



The Signal Flag



BRANDYWINE VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Campaign # 22

Skirmish # 7

March 2009

From the Rear Ranks:

*“Because It Teaches Us Brotherhood”
(20 Good Reasons to Study the Civil War)
by John C. Waugh*

In the summer of 1864 George McClellan, who had commanded the Union armies early in the war, returned to West Point, his alma mater, to deliver the speech at the dedication of the ground set aside for a monument to the regular Union officers and men who had died in the war.

There McClellan spoke of the “sacred brotherhood of arms” that bound West Pointers. It was a powerful concept, that brotherhood of arms, and it held tenaciously throughout the war, binding the hearts of enemies who were fighting one another. We have never seen brotherhood stretched so far, absorb such blows, pass through such fire, and survive so intact as in the Civil War. It was love so strong, so heart-embedded, that it could transcend even a vicious fratricidal war.

Many of these men who wound up fighting one another in the war were dearest of friends. Many, like McClellan, had been West Pointers and had been classmates and roommates at the Academy. They had served side-by-side in the Mexican War and in the antebellum Indian wars in Florida and on the plains of the American West. They had been groomsmen at one another’s weddings. They had loved one another. And when Civil War came and they had to chose higher allegiances and fight one another, they parted, grasping hands one more time speaking farewells that they feared would be forever, many with tears in their eyes.

When George Pickett, a Confederate general, heard that George McClellan, commanding Union armies, was ill in the Peninsula, he grieved, hoping that it was not life-threatening, for though McClellan was the enemy, he loved him. When it was reported to Union generals who had been his friends in the Old Army that Pickett and his new bride, LaSalle, had had a baby boy, they sent a birthday gift to him across the lines.

When George McClellan died and was laid to rest in New Jersey in 1885, former Confederate generals came to mourn his passing. When U.S. Grant died that same year, Confederate generals wearing their gray sashes, enemies in the war, sadly followed his casket. When William Sherman, the man who had defeated Joseph E. Johnston and taken his surrender at the end of the war, died in 1891, Johnston, who would himself be dead little more than a month later, was at his graveside, chief among mourners.

Often in the evenings in the war as the armies lay across a river or across a battlefield from one another, regimental bands of both armies would strike up and the soldiers in blue and gray would sit and listen together to tunes they all knew and shared in common. Such concerts often ended in a mournful rendering of that good-night song of the soul, “Home Sweet Home.” And all the soldiers on both sides would sing it together and often weep to it together. There was indeed a brotherhood of arms and it was, as McClellan said, sacred.

I remain your most obedient servant, Robert Paul Sprague

~ *Officers* ~

President: John Walls
Vice President: Chip Crowe
Secretary: Ted Pawlik
Treasurer: Dave Walter

~ *Committee Members* ~

Preservation: Bob Sprague, John Walls
Nominating Committee:

Vince Carosella

Speakers: Roger Arthur, Joe Lehman

Trips: Greg Buss

Credentials: Vacant

Greeter: Loretta Thomas

Publicity: Bill Stiman

Historians: Bill Sitman and Bob Sprague

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:**

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

**We are wheelchair assessable*

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:





Brandywine Valley Civil War Round Table
Come to our next meeting
March 4, 2009

Speaker: Chip Crowe
Topic: "Chickamauga: the Real Story"
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: West Chester Borough Hall, Gay Street

This month's program will be presented by Chip Crowe. Chip has been a Round Table member since 2004. This is his second presentation to the Round Table. Chip received his Bachelors degree from Loyola College in MD, majoring in history. His concentration was in medieval history specifically the Norman Conquest and the use of Medieval Fortifications. Chip also earned an MBA from Penn State, and is currently employed at Medco Health Solutions as a Senior Business Analyst. The topic for this month will be The Battle of Chickamauga, the largest battle fought in the West during the Civil War. It was also second only to Gettysburg in the number casualties sustained on each side. Chickamauga also served as a rare Confederate victory in the West, but this victory would be squandered by infighting amongst Braxton Bragg and his subordinates in the Army of Tennessee. Conversely although a Union defeat Chickamauga would serve as a catalyst to Union forces that would result in ultimate victory in the West. Following the end of the war Chickamauga would become the first National Military Park. It would also serve as a model in many ways of equal representation of Union and Confederate Memorials placed on the battlefield.

Battle of Chickamauga Overview from the National Park Website
(<http://www.nps.gov/chch/historyculture/index.htm>)

On these fields and hills, Union and Confederate armies clashed during the fall of 1863 in some of the hardest fighting of the Civil War. The prize was Chattanooga, key rail center and gateway to the heart of the Confederacy. The campaign that brought the armies here began late in June 1863 when General William S. Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland, almost 60,000 strong, moved from Murfreesboro, Tennessee against General Braxton Bragg's 43,000 Confederates dug in 20 miles to the southwest defending the road to Chattanooga.

Six months earlier, these same armies had clashed at Stone River where, after a 3-day struggle, the Confederates had retreated. Now, once more, through a series of skillful marches, Rosecrans forced the Southerners to withdraw into Chattanooga. There Bragg dug in again, guarding the Tennessee River crossings northeast of the city, where he expected Rosecrans to attack. But early in September the Federals crossed the Tennessee well below Chattanooga and again Bragg had to withdraw southward.

Eluding his Federal pursuers, Bragg concentrated his forces at LaFayette, Georgia (26 miles) south of Chattanooga. Here reinforcements from East Tennessee, Virginia, and Mississippi swelled his ranks to more than 66,000 men. Twice he tried unsuccessfully to destroy isolated segments of Rosecrans' army. Then, on September 18, hoping to wedge his troops between the Federals and Chattanooga, Bragg posted his army on the west bank of Chickamauga Creek along a line from Reed's Bridge to just opposite Lee and Gordon's Mill.

Fighting began shortly after dawn on September 19 when Union infantry encountered Confederate cavalry at Jay's Mill. This brought on a general battle that spread south for nearly 4 miles. The armies fought desperately all day, often hand-to-hand, and gradually the Confederates pushed the Federals back to LaFayette Road. On September 20, Bragg again tried to drive between the Union force and Chattanooga, but failed to dislodge Rosecrans' line. Then a gap opened in the Federal ranks, and General James Longstreet's Confederates smashed through the hole, routing Rosecrans and half his army. General George H. Thomas took command of the remaining Federals and formed a new battleline on Snodgrass Hill. Here his men held their ground against repeated assaults, earning for Thomas the nickname "Rock of Chickamauga." After dark, Thomas withdrew his men from the field. The defeat forced the Union

Minutes of the February 4, 2009 Meeting
BVCWRT
Submitted by Ted Pawlik

John Walls Presiding:

Field Trip:

- Greg Buss announced that the field trip, to include Ford Theater and the Booth Escape Route with Roger Arthur acting as tour guide, is tentatively scheduled for April 18th pending confirmation of the bus company. The trip will be leaving West Chester approximately 7 AM. Participants are to pack their own lunch to eat in route. The tour will stop for dinner.
- Those interested are asked to contact Greg Buss at 610-321-1792 or email at grbuss@yahoo.com.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Walter):

- Receipts for January totaled \$183.33. Expenditures for the month totaled \$16.89. The bank balance as of February 1, 2009 was \$2565.46.

Preservation Committee (Bob Sprague):

- Bob Sprague reported an opportunity to donate to the Civil War Preservation Trust to preserve the Cedar Creek Battlefield. Every \$1.00 donated will be matched by \$30.00.
- A motion was made from the floor to donate \$500.00 to the Cedar Creek Battlefield preservation. It was seconded and voted unanimously by the membership.
- The Round Table received a plaque acknowledging its recognition as the Round Table of the Year by the Civil War Preservation Trust. The Executive Board presented the plaque to Bob Sprague for his leadership and guidance in Civil War preservation. Over \$19,500 has been donated by the Round Table over the past nine years for preservation of important Civil War sites.

Other Announcements and Items of General Interest:

- In conjunction with the March meeting, the Round Table will have its Spring Social. It is being organized by Flo Williams. A sign up sheet was circulated during the meeting. Volunteers for clean up afterwards are also needed. Anyone interested in bringing something who has not signed up can contact Flo at flokhwms@bee.net
- Lynn Fulton was recognized for the excellent job she does on the Signal Flag.

Speaker for the Evening: Roger Arthur on the Legacy of Lincoln

Executive Board Minutes
February 24, 2009 - submitted by Ted Pawlik

Attendees: Roger Arthur Lynn Fulton Dave Hoffritz Jim Lawler Chip Crowe Ted Pawlik
Bill Sitman Bob Sprague Dave Walter John Walls Greg Buss

The President's Report/Announcements:

1. The banquet is confirmed for May 19, 2009 at the Elks Club in West Chester. The menu is yet to be determined. Every attempt will be made to keep the price approximately the same as last year. Mark E. Neely Jr. is the scheduled speaker.
2. John Walls will arrange for business cards to be printed with information about the Round Table. They can be distributed to non-members interested in attending a meeting and/or joining.
3. During the summer recess, Ted Pawlik will contact inactive members inviting them to consider joining the Round Table again.
4. The Board discussed a Special Speaker during the 09/10 campaign to raise additional money for preservation. This will be discussed further when plans are made for that campaign.
5. A motion will be made at the March meeting for another donation, with matching grant, for preservation.

Treasurer's Report:

1. Dave Walter passed out the Treasurer's report as of 3/1/09. The balance is \$2294.57.
2. There are 70 dues paying members of the Round Table.

Field Trip:

1. Greg Buss confirmed the date of April 18, 2009 for the field trip of the Booth escape route. The trip will cover Ford's Theatre, Peterson House, Surratt Tavern and Mudd House.
2. A bus has been reserved for that date. The cost for the bus is \$50.00. Members as asked to bring their own lunch to eat on the bus. Reservations will be made for dinner.
3. The bus holds 45 people. To date there are 24 members who indicated they will be going and another 8 "maybes". Space on the bus will be on a first come – first serve basis according to those who paid the \$50.00 fee.
4. The bus fee may be paid to Greg Buss. **Checks are to be made payable to BVCWRT with a notation in the memo section that indicates field trip.**

Speakers scheduled for the balance of the 08/09 campaign are as follows:

- **March** - Chip Crowe
- **April** - Noah Andre Trudeau
- **May** – Eugene McIlhonne
- **May** - Banquet – Mark Neely Jr.

Lincoln 1864 manuscript sets record at NYC auction

Feb 16, 2009

From: Temple Website

A handwritten manuscript of an 1864 Abraham Lincoln speech sold for \$3.44 million on the bicentennial of his birthday Thursday, setting a new auction record for any American historical manuscript. The manuscript was sold to an anonymous phone bidder after spirited bidding in a crowded Christie's auction house room. Proceeds from the sale will go toward a new wing for a library in New York's Finger Lakes region, where the document has been since 1926. Thursday's price was just slightly higher than the previous record of \$3.40 million set last year at Sotheby's, also for a Lincoln document an 1864 letter the 16th president wrote to a group of youngsters who asked him to free America's "little slave children." A copy of the Declaration of Independence printed the night of July 4, 1776, was sold by Sotheby's for \$8.14 million in 2000.

The manuscript that sold Thursday is a speech Lincoln delivered at the White House after he was re-elected in the midst of an unpopular Civil War that both he and his opponents believed might cost him his job. Lincoln delivered the speech to a large crowd on Nov. 10, 1864, after winning a second term with 55 percent of the popular vote. He said the results "demonstrated that a people's government can sustain a national election in the midst of a great civil war." Lincoln also expressed gratitude to "almighty God for having directed my countrymen to a right conclusion" and called on them to "reunite in a common effort to save our common country." Lincoln's war policies were unpopular and his prospects for a second term had looked bleak. He himself believed that Democrat George B. McClellan, a popular former Union general, would win.

The four-page document remained in the family's hands until 1916. Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, presented it to New York Rep. John A. Dwight as a "thank you." Dwight helped secure funding for the construction of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington.

In 1926, Dwight's widow gave the document to the Southworth Library Association in Dryden, N.Y. According to the library's Web site, it displayed it only once, during the 1976 bicentennial celebration.

Man chronicles Civil War hero Horse

Feb 5, 2009

From: Temple Website

Coldwater Michigan - A horse is a horse, of course.

But as anyone with any knowledge of equines knows, there are, and have been exceptional horses, such as the late, great Old Sam of Coldwater, a hero of the Civil War. Local author and historian Charles Tucker has put together a new booklet regarding Old Sam, having already covered the noted horse in two previous works on local history, "My Kind of Town" and "Taking a Look Back." As Tucker relates, Coldwater in the days before the horseless carriage was nationally and world -renowned for its horses, and as the Civil War set in, the Union turned to this area for draft and cavalry horses crucial to the war effort.

Sam was one of 200 horses supplied to the famous Loomis Battery, sent off to training at Fort Wayne in Detroit, and then went on to be involved in at least 12 battles, according to Tucker, including the exceedingly bloody confrontation at Chickamauga. "The hardships and fatigue of the marches, the diseases and the lack of foliage in the camps probably took a greater toll on Sam's comrades than the shock and shell of battle," wrote Tucker. He said while Sam had been wounded several times, he was a favorite of the troops, who shared rations with the sturdy and depend -able horse, probably saving him. Sam's job before the war was to pull a streetcar from the train depot to the Southern Michigan Hotel, and when he was mustered out in 1865, he arrived at the depot in Coldwater to find hundreds of citizens there to greet him, and an informal parade took place.

"According to newspaper accounts, Sam's ears perked up as he seemed to recognize his surroundings. ... As he approached Chicago and Division streets, the old war veteran was turned loose to test his memory. ... He cantered leisurely up the street until he came opposite of the hotel ... whirled on his heels, whisked down the street and down the alley to the old barn and his old stall. "Old Sam was home, and he knew it."

Tucker said Sam was the only one of the 200 Loomis Battery horses to survive and return home, and due to his standing in the community, lived out a leisurely life in the pasture by the Fisk stables, behind where the house still stands on the west side of Coldwater. When Sam, 27, died on Nov. 8, 1876, his old battery mates were dismayed they could not bury him with his former mates in the Oak Grove Cemetery. "The sexton of the cemetery told them this, however, he conveniently let it drop that he would be out of town for a while," wrote Tucker. With Sheriff William Culp also out of town, "volunteers created a diversion by letting farmer Brown's cows out," and completed the burial, covering the site with autumn leaves and giving him full honors, including taps. A monument, along with artifacts of the Loomis Battery, now stands at the Four Corners Park downtown, and Sam now has a marker at the cemetery.

"It's a fantastic story," said Tucker, who is looking forward to his work being in school libraries so children can learn of it, and is also looking forward to honoring not only Sam but all the horses and mules that died in the Civil War this coming Memorial Day in the parade, with some modern Belgian or Percheron to pull a caisson currently being worked on by Amish craftsmen. Tucker receives no monetary reward for his work, and does it, he said, out of a love for his community and history.

"I just do these things because they need to be done," he said.

www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-mi-exchange-historic.0.3743836.story

Annual Civil War Reenactment at Neshaminy State Park

Feb 25, 2009

From: Temple Website

***THE CAMPAIGN OF SPRING 1864 (145th Anniversary Event)
20th Annual Civil War Re-Enactment At Neshaminy State Park***

The 20th Annual Civil War Reenactment will be held on Saturday-Sunday, April 18-19, 2009 at Neshaminy State Park, located on 3401 State Road in Bensalem, PA , from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., each day, rain or shine.

The theme for this year event is "Early's Valley Campaign of 1864". Over 1,000 re-enactors will converge on the park for this two-day event featuring:

- Authentic battle re-enactments
- Camp life scenarios
- Military and civilian life demonstrations

Admission is FREE and open to the public! A collection will be taken each day of the re-enactment and all proceeds will go towards to Civil War preservation efforts.

This event is a joint project sponsored by Neshaminy State Park, the Bensalem Historical Society, the 28th Pennsylvania Historical Association, the Army of Northern Virginia Reenacting Organization, the Delaware Valley Civil War Roundtable, The G.A.R. Museum and Library, and Waste Management, Inc.

For further information, please visit [http://www.28thpvi.org/Neshaminy Registration Packet 2009_2 .pdf](http://www.28thpvi.org/Neshaminy%20Registration%20Packet%202009%202.pdf) or contact Ken Gavin, Event Chairman, at 610-809-6540 or kgc28pvi@comcast.net.

CONTACT: Ken Gavin, Event Chairman (610) 809-6540 kgc28pvi@comcast.net

Lincoln's Inaugural Address, 1861

From the Philadelphia Bulletin 02/25/09 - From Temple Website

President Abraham Lincoln delivered his first Inaugural Address on March 4, 1861 in Washington, D.C.
Published: Thursday, February 12, 2009

Fellow citizens of the United States: in compliance with a custom as old as the government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly and to take, in your presence, the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, to be taken by the President "before he enters on the execution of his office."

I do not consider it necessary, at present, for me to discuss those matters of administration about which there is no special anxiety or excitement. Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so." Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them. And, more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, and as a law to themselves and to me, the clear and emphatic resolution which I now read:

"Resolved: that the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend, and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest of crimes."

I now reiterate these sentiments; and, in doing so, I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible, that the property, peace, and security of no section are to be in any wise endangered by the now incoming administration. I add, too, that all the protection which, consistently with the Constitution and the laws, can be given, will be cheerfully given to all the States when lawfully demanded, for whatever cause — as cheerfully to one section as to another.... I hold that, in contemplation of universal law and of the Constitution, the Union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. It is safe to assert that no government proper ever had a provision in its organic law for its own termination. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our National Constitution, and the Union will endure forever — it being impossible to destroy it except by some action not provided for in the instrument itself. Again, if the United States be not a government proper, but an association of States in the nature of contract merely, can it, as a contract, be peaceably unmade by less than all the parties who made it? One party to a contract may violate it — break it, so to speak; but does it not require all to lawfully rescind it? Descending from these general principles, we find the proposition that in legal contemplation the Union is perpetual confirmed by the history of the Union itself. The Union is much older than the Constitution. It was formed, in fact, by the Articles of Association in 1774. It was matured and continued by the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It was further matured, and the faith of all the then thirteen States expressly plighted and engaged that it should be perpetual, by the Articles of Confederation in 1778. And, finally, in 1787 one of the declared objects for ordaining and establishing the Constitution was "TO FORM A MORE PERFECT UNION." But if the destruction of the Union by one or by a part only of the States be lawfully possible, the Union is LESS perfect than before the Constitution, having lost the vital element of perpetuity. It follows from these views that no State upon its own mere motion can lawfully get out of the Union; that Resolves and Ordinances to that effect are legally void; and that acts of violence, within any State or States, against the authority of the United States, are insurrectionary or revolutionary, according to circumstances. I therefore consider that, in view of the Constitution and the laws, the Union is unbroken; and to the extent of my ability I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States. Doing this I deem to be only a simple duty on my part; and I shall perform it so far as practicable, unless my rightful masters, the American people, shall withhold the requisite means, or in

some authoritative manner direct the contrary. I trust this will not be regarded as a menace, but only as the declared purpose of the Union that it *WILL* Constitutionally defend and maintain itself....

My countrymen, one and all, think calmly and *WELL* upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to *HURRY* any of you in hot haste to a step which you would never take *DELIBERATELY*, that object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied, still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and, on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it; while the new administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either. If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied hold the right side in the dispute, there still is no single good reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on him who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust in the best way all our present difficulty. In *YOUR* hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in *MINE*, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail *YOU*. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. *YOU* have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government, while I shall have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect, and defend it."

I am loathe to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

Abraham Lincoln

http://www.thebulletin.us/articles/2009/02/12/arts_culture/literary_excerpt_s/doc4993d9ca1a72c870651200.txt

Chickamauga

Major General William S. Rosecrans, USA

Photograph Courtesy of the National Archives & Records Administration

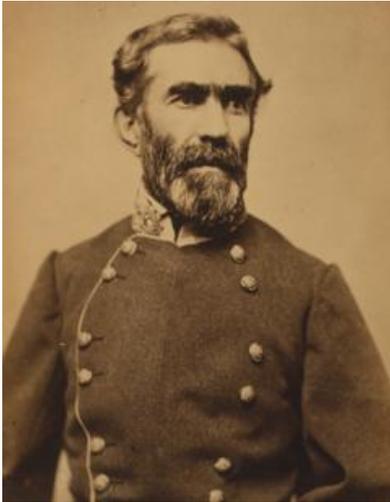


Rosecrans, William Starke (1819-98), American general, born in Kingston, Ohio, and educated at the U.S. Military Academy. In 1861, at the outbreak of the American Civil War, he joined the army of the Union general George Brinton McClellan, and in 1862 he was appointed commander of the Army of the Cumberland. In December 1862, Rosecrans led his army at the indecisive Battle of Stones River near Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In September 1863, at the Battle of Chickamauga, near Chattanooga, Tennessee, Rosecrans made a series of miscalculations in military strategy that resulted in a Confederate victory and an extremely high casualty rate on

both sides. He was removed from his command by General Ulysses S. Grant, commander of Union forces. Rosecrans later served as minister to Mexico (1868-69), as a member of the Congress from California (1881-85), and as registrar of the U.S. Department of the Treasury (1885-93).¹

¹"Rosecrans, William Starke," *Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 2000*. © 1993-1999 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

General William S. Rosecrans, was quickly challenged by the Confederate army of General Braxton Bragg. Bragg faced Rosecrans at the Battle of Chickamauga, about 20 km (about 12 mi) south of Chattanooga, on September 19 and 20, 1863, and forced him back. The Army of the Cumberland retreated into the city, where Bragg bottled them up. It was decided that Grant should save the situation, and for this he was given another promotion.²



Bragg, Braxton (1817-1876), American soldier, born in Warren County, North Carolina, and educated at the United States Military Academy. He served in the Second Seminole War and won several promotions for gallant and distinguished conduct during the Mexican War. He resigned his commission in 1859 to enter private enterprise. In the American Civil War he served in the Confederate army as a brigadier general. Soon promoted to the rank of major general, then full general, he replaced General Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard as commander of the Army of the Tennessee in June 1862. Invading Kentucky in August 1862, he

nearly succeeded in taking Louisville but was compelled to withdraw into Tennessee. At the Battle of Murfreesboro, or Stones River, he fought Union forces under General William Starke Rosecrans to a draw, but then withdrew his army. In September 1863, however, he inflicted a decisive defeat on Rosecrans in the Battle of Chickamauga. Soon afterward he was defeated by General Ulysses S. Grant in the three-day Battle of Chattanooga. In February 1864 he was summoned to Richmond and made military adviser to the president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis. Bragg was placed in command of the Department of North Carolina in November and led an unsuccessful expedition into Georgia against General William Tecumseh Sherman. In February 1865 he was assigned to duty with the Army of the Tennessee again and remained with that army until it surrendered. After the war Bragg was for some time chief engineer for the state of Alabama.³

²"Grant, Ulysses S(impson)," *Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 2000*. © 1993-1999 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

³"Bragg, Braxton," *Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 2000*. © 1993-1999 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.



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): **Speaker will be Mark Neely**, McCabe Greer Professor in the American Civil War Era at Penn State University has agreed to speak at our banquet. Professor Neely has authored and co-authored numerous books including the Pulitzer Prize-winning "The Fate of Liberty: Abraham Lincoln and Civil Liberties". Professor Neely's curricula Vitae is available at: <http://history.psu.edu/faculty/curriculaVitae/NeelyM CV.doc>

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

**BRANDYWINE VALLEY
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

*c/o Lynne Fulton
144 W. King Street
Malvern, PA 19355*

FIRST CLASS MAIL

