

BENNETT PLACE COURIER

Editor: *Ryan Reed*

Official Newsletter of the Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.

Winter 2013

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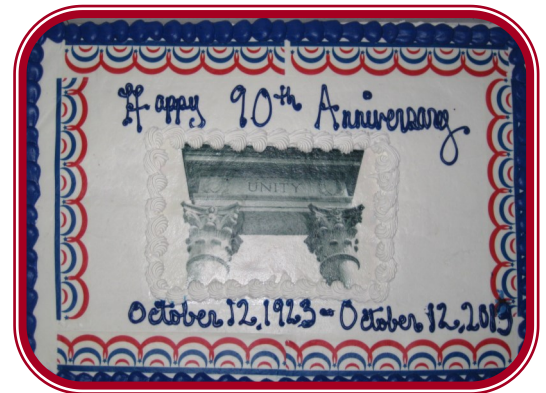
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Unity Monument: 90 Years Later *By: Diane Smith*

On the night of October 12, 1921, a fire would destroy the last visual reminder to travelers of the simple house where only 56 years earlier two prominent generals met to negotiate peace. Two years later on the 12th of October, 1923, citizens and veterans gathered on the grounds to witness the unveiling of the Unity monument. The monument, simple in design, had a powerful message. It commemorated the uniting of the country that had torn itself apart for 4 long years.



Veterans often returned to places where they had fought, suffered and, for some, surrendered. They came to remember what they did, to remember those who died during the war and to share these experiences with their family. This was the case here at Bennett Place. Photographs taken in the 1920's and 1930's show old veterans with their reunion ribbons on having their picture taken near the house. Even after the house and all the buildings were gone, veterans still came to have their picture taken near the only remaining structure, the chimney. This place was important to them.

Many prominent citizens, such as Bennehan Cameron I, D.H. Hill, Jr., Julian S. Carr and R.O. Everett, were some of those involved in rebuilding and commemorating the site which began with the Unity Monument. The site has been fully restored and visitors still come to Bennett Place to learn about the significance of this site, the Bennett family and the men who fought and died during the war.

We have an exhibit on display which highlights those involved in its design and construction as well as those involved in the continued preservation of this historic ground. The display will be up until the early part of December. We hope that you will stop by and learn more about it.



Tar Heel Harvest Fair and Farmer's Market

By: Diane Smith

On the 28th and 29th of September, we held our first annual farmers market and fair which was a big hit. We had a lot of activities, vendors and demonstrations to entertain and engage young and old alike. For the kids, we had some old fashioned games which included sack race, three legged race and egg in spoon race. Lots of laughter and squeals was heard as family members cheered on the participants. Candle making was a fun activity but was overshadowed by the pumpkin carving contest.

While some submitted their final pumpkins for the judging, others took them home. The judging took place on Sunday and proved very difficult for the judges as there were some wonderful entries, however in the end, we had our winners. Another contest that occurred during the event was a pie contest. Five judges put their taste buds to the test in determining the best tasting pie. While one pie won the contest, all the pies were delicious and many thanks to those who submitted them.

In the main house, beautiful quilts were on display showing the skills women had with the needle and thread. In the cold nights of winter, those quilts will come in handy. The quilts on display were made by our volunteers, Jean Eno and Susan Hall.

In addition to the activities, we also had some great merchants on site with items that ranged from old fashioned wooden toys to homemade honey. Demonstrators provided a firsthand look at some of the trades of the past. Kirt Jarret brought out his blacksmith equipment and showed the visitors the hard work it took to make some of the items many farmers and their wives needed such as stakes, andirons and the simple, but important, nail. Chester Bennett was caning chairs and weaving baskets under the shade of the trees and creating some wonderful and useful items.





Tar Heel Harvest Fair and Farmer's Market

A farmers market would not be complete without animals and thanks to Bull City Farm, Laura Settle and Mr. Hudson for bringing their animals which included a donkey, sheep, cows, chickens, a goat, miniature horses and two very large mules. The eggs used in the egg and spoon race were courtesy of Bull City Farm, Mr. Hudson provided wagon rides for everyone and the folks who brought the miniature horses provided the young kids with horseback rides.



In the late afternoon our own Pat Haggerty entertained adults and kids alike in teaching some of the dances of the mid-19th century. We were fortunate to have some musicians come and play so everyone could enjoy the music. Pat even dressed up in his fancy jacket and vest complete with white gloves and top hat. It made an enjoyable end to the events of the day.



This event will be a wonderful addition to the many different events we have here at Bennett Place. Look for it again next September.



Willie Parker Peace History Book Award



Congratulations to Brenda Chambers McKean, for being Awarded the Willie Parker Peace History Book award. The Award was established on December 6, 1958, and is given to "encourage the writing and publication of the history of a North Carolina county, institution or individual. This category is open to all who are writing about NC. Ms. McKean was awarded for her publication of "Blood and War at my Doorstep, Volume 1, North Carolina Civilians in the War Between the States." Ms. McKean has been a supporter of Bennett Place for more than 20 years.

BRENDA CHAMBERS MCKEAN

— BOOK COLLECTION





Christmas in the Carolinas: During the Civil War December 14 & 15

Enjoy the Holiday season with us and discover how families and soldiers celebrated Christmas during the American Civil War.

There will be Soldiers camped out near the Bennett House showing what camp life was like during the cold winter months, and living historians portraying civilians in the kitchen and main house telling you ways people on the home front would have survived while the boys were off to war. Come out and enjoy the Holidays with us here on the Bennett Farm.

Old St. Nick may just show up in the Bennett Parlor!!!





CONTRIBUTION BENEFITS

All Levels:

- *Membership Card*
- *Newsletter (issued quarterly)*
- *Notification of Special Events*
- *10% Discount at Gift Shop*

Major to President:

- *Certificate*
- *Permanent Recognition at Site*

President:

- *Framed Certificate*
- *Special Gift*

Help Support the Bennett Place!

Please note our membership levels have expanded to include businesses and larger donors!



Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.
4409 Bennett Memorial Road
Durham, North Carolina 27705

Contributions are Tax Deductible!

Name: (Individual, Family, Group, or Company)

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Signature:

Date:

Amount:\$_____



Thank you for your support!!!



Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.

Bennett Place State Historic Site Mission Statement:

To preserve and interpret the history of the largest surrender of the Civil War and the lives of 19th century yeoman farmers such as the Bennetts.

Bennett Place Support Fund Mission Statement:

The Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc., is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance to the Bennett Place State Historic Site. Monies from the Fund are to be used for educating the general public about the site's role in the Civil War, assisting staff in its research and interpretation of 19th century farm life, and encouraging volunteer participation and community involvement.

We wish to help in preserving and developing this North Carolina Historic Site and need your assistance. Please consider making a contribution to the Support Fund today!

CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you for helping us preserve this national treasure.

President (\$25,000)

Lynn M. Everett

Governor (\$2,000)

Thomas S. Kenan, III

Chevron Humankind c/o Dennis Buckley

General (\$1,000)

Matching Gift Program

Colonel (\$500)

William A. Kirkland, Jr.

Robinson Everett, Jr.

Charles Thissen

Major (\$250)

Eugenia Paine

Captain (\$125)

Alexander & Janet Floyd

Gary H. Pendleton

Martha W. Dunnagan

Dr. Henry S. Zaytoun

NC Division Children of the Confederacy

Chuck Wilson

Peter J. Brock

Lieutenant (\$60)

JW Web Solutions c/o Rick Sheets

Dominic Dal Bello

Bob Pfeiffer

Allen Tomlinson

Sergeant (\$25)

Alexander Stick

Capt. Granville H. Oury c/o Lynn Crawford

SCV Camp 1708

Josie Walker

Private (\$10)

Thomas Farkas

Liz Bloodworth

Lorraine Drapek



Fundraising for our Museum

Quilt Raffle

We are still selling tickets for the quilt our ladies auxiliary is making. All proceeds go toward the new museum, which is scheduled to be completed by spring 2015. Tickets are available in the Visitor Center and are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00.



POWDER HORN RAFFLE

Introducing our new Powder Horn to be raffled off in 2014 at our Annual Memorial Day commemoration. If you are interested in participating in the Raffle, tickets are available for purchase in the Visitor Center. Price for tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00.



2014 Memorial Day Celebration Raffle Prize
1842 Black Hawk War Powder Horn
in the Style of Tim Tansel
by Rick Sheets



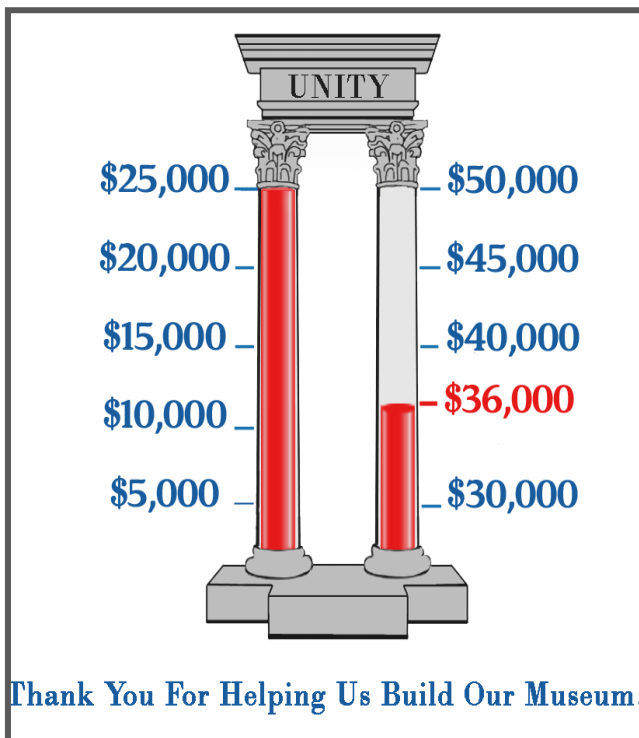


New Merchandise Items in Bennett Place Gift Shop



Come visit the Museum Gift Shop and purchase a wonderful book on the history of the Civil War or North Carolina, a coffee mug, a deck of playing cards, shirt or hat, decorative boxes, DVDs and musical CDs, a musical instrument, toy soldiers, or a magnet for the refrigerator and in time for the holidays, **GIFT CARDS!** All proceeds go to the support the preservation and operation of this historic landmark.

Help Us Build Our Museum Exhibit Gallery!



We are building a new museum exhibit gallery and our goal is to reach \$50,000. Please help us complete our new museum gallery. Every donation helps. Our grand opening is scheduled Spring 2015.

<http://www.bennettplacehistoricsite.com/museum-fund/>