

THE DISPATCH

The Civil War Round Table of New York, Inc.

Volume 60, No. 10

551st Meeting

June 2011



- Guest:
Bud Hall
Battle of Brandy Station
- Cost:
Members: \$35
Non-Members: \$45
- Date:
Wednesday,
June 8th
- Place:
The Three West Club,
3 West 51st Street,
- Time:
Dinner at 6 pm,
Doors open 5:30 pm,
Cash Bar 5:30 – 7 pm

*You must call
718-341-9811 by
June 1st, if you
plan to attend the
June meeting.*

*We need to know how
many people to order
food for.*

Bud Hall

Battle of Brandy Station

Our guest speaker, Clark (Bud) Hall, has written and lectured widely on cavalry operations in the American Civil War. He is considered an authority on Culpeper County's role in the war and is now preparing book manuscripts on *The Battle of Brandy Station: Sabers across the Rappahannock* (UNC) and *Culpeper County During the American Civil War* (History America Press).

He is a co-founder of the Chantilly Battlefield Association, The Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, and the Brandy Station Foundation, where he now serves as president. He has been presented with numerous preservation commendations, including the "Anne B. Snyder Preservation Award."

Bud received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Kansas State University and has performed graduate studies in history and law at Kansas State and the University of Virginia. He spent seventeen years with the FBI, wherein he managed nationwide organized crime investigations. A decorated Marine combat veteran, he resides in Middleburg, Virginia.



2011 • MEETING SCHEDULE • 2011

• September 14th •
TBA

• October 12th •
TBA

• November 9th •
TBA

President's Message

June brings an end to the Round Table season, and it has been a great year with a wide array of wonderful speakers. Thanks go to Judy Hallock, our outgoing Vice President of Programs. The highlight of the year was, of course, our 60th Anniversary Gala, a job well done by Pat Falci. Thanks also go to the late Len Rehner and the Barondess Committee for arranging for Sam Waterston. I hope Len was with "Father Abraham" on that night. Bud Livingston and the Fletcher Pratt Committee also deserve thanks for bringing in Donald Stoker.

This month also brings an end to my term as President. I have been honored to have been President of this prestigious Round Table for the past two years. I want to thank all of my fellow officers and board members for their support and efforts in advancing this organization. I also want to thank past Presidents Pat Falci, Bud Livingston, Joan McDonough and Len Rehner for their advice and counsel. But most of all, I want to thank you, the members of this Round Table. Without you, there would be no Civil War Round Table of New York.

Lastly, I want to wish the new officers continued success. You know that you have my full support.

I hope to see all of you in September, from my old seat at the rear table.

— Charles Mander

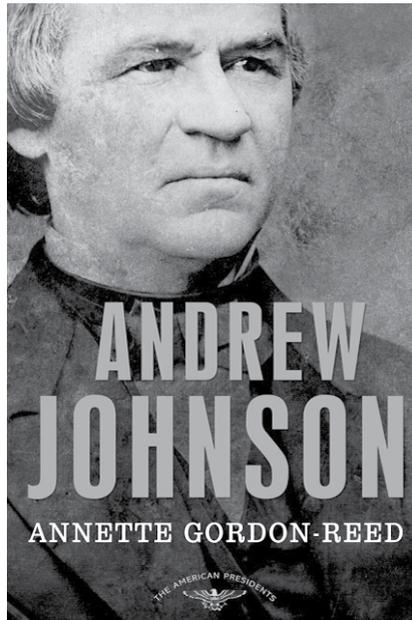
Book Review

Andrew Johnson

by Annette Gordon-Reed

Gordon-Reed is not dreadfully sympathetic to Johnson and her book is dedicated to two friends "for standing against everything that Andrew Johnson stood for." She recognized his limitations and acknowledges many of the handicaps he faced. He was one of the first southerners to rise to a position of power and influence without having come out of the traditional ruling class of the South. Everyone is familiar with the story that he was illiterate until his teenage years and in terms of profession he was a tailor rather than a soldier, lawyer, etc. He is much more like the kind of political ruler of the South who lost control to people referred to many times as the "wool hat boys" or the "rednecks." Obviously conversant with the history of the period, she covers the key points of Johnson's career in the years before the Civil War, the presidency, the impeachment, and what little there was to his post presidential life. She explains in great detail the circumstances leading to his selection as the vice presidential nominee with Lincoln in 1864 and why some in the Republican party could not bring themselves to support the ticket, perhaps looking at some of the acts he undertook as Lincoln's appointed governor of Tennessee. She also explains why the South feared him at first, remembering his strong arguments against secession and his punitive attitude toward that region,

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June/July during the Civil War

1861

June 12 – Not to be outdone by President Lincoln’s call for 75,000 volunteers to put down the Rebellion, Missouri’s Governor Claiborne Jackson calls for 50,000 volunteers to put down the federal government.

July 21 – The Union fights the Battle of Bull Run; the Confederates fight the Battle of Manassas.

1862

June 12 – Jeb Stuart plays ring around the rosy with McClellan’s army. The TV show *Catch Me if You Can* is born.

July 1 – A day that should have lived in infamy. President Lincoln signs into law the federal income tax on earnings of \$600 to \$10,000. The average man working a 12 hour day earns some \$300 a year.

1863

June 9 – Jeb Stuart gets the surprise of his life at Brandy Station when Alfred Pleasonton and his friends pay him an unexpected visit.

July 3 – Considering calling their attack Pettigrew’s/Trimble’s/Pickett’s Charge a bit too much, George wins a high card in a draw and gets his name attached to the most famous charge in American history.

1864

June 8 – Hannibal Hamlin loses his one chance to become president when he gets unceremoniously dumped in favor of a stump speaker from Tennessee.

July 9 – This time Lew Wallace finds his way to the battle at Monocacy (unlike at Shiloh) and slows down Jubal Early’s attack on Washington.

\$5 Confederate Notes

Samuel Upham (1819-1885) a Philadelphia shopkeeper, in 1862, began printing \$5 Confederate notes, which he sold as “mementos of the Rebellion” for a cent each. Along the bottom of each note, he included a strip with the following lettering: “Facsimile confederate Note – Sold Wholesale and Retail by S.C. Upham, 403 Chestnut Street Philadelphia” Backed by heavy newspaper advertising, Upham’s souvenir notes became best sellers, and at some point he must have known that they were no longer being viewed as facsimiles... Borne by Union soldiers, they found their way into the Confederate money supply as counterfeits, and helped fuel rampant inflation and monetary disruption. As the war progressed, Confederate authorities became convinced that Upham and others were part of a Union campaign to wage economic war on the South. There is no historical evidence that Abraham Lincoln or his administration was involved in such tactics.

From a Nancy F. Koehn book review in the *N.Y. Times* 2/6/11, of “*Moneymakers: The Wicked Lives and Surprising Adventures of Three Notorious Counterfeiters*,” by Ben Tarnoff



SPECIAL NOTICE

54th Annual Battlefield Tour

- September 9th–11th, 2011

“For A Good Time – Jine The Cavalry”

Volunteers wanted! Sign up now. The bugler has sounded “Boots + Saddles,” so it’s time to mount up for our ride to Culpeper, Va. We will explore the battlefield where Stonewall Jackson was saved by A.P. Hill at Cedar Mt. We will ride with Mosby and his Rangers as we travel throughout Virginia’s horse country. And you must hold onto your sabers as we charge onto the field at Brandy Station, the site of the largest cavalry battle fought during the Civil War. Our tour guide (and June speaker) will be cavalry expert Bud Hall.

A \$100 deposit (asap) reserves your seat on the bus and gives us an idea of how many rooms to book at the hotel and meals to order at the restaurants. (Full details will be sent to all soon – final payment will be due by August 1st).

So saddle up with Stuart, Custer or the “Gray Ghost” as we ride to the sound of the guns!

Call the Round Table for details: 718-341-9811

You can bring your \$100 deposit to the June meeting or mail it to our HQ at 139-33 250th Street, Rosedale, N.Y. 11422

RT merchandise on special at June meeting!



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as manifested by his first months in office focusing in some detail on his insistence on hanging Mary Surratt. She does a very good job of detailing the circumstances for the impeachment trial although there is not too much on the trial itself. There is a great deal to be learned from this book, but perhaps the most important matter is the conclusion that Johnson's chief goal was restoration of the Union as close as possible to what it had been before 1861. The thirteenth amendment had outlawed slavery but Johnson still believed blacks to be inferior and belonging to a subordinate status. He wanted the restoration of the kind of political class system that had dominated Southern life even though he was hardly a product of it. His insistence on resisting secession was that he believed in the preservation of the Union and did not share Lincoln's vision of a more egalitarian society. Most studies of the American presidency rank him near the bottom of the list and this book indicates why. He had some big shoes to fill and handicaps of a tremendous nature but so had other presidents and Gordon-Reed effectively indicates why he deserves a low rating.

By Thomas W. Ryley



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OF NEW YORK

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Dispatch ERRATA

If the *New York Times* can publish corrections, so can we.

In the April issue we referred to letters of marque (read *privacy*). This, of course should have been (read *piracy*).

We do, from time to time, publish errors just to see if anyone is paying attention. Judy Hallock was.

New Recruits

Susan Olsen, the historian at the Woodlawn Cemetery.

Her favorites are Phil Sheridan and Bedford Forrest

Chris Korte, who found us through the internet.

Stephen Molineaux