

Battlelines

January 2017

Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association

Successful Lady Farm holiday tour concludes 2016 season

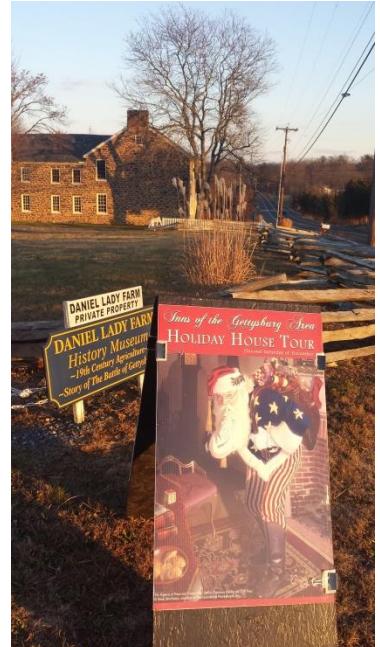


For its final event for 2016, the Historic Daniel Lady Farm repeated its involvement as a participating site in the annual Holiday House Tour and Tasting sponsored by the Inns of the Gettysburg on Dec. 10.

The Lady Farm again proved popular as more than 300 tour participants filed through to see the home set for Christmas 1863, while the front room also presented the scenario of the field hospital that was in the house to treat wounded and dying Confederate officers during the Battle of Gettysburg.

Not far from the house, behind the barn that was a field hospital for rank-and-file wounded, a New Jersey Boy Scout troop was encamped for the weekend.

Holiday House Tour organizers were excited about the turnout at the Lady Farm and have invited GBPA to be a participant in the 2017 tour and tasting.



*Inside: Update on the GBPA
fight to save remaining
hallowed ground.*

Membership banquet wrap-up

The early part of the evening was dedicated to remembering Board of Directors member George H. Lomas, who passed away in September. Lomas was an iconic figure among sutlers and historic reenactors, a groundbreaker as the hobby of reenacting historic America blossomed with the centennial observance of the Civil War in the 1960's.

Lomas founded The Regimental Quartermaster sutlery in Gettysburg, one of the nation's foremost providers of historical reenactment gear and was one of three co-founders of the Gettysburg Anniversary Committee with its organized annual reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Reminiscences of George included an interview he did with Mifflin Guard reenactor and video producer Rich Mendoza. The interview included humorous comments about Lomas' hair being disheveled at the moment. This was particularly funny as George had a reputation for asking people if they have a comb as he was about to be photographed. At each banquet place-setting was a comb.



Another GAC reenactment co-founder, Adams County Commissioner Randy Phiel, added his memories of working with George in the early days of the GAC and the massive 135th anniversary reenactment in 1998 that brought together 17,000 reenactors, the nation's largest ever historical reenactment.

Pennsylvania State Representative Daniel Moul presented a state legislature

condolence citation to Susan Weiklien, a friend and business partner of Lomas.

The GBPA is preparing a memorial stone honoring Lomas in the memorial garden of its Historic Daniel Lady Farm on Hanover Road in Gettysburg to be dedicated during the GAC reenactment weekend in July. Many sutlers and reenactors from the eastern U.S. who got to know George will be in town for the GAC event.



The banquet also featured a show of thanks for a group of volunteers dedicated to maintaining the lawn around the Lady house and barn as well as the Memorial Garden and the parking area. Members received certificates of appreciation from GBPA. Their donated time in 2016 approached 1,000 hours.

Speaking on behalf of the volunteers, Richard Biedel said the group was not only proud of the maintenance

job, but the expansion of useable space gained from brush removal. Biedel noted that this past summer, the grassy areas were as lush as one would find on a country club golf fairway.

Kirk Davis, Vice-President of Operations, reported the Historic Daniel Lady Farm is growing as a camping site for Boy Scout troops from the Mid-Atlantic region. A total of 984 scouts spent a weekend at the farm, up 178 from 2015. Many devoted time to farm improvements, including gardening and help erecting a split-rail fence across the front of the farm and the Memorial Garden.

(continued on page 3)





Davis announced that the farm is now open year-round, allowing Boy and Girl Scout troops to take on the challenge winter camping.

The farm is recognized as an approved campground by the Boy Scouts of America. More information about the scout camping program is available at www.gbpa.org/Scout-Camping-on-the-Lady-Farm.html.

New historical programs are being planned for the farm in 2017, including musical evenings on Fridays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day featuring individuals and groups from the region.

Davis said historical reenactment groups and military units will be able to camp on the farm FREE OF CHARGE on weekends if they provide living history demonstrations for visitors.

The farm will continue to welcome individual living historians wishing to present their impressions to the public.

Questions about the camping program, scout or reenactor, can be directed to Kirk Davis at 717-338-1776, or by email at info@gbpa.org.

2016 a year of growth for BSA Venture Crew 1861 Fife & Drum Corps



The fife and drum corps has grown to 27 youth members and 9 leaders/committee members. They are still recruiting fifers, drummers and buglers! Members come from five counties in south central Pennsylvania as well as several members from Maryland. Geography is not a barrier for membership.

The Venture Crew completed over 26 events in 2016, including parades, performances,

skills/advancement camp-outs, major reenactment events, living history events, and scout ceremonies. The actual number of events is understated as weekend events and reenactments included multiple performances.

Last year saw the Venture Crew participating in Eagle Scout Courts of Honor for fife and drum corps members Austin Nedrow, Andrew Adam, and Evan Templin. Tony Astarita is due to receive his Eagle Scout award on January 21st. Since its founding in 2004, Venture Crew 1861 has produced 26 Eagle Scouts. In addition, one female member fife and drum corps member achieved the Girl Scout Gold Award in 2015.

Youth Crew Leaders and local Fife and Drum Corps members meet for leadership meetings, practices and advancement work on Monday evenings at the Zion Lutheran Church in Leola PA, near Lancaster. Youth Leaders who are out-of-town are patched-in on speaker phone for meetings.

This year, Emily Barone, a former fifer with Venture Crew 1861, then Associate Advisor, was accepted into the U.S. Army 3rd Regiment "Old Guard" Fife and Drum Corps also designated as the "Escort to the President." The Old Guard is stationed at Fort Myer/Arlington. They are very proud of Specialist Emily Barone, soon be Sgt. Emily Barone.

Since 2011, BSA Venture Crew 1861 has been chartered by the GBPA. More detailed information about Venture Crew 1861 activities can be found on www.fieldmusic.org and on Facebook at: fieldmusic, 1st PRVC.

14th Annual CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION BALL

7-10pm, Saturday
March 25, 2017

Pennsylvania State Capitol
Harrisburg, Pa.

Join us in dancing for Gettysburg preservation in the most spectacular setting for any Civil War Ball in the nation. This ball has raised more than \$91,000 for the Gettysburg Monuments Endowment Trust Fund.

*Dancing led by the
Victorian Dance Ensemble*

*Music by the
Philadelphia Brigade Band*

\$65.00 Couple \$35.00 Single
Advance reservations required
No ticket sales at the door



For ball information, email:
PreservationBall@CivilWarDance.org
Website: www.CivilWarDance.org



Through its past 13 Civil War Preservation Balls, the Victorian Dance Ensemble has raised more than \$91,000 for the Pennsylvania Gettysburg Monuments Project. The Dance Ensemble will offer free dance lessons on Sunday, January 22, February 14, and March 19. Check out their website for more information.

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Ride for the Monuments is BIG benefactor



The final figures are in, and this past September's annual Ride for the Monuments raised \$13,549 For the Pennsylvania Gettysburg Monuments Project.

The Alliance of Bikers Aimed Toward Education (A.B.A.T.E.) of Pennsylvania began the ride From the Capitol in Harrisburg to Gettysburg in 2001.

Since its start, the ride has brought in a total of \$174,599 to restore and maintain the more than 140 Pennsylvania monuments and markers on the Gettysburg battlefield.

Since 2010 the ride has also benefitted the Historic Daniel Lady Farm from the total, allocating \$31,000 to assist farm maintenance.

New member of GBPA Board of Directors

In December, the board of directors elected Carl Hisiro to the board.

Carl recently retired as an attorney with the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission.

He succeeds long-time board member George H. Lomas, who passed away in September.



PennDOT reports at least 591 Pennsylvania motor vehicle owners have purchased the special Gettysburg Monuments license. That brings more than \$13,600 to the state Department of Veterans Affairs grant fund for the restoration of the commonwealth's Gettysburg monuments.

OUR BATTLE TO PRESERVE HALLOWED GROUND

Declared in May of last year, the fight by GBPA to preserve a remaining portion of

undeveloped hallowed ground where men of both sides fought and died in July 1863 continues.

While indications are that the super store indicated in the initial site plan is no longer considering a move onto the property, the developers are continuing efforts to extend a roadway through the property that would invite other development, including the possibility of hotels up to 10-stories high.

The property in question is adjacent to the north and west of the also known as York Road or the



GBPA's Historic Daniel Lady Farm and south of State Route 30, Lincoln Highway. On this land, the Confederate Army set artillery batteries, and launched thousands of soldiers to repeatedly attack the Union right flank on Culp's Hill.

Most were Louisiana infantry regiments of Williams' (Nichols') Brigade; the 1st, 2nd, 10th, 14th and 15th Louisiana.

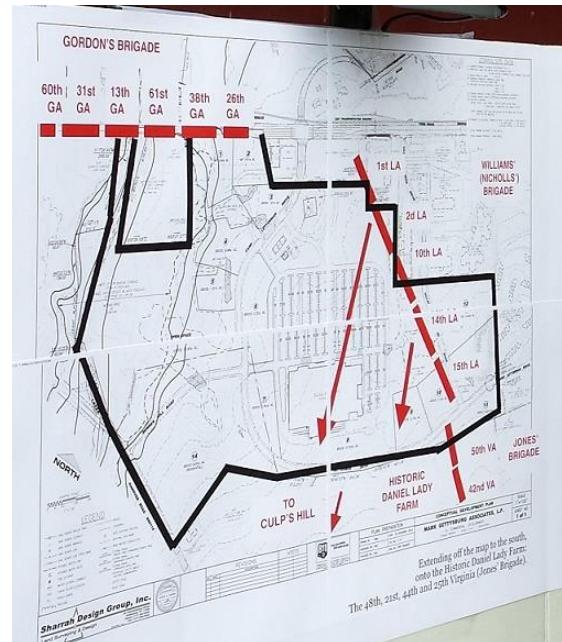
A portion of the post-battle Camp Letterman Field Hospital is believed to have occupied a part of the northern portion of the property.

The extended Camp Letterman Drive would ruin the view-shed from Culp's Hill, Benner's Ridge, Lee's headquarters, Herr's Ridge and other locations within the northern portion of the Gettysburg National Military Park, as well as for the Historic Daniel Lady Farm.

It appears that the National Park Service has been successful in opposing an access road from Camp Letterman Drive south along Rock Creek to Hanover Road.

GBPA has launched the legal process to be officially recognized as an interested party in the Camp Letterman Drive extension and is prepared to initiate court action to prevent it from encroaching on hallowed ground. Citizens can express opposition to the project signing an on-line petition that can be reached through the GBPA website at www.gbpa.org. In addition, a "hard" petition can be downloaded from the site for circulation and return to the GBPA.

Individuals and groups can also express direct opposition by writing to Tony M. Sanders, Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Straban Township, 1745 Granite Station Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Faxes can be sent to Sanders at 717-334-0061 and his office at the township can be reached by phone at 717-334-4833.



by

Focus on your Board of Directors

*Each newsletter will feature insight into a Board of Directors member.
Michael Cassidy is our subject this time.*

Mike is a policy analyst, former state legislator and expert on the legislative process with over 36 years of experience in state and local government. He is currently adjunct faculty at Temple University.



Mike's early experience in government was as a member of the Newry Borough Council in Blair County and subsequently was elected as a state representative 1977-78 Session from Blair County.

He later served briefly as a bureau director in the PA Department of Agriculture before joining the staff of the PA House of Representatives.

Mike occasionally taught courses in legislative process; public policymaking; and American government at Penn State and Temple. After his retirement from the House staff in 2012, Mike expanded his teaching load at Temple University with courses in public policymaking and the development of American society. In addition, he supervises public policy interns in Temple's PA Capital Semester program.

A graduate of Penn State with a M.A. in American Studies and a B.A. in Political Science, Mike is active in the Pennsylvania Political Science Association, serving 18 years on the PPSA Executive Council, and is a member of The Pennsylvania Policy Forum. He has authored a journal article, presented a number of conference papers, and chaired numerous panels on public policy, legislative process, and local issues including urban sprawl and museum planning.

Long committed to historical preservation, Mike served as President of the Maytown Historical Society and as a board member of the Lancaster County Preservation Trust in the 1990s. In 2004, Mike was a CRM (Cultural Resource Management) Volunteer for the National Park Service at Independence Park in Philadelphia.

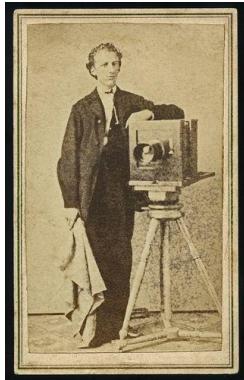
Mike became a Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association board member in 2012. In 2016, Mike accepted the position of Board Secretary of the Pennsylvania Reserve Battalion -- an association of Civil War reenactment units honoring soldiers of the Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteer Corps (PRVC).

Mike is especially regarded for his dedication to the Boy Scouts of America.

Earning Eagle Scout status in 1973, Mike continued Boy Scout activities, especially with his son, Patrick, who is also an Eagle Scout.

In 2004, Mike and wife Jeanne founded the BSA Troop 53 Fife and Drum Corps in Maytown, York County. The group began Civil War reenacting in 2006 as the Field Music, 1st Penna Reserves. In 2011, the Fife & Drum Corps was re-chartered as BSA Venture Crew 1861, by the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association to portraying the 1st PRVC and Johnson's Division (Confederate) Fife & Drum.

Mike and Jeanne reside in Maytown where they have restored two log homes--one built about 1790 and the other about 1810.



2017

GBPA Schedule of Events

MARCH

The GBPA headquarters and Museum at 33 York Street will re-open for weekend hours.
Date and details to be announced

March 25

14th Annual Civil War Preservation Ball

7 p.m. – 10 p.m. Saturday, March 25

Pennsylvania Capitol Building Rotunda, Harrisburg

Sponsored by the Victorian Dance Ensemble

Music by the Philadelphia Brigade Band

Benefits the Gettysburg Monuments Endowment Trust Fund

Admission: \$35 – Individual \$65 – Couple (Reservations required)

Email: PreservationBall@CivilWarDance.org

APRIL

April 8

Historic Daniel Lady Farm opens for the season.

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

Farmhouse and barn tours, living history

Admission: \$10 Children 15 and under, accompanied by an adult, admitted free

Farm will be closed Easter weekend, April 14 & 15

April 29 & 30

Wheat's Tigers (2nd Louisiana Battalion)

Historic Daniel Lady Farm

Living history, drill, skirmish



MAY

May 28, 29, 30 (Memorial Day weekend)

Military timeline

Living history with reenactors representing military of several American eras will have displays, oral presentations and equipment demonstrations Saturday and Sunday leading up to the Gettysburg Memorial Day parade on Monday.

JUNE

June 23, 24, 25

Annual GBPA Civil War Artifacts and Collectibles Show

Gettysburg Allstar Expo Complex, 2638 Emmitsburg Road

One of the nation's largest Civil War collectibles shows.

Message from the President

Friends,

*We're on a roll.
Operations and maintenance-wise,
2016 was a momentous years and 2017
is shaping up to be even better,*

*The Historic Daniel Lady Farm is
beginning to live up to its potential as
an educational asset for the Gettysburg
area.*

*As one of our prime goals is
preserving history for future
generations, it is particularly gratifying
to see more Boy Scout troops camping
at the farm on weekends.*

*To accommodate the demand, we're
adding additional camp locations on
the farm.*

*We're also getting out word that Girl
Scout camping is just as welcome as the
Boy Scouts.*

*Then there's the steady growth of our
BSA Venture Crew 1861. The number of
participants is increasing, as is the
flexibility in gear and uniforms to
portray bands of both the North and
South.*

*Lastly, we still have the challenge of
mitigating the threat of commercial
development into adjacent land.*

*We got a tremendous response to our
petition drive to discourage violation of
hallowed ground that played a role in
the Confederate assault on Culp's Hill.*

*We're prepared to take legal action
but, at the same time, we still have a
healthy dialog with the planned
developers of that property and with
the owners of other land neighboring
the Lady Farm.*

*Hopefully, 2017 will result in
acceptable solutions to the challenges
that surround us.*

See you at the farm,

Barb

*P.S. Watch for our new interactive
website at www.gbpa.org that we'll be
unveiling in a couple months.*

Did you hear?

The Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association has adopted a new policy that allows reenactment units (of all wars) and individual period historians to camp at the Historic Daniel Lady Farm **without charge**.

We are especially open to persons doing medical, embalming, Sanitary Commission, cooking, and musical presentations. Units may consider a "School of the Soldier" weekend.

All that is required is that you conduct a living history and mingle with farm visitors at times during the weekend. GBPA will provide a camping area, porta-john and potable water

Questions about the camping program, scout or reenactor, can be directed to Kirk Davis at 717-338-1776, or by email at

info@gbpa.org.



Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association

2017 Annual Membership Form

Thank you for your annual membership! Founded in 1959, the GBPA continues its mission to preserve our American heritage through land preservation & advocacy, living history programs, lectures, seminars, Daniel Lady Farm tours, and support of Scouting. With your support we look forward to preserving our history for generations to come.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email (print clearly): _____

Telephone _____

Date: _____ Type: New Renewal

Annual Membership Benefits include

Individual \$30

- Free Admission to Daniel Lady Farm House and Hospital Tours *Does Not Include Special Events
- Subscription to "Battle Lines" newsletter and "Double Canister" email blasts
- 15% Discount at GBPA Headquarters 33 York St. Gettysburg, PA
- Invitations to members only events

Reenactor \$15

- Same benefits as Individual Membership
- Unit or impression: _____

Family/Grand-family \$50

- Same benefits as Individual Membership for 2 Adults and all children under 18 OR Two Adults and up to 4 grandchildren under 18

Student \$10

- Same benefits as Individual Membership with valid student ID

Lifetime Individual \$500

- Individual Membership Benefits for life.

Please accept an additional donation of \$_____ on behalf of

(Organization, Scout Troop, or Reenacting Group)

Please check if you are interested in volunteer opportunities with the GBPA_____

Please check if you are interested in a Corporate Membership _____

SEND TO:

G.B.P.A.,

P.O. Box 4087,

Gettysburg, PA 17325

Or Visit www.GBPA.org

The Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association is a 501c3 nonprofit organization under the Internal Revenue Code and is registered as a charitable organization with the Pennsylvania Department of State. Contributions are tax deductible.