

The Williamsburg Line

Battlefield Ground Recovered !

Special Project:

In 1948, the Commonwealth of Virginia installed Historical Highway Marker W-43 along Rte 60W about 2 miles east of Williamsburg to commemorate the battle of May 5, 1862. Have you stopped to read it? With Rte 60 on one side and train tracks on the other, you probably haven't; and at 67 years of age, the marker needs replacement as well as relocation. The WBA's first project as an organization is to sponsor replacement and relocation of the marker to a more accessible site. We ask for your help to raise the necessary funds during the 2nd Annual **Give Local 757** fundraising event for non-profits. For details on how you can participate in this event, see the article on this page.

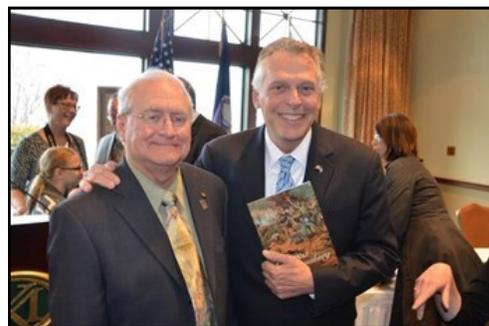


On March 24, Gov. McAuliffe joined Secretary of Natural Resources' Molly Ward and Anheuser-Busch's Senior GM for the Williamsburg Brewery, Rick Shippey, to announce the preservation of 65 acres of Williamsburg battlefield. The land, located northeast of Interstate I-64, was donated by Anheuser-Busch to the Civil War Trust and represents the largest portion of approx. 68 acres of core battlefield preserved to date.

Here, on the night of May 4, 1862, Union cavalry chased down the Confederate rear guard, setting the stage for the Battle of Williamsburg the following day. During the May 5 battle, the 6th SC Infantry held this property and nearby Redoubt 9 while skirmishing with Union soldiers. As the battle shifted northward, the 6th SC crossed this ground alongside the 5th NC Infantry in an ill fated charge aimed at dislodging Union General Hancock from Redoubt 11 a few hundred yards north.

In his speech, Gov. McAuliffe commented that, "Very few people associate this place

(Williamsburg) with the Civil War, but today I believe that will change." The WBA could not agree more! Our work, however, has just begun. There is still approx. 400 undeveloped acres of the historic battlefield left to preserve. The partnership which resulted in the preservation of these 65 acres was due to proactive and positive conversations between property owners, conservation groups, citizens, and developers. We must keep up the good work and the pressure on!



Carson O. Hudson, Jr., historian and author of "Civil War Williamsburg", presents a copy of his book to Gov. McAuliffe. Photo by Bruce Guthrie/Courtesy of Civil War Trust.

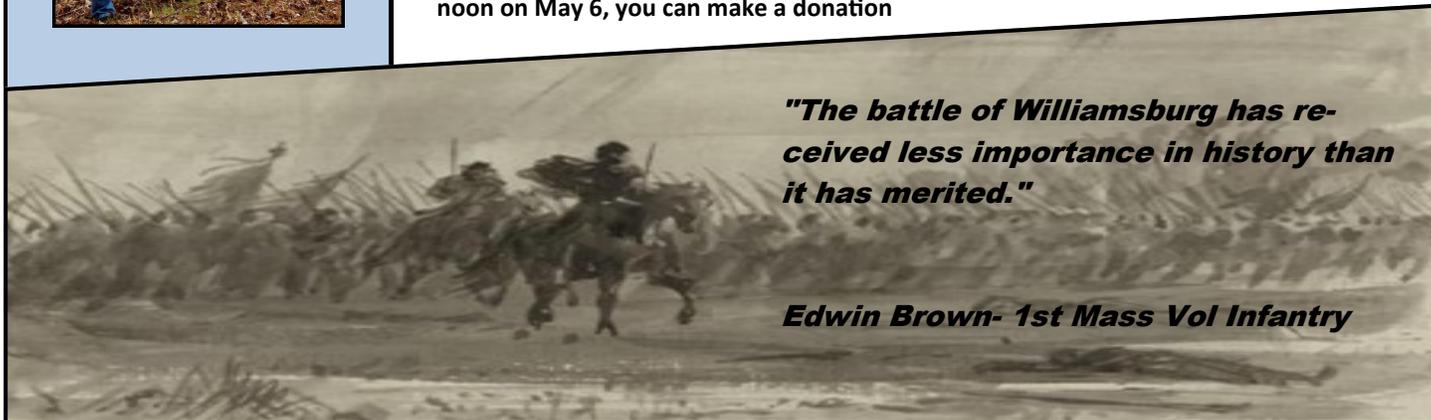
Give Local 757— May 5 & 6

On May 5, the 153rd anniversary of the Battle of Williamsburg, you can help the WBA raise funds to replace and relocate the aged Battle of Williamsburg roadside marker on Rte 60. **Give Local 757** is a fundraising event for non-profits in Hampton Roads. The WBA is a registered participant and invites your support. **From noon on May 5 to noon on May 6, you can make a donation**

to the WBA at www.givelocal757.org or in person at any area Langley Federal Credit Union Branch. Each unique donation is like a vote for the WBA. The more votes we get, the more opportunities we have for matching funds and prizes. Our goal is \$2,000! See our profile page on the event website and follow our progress.

"The battle of Williamsburg has received less importance in history than it has merited."

Edwin Brown- 1st Mass Vol Infantry



Education & Preservation

Spring Cleaning !

Have you done yours? We did ours! On Saturday, March 28, a small but intrepid group participated in the Civil War Trust's 19th Annual Park Day by picking up 14 bags of trash, 2 tires, and lots of junk from a 1-acre plot of land owned by the CWT at the center of the Williamsburg Battlefield. The WBA thanks the Solee and Liebler families and Vanessa, Don, Mark, Drew, and Brad for their time and effort. During the cleanup, evidence of recent metal detector activity was also documented and sent to the CWT.

Park Day is a hands-on preservation event that brings volunteers together across the nation to help maintain battlefields and historic sites by picking up trash, raking leaves, repairing trails, painting signs, etc. After all, neglect can threaten these national treasures

as much as development. The WBA is looking forward to Park Day next year and hopes to offer its services to other battlefield property owners in the future.



Upcoming Events:

- May 2—Endview Plantation Civil War Reenactment
- May 5-6—Give Local 757

Volunteer Needed:

- The WBA is in need of a volunteer to help design and maintain its webpage. If you have the skills and time to do so, please contact us for further discussions.



P.O. Box 1825

Williamsburg, VA 23187

Williamsburgbattlefield@gmail.com

Williamsburgbattlefieldassociation.org

 WilliamsburgBattlefieldAssociation

 @BattleofWmsbrg

Williamsburg Battlefield Association

P. O. Box 1825

Williamsburg, VA 23187

Address