

# Brentsville Neighbors



Information About Brentsville  
Shared Among Neighbors  
November 2009



Welcome Neighbors,

November—a month of thanksgiving and a month of change. During this time let's all remember the many sacrifices given by our military service members. Regardless of how much time he or she served, that time was an unselfish gift to all Americans. Take time to say a simple "thank you" the next time you encounter someone in uniform. And this is a time of reflection and thanks for all we have enjoyed during the past years. Our Thanksgiving celebration is a small symbol of the many contributions made to allow us the comforts we now take for granted.

Reflecting back on October there were several events of note at the courthouse site. During October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> we were presented the WW-II Living History event with hundreds of displays, including munitions, weapons, and uniforms from multiple countries. A few pictures are on page 4 of this newsletter but many more can be viewed at [www.fototime.com](http://www.fototime.com). The guest log on is [morganbreeden@aol.com](mailto:morganbreeden@aol.com). You will find the directory of albums on the left. During this two day event the site logged 532 visitors and 234 hours of volunteer time. A big THANK YOU to everyone who made this so successful.

Also during October the site started paranormal training. This is a fund raising event provided by the East Coast Research and Investigation of the Paranormal (ECRIP) who are volunteering all of their time and equipment to support restoration of the Brentsville Jail. Each of their four sessions have been completely sold out with many turned away. What a wonderful contribution they are making!

Now looking ahead a bit to December, please mark your calendars for Saturday, December 12, 2009, and plan on attending the Brentsville Holiday Concerts. For the fourth consecutive year, Ms. Linda Beville and the Brentsville District High School Chorus will offer two concerts in the Union Church. The first starts at 5:00 p.m. followed by the second at 6:00 p.m. Hot cider and cookies will be provided by a warm fire. The event is free so come early and enjoy the evening of festive music and good cheer. You can find information at [www.pwcgov.org/brentsville](http://www.pwcgov.org/brentsville).

Very best wishes,  
Nelson & Morgan

## This month:

- Where Wild Things Live - pages 2 & 3
- Flashback ----- page 2
- I Inherited My Mother ----- pages 5, 6 & 9
- Reader Feedback ----- page 9
- When War Came ----- page 8

**Circulation: 183 Electronic: 60**

## Where W I L D Things Live

### Diapheromera femorata *Northern Walking Stick*

The Northern Walkingstick is our most common "stick insect," which camouflages itself to look like a stick.

They grow over 3 1/2 inches long, with males being smaller than females. Walkingsticks have long, skinny bodies which closely resembles twigs or stems of plants. Males are brown, females are greenish-brown. These insects have very long antennae, about 2/3 the length of their bodies.

Northern Walkingsticks live in forests where their host plants are found. They feed on the leaves of many deciduous trees, including: oaks, Sassafras, Black Cherry, and Black Locust. They also eat clovers.

Adult walkingsticks mate in the fall. Females drop eggs, one at a time, from the treetops. Eggs overwinter in leaf litter, and nymphs hatch the following Spring. The nymphs look like tiny adults and are only a few millimeters long when they are born. The nymphs wait until nightfall, then crawl up onto small plants. They continue to eat and grow, staying amongst leaves and twigs where they are well hidden. As they get bigger, they climb higher, until they are in the tops of tall trees. Nymphs molt (shed their exoskeletons) as they grow. Each time they molt, they look more and more like an adult. In late Summer and early Fall, when they are full grown, they mate and lay eggs. Their eggs are small and look like black and white beans. One species of ant carries eggs underground and eats a small part of the egg. The eggs still hatch normally, and is actually protected by the ants.

Northern Walkingsticks most important predators are birds. They stay very still during the day, so birds won't notice them. Other predators include lizards, mantids, and small mammals.

To make the best use of their camouflage, walkingsticks can straighten out their antennae and front legs and stay motionless for a long time. If attacked, they sometimes release a bad-smelling liquid. They can also lose a leg and grow it back.

If many walkingsticks are on the same tree, they can injure, or even kill, it. Small amounts of walkingsticks can actually help a tree by pruning leaves which helps the plant grow.

Source: [http://www.fcps.edu/islandcreekes/ecology/northern\\_walkingstick.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/islandcreekes/ecology/northern_walkingstick.htm)

## flashback

### Criminal Charge Against Horse Trader.

Addison Chapman, colored, a horse trader, was arrested by Detectives O'Brien and Cornwell yesterday on complaint of H. W. Reid, of Brentsville, Va., who accuses him of embezzling \$200 of his funds. The shortage, Reid declares, was caused by Chapman's failure to turn over money derived from the sale of horses, which he had given him to dispose of in this city. Chapman insisted that he was innocent, and last night accompanied a deputy sheriff back to Brentsville without waiting for service of requisition papers.

Source: The Washington Post, November 15, 1902

### List of Teachers of Prince William County

#### WHITE

#### BRENTSVILLE DISTRICT

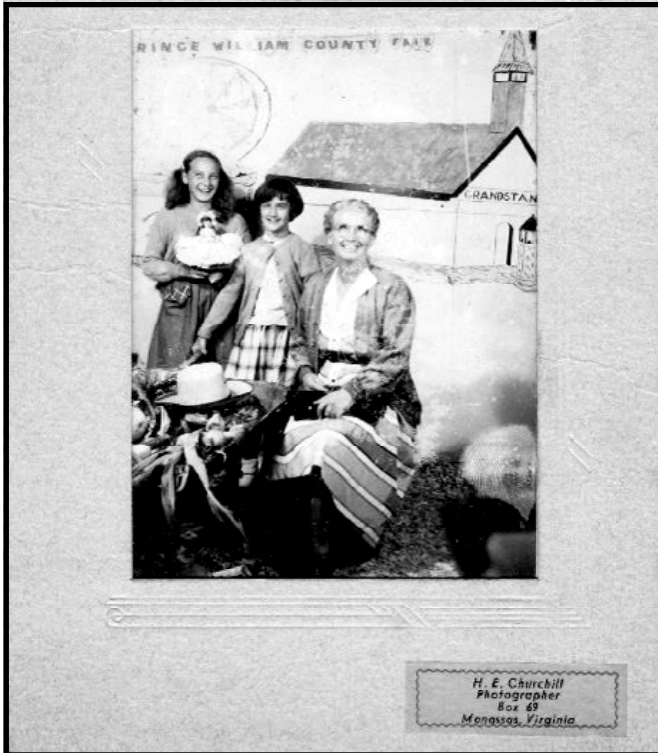
Mr. A. B. Kelly, Brentsville  
Miss Ella W. Garth, Brentsville  
Miss Nellie S. Duffey, Brentsville  
Miss Kate N. Willcox, Bristow  
Miss Cora E. Hottel, Nokesville  
Miss Rosina H. Warren, Nokesville  
Miss Beatrice Limstrong, Nokesville  
Mrs. Emma G. Nicol, Nokesville  
Miss Cora E. Mooney, Nokesville  
Miss Louise Ashford, Greenwich  
Mr. Wm. Y. Ellicott, Orlando

#### COLORED

#### BRENTSVILLE DISTRICT

Miss Julia H. Pinn, Bristow

Source: The Manassas Journal, November 2, 1906



Verona won a prize with her wheelbarrow of veggies at the fair. Dorothy & Ruthie are with her.



The Bean home on Lucasville Road. It was orange before Dorothy had white vinyl siding put on

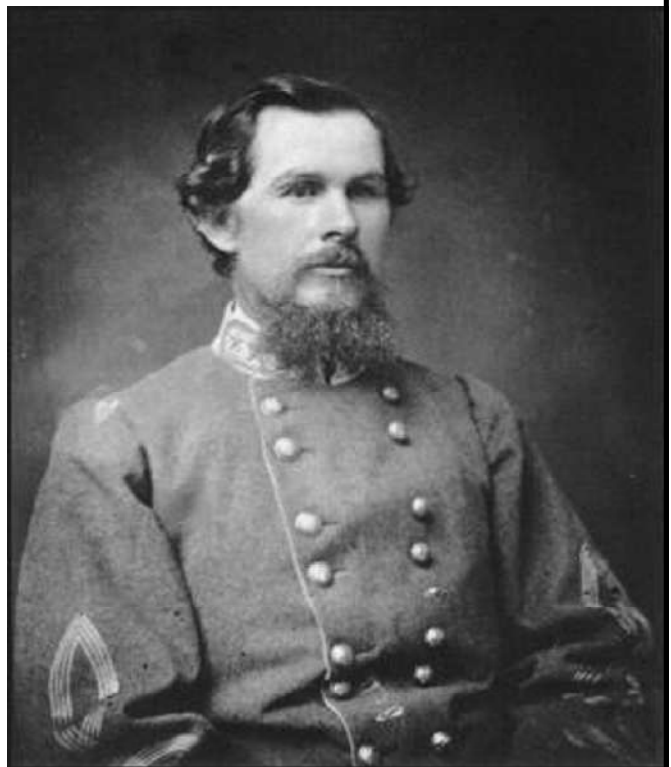


Verona c1955

## Where WILD things live..



*Diapheromera femorata*  
*Northern Walking Stick*  
See page 2



Gen. Eppa Hunton, C. S. A.  
a distinguished Brentsville citizen





The first class of paranormal investigation was conducted on October 9, 2009. Front center is the leader, Spencer Chamberlain with two team members behind him--Kim Girton and Kerri Albright



Above and above right - visitors to the WW-II Living History event on October 3 & 4, 2009, discuss items on display.



Right - representatives from the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico, shared information on their facility.





# I INHERITED MY MOTHER

By  
**Dorothy Lee (Bean) Furrow**



## The Earlier Times Part 2

We never had a lawnmower in those earlier years. Our house sat up on top of a hill with broom sage waving in the wind. It looked like it was running along. In the evenings after the milking was done the cattle would graze in the yard. This kept the grass from growing so tall. Lots of times Charles and his family would be staying there as well as James and his family. We'd all be watching the cattle to see that they didn't get in the road. There wasn't much traffic so this would give us a chance to sit at the road and wave to whoever went by. Of course the cows would always make their much needed stop on the rock walk or some other place we'd rather not step.

There was an elderly couple, Mr. and Mrs. Woodyard, who rented several rooms from Mother. They had two rooms downstairs and one upstairs. Mr. Woodyard was paralyzed on one side and walked with a cane. He chewed tobacco and would often cut a tiny piece for Ruthie and me. We'd chew that tobacco and spit just like he did. Mr. Woodyard always paid just a tad more attention to Ruthie than he did to me which bothered me as I was supposed to be the one getting the most attention, or so I thought. One day he was sitting out in the yard and I walked up to him and said, "Mr. Woodyard, I don't like you" and I spit on him. He told me he was going to

tell my mother and he did! I got a horrible spanking and to this day I can't stand to see anyone spit. Mrs. Woodyard told him it served him right as he was always paying more attention to Ruthie than he was to me. He was some nicer to me after that. I eventually got paid back though. Mrs. Woodyard had a daughter, Anna, who lived in Dumfries. Her husband, Harvey, would come to pick up Mrs. Woodyard and take her to visit with Anna and the two granddaughters, Linda and Judy, for the day. I would sometimes be invited to go along. One time when we were there Linda went with me to the bathroom and there was something that looked like chocolate on the shelf. Linda asked me if I wanted some and since we didn't have much candy I accepted the couple of pieces she gave me which turned out to be Ex-Lax! Needless to say I was more cautious thereafter of the type of chocolate I ate.

Mrs. Woodyard worked for a family, the Cox's, on the old Moor Green farm. For years Mr. and Mrs. Cox would always have a Halloween party for the local children and families. They had all kinds of games including the sack race and potato race at which I was pretty good. In one dark area Mr. Cox would be hidden and would stick a gloved hand out to shake hands with us. It would be so cold.



We eventually found that he was using a glove filled with wet sawdust and he had frozen it. James wore his wife's dress and high heels and a wig one year. We walked nearly a mile on that dirt road all the way over there and he in those high heels! No one ever guessed who he was. There was one time I was dressed all in black and won a prize for being the 'Black Widow'. I don't recall what the prizes were. Then one year several cars loaded with uninvited guests showed up and that was the last year of the Halloween parties.

Mrs. Woodyard would sometimes go with us down in the field to the river which ran around two sides of the farm. This was usually earlier in the evening before time to get the milk cows from the pasture. There was an area that we called the line fence which divided Grandma's property from ours. This area of the river had shallow water. Mother couldn't swim so when we were little that would be where she would take Ruthie and me to play in the water. She and Mrs. Woodyard would sit on the river bank while Ruthie and I had the time of our lives splashing and jumping around. Mother would often comb her hair as she sat there watching us. There was one time Ruthie or I slipped and kept falling down in the water which was about to our knees. Mother was scared whichever one it was would drown. She was much relieved when we finally got our balance. We sometimes would try to see how many tadpoles we could catch--not many as they were too fast.

Mother didn't go to church with us very often back then but Sis always saw that Ruthie and I got to Sunday School and church. I remember one time in the old church my niece Mary got choked on a coin during prayer. Sis leaned Mary across the back of the pew and hit her on the back. That coin fell out and I can still hear it rolling on that wooden floor. When we had Bible School it was during the day from

nine o'clock in the morning until noon. I can remember the preacher or some one else would come around and pick us up; there would be a car load with many of us sitting on the laps of others. No seat belts were in the cars. I don't even know if there was such a thing! I still have one of the projects that I did in Bible School when I was probably seven or eight years old. We had gotten the new church and we were outdoors screen painting. We all had a piece of green fabric, a square of screen wire, some paint and a toothbrush. Our fabric was on the table and letters were laid on it. We held the screen over the letters and brushed the toothbrush across the screen to cover the letters and yet not make big blotches on the cloth. When we finished we were given a picture of Jesus which we glued to the fabric above the letters that read "Jesus loves me." I smile with joy as I can still see all of us standing there side by side, not talking, just doing our task with so much pride in making it just right.

Our heat was wood stoves. The kitchen was where we mostly stayed as it was so big and the warmest room in the house, especially in the winter. We had what we called the big room as it too was a large room. This is the room where the stair steps were. It had a wood stove in it also. Usually this room was used if we had company. Those were the only two rooms with heat and they were both downstairs. There were two rooms between these two and it would be so cold going from one to the other. The bedroom was upstairs. Mother, Ruthie and I slept in the same bed until we were older, Mother on one side, me on the other and Ruthie in the middle. In the winter that was nice but as we had no heat we also had no air in the hot weather except for the open windows and it got really hot sleeping that close in a double bed. Ruthie would want to cover up all year long and even back then I didn't care for the heat.

Since we used wood all year to cook and heat

# Brentsville

## A Citizen of Note

GEN. EPPA HUNTON, C. S. A., of Virginia, b. Sept. 23, 1823, in Fauquier Co., Va.; d. Oct 11, 1908, in Richmond, Va.; was educated under the tutorage of Rev. John Ogilvie; studied law under the guidance of judge Webb Taylor, was admitted to the bar in 1843, and began practice at Brentsville, Prince William Co., Va.; was Col. Of Militia in 1843, and Gen. commanding the brigade, 1847; served as Commonwealth Attorney from 1849 to 1861; was an elector on the Breckinridge ticket, in 1860; was of the Secession Convention, in 1861. After the passage of the ordinance he was placed on the Military Committee to recommend measures of defense, but feeling that his proper place was in the field, he resigned his commission in the State Militia, and as a result an application drawn up and signed by the members of the Convention, he was appointed Col. Of the 8<sup>th</sup> Va. Reg., which he was ordered to organize and equip; his command served with distinction, and won imperishable renown upon every famous battlefield of the Army of Northern Virginia. He was promoted to Brigadier General, after the famous charge of Pickett's Division at Gettysburg, in which he was wounded and his horse killed under him, while leading his command in the charge against Cemetery Hill. His command took an active and prominent part in the battles of Manassas, Bull's Bluff, Richmond, Gaines Mill, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, Sailor's Creek, and numerous others. It was at Gaines Mill where Pickett's Brigade made one of their brilliant assaults, and carried the three fortified lines of the enemy. Gen. Pickett was wounded early in the assault, and Col. Hunton, as next in command, carried on the successful action,

which was never officially reported, owing to Pickett's severe wounds, and Col. Hunton's ill health, on account of which he was sent to Lynchburg by Gen. Longstreet. Gen. Hunton's brigade consisted of the 8<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 56<sup>th</sup> Regiments of Va. Inf. After the battle of Sailor's Creek, he was taken prison by Gen. Custer, and was imprisoned at Fort Warrant, until late in June. His home at Brentsville was destroyed by the Federal troops. After the surrender he located at Warrenton, Fauquier Co., Va., and resumed the practice of law. He represented the 8<sup>th</sup> Va. District in Congress, from 1873 to 1881; and in May, 1892, he was appointed to the U. S. Senate from Virginia, by Gov. McKinney, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Barbour; this appointment was confirmed by the Legislature, and he served until March 4, 1895. He filled both offices with distinction, rendering distinguished and valuable services on many important committees. As a lawyer, soldier and statesman, he was distinguished; he was a member of the Episcopal Church. He m. 1848, Lucy Caroline Weir, b. Feb. 20, 1825; d. Sept. 4, 1899; dau. Of Hon. Robert and Clara Boothe (Smith) Weir, of Prince George Co., Va. Issue:

Elizabeth Boothe, b. June 20, 1853; d. Sept. 30, 1854

Eppa, b. April 14, 1855

Source: *COLONIAL FAMILIES of the Southern States of America* by Stella Pickett Hardy, 1911

(See photo on page 3)

# When WAR Came to Brentsville

November 18, 1862 R E Lee to T J Jackson  
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA, Camp near Culpeper  
Court-House, November 18, 1862-2 p.m.

Lieutenant General THOMAS J. JACKSON,  
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 17th is just received.\* I think there must be some mistake about the enemy's being re-enforced at Harper's Ferry, inasmuch as information from Washington states that nearly all the troops near the city have been advanced into Virginia. I fear I was said to be threatening Staunton had retired beyond at Alleghany. I therefore have ordered the First South Carolina Cavalry and Stribling's battery to Gordonsville. I think the force there, with Imboden operating in advance, will be sufficient to protect that place, as in a short time the roads in that country will be impassable.

If the report that the enemy is returning in force to Middleburg is correct, it must be owing to your presence in the valley and the operations of the cavalry; but, in that event, it would appear that they are in great force at all points from Harper's Ferry to Fredericksburg. There must be error somewhere, and it is important to discover it. In a telegraphic dispatch sent you half an hour since I have you in substance the result of my information. I will report more in detail.

The reports from our cavalry, individual scouts, and citizens, represent that the enemy has abandoned Warrenton, fallen down to the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and is moving in force to Fredericksburg. Their progress and direction is confirmed by their camp-fires at night, which are said to be plainly visible. A large force was reported yesterday, in addition, at Brentsville; it had come from the direction of Alexandria. The cavalry, with light artillery, reached Falmouth yesterday about 3 p.m. Their infantry were said to have reached Hartwood last night; their camp-fires distinctly visible, extending continuously back toward the railroad. An

intelligent scout reports this morning that it was Sumner's corps, and that no other troops had passed up to late yesterday. The enemy's cavalry were prevented from crossing the Rappahannock last evening by our troops in Fredericksburg, nor have I yet heard of its occupation. There are in Fredericksburg a regiment of cavalry, one of infantry, and two additional companies, and two light batteries. McLaws' division marched this morning for that place; also Lee's brigade of cavalry, and Ransom's division from Madison. The rest of Longstreet's corps is prepared to move, and only awaits confirmation of intelligence.

Stuart, with his cavalry, was directed to cross the Rappahannock to-day, and endeavor to ascertain what was in our front and what movements were being made by the enemy. I presume I shall not hear from him till to-morrow; but unless you think it is advantageous for you to continue longer in the valley, or can accomplish the retention and division of the enemy's forces by so doing, I think it would be advisable to put some of your divisions in motion across the mountains, and advance them at least as Sperryville or Madison Court-House. I telegraphed you to this effect to-day. I learn that there are not transports at Alexandria; nothing but a few gunboats and tugs. I see, therefore, no preparation for the transfer of the enemy's troops south of the James River as yet; nor is there anything to develop their ultimate plan. It is possible that they may attempt to seize Winchester, Culpeper, and Fredericksburg, which would embrace their favorite strategic plan of advancing in three columns, but I think by so doing they will much expose themselves. I hope we may be able to take advantage of it.

I hope more shoes and blankets have arrived for your men, and that you will be enabled to keep them comfortable and in health.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,  
General.



water we'd keep it stacked on the back porch. In the fall we'd start carrying wood in early, stack it on the back porch as high as we could get it in all the empty spots and would still have to get more wood later in the winter months. Pop would bring in long pieces of logs or slabs of wood and we'd have to use the cross-cut saw. Mother would tell us to change our clothes before we were to go out to do the chores but I didn't always do as I was told. One of the times I didn't change my school clothes and Ruthie and I were sawing with the cross cut saw. The saw caught my dress and tore it. Mother wasn't very happy and neither was I as we didn't have too many store bought clothes. Mother had to really juggle funds to buy us what we had to have and any extras. Another time I didn't change my clothes and went to gather the eggs. I had on a dress with pockets. I put the eggs in my pockets instead of taking the egg basket. As I was going back to the house I fell and again Mother was not happy with me.

During the winter we'd have to drag or carry bales of hay out into the field for the cattle. Sometimes it would snow so deep Mother would have to dig a path to get to the barn. She would come in the house some mornings and her hands would be so red and cold. Ruthie and I would help with the chores in the evenings but in the mornings she'd let us sleep until time to get up for school. I feel so guilty now because sometimes she'd call me two or three times before I'd finally get up. What patience she had with me! When we got up she'd have it nice and warm in the kitchen. Our stove in the kitchen also sat at an angle as did Grandma's. This allowed us to put a wash tub in behind the stove to take a bath when we were small.

Part III continues in December.

## Reader Feedback

Great stuff as always!

General John Buford who sent in the report quoted in the Newsletter was one of the best of the Union Cavalry generals. The firing he reported hearing was from the Battle at Bristoe Station. Union General Meade had wintered near Mine Run, but then was forced back to the Washington defences as Robert E. Lee continuously tried to outflank the Army of the Potomac. Meade was an OK General, but certainly not a great one, and rather than give battle on the long withdrawal (and possibly face defeat) he elected just to retreat all the way. It wasn't until the Battle of Bristoe Station that a significant battle was fought, and that by accident so far as Meade was concerned! AP Hill, a rather headstrong Confederate General, had been itching for a fight before the northerners got back to safety. He thought he saw the last of the Union troops disappearing towards Centreville and ordered his men formed to try to make a last ditch attempt to bring on a fight. Sadly for Hill another Union Brigade was hidden by the railroad embankment, and he was badly flanked, causing a resounding Union victory. Robert E. Lee was most unimpressed by Hill's action in bringing the fight on.

Back to Buford - he was the Union saviour on the first day at Gettysburg and thus quite famous. However his success in protecting the wagon trains at Brentsville was his last. He became severely ill, most sources say from drinking the muddy water in Bull Run - although it could have just as easily been Broad Run I guess. Anyway he lingered for some weeks before dying in Washington in December, about two months after the incident he reported on.

Keep up the good work - always greatly appreciated here.

Paul Spencer  
Australia

# *Brentsville Neighbors*

Information About Brentsville  
Shared Among Neighbors

Contact us on:  
[morganbreeden@aol.com](mailto:morganbreeden@aol.com)

IN GOD WE TRUST

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