

Piedmont Chronicle

2021 Annual Report of the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association



VPHA Celebrates 25 Years!

Index	
Chair Letter	4
Meet the Staff	5-6
Directors	7-8
Preservation	9-10
Conservation	11
Digital	12
Education	13-14
Special Events	15-18
Volunteers	19-20
Finances	21
Donors	22-26

We celebrated our 25th Anniversary in style on June 26th with an outdoor party at the historic Goose Creek Bridge. The event featured live music from the Dargan Benders, living historians representing hundreds of years of Heritage Area history, battlefield tours and nature hikes, and a visit from the Piedmont foxhounds! In between the events, our guests enjoyed local barbecue and ice cream, along with fresh oysters from the Chesapeake Bay. Over a dozen partner organizations came out to celebrate with us and share their love of this incredible region. We want to thank everyone who participated in our special day and we hope that you will continue to support us through our next 25 years!



25th Anniversary Campaign

As part of our 25th Anniversary Celebrations, we launched a fundraising campaign to acknowledge our success in teaching comprehensive Heritage Area history and advocating for preservation since 1995. The campaign was extraordinary successful and we are extremely grateful for the overwhelming support we received, allowing us to record our most successful fundraising year on record. Our Board and Staff would like to express their sincere

appreciation to our Leadership Donors who brought in more than \$150,000 in pledges! They will be honored at the Rector House in perpetuity on this donor plaque. A Champagne Toast was held in March to unveil the plaque and celebrate our generous donors who made our success possible.

Raised funds will support our mission and in part contribute to the restoration of our headquarters, the “Caleb Rector House.” Renovation continued throughout 2021, which included converting the second floor into staff offices and conference space while preserving period details. Most recently we began work transforming the first-floor into gallery space for public interpretation, displays, and events, bringing us closer to our long-term goal of establishing the Rector House as an orientation center for the Heritage Area.

It is an exciting time at the Rector House and we encourage you to visit us to see the progress!



Cover: Fauquier County near Hume (Barry Freeman).

Clockwise from top left:



Guests and interpreters taking advantage of the shade;

The Goose Creek Association taught children about the importance of our waterways;



Meeting the Piedmont Foxhounds up close;

The Dargan Benders provided a great selection of period music;



VPHA Historian Emeritus Richard Gillespie leads a tour focused on the Battle of Upperville;

VPHA Chair C. Dulany Morison with former VPHA President Jennifer Moore and NOVA Parks Chair Cate Magennis Wyatt;



The Willisville Preservation Foundation was one of several organizations that celebrated with us.

Photos by Douglas Lees

C. Dulany Morison, Chair

Dear Friends,

We had a banner year in 2021 despite the emergence of new variants and constantly shifting restrictions. Our seasoned Directors and Staff capitalized on the evolving circumstances, making the necessary adjustments to continue safely engaging our membership. Flexibility and patience have become part of our DNA, and we are proud to have completed a full calendar of traditional in-person programs at important historic sites across the Heritage Area. Thorough consideration and diligence went into every offering and our optimism continued to grow as we gathered more frequently to study our rich history.

Last year brought the added challenge of Anne Marie and Jennifer moving on to exciting career opportunities, but we celebrated both in style with farewell gatherings and continue to partner with them in their new roles. Jennifer spent almost 10 years working for the Heritage Area, and we cannot express adequate thanks for her sincere dedication to our organization. True to VPHA form, we embraced these difficult conditions and moved quickly to divide up the workload to keep the ship on course while our devoted hiring team brought forth outstanding candidates. Today we are at full strength with the addition of Ian MacDougall, Public Programs Coordinator, and Alexander Nance, Executive Director.

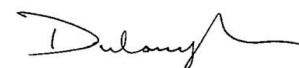
The highlight of 2021 was the success and expansion of our feature special events which saw a participation increase of over 200%. In addition to our 25th Anniversary celebration at the historic Goose Creek Bridge, we visited Dodona Manor, the Oak Spring Garden Foundation, and celebrated the triumphant return of our Civil War Conference, dubbed “Christmas in October!” by our veteran attendees. The year concluded with three more sell-out programs: The Life and Legacy of Senator John Warner, History of the Piedmont Foxhounds, and Historic Homes Dinners. While the pandemic did not ease its grip on school restrictions in 2021, we still connected with almost 1,000 students through field trips, the classroom, and virtual opportunities.

Preservation advocacy remained on the forefront as the pandemic heightened citizen and developer interest in the value of our rural landscape. We celebrated a great victory with the denial of the AT&T cell tower proposed along the Short Hill ridgeline and finally defeated Easton Porter Group’s proposed resort expansion at the Blackthorne Inn after a three-year battle. The fight to keep data centers from being built next to the Manassas National Battlefield continues to intensify and we have taken a leadership role in opposing it with our preservation partners. Critical strides have been made in Aldie and St. Louis and we are on the verge of claiming long-awaited victories in both historic villages. Our easement initiative also recorded a landmark success, playing an important role in the placement of historic Kirkby Farm under conservation easement and making a distribution from the Bondi Family Fund to assist with stewardship costs.

As I pen these words in March of 2022, and reflect over the last 24 months of cancellations, postponements, and endless logistical adjustments, I cannot help but be filled with gratitude that we have finally found our traditional rhythm again. Our student classroom education resumed in February, our special events are selling out at full capacity, and the energy of our dedicated team to push the boundaries of our success has never been higher. How did we get to this strong position in the face of our first pandemic in a century? Because our loyal supporters kept us afloat during the dark days of the lockdown and they responded to our 25th Anniversary Campaign with resounding generosity, making 2021 our most successful fundraising year on record. Our thanks knows no bounds. Today our mission of preservation through education is more important than ever and we have an endless amount of work to do, but I have never been more enthusiastic about the future of our organization.

It has been a great honor to serve such a passionate Board, hardworking Staff, and loyal membership. I am proud to be part of the Heritage Area family and cannot thank you all enough for your unwavering support and confidence.

Yours, with warm appreciation,



June 23, 2022

“Lost Generation” Authors Visit Welbourne

Editor Maxwell Perkins was a lifelong friend of Elizabeth Lemmon of Welbourne and Perkins sent F. Scott Fitzgerald and Thomas Wolfe to stay with her in the country to escape city life. Join us to learn about their experience which influenced them to use the home as a setting in short stories.

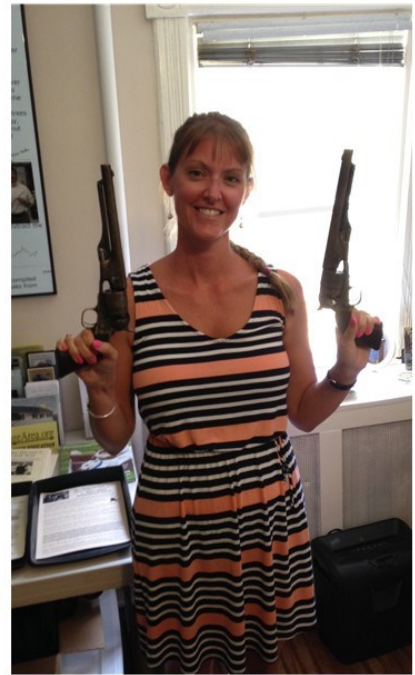
Visit PiedmontHeritage.org for more information





Thank you, Jennifer!

In 2021, VPHA wished a fond farewell to our President, Jennifer Moore. She first joined the staff of the Heritage Area back in 2012, and served as the president since 2017. Over the years she provided the energy and direction that has kept our organization moving forward, and her leadership will be sorely missed. We will also miss her extensive knowledge of the people and places of the Heritage Area, her dedication to historic preservation, and her fantastic sense of humor! We wish you all the best on your future endeavors, Jennifer!



What Heritage Area Project Are You Working On?

Alexander Nance, Executive Director



Over the past several months, I've been researching settlement patterns in our area, and how those patterns are reflected in our landscape today. The Piedmont Heritage Area was a crossroads of different cultures, resulting in vastly different settlement patterns in a relatively small area. This diversity of development can still be seen today and is one of the first things that visitors to this region notice when driving through the scenic countryside. From the sunken roads and stone walls of the Hunt Country to the tidy Quaker settlements along Goose Creek to the sweeping vistas of northern Loudoun County, the Piedmont Heritage Area continues to reflect the cultural diversity that shaped not only this region, but our country as a whole.

Travis Shaw, Director of Education



I've been spending a lot of time researching the men of the 3d Virginia Regiment during the Revolutionary War. They're a fascinating group that was largely recruited from the Heritage Area—mostly Fauquier, Prince William, and Loudoun Counties. Their officers were a who's-who of the region, including Thomas and John Marshall, James Monroe, and John Ashby. They were also present at some of the most critical moments of the war, especially at the battles of Trenton and Brandywine. In 2021, I recreated the uniform worn by the regiment in 1778 as a way to help bring their stories to life.

Ian MacDougall, Public Programs Coordinator



This year I am looking closely at the actions of the battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville in June 1863, during the leadup to the Battle of Gettysburg. It has been incredibly fascinating to see how the intense fighting affected the soldiers on both sides as well as the civilian populace. I am currently looking specifically at the toll the battles took on the town of Aldie, and what local men participated in the actions. I am looking forward to sharing this information and getting our community excited about the history that surrounds them!



About the Board

2021 was one of the most successful years in the history of the Heritage Area, a fact that would have been impossible without our dedicated Board of Directors. Throughout the year they provided the guidance and support we need to make our mission of Preservation Through Education a reality. The Board of Directors not only provides leadership and financial support—they are also dedicated volunteers ready to lend a hand with special events, fundraising, and educational programs.

Last year saw the departure of long-time Director Jeff Freeman as his term came to an end. He has graciously agreed to remain involved with the VPHA as a member of our Advisory Board. We welcomed back a former Director and longtime leader this year, Joe Dempsey. He has supported the Heritage Area for years and we are excited to have him in the Boardroom again. Three new Directors joined the Board in 2021: David Blanchard, Will Nisbet, and VPHA Historian Emeritus Richard Gillespie.

2021

Board of Directors

C. Dulany Morison,
Chair

Torrey Wilkins,
Vice Chair

Suzanne Obetz,
Secretary

Douglas Lees, III,
Treasurer

Wendy Bebie

Harry Bigley

David Blanchard

Tim Burch

Childs Burden,
Chair Emeritus

Ashton Cole

Tara Connell

Thomas deButts

Joe Dempsey

Jake Dunning

Charles Ellison

Barry Freeman

Richard Gillespie

Laura Kelsey

James Little

Patrick Mountain

Will Nisbet

Donald J. Owen

Stephen C. Price

Bess Putnam



Clockwise from top left: Jeff Freeman and Richard Gillespie at the 25th Anniversary celebration; Ian MacDougall with Laura Kelsey and Pat Mountain at Oak Spring; Joe Dempsey enjoying oysters at the 25th Anniversary; Jennifer Moore and historian Scott Patchan with Pat Mountain and James Little at the Civil War Conference.

New Faces



David Blanchard is a life-long Virginian, having spent his first 40 years in Richmond and Goochland County, before moving to Middleburg in February of 2019. David works for a national employee benefits consulting firm called OneDigital, supporting employers with HR, benefits and retirement needs. He has also served on the boards of St. Gertrude High School and The Blue Sky Fund. An outdoor enthusiast with a special affinity for the natural world, he enjoys hunting, fishing, boating and hiking, tubing on Goose Creek, birding at Sky Meadows and trail riding all around the area.



Richard Treat Gillespie is a retired history educator and public historian living in Taylorstown. He retired as Executive Director of the Mosby Heritage Area Association (now the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association) in January 2017 and serves as the VPHA's Historian Emeritus. He had previously served for a decade as Director of Education, in charge of the heritage area's school and public programming to promote interest in the historic landscape in Loudoun, Clarke, Fauquier, and western Prince William where he reached tens of thousands of students and adults. Previously, Rich taught U.S. History for thirty years at Loudoun Valley High School in Purcellville, Virginia, helping to partner his students with a variety of historic sites and historical organizations, emphasizing local history and preservation wherever possible.



Will Nisbet was born and raised in North Carolina. His life and desire to work in education have been influenced by his time in schools, traveling, working with summer camps, and the Boy Scouts. He attended Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA, where he spent time in Middleburg and became familiar with The Hill School, where he now serves as Director of Institutional Development. He has enjoyed getting to know the Piedmont area and lives in Middleburg with his wife, Eloise, and their puppy. Their hobbies include reading, skiing, hiking, traveling, and exploring rural Virginia.

Advisory Board

- Jeff Freeman
- George Grayson
- Douglas Larson
- Marc Leepson
- Rob Orrison
- Henry Plaster
- Mary B. Schwab
- Thomas Slater, Jr.
- Susan Wallace
- J. Donald Woodruff, Jr.
- Paul Ziluca

2021 Preservation Highlights

2021

Heritage Heroes

**Mary Leigh
McDaniel**

**George L.
Ohrstrom II**

AT&T Short Hill Cell Tower: In October the Loudoun Board of Supervisors finally voted down the proposed cell tower along the Short Hill ridgeline would have destroyed the viewshed and natural heritage resources of the area.

Blackthorne Inn in Upperville. After three long years, the Easton Porter Group gave up their plans to build a large resort at the Blackthorne Inn in Upperville. Their proposal was entirely inappropriate for the Rural Policy Area and VPHA spent countless hours working with the preservation community to oppose the development and our victory demonstrates the impact of citizen engagement.

2021 Heritage Heroes

The Heritage Hero Award is given to individuals or groups who have demonstrated years of preservation leadership and responsible stewardship in the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area. Their preservation efforts have made a profound impact on protecting our historic landscape for future generations.



Supervisor Mary Leigh McDaniel of Fauquier County, has worked tirelessly during her tenure as an elected official to preserve the integrity of our beautiful countryside. Over the last six years she has been a stalwart pillar of opposition against inappropriate commercial enterprises in areas zoned rural agricultural. She has also served on the Board of the Land Trust of Virginia where she worked to protect rural properties with conservation easements. Ms. McDaniel’s leadership and willingness to advocate for our cherished landscape at every level has been critical to the preservation of the rural, agricultural, and authentic character of Fauquier County that attracts residents and visitors alike.



George L. Ohrstrom II has made environmental conservation in Clarke County his top priority for over 40 years, and he is the third generation of the Ohrstrom family to carry the preservation legacy forward. His family helped found the Piedmont Environmental Council in 1972, and he has served as a PEC director since 2000 and co-chair since 2013. He has focused on everything from farmland protection and the restoration of streams, to implementing innovative plans for the Piedmont Grasslands Bird Initiative with the Virginia Working Landscapes, which George serves as Vice Chair. His commitment to conservation and preservation for almost half-a-century has been instrumental in the preservation of Clarke County and the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area.

Ongoing Preservation Initiatives



- Manassas Battlefield:** In 2021, the Prince William County Board of Supervisors began exploring options to open up to 27.6 million square feet for the building of data centers along Pageland Lane, directly across from the Manassas National Battlefield. This development would decimate the unique character of the county’s rural area and would

have a devastating impact on one of our nation’s most treasured historic sites. Beyond the battlefield itself, the rural crescent along Pageland Lane holds irreplaceable historic resources, ranging from indigenous American sites to historic African American communities. Paving over these sites to build more data centers would erase another valuable part of our region’s complex and precious cultural heritage. VPHA has worked with a coalition of likeminded preservation partners over the past year to protect our historic resources and the interests of Prince William residents by fighting against this development.

- Aldie:** Negotiations over the sale of the “Aldie Assemblage” fell through in November. This shocking news was extremely discouraging, but the preservation community held several emergency meetings to determine another solution and we were thrilled when the Piedmont Environmental Council stepped forward with a matching offer to purchase the Aldie Assemblage on December 7, 2021. PEC’s ownership of these parcels would guarantee that the historic fabric of the village would be preserved, and it would remove permanently the threat of any inappropriate development at these sites. VPHA fully endorses PEC’s offer, and is confident that PEC’s offer provides an ironclad solution and puts these important parcels in the care of one of Loudoun’s most trusted preservation leaders. We hope the Loudoun Board of Supervisors will accept the offer in the first quarter of next year.
- Philomont fire station:** VPHA has worked to preserve the Philomont Firehouse by renovating the existing firehouse in place and keeping the Horse Show grounds as a community park. We are concerned that Loudoun County Fire and Rescue is determined to build yet another sprawling fire house that is not needed in Philomont. Such a move would destroy the only greenspace that belongs to the community and greatly impact the surrounding neighbors. We continue to work with the residents of this historic community to preserve open space and safeguard the village’s historic heritage.

Historic Kirkby Farm Protected Permanently by Conservation Easement

**190 Acres
Permanently
Protected!**

VPHA continues to work with landowners in the Unison Battlefield Study Area to place their properties under conservation easement and we were thrilled when Mary Welby Brown, Mary Welby McGill, and Lucy Brown Armstrong placed their historic Kirkby Farm outside of Upperville under a permanent conservation easement with the Old Dominion Land Conservancy (ODLC). Our **Bondi Family Land Conservation and Battlefield Preservation Fund** again proved a vital resource and we were proud to have made a distribution towards the stewardship costs associated with the easement.

The historic significance of this property cannot be understated. During the Battle of Unison, the 190-acre property saw sporadic cavalry skirmishing on Nov. 3, 1862, as the 9th VA Cavalry engaged in a slow retreat down Trappe Road, being pursued by the 8th PA Cavalry. This was part of a successful tactic by J.E.B. Stuart to delay the Federal advance long enough to screen the movements of Gen. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia, which resulted in Lincoln’s removal of Gen. McClellan from command. ODLC Executive Director Henry Stribling remarked, “We are excited to assist with the permanent protection of this historic property for future generations, including the preservation of the all-important battlefields.”



The Kirkby property featured even more prominently the following year during the prelude to Gettysburg in the late stages of the Battle of Upperville on June 21st, 1863. During the battle a large column of US cavalry pushed their rebel counterparts west along the Ashby’s Gap Turnpike (Route 50) while another column under the command of Gen. John Buford maneuvered across the fields and lanes north of the turnpike. As Buford’s men advanced, Confederate cavalry commanded by John Chambliss deployed along Trappe Road and in the surrounding fields. The two sides engaged in vicious fighting around the stone farmhouse (known as the Thomas Farm) and in the intervening fields. Confederate artillery fire from the north side of the farm had a devastating impact on the advancing Union troops. Fighting raged back and forth across the farm until a final push by Union cavalry under Col. Thomas Devin drove the remaining rebels south and west

towards Ashby’s Gap. The battle around the Thomas Farm and Trappe Road cost the Union army 88 men killed or wounded while Confederate casualties were between 50 and 100 men killed or wounded.

Digital Engagement

2021 saw the return of many of our in-person events, but VPHA continued to produce regular digital content to share our local history to a worldwide audience via Facebook, YouTube, and our *See it, Save it* blog. These videos and articles continued to cover a wide range of topics from the pre-historic era up to the 21st century, and were often produced in conjunction with our special events calendar.

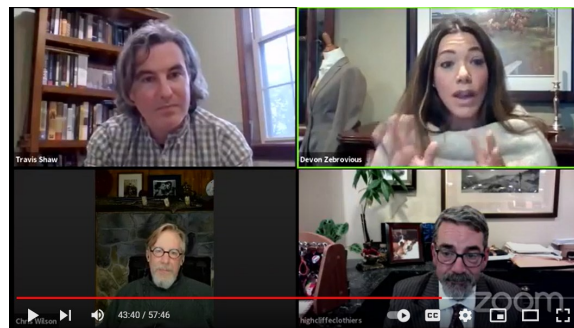
Many of our digital resources have been created with the classroom in mind, and provide an easy way to incorporate local sites and stories into the curriculum at school and in the home.

46 Online Videos

75,830 Facebook Views

11,065 YouTube Views

3,296 Blog Views




Top left: Travis Shaw and Ian MacDougall discussing local Revolutionary War veterans.

Top right: Exploring the history of equestrian clothing with Devon Zebrovius, Chris Wilson, and Mark Metzger

Left: The Historians on Tap enjoying a virtual Valentine’s Day.

2021 Digital Engagement Intern

Niamh Connell



Niamh Connell is a sophomore at St. Mary’s College of Maryland, where she is pursuing a Bachelor’s Degree with a major in history and a minor in business. Beginning in the summer of 2021 she produced a series of posts for the VPHA blog, *See it, Save it*. For each post she completed original research on a Heritage Area person or location, and then turned that research into a compelling story. The Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area would like to thank Niamh for her excellent work and wish her all the best as she furthers her academic career!

Preservation Through Education

**1,166
Students
Reached**

Education became the cornerstone of our mission in 2005 and since that year we have provided no-cost educational programming for over 55,000 students of all ages and in every county of the Heritage Area. In addition, our adult educational programs have reached countless others and have strengthened our partnerships with dozens of regional partners.

In 2021, we were able to return to much of our in-person programming, and revived several popular events, including Legends by Lanternlight and Conversations in History. Our educators also provided valuable support and content for special events, particularly our 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Goose Creek Bridge.

Left: Ian MacDougall describing army life in the Civil War to students at the Middleburg Montessori School.



Right: Travis Shaw discussing historical foodways and cooking at Historic Encounters Day.



K-12 Education

The last two years have presented numerous challenges to our traditional educational programming. Continued health restrictions and disrupted schedules prevented our educators from performing their typical number of class presentations. In response, the VPHA has revolutionized the scope and content of their educational offerings, allowing us to bring history to students wherever they are—in the classroom, at home, or at historic sites across the Heritage Area.

2021 saw VPHA educators working virtually with students at Woodgrove High School to create a “virtual museum” delving into life in Western Loudoun at the turn of the 20th century. Our staff provided tours of historic Leesburg to homeschool students and brought others to the Mt. Zion Church in Aldie. Families witnessed the past firsthand through living history events at the Burwell-Morgan Mill, Heritage Farm Museum, Rippon Lodge, and more.

As we look ahead to the 2022-23 school year, we are already on track to reenter the classroom and continue our mission as we work to reach the next 50,000 students.

Community Education

16 Live Programs

787 Attendees

Learning doesn't end at graduation, and VPHA offers a full range of educational programs focused on our Heritage Area history for audiences of all ages. Our commitment to bringing dynamic and engaging history events to communities throughout the Heritage Area is stronger than ever, and 2021 saw the return of several of our most popular educational programs.

Historians on Tap, which celebrates the weird, wild, and wonderful stories of local history, came to several area breweries, including Old Ox, Flying Ace, and Lost Barrell. A special History on Tap fundraiser was also held on the historic grounds of the Glenfiddich House in Leesburg, and the program was later broadcast on C-SPAN's American History TV. Our partnership with NOVA Parks continued with the return of Conversations in History, which brings in historians from around the region to discuss 18th and 19th century topics. In November, VPHA partnered with the Clarke County Historical Association for a Legends by Lanternlight tour of historic Millwood and Carter Hall.



Clockwise from top left: Dr. James Broomall discusses the aftermath of Gettysburg at *Conversations in History*; The historians on tap with guest Dana Shoaf during the *Historians on Tap* fundraiser at the Glenfiddich House; VPHA staff and volunteers in 18th century uniforms at the Clarke County Historical Association's *Colonial Kid's Day*; *History on Tap* brought a huge crowd to Upperville's historic Trinity Episcopal Church to learn about the village's surprising history.

The Role of Special Events

16
Special Events
1002
Event Attendees

2021 saw immense growth of our special event programming, despite the complications presented by the pandemic. These events fuel and maintain our mission of “preservation through education”. Several of our favorite programs were brought back in the Spring and Summer, as well as an expansion of our feature events that connect our audience with the landscape. We saw the return of the popular trail rides and hikes at Long Branch, Old Welbourne, North Hill, and Old Denton, as well as programs such as the Mosby’s Rangers Safehouse Tour that brought us to historic homes throughout the heritage area. These programs offer the opportunity to explore many areas not usually open to the public. Unique experiences such as these combined with the historical interpretation of VPHA Staff and volunteers make for a whole new way to consider the landscape we all enjoy.



Above: Enjoying the views of the Shenandoah Valley from the rooftop of Long Branch during our June Hike and Trail Ride.

Right: Guests listen to stories about the life of Senator John Warner. Speakers included retired congressman Frank Wolf, Warner’s former chief of staff L. Carter Cornick, and lifelong friend of Warner, Mildred “Bucky” Slater. The program was moderated by President of the Campaign Legal Center, Trevor Potter.

Our Feature Programs saw the largest expansion in 2021, covering a wide range of historical topics. VPHA celebrated its 25th Anniversary at the Goose Creek Bridge in June with games, food, live music from the Dargen Benders, battlefield tours, and a visit from the Piedmont Foxhounds! We also had the distinct honor of remembering the life of Senator Warner at Trinity Church in Upperville in October, followed by a reception at his former home of Atoka Farm. Autumn also saw the return of the VPHA Historic Homes Dinners, as well as an in depth look at the history of the Piedmont Foxhounds with History and Hounds hosted at Buchanan Hall and Welbourne in November.

These diverse in-person programs brought a rebirth of our membership engagement and were one of the VPHA’s largest successes of the year. In conjunction with membership, special events provide the financial backing to accomplish our educational mission throughout the heritage area.



Return of The Art of Command in the Civil War

After a yearlong hiatus during the pandemic, the ever-popular conference on the Civil War returned in October, 2021. The 23rd Annual Art of Command conference focused on the prelude to Second Manassas and included two days of discussion on leadership and strategy of Union and Confederate commanders, followed by a bus tour highlighting actions and movement in the weeks leading up to the battle in 1862. This year found the return of many familiar guests, as well as many newcomers.



*Far left: Ex-M.F.H. Glenn Epstein discusses the links between foxhunting and conservation at *History and Hounds*.*

Left: Guests on the North Hill history hike explore a Washington family cemetery.

Bottom Left: Riders learn the fascinating history of Old Denton



A special thanks to our 2021
Historic Homes Dinners hosts:

Sara Brown and Scott Maison
Libby Devlin
Jolly De Give
Jean Perin
Margaret O'Neill
C. Dulany and Eleanor Morison
Hope and George Morison



Oak Spring Garden Foundation

In September, VPHA audiences had the opportunity to explore the property of Oak Spring in partnership with the Oak Spring Garden Foundation. This 4,000-acre estate in Upperville is a beautiful example of preserved landscape and was the home of Paul and Rachel “Bunny” Mellon. Bunny created the Oak Spring Garden Foundation in 1993 not just to preserve the home and pristine gardens that grace the property, but to keep alive the study of plants and stress the importance of biodiversity through her collections and library. Today the Oak Spring Garden Foundation continues Mrs. Mellon’s legacy of education and study under the leadership of Sir Peter Crane, OSGF President. The VPHA was fortunate to partner with the OSGF to invite guests to the property, touring parts of the estate, gardens, greenhouse, and gallery. Organizations like the Oak Spring Garden Foundation share our values of land preservation and education to promote the common good for community and humanity.





Clockwise from top left: Hikers taking in the sights at North Hill along the Shenandoah River; Eric Buckland tells the story of John Mosby’s improbable escape at Old Denton; Mark Dudrow tells the story of the Union Cavalry that fought at Five Points in 1864 during a history hike; Riders pass Old Welbourne during a spring trail ride; Guests strolling the grounds of the Oak Spring Garden Foundation; VPHA Director of Education Travis Shaw greets the Piedmont Foxhounds at the 25th Anniversary Celebration.

Volunteer Impact

216
Volunteer
Hours Equals
\$4,320
In-kind
Support

Our mission of Preservation through Education would be impossible without the efforts of our many hard-working volunteers. In 2021, volunteers provided over 200 hours of service at both special events and educational programs. From volunteer interpreters at our Mosby Safehouse Tour and Legends by Lanternlight to our greeters and servers at Oak Spring, our volunteers are an invaluable part of the VPHA. They assisted with the setting up and breaking down of our events, served drinks and oriented our guests, and provided excellent historical interpretation. The Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area offers our sincere thanks to everyone who devoted their expertise, time, and energy to making 2021 a resounding success!

Dr. James Broomall, Volunteer Interpreter

“Collaborating with the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area has been an extremely rewarding experience for me both personally and professionally. Through educational programs and living history demonstrations I have been afforded the tremendous opportunity to work with the VPHA’s knowledgeable staff and interact with diverse audiences. It is with great pleasure that I will continue to volunteer with the VPHA to advance the preservation and education mission.”



Left: Cameron Walker, Austin Angelopulos, Dani Kawa, and Samuel Samuel pose with VPHA Public Programs Coordinator Ian MacDougall at Oak Spring.

Right: Christina Herold and Jeff Millington tell first hand accounts of the Civil War at Carter Hall as part of the *Legends by Lanternlight* event in Millwood.



Top left: Eric Buckland tells the story of Llangollen’s use as a Mosby safehouse in the Civil War.



Top right: Public Programs Coordinator Ian MacDougall poses with interpreters Emily Brantley, Travis Daniel, Sam McGinty and Sean Considine at the 25th Anniversary Event.



Right: Mark Dudrow speaks to a visitor at the 25th Anniversary event.

Cameron Walker, Special Events Volunteer

“I am a lifelong 'lover' of history, but another passion is the study of landscapes and cultural heritage. Through volunteering with VPHA, I participated in an event held with the Oak Spring Foundation. This opportunity allowed me to engage with the public about the importance of gardening, animal husbandry, and how the cultural heritage around Northern Virginia is visible through the landscapes of the region's farms, estates, and towns. Because of VPHA I was not only able to learn about Rachel Mellon, but I was able to see how the history of the region is still visible today: whether it be at venues like Oak Spring or in conversations with other 'lovers' of history.”

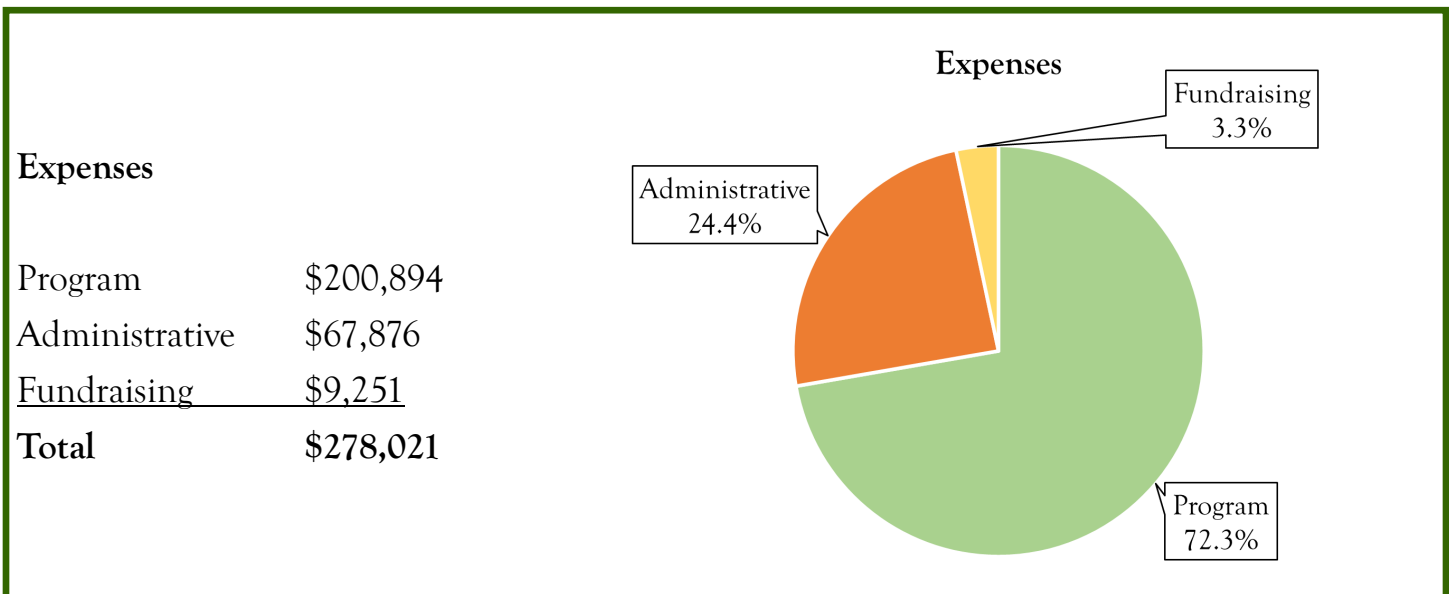
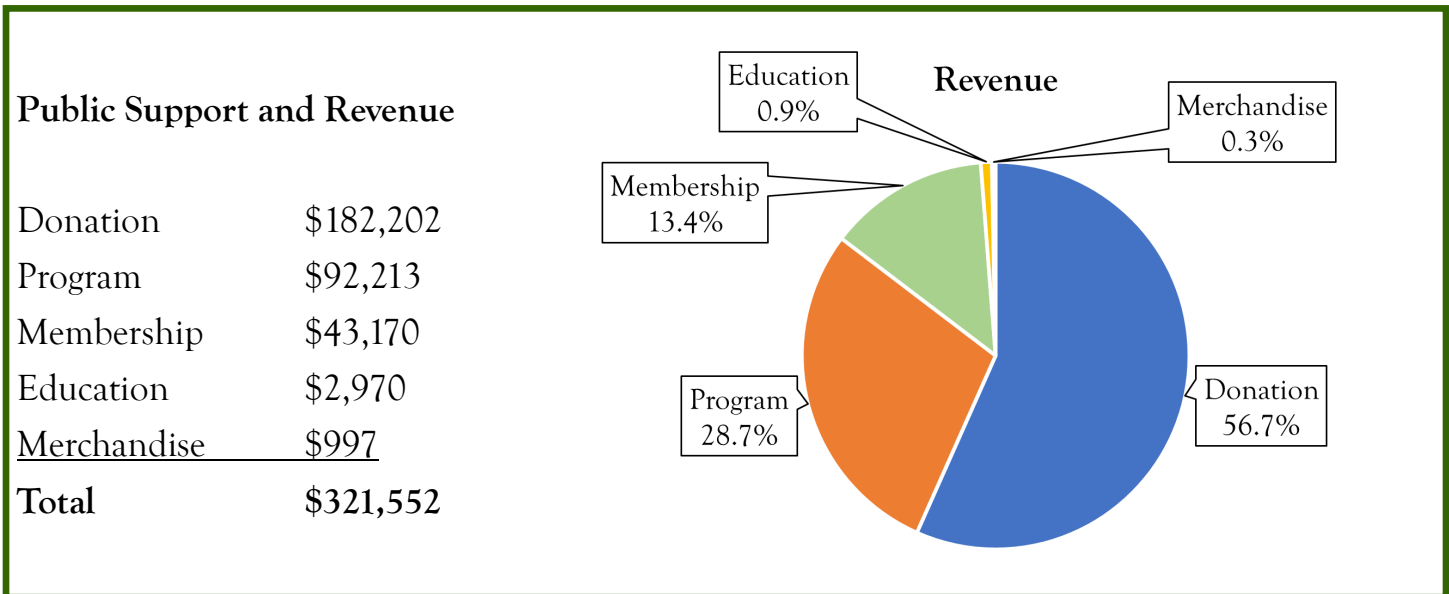
2021 Volunteers

- Austin Angelopoulos
- Emily Brantley
- James Broomall
- Eric Buckland
- Sean Considine
- Kyle Dalton
- Travis Daniel
- Mark Dudrow
- Josh Faust
- Dave Goetz
- Don Hakenson
- Alan Hayes
- Christina Herold
- Dani Kawa
- Lee Lawrence
- Kurt Lewis
- Sam McGinty
- John McMillan
- Jeff Millington
- Christine Nestleroth
- Samuel Samuel
- Gary Schwartz
- James Taub
- Cameron Walker
- Steve Wismer

Financial Snapshot

Throughout 2021, VPHA continued to emerge from uncertainties posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and resumed hosting a full schedule of in-person events. Donations for VPHA’s 25th Anniversary capital campaign were instrumental in funding efforts to restore the historic Rector House, and VPHA memberships continued to grow. We are very grateful for one of our most profitable years on record and thank all our generous donors, members, and participants for making this possible.

Administrative costs include not just payroll, but digital subscriptions, technical recording equipment, and other costs of maintaining content online. Restoration and maintenance of the historic Caleb Rector House and print and design work for our publications are also included as administrative costs. VPHA also received \$32,902 from the federal government as part of the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP), a forgivable government loan designed to help small businesses and organizations keep their workforce employed during the COVID-19 crisis. This income is not included in the financial snapshot below.



Members and Donors

The continued success of VPHA over the past 25 years is only possible because of the generous support of our members. We want to sincerely thank all of our long-time contributors and warmly welcome all of our new members! With your continued support, we look forward to the next 25 years!

Heritage Gold Circle (\$10,000 and up)

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley J. Bondi
 Mr. and Mrs. Childs F Burden*
 Mr. Craig Houston and Ms. Pat Tobin
 Mr. Marvin Freeman

Charles H. Miller Charitable Foundation
 JSC Construction Inc.
 Mitchell & Co. PC CPAs
 Patient First
 Wise Foundation

Business Gold Circle

The Brennan Family Foundation

Heritage Patrons (\$1,000–2,499)

Mr. and Mrs. Charles T Akre Jr
 Mr. and Mrs. Tim Burch*
 Mr. and Mrs. Townsend Burden
 Ms. Tara Connell*
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M deButts*
 Mr. Mitch Diamond and Ms. Lucy Bernstein
 Mr. Robert Ellis and Ms. Dana Cohen
 Mr. Jeff Freeman and Ms. Lauri Farnsworth
 Mr. Barry Freeman*
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard T Gillespie*
 Mr. George Grayson
 Mr. Terence Healy
 Mr. and Mrs. William S Janes
 Ms. Laura Kelsey*
 Mr. Chuck Kuhn
 Mr. and Mrs. Marc Leepson
 Mr. Douglas Lees*
 Mr. and Mrs. Trowbridge Littleton
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles G Mackall Jr
 Mr. J Randall Minchew
 Mr. Patrick J Mountain*
 Ms. Jill Norair
 Mrs. Jackie Ohrstrom
 Ms. Jean Perin
 Mrs. Michele Rouse
 Mr. and Mrs. Reid Stuntz
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Winchester

Heritage Silver Circle (\$5,000–9,999)

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Crane
 Mr. Dale DeSantis
 Ms. Nina L Fout
 Mr. and Mrs. James S Little*
 Mr. and Mrs. Dulany Morison*
 Mr. T Garrick Steele
 Mr. Alfred P Van Huyck

Heritage Benefactors (\$2,500–4,999)

Mrs. Ann Backer
 Ms. Wendy Bebie*
 Mr. and Mrs. Zohar Ben-Dov
 Mr. Harry A Bigley III*
 Mr. Eric Chewning
 Mr. Carey W Crane III
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert E L deButts
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H DeLashmutt
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ellison*
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald Glickman
 Mr. and Mrs. W Cabell Grayson
 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne V Jordan
 Mr. Scott Keep
 Mr. H Turney McKnight
 Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Mele
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen C Price*
 Dr. and Mrs. David Snizek
 Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Twining

Business Benefactors

The Agua Fund of the Community Foundation of Collier County

Business Benefactors con't

Business Patrons

BOWA
 Visit Loudoun
 Mighty Cause
 Comprehensive Chiropractic
 The Peter M. Howard Memorial Fund

*denotes current Board Member

Heritage Cavaliers (\$500–999)

Ms. Dorothy Ballenger
 Mr. David Blanchard*
 Ms. Patricia Callahan
 Dr and Mrs. Charles Carroll IV
 Mr. Ashton Cole*
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P Dempsey III*
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert S Eliot
 Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Epstein
 Mr. and Mrs. W Douglas Gow
 Ms. Georgia H Herbert and Mr. Ken Garrett
 Mr. and Mrs. William Mitchell
 Mary Morton and Keith Forman
 Ms. Amy N Orr
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Parks
 Mr. Kevin Ramundo and Ms. Anne D'Ignazio
 Mr. John L Richardson
 Ms. Barbara S Riggs
 Brig Gen and Mrs. David N Senty USAF Ret
 Mrs. Katherine Wilkins
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald Woodruff
 Mr. and Mrs. William H Yarborough

Heritage Supporters (\$250–499)

Mr. Art Ashley
 Mr. Russell Beal and Ms. Barbara Bearman
 Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Becek
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Becek
 Mr. and Mrs. James Carson
 Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Collum
 Mr. and Mrs. David F Condon*
 Mr. and Mrs. J Bradley Davis
 Mr. and Mrs. C Stanley Dees
 Mr. and Mrs. John B Denegre
 Mr. Robert Dove
 Mr. Nathan Epling
 Dr and Mrs. George Graham
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian Graves
 Mr. Gene Gulland
 Mr. Clark Hall
 Mr. G Kimbal Hart
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Howell
 Col. (Ret) and Mrs. Frederick Johnston
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lawrence
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles P Maloney III
 Mr. Malcolm Matheson III and Ms. Nancy West
 The Hon and Mrs. Joe May
 Ms. Kathryn Milam

Heritage Supporters con't
 Mr. Arthur Moldenhauer
 Welbourne Farm
 Mr. Will Nisbet*
 Mr. Willson Offutt
 Mr. and Mrs. Don Owen
 Mr. Haven Pell
 Mr. Tom Schubert
 Mr. and Mrs. George N Slater
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Slater
 Mr. James W Timberlake and Ms. Gina Farrar
 Mr. Todd Treichel
 Mr. Robert Varrin
 Ms. Jeanne Warner
 Mr. Torrey Wilkins*
 Mr. William Wilkins
 Mr. and Mrs. Rene R Woolcott
 Mr. and Mrs. A A Zimmerman

Business Supporters

McGraw Foundation
 The Don and Amy Owen Charitable Fund Of The
 Community Foundation For Loudoun and
 Northern Fauquier Counties
 Snickersville Turnpike Association

Heritage Rangers (\$100–249)

Mr. Edward Altemos
 Mr. James Anderson
 Mr. Lars Anderson
 Ms. Mary Arden
 Ms. Valerie Beaudoin
 Ms. Cricket Bedford
 Ms. Cynthia Beyer
 Ms. Inge Braune
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven A Campbell
 Mr. and Mrs. Ham Clark
 Ms. Megan Connolly
 Ms. Gina Cotto
 Mr. Mark Crowley
 Mr. Stephen J Crum
 Ms. Ruth Davis
 Mrs. David DeGive
 Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Diday
 Mr. and Mrs. C L Dimos
 Mr. Joe Drumheller
 Mr. Frederic Edmonds
 Mr. Perry Epes

**denotes current Board Member*

Heritage Rangers con't

Ms. Mary Ewing
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fanganello
 Mr. Michael Farrell
 Mr. and Mrs. Russ Fletcher
 Ms. Gabrielle Gallegos
 Mr. Michael Geist
 Ms. Bonnie Getty
 Ms. Kathy Gilman
 Ms. Gema Gonzalez
 Mr. Martin Gordon
 Mr. Paul Hancq
 Mr. Wayne Harne
 Mr. Jack Helmly
 Ms. Carolyn Hendrickson
 Ms. Alison Herring
 Mr. James Hobson
 Ms. Sally Hosta
 Mr. A H. Humphreys
 Ms. Lora H Jenkins
 Ms. Virginia Jenkins
 Mr. William Johnson
 Ms. Nathalie H Kaye
 Ms. Florence Keenan
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth K Knapp Jr
 Ms. Catherine Larmore
 Mr. and Mrs. Douglas C Larson
 Ms. Aliene Laws
 Ms. Marion Lee
 Ms. Phillipa Lewis
 Mr. John Leydon
 Mr. Treavor Lord
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Mack
 Frank Mangano Foundation
 Ms. Jacqueline Mars
 Mr. Stephen Matthews and Ms. Sheila Whetzel
 Mr. Christopher A McClary
 Dr. William H McCormick VMD
 Ms. Mary Leigh McDaniel
 Ms. Mary McGill
 Ms. Nina McKee
 Mr. Roy Meade
 Mr. and Mrs. Sam Miller
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Millington
 Mr. Jeffery Mitchell
 Mrs. Lucy Morison
 Ms. Kimbrough Nash
 Ms. Michele Powers

Heritage Rangers con't

Mr. Richard C Riemenschneider
 Mrs. Donna Rogers
 Mr. Charles A Rohe
 Mr. and Mrs. Harry Russell
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven F Salley
 Mr. and Mrs. George Scheulen
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles H Seilheimer, Jr
 Ms. Barbara A Sharp
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Smith
 Mr. and Mrs. Turner T Smith Jr
 Mr. Wade Smith
 Mr. Robert Stone
 Mr. Keith Strange
 Ms. Sara Sukol
 Mr. Derrick Sutter
 Dr. and Mrs. Barry H Thompson
 Mr. and Mrs. Foster Thorpe
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Trefzger
 Ms. Michele Trufant
 Mr. J Marvin Watts
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wheelwright
 Mr. Jerald Wolford
 Col. John F Zugschwert

Business Rangers

Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club
 Potowmack Elementary School PTA
 Journey Through Hallowed Ground
 Country Zest and Style LLC

Heritage Sentinels (\$50–99)

Mr. John Abbott
 Mr. John Benedict
 Ms. Jackie C Burke
 Dr. and Mrs. Winston W. Cameron
 Mr. Michael J Chapman
 Mr. and Mrs. Bruce W Clark
 Ms. Betsy Coffield
 Ms. Alicia Cohen
 Ms. Karen Connair
 Mr. Philip Paschall and Mrs. Elizabeth Cox
 Sir and Lady Peter Crane
 Mr. James Dean
 The DePuy Family
 Mr. and Mrs. Guy O Dove III
 Mr. Robert Dove
 Mrs. Hazle Woodruff Edens

**denotes current Board Member*

Heritage Sentinels con't

Ms. Carina Elgin
 Mr. Joseph Fioramonti
 Mr. Timothy Fritts
 Mr. Rick Frye
 Ms. Carolyn Fuller
 Ms. Megan Gallagher
 Mr. Donald V Goodwin
 Ms. Pegge Graham
 Ms. Mary Ann Gworek
 Mr. Dan Haney
 Mr. John Hannum
 Ms. Mary Hansen
 Ms. Mary Hayes
 Mr. Stephen W Herholtz
 Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Houston
 Ms. Jenny Irwin
 Mr. T. Christopher Jenkins
 Ms. Catherine Johns
 Ms. Alisa Johnson
 Ms. Marilyn Jones
 Ms. Gail Kelly
 Mr. John Kelly
 Mr. David Kreager
 Mr. Thomas Lacey
 Mr. Eugene LeCouteur
 Ms. Jennifer Lee
 Mr. Kenneth Lin
 Mr. Richard Manning
 Mr. Larry D McKinley
 Ms. Rosemarie Merle-Smith
 Mr. Phillip Mink
 Mr. and Mrs. Bradford T. Moore
 Mr. Steven Moyer
 Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Nance
 Mr. Bush Nichols
 Mr. and Mrs. Craig Nielsen
 Mr. Kyle Pitsor
 Ms. Martha Polkey
 Ms. Sharon Rasmussen
 Ms. Kathleen Read
 Ms. Dawn Rounsaville
 Mr. Bradford Ryder
 Mr. and Mrs. Garon Stutzman
 Ms. Victoria Summers
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K Tate
 Ms. Mary Terpak
 Mr. Thomas S Trautman

Heritage Sentinels con't

Mr. Gregg Turk
 Mr. Peter Weeks
 Ms. Tanya Wolff
 Hon. and Mrs. Dean Worcester
 Ms. Devon Zebrovius

Teachers and Friends (Up to \$50)

Mr. Richard Anderson
 Mr. Carl Craig
 Mrs. Tria Pell Dove
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B Glascock
 Ms. Jennifer Glazebrook
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Higgins
 Mr. Ted Humburg
 Ms. Karissa Keller
 Ms. Connie Mahan
 Ms. Jane Covington Motion
 Ms. Elaine Oette
 Mr. William Wilkin

**denotes current Board Member*

Donors In Memory of William “Bill” Stokes IV

1964-2021

In 2021 the preservation community lost one of its strongest advocates with the passing of William "Bill" Stokes IV. Bill was a tremendous ally to the community, a passionate believer in preservation, and a stalwart friend to the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area, having most recently facilitated our partnership event on George Marshall at Dodona Manor in August, 2021. A graduate of the Hill School, avid horse racer, and lover of the landscape, Bill and his family continued to support the community and its preservation efforts throughout the years. We join the community in mourning his passing.



Mr. David Baker

Ms. Karen Baragona

Ms. Janet Barnett

Mr. Samuel Bendett

Ms. Cathy Bradford

Mr. Robert Brant

Mr. Marcelo Corpuz

Mr. Nicholas Cumings

Mr. John Elink-Shuurman

Ms. Katherine Ellsworth

Mr. Frederick Ernst

Ms. Rebecca Flynn

Mr. Thomas Foster

Ms. Elizabeth Johnson

Ms. Tamara Jovovic

Mr. Rod Kuckro

Mr. William Leahy

Ms. Catherine Miliaras

Mr. David Morris

Ms. Christine Neikirk

Ms. Elizabeth Nicholson

Mr. Andrew Painter

Ms. Janet Powers

Mr. Kai Reynolds

Ms. Laura Rheintgen

Ms. Kristine Schulz

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Slater

Ms. MaryAnn Veitch

Ms. Helen Wiley

Mr. Robert Youngentob

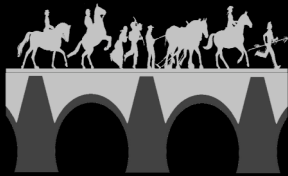
A Look Back at Our Last 25 Years!



See it...

Save it...

Pass it on.



The Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association

PO Box 1497, Middleburg, VA 20118

Telephone: 540 687-6681

Email: Info@PiedmontHeritage.org

www.PiedmontHeritage.org

The Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association is a 501(c)3 organization.

Your membership is tax deductible

**Want to support our
mission of Preservation
Through Education?**

**Scan the QR code to
make a donation!**



The mission of the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association is Preservation through Education – to educate about the history and advocate for the preservation of the extraordinary historic landscape, culture, and scenery in the Northern Virginia Piedmont for future generations to enjoy