

## Manassas to Appomattox

by the Book Sleuths

It is true; you cannot tell a book by its cover. While sorting through a dusty box of recently donated books, we picked up a thick, red book. Intrigued by the gold braid on a grey sleeve with sword in hand, we searched for a title. On the ragged spine we read, *MANASSAS TO APPOMATTOX*, with the name of *Longstreet* below. Our excitement grew as we began to study the book more carefully, realizing it was quite old and had been badly treated over the years.

The cover showed signs of water stains with both hinges separated from the text and held together by a spine with frayed upper and lower edges. The fore edges also showed signs of water damage which does not extend onto the age-toned text pages. Upon opening the book, we found that the title page and pages i-iv of the introduction were missing. At this point we had no date of publication or indication of the publisher. Page v is loose and is the first page of the preface by the author. This seems to summarize the bad news.

The interior of the text is tight and quite clean considering. A table of contents contains details of each chapter. There are many pictures of officers serving with Longstreet and other illustrations, as well as a number of detailed maps. An index is also present. Written by James Longstreet in his later years as a defense of his career, it has detailed accounts of strategies and battles including Manassas (Bull Run), Fredericksburg and Gettysburg.

Although we rate the condition of this book only FAIR because of its obvious defects, we think it is a valuable addition to the library of the Civil War buff. And in our research and comparison to other offerings of this book on the internet, we feel this is probably a first edition published in 1896.

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## September at Boone County Library

### Children's Library

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Storytime for preschool and early school-age children. Snacks and a craft follow storytime.

Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. Storytime - a new program especially designed for home schooled children and all school-aged children. No snacks served. For more information contact Boone County Library (870) 741-5913 and ask for Heather, Ginger or Sandy, or go to <http://bcl.state.ar.us> and click on calendar.

### September is National Park Month

Come celebrate like Ken Burns and find out how "You Can Take It With You". Photography Comprehension by Ranger Dale of Buffalo National River will be held at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 15. Dale's composition will introduce the "Elements of Photography" for all levels of photographers to better photograph elks, bluffs, flowers and waterfalls. One must register by calling Eileen at the library (870) 741-5913 or sign up at the circulation desk.

In conjunction with National Park Month come stroll through the mezzanine and view the National Park photography exhibit by Michael Dougherty of Arkansas Wildlife Photography. Go to the library's home page <http://bcl.state.ar.us> to view Dougherty's work.

### Constitution Week is September 17 - 23

Jane Jones will have American Constitution items on display in the main foyer bookcase.

Now accepting FOL annual memberships for 2010. Please see form inserted in this newsletter.