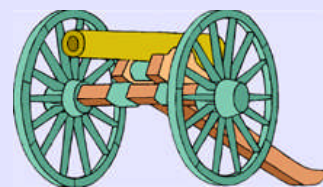


Brentsville Neighbors



Information About Brentsville
Shared Among Neighbors

November 2010



Welcome Neighbors,

During November we often think of Veteran's Day and all of those who have served our country. In the past we have thus reflected on veterans from the more recent years, say back to WW-II with an occasional individual of earlier times. This year we again wish to remember veterans but from a different period of time – The Civil War or the War Between the States or The War of Northern Aggression – call it what you will.

At the conclusion of the "Haunted Tours" conducted at the Historic Brentsville Courthouse Site, I had the pleasure of thanking members of the 49th Virginia Infantry reenactment group for graciously giving their time and resources to our site, making it a far better event for our visitors. Later, it seemed like a wonderful idea to dedicate much of this issue to the memory of the 49th Virginia while remaining consistent with the Veterans Day theme. I hope you find this information informative as well as interesting.

It is also great to report that there are now an additional 18 electronic subscribers to our newsletter. A sincere welcome to each of you! And a reminder that you are always welcome to share your information with our Brentsville Neighbors.

Very best wishes,
Morgan

Prince William Cavalry Exhibit Curator Seeks Information

The Manassas Museum is seeking information, photographs, and artifacts related to the men of the Prince William Cavalry for an exhibit to open in April 2011. The exhibit coincides with the reenactment of the cavalry's "Ride from Brentsville," and will tell the story of the soldiers on the 1861 cavalry rolls plus others: their military history, family ties, and progress through the Civil War. Families may loan or donate artifacts to the exhibit. Family documents relating to the men will be helpful in telling the story. The museum is also seeking descendants of the cavalymen to answer a roll call at the conclusion of the ride from Brentsville.

If you have any information you would like to share for the exhibit, contact Roxana Adams, Curator, Manassas Museum by telephone (703/257-8452), or email at radams@ci.manassas.va.us.

This month:

Circulation: 213 - 93 Electronic

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Flashback

Prince William's War Record

When in sixty-one, Virginia called upon her sons to repel the invaders of her soil, not one of her hundred and thirty odd counties responded more promptly or liberally than did Prince William. Being one of the border counties abutting on the Potomac, whose waters, in the early period of the war, found the dividing line between the armies of the North and the armies of the South it was naturally supposed that a large majority of her inhabitants would be compelled to remain at home for the protection of their families and property. Such, however, proved to be by no means the case; for in proportions to her population no county in the state and possibly in the Confederacy sent a larger number of soldiers to the war.

Besides furnishing a considerable number of men to the commands of Mosby, Stringfellow, Pelham and Latimer, Prince William put six companies in the field, as many as sent by some of her sister counties with more than double her population.

Besides this she supplied the battlefields of two of the most important battles of the war. I am now going to make a claim for our old county that may seem to many yet more astounding and it is this: That no county in the state; no county in the Confederates states; no county in the United States

furnished from a single farm more soldiers than prince William did from one of hers. My farm of Evergreen, which has been in the Berkeley family for between one and two hundred years, having furnished inclusive of myself and eldest boy, who was wounded in the battle of the cadets at New Market, no less a number than fifteen. Of these but four are now living, my son and I and the two brothers, George and Nimrod Mayhugh. The termination of the war found four residing in Virginia graves, while a fifth lay buried on the battlefield of Gettysburg.

*Sleep soldier, though none may regret thee
Who tread on thy lone grave to-day;
Ne'er, ne'er shall thy loved ones forget thee,
Or thy name from earth pass away.*

No never shall it pass away while a single loving heart beat in the breast of a son or a daughter of Virginia.

*You have written your name in letters of fame
O'er the archway of liberty's portal;
We revere each proud name, never sullied by shame
That is now and forever immortal.*

Edmund Berkeley

Source: The Manassas Journal, November 30, 1906.

I am excited to join the Brentsville community. This historic site offers a wealth of opportunities for interpretation, research, and neighborhood involvement. I have witnessed a great deal of changes since first coming to Prince William County in 1970 as a child. I believe Brentsville is one of the few remaining towns in Northern Virginia that still has a distinct sense of place. Having grown up in Manassas, it is refreshing to work in a location which changes little over the years. I look forward to meeting many of you in person and learning more about what you believe will make this important historic site an even greater success.

Mike Riley
Brentsville Site Manager



Reenactors of the 49th Virginia Infantry enlist recruits in the Brentsville Courthouse as it actually was done almost 150 years ago.

Where WILD things live...



Pentatomoidea species
Stink Bug

Pentatomoidea is a superfamily of insects in the Heteroptera suborder of the Hemiptera order and, as such, share a common arrangement of sucking mouthparts. They are commonly referred to as **shield bugs**, **chust bugs**, and **stink bugs**. Shield bugs have glands in their thorax between the first and second pair of legs which produce a foul smelling liquid. This liquid is used defensively to deter potential predators and is sometimes released when the bugs are handled carelessly. The nymphs, similar to adults except smaller and without wings, also have stink glands.

The nymphs and adults have piercing mouthparts which most use to suck sap from plants, although some eat other insects. When they group in large numbers they can become significant pests.

During warm months, female stink bugs attach large masses of eggs to the underside of leaves and stems. After hatching, the wingless nymphs go through five immature stages before becoming full-sized, winged adults. Stink bugs are not known to bite humans but caution should be used when handling them to avoid a release of their odor.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Hazel, Cathy and Freddy Wolfe
1978



Above, the
Brentsville Wolfe
home since October
1961



Left, Cathy and her
dad, Freddy on a
plane

All photos this page
courtesy of Cathy
(Wolfe) White

The Green Grass of Brentsville

By
Cathy (Wolfe) White

I am turning 50 yrs old and have lived in the Tidewater area of Virginia for the past 29 years, but was raised for 21 yrs in Brentsville, which I will always call "home." When I met the man that I've been married to for the past 27 yrs, he asked me, "What cave did you crawl out of?" At 21, my views on life were different than his, and this is a direct result of who my parents were, how & where I was raised. Freddie & Hazel Wolfe were always level headed and well-grounded. They raised my brother, Cary, & myself with love & discipline and a "matter of fact" attitude concerning life's events & challenges. We grew up in the Brentsville Presbyterian Church and always knew the love of Jesus and feared the wrath of God. Actually, the "wrath of Freddie" was just as intimidating (hahaha). Our Aunt Marye used to say that she could hear him hollering at us all the way to her house (on Izaack Walton Rd.) Uncle Eugene would come by almost daily after work and sit in the kitchen & visit with us as I watched him roll his own cigarettes. Uncle Earle would sit on a cinder block outside at Aunt Marye's and chat with everyone who was shucking peas & corn or snapping green beans out of the garden. Every sentence he said, started with the words, "I say ..." Marye's was a regular family gathering place where the grown-ups sat & talked while the kids played in the yard. We also had a garden plot on her property, which I must admit, was NOT my fondest of memories. Working in the hot sun, swatting bugs, pulling weeds was not my idea of fun. I eventually started to bargain with mom & daddy to let me stay home to clean the house and cut the grass instead of working in the garden. We spent a lot of time with the Eanes family too. They lived only two doors up from us. My cousin, Steve was my best friend growing up until the boys at school told him that it wasn't "cool" to hang out with a girl. After that, I would spend countless hours at Brentsville Superette visiting and chatting with Catherine Corner, the owner [hence my nickname, Chatty-Cathy]. She even took me to Alexandria to get my ears pierced at 13 because no one in Manassas was doing anything like that yet. In the summer, I would have to peel the tar off the bottoms of my feet from walking to the store barefoot. I vividly remember popping the hot tar bubbles with my feet as I walked to the store & back. In those days, a gallon of gas was 35 cents and the store featured a full front counter of penny candy and a cooler full of bottled sodas. The small store was also a gathering place for the residents of Brentsville.

Our house was always "old." It had been a post office and general store before my mom & dad bought it. There's nothing like sleeping to the lullaby sound of the

rain hitting a tin roof. Our house did not have central heat or air conditioning. In the summer we slept w/the windows open and a fan blowing on us. In the winter, we slept under so many blankets it was hard to roll over. I can clearly remember waking up with ice on the inside of the windows. We had one oil burning space heater downstairs, where we would run to get dressed in the morning. At the age of 15 when we got central heat & A/C, I felt like I lived in a hotel! I was so excited!

Summer nights consisted of catching lightning bugs and playing hide & seek. Summer days were filled with playing outside, wading in Broad Run, and making a "fort" in the woods where they have now identified an old tavern on the historic grounds. There was always a softball game at the courthouse ball field for everyone to enjoy. Winters were spent sleigh riding behind the courthouse and ice skating on Webster's pond. Everyone in Brentsville knew each other. Most of the kids' parents had all gone to school together. Most of them [and us] were taught by some of the same teachers, including Hattie Mae Partlow. Who could forget Ms. Partlow and her signature beehive hairdo?

As a very small child, granddaddy Wolfe & Wynette lived in the old house across Bradshaw's field from us. Mom would fix them a plate after dinner and Cary would deliver it to the back porch for them. Granny lived on Brentsville Rd with Eugene & Earle. I looked forward to visiting her on Saturdays, doing cleaning chores for herand especially in our annual trip to Camp Massanutten each summer [as her chaperone ... hahaha] I would sing hymns to her while she crocheted in our room. She always introduced me as her "Baby's Baby". You see, my dad was her youngest child, and I was his. I loved hearing her say that, and was proud of the title. She would also pay me \$1 every time I sang a solo in the church choir. However, just seeing the pride in her eyes was worth so much more than the dollar. She had her favorite pew next to the window where she left one of her afghans in case she got chilly during church. I loved school and joined every club available. Except for the biggest club in the school ... Future Farmers of America As I already told you, gardening & agriculture were not attractive to me. I opted for Cheerleading and Future Business Leaders of America. Funny how that paid off for me ... as I am now an International Sales Manager acting as the head cheerleader for my team around the world.

My daddy always worked hard for a living and my mom was always home with us. We never had to go to bed hungry or feeling unloved or in need of anything. We

When WAR Came to Brentsville

49th Virginia Infantry Regiment

COMPANY A “EWELL GUARDS” (Formerly Company F)

The following regimental and company records and accounts from actual participants in Company A are direct from the following publication: “History of the Forty-Ninth Virginia Infantry C.S.A.,” “Extra Billy Smith’s Boys” 1861-1865; Laura Virginia Hale and Stanley S. Phillips 1981

Ewell Guards: PWC, Va. Enlisted July 1, 1861 for one year. Mustered July 12, 1861; reorganized April 30, 1862. All enrolled in Brentsville Courthouse, PWC July 1, 1861.

Commissioned Officers: Captain Jerome Bonaparte Norvell :: First Lieutenant James R. Purcell :: First Lieutenant Thomas S. Bell :: Second Lieutenant Milton Fitzhugh (Died of disease August 19, 1861 at Fleetwood, PWC) :: Third Lieutenant Charles E. Tyler Promoted to Second Lieutenant (resigned and dropped from rolls on April 30, 1862) :: Third Lieutenant Richard I. Reid :: Second Lieutenant William W. Larkin (enlisted as Private August 25, 1861 in PWC; appointed Third Sergeant April 18, 1862; elected Lieutenant April 30, 1862, then promoted to Second Lieutenant. Received a severe shoulder wound at battle of Seven Pines. Also wounded at 1st Battle of Fredericksburg).

Non-Commissioned Officers: First Sergeant William E. Lipscomb :: First Sergeant Hiram E. Harrover (enlisted August 1, 1861; appointed 5th Sergeant October 15, 1861; orderly Sergeant February 10, 1862; wounded at battle of Seven Pines and twice afterwards; medical discharge September 22, 1862; and transferred to Ordnance Department in 1863) :: Second Sergeant Robert C. Lipscomb (enlisted September 1, 1861, killed at battle of Seven Pines) :: Third Sergeant Thomas W. Tansill (promoted to Second Sergeant 1861; medical discharge April 4, 1862; possible wounded at Fredericksburg and discharged; re-enlisted and deserted in winter of 1864) :: Fourth Sergeant James Lawrence Cole :: Sergeant George W. Grayson :: Quartermaster Sergeant Robert H. Hooe :: Third Sergeant William Long (wounded at Sharpsburg and near Petersburg Va. July 20, 1864) :: Fifth Sergeant William H. Lovelace :: Fourth Sergeant Robert Lynn :: First Sergeant Thomas B. McMurter (First Sergeant in 1863; wounded at 1st battle of Fredericksburg; captured at Gaines’ Mill May 30, 1864; released from Elmira, N.Y. June 19, 1865) :: Sergeant Francis D. Williams (appointed Corporal October 15, 1861; promoted to Sergeant April 18, 1862; medical discharge September 28, 1862) :: Third Corporal William L. Ellicott :: Fourth Corporal

Robert P. Hutchison (deserted near Richmond May 20, 1862) :: First Corporal Charles Dunning Wheat :: Corporal Thomas E. Wilkins (severely wounded and captured at battle of Cedar Creek October, 1864; died from amputation of leg at U.S. field hospital in Winchester, Va. October 28, 1864; buried in Stonewall Cemetery in Winchester, Va.) :: Corporal William Thomas Able (promoted to Corporal November, 1863; killed accidentally) :: Fourth Corporal William A. Renoe (appointed fourth Corporal April 18, 1862; died in field hospital at Lavina Grove’s farm from wounds received at battle of Sharpsburg; buried in N.E. corner of Mrs. Lucher’s house-field).

Privates: Able, Robert A. (detailed as carpenter at Manassas December 1861 and as courier for Col. Anderson, Commandant of the Post at Manassas January 1862; absent on detached service as courier for 72 days; no further records; possible also appears in Company B roster as Abel) :: Able, Alexander :: Able, John :: Able., Peyton R. (wounded and captured at Bethesda Church; left leg amputated May 31 1864; died July 1, 1864 at Stanton U.S. General Hospital in Washington, DC) :: Abel, William James (admitted to C.S.A. General Hospital in Charlottesville, Va. with pneumonia April, 1862; No further records available) :: Alexander, George (died in prison at Point Lookout, Md., July 7, 1864) :: Beach, Newman (captured in Warren county, Va. October 31, 1864; died in Elmira Prison, N.Y. March 9, 1865; Grave No. 2027) :: Beavers, Abner :: Beavers, Albert E. (enlisted PWC July 12, 1861; killed at battle of Seven Pines) :: Beavers, James Morgan (enlisted July 12, 1861 in PWC; wounded at 2nd Battle of Manassas and at 1st Fredericksburg; paroled at Fairfax court House May 10, 1865) :: Beavers, John T. (enlisted Brentsville Courthouse in PWC October 15, 1863) :: Boley, James R. (enlisted PWC July 15, 1861; took Oath to U.S. at Alexandria, Va. October 27, 1864) :: Boley, Simon P. (enlisted PWC July 19, 1861; took Oath to U.S. at Alexandria, Va. October 27, 1864) :: Boley, William (died of disease) :: Carney, J. Richard (killed at Wilderness or possibly killed in 1864 Valley campaign) :: Carney, William :: Carter, Charles :: Carter, Walter F. (enlisted New Market, Va. October 21, 1864; admitted to General Hospital Petersburg, Va. February 15, 1865; paroled by Provost Marshal, Ashland, Va. May 2 1865) :: Cheshire, Elihu (deserted May 20 1862 near Hanover Court House,

Va.; captured by 79th New York; prisoner at Fort Delaware) :: Colbert, Albert (killed at battle of Seven Pines) :: Colbert, Edward :: Colbert, George (sick at home January 1862; no further records) :: Cooper, James (enlisted in PWC July 16, 1861; medical discharge November 1, 1861) :: Cooper, Robert A. :: Cornwell, Ed. :: Cornwell, George :: Cornwell, James :: Cornwell, John :: Cornwell, Zebedee (captured near Centerville, Va. November 19, 1862) :: Dalton, William H. (enlisted PWC July 12, 1861; Henry S. Simmons became substitute for William Dalton September 1861) :: Davis, Charles S. (captured in Battle of Bethesda Church; exchanged from Point Lookout, Md., October 29, 1864; captured PWC January 19, 1865; paroled from Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, June 15, 1865) :: Davis, Shelton Dandridge (enlisted July 16, 1861; died of disease at C.S.A. General Hospital in Danville, Va. July 18, 1862) :: Davis, Edward Randolph (died of disease August 29, 1861, PWC) :: Davis, James :: Edwards, Thomas :: Edwards, William A. (enlisted June 16, 1861; detailed in hospital June, 1862; wounded at Gettysburg 1863; appears on clothing receipt roll December 19, 1864) :: Ewing, Samuel (deserted April 21, 1863) :: Fair, James :: Fair, Samuel :: Florence, William H. (wounded in battle of Sharpsburg) :: Gaines, John M.B. (Bud) (wounded at Gettysburg; died of gun shot wound in knee joint July 17, 1863, General Hospital No. 1 in Richmond, Va.; buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Va) :: Godfrey, Chapman (enlisted July 11, 1861; name appears on clothing receipt roll November 5, 1864) :: Godfrey, Joseph (lost an arm) :: Godfrey, Lewis (Corporal in 1863; died June 19, 1864, at General Hospital Liberty, Va) :: Godfrey, William (wounded at Manassas August 29, 1862 and at 2nd Cold Harbor; paroled at Appomattox) :: Goodwin, John H. (enlisted July 13, 1861; wounded at 1st Fredericksburg; captured at Aquia Creek May 20, 1864; paroled from Elmira N.Y. May 13, 1865) :: Goodwin, Marshall (died at his home from disease December 8, 1862; reported also as killed at battle of Seven Pines) :: Gossom, John C. (captured PWC January 16, 1864; paroled from Fort Delaware, June 20, 1865) :: Greenwald, Samuel (enlisted July 15, 1861; on special duty with Medical Department at Manassas, Va.) :: Hanly (no first name) (wounded) :: Hanly, Edward :: Hawley, Richard T. (enlisted July 14, 1861; killed in action at battle of Seven Pines) :: Harding, Charles W. (captured at Dumfries, Va. December 21, 1864 as a guerilla; sent to Fort Warren; paroled June 16, 1865) :: Harley, Noah (enlisted October 1, 1861; wounded at battle of Seven Pines; captured in assault on Fort Stedman near Petersburg, Va; paroled from Point Lookout June 27, 1865) :: Heintz, Martin (deserted, took Oath of Allegiance April 29, 1863, age 28, from Wilmington, N.C.) :: Hixon, Grundy (killed) :: Hixon, William J. (enlisted July 15, 1861; absent, sick at home January 1862: deserted) :: Hooe, Blucher W. :: Hooe, Peter H. (enlisted July 12, 1861; medical discharge December 30, 1862) :: Hooe, Robert H. :: Jewell, James M. (enlisted July 16, 1861; killed at battle of Seven Pines) :: Joseph (Colored; chief camp cook from December 15, 1863 to Appomattox; from Orange County) :: Keys, Andrew J. (Jack) (detailed to

hospital May 1862; killed at the Wilderness) :: Kincheloe, William A. (killed at Fredericksburg December 13, 1862 and buried in the Confederate Cemetery section of the Spotsylvania Court House cemetery) :: Larkin, L.A. (enlisted February 16, 1864, Orange County; detailed February 18, 1865 as a Clerk at the S.S. Nitre Works in Lynchburg, Va. Age 32) :: Larkin, Rosieur D. (enlisted August 28, 1863 in Orange County; paroled at Appomattox) :: Lear, Alpheus L. (enlisted February 25, 1863, Caroline County, Va.; paroled at Appomattox) :: Lee, Albert Brawner (enlisted July 16, 1861; medical discharge at Camp Pickens November 15, 1861) :: Lee, Richard M. (died of typhoid fever at Richmond hospital June 4 1862) :: Love, Charles Henry :: Love Llewellyn H. (captured at Sharpsburg; exchanged October 12, 1862; wounded near Petersburg; captured at Richmond hospital April 3, 1865; escaped from hospital May 4, 1865) :: Lovelace, James Ottaway (enlisted March 14, 1862; captured at Seven Pines; exchanged June 14, 1862; wounded at Bethesda Church) :: Lynn, Duke (wounded at Seven Pines) :: Lynn, Thaddeus (enlisted March 15, 1862; wounded 2nd Fredericksburg and again at Bethesda Church; paroled at Edwards Ferry, Md., May 9, 1865) :: Lynn, William (wounded) :: McMurter, T.S. (killed May 18, 1864) :: McRee, J.B. (died June 7, 1863; buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Va.) :: Merchant, Abner H. (died June 5, 1862 from wounds received at Seven Pines; buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Va) :: Mountjoy, Lewis (wounded at 2nd Fredericksburg; captured at his home in PWC June 20, 1863; exchanged from Point Lookout December 25, 1863; wounded and captured near Mechanicsville, Va. May 30, 1864; died of gun shot wound in Stanton General Hospital, Washington DC June 9, 1864; Grave 22, Range 4, Block 1, Section A.) :: Murphy, J. :: Murphy, William (killed May 18, 1864) :: Norvell, Clinton P. (died Sept 11, 1862 from disease) :: Oakes, Henry (medical discharge January 11, 1865) :: Otey, Charles W. (enlisted March 16, 1863; detailed as Clerk for Division August 12, 1863) :: Pearson, Charles (medical discharge July 18, 1862) :: Pettit, George William :: Pettitt, Israel J. :: Petty, John T. (wounded and captured at Gettysburg; sent to De-Camp General Hospital, Davis Island, N.Y. Harbor; exchanged and furloughed) :: Priest, John C. (eied in hospital May, 1863) :: Reid, Redman (killed at Sharpsburg) :: Renoe, Alexander (wounded at Seven Pines; captured at Sharpsburg; paroled October 4, 1862; name appears on detail as Guard August 12, 1863) :: Renoe, John F. (wounded at Seven Pines; medical discharge April 23, 1863) :: Renoe, Joseph (enlisted March 14, 1862; appears on Company Muster Roll December 1863) :: Renoe, Robert A. (wounded at Seen Pines; paroled at Appomattox; borne PWC, Va. 1836; died September 19, 1912; buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond Va.) :: Robinson, John F. (enlisted July 15, 1861; died of pneumonia at Camp Pickens January 17, 1862) :: Raney, William H. (eied of Pneumonia January 20, 1862) :: Simmons, Henry P. (appears as substitute for William H. Dalton 1862; deserted November 18, 1862) :: Simonds, J. :: Sisson, William H. (died June 8, 1862 from wounds received

at Seven Pines) :: Smith, Leonidas (enlisted April 1, 1862; transferred to Company E 25th Battalion Virginia Infantry September 14, 1863) :: Stonnell, William D. (Medical Discharge due to wounds received at Sharpsburg) :: Sullivan, James R. :: Sullivan John :: Sullivan, William H. (wounded at Seven Pines; died from fractured right thigh June 12, 1862. most likely from amputation of right leg) :: Taylor, Edward C. (enlisted July 12, 1861; wounded in Knee at Seven Pines; Medical discharge April 10, 1863) :: Thornberry, John T. (enlisted July 16, 1861; Medical discharge march 1, 1862) :: Walton, William H. (enlisted July 12, 1861; not listed after August 1861) :: Weeks, Lawrence A. (wounded at Seven Pines; paroled at Appomattox) :: Weir, Robert Carter (enlisted February 6, 1863; detailed to Division Commissary Department; paroled June 17, 1865 at Alexandria, Va.; married Mary Mildred Thornton) :: Welch, Burwell (died of typhoid fever August 10, 1862) :: Weston, Joseph P. (medical discharge June 6, 1862) :: Wilkins, Thomas (killed February 6, 1865) :: Williams, Frank (transferred to Cavalry) :: Wright, George (wounded at Cold Harbor) :: Wright Gustavus B. (Corporal; enlisted July 14, 1861; wounded at Seven Pines) :: Wright, Richard (enlisted July 14, 1861; killed at Seven Pines).

COMMENTS:

Following R.D. Funkhouser's roll of Company A (consulted in compiling this roster), he adds a note: "The foregoing list was taken from the Manassas Journal of October 20, 1905, and is no doubt correct, but their casualty list is by no means complete. I suppose it was for the lack of a complete roll kept in war times. This was a first class Company. The Captain and 1st Lieutenant were fine drill officers, having had military training before the War, but all their officers were splendid soldiers, as I know whereof I speak."

Writing from camp near Somerville Ford December 31, 1863, Captain Purcell records that Company A organized, elected officers, and went into Barracks at Brentsville, PWC, Virginia. July 1, 1861; was mustered into service July 12, and marched under orders 6 miles to Manassas by July 19.

"On the night of May 3, 1862, the Company marched from Yorktown Virginia to Williamsburg, Virginia thence toward the Chickahomoney; was ordered back beyond Williamsburg to the battle field, where it remained in line of battle until the morning of May 6., when it resumed its march. Engaged the enemy May 31, 1862, at Seven Pines. Company losses: 8 killed, 17 wounded, 1 missing.

"Engaged the enemy June 25, 1862, without loss. June 29th company was detached to scout duty and routed a body of cavalry, killing and wounding others. June 30 crossed White Oak Swamp under fire, skirmished all evening while supporting a battery under terrific artillery fire, losing 7 men wounded. All this with the 49th Regiment, Featherstone's Brigade." The Company "was engaged since January, 1863. Fredericksburg May, 1863, Winchester, Gettysburg; under fire at Bristoe Station, Rappahannock Bridge, Mine Run and Somerville; on all marched from Port

Royal, Virginia, to York, Pennsylvania, to our present position." (Somerville Ford)

Mrs. Johnson appends to her roster of Company A a brief history as follows:

"This Company was named in honor of General Richard Stoddard Ewell, was organized at Brentsville by the election of Jerome B. Norvell Captain, James R. Purcell 1st Lieutenant, Milton Fitzhugh 2nd Lieutenant, Charles E. Tyler 3rd Lieutenant and William E. Lipscomb, Orderly Sergeant. The Company marched to Manassas about July 19, 1861, but was not assigned to the 49th Regiment until after the first battle of Manassas. While at Manassas, Lieutenant Milton Fitzhugh died and William E. Lipscomb was elected 3rd Lieutenant, but resigned upon being elected Clerk of the Circuit court of PWC. Richard I. Reid was elected 3rd Lieutenant in his stead and Hiram E. Narrover appointed Orderly Sergeant. At the reorganization at Yorktown, Jerome B. Norvell was elected Captain, James Purcell 1st Lieutenant, R.I. Reid 2nd Lieutenant, and W.W. Larkin 3rd Lieutenant and became Company A, 49th Virginia Infantry.

"The Company participated in the battle of Williamsburg and at Seven Pines, lost about half their number in killed and wounded. The next battle of the 49th was at Frazer's Farm, then Malvern Hill, 2nd Manassas, capture of Harper's Ferry, Sharpsburg, and Fredericksburg in 1862."

"After the battle of Malvern Hill, the 49th was assigned to Early's Brigade and served with him against Sedgewick in 1863, being a part of Ewell's Division, Jackson's Corps, and remained in that Division until the War ended. At the close of the battle of Spotsylvania Court House in May, 1864, Lieutenant Purcell, commanding Company A (as Captain Norvell was acting Major of the Regiment) was ordered to report with his company to General Ewell, and the following conversation ensued."

"General Ewell, this is Company A, 49th Virginia Infantry ordered to report to you." The General replied, "My brave men, I thank you in the name of my Corps, and your children's children will live to thank you for your work this day".

"This was a very high and deserved compliment. Company A lost heavily at 2nd Cold Harbor in 1864, was with Early in his Valley Campaign, driving Hunter out, capturing Winchester, and marching through Maryland up to the defenses of Washington. It participated in several engagements near Winchester, including the battle of September 19, 1864, Fishers' Hill and Cedar Creek.

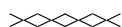
"We are unable to give the number of killed and wounded in Company A in the many battles but the percentage of loss was exceedingly heavy. After the campaign in the Valley, the 49th moved below Petersburg and participated in the fighting until the surrender of Appomattox."

Reader Feedback

I did not know that my mom was the captain of the "Honey Bees" girls softball team !!! You are so full of history & knowledge about our town's ancestry.

On a side note ... your article about praying mantis brought back another memory of my childhood. I found an egg sac of some sort one day playing outside, and put it in a plastic sandwich baggie for safe keeping. They only "folded" shut in those days (No ziplocks). Anyway ... in late winter/early spring we started seeing tiny little baby praying mantis all over the house. After searching the whole house for the source, we found my baggie tucked behind something in a cabinet And low & behold It was full of hundreds of baby mantis. Needless to say, that didn't go over real well with mom !!!! hahahaha I was instructed to keep my treasures of nature OUTSIDE where they belong.

Cathy Wolfe White

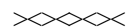


Thank you so much for the time & effort put into getting this publication out. I look forward to receiving it each month. This month had an extra pleasure; what a pleasant surprise to see the picture/article about Mom. I just got to spend the day w/cousins in Dalton, GA, and

yes most of us still have the "Foster Failure" following us. Do you have any info on Hazel Stevens (Stephens) who owned the store; we are trying to find out her maiden name as she was a cousin to Dad. Looking forward to the next issue.

Mary Pumphrey

[Her name was Hazel Olive Heflin. We would love to receive more information about her.]



I received my "Brentsville Newsletter" today, and wish to send condolences on Nelson's passing. That has to leave a void in the workshop, home, church, and neighborhood.

I feel honored that you chose my story of Mrs. Pearson to print/with pictures/and the poem which I had written a few years ago. The Newsletter is like a mind-camera getting pictures to reflect upon; of the people and the Brentsville stomping ground; where memories were made by all who stomped there!

Thank you again,

Neighborly Bobbie Ratliff

(Continued from page 5)

were not rich, but never did without. We didn't have extravagant or frivolous things, nor did we expect them or miss them. We knew that if we did something wrong that there would be punishment and consequences. We were not allowed to sass or disrespect adults. Cartoons only came on TV on Saturday mornings and we always watched the Sunday night movie on TV & Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom as a family. Jiffy Pop Popcorn was a treat. There were no computers or video games ... we played board games & card games. Cell phones? ... Oh no ... we had a "party" line and a rotary dial phone. You had to get up off the couch to change the TV channels, and went to bed when they played the National Anthem at midnight and the channel went off the air. There were only a couple of fast-food places in Manassas and all the employees spoke English! My school bus took the dirt & gravel roads from Brentsville to Nokesville ... windows down and red dust rolling through the air with the smell of fresh manure on the fields of crops that we passed along the way.

Yes, times have certainly changed. Children seldom experience the kind of upbringing that we had in Brentsville in the 60's & 70's. Technology, environment and parenting practices have had a major role in changing

today's youths. If I had to do it all again, I wouldn't change a thing. Growing up in Brentsville as the daughter of Freddie & Hazel Wolfe made me who I am. I'm proud of who I am. I'm proud of my roots. I'm proud of that "cave that I crawled out of" prior to moving to Virginia Beach. I'm proud of the muddy water that runs through my veins. I wish that my children had experienced a childhood more like my own, but am thankful that they, too, have had "Brentsville experiences" throughout their lives while visiting Grandma & Grandpa. There's nothing like going home now and being surrounded by the familiar smells, décor & now my mom's ever-present spirit. It's not a house, it's home.

Over the years I have asked my parents to move closer to me. Once Daddy replied, "I was born in Brentsville & I plan to die here." To most people, the grass is always greener on the other side. Few people appreciate the treasures that they have. I can't think of a better place to live out your life, or a greener side of the fence. Hot, dry summers may take their toll on the lawns there But to me, there is no greener grass than the grass that I grew up playing on ... in Brentsville.

Cathy (Wolfe) White

DOB: 10-13-60

1979 Graduate of Brentsville District High School

Cmw60@cox.net

Brentsville Neighbors

Information About Brentsville
Shared Among Neighbors

Contact us on:
morganbreeden@aol.com

**Brentsville Neighbors
c/o Morgan Breeden
9721 Windy Hill Drive
Nokesville, VA 20181**

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