

Colonel John S. Fant was commissioned in the Field Artillery upon graduation from Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina. During his 27+ years of active federal service, Colonel Fant served in a variety of command and staff positions including battalion and brigade command, overseas tours in Germany and South Korea, a one-year assignment in Canada, and combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. Additionally, he served at the strategic-level of national defense with Joint Special Operations Command and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Colonel Fant returned to his family's farm in 2013. Known by its name since the late 1800s, Summerfield Farm is an historical, 1600+ acre farm located in Grayson County, Virginia. Sections of the farm have been in his family for over 200 years. Roughly 800 acres of the farm is pasture and crop land. The farm is a cow/calf operation, which currently raises grass-fed, grassed-finished polled Angus, Herford and Charolaise beef cattle. He introduced Red Poll bulls to his cattle herd as part of his genetics improvement program. Colonel Fant recognized improving his cattle meant improving his soil. He began a pasture rotation program in order to rest each paddock while extending his grazing season. Through USDA and the Commonwealth of Virginia programs, along with his own infrastructure efforts, he added 95 acres of additional grazing during the past three years. He plans to add additional livestock and row crops to contribute to this program as well as to diversify the operation.

Summerfield Farm's Goals:

1. Use sustainable farming practices
2. Become and remain economically viable
3. Produce naturally raised agricultural products
4. Develop additional specialty economic opportunities
5. Have a pleasant living and working environment

In November 2015, Colonel Fant was elected for a four-year term to the Board of Supervisors for Grayson County, VA.

Colonel Fant holds a Master of Science in Management from Troy University and a Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. He is a graduate of Virginia's Northern Piedmont Beginning Farmer and Rancher Program.

He is married to LTC Brenda L Bonk, US Army Res (Ret). They have two sons: Jack and Peter.