

# The Grand Review Brandy Station Foundation December 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, Kimberly Lillard, Robert Luddy, Gregory A. Mertz, Larry Pullen, Rice Sumner Wagner, and Paul Warmack*

**Save the Date!! BSF Annual Dinner, Saturday, April 30, 2022**



**Union mapmaker Lt. Robert K. Sneden sketched Fleetwood before Confederate Col. John S. Mosby captured him here on November 26, 1863. This was the pre-war home of Henry Miller, a tenant farmer, and the house was often called the Miller House. – Courtesy Virginia Historical Society**

*Robert K. Sneden's sketch of the Miller House on the Brandy Station Battlefield. This image is from a marker on the American Battlefield Trust's trail on Fleetwood Hill.*

The Brandy Station Foundation will hold its Annual Dinner & Business Meeting on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at the Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department's Fire Hall at 19601 Church Rd, Brandy Station. This will be a catered dinner with plans

to have our popular silent auction. The Brandy Station Foundation business meeting will follow dinner and include the election of BSF officers and Board members for the upcoming year. Our speakers will be Don Hakenson and Chuck Mauro who will talk about soldiers, mostly Mosby's Men and Mosby. The event will begin at 5:30 PM with the full evening schedule in the March 2022 newsletter.

## **President's Corner**

Looking Back while Moving Forward...As 2021 draws to a close and a new year is about to begin, we at the Brandy Station Foundation look back while moving forward. Looking back, we can say with special delight our renovations are now complete after a whirlwind of activity at the Graffiti House - Witness to History. Looking forward, the Display Committee will be updating the displays and artifact collections with plans for future revolving displays. The Garden Committee will be planning a restoration of the gardens in the spring. Looking back, the pandemic was a challenge for being open for tours as we had been, but looking forward our new volunteers will be trained for battlefield tours, house tours and as greeters. Currently, we have been open for tours on Saturdays from 11:00 AM through 4:00 PM and our last day to be open will be Saturday, December 18th.

The Graffiti House will be closed through January 2022 and will open again in February with tours by appointment. Looking forward, our battlefield tours will be given year round and may be made by calling the Graffiti House telephone at 540.727.7718 leaving a message or by emailing bsfgh1863@gmail.com.

We have a lot to look forward to in April. We will be participating in Park Day and the Brandy Station Foundation Annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th. We are privileged to have two outstanding speakers for the evening. Mr. Donald Hakenson and Mr. Chuck Mauro are well known authors from the Fairfax area and will team up to relate soldier stories from their extensive publications.

Looking back since the last newsletter, we hope that you had a spectacular fall season with the beautiful autumn colors, cooler temperatures and special Thanksgiving celebrations. Winter now begins and we hope that you had and have many joyful holiday celebrations and will enjoy the winter sport season.

Looking back and going forward, we are grateful for all of our membership. We wish you a spectacular New Year in 2022 and going forward we hope to see you at the Graffiti House so you can see what all our excitement is about. Looking back at a house built in 1858 now newly renovated and going forward to see the successful trajectory that the Witness to History house is on going forward to be truly the renovated and outstanding jewel with "talking walls" as a witness of then and now.

From our Witness House to your homes, we wish you a very joyful celebration of Happy Hanukkah, Kwanza, Merry Christmas along with Best Wishes for all good things in the New Year.



Paula K. Johnson  
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### **Brandy Station Foundation Battlefield Tours**

*View of Battle of Brandy Station marker & American Battlefield Trust trail on Fleetwood Hill*

Tours of the Brandy Station Battlefield are being scheduled year round with advance notice. Something new and special (we think!) is that the sections of the Battlefield to be toured will be based on visitor requests/desires; i.e. Fleetwood Hill, St. James Church area; Kelly's Ford, and/or Stevensburg, etc. The tour duration can be from two up to four hours. The cost of the tours is \$30 per hour



with all proceeds going to the work of the Brandy Station Foundation. Any tips will be considered additional donations to the Brandy Station Foundation.

*Visitor reading Battle of Brandy Station marker on the American Battlefield Trust trail on Fleetwood Hill in Brandy Station*

To schedule a tour, please contact the Foundation at 540-727-7718 or email [bsfgh1863@gmail.com](mailto:bsfgh1863@gmail.com) with an advance reservation time of five days. For the protection of both our visitors and and volunteers, masks are required.

### **Call for Brandy Station Foundation Volunteers**

The BSF is trying hard to keep the Graffiti House open to visitors for more hours but help is needed since Covid has changed how we operate and our hours of operation. Things have changed with our volunteers since Covid and we would appreciate help to get back to normal operating hours. Volunteer training for Graffiti House tour guides and greeters, as well as battlefield tour guides, will be taking place in January 2022. To volunteer, please call the Foundation at 540-727-7718 to leave a message or email [bsfgh1863@gmail.com](mailto:bsfgh1863@gmail.com). The Graffiti House will reopen in February for tours by appointment. In March 2022, the regular Saturday hours are scheduled to resume. For the protection of both our visitors and and volunteers, masks are required.

## **Maddensville Site Dedication Ceremony**



*Civil War Monument honoring USCT soldiers dedicated in Maddensville*

On Saturday, November 6, 2021, there was a dedication in Culpeper County of a granite Civil War monument, memorializing three United States Colored Troops (USCT) who were captured and executed by 9th Virginia Cavalry troops on May 8, 1864. Howard Lambert, founder and president of The Freedom Foundation of Virginia, spearheaded this effort for many years. The monument was erected along Madden's Tavern Road in Lignum near the crossroads of Routes 610 and 724 in Culpeper County. Howard, who also serves as Vice President of the Brandy Station Foundation, has said that we don't know the men's names, nor precisely where they are buried, but from Confederate primary sources we know what



*Civil War Trails® marker about Ebenezer Baptist Church at Maddensville site*

happened and that the incident was near Madden's Tavern.

The Piedmont Environment Council (PEC) has been a strong partner in this endeavor, and Howard thanked Adam Gillenwater, Culpeper County Field Representative of The Piedmont Environmental Council along with many others who worked together to identify the land and erect the monument.

Several Civil War Trails wayside markers are in place by the memorial. From their website: "Civil War Trails® has been working with communities since 1994 to share their stories and connect visitors with small towns and big stories across a network that now spans six states. Travelers look to Trails to put them in the footsteps of the generals, soldiers, citizens, and the enslaved who found themselves in the midst of this Civil War."

Cindy Sabato has a detailed post on the event on the PEC website <https://www.pecva.org/resources/press/new-monument-to-honor-united-states-colored-troops-and-african-american-contributions-in-culpeper-county/>. The post is titled: New monument to honor United States Colored Troops and African American contributions in Culpeper County.

She includes this information: "Lambert describes Culpeper County as a kind of ground zero in the story of the United States Colored Troops, as many who were formerly enslaved went north and returned to the place of their enslavement to fight for the Union cause. "They could have stayed free and enjoyed all the privileges thereof, but these men decided to join the Union army and come back as proud soldiers in blue to fight to free people who were still in bondage, knowing that if they were captured, they would be given no quarter, but would be lined up and shot, which is obviously what happened here near Madden's Tavern," he said."

Howard has created a display case exhibit at the Graffiti House on the USCT. Congratulations to Howard on this event that was many years in the making.

**Letter from James H. Cooper to to his Parents from Headquarters  
Forage Department, Brandy Station, January 24, 1864**

Years ago, the Foundation received transcribed letters and information about James H. Cooper from S. Glaubitz in Pennsylvania. We appreciated this very much. The Foundation is always interested in letters and information about soldiers from both sides of the Civil War who were in Culpeper County.

James H. Cooper served in Co. I, 14th Reg. Ohio Vol. Infantry; born in 1832, he survived the war and died in 1904. On his gravestone, he is identified as Q.M. Sgt. Co. H, 1st Ohio Reg. L.A. [Interestingly, there is another James Cooper who was in Brandy Station: James A. J. Cooper, Co. A, 35th Battalion Virginia Cavalry, who signed the wall of the Graffiti House on June the 8th, 1863].

This is an excerpt from a January 24, 1864 letter written by James H. Cooper, (which was sent with a letter of 14 Feb 1864). He writes of boredom in the Winter Encampment and also an amusing story of selling a horse the previous summer.

Head Quarters Forage Department H Co. \_\_\_ O.V.A.  
Brady [i.e. Brandy] Station Va Jany 24th 64

Dear Father & Mother

I have nothing to do this evening & Still less to write about. But as I suppose you like to hear often from us I will make a few scrawls as to our good health & prospects. And so manufacture what writing I in my lonesome hours can... If I were at Home than by word of mouth I could talk to you/ There is no fear but I could find food for my tongue & your ears. And I fancy that I could have written to interest you. But I have lost my Sprit or aptness for writing. A Soldier life is so very different from that of a civilian in the way of living activity & labor company & that a change in man must take place. With Some It may Be better but with me I know the change has not been for the best. I feel dull & stupid do not care a cent what the morn brings forth so I do not have to move.

All Summer I wished for winter that I could as I had plenty of work. but now that it has come & with it nothing to do I am to lazy to get out of the tent... Last Summer while on the march I had a horse for sale with saddle & bridle leading along the road. I overtook a Capt. who was tired out & he wanted to buy/ I asked 250 for the rig he got onto him to try him and as we were both going the same way he rode some distance when I asked him if he would buy at the price Said 150 was enough he would rather ride than pay i found out. So I told him I did not care about selling & must take a cross road where we would be obliged to part & he of course dismount. Here was the sticker 250 was to much but he could not walk but one of the two he must pay or walk. So he paid....

**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)