

# The Grand Review Brandy Station Foundation June 2021



*President: Paula K. Johnson Vice President: Howard Lambert Treasurers: Peter MocarSKI and Peggy MocarSKI  
Secretary: Peggy Misch (newsletter editor)  
Board of Directors: Jane Brookins, Don Carlson Helen Geisler, Bob Gilbert, Kimberly Lillard, Robert Luddy,  
Gregory A. Mertz, Larry Pullen, Rice Sumner Wagner, and Paul Warmack*

## **Brandy Station Foundation May 22nd Annual Meeting & Picnic**



*Front Row, left to right: Jane Brookins, Rice Sumner Wagner, Dr. Daniel Beattie, Bob Gilbert, Howard Lambert, Helen Geisler, Peggy Misch, Paula Johnson, Kim Lillard. Back Row, left to right, Peggy MocarSKI, Peter MocarSKI, William Truitt, Tony Seidita.*

The Brandy Station Foundation Annual Meeting & Picnic this year was on May 22, 2021 at the Graffiti House. The membership approved the slate of Officers, Board of Directors, and Advisory Committee for the year 2021-2022 presented by the Nominating Committee. William Truitt was presented with a plaque and a certificate of appreciation for serving for five years as President of the Foundation.

The officers elected for the 2021-2022 term are Paula Johnson, President, Howard Lambert, Vice President, Peter Mocarski and Peggy Mocarski, Treasurers, and Peggy Misch, Secretary. The Board of Directors includes Jane Brookins, Donald T. Carlson, Helen Geisler, Bob Gilbert, Kimberly Lillard, Robert Luddy, Gregory A. Mertz, Larry Pullen, Rice Sumner Wagner, and Paul Warmack. The Advisory Committee members include Dr. Daniel Beattie, Eugene Hankinson, Robert L. Jones, Joseph W. McKinney, Virginia Morton, John Orr, Cecilia Schneider-Vial, Anthony Seidita, and William Truitt, Jr.

Guest speaker Dr. Daniel Beattie presented Judson Kilpatrick: the most disreputable participant in the Civil War. Dr. Beattie is also the author of Brandy Station 1863: first step towards Gettysburg. The catered barbecue meal was enjoyed by those attending and the weather cooperated!

### **President's Corner**

The Brandy Station Foundation held its Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 22nd at the Graffiti House and the slate for the Board of Directors and the Advisory Committee was voted on and approved for the 2021 - 2022 term. Although the Graffiti House museum has been closed to the public for an extended period of time due to the challenges of the Covid-19 virus, house tours were given by appointment with an increasing number of requests in the warmer weather. During those tours, many visitors just stop by to see if the house is open. The frequent requests illustrate a maintained vibrant interest in the house and interior which has been very encouraging to get the museum open as soon as possible.

With the Covid-19 virus restrictions being lifted, the board is planning to open the Graffiti House to meet the growing demand of visitors. Currently, we are preparing for a time to renew, refresh, and reorganize the Graffiti House to once again receive and meet the increasing number of guests. The Graffiti House is a historic jewel in Culpeper County and we plan to open in July with a Grand Reopening to follow. The doors will open for tours after the Graffiti House is restored with new windows and an interior coat of paint, the artifact displays refreshed and some procedures reorganized. With all of the redoing complete, we will be ready and once again be able to showcase the graffiti, artifacts, and displays. It is our plan to go forward with presenting the Graffiti House as the outstanding historical attraction which it is and resuming programs, additional events, and tours.

Please check our website for the opening date, programs and also please consider becoming a volunteer to fully experience the importance of the history of the house, having the walls "speak" through the graffiti and meet visitors that have

an interest in discovering what is on display. Thank you for your continued interest and support of the Graffiti House and the Brandy Station Foundation. We hope you will come and enjoy seeing "the old being new again" and that you will visit us often. We look forward to opening and seeing you very soon.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paula K. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style on a light-colored background.

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### **Raffle Drawing Winner of Don Troiani print**



*The winning raffle ticket winner was Bill Mitchell, pictured here with his wife Sue.*

The Brandy Station Foundation held its raffle drawing for a framed Don Troiani print, Brandy Station Review, on April 16th at the Graffiti House. Bill Mitchell, pictured with the wife Sue at the Graffiti House, held the winning ticket. The print was donated by Patrick L. Lydon of Culpeper with framing thanks to Village Frameworks and Gallery, Culpeper.

## “Remember the Baltimore Light Artillery” by Robert Luddy



*South wall of the Marshall Room in the Graffiti House with “Remember the Baltimore Light Artillery” phrase above the image of the horse approximately in the middle of the wall.*

The phrase “Remember the Baltimore Light Artillery” is a phrase which may be found on the south wall of the Marshall room, located approximately in the middle of the wall. The phrase is unusual since it appears to reference a Confederate military unit that is not normally associated with Brandy Station or the Graffiti House - but perhaps there is more story to be told.

### Background

Being a small border state, Maryland found itself with patriotic Confederate zeal, but little in the manner of physical resources. Recognizing Federal control over

their state, volunteers estimated at between 15-25,000 left the state and offered their services to the Confederate government. These volunteers eventually coalesced into seven military units - two of infantry, two of cavalry and four of artillery. The Baltimore Light Artillery (A.K.A the Second Maryland Artillery), was one of the artillery units. At least 230 men served in the Baltimore Light Artillery. Of these, 114 men were Marylanders, and most of these lived in Baltimore county.

### Wartime Service

Organizationally, The Baltimore Light Artillery had a varied history. The unit began its tenure as a field artillery unit. In this capacity, it played a significant role in Jackson's Valley Campaign, the Seven Days Battles outside Richmond, the Second Manassas, Sharpsburg and Winchester campaigns. Interestingly, while a field artillery unit, the Baltimore Light Artillery passed near by the Graffiti House only once (while on their route to Manassas).

Later, the unit was designated for horse artillery status. Their first assignment was to join Jenkins Cavalry brigade on the road to Pennsylvania and Gettysburg. As part of this advance, The Baltimore light Artillery achieved its farthest northern territory penetration, actually shelling Harrisburg. They were part of the fighting retreat after Gettysburg and eventually were assigned to the Beckham Horse artillery operating between Culpeper Court House and Brandy Station. In all, the Baltimore Light Artillery served for three months with Beckham. It is interesting to note that per history records, common picket post locations, (one gun section on picket, the other at rest), for the Horse artillery ranged from/near to Fleetwood Hill. I think that it is highly likely that the message on the Graffiti House wall was made during this three month period.

The Confederate government (October/November 1863) decided to reorganize its troop assignments geographically. In this change, the Baltimore Light Artillery was moved from the Stuart Horse Artillery to the Maryland Line near to Richmond. Unfortunately for the boys from Baltimore, a series of questionable decisions racked their capability for the future. They fought for J.E.B. Stuart at Yellow Tavern, when J.E.B. was killed and the Baltimore Light Artillery was overrun. They participated in a raid ordered by General Early that burned over 500 houses in Chambersburg that led to some of their officers resigning in protest. They were surprised at Moorefield and several men were captured. And lastly, they were part of the defense at Woodstock that was destroyed by Custer and Torbert.

### Bibliography

Units of the Confederate States Army, Crute

The Maryland Line in the Confederate Army, 1861-65, W.W. Goldsboro

First Maryland Artillery and Second Maryland Artillery, George L. Sherwood

Galloping Thunder, The Stuart Horse Artillery Battalion, Robert J. Trout



*Robert Luddy at the Graffiti House in 2016 with teachers participating in a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Landmarks in American History and Culture Workshop: "Graffiti Houses: the Civil War from the perspective of individual soldiers".*

### **Multispectral Imaging at the Graffiti House**

Earlier this year, on April 1st & 2nd, Michael B. Toth of R.B. Toth Associates LLC, Oakton, VA conducted multispectral imaging of graffiti found on the Graffiti House interior walls, with the goal to reveal faded text and features currently not visible in natural light by the naked eye. The spectral regions are often at least partially outside the visible spectral range, covering parts of the infrared and ultraviolet region.

This same technology which has been used globally to discover fingerprints on a Gettysburg Address draft and early religious texts in monasteries was used at the

Graffiti House to try to gain new knowledge about the soldiers who fought on both sides during the Civil War.

Mike has delivered the images organized using a Graffiti House spatial system which he first developed for Historic Blenheim. The system breaks up the image surfaces into Rooms, Walls, and Regions.

As Mike explained to the Foundation in his notes: “A spatial standard was established to accurately designate location of regions on the Graffiti House walls. Since the Graffiti House is not aligned to cardinal compass points, a lettering and numbering system was used to designate image locations... A representative image in the upper left room at the top of the stairs (Room 201) of the wall (Wall A) to the left of the door (Section 1), in an area to the top left (area a), taken with 940 nm (IR) lights with no filter, which is the 14th shot, yielding:

BrandyStation\_Rm201-A1a-940N\_014\_R.tif

A stack of reflected images captured at different wavelengths of light and fluorescent images captured with different wavelengths and filters will yield a folder containing the following 21 captured image files and the json metadata file:”

The multispectral imaging by Michael Toth is another investigative tool from the technical side of graffiti conservation. Imaging was performed with a Phase One camera and narrowband multispectral imaging system to provide images of designated regions of interest on the walls. Digital image processing was then performed off-site to provide the best images of the walls, in particular regions of interest that may define and reveal texts, environmental and historic impacts, repairs and other features of interest.

Michael B. Toth, President and Chief Technology Officer of R.B. Toth Associates, provides systems engineering, program management, planning and development services for the study, preservation and display of cultural objects by museums and libraries.

Mike is presenting a paper titled “Digital Archiving of Civil War Graffiti for Research & Access” in June 2021 at the Society for Image Science & Technology’s Archiving 2021 conference. He will discuss his research into non-invasive imaging including his imaging work at Historic Blenheim and the Graffiti House. He will also discuss his work evaluating new methods for analyzing and preserving Civil War and post-war era materials and graffiti. The conference website, <https://www.imaging.org/site/IST/>, notes that “Since 2004, Archiving has been bringing together an international community of technical experts, managers, practitioners, and academics from cultural heritage institutions, universities, and commercial enterprises, to explore and discuss state-of-the-art imaging, digitization, preservation, and access for 2D, 3D, and AV materials, including documents, photographs, books, paintings, videos, and born digital works.”

**Brandy Station Foundation**

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**BRANDY STATION FOUNDATION – MEMBERSHIP FORM**

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The Brandy Station Foundation is a 501(c)-3 non-profit group dedicated to preserving the natural and historic resources of the Brandy Station area of Culpeper County, Virginia. It relies on tax-deductible donations to meet its goals. More information at: [www.brandystationfoundation.com](http://www.brandystationfoundation.com)