



# Call to Arms

Brunswick Civil War Round Table Newsletter

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER - MIKE POWELL



I hope everyone had a safe summer and came through the storm in good shape. Hurricanes, pandemics... what, no swarm of locusts? As you know by now, we are not able to meet at Hatch Auditorium for our programs in the foreseeable future. We are going to provide the best we can do under the circumstances with the Zoom presentations. Will Greene has had no experience with Zoom, but has taken the time to allow Gar Dowell and Pat de Barros to give him a crash course, and he is ready to go. Thank you, Will - there are not a lot of folks who would go that extra mile.

There are some big changes coming for BCWRT, but nothing that the round table will not survive. Charen Fink, one of the original folks involved in forming the BCWRT, our vice president and driving force behind the Ladies' Forum, has decided to step back a little. She is resigning her position as VP, but will continue to write for the newsletter and work with the Ladies' Forum. Jennifer Chapman, our secretary, is moving to Florida in September and so will also be stepping down. Jennifer has been one of the finest, most competent folks it has been my pleasure to work with. She will be missed and we are very happy for her. The only sad thing is that we will not be able to give her the kind of send off she deserves.

In the past 30 days I wrote a small article on the status of the monuments, as well as a blurb on the HR 7608 bill that is in Congress now. Please see the article by E. Gifford regarding the position of the leadership team elsewhere in this issue. I hope the membership will communicate with our US Senators.

I encourage all of you to attend the Tuesday, September 1 Zoom meeting, at 7 p.m. Details are included on page 2. We'll open the meeting around 6:45 p.m. and begin at 7.

Finally, after ten years of active involvement in the Brunswick Civil War Round Table, I will be stepping aside as president, effective December 31, 2020. Serving this round table has been one of the great joys of my life, and I leave with nothing but good thoughts for everyone. You are now and will always be the greatest Civil War round table in the history of Civil War round tables, and no one can deny or take that from us. I hope to have a chance to speak to the membership at some point, but that is for later. Now, we need to have some folks, who are already serving and some new folks, who would like a chance to serve, to step up and fill the voids. If you think you would like to get involved in a leadership position, let myself or another officer/director know and we will talk and answer any questions. Thanks, and see you on September 1.

*Mike*

# FIRST ZOOM MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 1

Our round table is **Zooming**, beginning at 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 1!

To kickoff our eleventh year (sorry we had to miss the tenth anniversary celebration back in May),

BCWRT has an outstanding speaker, Will Greene, addressing one of the most interesting battles of the war. Entitled “We Have



Done all that is Possible and Must be Resigned: The First Petersburg Offensive,” Will examines the generalships of Grant and Lee and their successes and failures in the initial Petersburg

battle between June 4-18, 1864. Will’s highly praised previous talks were in person and this is the very first time BCWRT experiences a Zoom presentation.

If you’ve not used Zoom before, rest easy...it’s an extremely user friendly application. You’ll need to first download [zoom.com](https://zoom.com) from your laptop, desktop, tablet, or smartphone. Zoom will assist you in setting up the video and audio for the meeting. There is a meeting ID number and passcode that will be sent to you via email from BCWRT. You’ll need both to enter the meeting, which will open around 6:45 p.m.

All participants are automatically muted and should remain so during the meeting. If you have a question, use the Chat feature and the meeting administrator will attempt to pass as many as possible along to Will.

We hope everyone joins us for this BCWRT inaugural style of meeting!



## **Unique Tour of Bald Head’s Fort Holmes**

Tune in for another installment of the fortifications virtual tours! September will bring us to Bald Head Island, specifically Fort Holmes. Join Educator and Collections Coordinator, Travis Gilbert, in a walk amongst the remains of the earthen works of Fort Holmes. In this tour, learn about the fortification tactics unique to the topography of Bald Head Island, whose batteries are still visible, and much more! Many thanks to Old Baldy Foundation and Smith Island Museum for their assistance in presenting this virtual tour! They are scheduling limited capacity Civil War tours, as well as all their other tours, so reach out to them for scheduling questions and to see the fortification and learn in person!

Tune in on our YouTube channel on Friday, September 18, at 6 p.m., or tune in via Facebook on Tuesday, Sept 22, at 6 p.m.

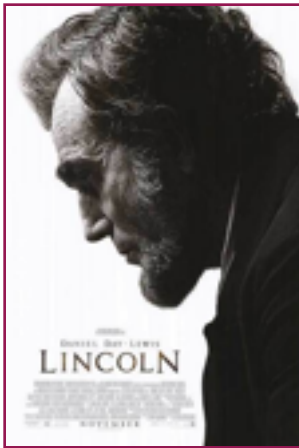


BCWRT Advisor & Videographer Katy Menne and Old Baldy Foundation’s Travis Gilbert during Ft. Holmes filming.

# Ladies' Department — *By Charen Fink*

This month's column contains more trivia, many of which the reader may already know, but just perhaps, there might be something new.

## Civil War-Related Films

- Birth of a Nation - (1915)
  - Jezebel - (1938)
  - Glory - (1989)
  - Gone with the Wind - (1939)
  - Gettysburg - (1993)
  - General Spanky - (1938)
  - Dark Command - (1940)
  - Virginia City - (1940)
  - A Southern Yankee - (1948)
  - Yellow Neck - (1955)
  - The Searchers - (1956)
  - The Proud Rebel - (1958)
  - Cold Mountain - (2003)
  - An Occurrence at Owl Creek - (1962)
  - Alvarez /Kelly - (1966)
  - The Beguiled - (1970)
  - Lincoln - (2012)
  - Red Badge of Courage - (1951)
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- The Private History of a Campaign that Failed - (1981)
- The Killing Box - (1993)
- Ride with the Devil - (1999)

## Battle Deaths from American Conflicts (partial list)

Top two with most casualties

World War II - 291,557

Civil War - 214,938

Two with the least casualties

Spanish-American War - 385

Desert Storm - 148

## Largest Battles (top two) Union and Confederate

Seven Days - 186,651

Fredericksburg - 178,504

## Popular Songs

- "'Tis But A Little Faded Flower"
- "We Are Coming, Father Abraham, 300,000 More"
- "Babylon Is Fallen"
- "Come Home, Father"
- "Sherman's March"



## Ladies' Forum

Because of the pandemic, the Ladies' Forum, scheduled for October, has been cancelled, and rescheduled for April 26, 2021. We regret having to do this, but the church is still not open and it is for the safety of all participants. Look for announcements after the first of the year.

## BRIEFLY STATED...

**Larry Maisel**, one of the local historians who helped guide and advise on the creation of our round table, passed away August 7 in Georgia at the age of 79. After spending many years in radio and television broadcasting, he retired to Southport and served as president of the Southport Historical Society from 2001-2011. He authored, *“Before We Were Quaint,”* published in 2009, which compiled many of the old stories of Southport, along with interesting photos. He also wrote a book on the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. We extend our sincere sympathies to his family and friends.

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**Skip Maxwell**, BCWRT’s Artifacts Manager, intends to continue the raffle started earlier this year for a Civil War framed print. Originally he planned to sell tickets at three meetings, but then

coronavirus altered the schedule. If you bought a ticket, please keep it, and when conditions permit, Skip will be back selling more! As a reminder, the lucky winner will be able to select the print of his or her choice from three distinguished Civil War artists: Dale Gallon, Mort Kuntsler, and Lafayette Ragsdale. Kunstler’s “I’ll Be Moving Within the Hour,” capturing a scene from the Second Manassas Campaign in August of 1862, is shown,



without the frame. Tickets are one for \$2; three for \$5; or seven for \$10. All monies raised will go towards our mission of education and battlefield preservation.

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**Katy Menne**, our advisor who coordinates BCWRT’s social media activities and is shown on page 2 shooting another tour, has done it again. “We recognize that many do not utilize Facebook and thus may feel as though they are missing out on some awesome programs being offered virtually,” she notes. “To assist in reaching members where they are most comfortable, BCWRT now has a YouTube channel! Any lectures and tours given since we have paused our regularly scheduled meetings can be found there.” To use this new media, simply type into the Google search bar “YouTube.” Then in the YouTube search bar, type “Brunswick Civil War Round Table.” Voila! You can also subscribe to the channel and receive updates whenever new videos are added. Thanks, Katy, for another super job!

# CONFEDERATE MONUMENTS...Continued

By E. Gifford Stack

In the special summer edition of *Call to Arms*, sent to you on August 3, Mike Powell, our dedicated and tireless president, wrote a column about the on-going clamor to remove Confederate statues. He eloquently noted, "It is my sincere feeling that the BCWRT should not make any statement on this topic. There is no position that we, as a round table, could make that would be representative of our entire membership, or even a large majority. We, like the country, have many opinions." He went on to request that **each member** write or call their elected officials to express their opinion. This was the suggested course when the issue was dealing only with monuments in public domains.

Then on August 14, Mike sent us an email stating the US House of Representatives passed HR 7608, which includes language that would require within 180 days of enactment, the National Park Service "remove from display all physical Confederate commemorative works, such as statues, monuments, sculptures, memorials, and plaques" from all federal parks nationwide. The Board of Directors met via Zoom on August 18 to discuss the issue, and determine what, if anything, BCWRT could or should do.

During the 90 minutes of discussion, numerous viewpoints were aired and questioned, including our legal ability as an organization to lobby based on our 501(c)(3)

status; why not just remove placards for both sides and have park visitors use a map to try and ascertain what happened, similar to most European battlefields; what is the likelihood of the legislation being approved by the Senate; and should we somehow try and measure the membership's opinion via Zoom or some kind of electronic poll. In the end, there was not a consensus regarding an action **the organization** should take with respect to HR 7608.

This does not eliminate you, **the member**, having an opinion and calling or writing to the NC senators, and those from where you

might have lived prior to moving to the Tar Heel State. It's easy to reach senators. Click on this site and you'll find all the relevant information: [https://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm).

If you'd like to research what other Civil War related organizations are thinking regarding this issue, just Google HR-7608. There's a plethora of opinions. The Gettysburg Foundation, for example, succinctly states their view at: [https://](https://www.gettysburgfoundation.org/about-us/response-on-hr-7608)

[www.gettysburgfoundation.org/about-us/response-on-hr-7608](https://www.gettysburgfoundation.org/about-us/response-on-hr-7608). And Chris Mackowski, a frequent speaker at our round table and editor of Emerging Civil War, opines on the bill at <https://emergingcivilwar.com/2020/08/07/monument-removal-in-nps-appropriation-an-update/>.



# It's All Relative

## WANTED

BCWRT is continuing the quest to hear from every member who had a relative in the Civil War. Even if you don't have much information or are sketchy on details, please reach out to Bob Hagerman, BCWRT's coordinator for this effort, at 910-854-0326, or [b\\_hagerman@msn.com](mailto:b_hagerman@msn.com).

BCWRT member **Sam Hood** is the great, great grandson of famed Civil War General **John Bell Hood**. The following is excerpted from a lengthy biography that can be found on the BCWRT's web site: [http://](http://www.brunswickcivilwarroundtable.com/about)



[www.brunswickcivilwarroundtable.com/about](http://www.brunswickcivilwarroundtable.com/about). Sam will speak at our May meeting on the topic of his book: *Patriots Twice: Former Confederates and the Building of America after the Civil War*.

Born in Kentucky, John Bell Hood graduated from West Point in 1853, joining the newly formed elite Second Cavalry Regiment at Fort Mason, Texas. He sustained injuries fighting Indians, and eventually resigned from the U.S. Army to take a commission in the new Confederate Army in 1861.

Hood was assigned to the Army of Northern Virginia, where he received several rapid promotions, culminating in his selection to brigadier general and placed in command of the renowned Texas Brigade. Following yet another promotion to major general, Hood was severely wounded at the Battle of Gettysburg, forever losing use of his left arm.

While leading a division at the Battle of Chickamauga in September of 1863, Hood received his second severe wound of the war,

resulting in the amputation of his right leg. He eventually replaced General Joseph Johnston as commander of the Army of Tennessee in July of 1864, and was promoted to full general.

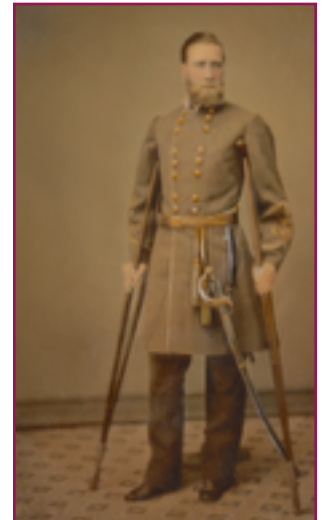
Hood attempted four attacks designed to break Sherman's siege of Atlanta. None succeeded. In November of 1864 Hood launched his ill-fated invasion of

Tennessee, suffering decisive defeats at Franklin and Nashville. He retreated into northern Mississippi, resigning his command and reverting to his permanent rank of lieutenant general.

During the waning days of the

Confederacy, Hood was ordered by Jefferson Davis to travel to Texas and attempt to raise an army. However, learning of the capture of Davis and the surrender of Gen. Kirby Smith in Texas, Hood surrendered to Federal authorities in Natchez, Mississippi on May 31, 1865.

After the war, Hood settled in New Orleans and became a cotton broker and insurance businessman. He eventually married in 1868, fathering eleven children. He died in 1879 at the age of 48 from yellow fever.



# **MUSTER NOTES and NOTABLES**

**The Tuesday, September 1 meeting of the BCWRT will be conducted via Zoom - See page 2.**

BCWRT is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, co-founded by Tom O'Donnell and Wally Rueckel, and organized in May 2010.

The BCWRT website, [brunswickcivilwarroundtable.com](http://brunswickcivilwarroundtable.com), contains helpful information and is available to everyone, no user name or password required. Our Facebook page is at <https://www.facebook.com/brunswickcivilwarroundtable/>. Visit both sites to learn of future speakers, trips, and interesting Civil War information.

## **2020 Officers, Directors, Advisors, and Liaisons**

**Mike Powell: President & Director**

**Charen Fink: VP, Director & Ladies' Forum Coord.**

**Gar Dowell: VP, Director**

**Jennifer Chapman: Secretary & Director**

**Gary Krupp: Treasurer & Director**

**John Butler: Director**

**Kathy O'Donnell: Director**

**Chuck Roedema: Director**

**E. Gifford Stack: Director**

**Peter Carmichael: Advisor**

**Jack Carpenter: Advisor & Ft. Anderson Liaison**

**Chris Fonvielle: Advisor**

**Tom Kehoe: Advisor**

**Paul Laird: Advisor**

**Jim McKee: Advisor**

**Katy Menne: Advisor**

**Roy Pender: Advisor**

**Leslie Rivers: Advisor**

**Wally Rueckel: Advisor**

**Lori Sanderlin: Advisor**

**Dave Shultz: Advisor**

**Wade Sokolosky: Advisor**

**Peter Whalen: Advisor**

**Max Williams: Advisor Emeritus**

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