

[ASSOCIATION](#)[EDUCATION](#)[JOHN S. MOSBY](#)[CONTACT US](#)

NEWS

Mosby Heritage Area Association Newsletter - JUNE 2015

MHAA NEWSLETTERS

Welcome, New Members!

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

Tracy A. Beer
 Jim Bowman
 Ronald and Linda De Shong
 Patricia Jones
 Rob Orrison
 John Pflug, Jr.
 Caroline Polhemus
 Rick Turner



[Click Below to view MHAA Past Newsletters](#)

[February 2015](#)

[January 2015](#)

[November / December 2014](#)

[October 2014](#)

[September 2014](#)

[July/August 2014](#)

[June 2014](#)

[May 2014](#)

[April 2014](#)

[March 2014](#)

[February 2014](#)

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!

Want to become a member of MHAA and enjoy discounts on upcoming event tickets? Want to support our mission? Need to renew your membership?

[Do it here!](#)

From the Window of the Executive Director . . .

Looking out my window, I just saw the last yellow school bus of the season roll through Rector's Crossroads. Oh, do you remember what that felt like? We all celebrate the last day of school! Here at the Mosby Heritage Area Association, we've just completed the heritage area's 13th season of school programming, and we're sitting back with a sigh ourselves—of relief, of satisfaction, and of accomplishment. Perhaps we'll porch set a spell—oh, and brag just a bit.

It was the dream of the founders and early board members of MHAA to reach the youngest members of our society with the stories and places that made this historic region special. It would be the icing on the cake. It would insure that there would be some stewards of this historic landscape in the future. Beginning with two schools in 2002 under previous Executive Director Judy Reynolds, you have watched us grow by 2007 to at least 30 schools per year in which all students in the target grade would be reached by a classroom visit or a field trip. We work particularly with elementary students and middle school students studying U.S. or Virginia history, but work with local high schools as well to present to juniors studying a more in depth and complex variant of the same.

This year, we offered programs examining the early settlement of the region and the American Revolution, the horror of slavery in Northern Virginia and the changes and personal victories brought with Emancipation, the Civil War attuned to each of our member counties' personal stories, and changes that came to the region with Reconstruction and after. We've done these through a mixture of lively classroom visits (always with a story that happened close to the school) and field trips, partnering with historic sites of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Oatlands Plantation & Gardens, and Oak Hill, home of President James Monroe. We feel that as we leave a school or when students leave us, several things have been impressed on them, all of which are the essence of a heritage area. First, we want them to know that history can be engaging and full of the most gripping stories you've ever heard. Second, we want the students and their teachers to know that history happened near them, not just near some other famous place. Third, we want them to want to explore history about them further, not just in school—and we provide an exploratory guide of their county's best local historical sites in the form of a scavenger hunt to encourage them. We reward them with a "Got Mosby?" t-shirt if they do so. Finally, we hope to impress upon them both the importance and the fragility of the historic landscape about them, so that the idea of the need for historic preservation will be learned.

This year we worked with 3,225 students in 30 schools. We have many memories, staff and volunteers do. Those who manned our two Civil War Days, our Loudoun History Day for high school, and our three Aldie Triangle field trip days will remember the wonder of the students who looked, listened,

touched, and were touched. Going in to schools, staff was touched by the extraordinary faculty efforts being made by some teachers to enrich our children's lives by reaching out to the community and its history even though it will only minimally impact standardized test scores. Education Specialist Kevin Pawlak and I are touched by the passionate letters of thanks attached by parents to the scavenger hunts submitted to earn t-shirts for their children, and how much these citizens care that their children are being exposed to what is around them, and not just in books or websites.

Our program is paid for by your attendance at our fundraising educational programs, by your membership in the Mosby Heritage Area Association, and by your generous donations to our annual appeal. To all of you, we are so very grateful. We hope you'll continue to support this educational mission and share your ideas with us.

Now, won't you do one more thing? Take a child, a neighbor, visiting family, a new arrival in the neighborhood, your spouse, or just your good old self out for a ride in the Mosby Heritage Area to see the historic landscape of which we are so proud? It is a lovely place to wander on a Virginia summer's day ...

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, July 12, 2:00pm

Blazer's Scouts: Mosby's Antagonists in the Shenandoah Valley

Talk by Historian Darl Stephenson

St. James United Church of Christ
10 East Broad Way
Lovettsville, VA 20180

The event will feature a talk on Richard Blazer's Scouts by Darl Stephenson, author of the prominent work on Blazer's Scouts, Headquarters in the Brush: Blazer's Independent Union Scouts.



Blazer's Scouts go out on a mission, 1864 (Western Reserve Historical Society)

Blazer's Scouts was formed in 1864 with the sole purpose being "to clean out Mosby's gang." Blazer and his men engaged Mosby's Rangers several times in the summer and fall of 1864, most notably at Myers Ford in September and Kabletown in November, where the unit virtually ceased to exist following their defeat at the hands of Mosby's men. Blazer and his unit consistently proved a thorn in Mosby's side, causing Mosby to remark after the war that Richard Blazer and his Scouts were his "most formidable foe."

This program is hosted by the Mosby Heritage Area jointly with the Lovettsville Historical Society. This is a free event, though donations are requested.

SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER:

June 20

Luncheon at Oakwood

Warrenton, VA



Oakwood, by Douglas Lees



Marc Leepson addressing the group

Photos by Douglas Lees.

A French buffet Luncheon at historic Oakwood, one of Fauquier County's most memorable and historic homes, was held with author Marc Leepson (Lafayette: Idealist General) discussing the Life and Times of the Marquis de Lafayette, salon-style. Guests gathered round the lovely sitting room, surrounded by Lincoln's book case, impeccable décor, and antiques. We enjoyed champagne, sunshine, and stories of Lafayette's return visit to Virginia. The Loudoun Museum lent an original Spectator newspaper article chronicling the Marquis' visit to Leesburg.



Liz Whiting with the Spector article, by Douglas Lees

A house tour was included, featuring the boudoir of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor (aka Wallis Simpson) who stayed here.

June 6th
Mosby Ranger Descendant Reunion

Middleburg, VA



Roll Call



Two Descendants on the Rector House porch



Descendants

Mosby Ranger descendants and their families enjoyed first-person living history interpretations, a roll call by Company, and discussions about the famous Mosby's Rangers. After lunch, it was socializing on the porch of the Rector House, the site of many Rangers' rendezvous and the June 10, 1863 formation of the 43rd Virginia. Then, author/historians Eric W. Buckland and Dave Goetz, led an evening tour of Mt. Sharon Cemetery in Middleburg, where many Rangers are buried.

SAVE THE DATES:

July 12th Blazer's Scouts: The Attempt to Hunt Down John Mosby

Talk by Darl Stephenson

Co-sponsored with the Lovettsville Historical Society

St. James United Church of Christ, Broadway in Lovettsville, 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 13th Preservation Symposium featuring Keynote Speaker Bud Robertson

Highland Academy

Warrenton, VA

October 2-4 Annual Civil War Conference,

Middleburg, VA

More information coming on these events!

Photo of the Month

by J. Riley Stewart



"Creeper, Creeping" on a barn in Loudoun County, as much a part of the Virginia landscape as rolling hills, pastures, and small towns: the ubiquitous Virginia creeper.

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).



Please Like Us on Facebook! **The Mosby Heritage Area Association**

Follow us on Twitter **@MosbyRangers**



P.O. Box 1497
Middleburg, VA 20118
Physical Address:
1461 Atoka Road
Marshall, VA 20115
(540) 687-6681
info@mosbyheritagearea.org
Copyright © 2014

ABOUT US

Our mission is Preservation through Education – to educate about the history and advocate for the preservation of the extraordinary history, culture and scenery in the Northern Virginia Piedmont for future generations to enjoy.

IMPORTANT LINKS

- Become a Member
- Make a Donation
- Calendar of Events
- NEWS
- Store
- Join us on Facebook!

TWITTER FEED

Tweets Follow

 **John Singleton Mosby** 2h
@MosbyRangers
Historians Say Donald Trump Version of Golf Course's History Is False | NBC4 Washington
nbcwashington.com/news/local/Do via @nbcwashington
Show Summary

 **John Singleton Mosby** 2 Nov
@MosbyRangers
Mosby Heritage Area

Tweet to @MosbyRangers