



"CONFEDERATE GRAYS"



Newsletter of the Norfolk County Grays

SCV Camp No. 1549

Volume 3

Issue 8

August 2011

Officers

Mark Johnson
Commander

Kenzy Joyner
Lt. Commander

Justin Matthews
Adjutant

Kenzy Joyner
Color Sergeant

Frank Earnest
Public Relations Officer

Vance Tysor III
Treasurer

Edward James Sawyer
Chaplain

.....
Contact information:

Mark B. Johnson, *Cmdr*

Norfolk County Grays Meeting August 17, 2011

Gus & George's Spaghetti & Steak Restaurant
4312 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, Va.
(757-340-6587)
Just east of Independence Blvd
Map on Last Page of Newsletter

**Guest Speaker for the July Norfolk County Grays
meeting will be:
Michael Malpass**

**Topic: The Origins of the Battle Flag and other
Flags of the Confederacy**

Next Norfolk County Grays Camp Meeting

September 21, 2011

Speaker: TBA

Topic: TBA

IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 1.....Officers, Meeting Information
- Page 2..... Pictures from the July 20, 2011 Camp Meeting
- Page 3..... Almanac – August 1861
- Pages 4-6.....Almanac – The Battle of Oak Hills
- Pages 6-7.....Almanac –The First Confiscation Act
- Page 8..... Upcoming Events, Commander's Comments
- Page 9..... Map to Meeting and Lt Gen. Stephen D. Lee's Charge

**Pictures from the July 20, 2011
Norfolk County Grays Meeting – Jamie Radtke, Guest Speaker**



Commander Johnson calls the meeting to order.



Jamie Radtke speaks to the Camp.



Jamie Radtke speaks to the Camp.



New Compatriot, Vance E. Tysor Jr.



Compatriot Vance Tysor III inducts his father into the SCV.



Compatriot Frank Earnest speaks to the Camp.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - ALMANAC



August 1861

Taken from The Blue and Gray Trail. Follow this link to the full article: <http://blueandgraytrail.com/year/186108>

- August 1, 1861 - Tennessee votes to adopt the Constitution of the Confederate States of America
- August 3, 1861 - Off the coast of Virginia a Union naval officer ascends in a tethered balloon to look at Confederate controlled Hampton Roads. It is the first balloon ascent from a ship in naval history.
- August 5, 1861 - Abraham Lincoln approves a wide variety of bills passed during a special session of Congress including a new issue of bonds, tariff increase, and the first direct income and real estate tax.
- August 6, 1861 - **First Confiscation Act** or The Confiscation Act of 1861 allows federals to seize property used in the insurrection, essentially freeing slaves forced to participate in the Confederate war effort.
- August 6, 1861 - Second Session of the Second Wheeling Convention is called to order.
- August 6, 1861 - Lt. Bull Nelson of the U. S. Navy is ordered to build a camp where Kentucky residents can train for service in the Kentucky militia. Nelson names the camp for the owner of the property in Garrard County, Captain Dick Robinson.
- August 7, 1861 - John Bankhead Magruder (US) burns the village of Hampton, near Fort Monroe. General Benjamin Butler had been planning to use it to house "contraband." (Butler's word for slaves)
- August 7, 1861 - The Maryland legislature adjourns without seceding, but votes to reconvene in September.
- August 10, 1861 - **Battle of Oak Hills** - US Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon is killed in the Confederate victory.
- August 15, 1861 - General George McClellan assumes command of the Army of the Potomac.
- August 15, 1861 - The Department of Kentucky and the Department of the Cumberland are combined under General Robert Anderson, US Army.
- August 17, 1861 - George Thomas appointed brigadier general of volunteers, US Army of the Cumberland.
- August 19, 1861 - Henry Halleck promoted to Major General in the US Army.
- August 20, 1861 - The pro-Union Second Wheeling Convention calls for the creation of the state of Kanawha.
- August 21, 1861 - Second Wheeling Convention adjourns.
- August 24, 1861 - President Jefferson Davis names James M. Mason as commissioner to Great Britain and John Slidell as commissioner to France.
- August 26, 1861 - Battle of (Kessler's) Cross Lanes; CSA General John Floyd routs an Ohio regiment.
- August 26, 1861 - US General Benjamin Butler leads a successful amphibious landing on Cape Hatteras.
- August 26, 1861 - King Kamehameha IV proclaimed the neutrality of the Hawaiian Islands during the Civil War.
- August 27, 1861 - Union forces take fortifications on Cape Hatteras.
- August 28, 1861 - Ulysses S. Grant is given command of federal forces in Southern Illinois and Southeastern Missouri.
- August 30, 1861 - John C. Fremont declares martial law in Missouri and frees slaves of Missouri Confederates.
- August 31, 1861 - Samuel Cooper, Robert E. Lee, Albert Sidney Johnston, Joseph E. Johnston and P. G. T. Beauregard are promoted to full general.



WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - ALMANAC



BATTLE OF OAK HILLS



Taken from Wikipedia. Follow this link to the full article: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Wilson%27s_Creek

The **Battle of Wilson's Creek**, also known as the **Battle of Oak Hills**, was fought on August 10, 1861, near Springfield, Missouri, between Union forces and the Missouri State Guard, early in the American Civil War. It was the first major battle of the war west of the Mississippi River and is sometimes called the "Bull Run of the West." Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Lyon's Army of the West was camped at Springfield, Missouri, with Confederate troops under the commands of Brig. Gen. Benjamin McCulloch approaching. On August 9, both sides formulated plans to attack the other. At about 5:00 a.m. on August 10, Lyon, in two columns commanded by himself and Col. Franz Sigel, attacked the Confederates on Wilson's Creek about 12 miles (19 km) southwest of Springfield. Rebel cavalry received the first blow and fell back away from Bloody Hill. Confederate forces soon rushed up and stabilized their positions.

The Confederates attacked the Union forces three times that day but failed to break through the Union line. When General Lyon was killed during the battle and General Sweeny wounded, Major Samuel D. Sturgis assumed command. Meanwhile, the Confederates had routed Sigel's column, south of Skegg's Branch. Following the third Confederate attack, which ended at 11:00 a.m., the Confederates withdrew. Sturgis realized, however, that his men were exhausted and his ammunition was low, so he ordered a retreat to Springfield. The Confederates were too disorganized and ill-equipped to pursue. This Confederate victory buoyed southern sympathizers in Missouri and served as a springboard for a bold thrust north that carried Price and his Missouri State Guard as far as Lexington. In late October, a rump convention, convened by Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson, met in Neosho and passed out an ordinance of secession. Wilson's Creek, the most significant 1861 battle in Missouri, gave the Confederates control of southwestern Missouri.

Background

At the beginning of the war, Missouri declared that it would be an "armed neutral" in the conflict and not send materials or men to either side. On April 20, 1861, a secessionist mob seized the Liberty Arsenal increasing Union concern in the state. The neutrality was put to a major test on May 10, 1861, in what became known as the Camp Jackson Affair. Governor Claiborne F. Jackson had called out the state militia to drill on the edge of St. Louis in Lindell Grove. The governor had clandestinely obtained artillery from the Confederacy and smuggled it into the militia encampment—referred to as "Camp Jackson." Capt. Nathaniel Lyon was aware of this shipment and was concerned the militia would move on the St. Louis Arsenal. Thomas W. Sweeny was put in command of the Arsenal's defense, and Lyon surrounded the militia camp with Union troops and home guards, forcing the surrender of the militia. He then blundered by marching the militia men through the streets to the arsenal. A crowd gathered, some angry and pressing against the procession. Taunts and jostling eventually led to gunfire and many deaths, mostly civilians but also including several militia and soldiers.

A day later, the Missouri General Assembly created the Missouri State Guard to defend the state from attacks from perceived enemies, either from the North or South. The governor appointed Sterling Price to be its commander with the rank of Major General. The State Guard was divided into divisions, with each division consisting of units raised from a military district of Missouri and command by a brigadier general. (Because much of their recruiting areas were behind Union lines, many divisions were the size of a brigade, consisting of only a few regiments.)

Fearing Missouri's tilt to the South, William S. Harney, the Federal commander in Missouri, struck the Price-Harney Truce on May 12, 1861, which affirmed Missouri's neutrality in the conflict. Governor Jackson declared his support for the Union. However, Harney was replaced by Lyon (who was promoted to general), and Abraham Lincoln made a specific request for Missouri troops to enter Federal service. Jackson withdrew his support. On June 12, 1861, Lyon and Jackson met in St. Louis to resolve the matter. The meeting ended with Lyon saying:

This means war. In an hour one of my officers will call for you and conduct you out of my lines.

Lyon sent a force under General Sweeny to Springfield while his own forces quickly captured the capital and pursued Jackson, Price, and the now-exiled state government across Missouri. Skirmishes followed such as Battle of Boonville on June 17, 1861, followed by the Battle of Carthage on July 5, 1861. In light of the crisis, the delegates of the Missouri Constitutional Convention that had rejected secession in February reconvened. On July 27, the convention declared the governor's office vacant and then selected Hamilton Rowan Gamble to be the new provisional governor.

By July 13, 1861, Lyon's army was encamped at the city of Springfield, Missouri, and consisted of approximately 6,000 men. His force was composed of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Missouri Infantry, the 1st Iowa Infantry, the 1st Kansas and 2nd Kansas Infantry, several companies of Regular Army infantry and cavalry, and three batteries of artillery. He divided the units into four brigades commanded by Major Samuel D. Sturgis, Colonel Franz Sigel, Lieutenant Colonel George Andrews, and Colonel George Dietzler.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - ALMANAC



BATTLE OF OAK HILLS (CONT.)



Taken from Wikipedia. Follow this link to the full article: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Wilson%27s_Creek

By the end of July 1861 the Missouri State Guard was camped about 75 mi (121 km) southwest of Springfield and had been reinforced by Confederate Brigadier General Benjamin McCulloch and Arkansas state militia Brigadier General N. Bart Pearce, making the mixed Missouri/Arkansas/Confederate force over 12,000 strong. They developed plans to attack Springfield but General Lyon marched out of the city on August 1 in an attempt to surprise the Southern forces. The armies' vanguards skirmished at Dug Springs, Missouri on August 2. The Union force emerged as the victor, but Lyon learned he was outnumbered more than two-to-one and retreated back to Springfield. McCulloch, now in command of the Missourian army, gave chase. By August 6, his force was encamped at Wilson's Creek, 10 mi (16 km) southwest of the city. Price and McCulloch disagreed about the proper strategy for their combined force. Price favored an immediate attack on Springfield but McCulloch, doubtful about the quality of the Missouri State Guard, preferred to remain in place. After Price threatened to launch an attack without his support, McCulloch agreed to an attack at dawn on the 10th but when a rainstorm started during the evening of the 9th, he cancelled his plans and ordered his troops back to camp.

Outnumbered, Lyon planned to withdraw northeast to Rolla to reinforce and resupply, but not before launching a surprise attack on the Missourian camp to delay pursuit. Union Colonel Franz Sigel developed a flawed strategy, with which Lyon concurred, that split the already out-numbered Union force. Sigel proposed striking McCulloch in a pincer movement. He planned to lead 1,200 men in a flanking maneuver while the main body under Lyon struck from the north. In accord with Sigel's ill-conceived plan, the Union army marched out of Springfield on the rainy night of August 9, 1861, leaving about 1,000 men to protect supplies and cover the retreat.

Battle

At about 5:00 a.m., at first light on the morning of August 10, the Union force attacked. The secessionists were caught by surprise. Lyon's force overran the enemy camps and took the high ground at the crest of a ridge which would become known as "Bloody Hill." Early Union hopes for a rout were dashed, however, when the artillery of the Pulaski Arkansas Battery unlimbered and checked the advance, which gave Price's infantry time and cover to organize lines on the south slope of the hill. Lyon organized a line on the southern slope of Bloody Hill, from which he tried to launch counterattacks but was unsuccessful. Price was in command to this sector of the Confederate army and launched a series of frontal and flank attacks but was also unsuccessful; a shortage of ammunition in the Confederate army was a factor in the Confederate defeats.

The two Union forces lost contact with each other, with no means of communicating with or supporting each other if anything went wrong. Sigel's attack was successful at first; the brigade arrived in the Confederate rear soon after dawn. Artillery fire routed the Confederate cavalry units which were encamped at the Sharp's farm; Sigel started a pursuit but stopped along Skegg's Branch; during the time he was stopped along this position, he failed to post skirmishers along his front and left his flank open for an attack. Meanwhile McCulloch rallied several Confederate units, including the 3rd Louisiana Infantry and the 3rd Division from the Missouri State Guard, and lead a counterattack. Sigel's men mistook the 3rd Louisiana for the 3rd Iowa Infantry (which also wore gray uniforms), and withheld their fire until the Confederates were nearly upon them. His flank was consequently utterly devastated by the counterattack and his brigade was routed, losing four cannons. Sigel and his men fled the field leaving the force under Lyon, Sweeny, and Sturgis holding out alone.

With the rout of Sigel's flank, the momentum of the battle shifted in the South's favor. Lyon became the first Union general to be killed in the war; he was shot in the heart on Bloody Hill, at about 9:30 a.m., while leading the 2nd Kansas Infantry in a countercharge. General Sweeny was shot in the leg, and Major Samuel D. Sturgis, as the highest ranking Regular Army officer, assumed command of the Union army. While still in a defensible position atop the hill, Union supplies were low and morale was worsening. By 11:00 a.m., the Union forces had already repulsed three separate Confederate charges. Ammunition and men were nearly exhausted, and Sturgis retreated rather than risk a fourth Confederate attack.

Aftermath

The casualties were about equal on both sides—1,317 Union and 1,230 Confederate/Missourian/Arkansan. Though the Confederate allied force won the field, they were unable to pursue the retreating Union forces to Rolla. Price wanted to start a pursuit of the Union force immediately but McCulloch refused, worried about the quality of the Missouri State Guard, and the length of his supply line back to Arkansas. With the victory, Price's Missouri Guard began an invasion of northern Missouri that culminated in the First Battle of Lexington on September 20, 1861, while the Confederate and Arkansas forces withdrew from the state.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - ALMANAC



BATTLE OF OAK HILLS



(CONT.)

Taken from Wikipedia. Follow this link to the full article: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Wilson%27s_Creek

After falling back to Springfield, Sturgis handed command of the army over to Sigel, and at a council of war that evening it was agreed that the Union army had to fall back to Rolla, starting at 3 a.m. the next morning. However, Sigel failed to get his brigade ready at that time, forcing a delay of several hours. Along the retreat route, Sigel's men took several lengthy delays in order to prepare meals; this caused the other officers to force Sigel to turn command back over to Sturgis.

On October 30, 1861, the Missourians under Price and Jackson formally joined the Confederate cause in Neosho, Missouri. Officials passed the resolutions for Missouri secession and Jackson was named the Governor of Confederate Missouri. However, the new government never earned the favor of most of the population of Missouri, and the state remained in the Union throughout the war. What little control Price and Jackson did have was diminished in the Battle of Fredericktown on October 21 and the Battle of Springfield I on October 25 and the Confederate state government was soon forced to leave the state.

Although Price enjoyed Missouri victories, he did not have the popular support to hold the field. After 1861, he was a Confederate general and led his forces in battles in Arkansas and Mississippi. There were smaller skirmishes in Missouri until the fall of 1864 when Price returned to Missouri. However, Missouri suffered the guerrilla warfare of bushwhackers such as Quantrill's Raiders and Bloody Bill Anderson throughout the war.

National battlefield

The site of the battle has been protected as Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. The National Park Service operates a visitor center featuring a museum, a twenty-six minute film, a nine-minute fiber optic battle map presentation, and a Civil War research library open to the public. Living history programs depicting soldier life, cavalry drills, musket firing, artillery demonstrations, period medicine, and period clothing are generally held on Sunday afternoons Memorial Day through Labor Day.

With the exception of the vegetation and the addition of interpretive hiking trails and a self-guided auto tour route, the 1,750 acre (7 km²) battlefield has changed little from its historic setting, allowing visitors to experience the battlefield in nearly pristine condition. The home of the Ray family, which served as a Confederate field hospital during the battle, has been preserved and restored and is open periodically throughout the summer, with Park Service interpreters dressed in period clothing.



THE CONFISCATION ACT OF 1861



Taken from Wikipedia. Follow this link to the full article: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Confiscation_Act

The **Confiscation Act of 1861** was an act of Congress during the early months of the American Civil War permitting the confiscation of any of property, including slaves, being used to support the Confederate insurrection.

The bill passed the House of Representatives 60-48 and in the Senate 24-11. Abraham Lincoln was reluctant to sign the act; he felt that, in light of the Confederacy's recent battlefield victories, the bill would have no practical effect and might be seen as a desperate move. He was also worried that it could be struck down as unconstitutional, which would set a precedent that might derail future attempts at emancipation. Only personal lobbying by several powerful Senators persuaded Lincoln to sign the legislation, which he did on August 6, 1861. Lincoln gave Attorney General Edward Bates no instructions on enforcing the bill; as a result, few such confiscations occurred.

With respect to slaves, the act stripped their owners of any claim to them but did not clarify whether the slaves were free. As a result of this ambiguity, these slaves became the property of the U.S. government. To remedy this bizarre situation, General David Hunter, the Union Army military commander of Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida, issued General Order No. 11 on May 9, 1862 freeing all slaves in areas under his command. Upon hearing of Hunter's action one week later, Lincoln immediately countermanded the order, thus returning the slaves to their former status as property of the federal government.

Before the act was passed, Benjamin Franklin Butler had been the first Union general to declare slaves as contraband; some other Northern commanders followed this precedent, while officers from the border states were more likely to return escaped

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - ALMANAC



THE CONFISCATION ACT OF 1861

(CONT.)

Taken from Wikipedia. Follow this link to the full article: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Confiscation_Act

slaves to their masters. The Confiscation Act was an attempt to set a consistent policy throughout the army.

Text of the Act

An Act to confiscate Property used for Insurrectionary Purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That if, during the present or any future insurrection against the Government of the United States, after the President of the United States shall have declared, by proclamation, that the laws of the United States are opposed, and the execution thereof obstructed, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the power vested in the marshals by law, any person or persons, his, her, or their agent, attorney, or employé, shall purchase or acquire, sell or give, any property of whatsoever kind or description, with intent to use or employ the same, or suffer the same to be used or employed, in aiding, abetting, or promoting such insurrection or resistance to the laws, or any person or persons engaged therein; or if any person or persons, being the owner or owners of any such property, shall knowingly use or employ, or consent to the use or employment of the same as aforesaid, all such property is hereby declared to be lawful subject of prize and capture wherever found; and it shall be the duty of the President of the United States to cause the same to be seized, confiscated, and condemned.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That such prizes and capture shall be condemned in the district or circuit court of the United States having jurisdiction of the amount, or in admiralty in any district in which the same may be seized, or into which they may be taken and proceedings first instituted.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That the Attorney-General, or any district attorney of the United States in which said property may at the time be, may institute the proceedings of condemnation, and in such case they shall be wholly for the benefit of the United States; or any person may file an information with such attorney, in which case the proceedings shall be for the use of such informer and the United States in equal parts.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That whenever hereafter, during the present insurrection against the Government of the United States, any person claimed to be held to labor or service under the law of any State, shall be required or permitted by the person to whom such labor or service is claimed to be due, or by the lawful agent of such person, to take up arms against the United States, or shall be required or permitted by the person to whom such labor or service is claimed to be due, or his lawful agent, to work or to be employed in or upon any fort, navy yard, dock, armory, ship, entrenchment, or in any military or naval service whatsoever, against the Government and lawful authority of the United States, then, and in every such case, the person to whom such labor or service is claimed to be due shall forfeit his claim to such labor, any law of the State or of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding. And whenever thereafter the person claiming such labor or service shall seek to enforce his claim, it shall be a full and sufficient answer to such claim that the person whose service or labor is claimed had been employed in hostile service against the Government of the United States, contrary to the provisions of this act.

APPROVED, August 6, 1861





UPCOMING EVENTS

August 19, 2011 -

The Battle of Wilsons Creek, A Brown Bag Lunch Talk

Bring your lunch and join Museum of the Confederacy Public Relations Specialist Sam Craghead for a talk on the Battle of Wilson's Creek, the first major battle of the War in the west. Hours: 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM. Admission Fee: Free for members, Richmond area residents and paying Museum visitors. Location: 1201 E. Clay St., Richmond, VA 23219. Tel: 855-649-1861. Website: www.moc.org/site/Calendar/856468567?view=Detail&id=103368.

August 19, 2011 -

Guided Civil War Walking Tour of Old Town Winchester

Experience the Civil War as a civilian in Old Town Winchester! Learn about the citizens and the events that took place in Winchester during that stirring period of time. Make your reservation by calling 540-542-1326, and meet your guide at 2 N. Cameron Street. \$5.00 per person, payable to your guide. Hours: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Admission Fee: \$5.00 per person. Location: 2 N. Cameron Street, Winchester, VA 22601. Tel: 540-542-1326. Website: www.visitwinchesterva.com.

August 22, 2011 -

You Are There, July, 1861, the Pringle House Confederate Field Hospital

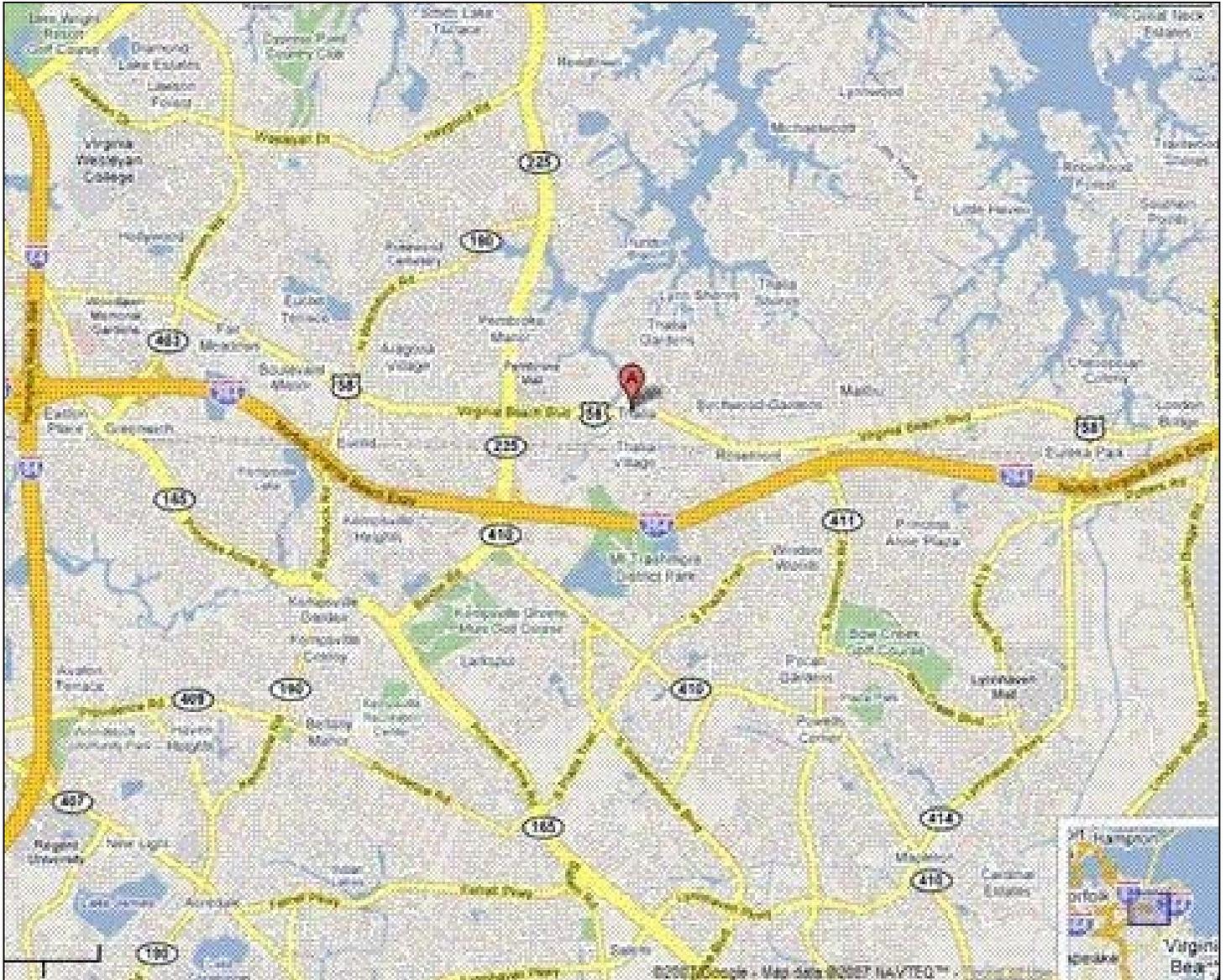
At Ben Lomond Historic Site. On July 21, 1861 the Civil War comes to Prince William County when two untrained and inexperienced armies wage a bloody contest near Bull Run. As the Federal army flees to the safety of Washington, it leaves in its wake thousands of casualties on both sides. Virtually every barn, shed, and house in the vicinity is requisitioned for the care of the wounded and the dying. One such place is the Ben Lomond house, known as the Pringle House during the war. This daunting and grim task of caring for an unprecedented number of wounded falls upon the fledgling Confederate medical department. How effective will its response be to this extraordinary undertaking? How will local citizens cope with the carnage and disruption to their lives? What will be the reaction of the troubled and worried families of soldiers back home? Answers to these questions and more will be explored in this special first-person interpretive program using concepts from the award winning 1950's You Are There television show hosted by Walter Cronkite. Due to the mature theme, this program may be inappropriate for children less than 11 years of age. Hours: 6:30pm-8pm. Admission Fee: \$10 per adult; \$5 children to age 15. Location: 10321 Sudley Manor Road, Manassas, VA 20109. Tel: 703-792-4754. Website: www.visitpwc.com.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Hopefully you have received your membership renewal form by now. If not please let Adjutant Matthews or me know. Many of you received two membership renewal forms. This was not the fault of the camp, nor the Virginia Division. It is my understanding that the billing company used last year's membership information by mistake. Most all Virginia Division camps were affected, not just our beloved camp. I would like to reassure you that our Camp Adjutant, our immediate Past Adjutant, the Virginia Division Adjutant, and the Virginia Division Executive Council have the situation under control and all should be applauded for their hard work and dedication to the cause.

Most Respectfully,
Mark Johnson, Cmdr.
Norfolk County Grays
Camp # 1549
[><]

Location of Gus & George's Spaghetti & Steak Restaurant Meetings begin at 7:00 PM



To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember that it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee
Commander General
United Confederate Veterans
1906