

BENNETT PLACE COURIER

Editor: *Ryan Reed*

Official Newsletter of the Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.

Fall 2020

Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc

Board of Directors

Bennett Place Support Fund, Inc.

Board of Directors

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BEER, BLUES & BBQ FUNDRAISING EVENT

Postponed

This important fundraiser to help the support group raise the funds needed for the necessary upgrades to the visitor center has been postponed this year due to concerns related to the coronavirus.

The safety and well being of our guests, staff and board members outweighed the funds that would be raised and this event will be on again next September

*You can still help by making a
donation to the support group by
visiting
www.bennettplacehistoricsite.com*





Tentative



Old Time Farm

Festival Event

November 21st, 2020

Event runs from 10-4

Tentative



Civil War Christmas Event

December 19th, 2020

Event runs 10-4

Candlelight Tour Program

December 19th, 2020

Event runs 6pm ~ 8pm

Postponed this year



Manager's Corner



In starting my article for the fall newsletter, I realized we missed sending out our summer newsletter which I contribute to disruption of our normal routine brought on by this virus and the site being closed until nearly the beginning of summer. Even in my personal life, my normal routines have been turned upside down and I have had a difficult time in transitioning to what many are calling their “new normal”. Personally, I am NOT a fan of this, and I am looking forward to seeing 2020 in my rear-view mirror!

This year, up to now, has certainly been dismal. As the warm weather approached and anticipation of some great events loomed, we found ourselves watching as week after week, each of our spring events were cancelled. They fell like dominoes and emotions of excitement and anticipation were replaced with frustration and sadness. Our visitation plummeted, the services we could offer our visitors had been reduced and revenue dropped significantly, and all we could do was watch this all unfold before our eyes. Even now as we enter the fall season, we have already had to cancel the annual Beer, Blues and BBQ fundraiser event hosted by our non-profit support group and it makes me wonder how this year will end. Currently, we have two events planned for the late fall which are the “Old Time Farm Festival” on November 21st and our annual Christmas event on December 19th. We are waiting to hear if we can proceed with these events or not.

Despite the dismal spring and summer, staff were determined to soldier on. We created new ideas and ways to help our visitors understand the significance of the events that took place here and its role in shaping our American history by creating several new educational videos that we can share with teachers and home school parents. Staff are also working in conjunction with other Civil War sites in the department to create a library of educational videos to be shared with the public as we anticipate more and more students will be learning on line and not visiting historic sites in field trips for some time to come. It was, and continues to be, challenging but also rewarding.

As I wrap up my article, I will think positively and anticipate this year ending on a good note with restrictions being lifted and visitors happy to get out and enjoy doing things in person instead of virtually.

Happy fall y'all



2021 Upcoming Events

April 6, 7, & 8, 2021

7th 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: \$1.00 per child; \$2.00 per adults.**

April 24, 2021

156th 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 156 years ago. More information about the activities that will take place during the event will be forthcoming. **General admission to the event is: \$5.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child ages 3-16. Under 3 FREE**

May 29, 2021

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

Cost: \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children ages 3-16. Under 3 and all active or retired military personnel are FREE



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
Thomas S. Kenan, III

Captain (\$100)

Robert Pfeiffer
John Tindall
William Schott

Major (\$300)

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