

May 21, 2008

Dear DCFD Retiree:

As many of you are already aware, the committee that has hosted the Shenandoah Reunion for the past fourteen years has decided that they are no longer able to continue, for a variety of reasons. First of all, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for all of us who have enjoyed the fruits of their labors for the duration of their involvement.

We strongly believe that this reunion, which has grown from about 80 people to more than 350, needs to be continued. In order to do that, a committee was formed to look into alternate sites for a picnic/reunion that could be held on the last Saturday in September. Since we are operating on a compressed time schedule, there were only a few sites considered.

Continuing at Front Royal was deemed unsuitable for several reasons. Costs had escalated dramatically, and our group had really outgrown the 4H facility. Only the blessing of good weather had kept us from becoming REAL close friends the last few years, as the number of attendees swelled.

We selected the Circle D Farm in Woodbine, MD right off of I-70 east of Frederick (DCFD orange signs will be posted). This facility is owned by the Dowd family, whose son Tim is a DC Firefighter. The facility has hosted fundraisers for the Emerald Society Pipes and Drums, as well as the E-11/T-6 reunion. The big advantage of the Circle D is that they provide all the food for a fixed per-person price.

The reunion will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 12:00 until 6:00. The menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs, BBQ chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, macaroni salad, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, condiments, and dessert. Sodas and beer are also included. Food will be served from about 12:30 until 4:30. There is no need to bring food, but for those ladies (and men) who really enjoy baking, there will be tables that can be used for DESSERTS ONLY (please).

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:** Since there will be a per-person charge, all people who plan to attend must pay in advance. The cost will be \$25 per person, **payable to RFA** and mailed to:

Sonny Mullikin  
408 Roland Rd  
Woodstock VA 22664-1200

**Checks MUST be received no later than September 6, 2008.** Please mail early.

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you on September 27<sup>th</sup> and continuing this great tradition. If you have any questions, Sonny has graciously offered to field them. His number is (540) 459-5213.

Sincerely,

The New (and probably not improved) Reunion Committee

**DIRECTIONS:**

**Circle D Farm** is located at 15535 Carrs Mill Rd Woodbine MD 21797-8005.

From I-70, take Exit 76 (Rt. 97) south for 1.7 miles. Turn right on Carrs Mill Rd for another 1.7 miles. Circle D Farm will be on the left. (Look for the orange 'DCFD' signs).

**Circle D Farm** is convenient to Washington and Baltimore. Located only 20 minutes from most of Columbia, Ellicott City, Olney, Gaithersburg, Frederick or Westminster.

