

THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Deputy Superintendent at Gettysburg Heads to Fort McHenry

April 27, 2004 –Courtesy CWI Premium- In the category of "be careful what you ask for" should come the subject of promotions at the National Park Service. Once you have proven your ability to juggle, they switch you from rubber balls to chain saws.

John McKenna, currently deputy superintendent of two parks, Gettysburg and Eisenhower, has been promoted to the rank of full superintendent. He still gets to run two parks though, and they're not even in the same town. McKenna, a twelve-year veteran of the NPS, has been named superintendent of two national parks in Maryland: Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine in Baltimore and Hampton National Historic Site in Towson, according to NPS Northeast regional director Marie Rust.

Expected to begin his new assignment on May 30, he succeeds Laura Joss who in February was named superintendent of Arches National Park in Utah, according to an NPS news release. "John McKenna has the right combination of management excellence, personal commitment, and enthusiasm to lead these parks into a challenging and bright future," said regional director Rust. "He brings with him a solid background in park management along with outstanding abilities in community affairs and human relations—John is a real people person," she added.

"It's certainly an honor and a delight to be selected as superintendent of

Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine and Hampton National Historic Site," McKenna said. "I'm excited to be working with the staff, volunteers, friends and community leaders in the Baltimore area to preserve and protect these two national treasures for the enjoyment of current and future generations."

At Gettysburg since 1995, McKenna has been responsible for planning a major new partnership with the community to develop a first-ever public transportation system to serve park visitors and community needs. His leadership at Gettysburg has guided the implementation of partnerships to build a new museum and visitor center and to rehabilitate the Gettysburg battlefield so that visitors can see it as the soldiers did in 1863.

He also re-engineered the NPS Northeast region's diversity recruitment program, and has been instrumental in developing a good community atmosphere in Gettysburg. No announcement has been made as to McKenna's replacement at Gettysburg and Eisenhower sites.

He joined the NPS in 1992 as associate regional director for Administration for the former NPS Mid-Atlantic Regional Office. He has held temporary assignments as deputy superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park (2001), and superintendent for four parks located in western Pennsylvania: Fort Necessity National Battlefield, Johnstown Flood National Memorial, Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site, and Friendship Hill National Historic Site (1997). Prior to working for the NPS McKenna was deputy comptroller,

Naval Facility Engineering Command in Philadelphia.

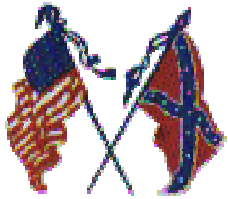
Kenna holds a Bachelor of Arts in Management from Temple University, has a Masters of Business Administration from La Salle University, and is a certified mediator for workplace disputes. He is married to Jennifer Weaver, has three children and a grandchild.

Hanover Hopes to Have Markers Up by Battle Anniversary

April 21, 2004 –Courtesy CWI Premium- A Civil War battle may be the biggest thing that ever happened in a small town's history, but if that battle was just a precursor to another battle a short distance away, the small town may find its big event overshadowed and forgotten. Thus it has ever been for Hanover, Pennsylvania. On June 30, 1863, the Confederates came to town and caused terror and havoc, even if not a huge amount of destruction. As they were opposed only by scattered militia forces and the occasional civilian who took up a rifle to defend his town, it does not rank high on the scale of famous battles.

But an action it was nonetheless, and the Battle of Hanover will soon be marked by roadside signs indicating what happened at various locations around the city. Local officials and businesses hope it will encourage Civil War tourists to stop and look around.

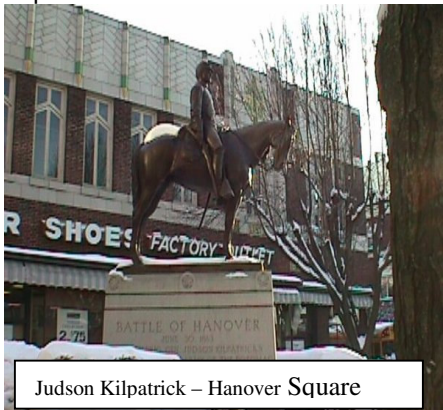
City councilwoman Debra Hoff, who helped collect the grants and donations from local businesses which financed the sign project, said that the 18 markers would lead visitors through a one and a half mile self-guided tour of the town.



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The tour begins at W.L. Sterner's Hardware, 526 Frederick St. From there it will continue along the south side of Frederick Street to Center Square, and then down the southeast side of Broadway to indicate the Confederate attack.

Markers along the northwest side of Broadway to Center Square and up the north side of Frederick Street will depict the Union counterattack.



The estimated cost for the waist-high signs is \$21,000, however other costs, such as benches, trash receptacles and maintenance could drive that price up, Hoff told the Hanover Evening Sun. Each 18x20 inch sign will include a short history on a specific event and a picture. "History is forever. This project will never go away," Hoff said. "And local business will directly benefit from having the waysides in the corridors." John Krepps, who has helped research information for the signs, said the project will help make local residents aware of the influential battle that was fought on the streets they drive on everyday. "This will help make people aware of our heritage and will promote a great awareness there was a significant battle that occurred here in our hometown," he said. "A lot of people are not aware of the significance of the events."

Hanover Borough council unanimously approved a motion to apply for a Community Revitalization Grant that could supply \$7,500 to the project. Hoff added that a number of businesses along the tour route have donated funds for the project.

Maryland Opens New Civil War Trail Following Booth

April 30, 2004 –Courtesy CWI Premium- If the guards on the Navy Yard Bridge had been a little more alert on the night of April 14, 1865, the state of Maryland would have had to come up with a different theme for their latest Civil War Driving Tour known as John Wilkes Booth's Escape Route.

Since Booth managed to slip across the bridge that fateful night, and lead pursuers on a lengthy route as he endeavored to reach presumed supporters further south, the tour is of reasonable duration. Besides strictly Booth-related sites, a number of other Civil War related scenes are included in the tour.

The tour route, details of which can be found at the website civilwartraveler.com, includes other historic places in the St. Mary's County region, particularly those along the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. Designers hope that it will attract history enthusiasts beyond the usual "Civil War crowd." "We have wonderful sites that tell the very human story of folks living in the area during the Civil War and what it was like for them," said Carolyn Laray, tourism manager for the county.

The tour is the third one officially in business now in Maryland. The Civil War Trail system is active in Virginia,

Pennsylvania and hopes to tie in to other states in an interconnected pattern of tours. The routes are marked with distinctive signs at each stop along the way.

Sotterley Plantation, one of the stops on the Booth Tour, has already had visitors attracted because they saw them and became curious, said Catherine Elder, executive director of the foundation which operates the site.

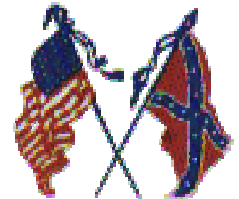
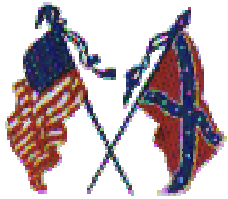
Maryland, like most border states, had a large number of citizens who sympathized with the Confederacy to some degree.

Among the sites with great historical importance but no connection to John Wilkes Booth is Point Lookout, where there was a fort and an infamous prison for captured Confederate soldiers. The prison is even mentioned in some versions of the song "I'm A Damned Old Rebel." Point Lookout suffered damage in Hurricane Isabel in September, and the museum has not yet reopened. Officials said they hope to be back in operation by the Fourth of July. "Heritage tourism is a very strong, and growing, market," Laray said. "We see tourism really as part of a larger economic effort to diversify the local economy here."

Besides the Civil War Trails, Southern Maryland has three other tour trails, tracing religious, military and agricultural heritage.

NPS Continues Drive to Oust DC Park Police Chief

April 16, 2004 –Courtesy CWI Premium- Already suspended and in danger of being fired for speaking to the news media, US Park Police Chief Teresa C. Chambers is now in



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trouble again for speaking to the media about the suspension. She has been off the job since Dec. 5 and the National Park Service has until May 15 to decide her fate. The Park Police are in charge of guarding national monuments in Washington, including the small and obscure Civil War monuments which dot the town as well as the large and famous ones. Many of the statues are located in traffic circles or small parks which get little attention from DC city police and have become havens of drug dealing and other crime. Chambers, 47, was placed on leave, with pay, after saying publicly that her 620-member force was under-funded, under-staffed and overstretched by new guard duties on the Mall. Her superiors at the Park Service have said that she endangered security and violated rules against "improper lobbying of Congress." In an interview with WTOP radio, Chambers likened her suspension "to the humiliation that one must feel if they have their clothes stripped from them and paraded down the hallway." Chambers also defended her decision to speak out to the media about the agency's problems, saying she answers questions honestly and believes she has an obligation to be forthright with the community. The case is being considered by an official in the Interior Department. The Office of Special Counsel, which looks into whistle-blower cases, is also investigating the matter. Interior Department officials said earlier this week that Chambers "spoke without permission" last week when she gave a round of interviews about her quest to win back her job, the Washington Post and other sources report. Officials said that Chambers must obtain approval from her supervisors

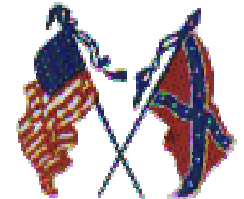
at the National Park Service before making public comments. In the interviews last week, Chambers said she had permission to talk to the media, as long as she did not discuss the events leading up to her suspension in December. But on Tuesday, her attorney received a letter from an Interior Department lawyer saying that Chambers had to get permission from her superiors before *each* interview. The letter reiterated instructions given to Chambers in December, after she got in trouble for going public with concerns about money and staffing for the Park Police. Chambers is represented by the group Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, which has been fighting the National Park Service's move to fire her. The group's executive director, Jeff Ruch, said yesterday that he believes "somebody at the Park Service threw a tantrum," causing the policy to be changed, after Chambers spoke out last Thursday in television, radio and newspaper interviews, the Raleigh News-Observer reported. John Wright, a spokesman for the Interior Department, said that Chambers's camp had misunderstood the rules. He said Chambers was given permission in February to speak at one particular event. Wright said she needed permission each time she wanted to speak publicly. "What may have happened is that she maybe misinterpreted the clearance for an interview for a blanket" clearance, Wright said. The policy of requiring clearance before media interviews is common in the Interior Department, Wright said. While speaking openly and on the record to the media is discountenanced by the NPS, the use

of euphemisms by park officials is encouraged. As CWI reported recently, a memo sent to park superintendents this spring requires them to use terms like "service level adjustments" to explain park closings, staff layoffs and reductions in services like trash pickup and grass mowing.

Referring to that memo, National Park Service spokesman David Barna, who confirmed its authenticity, said "I don't think that anybody is lying or trying to deceive anyone. It's just that we don't want to give the appearance that we're whining about our budget." Chambers was the first woman to be named chief of the U.S. Park Police, a unit of the Interior Department's National Park Service. The nearly 680-member department includes about 400 officers in the Washington area, with the rest assigned to New York and San Francisco. Supporters of Chambers have established a website at HonestChief.com to present her side of the case, detail internal problems at the NPS, and encourage signatures on a petition demanding her reinstatement as head of the Park Police.

"I've been ready since (the suspension) to come back to work," Chambers told the News-Observer when asked whether she would be able to get past any hard feelings toward the park service. "It's not about personalities. It's about getting the job done."

The District of Columbia Park Police is one of the oldest law-enforcement organizations in the country. It shares overlapping jurisdictions with the DC Metro police, the US Secret Service, and security staffs of a number of government departments which maintain their own forces.



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Conference on Women in the Civil War Planned

The 6th Conference on Women and the Civil War, June 25-27, 2004, in Richmond, Virginia, will feature the latest in research into women's roles during the Civil War. The event, jointly sponsored by the Society for Women and the Civil War (SWCW) and the Museum of the Confederacy (MOC), includes the following presentations:

The Stories Behind the Socks: Women's Handiwork as Social and Political Expression (Karin Timour);
History Done Her Wrong: The True Story of Mary Custis Lee (John Perry);
The Civil War Diary of a Good Woman: Mary Samuella Hart Curd (Dr. Susan Arpad);
The Horizontal Trade (Elizabeth Topping);
Listen Ladies One and All: Northern Soldiers Yearn for Their 'Fair Cousins of the North' (Dr. Patricia Richard);
Women on Trial: The Courts-Martial of Southern Women by the Union Army (Beverly Lowry & Dr. Thomas Lowry);
Soliloquy for Sarah (Robin Young);
The 'Fairer' Sex of the 1860s: How Patriotic Women Raised Money in Support of the Union (Dr. Gwen Harding-Peets);
Period Correct: 19th Century Sanitary Protection (Virginia Mescher).
Saturday night's entertainment will feature the U.S. premiere of "The Unsexing of Emma Edmonds", a documentary on the life and adventures of Sarah Emma Edmonds, alias Pvt. Franklin Thompson, 2nd Michigan Infantry. Optional events include, on Friday, behind-the-scenes workshops on the MOC uniform and flag collections, as

well as furniture and decorative objects in the White House of the Confederacy and, on Sunday, an optional 4-hour bus tour of Civil War Richmond focusing on sites relating to women.

For more information:
womenandthecivilwar.org or
womencivilwar@aol.com or 540-381-4518.

Gettysburg Ford Dealership Stalls at New Location

May 3, 2004 –Courtesy CWI Premium- A large auto dealership that has until August 2005 to move off the First Day battlefield at Gettysburg will not be moving to a new site in Mount Joy Township after supervisors there rejected a proposed deal for road improvements. The company, known Davidson Motor Company, was purchased by the National Park Service in 2001 with assistance from the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg, the Civil War Preservation Trust and other groups. Under the terms of the purchase, the dealership was given five years to find a new location. A deal which would have moved the firm to a site near the intersection of Baltimore Pike and Pennsylvania State Route 15 fell apart, the Hanover Evening Sun reported. The new site, ironically enough, would have been on Civil War Lane.

The creation of a dealership at the site would have required extensive work, including the addition of extra turning lanes on Baltimore Pike, as well as the movement of Civil War Lane itself to align with Highland Avenue.

Supervisors estimated the cost of the work at \$300,000. The most the

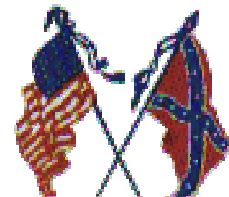
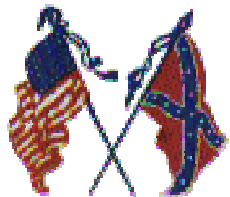
dealership was willing to contribute to the project was \$125,000, about 40 percent of the total.

The entire Baltimore Pike line has been the source of concern for preservationists since it was announced that it would be one of the entrances for the new Visitor Center. The lightly-populated road, now mostly residential, is expected to come under considerable pressure for commercial development. The area is slated for growth, especially with the new visitor's center and museum slated farther north on Baltimore Pike, said Jim Waybright, chairman of the supervisors.

"This is probably the only opportunity to fix this right," he said. But, Waybright said, the offer to pay \$125,000 was not enough. Other supervisors said the expenditure of so much public money to benefit a single, private business would not be popular with taxpayers or voters. "I'll have to find another location," said dealer president Bob Davidson during a meeting on the subject last week.

The purchase of the current Davidson Ford location was greeted with loud "huzzahs" by fans of the Gettysburg battlefield and the role of the often-under-appreciated 11th Corps in the first day's battle. Located on Carlisle Road (now known as Biglerville Road) the dealership sits in a low spot between Barlow's Knoll on the east and the Peace Monument in the west.

Once the business moves, the park service will remove the building and restore the 19th-century agricultural setting, park spokeswoman Katie Lawhon said.



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Robert Smalls Officially Sails Again After Christening

April 22, 2004 –Courtesy CWI Premium- Robert Smalls the Civil War hero sailed a small steamship around the waters of Charleston Harbor and up and down the Atlantic seacoast. Robert Smalls new namesake will sail a considerably wider area.

The MG Robert Smalls, a logistics support ship serving the US Army, was christened at its homeport of Gulfport, Mississippi earlier this week. It received the traditional smack on the hull from a bottle of champagne, wielded by Helen Stinson Greenlee of Pittsburgh, Mississippi, Smalls great-granddaughter.

The ship is the first Army vessel named for a Civil War figure, and at the same time the first to bear the name of a black American, the Associated Press reports.

The original Robert Smalls was a slave, the property of a shipowner in Charleston. The crew of his ship, named the Planter, was entirely black except for the owner. Smalls was a trained pilot, a highly skilled trade considering the complexity of the waters around Charleston.

The Planter's owner received several contracts to carry munitions from one island base to another as the fortunes of war changed in the Charleston area. On May 13, 1862, the ship was carrying a number of cannon and ammunition for them when they returned to Charleston Harbor for the night.

The owner, in violation of both law and custom at the time, went ashore for the night leaving Smalls and the other crew on board. Putting into motion a long-prepared plan, the

crew sent messages to their families to sneak aboard another unattended boat in the harbor.

Just before dawn Smalls and his crewmates fired up the boiler of the Planter and steamed away from the dock. Stopping at the other ship to pick up their families, including Smalls' wife and children, they headed out into the harbor towards the ships of the Union blockade. Smalls wore gloves, long sleeves and a captain's hat pulled low over his face so Confederate guard ships would not realize a black man was in command.

After some confusion in which they were nearly fired on by Union ships, Smalls and his party presented the boat, cargo and themselves to the Federal blockade commander. He went on to either command or pilot the ship in the Union war effort, and was eventually promoted to major general in the postwar reconstruction forces.

Today the \$25 million vessel MG Robert Smalls is designed to carry more than 2,000 tons of deck cargo including combat vehicles and weapons.

Editor's Note:

With this issue we conclude the serialization of an article written about Mrs. Bradley Johnson by Mr. Gary Baker. Mr. Baker has written many articles on Maryland Civil War History and has an excellent web site at:

<http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Orión/3464/>

The BCWRT wishes to extend profound thanks to Gary Baker for granting BCWRT permission to reprint the following:

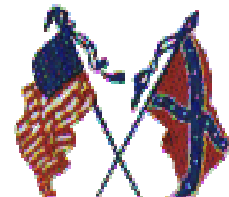
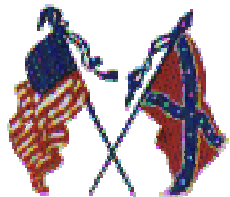
Heroine of the 1st Maryland Volunteer Infantry, CSA

By Gary Baker

Conclusion

Wherever General Bradley Johnson traveled, his wife was seldom far behind. She joined him in camp whenever she could, and spent the long winter months of military inactivity at his side. In the camps she spent much of her time with Johnson's men, administering to their wounds, reading and writing letters for the illiterate, insuring that Bibles and religious tracts were available, singing hymns, sewing buttons and letting them know that she cared for them, each and everyone. In the fall of 1863, when Johnson's men went into winter quarters near Hanover Junction, she even supervised the construction of a chapel so that the men would have a proper place in which they could worship. Since many of the Marylanders were Roman Catholics from Southern Maryland, she procured from Bishop McGill, the Bishop of Virginia, the service of a priest to celebrate Mass once a month in her chapel, which was shared by Catholic and Protestant alike.

Like many prominent Marylanders who had served the Confederacy, the Johnsons were afraid to return home after the war. They remained in Virginia, where Johnson built a lucrative law practice, and became a state senator of his adoptive state. Mrs. Johnson became active in charity work, and eventually became President of the Hospital for Women. But in time the wounds of war began to heal, and in 1879 the Johnsons returned to Maryland. There they both became involved in several Maryland Confederate Veteran Organizations such as the Association of the Maryland Line and the Society of the

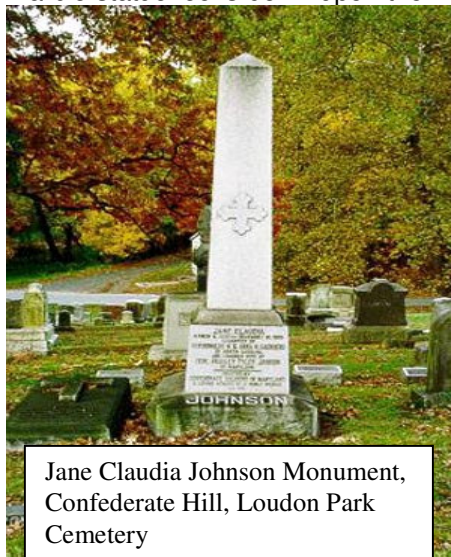


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Army and Navy of the Confederate States in Maryland. Through these organizations they helped to raise funds which were used to support a number of indigent Maryland Confederate Veterans who were unable to support themselves. As she had in Richmond, Mrs. Johnson took to charity work in Baltimore, and shortly after her return became President of the Hospital for the Women of Maryland. In 1888, the Association of the Maryland Line convinced the State of Maryland to turn the abandoned Federal Arsenal in Pikesville over to the Association for the establishment of a Confederate Soldiers Home. The governors of the Association of the Maryland Line "appointed a Board of Lady Visitors, with Mrs. Johnson as president, and she forthwith organized them for their work. She divided them into committees, and assigned one committee for each month in the year, the visiting committee being responsible for the sanitation and food of the inmates." (19) The Maryland Soldiers' Home averaged a population of 100 veterans for a period of twenty years. The years of selflessness took their toll on Mrs. Johnson and in 1894 she became ill and took to a sick bed in her own hospital. In March of that year the Governors of the Maryland Line appointed Jane Claudia Johnson an honorary member of the Association of the Maryland Line because "The survivors of the Maryland Line of the Army of Northern Virginia recall with pride and gratitude the loving, devoted and important service performed for them by Mrs. Bradley T. Johnson." (20) Maryland's Confederate soldiers never forgot Jane Claudia Johnson. To these hardened men, who had witnessed first hand the rape of the

Shenandoah, the decimation of the Second Maryland Infantry on Culp's Hill during the Battle of Gettysburg, the loss of friends and relatives in battle, she was the true hero of their struggle. When she died in 1899, hundreds of these men traveled from all over Maryland to attend her funeral on "Confederate Hill" in southwest Baltimore's Loudon Park Cemetery.

Jane Claudia Johnson continues to rest atop Confederate Hill, the only woman buried among the hundreds of Confederate veterans buried there in neat little rows, as if they were once again on parade before General Stonewall Jackson, whose white marble statue looks down upon them.



Jane Claudia Johnson Monument,
Confederate Hill, Loudon Park
Cemetery

On her grave stands a massive marker, which the uninformed visitor might mistake as a tribute to her husband, who was buried next to her in 1903, because three sides of the granite marker extol his military deeds. But this marker is in fact a monument to Mrs. Johnson. It was the first Civil War Monument in Maryland dedicated to an individual woman. It was not erected by the

State of Maryland, the Federal government, nor any of the fine women's organizations that had sprung up during and shortly after the war. It was erected by those veterans to whom she had sung at night, in Virginia, when Maryland and family seemed so far away; by the men whose uniforms she had patched, and socks she had darned, and hands she had held when they were ill. Mrs. Johnson's monument was dedicated on June 6th, the Confederate Memorial Day. According to the Baltimore Sun her "grave and the monument which now marks the spot were profusely decorated, red roses predominating. Over two thousand people gathered to assist in the exercise. The members of the Maryland Line, including about eighty veterans from the Soldiers' Home, at Pikesville, formed a line at the main entrance of the cemetery and marched to the plot, headed by the Fifth Regiment Veterans Corps Band, under the leadership of W. H. Pindell. Friends of the dead and members of the Daughters of the Confederacy had previously strewn flowers over all the graves." (21) The graves referred to by the Sun are those of the numerous Confederate veterans buried on Confederate Hill in neat rows as if they were once again on parade. It seems appropriate that Jane Claudia Johnson should be the only woman buried among these men. They loved her in life and surround her and protect her in death.

(19) Johnson, Bradley T., Memoir of Jane Claudia Johnson, Southern Historical Society Papers. Vol. XXIX. Richmond, Va. January-December, 1901, referred to as SHSP-Johnson

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(21) IBID