

Brentsville Neighbors



Preserving Brentsville's History

October 2011



Welcome Neighbors,

Great news! After what seems like forever, restoration of the Brentsville jail has finally started! On September 23rd, Dr. Carl Lounsbury met with Brendon Hanafin and members of his staff (plus one very interested on-looker) in the jail to conduct a preliminary review of the building and to start outlining plans for a more detailed restoration effort. Fritz Korzendorfer and staff have started stripping the inside of several rooms to allow a much closer assessment of the current condition of the building. This is also revealing details about the original configuration of the cells which are very necessary if the building is to be restored with a high degree of accuracy. Brendon believes the total effort may take as much as two years to complete. His intention is to fully restore both levels of the jail to the same time period as represented in the courthouse (c 1830). We will keep you informed of the progress.

The information about Rev. John Murray Taylor (on page 8) aroused my curiosity about the location of "Wayside." Ron Turner and Don Wilson both responded to my query with valuable information too extensive to include here but the information will be included in the collection of folders on Brentsville. My thanks to both for your kind assistance.

When you read the Civil War report on page six, please keep in mind that it was written by a northern newspaper reporter who was traveling with the Yankee troops. Thus the nasty slurs and reference to Brentsville as "Grantsville" and the (probable) intentional misspelling of Eppa Hunton's name.

On the 9th and the 23rd you are invited to participate in historical services in the Union Church. On the 9th join Rev. John Nuzum of the Holy Spirit Anglican Church and on the 23rd the service will be provided by Rev. Tom Costa with activities to be

determined for both days. Services are from 10:00am – 11:00am followed by activities. These events are absolutely FREE to the public, so bring your friends, family and neighbors for fun and goodies! Contact Joanne@historicfaith.net or 703-927-1492 for more information.

Two other events you will not want to miss – "*Spirits of Historic Brentsville*," a Halloween program, will be held October 21st and 22nd from 7 to 9 p.m. Come bear witness to several spirits that once walked the streets of Brentsville. In Brentsville's 190 year history, many tragic occurrences took place. See the horror of a Civil War hospital, a murder in the legendary jail & meet someone awaiting execution at the gallows. All stories are based on historic events and people. \$7 Admission. Tours depart every 30 minutes. NOT appropriate for children under six. And Saturday, October 29th, "*Haunted Brentsville*" will feature paranormal training/investigation. During the classroom seminar you will learn some of the theories behind paranormal activity and discover current scientific methods being used in paranormal investigations. Then you will join members of East Coast Research and Investigation of the Paranormal (ECRIP) as they investigate Brentsville Courthouse Historic Center. **Don't** miss this rare chance to get inside the historic Brentsville Jail while it is undergoing restoration! Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre has been featured on SyFy Channel's hit show, *Ghost Hunters!* Cost is \$125.00 for the entire evening. Call 703-365-7895 for information on these events or to make your reservations.

Very best wishes,
Morgan

This month:

Circulation: 253

- Flashback ----- pages 2 & 9
- Where Wild Things Live --- pages 2 & 3
- Unraveling History ----- pages 5, 8 & 9
- When War Came ----- pages 6 & 7
- Reader Feedback----- page 9

Flashback

Where WILD Things Live

BRENTSVILLE

'Tis said there is nothing so contagious as laughter, but after visiting the union Sunday School and hearing reports of the wonderful automobile excursion to Washington, I am constrained to add enthusiasm as equally contagious as laughter. I never saw so many happy faces, nor heard such unanimous expressions of happiness and delight.

At six o'clock Saturday morn Mr. D. E. Earhart, the genial and happy superintendent, gave the call to start by ringing the old courthouse bell whose tones have softened, in the days gone by, called the innocent and the guilty to the bar of justice, and so often tolled the march to "that bourne from whence no traveler returns." But, on this gladsome morn, it seemed to say "Listen to the bell! Silver bell!

What a world of merriment its melodies foretell."

And to its music 125 members of the flourishing Sunday school started on their happy journey. Twenty autos were required, and the journey was made via Manassas, Fairfax Courthouse, Centerville and across the Chain Bridge into the District, and thence to the "Zoo," that place of such entertainment and delight to children.

Every courtesy was extended to Mr. Earhart and his party by the officers at the zoo, who gave them the freedom of the park and made a record of their visit as one of the events at the zoo.

After spending some time there, eating lunch, seeing the sights, and having a good time generally, the start for home was made. There seems to have been a little confusion at this time, as some returned by Occoquan, and others by the same route as taken in going to the city.

Only one auto gave trouble. Mr. Otho Hedrick's machine was "towed" (pardon the nautical expression) home at the end of a rope fifty feet long. In Mr. Hedrick's machine was Mr. McDonald, one of the officers of the school, and the machine was hurled through the darkness at such rapid speed as to give Mr. McDonald all the rope he needed for speculation upon the uncertainty of life.

A rising vote of thanks was given, Sunday morning, by the school and its officers to Mr. Keller, a deacon in the Presbyterian Church here, through whose

(Continued on page 9)

Cow Killer Ant or Velvet Ant

An unusual insect found during late summer and early fall is the velvet ant. The females are wingless and are sometimes mistaken for a large, hairy, orange and black ant. These "ants" are actually wasps! A solitary wasp, the velvet ant does not live in colonies or have a "nest."

Velvet ants are not aggressive and will try to escape from you. The females have a very painful sting if handled. The name "Cow Killer Ant" was given to the velvet ant because of the reputation of the female's sting. It is said that the sting is so painful that it could kill a cow. This handsome insect does make a sound (especially when stepped on) but the squeaks of the cow killer ant would hardly be heard over the painful screams if the person stepping on the wasp was barefoot.

The adult velvet ants feed on nectar and water. The immature stages are external parasites of wasp that nest in the ground like cicada killer wasp. After the developing cicada killer wasp have formed cocoons, the adult female velvet ants slip into the hole in the ground where the nest is located and lays eggs on the cocoon. The velvet ant larvae hatch and feed on, eventually killing, the developing wasp larvae. When it's ready to become an adult, the velvet ant pupates inside the nest of the wasp where it will emerge the next season.

Velvet ants do not cause damage and no chemical controls are needed. Velvet ants should be left alone, but if control is desired, make sure you have on a heavy-soled shoe before stepping on the insect!

The common name velvet ant refers to their dense pile of hair which most often is bright scarlet or orange but may also be black, white, silver, blue, or gold. Unlike a real ant, they do not have drones, workers, and queens. The exoskeleton of all velvet ants is unusually tough (to the point that some entomologists have reported difficulty piercing them with steel pins when attempting to mount them for display in cabinets). This characteristic allows them to successfully invade the nests of their prey and also helps them retain moisture. Males have wings but females uniformly are wingless. The males and females are so different that it is almost impossible to associate the two sexes of a species unless they are captured while mating.

Only the female is capable of inflicting a sting because the stinger itself is a modified female organ called an ovipositor.

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutillidae>



Fritz Korzendorfer examines the beams in the attic of the jail during the first steps of restoration.

Where WILD things live..



Velvet Ant or Cow Killer



Churning butter during the Farm Tour
in the Haislip-Hall home
September 24, 2011



Dennis Van Derlaske discussing Julius Rosenwald
and the creation of black schools in the south.
September 10, 2011

THE OLD STONE CHURCH AT BRENTSVILLE

The old stone church at Brentsville, what memories it brings,
Of many years so long gone by on time's most rapid wings.
Its sacred walls a gallery, on which are painted clear
The faces of the loved and lost, to memory so dear.

The silent voices of the choir, which thro the church once rang,
As they with true devotion God's praises sweetly sang,
I seem to hear them once again just as in days of yore,
Perhaps it is an echo from the far off heavenly shore.

Just yonder by the alter I saw the young bride kneel,
And plight her troth to him who was to bring her woe or weal;
Above her swung the wedding bell of lilies pure and white,
Whose fragrance seemed the promise of a life most fair and bright.

But ere time's cold and frosty breath the lilies' beauty chilled,
Death's cruel, icy fingers her lover's heart had stilled,
And just beneath the wedding bell where late her vows were made,
'Mid breaking hearts and blinding tears her lifeless form was laid.

Since that sad hour the Old Stone Church to me will ever seem
A mausoleum for dead hopes and love's bright shattered dream,
'Tis hard for us to understand life's sorrow, grief and pain,
And yet, some day, God will, in love, these mysteries explain.

Ah! Life is but a tragedy of broken hopes and fears,
One day 'tis full of laughter, the next 'tis full of tears,
The only way to guide our feet along the dubious way,
Is found in Him who is the Light, the Life, the Truth, the Way.

The Old Stone Church at Brentsville, how many prayers you've heard,
Within your walls how many souls have listened to His word?
How many hearts now still in death have bowed before your shrine,
And fed upon His flesh and blood, the mystic bread and wine.

And when the grand archangel, with one foot on the shore,
And one upon the sea shall cry that time shall be no more,
The Old Stone Church at Brentsville a mighty host will bring
To meet with glad, triumphant songs their Savior and their King.

Margaret H. Bowen
Brentsville, May 9, 1914

Unraveling History

by
Morgan Breeden

One thing that makes researching history so interesting is coming upon something that finally makes clear the answer to questions that have lingered for a long, long time. Quite recently I was helping Marjorie Schaeffer (historian for Hatcher's Memorial Baptist Church) compile information about the church. Part of this process was to review the published history of the church which reads in part:

"The Brentsville Baptist Church (as it was then known) suffered a severe blow in 1893 when the county moved the Court House to the town of Manassas. A number of church members moved with the government to the new county seat and the church experienced a corresponding period of decline. Following this setback, the church at length experienced a time of renewal and decided to purchase the present stone sanctuary in 1897 at a price of \$350.

Dr. William E. Hatcher, the church namesake and a well-known Virginia Baptist minister of that era, presided over the meeting called to raise the funds to purchase the building. After two roll calls, members had pledged only \$220. A prominent layman, Mr. John Kincheloe, offered to give half of the remaining amount needed. Another layman, Mr. Harris Fields, matched the amount given by Mr. Kincheloe and the building was acquired. It has belonged to the successive congregations of Hatcher's Memorial Baptist Church continuously since that time.

As I am also very actively reviewing all newspapers for information on Brentsville, several irregularities seemed to exist. For example, one newspaper account (Manassas Journal, December 7, 1906) reported: ***"The courthouse property at Brentsville was sold to Dr. R. E. Wine at \$700 and the Episcopal church lot to the same purchaser at \$175."*** Other newspaper accounts show that the Church of the Brethren held services in Brentsville as late as 1913. Still others showed the Baptist

congregation was still using the Union Church, also as late as 1913. So if the church was purchased in 1897, why was this true?

Another issue concerned Dr. Hatcher. I have never found any record that indicated he had visited Brentsville but it was generally thought (by some, at least) that he came to Brentsville and presided over a meeting of local citizens to raise the necessary \$350.00. So the questions: Was Dr. Hatcher in Brentsville? Were the funds to buy the church raised locally? And I suppose along with that line of thought, was the church actually bought for \$350.00?

In an attempt to find the answer to these questions, I visited the Virginia Baptist Historical Society located in the Boatwright Library on the campus of the University of Richmond. Here Mrs. Darlene Slater Herod, Research Assistant, was most gracious in helping identify the documents that might answer some of these questions.

In the Minutes of the Fifty-Seventh Annual Session of the Potomac Baptist Association held in New Baltimore, Fauquier Co., Virginia, August 14, 15, 16, 1912, I found the following:

Dr. Lake moved to adopt the report. The same was discussed by Bro. T. W. T. Noland, who made an earnest appeal for the purchase of a church building at Brentsville.

Dr. Watson moved that we endorse the movement for the purchase of the church property at Brentsville. Agreed to.

Dr. Jackson moved that Bro. Noland be given an opportunity to collect funds (\$500.00) for the church. Agreed to. Pledges were then taken with the following results:

Alexandria (First) - \$25.00; Alexandria (Second) - 5.00; Antioch - 5.00; Brentsville - 50.00; Broad Run - 15.00; Calvary - 5.00; Clarendon - 5.00; Columbia - 10.00; Del Ray - 5.00; Grove - 5.00; Guilford -

(Continued on page 8)

When WAR Came to Brentsville

April 1862

Correspondence of the *Sentinel* Letter from Gen. McDowell's Army

The Weather

This Old Virginia climate is enough to try the patience of Job and wear out the constitution of an elephant. It would be easier to count the stars than to calculate the chances of leaving six hours of fair weather out of twenty-four. Old Sol may rise from his eastern couch in the morning and smile upon the sons and daughters of Eve; but ere noon arrives his bright face is excluded from view by the storm king, who raises his flood gates and drenches the pergrinating sons of Adam with the waters of the terrestrial kingdom. From the afternoon at the 7th until the morning of the 10th it snowed incessantly. The snow fell to the depth of three inches. Our boys say it was the most miserable spell of weather they have experienced during the whole campaign. Your correspondent, over whose head the frosts of some forty winters have passed, never witnessed a more diabolical season of bad weather. I am informed by residents that this is the most backward spring known in this country for number of years. Were it not for the budding out of a few trees, we should hardly know that winter was reclining in the lap of spring.

An Exploration

Friday, 11th. The storms of rain, hail & snow which had been raging for three days, having subsided we started in company with two of Co. C's boys for Grantsville, the county seat of Prince William. We found the country lying between our camp and the court house well settled. The land generally was very poor. From an old settler we learned that the land was originally rich and well adapted to the growth of wheat and corn, but it had been ruined through a process of miserable farming. The science of agriculture is as foreign to the minds of the "Planters," as they are called in this region of Virginia, as the principles of astronomy are to the untutored mind of Hottentots. Grantsville, like the generality of county seats in this State, is a "one-horse" village, consisting of a population of about one hundred and fifty inhabitants. The public buildings, consisting of a Court House and jail look as if they were built in the year one; the dwelling houses are mostly old frames leaning up against each other so as to avoid tumbling down. Modern improvements are unknown to the dilapidated chivalry of Brentsville. This county town

is situated within half mile of the geographical center of the county. The country around is well timbered, and has excellent water privileges such as the indomitable Yankees would use to advantage. The land is sufficiently undulating to afford good drainage. This is fortunate for these now living in the country, as they are too indolent and ignorant to turn their attention to making improvements where they are needed.

Col. Eppa Hulton

This military son of Virginia was once the occupant and owner of the only hospitable looking mansion in the village of Brentsville. He was what the darkies call one of the "great folks" owing to his being a lawyer, Colonel and wealthy. The Colonel like other blind and infatuated Virginia professionals, played an active part among the ranks of disunion in the contest with the union party which resulted so fatally to the peace and prosperity of the State. Shortly after the inauguration of the war he was "honored" with the position of Col. over a regiment of Virginia traitors. When the rebel army evacuated Manassas he bid adieu to his old homestead and followed the retreating forces of Beauregard, accompanied by his wife and two slaves. While at Brentsville I visited his house, which I found occupied by a number of soldiers, who were taking it easy upon the handsome sofas chairs and lounges.

In the parlor I observed a stalwart Pennsylvania Zouave beating away upon a piano while a dozen others were going it upon a regular "break down." In "my lady's chamber" a squad of soldiers had taken up quarters, where they were cooking and washing. Her handsome mahogany bedstead was holding the elongated forms of four "horrible Zouaves," who declared to me that it was a d—d splendid sleeping machine'-The Colonel's library had been completely stripped of all its books; private papers and letters scattered over the floor; writing desk and book-case partly mashed.- It was sad to see this indiscriminate destruction of property and then reflect upon the causes which had produced it. In the kitchen I came across a sprightly negro woman who informed me that her master had left four of them behind with instructions to follow him as soon as he should send for them. Upon my pointing southward and asking her whether she intended going in

(Continued on page 7)

that direction she gave me a knowing look and replied, "No, Master, We's gwine norf, whar de white folks don't whip de darkies," When asked what she could do to take care of herself, she promptly answered, "Why Master, if we colored folks can take care of da white people in dis country, we can take care of ourselves Norf." The shrewdness of this reply convinced me that these "ignorant darkies," now that they are at liberty to express their sentiments without fear of the lash are "wide awake," and appreciate the difference between slavery and freedom.

Printing Office

Claiming as your correspondent does a fellowship with the members of the "black art," I make it a special business to pay my respects to every printing office that chance throws in my way. Hearing that Brentsville boasted of such an invaluable institution, I "hun'ted it up," intending if the material was in a right condition to issue a loyal sheet upon my own hook. My fond expectations were soon knocked in a "cocked Hat." Upon entering the grand sanctum sanctorum of the *Brentsville Advocate*, I there beheld a sight that would make the hardest sinner weep. Instead of finding the office "right side up with care" I found it a huge mass of "pi" and horse manure. Upon the evacuation by the rebels of this part of the State the veritable editor and proprietor was not slow to "cut sticks," leaving his office to take care of itself. From the sanctum we ascended to the garret which constituted the second story then I came across a "black imp," (contraband) rummaging over the personal property of the absquatulated editor. "Darkee," showed his "ivories" when we thrust our head piece through the trapdoor. Thinking to scare him, we exclaimed, "You imp of the Devil, what are you after." After rolling his big eyes at us, and opening his mouth wide enough to take in a pumpkin, he replied "Noting. Massa, I'se only seein if de white printer man leff ahyting dat dis nigger wants."

Not wishing to disturb the "colored individual" in his search after rebel relics, we bade him good morning, and made our exit from the premises, hoping never again to see a printing office converted into a stable.

The county clerk's office

This reservoir of antiquated documents had been entered by our straggling soldiers and ransacked thoroughly. Bushels of deeds, and other valuable papers, together with ledger and county record books lay in heaps all about the floor, The make the destruction more complete, a horse had been quartered a day and night in the office during which time he trampled under his iron bound hoofs the ancient records of Prince Williams county. while gazing upon this scene of destruction, a gentleman entered and informed us that he was appointed to straighten out the mutilated papers and put the office in a good fix." We did

not envy the job he had undertaken. The same scenes of wanton destruction of property stared us in the face, as we passed through the court House and out buildings. Such acts of unwarranted destruction of public records is highly reprehensible and should not be countenanced. The loyalists, as well as the rebels, suffer seriously by their wholesale spoliations of documentary testimony of past events, for this reason we deem it unnecessary to "carry the war into Africa" to that extent.

A full blooded feminine secesh

From the acquaintance I have formed with "Virginia's fair Daughters," I am satisfied they have in the main been more instrumental in firing up the hearts of the junior chivalry and converting them into rebels, than all the "secesh" stump dechimers in the State. These female advocates of treason are bitter in their denunciations of the Yankees, and "Uncle Abe" for the latter they cannot express their supreme contempt. While conversing with one of these strange creatures at Brentsville, she declared "George Washington and Jesus Christ," were both rebels hence she glories in being the bitterest kind of one. As this "Virginia Amazon" was single, I put the question to her whether she would not rather marry a full blooded dyed in the blood Yankee than die an old maid. She reflected for a few moments, and then replied "Nary live Yankee for me." Bitter as this woman was towards the people of the North, she nevertheless treated us with the utmost politeness. Some allowance may be made for these Virginia women as their knowledge of the true character of the northern people is extremely limited owing to the fact that they have never had much intercourse with our people. As a general thing they know very little what is going on in the world outside of the county in which they reside.

Zouave Skulls

During my perambulations around Brentsville I fell in with a man who had been engaged in peddling among the rebels at Manassas. He informed me that he had seen a couple of wash bowls made from the skulls of two Zouaves upon which was inscribed The last of the New York Zouaves," They were the property of the "Louisiana Tigers," None but a Tiger" would thus have disgraced humanity by an act so revolting.-

From a rebel deserter I learned that these fellows constituted the very official of society. At the breaking out of the rebellion they were turned loose from the penitentiaries and jails of the state and converted into soldiers. These blood thirsty cannibals are now, if reports be true food for worms in the vicinity of Pittsburgh landing. If such inhuman wretches have souls they will meet their reward when His Satanic Majesty opens the gates of Hell and takes them into his dominions.

5.00; Haymarket - 5.00; Herndon - 5.00; Leesburg - 15.00; Little River - 5.00; Long Branch - 10.00; Manassas - 20.00; Marshall - 15.00; Middleburg 10.00; Mt. Hope - 5.00; Oak Dale - 5.00; Richland - 5.00; Rock Hill - 5.00; Upperville - 15.00; Warrenton - 25.00; Woodbine - 5.00; Zoar - 10.00; E. T. Fenwick - 31.50; T. W. T. Noland - 31.50; Culpeper - 15.00; D. P. Wood - 5.00; W. W. Smith - 5.00; C. T. Tiffany - 5.00; G. Harris Fields - 56.00; John Kincheloe - 56.00
Total - \$500.00

At the conclusion of the collection the congregation sang the "Doxology" and "God Be With You 'Till We Meet again." Dr. Hatcher conducted the collection. Bro. Noland then returned his thanks for the noble work done by the Association for his church.

Wow! This seemed to answer several questions more or less completely. First, an attempt to raise the necessary funds didn't take place until 1912 so the church could not have been purchased in 1897. Second, funds were pledged by 28 different churches within the Potomac Association (note that Brentsville only pledged \$50.00) plus seven individuals. These pledges amounted to \$500.00. Now I wonder if only \$350.00 was needed, why try to collect \$500.00?

Of course, a pledge is not necessarily money in hand. Is there any record of what was actually collected? Further digging in the Minutes of the Fifty-Eighth Annual Session of the Potomac Baptist Association held at Round Hill Baptist Church, August 13, 14, 15, 1913, revealed the following:

23. Account with fund for the purchase of the Brentsville Baptist Church was read by Bro. Westwood Hutchison and on motion was ordered to be inserted in the minutes.

Westwood Hutchinson,

In account with the fund for the Baptist church. Received from: Alexandria church - 25.00; Antioch - 25.00; Broad Run, by W. W. Smith - 5.00; Bell Haven - 5.00; Calvary - 5.00; Clarendon - 5.00; Columbia - 10.00; Del Ray - 5.00; Grove - 5.00; Guifford - 5.00; Haymarket - 5.00; Hamilton, by Rev. T.W.T. Noland - 5.00; Herndon - 5.00; Ketocin - 5.00; Leesburg - 15.00; Long Branch - 10.00; Little River - 6.00; Middleburg - 10.00; Manassas church - 20.00; Marshall church - 15.00; Mt. Hope - 10.00; Oak Dale - 5.00; Orlean - 4.00; Richland - 5.00;

Rock Hill - 5.00; Round Hill - 2.00; Upperville - 15.00; Warrenton church - 35.00; Woodbine - 5.00; Zoar - 5.00; Mr. Joseph Ennis - 5.00; E. T. Fenwick - 31.00; G. Harris Field - 56.00; John W. Kincheloe - 56.00; Culpeper - 13.50; Brentsville, by Robert Molair - 25.00, By Robert Molair - 10.00 - By Miss Viola Davis - 1.00 - By W. D. Green - 1.00 - By T. W. T. Noland - 10.00 - By M. R. Stephens - 2.00 - By Mrs. S. Huff - 5.00 - By Miss Marion Mayhugh - 9.00 - (63.00). Total amount collected - \$486.50

April 25, 1913, By amount paid S.B. Fogle for Deed - \$450.00

April 30, 1913, By amount paid Mrs. Bradshaw - 36.50

Total - \$486.50

*Respectfully submitted,
Westwood Hutchison*

From this we learn that the members of the Brentsville Baptist Church contributed \$63.00 (\$13.00 more than their pledged amount) of the total \$486.50 that had been raised. We also see that the purchase amount now seems to have been \$450.00 and I don't yet know why Mrs. Bradshaw (who owned the adjacent property) was paid \$36.50.

We have also learned that Dr. Hatcher conducted the collection, but is there more? And wasn't John Kincheloe a member of the Brentsville church? More digging.

Now we find the History of Long Branch Baptist Church, Fauquier County, Virginia, 1786 - 1967 that reveals the following:

Brother [Rev. John Murray] Taylor's autobiographical sketch, written at the request of the editor, on 31 August 1967, is quoted here in its entirety:

*I was born in Prince William County, Virginia, September 6, 1873, the youngest son of John Garland Taylor and Lucy Hickerson Taylor. I was reared on the family farm "Wayside" and attended the free county schools. I later attended Prince William Academy, Richmond College and Georgetown College in Kentucky.
[Section intentionally not included]*

Allow me one more recollection, amusing and pleasant, with a Long Branch flavor. We learned at a meeting of the Association at Broad Run (1912) that the old Episcopal church building at

(Continued from page 8)

Brentsville could be purchased for \$350.00. The Baptist at Brentsville had for years been using a small union church building. Bro. Noland, their pastor, had an option on the old Episcopal building which expired in thirty days. It was decided to call the roll of the churches and see how much could be raised for the purchase. Dr. W. E. Hatcher of Richmond, gifted in raising money, was asked by the moderator to take charge of the roll call. Most churches responded but only in small amounts. After a second roll call Dr. Hatcher in desperation cried out, "Where is my friend John Kincheloe?" Mr. Kincheloe was out in the yard. When he was brought inside Dr. Hatcher presented the proposition to him in glowing terms. He responded, "Call the roll of churches and I will give half of what is lacking." Mr. Harris Fields had already agreed to give as much as John Kincheloe did. Since the roll had already been called twice the matter was closed. The two brethren put up approximately one third of the purchase price of the building. Both of these men were deacons in the Long Branch church and naturally I was very proud. The name of the Brentsville church was changed to Hatcher's Memorial and is active today.

I am happy to have been associated with the Long Branch church, a Baptist landmark since its organization in 1786.

BINGO! Now I believe these nagging questions are finally answered.

Was the church purchased in 1897? No, it was purchased in 1913.

Was Dr. Hatcher in Brentsville? No, the meeting he presided over was in Fauquier.

Were the funds to buy the church raised locally? No, 31 churches, including Brentsville, and four individuals contributed toward the purchase.

Wasn't John Kincheloe a member of the Brentsville church? No, he and G. Harris Fields were both members of the Long Branch Baptist Church.

Did the church cost \$350.00? No, it cost \$450.00.

Deed book 63 page 376 confirms the sale was on 21 April 1913; the sale price was \$450.00; and at the time of purchase it was known as the "Hatcher Memorial Church." The church was purchased from S. P. Fogle, R. E. Wine and J. W. Leedy.

F e e d b a c k

Another great issue – thanks! How I'd love to be back in the area in Sep for the *Bluegrass in Brentsville*... I hope there'll be a story in the Oct issue.

I especially appreciated the story this month about early PWC high schools – one of my mentors and best friends is Ms Lillian Orlich, who has just begun her 58th year of teaching in PWC schools. You most likely know of her, since she is pretty much of a local celebrity. I'm sending that bit of history on to her.

Being an ex-pat in Germany, I really appreciate my monthly transport back to the Brentsville of an earlier time. Keep up the great work!

Best regards,

Mike Simpson

Brentsville resident 1962 – 1969

><><><

Please switch us to your electronic version! We love your publication! Thank you.

Eugenia and Steve Ryner

(Continued from page 2)

untiring efforts the money was raised to defray the expense of the excursion. Dr. Bell moved that the same be given the beloved superintendent, through whose efforts the excursion was planned and executed, but he, with smiling humility, declared he would not allow it, as he was more than repaid by the fine conduct and happiness of the entire school.

I am sure the memory of this excursion will, like the sunlight, linger long behind the bright, departed day. It was indeed, a stupendous undertaking to assume the responsibility of this excursion, and it is most creditable to this school and its officers that not one single unpleasant thing occurred, but everything moved in perfect harmony, as though "on golden hinges turning."

Brentsville is proud of the honor of being the first to conduct such an excursion, and your correspondent is very proud of having been tendered the pleasure of this trip as "the guest of honor of the school." M

Source: The Manassas Journal, September 29, 1916

Brentsville Neighbors

Preserving Brentsville's History

Contact us on:
morganbreeden@aol.com

IN GOD WE TRUST

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

