

JACKSON BRIGADE 2012 REUNION

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA • AUGUST 3-5

The time for the biennial Jackson Brigade reunion is fast approaching, and it's time to make plans for this unique event. Over the course of the past several months, we've put together a program that focuses largely on Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson, but attendees will also learn of the role played by Virginia Military Institute during the Civil War and will visit the final resting place of General Robert E. Lee. Along the way, we hope to have a couple of additional surprises. Making these events more memorable is that they will coincide with our nation's observance of the Civil War's sesquicentennial.

Attendees will also have opportunities to explore on their own. Apart from the attractions that comprise the official event stops, Lexington and the surrounding area offer a number of interesting diversions, including museums, scenic wonders, and shopping.

Schedule of Events

Friday, August 3, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Reception / Registration

Rockbridge Historical Society / Campbell House

101 East Washington Street

<http://www.rockhist.org/about>

The reunion begins with a very informal gathering at the Rockbridge Historical Society. Attendees will pick up their reunion packets, enjoy light refreshments, and browse the historical society's exhibits. For those not familiar with Lexington, we recommend as your first stop the very helpful visitor center (106 East Washington Street), which is just across the street from Campbell House.

4:30-6:00 p.m.

Downtown walking / carriage tour and Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery

<http://www.lexcarriage.com/>

From the historical society, we'll depart on a short tour of the downtown area. Those who prefer to walk will have a free guided tour. Those who wish to ride will have the option to take a narrated tour on a horse-drawn carriage for a fee. **Seating for the carriage tours is limited to about 26 people and will have to be on a first-come-first-served basis. Please register as early as possible to ensure a seat.** The tours will conclude at Lexington's Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery, where Stonewall Jackson House Executive Director Ms. Michael Ann Lynn will briefly speak to us about the history of the cemetery and the Jackson monument.

Following the tour, attendees will have the opportunity to dine on their own or in groups.

Saturday, August 4, 9:00-12:00 a.m.

VMI Museum / Lee Chapel and Museum visits

<http://www.vmi.edu/content.aspx?id=12469>

<http://chapelapps.wlu.edu/>

We'll tour the Virginia Military Institute Museum, which houses the coat worn by General Jackson when mortally wounded, and the Lee Chapel and Museum, final resting place of General Robert E. Lee, on the campus of Washington & Lee University.

Following the museum visits, we will lunch on our own or in groups, then tour the Stonewall Jackson House in pre-assigned groups. Because the house tour maximum is 15 people, we will be divided into smaller, pre-assigned groups, each group touring at a separate time. (Don't worry: we won't be

breaking up your family, unless you specifically ask us to!) Attendees may wish to use the remainder of the afternoon exploring some of Lexington's other attractions, such as the George C. Marshall Museum and the Museum of Military Memorabilia, or perhaps revisit Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery. The downtown area offers a nice opportunity for a stroll, exploring the various small shops, etc.

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Dinner

[Best Western Plus Inn at Hunt Ridge](#), Lexington, VA

25 Willow Springs Road

Following a catered dinner at Lexington's Best Western Plus Inn at Hunt Ridge, we will be treated to a short program of traditional tunes presented by local musicians, the Poison Bottom Boys, and a presentation by VMI Museum Director Col. Keith E. Gibson titled "Throwing Away the Scabbard: VMI in the Civil War." We'll also hold a silent auction, including a few books relating to General Jackson. If you have any items that you would like to contribute to the silent auction, please bring them!

Sunday, August 5, 11:00-2:00 p.m.

Picnic Lunch

McKethan Park

McKethan Park Road

After a lunch featuring a selection of sandwiches, chips, and soft drinks accompanied by a few extras and desserts, we'll be addressed by Major Thomas J. Jackson (in the person of re-enactor Skip Koontz), as he reflects on his early life, military career, and life in Lexington before departing for the war. Afterward, we will hold our biennial business meeting and memorial service.

Accommodations

We recommend staying at the **[Best Western Plus Inn at Hunt Ridge](#), Lexington, VA.** Thirty double rooms have been reserved for the Jackson Brigade at a cost of \$99.99 per night plus 11% tax. These will be held until July 3, 2012. Jackson Brigade members and friends who would like to stay there should call the hotel in Lexington at 540-464-1500 and identify themselves as Jackson Brigade attendees to reserve at the special rate. The hotel, approximately two miles from downtown Lexington, serves a fairly complete continental breakfast and features an indoor/outdoor pool. We will hold Saturday night's banquet in the hotel's meeting room. The area features many other accommodations to suit various budgets and including B&Bs, cabins, and campgrounds.

Registration is required for all events, including the ones for which there is no charge.



Feel free to bring family photos or genealogy to display and share!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
YOUR REUNION CO-CHAIRS**

John M. Jackson
2675 Old Fort Road
Blacksburg, VA 24060
jojacks2@vt.edu
540-961-3706

Jane C. Hilder
5707 Norton Road
Alexandria, VA 22303-1027
jane@hilderwilliams.net
703-960-6820