

# The Grand Review Brandy Station Foundation March 2021



*President: William Truitt Vice President: Howard Lambert Treasurers: Peter MocarSKI and Peggy MocarSKI  
Secretary: Peggy Misch (newsletter editor)  
Board of Directors: Jane Brookins, Don Carlson Helen Geisler, Paula K. Johnson, Kimberly Lillard, Larry Pullen,  
Eugene Triplett Jr., Rice Sumner Wagner, and Paul Warmack*

## **Brandy Station Foundation Annual Meeting & Picnic May 22, 2021**

The Brandy Station Foundation Annual Meeting & Picnic this year is Saturday, May 22, 2021 at the Graffiti House, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station, VA. The outdoor event, with a tent in the event of rain, begins at 5:00 PM. The cost for the dinner is \$30 per person. Proceeds from the event go directly to the Brandy Station Foundation. The membership will vote on the slate of Officers and Board of Directors for the year 2021-2022 presented by the Nominating Committee and any other matters to be brought before the Membership. Please remember that in order to vote at the annual meeting, you must be a BSF member in good standing and have paid your 2021 dues on or before the meeting.



*General Judson Kilpatrick, U.S.A. [Between 1860 and 1865] Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <[www.loc.gov/item/2018667285/](http://www.loc.gov/item/2018667285/)>.*

Guest speaker Dr. Daniel Beattie will present Judson Kilpatrick: the most disreputable participant in the Civil War. Dr. Beattie is also the author of *Brandy Station 1863: first step towards Gettysburg*. It says much about Hugh Judson Kilpatrick that his men nicknamed him, " Kilcavalry." They were referring to the Federal cavalry. But his behavior was consistent as he rose in rank, to the very end of both the War and his life. He may have been the most disreputable participant in both the Civil War and the diplomatic corps postwar.

Please make reservations by **May 15, 2021** by emailing BSF Treasurer Peggy MocarSKI at [peggy.mocarSKI@vabb.com](mailto:peggy.mocarSKI@vabb.com) and paying **at the picnic**, OR,

Print, fill out and mail this reservation page to: **Brandy Station Foundation, Box 165, Brandy Station, VA 22714**

**BSF ANNUAL MEETING & FUNDRAISER RESERVATION**

*May 22, 2021 Opens at 5:00 PM for social gathering. The catered picnic dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Enjoy barbecue, hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks, sides, and dessert.*

Location: **The Graffiti House, 19484 Brandy Road, Brandy Station, VA 22714**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # of reservations @ \$30 per person                      Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # or credit card # \_\_\_\_\_ VISA\_\_MC\_\_ exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

CVV (Card Verification Value three or four digit number) \_\_\_\_\_

I am unable to attend but wish to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to: Brandy Station Foundation

Signature (if using credit card) \_\_\_\_\_

My billing address (if different from mailing address) is:  
\_\_\_\_\_

You may also start or renew your annual dues with this form. 2021 annual dues (\$ 30.00 individual; \$40.00 couple; \$10.00 high school or college student) \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Raffle Drawing for Don Troiani print is nearing**

On display at the Graffiti House is a 24x30 framed and matted Don Troiani print, BRANDY STATION REVIEW, signed #606/1150. This print was donated by Patrick L. Lydon of Culpeper. Framing is thanks to Village Frameworks and Gallery, Culpeper. Raffle tickets for the print are being sold to benefit the Brandy Station Foundation. The drawing is on **April 16, 2021** & the winner does not need to be present at the drawing. Raffle tickets cost \$5.00 for one, \$20.00 for five. Please send checks made out to Brandy Station Foundation & indicate your address and number of tickets requested to Brandy Station Foundation, PO Box 165, Brandy Station, VA 22714. Checks must be received by our treasurers before the drawing date.

## **President's Corner**

Greetings everyone. I hope everyone is doing well. Because of the coronavirus, the Graffiti House continues to be open by appointment only. As vaccinations increase and the positivity rate decreases, we hope to return to a regular schedule as our volunteer tour guides and greeters feel comfortable returning to welcoming visitors from near and far.

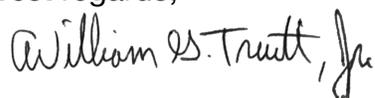
The Board thanks those who have renewed their memberships and supported us with their generous donations to our "Showcase the Graffiti" campaign. I encourage you to continue your support of the Brandy Station Foundation through volunteerism, membership dues, and donations.

I want to let all of our members and volunteers know how much you are appreciated. I will be stepping down as President this year after serving for five years. I have appreciated your support of me and the Foundation. I also thank all our fellow advocates in the Friends of Culpeper Battlefields group who are working to support a state park in Culpeper County.

Please stay safe and I'm looking forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting & Picnic at the Graffiti House on Saturday, May 22, 2021.

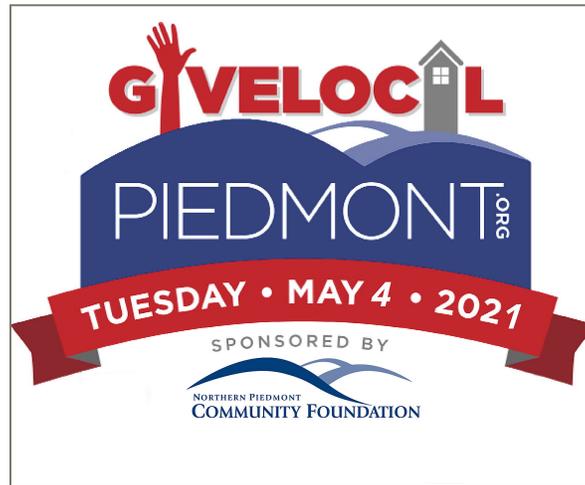
It's been a real honor and pleasure to serve on the board of the Brandy Station Foundation and especially to have been the president for the last five years.

Best regards,



William Truitt, President, Brandy Station Foundation

## **Give Local Piedmont's Annual Day of Giving, May 4, 2021**



Give Local Piedmont's annual Day of Giving is Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Give Local Piedmont inspired community members to give generously to the nonprofit organizations that are making our region stronger. Every dollar donated is increased with additional "bonus" dollars provided by the PATH Foundation, as well as sponsor-driven prizes. Please donate to the Brandy Station Foundation on May 4th by visiting the website: **[www.givelocalpiedmont.org](http://www.givelocalpiedmont.org)**

### **Brandy Station Foundation & Friends of Culpeper Battlefields**

Last year the Virginia General Assembly authorized the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to study a state park in Culpeper County and report back to the legislature by October 2021. The Commonwealth's Department of Conservation and Recreation — which oversees Virginia State Parks — is to consider the "management," "potential user activities at" and "operation of" the proposed Culpeper-based park and report back to the legislature with its recommendations.

A state park will provide the Commonwealth with a unique opportunity to showcase our shared history, increase tourism, and promote outdoor recreation in a region currently underserved by the Virginia state park system. The Friends of Culpeper Battlefields coalition advocating for the park includes the American Battlefield Trust, the Brandy Station Foundation, the Culpeper Chamber of Commerce, Culpeper Department of Tourism and Economic Development, the Friends of Cedar Mountain Battlefield, the Germanna Foundation, Journey

Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area (<https://www.hallowedground.org>), the Museum of Culpeper History, the Piedmont Environmental Council, Preservation Virginia, Remington Community Partnership, and the Virginia Association for Parks.

The Friends of Culpeper Battlefields is an organization supporting battlefield-focused preservation, stewardship, and heritage tourism across the historic Culpeper region. Please visit <https://www.culpeperbattlefields.org> or find the Friends of Culpeper Battlefields on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CulpeperBattlefields/>

“Culpeper is blessed with a history as breathtaking as its natural beauty, and both require our careful stewardship. The success of the Friends of Culpeper Battlefields will rest not simply on helping to protect this special place, but on supporting those who have worked tirelessly to preserve what makes Culpeper so special, for this and future generations.”

— Camilla Strongin, Founding Chair

This is from an article on <https://www.culpeperbattlefields.org> which in turn was obtained from the American Battlefield Trust:

Why should Virginians support the creation of the Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain State Park?

Even among Virginia’s many premier Civil War battlefields, Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain stand out. The Battle of Brandy Station — the first engagement of the legendary 1863 Gettysburg Campaign — was the largest cavalry battle ever fought in any war waged on this continent. In 1864, the Federal Army of the Potomac also made Brandy Station the site of its largest-ever winter encampment. Two years prior, the Battle of Cedar Mountain marked the first major Civil War battle in Culpeper County — and, with an estimated 2,707 casualties, was also its bloodiest.

Far to the south of Culpeper, the three existing battlefield parks in the Virginia state park system speak chiefly to the Civil War’s closing campaigns, drawing their principal significance from the conflict’s final days. A new battlefield park centered in Culpeper offers an unparalleled opportunity to tell the broader story of the war in the Commonwealth, while complementing local and regional planning and tourism efforts. Moreover, as one of the most camped-upon landscapes of the conflict — and, likewise, as home to the largest-ever cavalry battle on American soil — opportunities for context-sensitive camping and experiencing the park on horseback can serve to provide recreation in concert with education. Even now, visitors to Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain can set out on walking trails stretching a combined total of more than three miles, replete with interpretive signage; both battlefields also boast existing visitor facilities. Nearby preserved lands on the banks of the Rappahannock provide a rare opening for expanded access to area rivers and related resources, further ensuring that park patrons seeking a refreshing reprieve from daily life would be certain to find it.

The Community Land Use + Economics Group estimates that the park would likely attract 75,000 visitors in its first year, then 100,000 visitors within three years of operation — even approaching 200,000 visitors at five years and beyond. Corresponding visitor spending is estimated at \$1,770,000 in the park's first year, rising to \$4,720,000 in three-plus years. The park would generate new economic activity, creating jobs and businesses and, in turn, tax revenues and fee income for the Culpeper community, the Piedmont region, and Virginia writ large.

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

On April 1st & 2nd, Michael B. Toth of R.B. Toth Associates LLC, Oakton, VA will conduct multispectral imaging of graffiti found on the 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.

The same technology that has been used globally to discover fingerprints on a Gettysburg Address draft and early religious texts in monasteries will now be used to try to gain new knowledge about the soldiers who fought on both sides during the Civil War.

As we know, graffiti offers a rare and valuable insight into the lives of individual soldiers who fought in the Civil War.

The Brandy Station Foundation owns and operates the Graffiti House, which is a two-story frame structure built in 1858. The interior walls contain inscriptions, drawings, messages, and signatures of Civil War soldiers. When the Civil War began, its plaster walls were unpainted. In 1863 they were covered with extensive graffiti by both Union and Confederate soldiers.

We at the Foundation have been fortunate to have had two experts in graffiti exposure and plaster stabilization work at the Graffiti House. Architectural Conservator Chris Mills and Conservator and Paint Analyst Kirsten Travers Moffitt have uncovered graffiti, stabilized the plaster walls, and protected the graffiti using a special varnish.

The upcoming multispectral imaging by Michael Toth is another investigative tool from the technical side of graffiti conservation. Imaging will be 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 will then be 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. This includes planning and managing numerous open access programs, such as the global mummy cartonnage research project; the Archimedes and Galen Palimpsests Imaging Programs; advanced digitization of the Waldseemüller World Map, Gettysburg Address drafts and other Top Treasures at the Library of Congress; and the St. Catherine's Monastery Palimpsests Project; as well as consulting on Dead Sea Scrolls digitization. He has managed and integrated advanced imaging systems, and operates a range of imaging devices at various energy levels from optical to x-ray, and is DOE certified to operate high-powered x-ray synchrotrons. Mike leads annual Smithsonian Associates Programs and lectures around the world.



*Multispectral imaging equipment set up for multispectral imaging of graffiti in the attic at Historic Blenheim in Fairfax, VA (photo supplied by Michael B. Toth)*

**Brandy Station Foundation**

**P.O. Box 165**

**Brandy Station, VA 22714-0165**

**Return Service Requested**

**BRANDY STATION FOUNDATION – MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Please start/renew me as a member of the Foundation. Please mail to: Brandy Station Foundation, PO Box 165, Brandy Station, VA 22714-0165 \$ \_\_\_\_ Annual Membership (\$ 30.00 individual; \$40.00 family; \$10.00 student) \$ \_\_\_\_ Additional Donation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send my newsletter by EMAIL (please give email address) or POSTAL SERVICE (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_

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)