

# ***BENNETT PLACE COURIER***

Editor: *Ryan Reed*

Official Newsletter of the Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.

Spring 2019

## *Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.*

### *Board of Directors*

#### 2018 Officers

Karen Edwards: President

Chandler Vatauk: Vice President

Caroline Odom: Treasurer

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### **Bennett Place Historic Site**

Diane Smith: Site Manager

Ryan Reed: Historic Interpreter II

Matthew Gregg: Historic Interpreter I

Drew Smith: Maintenance/Construction  
Technician I

### **Division of State Historic Sites**

Michelle Lanier: Executive Director

Jeff Bockert: Eastern Regional Supervisor

### **N.C Dept. of Natural & Cultural Resources**

Susi Hamilton: Secretary



# **PARK DAY**

# 2019

23 Years of Inspiring  
**Volunteers for History**



## **April 6th, 2019**

This national workday for volunteers is a cooperative effort between the Civil War Preservation Trust and Civil War historic sites across the United States. Come out and support your local Civil War historic site. Projects this year will include cleaning up the picnic area, sanding and protecting the picnic tables, kitchen garden work, and sprucing up the Bennett family cemetery. Projects scheduled are subject to change.

Program runs 10 am-2 pm.  
Contact the Bennett Place staff for more information.



## *Manager's Corner*



After the Christmas holiday season, staff and volunteers enjoyed a well-deserved break from all the activity of the fall & winter. Last month though, our break came to an end as we began the process of getting the site ready for the new season. There were a few projects on our “to do” list we wanted to complete before our April events occurred. One was to replace our old worn out ash hopper with a new one, complete with an interpretive panel to help visitors better understand this misunderstood but necessary item on a farm. Thanks to the assistance of Bob Bemis, that task was finished at the end of last month and it looks great! The other project was to complete the replacement of our worn-out split rail fence. Thanks to our gracious donor, Mrs. Lynn Everett, that project is nearing completion. The new split rails were delivered towards the end of last month and we’ll be replacing the last sections before this month is over, just in time for the warmer weather and our busy event calendar.

There are still a few more important projects on that “to do” list which we will continue to work on now that the weather is warming up. Our staff take great pride in making sure the site is visually appealing to visitors as well as safe. As a manager, I’m extremely proud of my staff and volunteers. They work hard and take pride in their work.

Finally, as I write this article, our architect is finalizing the renderings of what our visitor center will look like with the new and much-needed additional space. We are very excited to have these renderings available to show the public which we hope will help us with our fundraising efforts.

Happy spring y’all



## *Dead of Winter Tour*



On February 22 & 23, 2019, several of Bennett Place's Staff and Volunteers participated in the Dead of Winter tour put on by the Orange County Historical Museum. This was a fundraiser for the Museum and was a great success! The station Bennett Place members were assigned was in the Hillsboro Masonic Lodge, which was used as Civil War Hospital at the end of the war. Everyone did a great job, and a big THANK YOU to everyone who assisted.

## *New Ash Hopper*



Work is done on our new Ash Hopper. We are excited about the new addition to the site, and want to send out a special THANK YOU to Matt Bemis and Drew Smith for all the hard work they have put into this project.



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## *2019 Upcoming Events*

### *April 9, 10, & 11, 2019*

#### ***5th Annual Civil War School Days. Bennett Place State Historic Site.***

This program is designed for public, private and homeschool groups to come out and learn about both the military and the civilian aspects of the war from costumed living historians. There will be stations set up in the historic area for students and adults alike to meet and listen to reenactors discuss different topics such as how soldiers marched and drilled, the flags of the Civil War, the postal system, the medical system and much more. **Reservations are required.** Please contact the Bennett Place staff to make your reservation and for more information. **Cost: FREE, donations greatly appreciated – may charge \$1.00 per child**

### *April 27, 2019*

#### ***154th Anniversary Surrender Commemoration. Bennett Place State Historic Site.***

Join us as we remember the events that occurred inside the home of James and Nancy Bennett 154 years ago. This year there will be a focus on the role of the United States Colored Troops and how their role changed from the beginning of the war to the time of the surrender. There will also be special guided tours that will take the visitor inside the home to learn about the negotiations that took place in the parlor. Program is Saturday 10am-4pm.

**Cost: \$3.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child ages 5-16. Under 5 FREE**

### *May 25-26, 2019*

#### ***Annual Memorial Day Remembrance: The American Soldier Through the Ages. Bennett Place State Historic Site.***

Following the American Civil War, a "Decoration Day" began in communities across America remembering soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Senator John A. Logan, a former Union officer on staff with Major General William T. Sherman, was instrumental in making this a formal national day honoring our fallen soldiers, which became Memorial Day. Join military living historians representing the American soldier of all time periods throughout our nation's history. Program is Saturday 10am-4pm, and Sunday 10am-3pm.

**Cost: \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children ages 5-16. Under 5 FREE**

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## 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.

**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)*

Lynn M. Everett

### *Governor (\$2,500)*

Thomas S. Kenan III

Rosalie Reynolds

### *General (\$1,000)*

In Honor of Ron Roberts

Dennis Buckley & Chevron Matching Employee Funds

### *Colonel (\$500)*

William Kirkland

Kevin Odom

David Patterson

### *Major (\$300)*

Tom Dorreity & BCBS Your Cause

Judith C. Rembert

### *Captain (\$100)*

Jennifer Bolognesi

Michael & Kristen Dobslaw

NC Division UDC Great Granddaughters Club

Elizabeth Guidry

Erin Tomaras

Ron Roberts

William A. Schott

In Honor of Dr. Joseph C. Greenfield, Jr.

John Tindall

### *Lieutenant (\$50)*

In Memory of A.B Wall

Sandra Wilson

Betsy Shaw

George and Mary Kennett

Bonita Scott

### *Sergeant (\$25)*

In Memory of A.B Wall

Evan Myers

Kari Wouk

Maira Girard

### *Private (\$10)*

Barbara Fish

Jason Holmes