

BENNETT PLACE COURIER

Editor: *Ryan Reed*

Official Newsletter of the Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.

Winter 2017

Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.

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Drew Smith: Site Assistant

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Bennett Place for the Holidays



Saturday the 16th, Bennett Place will host our Annual Christmas in the Piedmont event. There will be ongoing living history demonstrations of life in the field as well as on the home front. Watch as soldiers decorate their camps, read letters and open packages sent from home. In the kitchen, civilians will be baking and preparing food. Items often sent to the soldiers will be on display in the historic house as well as Christmas decorations and presents. Santa will also be on site to delight children of all ages.

Hot apple cider and cookies will be available at the visitor center as well as a bake sale with lots of goodies to purchase. All proceeds from the bake sale will go toward the site's preservation fund.

Saturday hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Cost: FREE

Evening Christmas Candlelight Tour Program

Take a guided tour by candlelight around the property and experience how soldiers and civilians celebrated the holiday.

Complimentary hot apple cider and cookies will be available inside the visitor center.

Hours are 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Cost: \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children ages 5-16 Children under 5 - FREE

Tours begin every 20 minutes. Tickets available on site.



Site Manager's Corner



Now that there is a real chill in the air, I'm ready for the holiday season and I look forward to spending time with family and friends. It is around this time I find myself reflecting on the year and this one sure has seen its fair share of historical events.

We also had our fair share of events happen this year. We experienced some staff changes, but we are now fully staffed and our visitor center project advanced another step forward toward the completion of this goal. We met with an architect and now have a clearer vision of what will be necessary to make the needed improvements and expansion happen. More information on this exciting project will be forth coming.

Our volunteer core has grown this year with the addition of 5 new volunteers. Their interest in teaching visitors about this significant part of America's history is greatly appreciated by our staff. Thank you volunteers!

As I write this article, we are gearing up for our Christmas events that I hope you will come and enjoy. This year we have decided to try holding two events in one day. Our annual "Christmas in the Piedmont" event continues to be very popular and our newer "Christmas Candlelight Tour Program" event has grown in popularity. We look forward to continuing these wonderful family oriented programs each year.

Now, as I close my article, I take pleasure in sending my wishes to you and yours for a wonderful and blessed holiday season. Until the spring.....



Bennett Place Fundraising Raffle

We are pleased to announce that we have a new raffle here at Bennett Place!!

- *Replica 1859 Sharps Rifle*
- *Drawing is June 23, 2018*
- *All proceeds go toward Visitor Center Expansion project*



Ticket Information:

One for \$10 or Three for \$25

Must be 18 or older to purchase tickets

Do not need to be present to win

The Perfect Gift



While you all are doing your holiday shopping, don't forget to keep the gift shop at Bennett Place in mind. We have the perfect gift for any Civil war or nineteenth century historian in your life. The gift shop has a wide array of books on various Civil War topics and it also has a wide variety of historic games and toys that are perfect for children or grandchildren; cup and ball is a favorite of many! And for those who can't decide on what to pick, gift cards are available! All of the money made in our gift shop goes to support and maintain the site all year round!



Call for New Volunteers

Calling all Volunteers ! Bennett Place is always looking for energetic volunteers. Volunteers play various roles here at Bennett Place, from giving tours to customer service, and more. If you are interested please apply online at:

<http://www.bennettplacehistoricsite.com>



Welcome aboard Drew Smith!

Drew Smith is our newest member to the Bennett Place team, and he chose to say a few words:

“2017 has been a great year for me. I turned 56, got married for the first time to my wonderful wife Sonja and began a new career here at Bennett Place. Working on such a historically significant property amongst such an amazing staff is a tremendous opportunity. Together we strive to provide an exceptional experience for visitors. Working here everyday has sparked a new passion for history with me and has given me an understanding of just how important Historic Sites like Bennett Place truly are.”





CONTRIBUTION BENEFITS

All Levels:

- *Newsletter (issued quarterly)*
- *Invitation to Special Events*
- *10% Discount at Gift Shop*

Major to President Level:

- *Permanent Recognition at Site*

President & Governor Level:

- *Framed Certificate*

Help Support 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!!!



Friends of Bennett Place

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.

Friends of Bennett Place Mission Statement:

The Friends of Bennett Place, 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!

Friends of Bennett Place

President (\$5,000 and Above)

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Durham Merchants Association Charitable
foundation

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