

Happy Holidays to all our members! Hope this year has been great for all of you. We have been extremely busy this year with the continued progress on the Heritage Center and this summer's reenactment along with our busy season of visitors from all around the country!

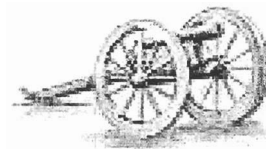
This year saw many exciting things happen with the Heritage Center—we have completed the Crawford Building and actually moved staff back in this past month. We will be working on this conservation of the graffiti this winter with the help of the conservator from the National Park Service and are eager to see what happens as we continued to uncover the writings and learn more about the process of preserving them for the future. The Bank and Courthouse Buildings of the Center are complete and exhibits are being finalized for installation. Exhibit designer Dave Vago and the research team have worked tirelessly on the material and the image collection to put together a first-class exhibit on the history of the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike and its relationship to the town of Beverly and the role it played in the Civil War. The first wave of furnishing for the center has arrived courtesy of the Allen family and we are excited and appreciative for their generous support of this project. Former Board member Mike Smith donated a large Civil War era medical collection to the Foundation as well and we are eager to get its interpretation complete for inclusion in the exhibit.

The Reenactment this past summer was smaller than in previous years but was well attended and enjoyed by the participants. The benefit auction was a huge success (thanks Hunter and Rick for helping to secure the items for that!) and we thank all those who

attended and bid to help raise funds for the Foundation. The Battlefield, Camp Garnett and Field of Fire received a lot of traffic this season—from visiting tourists to local scout and youth group tours as well as the rentals of the pavilion for family reunions and activities including a camp out by the local YMCA. Upkeep continues to be an issue but we seem to have made an impact with our annual spring Park Day clean-up and the increased use of the site to help deter vandals. Our site supervisor Don Moore and our grounds keepers Tygart Valley Lawn care make an tremendous impact on the upkeep of the site and I am thankful for their hard work and dedication to the grounds.

We have recently teamed up with local partners Historic Beverly Preservation and AFHA (Appalachian Forest Heritage Area) to receive a team of AmeriCorps members here in our region. Two of them are devoted to Beverly for preservation trades work (bricks and mortar projects) and heritage education. Having them on board for the next year will help us reevaluate and reschedule our outreach and upkeep here at the Foundation and we are pleased to have them join us for the coming year!

So that's 2007 in a nutshell. We've been busy, we continue to grow, and we are excited for 2008! Thanks for supporting us all these years and watch for new and exciting things this coming year!



Chel Depp, Executive Director, RMBF



WEBSITE CHANGES

Over the next year, RMBF and HBP are going to be revamping our websites to reflect changing technology and new historical data to improve our website outreach. We encourage those with any input to contact the webmaster directly through our current site to help direct us on our way. It's been at least 8 years since the website was overhauled so we hope you bare with us as we make those changes and keep stopping by www.richmountain.org to see the progress!

SPRING RIFLE RALLY

RMBF will again be teaming up with the Tygart Valley LIONS Club to host the Spring Rifle Rally at the Elkins National Guard Armory. The date is Saturday, March 1, and those who held tickets last year will be receiving a flyer in the next month to get their tickets for this year's event. This event is turning out to be our biggest fundraiser of the year and support from the community and our RMBF members has been tremendous. Its



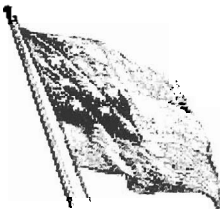
great fun and a great way to support two worthy causes.

Did You Know? 2011 marks the 150th anniversary of the outbreak of the Civil War? The State of West Virginia (Div. of Tourism) has partnered with The Civil War Trails group who are known for their signage programs in Maryland and Virginia with great success. Approx. 150 new interpretive signs along with trail markers and brochures will be provided through a Transportation Enhancement grant and funds from the State Div. of Tourism. We are eager to see this project better mark and interpret our rich history here in West(ern) Virginia thus providing our visitors and researchers of this war a better understanding of how this region of our country was impacted during the war years.

The State Civil War Task force has been meeting regularly to help plan and promote activities and events for this upcoming anniversary. Anyone interested in the task force and its activities can contact Richard Wolfe at richard.a.l.wolfe@lmco.com for more information.

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Elihu Hutton Chapter, has been meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Heritage Center in Beverly. Meetings are at 7pm. Anyone who is a descendent of a Confederate soldier and is interested in joining this service organization is welcome to attend to find out more or can contact commander Roger Ware at southerson@frontiernet.net.



Projects they are planning include cemetery clean-up and marking of confederate graves in Randolph and nearby counties and a 100th anniversary commemoration of the Mt. Iser Cemetery here in Beverly in fall 2008.

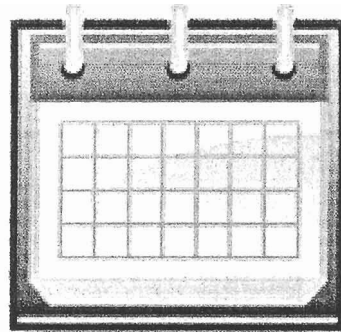
GRANTS/FUNDING

We are always looking for grant opportunities and support funding for our efforts. Do you know of an opportunity? Let us know—foundation grants, corporate grants, fundraisers? Contact Chelley at the Foundation office to give her your leads.

VOLUNTEERS

We have been blessed over the years with great support in the form of volunteers! We can still use your help and appreciate your

support so if you have some time to give, stop by and see us! We are looking for volunteer tour guides, visitor center hosts, and even folks to help cut the grass and stuff newsletters. We can use your talents for research and help preparing exhibits. Just let us know you are out there!



Coming Events:

- The Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike Exhibit in the Heritage Center is finalizing script and beginning the creation phase—we hope to have it completed over the winter months for opening in March! Come see us in the spring!
- Lecture series for the months of April, May and June(keynote and banquet). Watch your mail for information on our featured speakers!

Mark your calendars now for the following events:
RMBF Rifle Rally—March 1
Mason-Dixon Roundtable Civil War Symposium—April 19
Park Day—May 17
Beverly Heritage Day July 19
December 6—Old Fashioned Christmas



Dear Santa,



If it's not too much to ask, our wish this year is that all our members would renew their membership dues for 2008!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Membership level:

_____ Basic(\$20) _____ Family(\$30) _____ Supporting(\$50) _____

_____ Captain (\$100) _____ Colonel(\$101-400) _____ General (\$500 +)

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