
Apr 1, 2009: Noah Andre Trudeau – " Southern Storm"
May 6, 2009: To be announced
May --, 2009: Field Trip TBD
May 19, 2009: (Annual Banquet): To be announced

Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table
Membership Application

Application Type: New _____ Renewal _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____
Note: Monthly newsletters are distributed by E-mail only.

Membership Type: Individual ($25) _____ Family ($40): _____ Student ($15): _____

If family membership, please list other names: _____

_____

Bring the completed form and a check payable to BVCWRT to a meeting or mail it to:
Dave Walter, Treasurer, 937 Thorne Drive, West Chester, PA 19382