

Bull Run Civil War Round Table (BRCWRT) Preservation Corner
August 5, 2020



The GREEN MACHINE and the 8th GMU Regiment Band

Founded in 2006 and inspired by the achievement of GMU's Men's Basketball team reaching the NCAA Final Four, the GREEN MACHINE creates impactful, diverse, unique, and innovative performances for a variety of venues and occasions, from athletic contests to university ceremonies to student recruitment to national and international competitions. It is a multi-disciplinary arts ensemble composed of musicians, dancers, dramatists, visual artists, choreographers, arts/business managers, educators, and enthusiasts. In addition, The Green Machine's inclusive and innovative approach represents the embodiment of Mason's ideals and values. <https://www.greenmachine.gmu.edu/about-us>

Many of you may not know of the GMU 8th Regiment Band, one of the many musical ensembles that are part of GMU's Green Machine. The 8th GM Regiment Band performs brass ensemble music from the American Civil War for various occasions, including everything from museum and library events to university celebrations. The music performed by the ensemble is presented in a manner that is both historically and socially respectful for a modern audience, while at the same time celebrating the aural beauty and excitement of 1860s America.

The BRCWRT, initially through BRCWRT member and long time Green Machine supporter Sam Laudenslager, has been engaging with the Green Machine and the GMU 8th Regiment Band on the Farr's Fort preservation & interpretation project. We are currently in the process of jointly planning a BRCWRT-Green Machine video focused on the history and preservation of Farr's Fort, with music provided by the GMU 8th Regiment Band. This video will be used to enhance awareness of Farr's Fort within the GMU community and to build advocacy within GMU for the site's preservation and interpretation.

During our discussion and planning for the video we became aware of an on-going Green Machine fundraising program to purchase and restore Civil War era brass instruments for use by the 8th Regiment Band. To date the fundraising has resulted in the purchase of two cornets and an over-the-shoulder tuba, The purchase of three more horns is in the works, and the fundraising effort continues with an objective of raising the final \$900 to enable this purchases.

BRCWRT is collecting donations to support this fundraising objective, and will submit a consolidated BRCWRT donation to the Green Machine (a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization) for the GMU 8th Regiment Band instruments (see photographs, below).

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BRCWRT members who wish to contribute to the donation may mail a personal check, made out to Blake Myers along with their name and mailing address, to Blake Myers at 10012 Marshall Pond Road Burke, VA 22015 no later than October 1, 2020. Blake will submit a consolidated BRCWRT donation to The Green Machine, and will subsequently furnish a copy of the donation receipt received from The Green Machine to each donor.

Blake Myers
BRCWRT Preservation Committee Chair