

### Mobile Van Displays Virginia War of 1812 Battles June 16, 2018

Society officers, Charles Belfield, and Hugh Markham and assisted by James Monroe Chapter VASSAR member George Beckett set-up a War of 1812 display at Northumberland County's Farmers Market Day in Heathsville on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2018.

Belfield has purchased a mobile van trailer and has equipped it with mockups displays of Northern Neck of Virginia battles. He has used this van for two years now on frequent occasions. In the van he has created mockups of soldiers, churches, ships, weapons, etc with signs to explain to visitors what happened in several battles in this area of Virginia

Past President of the society, Mike Lyman attended to take the following photos



The above photo shows the War of 1812 display area. Two local DAR ladies are shown sitting that assisted in the set-up

L/R is Charles Belfield, George Beckham and Hugh Markham





On June 18<sup>th</sup> 1812 President James Madison signed a declaration of war against the British. For over ten years the British Navy had harassed our shipping industry denying the United States of free trade. As the war begins the focus was in the northern portion of the country. As the war progressed it was soon realized that the British was planning an attack on Washington D.C. Soon the Chesapeake Bay would be full of enemy ships headed to Tangier Island to build a fort and prepare for the invasion. Little did the People of the Northern Neck realize that they would be under attack for over the next two years. With only the local Militia to defend them there would be major loss of property and life during the years of 1813 and 1814. Here in this display you can see some of the events of a terrible time on the Northern Neck.

This sign in front of the display area alerts the visitors to what they might see.



Belfield displays a musket with a mule and horse attached to a field cannon

Below Hugh Markham meets two visitors and leads them back to the mobile display van





Above three visitors are shown in the van being shown the displays by Belfield



Above is the entrance to the display van. Below is Belfield inside the van









One side of the displays







Above is a map he made to assist in his explanations

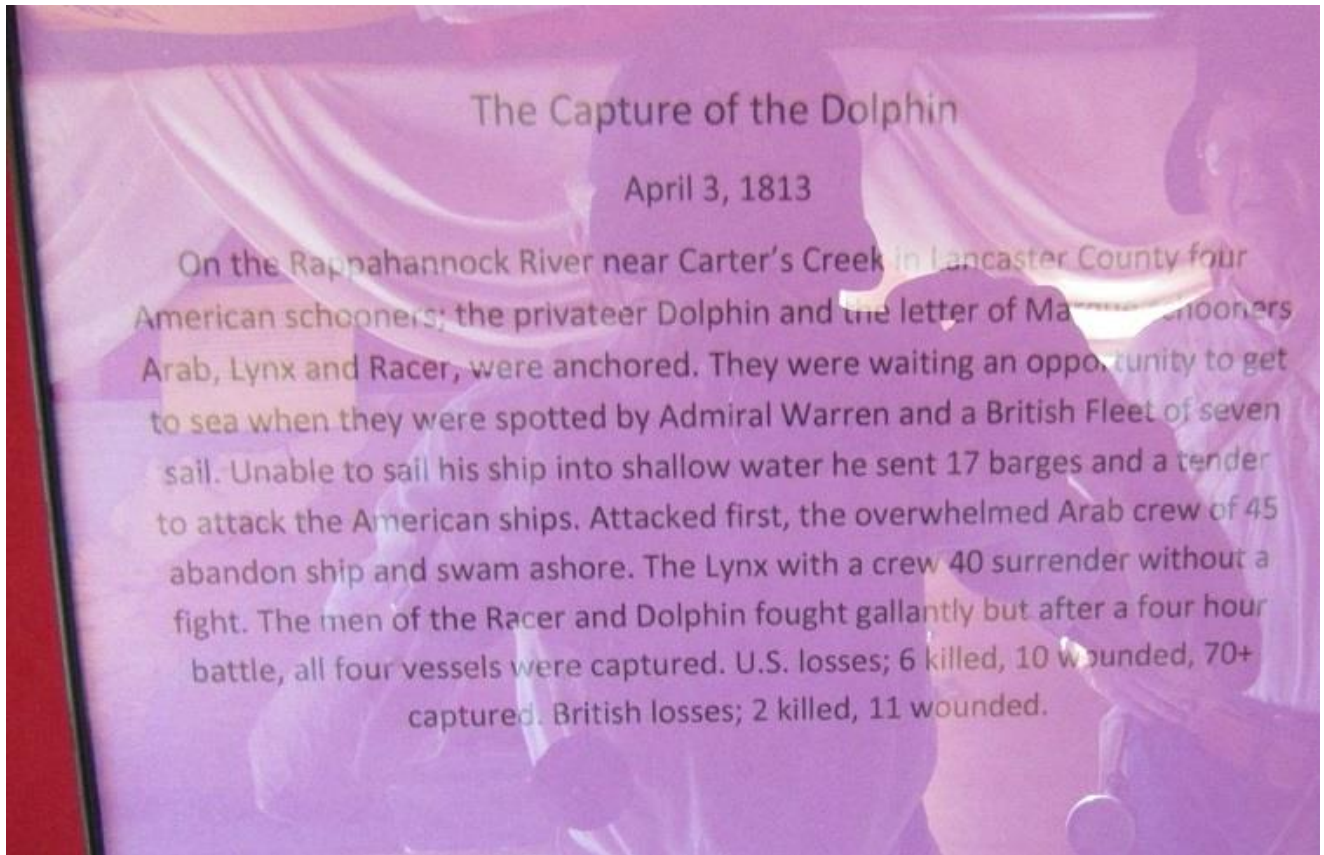


With this display he explains what happened when Tappahannock was occupied by the British as buildings were burned and graves dug up





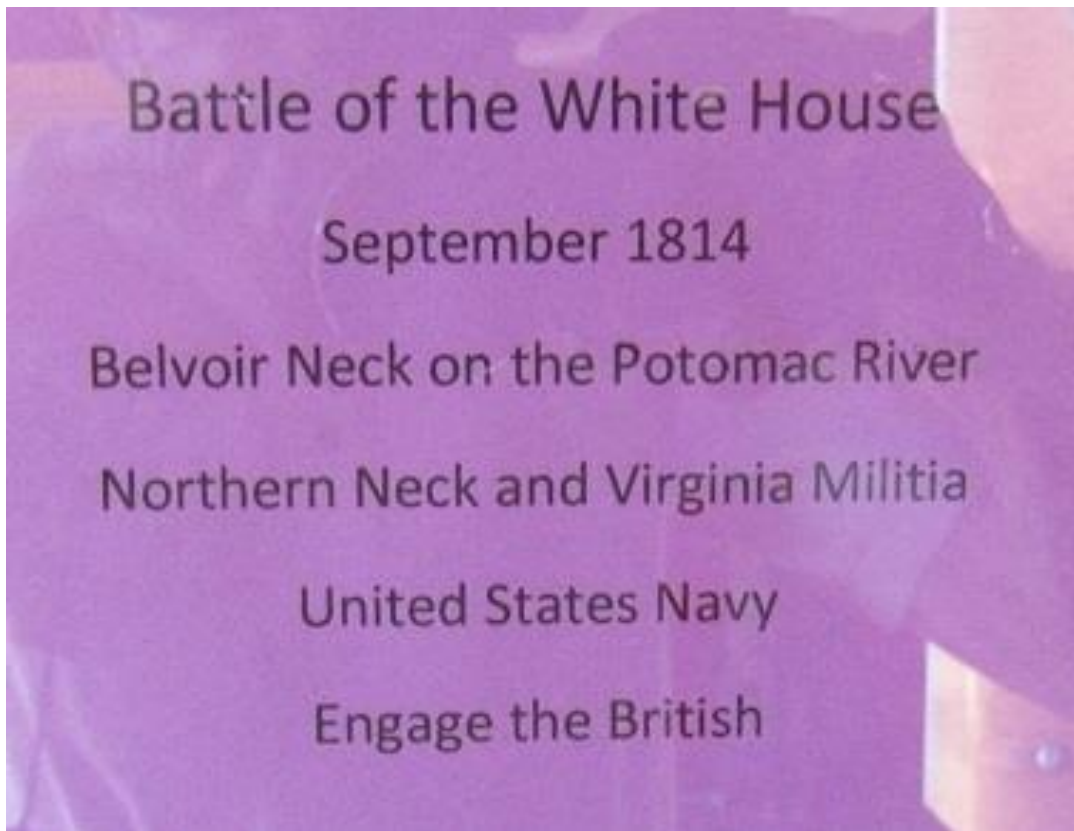
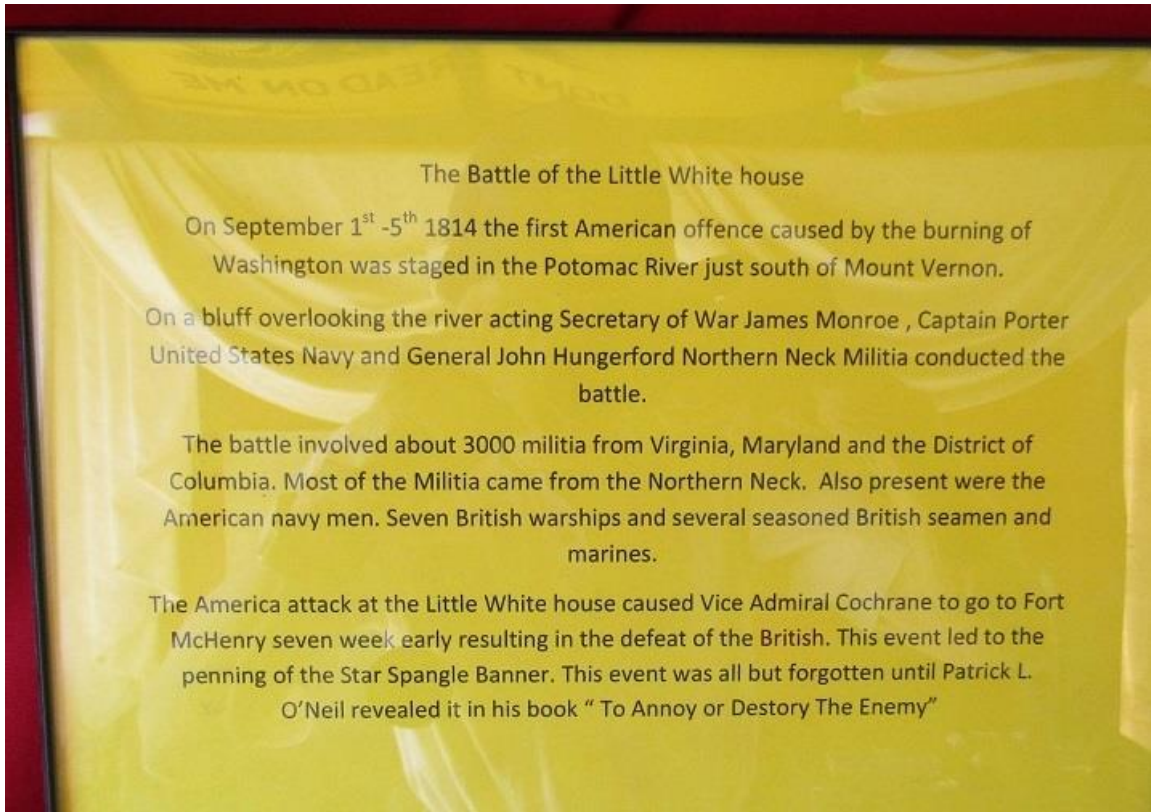
The above picture of the Dolphin is used to explain the battle along with the below sign near it



The below mockup with two signs helps him explain the White House battle in Fairfax County







The below sign and mockup aids him in explaining the battle at North Farnham Church

## The Battle at Farnham Church

### Richmond County

On December 6, 1814, British naval and marine forces landed at nearby Morattico on the Rappahannock River. They had received word that a large gathering of Militia was gathered at Farnham Church. Defending at Farnham was the Richmond County Militia with Captain Vincent Shackelford and his artillery unit consisting of about one hundred men. During the battle two Richmond County men were killed and two were wounded. Being out numbered the Militia was forced to retreat. Captain Shackelford was wounded and captured by the British.



Below are some artifacts found around the North Farnham Church



Artifacts found at North Farnham Church from 1814

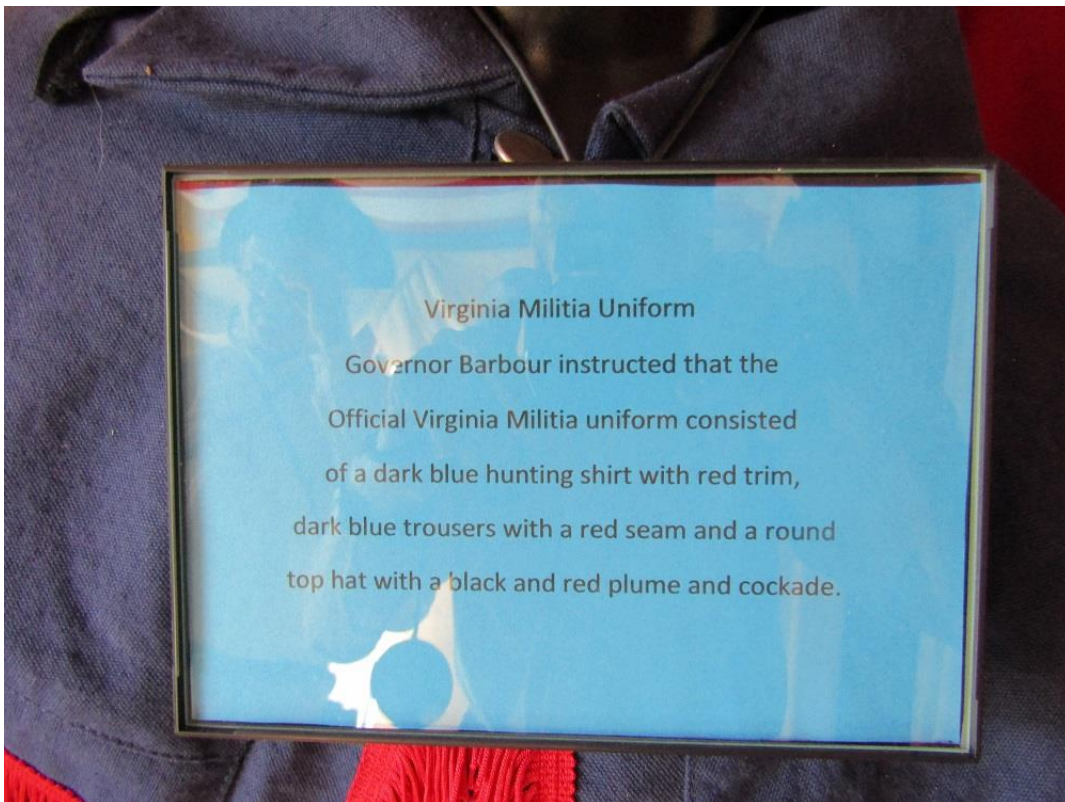
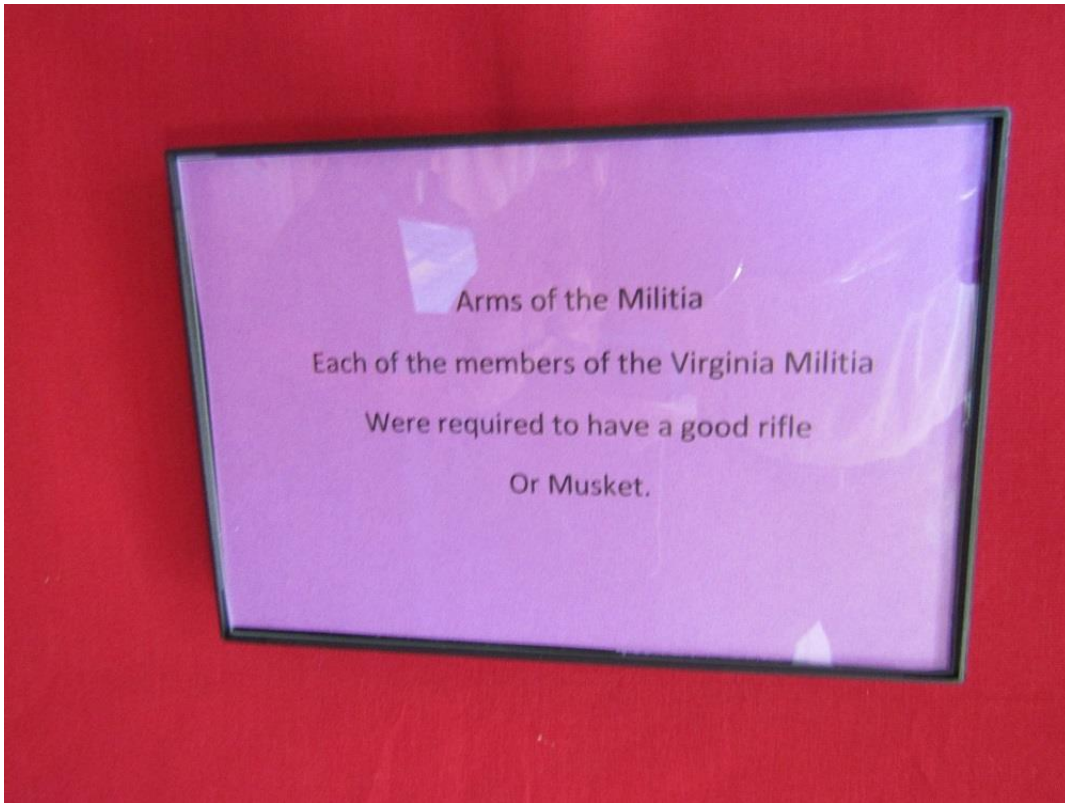


Below are some cannon balls found on the Northern Neck of Virginia



Below are two other signs that were posted. The second one describes the uniform authorized to be worn by the Militia





He shows a dressed militiaman below

