One of my earliest memories of the Civil War genre was watching a Walt Disney movie when the pretty Arabella, a Virginia Belle, fell in love with a Yankee prisoner who was going to be hanged and instead they got married through the indulgence and with the support of John Singleton Mosby. Following the war, Mosby became a prolific author and storyteller about the war—clearly partisan and not beyond taking liberties with history.

Against the wishes of his superiors, Robert E. Lee and JEB Stuart, Mosby utilized a statute passed by the Confederate Congress, known as the Partisan Ranger Act, to organize his 43rd Virginia Battalion. His successful operations in northern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley attracted additional recruits. By the end of war he commanded a regiment of eight companies. At that time, the northern Virginia area was known as Mosby's Confederacy. Today it is known as the John Singleton Mosby Heritage Area.

So why a tour that so many others have done? Well BGES has never done one; but, respecting that the foremost authorities are Horace Mewborn and Bob O'Neill and they have done multiple Mosby tours, we asked for and they agreed to the definitive Mosby tour—a full 50% longer and more detailed than the dozens they have done for other groups. It will indeed be the Mosby of the Blue and Gray Magazine features of Spring and Summer 2000 and the Fall of 2001. Even if you have previously done a Mosby tour you will want to join us for this multiday extravaganza. The tour visits at least 38 sites, with 20 dismounts/stops, over 3 days. It doesn't get any better than this.

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

6 PM: Meet at the Hampton Inn, Leesburg where we will provide you with your reading materials, introduce you to your cohorts and study leaders who will provide some background information on the tour and Mosby’s legend and legacy.

Thursday, June 18, 2015

8:15 AM: Depart the hotel en route to Fairfax Court House. In March 1863, Mosby and 29 men descended upon the village and rode away with a Union general, Edwin Stoughton, and thirty other Federal soldiers. They also sought, but missed, the English adventurer, Sir Percy Wyndham. We will dismount and conduct a walking
tour pointing out sites involved in the raid. Leaving Fairfax Court House, we will proceed to the Machen Farm. En Route we will pass Germantown where in late July 1863, Mosby's men got a special reward for their capture of sutler's wagons loaded with supplies and, unexpectedly, some ice cream. We will dismount at the Machen Farm and talk about a June 1864 skirmish. One of the Federals taken prisoner in this incident, Boston Corbett, killed John Wilkes Booth less than a year later. From here we will journey north to Miskell's Farm, where we will dismount and discuss an April Fool's Day, 1863, surprise of Mosby and 69 men by a detachment of 150 troopers from the 1st Vermont Cavalry. Our next stop will be Mt. Zion Church. It is important in Mosby's command’s history for two events. On January 26, 1863, Mosby met his first 15 raiders here before they conducted a raid in Fairfax County. On July 6, 1864, Mosby, with about 150 Rangers, battled an equal number of men from the 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry and the 13th New York Cavalry in the fields east the church.

There is still plenty to do today and the remainder of the stops include an ambush of Mosby at Ewell's Chapel and Aldie Mill, where Mosby and the 1st Vermont tangled. From there we will pass Oakham (where Stuart left Mosby and 9 men to conduct raids on the Federal troops in Fairfax County in December 1862) and Middleburg. On June 17, 1863, Mosby and Stuart will meet in front of the Red Fox Inn. We will dismount at Caleb Rector’s home. Like Mount Zion Church, two important events took place here. On June 10, 1863, Mosby formed Company A of the 43rd Battalion and on June 24, 1863, he and Jeb Stuart met in the parlor of the house to discuss Stuart’s route into Maryland, which ended at Gettysburg. Leaving Rector’s Cross Roads we will pass Lakeland where Federal troopers seriously wounded Mosby on December 21, 1864; Five Points (the location of a January 1, 1864, fight with Cole's Maryland Cavalry), Rectortown, the Lottery site (where 27 Union prisoners drew slips of paper to determine who would be executed), and Delaplane (the site of "James F. Big Yankee" Ames death). From Delaplane, known as Piedmont Station during the Civil War, we will proceed north along US 17 through the heart of Crooked Run Valley, where a number of the Rangers boarded, to Upperville and back to the hotel.

Lunch is provided but dinner is on your own.

**Friday June 19, 2015**

8:15 AM, depart. Mosby’s operations ranged across the lower Shenandoah Valley and today we will tour those sites. Our first stop will be at Mount Carmel Church, just west of Ashby’s Gap, where a detachment from the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry paid for their audacity in making a raid into Mosby’s Confederacy in February 1865. Our next stop will be Millwood, where we dismount to discuss Mosby’s meeting with Federal officials about surrendering his command. Then we will continue to the wagon train raid site, passing en route Beemer’s woods and the Daniel Bonham home. A squad of Rangers executed three Union soldiers at the former location and Lt. Eugene Ferris received the Medal of Honor for his actions against some of the
At the latter site. At the wagon train raid site we will dismount and discuss Mosby’s attack on Sheridan’s supply line on August 13, 1864. By August 1864 the Civil War in the Shenandoah Valley had turned very nasty. On August 19, George Custer order a detachment from the 5th Michigan Cavalry to burn four homes east of Berryville in retaliation for an attack on one of his picket post the previous night. Leaving the wagon train site, we will pass those locations. Our next two stops are examples of Mosby’s efforts against Federal lines of communication. On October 14, 1864, he and 69 men derailed a Baltimore and Ohio train carrying two Union paymasters. The two officers had $172,000 in greenbacks to pay Union soldiers. On June 29, 1864, Mosby, with 250 men, captured the United States depot at Duffield Station. En route to these locations we will stop at the site of the fight with Blazer’s Scouts at Myerstown, WV, without dismounting. Leaving Duffield Station we will work our way back to the hotel passing the Loudoun Heights fight site, and drive through the village of Waterford.

Lunch is provided but dinner is on your own.

Saturday, June 20, 2015

8:15 AM, depart. On this day we will proceed to Warrenton and visit John Mosby’s grave. As we leave Warrenton for the next leg of our tour, we will pass Mosby’s post war home. The next part of this tour deals with Mosby’s efforts to interdict Federal supply lines, namely the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. We will make brief stops, without dismounting, at Warrenton Junction (May 3, 1863) and Catlett’s Station (May 30, 1863), to discuss the actions at those locations. We will dismount at Vint Hill where Mosby lost a mountain howitzer used in the attack on the locomotive near Catlett’s Station. From Vint Hill we will proceed to Front Royal, where we will pass the sites where Federal troops executed Thomas Anderson, Lucian Love, David Jones and Henry Rhodes. We will dismount at the location of William Overby’s and Carter’s hanging. Leaving Front Royal we will proceed through Chester Gap to Flint Hill and visit the grave of Ranger Albert Willis. Federal cavalrymen executed him on October 14, 1864. From Flint Hill we will proceed back to Marshall, Va., known as Salem during the war. En route we will pass Wheatland and Waveland. After the Federals wounded Mosby at Lakeland on December 21, 1864, his Rangers moved him in increments to his home near Charlottesville. They let him rest for a few days at these houses before moving him to the next location. Appropriately, we will end our tour in Marshall at the site of the disbandment of Mosby’s Rangers on April 21, 1865.

Once we return to the hotel you may depart at your leisure tonight or tomorrow.

Thank you for joining us.
About the Faculty:

**Horace Mewborn** is the first name in Mosby’s operations and has been for more than 30 years. He co-authored of the *43rd Battalion Virginia Cavalry, Mosby’s Command.*

**Robert O’Neill** is a cavalry specialist whose fame makes him the first person recommended when seeking to do programs in and around Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville. With many years’ experience, he and Horace form a well-coordinated machine that produces a superior tour. Both historians can stand on their own, but, together are more than the sum of their parts. We are lucky to have them.

Hotel Information:

This program will be based in Leesburg, Virginia at the Hampton Inn & Suites 117 Fort Evans Road NE., Leesburg, VA 20176. The cost of the hotel $119 per night plus tax is not included in your registration fee. You should call 703-669-8640 and ask for the BGES Mosby Tour Program. We have a block of rooms until May 27, 2015. After that date rooms will be made available at the prevailing rate. The hotel DOES NOT provide transportation to and from the airport. We only have 10 rooms at this rate. Failing a reservation here they may offer you space available lodging at the Candlewood Suites hotel or you may need to go on the economy. This is wedding country and wedding season—get your rooms ASAP, you have been warned.

Transportation:

The servicing airport is Washington Dulles (IAD). Washington Reagan (DCA) and Baltimore Washington International (BWI) are within range. In each instance save Dulles you may need a rental car. You may use various Washington Dulles ground transportation options to get to and from the hotel in Leesburg.

Recommended Reading:

You will be provided with a set of Blue and Gray Magazines and a reading book upon arrival. The following books are suggested to enhance your readiness for the program. All prices are inclusive of shipping.


James Ramage, *Gray Ghost, The Life of Colonel John Singleton Mosby*. (This book is out of print, you can get excellent used copies used from $15 on AbeBooks.com some new copies are available for $45 and more)


Horace Mewborn, *43rd Battalion Virginia Cavalry, Mosby’s Command*, $92 to $185 on Amazon.com.

Horace Mewborn, *From Mosby’s Command, Newspaper Article and Letters By and About John Mosby and His Rangers*. (Out of print.)

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**Registration Form**

*Mosby’s Confederacy and Guerilla Warfare in Virginia*

**A BGES Civil War Field University Program**

*Presented by Horace Mewborn and Bob O’Neill*

*June 17-20, 2015 from Leesburg, Virginia*

Name: ________________________________________________________________

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Registration includes three lunches, all paid admissions, a reading book with maps, the academic program, support of a professional historian, tour director and
transportation. We will also provide snacks, bottled water and a limited selection of sodas.

______ Registration $795

______ Current BGES member $725

______ Teacher/full time student with identification $675

______ I am not a member but would like to join so that I can get the member’s rate or I am a member who is past due to renew. Please accept my donation of $_________ (must be $75 or more which is tax deductible)

______ Send me the books indicated, I have enclosed $__________

______ I am sending a deposit of $300 per person plus full payment for any books and or memberships. Total enclosed is $__________ I will pay the balance due before the event.

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Mail to BGES Seminars, PO Box 1176, Chatham, VA 24531, or fax credit cards to 434-432-0596. You may also register on line at www.blueandgrayeducation.org.