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Mosby Heritage Area Association Newsletter - January 2015

Welcome, New Members!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, volunteers, and supporters of MHAA, we warmly welcome our new members:

Dave Boyd
David Blake
Bradley Dean
Michael J. Hall
Connie Henry
Scott Kasprowicz

LEAD STORY

One Last Word…

At the end of January, I will be leaving the Mosby Heritage Area Association for the next phase in my life, retirement. I wanted to take this opportunity to say what a privilege and honor it has been working for MHAA over the past 14 plus years.

I have been privileged to have known some pretty amazing people who have worked hard to preserve this beautiful and unique area of Virginia. As I told one of our past presidents, when I travel across the Blue Ridge Mountains from my native Shenandoah Valley, there is a difference when you enter the Piedmont. I still cannot put into words that difference, but I can still feel it each day as I come to work.

The Board of Directors and members of MHAA are dedicated and persistent at preserving the Mosby Heritage Area. They are in the forefront in educating residents and tourists about its significant national history. They have undertaken projects such as the creation and implementation of the preservation plan for the Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville. They live and breathe the education and preservation of the place they live.
I have also been blessed to have worked with a volunteer corps that is second to none. The dedication and devotion of their time and energy to MHAA helped me tremendously to accomplish the many tasks needed to successfully operate a non-profit organization. The same goes for the members of the Gray Ghost Interpretive Group who have made MHAA programs an outstanding educational experience.

The MHAA staff, Rich Gillespie as Executive Director and Jennifer Moore as Director of Administration are the best. I am positive that they will lead the organization to new heights and accomplishments with their combined skills and talents. Both have proven time and time again that they have the dedication and passion for the mission of this organization.
I wish MHAA, its Board, members, volunteers and staff all the best in the coming

years.

Judy Reynolds
Ex-Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The Future of Eventing and the Preservation of Open Space

February 15, 2015 @ 1:00pm

Foxcroft School
Engelhard Gym
22047 Foxhound Lane
Middleburg, VA 20117

A panel of speakers discussing the history and the future of eventing and the importance of conservation and open space easements. The audience will have an opportunity to ask questions of the panelists and a discussion will follow.

This year's panelists:

Robert Banner (left): Mr. Banner started riding at age 9 and has ridden and competed horses since, foxhunting, point-to-point racing on the owner-rider timber circuit, and show jumping in local shows. He keeps 6 horses on his property today. Mr. Banner has spent nearly 30 years in the equine publishing world ending with 18 years at The Chronicle of the Horse as Publisher. After leaving The Chronicle, Mr.Banner was hired by Great Meadow Foundation as their President and has been there for the last 6 years.

Sandy Johnson (right): Mr. Johnson is the owner of Gordonsdale Farm and Cross Country Schooling Course in Berryville, VA. Gordonsdale Farm consists of over 100 acres of rolling terrain with courses for all levels of eventer. Gordonsdale boasts of a course designed by Olympian Nina Fout. He generously allows organizations such as the Blue Ridge Hunt Pony Club to use his cross country facility for training and summer camp.

Heather Richards (above) is the vice president for conservation and rural programs at the Piedmont Environmental Council. She is also Chair of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission and serves on the Executive Committee of Virginia's United Land Trusts

(VaULT). In addition to land conservation work, Heather is an Adult Amateur dressage rider and owner of a small horse farm in Culpeper County.

OTHER PANELISTS TO BE DETERMINED.

$30 for MHAA members and $35 for non-members.

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Cavaliers, Courage, & Coffee Program
The Occupation Winter of 1865

February 21, 2015 @ 4:00pm

George's Mill Farm Bed & Breakfast
11867 George's Mill Road
Lovettsville, VA 20180

The first installment in 2015 of the popular Cavaliers, Courage & Coffee Program (now in its 11th season) will delve into the encampment of the Federal Cavalry under General Thomas C. Devin at historic George's Mill in northern Loudoun County. The Gray Ghost Interpretive Group will present first-person accounts by lantern light of the impact of this encampment (2,000 soldiers!) on life in Loudoun County in the winter of 1865, as the end of the Civil War drew near.

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Marshall: A Statesman Shaped in the Crucible of War
Book talk by Rachel Y. Thompson

March 15, 2015 @ 2:00pm

Farmer's Delight
36276 Mountville Road
Middleburg, VA 20117

Rachel Thompson

MHAA is thrilled to be welcoming author and historian Rachel Y. Thompson. Ms Thompson is the Director of Special Projects at the George C. Marshall International Center at Marshall's home, Dodona Manor, in Leesburg, Virginia. She is the author of a new biography of General George C. Marshall, "Marshall: A Statesman Shaped in the Crucible of War." MHAA is humbled by the generosity and hospitality of Dr. Betsee Parker in allowing us to have this event at her lovely farm, Farmer's Delight. More information is coming, so stay tuned!

SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER:

The Mosby Heritage Area Association held its annual Heritage Hero Awards on December 9th at the National Sporting Library and Museum. The two honorees this year were Scott Kasprowicz and David Blake. Scott was honored for his recent conservation and preservation efforts at Gilbert's Corner and David was honored for his continuing preservation work at Buckland. Both Heritage Heroes were feted by friends and neighbors and we had a wonderful turn out on a very cold night. Chris Miller, President of Piedmont Environmental Council, was the master of ceremonies and provided a moving program, encouraging preservation and active partnerships.

Every year, MHAA gives the Heritage Hero award to individuals or groups in the Mosby Heritage Area who have given much to the preservation and conservation of the natural and cultural resources in this area.

Photo by Douglas Lees. L-R, Scott Kasprowicz, David Blake, Childs Burden, Chris Miller.

SAVE THE DATE:

April 19th
Mosby's Disbandment Commemoration,
reading of his Farewell Speech
Marshall, VA

May 3rd
Mosby Ride
Carter's Run Area, Marshall, VA

More information coming on these events!

Photo of the Month

by J. Riley Stewart

"Snickersville Turnpike in Winter"

See our monthly chronicle of beautiful scenes from the Mosby Heritage Area at http://www.pbase.com/mosbyheritage/photo_of_the_month

Copyright J Riley Stewart (Contact the photographer at http://jrileystewart.com to acquire a print of this scene).

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