

**The Grand Review
Brandy Station
Foundation
June 2011**



President: Joseph W. "Joe" McKinney Vice President: Robert L. Jones Treasurer: Gary Wilson
Secretary: Peggy Misch Board of Directors: Barry Atchison, Scott Aylor, Jane Brookins, Helen Geisler, Eugene Hankinson, Cecilia Schneider-Vial, and Tony Seidita.



View of Brandy Station Battlefield near historic St. James Church Site

**Brandy Station Foundation & Christ Episcopal Church Join for
Commemorative Service at St. James Site on Sunday, June 12th**

Christ Episcopal Church, Brandy Station and the Brandy Station Foundation are pleased to announce that the 3rd Annual Commemorative Church Service will be held at the site of the

destroyed St. James Church on the battlefield at Brandy Station on Sunday, June 12h at 9:30AM.

We will gather beginning at 9:00 AM.

The community is invited to participate in this recreation of a 1860's service of Holy Eucharist. It will be an especially moving service in this first year of the Civil War Sesquicentennial.

The service, led by the Reverend Joie Weiher, will be outside at the location of the small Episcopal church which was totally dismantled during the encampment of Union troops in the winter 1863-64. The site continues to be owned by its descendant church, Christ Episcopal of Brandy Station and the Brandy Station Foundation is the steward of the 2 acre property in the midst of the largest cavalry battle of North America.

It is asked that those attending park their cars at the designated CWPT parking circle at the intersection of Beverly Ford Rd. and St James Church Rd. This is just yards before the entrance into the airport. It is a short walk down the road to the site entrance and then a shorter path leads us through the woods to the site of the church. . We will have some chairs available for seating during the service but we recommend that you bring a folding lawn chair if possible. Drivers for handicapped persons may drop them off at the entrance to the woods and then remove the auto to the parking circle area. It is also suggested that you prepare for the woods with closed shoes and bug repellent.

The public is welcomed to this event, keeping in mind it is an authentic church service. All are then invited after the service to the Graffiti House in Brandy Station for refreshments. The Graffiti House is open for tours from 11A.M. to 4 P.M. on Sundays, as well as Fridays and Saturdays.

BSF Mourns First President of the Brandy Station Foundation

Benjamin Burruss (B.B.) Mitchell, first president of the Brandy Station Foundation died March 4, 2011 at his residence in Brandy Station. He was born in Columbia, S.C. on March 9, 1935. He was the first president of the Brandy Station Foundation and was fondly remembered at the BSF annual membership dinner meeting on April 8, 2011. B.B. was key in the preservation of the Brandy Station Battlefield. He was a beloved member of the community. He taught school in Fauquier County and coached both football and track at both Cedar-Lee and Fauquier County High Schools. Memorial contributions can be made to

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 267, Remington, VA 22734 or to the Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 19, Brandy Station, VA 22714.



BSF Members Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Unveiling of Culpeper's Memorial to Confederate Soldiers

On Sunday, May 29th, BSF members joined a march through downtown Culpeper from the Culpeper Depot to the Culpeper County Courthouse to mark the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of Culpeper's Memorial to Confederate soldiers. In addition to the Brandy Station Foundation, participants included the Fairfax Masonic Lodge No. 43, Sons of Confederate Veterans, United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Museum of Culpeper History, and the Society for the Preservation of Culpeper History. This was the first event organized by the Culpeper Sesquicentennial Committee. BSF Board member Cecilia Schneider-Vial represents the Brandy Station Foundation on the committee. BSF members Alice and Pat Kennedy (pictured on left) presented a wreath on behalf of the Brandy Station Foundation.

BSF Volunteer Richard Deardoff receives the Civil War Trust's "Distinguished Preservation Teacher Award"

April 19, 2011 At the Civil War Trust's Annual Conference held in Manassas, a crowd of about 500 attendees applauded enthusiastically as President James Lightizer presented this prestigious award to Richard Deardoff. Richard was selected over dozens of teachers across the country, and he was given a beautiful crystal plaque hailing him as the "Civil War Trust Preservation Teacher of 2011."

Saturday, April 16, 2011 Culpeper Remembrance Days

On Saturday, April 16, there was Civil War Cricket Demonstration at the Graffiti House in conjunction with Culpeper Department of Parks and Recreation. Rain could not dampen the competitive spirits of the players! Company D, 17th Virginia Infantry, "The Fairfax Rifles," was also on the grounds of the historic Graffiti House.

Sunday Lecture Series

The Brandy Station Foundation Sunday lecture series are the last Sunday of the month from April through October. Everyone is welcome, the lectures are free (although donations are welcome), and free refreshments are provided by BSF board members and friends. All lectures start at 2:00 PM at the Graffiti House.

June 26 "The Buckland Races" – Joe McKinney

July 31 "Armies on the Move: Cavalry Battles in Fauquier County".—Joe McKinney

August 28 "24 Hours at Manassas Junction - August 27, 1862 - Stonewall Jackson Raid on Manassas Junction"— Mark Trbovich

September 25 "Fauquier County in 1860 and 1861"—Richard Deardoff

October 30 "Along the Dare Mark Line"-- Mike Block

SAVE THE DATE, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

A Sunday Afternoon at Old House Vineyards.: The Foundation will be hosting its fall fund raising event at Old House Vineyards ,18351 Corkys Lane, Culpeper, on Sunday afternoon, September 18th . Please mark your calendar for what promises to be a delightful afternoon of dining with music, crafts, wine, and auction items. From the Old House Vineyards website: It was a rainy Mother's day in 1998 when the owners of Old House Vineyards discovered the 75 acres and abandoned farm house at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. With the help of family, friends, and a local grape grower, thy soon began working to transform the property into Old House Vineyards. Today, Watch the next newsletter for more details and watch the website for updated information: www.brandystationfoundation.com

Brett Kelley stops at the Graffiti House on march from Fredericksburg to Harrisburg



Mr. Brett Kelley at the Graffiti House on May 17, 2011

Mr. Brett Kelley, Curator of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, PA, arrived at the Graffiti House in Brandy Station on Tuesday, May 17 for an overnight stop. He is marching as a Confederate soldier 230 miles from Fredericksburg, VA to Harrisburg, PA. He had hiked in and out of rain on Tuesday from Elys Ford to Kelly's Ford to Brandy Station, about 17 miles.

Owned by the Brandy Station Foundation, the Graffiti House served as a field hospital during the Battle of Brandy Station in June 1863 and other area battles. Also serving as Union winter headquarters, the house was used as an outlet for soldiers from both sides to inscribe their names and other "graffiti".

Kelley is raising funds for the National Museum of the Civil War's Education Department. He will be following the route of General Ewell's 2nd Corps as they marched to Pennsylvania in June, 1863. He will trace the route that General Ewell's 2nd Corps took into Pennsylvania after the Battle of Chancellorsville. Ewell took over command of the 2nd Corps after General Jackson was mortally wounded. His corps took the lead of the invasion into Pennsylvania and almost reached Harrisburg before being recalled by Lee to Gettysburg.

Kelley said that he is 21st century curator trying to experience what a Civil War soldier experienced. So far, he was impressed that they had to be on the lookout for the enemy, in addition to the marching and the weight of a pack and rifle weighing approximately 60 pounds.

Brett began his "In Their Footsteps: On the March to Pennsylvania" at the Kirkland statue in Fredericksburg, Virginia and ended at the Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on May 30. Those who wish to donate to "In Their Footsteps: On the March to Pennsylvania" may do so directly on the NCWM website, www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org, or call 1.866.BLU.GRAY.

About The National Civil War Museum

Opened in February 2001, The National Civil War Museum is a non-profit educational institution dedicated solely to the American Civil War. It is the largest Civil War museum that addresses the war from both the Northern and Southern perspective, and from both a military and civilian perspective. The Museum protects some of the nation's treasures, including General Robert E. Lee's personal Bible, and more than 24,000 artifacts, documents and photos, worth an estimated \$20 million. Admission to the Museum is \$9.00 for adults, \$8.00 for seniors, and \$7.00 for students with reduced rates for children and families. For more information, please call 717.260.1861, or visit the Museum's website at www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org.



Saturday Battlefield Tours 2011

The BSF is presenting a series of two-hour tours, one devoted to each of the four engagements that comprise the Battle of Brandy Station on June 9, 1863. Transportation: Personal vehicle caravan will depart from the Graffiti House at 10AM. The cost is \$10 (children under 12 are free). No reservations are needed, please arrive at the Graffiti House before ten. Special tours for individuals or groups on other days can be specially arranged.

Beverly Ford & St. James Church (July 23)

Kelly's Ford & Stevensburg (June 11, Aug 6)

Fleetwood Hill (June 25, Aug 20)

Buford Knoll & Yew Ridge (July 9, Sept 3)

Beverly Ford & St. James Church – July 23

The first tour in the series covers the early morning fighting between troops under the command of Union General John Buford and those commanded by his West Point classmate, Confederate General William E. "Grumble" Jones. Incidents examined include the death of Union Colonel Benjamin Franklin Davis in a one-on-one encounter with a

Confederate lieutenant on the Beverly Ford Road, and the charge of the 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry against Confederate artillery at Saint James Church.

Kelly's Ford & Stevensburg – June 11, Aug 6

The second tour in the series begins with a discussion of the Union river-crossing at Kelly's Ford, and then follows the route of march of the Union cavalry division commanded by Colonel Alfred Napoleon Duffie, a deserter from the French army, to Stevensburg. The fighting at Stevensburg, a neglected aspect of the Battle of Brandy Station, is presented in detail. This tour concludes with a description of the mortal wounding of Captain William Farley, JEB Stuart's volunteer aide de camp.

Fleetwood Hill – June 25, Aug 20

The third tour focuses on the fighting for Fleetwood Hill, the most intense and prolonged combat on June 9, 1863. At one point 12 regiments -- 6 Union and 6 Confederate -- struggled for control of the hilltop. Unlike most Civil War battles, the troopers fought from the saddle, mostly with sabers. One frustrated Rebel was heard to shout at his Yankee opponent, "Why don't you Yankees put away your sabers, draw your pistols, and fight like gentlemen!"

Buford Knoll & Yew Ridge – July 9, Sept 3

The final installment in the series of tours presents the fighting that took place later in the afternoon of June 9 between General Buford and General W.H.F. "Rooney" Lee's brigade. During the fighting, Rooney Lee, Robert E. Lee's second son, was shot in the thigh and carried from the field. Colonel Solomon Williams of 1st North Carolina Cavalry, commanding his regiment in battle for the first time, was shot in the head and killed. He had been married just two weeks earlier.

Kettle Run High School Students help the Brandy Station Foundation on Park Day 2011



On Park Day 2011 - April 2 this year - fifteen volunteers from Kettle Run High School in Fauquier County showed up at the Graffiti House in Brandy Station at 9 AM. The Graffiti House is a Civil War era field hospital where soldiers wrote their names and heart felt messages on the walls using charcoal from the fires that kept them warm and cooked their meals. Kettle Run social studies teacher and Brandy Station Foundation volunteer Richard Deardoff assembled the group of volunteers. For the next four hours, they installed the air conditioning units at the house, then proceeded to Kelly's Ford to clean up the accumulated

trash. Since this has become an annual event it has become a manageable project. Back in 2006 students hauled away dump truck loads of tires, barbeque grills and other debris. This year it was only one tire (with pretty good tread on it!) and a dozen full trash bags. A tree which was blocking the trail was also cut up and removed.

Pamplin Historical Park Members visit the Graffiti House



On May 15, 2011, visitors from Pamplin Historical Park visited the Graffiti House and the Brandy Station Battlefield. As you can see, visitors of all ages made the trip from Richmond!

Richmond Investigators of the Paranormal Visit the Graffiti House

On Sunday, May 15 a team of ten from The Richmond Investigators of the Paranormal (RIP VA) and Ghost Eyes visited the Graffiti House to start a paranormal investigation at the House. For many years ghost experiences have been reported by visitors and volunteers to the Graffiti House which was used as a field hospital by both sides during the Civil War. RIP VA specializes in finding, communicating with, and documenting paranormal or ghost entities. They use a large assortment of equipment during their investigation including EMF Detectors, Video Cameras, an infrared DVR system, Digital Audio Recorders, Digital Cameras, 35 mm Cameras, thermometers and more. They interviewed volunteers and anyone else who has experienced odd occurrences at the House. From those interviews they positioned their equipment in the House and when it was totally dark they used their

equipment to attempt to communicate and record any paranormal entities at the house. They will analyze their data and write their report which they will then share with the Brandy Station Foundation as well as post on their website. They host one of the larger paranormal websites averaging upward of 5,000 hits per day. You can view their websites at <http://www.ghosteyes.com> and <http://www.ripvirginia.com>.