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# The Messenger

OF THE CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

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Number 91

Oct 2009

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## IN THIS ISSUE

Events	2
President's Letter	2
Committee Reports	3
Library Donations	3-4
WWII Exhibit	4
Out on a Limb	4
Letters Home	4-5
John Randolph	6
County Flag	6
Granite Quarries	6-7
Bermuda Hundred Tour Guide	7
Mourning Logan	8-10
Horses	10-12
Horse Trader	12
First General Registrar	12
Early Schools	12
Gift Shop Catalog	13-14
Event Posters	15
Membership	16

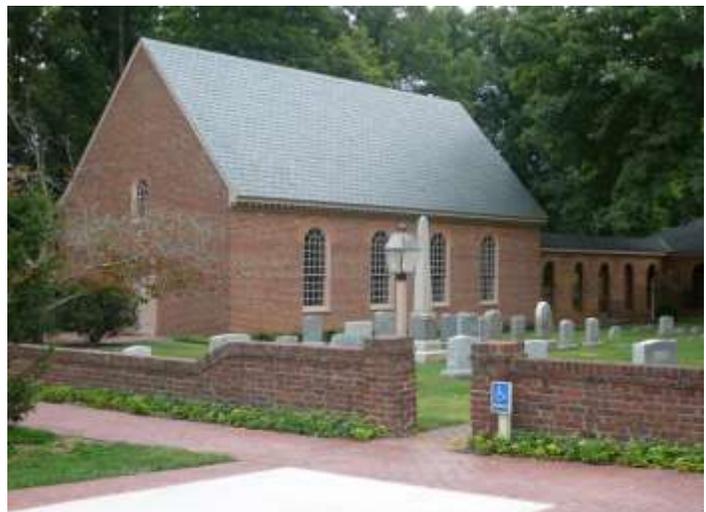
## October Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, October 25, 2009, 2 p.m. Manakin Episcopal Church,  
985 Huguenot Trail (Rt. 711) in Powhatan County

Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> should be a perfect time for a drive north into the "country" of the French Huguenots. Join us for this quarterly meeting at Manakintown where we will hear the history of this group of settlers who were encouraged to settle on the south side of the James River where land was plentiful and where they would provide a buffer between English colonists and the Monacan Indians.

The Reverend Michael Stone, rector of Manakin Episcopal Church, will be our guest speaker. *The Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia* has its headquarters and library in the 1895 Manakin Chapel which is located right beside the current Church. The Huguenot Society has agreed to open up the chapel and library for this meeting. Reservations are not needed. Refreshments will be served.

**Save the Date** Make plans now to join us for lunch at the historic "Sycamore House," now known as Crab Louie's Seafood Tavern, on Sunday, January 24, 2010. A four course lunch will precede a presentation by the Jewett family about the house. Crab Louie's is able to seat 55 guests.



## Mission Statement

*The Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia serves as the center for Chesterfield County history. Its purposes are to collect, preserve, interpret and promote the county's unique past for the education of present and future generations*

## CHS Events

Oct 10, Sat, 9-3pm	CHS/JTCC Book & Author Symposium <i>JTCC Chester Campus</i>
Oct 17, Sat, 11-3	Mid-Lothian Mines Day. Guided tours on the hour; living history; music. Satellite parking with shuttle. Free.
Oct 17, Sat, 11-4	Midlothian Village Days. CHS will have an info table.
Oct 25, Sun., 2	Members' Quarterly Meeting, Manakin Towne.
Oct 30, Fri, 7-10	Haunted lantern tour. Magnolia Grange. Historic vignette-based tour of house and grounds. ****this event is filled <b>but many CHS volunteers are needed to provide a safe, successful environment for our 180 guests****</b>
Nov 11, Wed, 2	Veterans Day Ceremony. 1917 Courthouse Green. Free.
Nov 14, Sat, 11	Celebrate Chesterfield Lecture @ Magnolia Grange. "Who owns the Past? Virginia Indians Today & Yesterday" Karenne Wood. Free.
Dec 5, Sat, 1-4	Christmas Through the Ages at Magnolia Grange Open House & Elf Shop. Free.
Dec 9, Wed, 2	Christmas Through the Ages Tea. Cost \$25. Paid reservations req'd.
Dec 10, Thurs, 2	Christmas Through the Ages Tea. Cost \$25. Paid reservations req'd.

The CHS Winter Lecture Series will begin in January. The Chesterfield Historical Society is a volunteer organization and our success depends on the interest and involvement of our members. Be involved on a regular basis or for special event staffing. Call Diane in the office to volunteer.

## From the President -

When I began volunteering in the Library in 1998, my mentor was Lucille Moseley (1923-2004) whom many of our members knew well. For those who might not have met Lucille, here are a few facts: Lucille was actively involved in the Museum Committee which pre-dated our Society which, in turn, she helped found in 1981 (her signature is first on the framed list of Charter Members hanging on the wall in the ballroom at *Castlewood*). For almost three decades, Lucille epitomized the spirit of the volunteer, recognizing volunteer opportunities and making them her own. In addition, she helped others see countless interesting project opportunities and encouraged us to take on challenging assignments with enthusiasm.

Our Society is an all-volunteer organization, ably supported by staff members who work under the County's Parks & Recreation Department. We have more than a dozen different committees, ranging from Archeology to Military History, each offering a wide selection of volunteer opportunities. The choices are limitless and there is something for everyone. Whether it's helping create a new exhibit or accessioning old photos into our picture collection; whether it's interviewing and compiling oral histories on Chesterfield's seniors and veterans or handing out literature and answering questions at one of our information tables at a local event such as Eppington Heritage Day; whether it's helping with a kids archeology camp or preparing for the upcoming Sesquicentennial (150<sup>th</sup>) of the Civil War, your Historical Society has a volunteer opportunity with your name on it! Please join us!

Speaking of joining, please join me in welcoming back onto the Board of Directors: Dr. Jean von Schilling, Jim Alberston, Phyllis Bass, Gail Feind, Jim Evans, Don Wells, Mike Poarch and Mike Thomas. Also our new Directors: Tra Wagenknecht, Lynn Waymack, Guy Smith, Dave Goobic, John Hughes and George (Buddy) Cranford. Each is a volunteer, most are already active in committee work. Together, we look forward to furthering the mission of our society and we encourage you to become involved. Right now, your input is vital in the current revision of the Chesterfield County Comprehensive Plan process which includes the preservation of historic and cultural resources. For details and dates please go to [www.chesterfield.gov/cp](http://www.chesterfield.gov/cp)

In closing, I want to thank our past president Dr. Peter Lipowicz for a job well done and we're delighted that he has agreed to continue as Editor of *The Messenger*.

**From the Messenger editor** – please e-mail by Dec 10 any submissions you would like to see in *The Messenger* to [lipowicz1@verizon.net](mailto:lipowicz1@verizon.net).

**Call Diane to help with the Oct 30 Haunted Lantern Tour – We Need You!!!**

## Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia

Historic Castlewood  
10201 Iron Bridge Road, P.O. Box 40,  
Chesterfield, VA 23832  
[www.chesterfieldhistory.com](http://www.chesterfieldhistory.com)  
ChesterfieldHS@aol.com



### Officers

President – Liess van der Linden-Brusse  
1st Vice-President – Dr. Jean von Schilling  
2nd Vice-President – Jim Alberston  
Recording Secretary – Phyllis Bass  
Corresponding Secretary – Gail Feind  
Treasurer – Jim Evans

### Directors

Mike Poarch David Goobic Mike Thomas  
Don Wells John D. Hughes, Jr. Therese  
Wagenknecht Lynn Waymack W. Guy  
Smith George Cranford  
Past President – Dr. Peter Lipowicz

### Committee Chairs

Cemetery – Rachel Lipowicz 804-739-7225  
Finance – Jim Evans  
Library – Liess van der Linden-Brusse  
Membership – Rachel Lipowicz  
Military History – Scott Williams  
Hospitality – Phyllis Bass  
Genealogy – Angie Wilderman  
Events - Liess van der Linden-Brusse  
Collections- Dr. Jean von Schilling  
African-American – Cornelia Owens Goode  
Archaeology – Bryan Truzzie  
Fundraising – Mason Chalkley  
Batteau – Will Turnage

### County Staff

Diane Dallmeyer – Administrative Assistant  
Tamara Evans - Gift Shop Manager  
Pat Roble - Museum  
Holly Rush – Historic Sites Manager  
Bryan Truzzie – Historic Sites Specialist

### Hours of Operation

Castlewood 10-4 M-F  
Magnolia Grange 10-4 Tu-F & 10-2 Sat  
Museum 10-4 Tu-F & 10-2 Sat

### Phone Numbers

Castlewood 796-7121 & 796-7191(Holly)  
Magnolia Grange & Gift Shop 804-796-1479  
Museum – 768-7311  
Reservations (804)796-7003

### Messenger Editor

Peter Lipowicz

## African-American History Committee Report

Cornelia Owens Goode

We are delighted to welcome two new members to the Committee, Audrey Ross and Charlotte Banks Wood. Each comes with a wealth of information through their African-American experiences in Chesterfield. Most importantly, their energies and passion for the research and development of African American history mirror the committee's endeavor. We now have seven members! During the last quarter, the committee supported the following:

- ✓ August conference call: discussed administrative matters
- ✓ September committee meeting at Castlewood: primarily focused on the continuing efforts of the "Fourscore and More" project, i.e. interviewing status, potential interview referrals, tools for interviewing enhancements, and promotion & preservation of documented data; also brainstormed on coordinating a 2010 Black History Month activity
- ✓ Donation to the Cemetery Committee's obituary project: donated two Bermuda Hundred residents' funeral programs, collected by Gloria Hewlett – additional Bermuda Hundred obituary programs forthcoming
- ✓ Henricus Publick Days: volunteered to help staff the CHS table and disseminate information

## Library Donations & Acquisitions

Liess van der Linden-Brusse

Old photos and books, research notes, newspaper clippings, yearbooks, brochures, maps and other printed or digitized items about Chesterfield County are always welcome additions to our research library at *Castlewood*. Please keep us in mind when cleaning out your attics! Thank you. The following items were recently added to our collection:

*The Friend Funeral Notice Collection (1949-1995)*, Four Volumes of original Funeral Notices, donated by the late Brenda Friend Briggs

*"Chester, from Settlement to City,"* a DVD compiled and narrated by Spencer Watts, a senior at Thomas Dale High School

Historic Highway Marker Text Proposal to VA Department of Historic Resources for the *Matoaca Mill Site*, donated by Keith McCray

Souvenir Card from Miss Etta Goode, Teacher, Grange Hall School, to her Students (1903-1904), donated by Gwen Coalter

From Robert Martin, a collection of items including *Chesterfield County, Va, its History and Present Condition*, by the Hon. John B. Watkins (1906) *Richmond, Virginia, and Surroundings Souvenir Book*, published c.1900 by W. G. MacFarlane

From Rachel Lipowicz, a selection of CDs: *World Family Tree*, Volumes 1 & 2, Pre-1600 to Present (1996), *Social Security Death Index: United States 1937-1995*, *Census Microfilm Records: Virginia 1850, and 1880 US Census and National Index*

*Hopewell, Prince George Co., Va – Pen and Picture Sketches*, compiled by C. Weaver (c.1917), donated by Bernice Applewhite

The 1959 Diary of Mrs. Mildred Whitfield when she owned "Railey Hill", donated by Gary Powers, Jr

From LynnDee Garrison, historical Chesterfield items including Map of the Eastern Half of Chesterfield County (1954) Map of Chesterfield County Primary & Secondary Highways (1963) Chesterfield County Fair *Premium List 1957*

*Salem Middle School Yearbooks 1992 & 1993*, donated by Angie Wilderman

*Clover Hill High School Yearbooks 1992, 1994, 1996 & 1997*, donated by Stanley Weidner

*John and Elizabeth Taylor BAUGH: His Roots and Their Legacy*, by Ivan W. Baugh

Research Notes and supporting documents on Beach Station, Chesterfield, for National Register Nomination, donated by Nancy Kraus

*Bermuda Hundred Campaign Tour Guide*, by the Chesterfield Historical Society of VA, donated by Scott Williams

From George Beadles, several maps including Chesterfield County in the Vicinity of Farrars Island & Dutch Gap (c.1955) Bermuda Hundred (1894), and Bermuda Hundred (1946)

*The Mining History of the Richmond Coalfield on Virginia*, by Gerald Wilkes, donated by the author

*America on the Eve of the Civil War*, 2009 Signature Conference coordinated by Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission, 2-DVD collection, purchased.

*Love and War; a Southern Soldier's Struggle Between Love and Duty*, by Robert H. Crewdson, donated by the author

*African-American Collection at Castlewood Library*, compiled by Robert S. Hudson, 2009 Summer Intern, Longwood University.

*Richmond in Ragtime*, by Harry Kollatz, Jr, donated by Liess vdL-Brusse

*Intensive Architectural Investigations along the Richmond-to-Petersburg Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor*, by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group, donated by the authors

*Phase I Archeological Survey: Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor*, by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group, donated by the authors

*Dispatchers Log Books (1969 – 1971), (1971 – 1974) & (1974-1976) of Chesterfield County Police Department*, anonymous donor.

*The First Iron-Clad Naval Engagement in the World; History of the Facts of the Great Naval Battle between the Merrimac-Virginia, CSN, and the Ericsson Monitor, USN*, by E. V. White, donated by Joyce Smith

*Favorite Recipes of the CCC Alumni, presented by Pocahontas Chapter 124, NACCCA, Pocahontas State Park, Chesterfield, VA. Purchased.*

*Plantation Houses around Petersburg in the counties of Prince George, Chesterfield and Dinwiddie, VA, by Edward Wyatt, donated by Joyce Smith*

*Boundary Delineation of the Historic Cemetery Component of Site 44CF0103 (Ware Bottom Church), Chesterfield County, VA, by Cultural Resources Inc.*

### WWII Exhibit

Plans are underway for a WWII exhibit at the Museum. It is scheduled to open on the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of V-E Day, 8 May 2010, which is a Saturday. The exhibit will close in January 2011. There will be emphasis on Chesterfield during the war years and will include living history. The Collections Committee, which is coordinating the exhibit, invites everyone who has memories of the County during that time to contact us to share them. We'd like to hear from veterans and civilians alike. Please call the office at 796-7121. We will call you back!

### Out On A Limb~~~~~

Recently I asked for help in deciphering a word on the census that I was transcribing; then someone on one of the genealogy lists asked for help on decoding something on their record. Handwriting in days gone by, as it is today, can be a problem. The saying, "I hope you can read my chicken scratch" describes the problem perfectly. Old English records are written in a script that is totally unfamiliar to us today. Rounded letters with tails can drive you crazy trying to make sense of the written documents. Then one day, the penmanship changed and clerks and later, census takers and other recorders, began to write in a modern script more familiar to us. But, as careful as they may have been, there are times when that writing is fast and furious and the letters are not formed correctly. Is it an a or an o; is it an e or an i; is it an f or an ss; is it an A or an H. The list goes on. Not only is the handwriting strange but words often appearing to be misspelled. Today, online users often use shorthand to save time. This is nothing new. Early recorders did so also, i.e. Jno., Wm., L.S., and YMHOS (your most humble and obedient servant). The best bet, find a letter in the document that appears similar. Make substitutions. The researcher on line asked for help on a place name. The letters appeared to be Knoblowicble and the researcher thought it was a place in Ireland. A few people on the list looked at parts of the word and figured out that the name of the city was Unobtainable. A second set of eyes often sees what is written differently from the person who has been working on a problem and is hoping for an answer that solves the problem or perhaps it is just downright puzzling. When in doubt, get a second opinion from an experienced genealogist or check out our library for a book on old handwriting. We have two books available, *Understanding Colonial Handwriting* by Harriet Stryker-Rodda and *A Guide to Seventeenth Century Virginia Court Handwriting* by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. One older reference in my personal library is E. Kay Kirkham's *The Handwriting of American Records for a Period of 300 Years*. A newer book out is by Kip Sperry, *Reading Early American Handwriting* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1998).

Angie Wilderman

### Letters Home -- WWII Perspective

From the Eyes of a Chesterfield Son

Beverley Condrey Berry

My father, I. Weldon Condrey, was called for service during World War II like so many of Chesterfield's sons. I had the unique opportunity to glimpse some of his observations of this historical event when I was given all of the letters he wrote home to his Mom and sister during his years away from home. They covered the period December 20, 1942 when he reported to Camp Lee, Virginia before boarding a train for the 30 hour trip to Camp Wheeler, Georgia through January, 1946 when he was staged from Bremenhaven, Germany for the trip aboard ship, back to The States.

Daddy was rated 4F because of his flat feet and was among the last to be called up, along with married men. Because of this, he never saw combat himself but worked behind the lines in support of those fighting. He definitely exhibited a "country boy" attitude toward his first trip away from home, both Chesterfield and Virginia, a bachelor at the age of 22.

Camp Wheeler was pretty; apparently the weather was nice while he was there for Basic training. The routine wasn't a hardship as Daddy had always started his workday early; plus, the care and feeding provided by the Army seemed to be appreciated, as there were regular trips to the Post dentist and almost 30 pounds gained from all the mess hall food. Daddy had always been slender so this was quite an accomplishment and one of the few things about Daddy's being away from home that Grandma appreciated.

The next training stop was the Mississippi Ordnance Plant in Jackson, where he received special training in small ordnance. He really enjoyed this as having been raised on a farm, guns had always been an important part of his life. He wrote home saying that he had to learn 27 different firearms and how to repair them. Daddy seemed to like the detail involved in this line of work.



From Mississippi, he was sent to Camp Forrest, Tennessee, apparently during a rainy spring, because he makes mention of the mud many times! Their tents were close to the train tracks in Camp and there were occasions when German prisoners of war were transported through on the train. All the boys heard about one such prisoner who could speak English, comment on how when they were brought into New York, they were surprised that there was no evidence of bombing; they had been told in Germany, that New York was being bombed every day.

Daddy suspected that they were fed a lot of horsemeat as "it didn't taste like any beef" he had ever had. He loved to go to town and eat oysters; he was also fed dog at least once. There was also the occasion of a full military Review when President Roosevelt and his wife came to the Camp. All the soldiers lined the road on both sides, heard a 21-gun salute and then the Presidential motorcade passed by, toured the Camp and came back, followed by another 21-gun salute. By August of 1943,

Daddy was in another state, this time, Texas at the Red River Ordnance Depot in Texarkana.

Spare time activities always seemed to involve going to church, going to “a show” (movie), taking photos or eating – Daddy’s favorite was ALWAYS ice cream. There was some girl watching, too; lots of mention of WAAC’s and pretty local girls at the Red Cross and USO dances. The little shopping Daddy mentioned seemed to focus on souvenirs or gifts to send home, including pillow tops or handkerchiefs for Grandma.

By January 1944, the letters were addressed with a New York APO, so Daddy had finally been shipped to England and with the rank of Sergeant. The writing was very general initially, with little detail of



place and activities, but the closing of “cheerio” was a give-away! Subsequent letters stated that the arrival in England had been September ’43. There was a mention of visiting Northumberland and Durham, the area in England from which Grandma’s family immigrated. A letter dated April 1944 related a pastime I had never heard my father speak of—he and friends went horseback riding through the English countryside! That’s been my passion since I was five years old and I always wondered

from which of my relatives I inherited the interest.

Grandma would send care packages including candy, cigarettes, film and her homemade jam. Daddy mentioned that his New York buddies had never heard of damson or sloes (grapes) but ate it all anyway! While letters and goodies were being sent from home, Daddy was sending most of his Army pay to the States for Grandma to use what she needed and bank the rest for his return. Wherever he was stationed, he was paid in the currency of the country and thus had to convert pounds, francs or deutschmarks into dollars prior to wiring it home. Before the end of 1944, Daddy was reassigned to “somewhere in France” and writing that he was discouraged at the slowness of mail coming from home. He wasn’t there very long because by March 1945, he was writing from Germany. There was no getting to know the folks in this occupied country as GI’s would have to pay a fine if caught “fraternizing.” Passes were spent visiting Holland and Brussels, Holland being his favorite as he thought that it was so pretty.

There wasn’t much ideology shared in Daddy’s letters. His attitude seemed to be that his Country called and he and his friends went. The love of Country and family, above all, always shined through his writing and recollections. There was mention in a July 1945 letter that military planes in the Pacific were grounded because of strikes at rubber plants in the USA affecting availability of tires. Daddy’s comment was that “every man on

strike should be put in uniform and sent to a combat front,” that he would have been happy to make the money they were complaining about making if he could just be home.

He was also keeping close track of his “points,” the system by which soldiers got to rotate out of Army service. Daddy was now openly wondering when he would be able to come home because he said there wasn’t enough work “to earn my meals,” this after a day spent in the shop fashioning Lieutenant’s bars out of silver spoons. The non-fraternization rule was lifted around this time, so that at least the soldiers could carry on a conversation with the locals when working off base. He mentioned an experience that would be forever in his memory of a coal train pulling into the Butzbach station: “Men, women, children, ex-soldiers, babies and baggage was on top and hanging all over. The sun was hot and you can imagine how black with coal dust these people were. The train pulled off and these people and baggage was searched and their passes examined, then were showed the road. This was a scene that will be hard to forget, but the people seemed to take it with a smile. I guess this will be done every so often by the Army of Occupation to keep these people on the ball...”

Daddy was also getting letters from Army buddies now released from service and back in the States who counseled him that he was better off where he was for a while yet. Daddy was ready to go home and find out for himself! By August, Daddy was doing less and less in the small arms shop; instead driving army trucks conveying soldiers from Germany to Le Harve and Armien, France for their trans-Atlantic voyage back to the States. He was not to be one of these returning soldiers just yet, but news posted for his Company suggested that everyone over a certain number of points should be back home by the end of the year (1945). He started to mail non-essential items home so he would have less to carry himself, including several boxes of liberated and handmade rifles to add to his collection. His carpentry skills were shining through as Daddy now worked in the “box factory” making wooden boxes for military gun transport; he and his crew could make 100 per day. One of Daddy’s letters in September started with “the first day of World Peace”; he thought time would be short for him to remain in Germany now that victory in Japan could be added to victory in Europe.

There was the experience of seeing a Bob Hope road show put on for the troops, a furlough in France with friends, where Daddy finally got to eat too much good food, including ice cream. He spent \$30 during five days in Paris having a grand time! In mid-November, Daddy was in Bremen, Germany, transferred to another Division that was scheduled to be redeployed to the States! There was lots of activity to prepare for deployment, including getting ammunition, trucks and small arms to various collection points in Germany and Holland. He briefly considered staying in Germany to take a civilian job at the small arms shop in Butzbach, but felt that the “atmosphere had changed” since his time there, and so didn’t pursue it.

Three years after leaving his boyhood home in Chesterfield and one hundred and fourteen letters to Grandma later, Daddy boarded a troop ship in Bremenhaven for the voyage home. Grandma kept every letter, photo and pillow top he sent her while he was away.

## **Chesterfield Native Son: John Randolph**

Diane Dallmeyer

Fiery orator and natural leader John Randolph was known for his outrageous comments, most famous of which was, "I am an aristocrat. I love liberty, I hate equality." Born in what is now Hopewell in 1773, the son of a wealthy tobacco planter of the same name, young John's birthplace was called Cawsons and it was the home of Randolph's mother Frances Bland. The Randolph family home in Chesterfield was called Matoax after a Randolph ancestor, Pocahontas.

John Randolph's father, John Senior, was from "Curles" on the James. John Senior died when his son was just a child and he grew very close to his mother. He said of her, "She was the only person who ever understood me." And he was a difficult man to understand. Possibly due to an affliction of some sort during childhood, Randolph never reached physical maturity; he was beardless and had a high-pitched voice. It has been theorized that he may have had Klinefelters Syndrome, where a male child has an extra X chromosome that sometimes manifests in a spectrum of physical and behavioral symptoms.

Randolph was educated by private tutors followed by the College of New Jersey and Columbia College and then law school in Philadelphia. He never practiced the law, but was elected to the sixth Congress at the young age of 26. Randolph was portrayed by his Congressional contemporaries as a small man, resembling his famous ancestor Pocahontas, ridiculed by his enemies but a formidable opponent. It appears that Mr. Randolph was not a jolly, pleasant man and that he had fallouts with men like Thomas Jefferson over the political issue of federalism versus nationalism or republicanism. Once allied with Jefferson, they became bitter enemies as Jefferson believed in a strong government and Randolph in a society guided by the elite. Randolph's confrontational manner was a barrier to his effectiveness.

Despite being a natural leader and orator, Randolph was considered an outsider and an eccentric by his contemporaries. He drank heavily, used opium, and was constantly in poor health until he died from tuberculosis in 1833. He was a flashy dresser and often brought an entourage of slaves and hunting dogs to Congress. He once fought a duel with Henry Clay, of whom he said, "this being, so brilliant yet so corrupt, which, like a rotten mackerel by moonlight, shined and stunk." Randolph was not well-liked and his small, immature physical stature was hardly a come-on to women, and yet he was a poet and a lover with a singing voice some called the loveliest ever heard!

In a little-known Chesterfield love story, Randolph seemed to have loved and lost in his youth. When he was about 8 years old, Virginia was invaded by Benedict Arnold and reports of his atrocities were rife. Randolph's mother fled with her family to Winterpock, to the home of Benjamin Ward, Jr. and it was here that John met Maria Ward. Before fire destroyed Winterpock, they were said to have played together blissfully ignorant of the crisis surrounding them. As not-too-far distant neighbors, one can imagine that John and Maria saw one another frequently in subsequent years. They worshiped together and their mothers were friends; it's no wonder that the mothers probably encouraged the romance between their children.

As cruel fate would have it, John renounced his love of Maria, presumably because he knew that his physical defect made a normal life impossible for them. Upon taking his leave of Maria, he slashed his horse's reins from their tie with his knife and rode wildly and angrily away. Maria's father, not understanding the cause for his daughter's jilting, challenged Randolph for a duel, until Randolph candidly told Ward the truth. Maria, called the greatest belle of her day in Virginia, married another Randolph, Peyton, son of General Washington's Secretary of State. She had children and still has descendants around this part of Virginia. She was also supposedly wooed by General LaFayette when he visited Richmond. Maria died young and had given John Randolph's love letters to a mutual friend with the instructions to burn them upon her death without breaking the seal with which they were bound. The letters were as genial and the words as soft as Randolph's congressional rantings were harsh and aggressive. Until his death many years after Maria's, Randolph called her his angel and lamented in a letter read by friends after his death, "I loved, aye, and was loved again not wisely, but too well."

## **Origin of the County Flag**

Hazel Bowman Cole

On March 13, 1968 a group of ladies met with the County Extension agent to form a Home Demonstration Club. We met at Charlotte Lancaster's home. I had previously had an appointment with the Extension Agent for the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1965. Unfortunately, I had to cancel because my mother was buried on that date. The Agent told Mrs. Lancaster of my plans, so I was invited to her meeting. We had a very nice turnout. We decided on the name Five Forks Home Demonstration Club. Lorraine Cary was elected President and I was elected Vice-President. One of our first projects was to have a county Fair booth. I put my out-of-print copy of *Chesterfield, an Old Virginia County* by Francis Earle Lutz on display and asked for a county flag to display, finding we had none. I suggested that we have one with the county seal being its theme. Mrs. Benn from the Bensley Club was the representative for the Chesterfield homemakers Council. She took it before the Board of Supervisors and the flag was commissioned with the county seal as its theme.

## **Chesterfield Granite Quarries**

Hazel Bowman Cole

There were numerous quarries along the James River. Granite was used to supply the stone for the piers for the bridge over the Mississippi River. It was shipped by water to St. Louis in 1869. Holden Rhodes used the stone from the Boscobel Quarries to build a stone house in Forest Hill Park. Stones from the Westham Quarry were used in the State, War, and Navy buildings in Washington, D.C. The structure adjoins the White House grounds. It was the most elaborate granite building in the country and the largest in the world under one roof. The steps and other parts of the Capitol in Richmond were built of stone from the McIntosh Quarry. The stone used to construct City Hall and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on Libby Hill came from quarries above Forest Hill (Boscobel); both were completed in 1894. All Saints Episcopal Church and the Old Byrd Station in Richmond were made of granite from the Netherwood Quarry. The Ordway Company acquired property south of Manchester in 1872. Four sheds 700 feet long were erected with 100 men employed to cut the stone into blocks. The stones were loaded on barges and schooners for shipment. The Richmond and Danville Railway

served the quarries and were built to handle the massive stones. These quarries were in operation as late as 1906. Reference: *Chesterfield, an Old Virginia County* by F. E. Lutz

The Old Dominion (Mittendorf), southwest of Granite  
Tidewater, two miles southwest of Manchester  
Westham, two miles west of Forest Hill  
Wrays, one mile east of Forest Hill  
Donald, ½ mile east of the Atlantic Coast Line Bridge  
Hawkins, at Granite  
Krim, 3/8 mile southwest of Granite  
McGowen, 2 miles south of Manchester  
McIntosh, at Granite  
Netherwood, near Westover Hills

## **Bermuda Hundred Campaign Driving Tour**

Scott Williams

After almost 2 years of work, I am happy to announce that the Bermuda Hundred Campaign Driving Tour is now printed. The Military History Committee would like to thank all those who contributed money and effort to this project:

Blueskies Environmental Associates The Wal-Mart Foundation  
Eric J. Chandler Bob and Melinda Forman The Colonial Heights  
Historical Society City of Colonial Heights Recreation and Parks  
The Chester Station Camp # 1503 Sons of Confederate Veterans  
The General Robert E. Lee Camp # 1589 Sons of Confederate Veterans  
The Friends of the Lower Appomattox River Chesterfield Historical  
Society Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation Mark Burns

A huge thanks goes to Bob Forman for researching and writing most of this book, and to his daughter Sarah Shannon for doing the design work. Without their efforts, this would not have been possible. Also thanks to all of those who contributed by reviewing the book, doing research, driving the route, and providing suggestions along the way. The book is available for \$12 retail. For shipping and tax on mail orders, please send \$17 to the gift shop if you reside out of state, or \$17.60 if you reside in Virginia. The book contains 58 pages with maps photos, and descriptions of 26 sites associated with the Bermuda Hundred Campaign in Chesterfield County, Colonial Heights and Hopewell. The book is available at the Gift Shop. We will also be contacting local book stores and visitor centers to see if they would be interested in carrying a few copies for sale. If you know of any outlet that may be interested, please let me know. Thanks again to all of you!

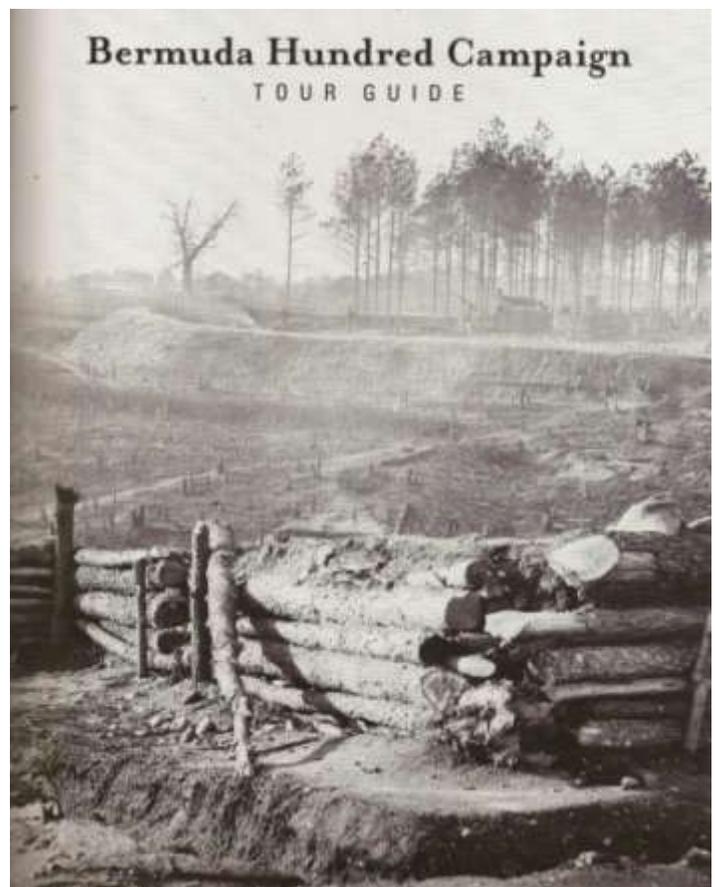
We would like to sell as sell as many as we can so please buy your copy soon. The following is an excerpt from the book.— *editor*

Despite being overshadowed by other battles in Grant's 1864 Overland Campaign, the fighting in Bermuda Hundred played a very important role in the last year of the Civil War. When Butler landed at Bermuda Hundred there were scarcely 6,000 Confederates guarding Richmond and Petersburg. Had Butler moved more aggressively could he have captured those cities and hastened the end of the war? Was his campaign a failure or was he successful in carrying out orders to set up a base of operations and await the arrival of Grant? These questions continue to be debated by military historians.

The purpose of this tour book is to provide you with a guide to the sites that were pivotal to the Bermuda Hundred Campaign.

Where possible, you will be directed along the same roads that Federal and Confederate troops used during the war. The tour includes maps with the present day road system overlaid with troop movements to help you better visualize the flow of battle over the modern landscape. The tour will also take you to fortifications in Chesterfield and Colonial Heights that have been preserved and turned into parks. While development has impacted many of the sites associated with the Bermuda Hundred Campaign, these "links in a chain" will help give you an idea of the scale of the fighting that took place here. The Chesterfield Historical Society hopes that you enjoy this tour. As you follow in the footsteps of those soldiers from long ago, we hope that you will gain an appreciation for the sacrifices they made and will join us in our efforts to help preserve and interpret the land they fought over.

The Bermuda Hundred Campaign Tour consists of 26 stops divided into three routes: the Bermuda Hundred Route, the Colonial Heights Route, and the Howlett Line Route. The routes can be followed as one continuous tour or taken individually. There are trails at several of the parks along the route if you wish to take an occasional walk along the tour. Battery Dantzler Park has a short trail with a handicap accessible platform that gives a great view of the old James River channel. Several parks along the route also offer excellent opportunities for bird watching on the James River and Appomattox River.



## **Thank You, Donors**

The Society thanks all of these donors, who have provided a cash donation or grant to the Society in the third quarter of 2009: Wal-Mart, Altria, Lind Lawrence Foundation, Sunta Rosapepe, George Beitzel, Malinda Fairall, and Bob Efav.



By 1827, Mourning was in possession not only of 42 acres of land, but also of three horses and a slave. The 1820 census identifies this slave as a male aged 45 or older. Mourning paid taxes on him until 1828 when he disappeared from her household. It is interesting to note that Mourning's sons, Caesar, Elijah and Walter also owned at least one slave during these years, as did Philiss. Caesar was a boatman. Walter and his wife, Milly Auter, lived in Swansboro. Walter was a carpenter by trade and also a brick mason, a trade which he taught to his son, Robert. Milly spun, took in washing and raised their children. Philiss lived near the foundry, ran a small farm and also spun and took in washing. David Jordan, the son of Sylvie, worked at the foundry. He owned 2 slaves. After Mourning's death he sold the land willed to him by Mourning to Walter Logan.

It is remarkable enough to consider that a free woman of color owned 42 acres of land in such close proximity to the Midlothian coalfield in the early 1800s. But Mourning seemed to want to assure that her family would always have the benefit of her land. After William Trabue's death in 1827, Mourning took it upon herself to make a will. She could not read or write and so someone must have written the words for her, but I believe they are her own. She called her family her "legatees" and carefully divided her 42 acres between her grandchildren and reserved her burying ground as well. But in an odd twist of the rules, she only loans her land to her husband, Yarmer Bodin. In early Chesterfield County wills, this language is generally used by white men. Land is loaned to a wife until her death or remarriage. Then it is inherited by a son. Other than in Mourning's, I have not seen a woman's will use this language in regard to her husband. I believe that Mourning's wish was to secure her grandchildren's future by giving them use and profits of her land. It is probable that she couldn't envision a time when all people of African descent would be free. Giving her land to her grandchildren's generation might ensure their security possibly into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Mourning passed from this life in September or October of 1838. Her will was proved (verified to be authentic) by the oaths of Ananias Hancock and James Dunaway who witnessed her mark (signature). It was ordered into record on November 12<sup>th</sup> the same year. The white man Mourning named as executor, John Hix, renounced his right to serve in this role and so the duty was assigned to her son, Caesar. Later, Walter and Caesar were charged with providing an inventory of her property to the court but this inventory does not appear in the records. Caesar continued to live on the land until his death in 1879. Since Caesar hadn't inherited the land, he didn't have clear title to it. However, it seems likely that he paid the taxes on it over the years. With his death, these payments stopped and by 1900 the land was delinquent for taxes and sold to Emily Davis Mosby. At that time the tax assessor's description of the land was given as "standing in the name of James Bowden." Today it is a part of a small subdivision called Old Gun Acres.

Last February, Peter & I drove to the site where I knew the little graveyard to be. We talked with the property owner who told us that in all the years he'd been there no one had ever come to visit the burial ground but he'd been tending the graves nonetheless.

In the cemetery are four separate areas of burials. Two are surrounded by wrought iron fencing that is Victorian in appearance and in one of these enclosures is the grave of Angelina E. Surley Cooper, wife of Moses D. Cooper. Angelina died in 1928. She lived most of her life with her parents, finally marrying late in life, just prior to her father, Richard's, death. Just outside of this enclosure are two graves side by side marked with big flat stones. It seems likely that these are the graves of Mr. & Mrs. Surley, Angelina's parents. The other wrought iron enclosure is next to these two graves. There are no markers of any sort inside. Just beyond this second enclosure is a lone grave surrounded by weather beaten posts and old wire fencing which has bent and rusted. Within the wire is a deep depression indicative of a very old grave. It is tempting to believe that this is where Mourning was laid to rest, but sadly, there is no marker to confirm it.

Though ordinary enough, Mourning's life is significant in that she managed to document and secure her holdings, not only for herself but for her future generations. Of all the free people of



color in her area of Midlothian, she had the largest tract of land. When we consider the challenges that most freedmen and women had to confront just to remain in Virginia after they'd achieved freedom, and especially in the immediate years after Nat Turner's and Gabriel's revolts, we can certainly appreciate Mourning's accomplishments. Researching Mourning has left me with a deep respect for the simple manner in which she managed to secure her home and her family's future.

**Text of Mourning Logan's Will** (Will Book 14 p. 397 & 398)  
"I, Mourning Logan of Chesterfield County being of sound mind and memory, do hereby make my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say 1<sup>st</sup> My desire is that all my just debts be first paid. 2<sup>nd</sup> I lend unto my beloved husband Yarmer Bodin all my estate both real and personal during his natural life 3<sup>rd</sup> After the death of my said husband my desire is that my land being forty two acres and bounded by the land of Capt. William Trabue, Dec'd, & Edward Friend be divided as follows 1<sup>st</sup> Eleven acres to be equally divided between Watt Logan's sons and to their heirs forever 2<sup>nd</sup> Eleven acres with the house where Rebecca Coy now lives to Edward Coy, son of Rebecca Coy, and his heirs forever 3<sup>rd</sup> Eleven and a half acres with the house where Cesar Logan now lives to be

## Horses in the Condrey Family

Beverley Condrey Berry

equally divided between said Cesar Logan's sons and to their heirs forever 4<sup>th</sup> Four acres to Mourning Logan daughter of Philiss Logan and her heirs forever 5<sup>th</sup> four acres to David Jordan son of Silva Jordan and his heirs forever and the remaining half acre containing the burying ground to remain for the use of all my legatees and their heirs forever. I also desire that the cattle now lent to Cesar Logan be equally divided between the daughters of the said Cesar Logan and their heirs forever And also my desire is at the death of my husband for all the remaining stock, household and kitchen furniture to be sold and the money arising therefrom to be equally divided between Drusilla Jordan the daughter of Silvy Jordan, Kitty Coy the daughter of Rebecca Coy, Silva Logan the daughter of Cesar Logan, Elvira Logan the daughter of Cesar Logan, and Thomas Logan the son of Watt Logan. And Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my friend Capt John Hix executor of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty one. Signed sealed published and declared as and for the last will and testament of the above named Mourning Logan In presence of me the under signed.

her  
teste Mourning x Logan  
James Dunaway mark  
Ananias Hancock

In Chesterfield County court October 8, 1838 the last will and testament of Mourning Logan deceased was proved by the oath of Ananias Hancock a subscribing witness and continued for the further proofs – And in said court November 12<sup>th</sup> 1838 the said will was further and fully proved by the oath of James Dunnaway also a subscribing witness and ordered to be recorded. John Hix the executor named in the said will having by writing under his hand renounced his right to qualify as such. On the motion of Cesar Logan who took the oath proscribed by law, and entered into bond with security conditioned as the law directs; a certificate is granted him for obtaining in due form, letters of administration on the estate of the said Mourning Logan deceased, with her said will annexed.

Teste  
Parke Poindexter”

### Descendants of Mourning Logan c. 1755—1838

Children (only Elijah & Caesar are documented):

**Philiss** (c.1780—abt. 1860) had one daughter, Mourning Logan b. about 1800.

**Sylvie** (c. 1782—unk) called Sylva/Sylvy Jordon in Mourning's will. Had son, David, and daughter Drusilla (d. 1845 at a kitchen, Clarke's Foundry)

**Walter** (c.1784—1861) m. Milly Auter 27 May 1816; ch: Thomas, Mary (m. Joseph Powell, Jr.), Robert

**Elijah** (1786—bef 1838) his family is unknown.

**Caesar** (1788—1879) m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Ann Edwards 1840; 3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Gaines 1845 (Caesar's first marriage wasn't recorded, and his wife's name isn't known, only that he had children who are mentioned in Mourning's will) ch: Sylvia, Elvira, Elizabeth (m. Charles Hickman, 1842), Ann (m. William Mayo 1837), Simion

**Rebecca** (all dates unknown) Is called Rebecca Coy in Mourning's will, had son, Edward Coy and daughter, Kitty Coy.

There was a time in history when the horse was a status symbol of one's place in the community or on the battlefield. The need for equines to work fields, haul goods, pull coal carts, canal barges and trolleys was necessary to not only progress, but subsistence in 17<sup>th</sup> century Great Britain. As well, transportation on land was greatly enhanced by use of the horse as a riding or carriage animal, the ownership of which, especially for pleasure or sporting purposes, was usually restricted to the landed gentry or ruling classes. The horse, as representative of status, also held an important place in colonial America.

The arrival of European breeds of equine predated the Condrey ancestors in America by approximately 40 years. Though the first horses brought to Jamestown were used for food during the Starving Time, just about every ship coming from England, France, Holland or Spain to the New World included some livestock, including horses. Much of the stock imported was of Spanish decent, in particular the Jennet, a small pacing horse of Libyan extraction; also the small Galloway from Scotland and the Irish Hobbie. The Galloway, Hobbie and Jennet were all natural pacers, the pace being a reference to any of several “soft” or saddle gaits a horse might perform while ridden, accentuating ease of covering rough ground and being comfortable for the rider.

A London publication in 1646 described Virginia as having an “excellent race of about two hundred horses and mares”, mirroring the English ideal at that time of what constituted a good saddle horse. Before 1660, English nobles kept two kinds of horses – the large war-horse that would eventually become the draft or working horse and the “pacer” used for riding from place to place. In particular, there was a very famous breed of horse developed and perfected in Rhode Island and circulated through the American colonies that epitomized the collective European saddle breeds and would come to influence all the soft gaited breeds developed in America – that was the Narragansett Pacer, also known as the American or Rhode Island Saddle Horse.

King Charles II's interest in flat racing fostered a complete change in the concept of the “ideal” horse in England and following his lead, England's horsemen took up the breeding of running stock from 1660 onward. The change was so dramatic that by 1700 pacing horses could scarcely be found in all of England. While some had been brought to the colonies in the early part of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, a good many more pacers undoubtedly found their way here when the British fashion changed. So when my earliest Virginia ancestors, John Condady/Connadra (Condrey) and his son, Dennis Conry (Condrey) bought land in New Kent and Lancaster, Virginia, respectively and were developing their properties in the mid- to late 17<sup>th</sup> century, the horse that was available to them was primarily the pacer descended from various European breeds and further enhanced in the colonies to serve the purposes of transportation across and cultivation of rough country. They would have also enjoyed the occasional horse race. These pacers were ideal “saddlers” for more reasons than just speed as they were tough, hardy animals, noted for great stamina and endurance and they were favorite mounts for women due to their calm and tractable natures.

Mr. Hugh Jones wrote "The Present State of Virginia", published in London, 1724 and expressed that: *"The common planters, leading easy lives, don't much admire labor or any manly exercise except horse-racing... The saddle horses, although not very large, are hardy, strong, and fleet; and will pace naturally and pleasantly at a prodigious rate. They are such lovers of riding that almost every ordinary person keeps a horse..."*



Dennis Conry (Condrey), born circa 1680 left a Will upon his death, filed in Lancaster County, Virginia 10 December 1735; the appraisal of his estate included the mention of 1 horse, bridle and saddle at 2.0.0 (English pound.shilling.pence); 1 large Chest (chestnut-colored horse?) and 1 young horse at 3.10.0; 1 old mare at 1.11.0; 1 old cart and harness; these listed amongst other livestock, being cows, pigs, and sheep and listings of pewter, brassware, iron pots, glassware, books, tools and furniture. Along with the several horses listed as part of Dennis' estate, the mention of pewter was an indication of colonial affluence as pewter was considered to be somewhat of a luxury item and a symbol of gentility; the poorer folk used wooden utensils.

Dennis' son, John inherited the estate and subsequently moved his household to Chesterfield in 1751; he would have taken his horses with him. This is the time when the influence of English racing stock is about to be felt in Virginia through the introduction of a larger and finer animal that was faster over distance -- the English Thoroughbred. It's believed that by 1760, the prevalence of and importance to breeding and racing in Virginia, previously represented by the pacer, was supplanted by the imported thoroughbred that was a "trotting" breed. John H. Wallace writes in his 1897 book titled, The Horse of America that: *In the early settlement of the American colonies pacers were far more numerous than trotters, and this continued to be the case till after the War of the Revolution. The great influx of running blood after that period practically banished the pacer to the western frontiers, where a remnant has been preserved for the uses of the saddle... what are known as "the saddle gaits" are derived wholly from the pace and are therefore considered modifications or variations of the pace. In regions of country where the saddle horse is bred and developed these gaits are well known among horsemen and riders as the rack, the running-walk, and the fox-trot.*

The 1783 Chesterfield County Census listed a John Condrey household of five, and one horse; and a William Condee (Condrey) household of five, with one horse. These two men were brothers and both fought in the Revolutionary War as teenagers. After the War, it is apparent that they continued to live in and support

Chesterfield by farming, building their families and maintaining horse ownership. As an aside, it's not clear whether mules, the equine resulting from crossing a donkey with a horse, were included on census and personal property rolls, but they were particularly important to Southern agriculture and became an important ingredient in my family's farming and sawmill pursuits.

County personal property lists from 1785 through 1795 identify William Condrey as a white male over 16, with one horse in almost all of those reporting years. These horses would have probably been utility animals, capable of working in the field by day, pulling a buggy to church on Sunday or racing down a track for the occasional entertainment. This would support the versatility of the pacer breeds, though the influence of the English thoroughbred would soon begin to permeate Virginia.

There is a gap in my research that covers three-fourths of the 1800's as relates to confirmation of horse ownership within the Condrey family. What is definite and



documented is that the Condrey ancestors always had farming property and always worked the land without evidence of slave ownership. That would then require the need for horses or mules to plow, cultivate and harvest the various items that made up cash and subsistence crops to support the family and livestock, in particular tobacco, peanuts, corn, wheat, rye and hay.

By 1888, several Condrey cousins, including my great-grandfather Irving Richard Condrey, were supplying lumber for shipment to New York. Though the narrow gauge Bright Hope Railroad would have been used to deliver their sawn planks to Bermuda Hundred for the trip north, "snake" mules and horses would have been used to get the trees out of the woods and to the mill, then from the mill to the railroad. These were draft animals that were large enough to handle a weighty load, but not so comfortable for a long days ride. Subsequent family members kept horses for work and riding, even after motor transport in the form of cars and trucks became readily available. Most of Daddy's uncles kept horses for one use or another and during the "big snow" of 1940, they hooked their teams together to pull a sledge designed to clear snow off of the road. Uncle Joe Condrey kept horses and mules for use at his sawmill, and Uncle Swanson, though on the Leonard side of the family tree, always had riding horses. My father, Weldon Condrey, even mentioned taking the opportunity to horseback ride through the English countryside while he was stationed there during World War II.

Perhaps after the vital need for equines disappeared with the advent of the Industrial Age, all that was left was love of the animal. There are whole publications and associations dedicated to information about and preservation of the horse and mule

along with its particular history and development, whether for riding, carriage or “using” purposes. Every breed is represented and every possible discipline. I was introduced to horses at the age of five when I was given a “Black Beauty” picture book for Christmas. It became a life-long love that has given me joy, satisfaction, contentment and the capacity to learn about trucks, trailers care and stabling options just to maintain responsible horse ownership. I learned to ride in Virginia where the equestrian ideal was hunt seat atop a derivation of those early English Thoroughbreds, imported to revolutionize the horse industry in America. Ironically, I have evolved to the soft gaited breeds known and prized by the early colonists! That Narragansett Pacer blood that basically disappeared to the frontier with the coming of the Thoroughbred is some of the foundation breeding that contributed to the development of the Missouri Foxtrotter and Tennessee Walking Horse, an example of each I own and use for recreational riding and showing. They exhibit that comfort of gait, versatility, surefootedness and tractability that the colonists and my early relatives prized and relied upon to manage the rigors of living in a rough and undeveloped country. Just goes to show that trends come full circle, even over the course of several hundreds of years.

### **First County Registrar and Early Election Results**

Peter Lipowicz

As part of the Summer Lecture Series, the County’s current Registrar Larry Haake spoke about the history of elections in the County. Following that talk, I did some research to find out who was the County’s first General Registrar. I found my answer in the May 3, 1963 issue of the Petersburg Progress-Index. The post of general registrar was created only a month earlier by the Board of Supervisors. Prior to that time, registrars were all local and there was no General Registrar. The Chesterfield Electoral Board selected Mrs. Margaret S. Cross for the position, and she was to be sworn in May 15, 1963. It was reported that Mrs. Cross was a photo clerk in the Circuit Court Clerk’s office, a graduate of Manchester High School, a Winterpock resident, and a member of Chesterfield Baptist Church at Moseley. She was only 22 years old at the time. The paper also reported that she would be paid 35 cents for each voter she registered at her office. Further research determined that Mrs. Cross was appointed to the position full time in May of 1966 by the electoral board consisting of Henry McGranighan, Spooner H. Hull, and F. F. Dietsch. By that time, voting practices across the nation were changing as a result of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. She was succeeded as Chesterfield’s General Registrar by Virginia Gordon by 1968.

The talk also made me curious about how the County had voted long ago. I researched the question at the Library of Virginia and found a book by Michael J. Dubin published in 2002 that provided official results of presidential elections from 1788 through 1860. In 1824, the nation elected Andrew Jackson president, but he received zero votes in Chesterfield, even though he received 18.11% of Virginia votes. William H. Crawford received 179 votes in the County, and John Quincy Adams received 39. Mr. Crawford won Virginia. In the 1860 election, Abraham Lincoln received zero votes in Chesterfield. So who came in first in the County? It was John Bell of the Constitutional Union party with 788 votes, followed by Stephen Douglas of the Northern Democratic party with 588 votes. In third place was Southern Democrat John C. Breckinridge with 328 votes. Mr. Breckinridge won 11 states and came a distant

second to Abraham Lincoln. But he did not win Virginia, losing by 341 votes. If Chesterfield had not voted so strongly for Bell, the Virginia results may have been different. Overall in the nation, Abraham Lincoln only won 39.67% of the popular vote. One can only wonder what might have happened if he had been opposed by only one candidate, rather than three.

### **Local Horse Trader**

Hazel Bowman Cole

On November 13, 1899, William Henry Cole (blind) and his wife, Eliza Jane Crews Cole purchased 199 ¾ acres as recorded in deed book 99 page 10, for \$154 plus all due taxes. The property was located at the Five Forks and Courthouse Road area of Chesterfield County. They previously lived at Scottsburg, in Halifax County, Virginia. Their son, Richard Ernest Cole, was a trader of horses. He traveled the state with his covered wagon and tent. He lived very frugally. He had an old cook stove with a tall stovepipe set out in the open to prepare his meals. He frequented local stockyards in his travel to purchase stock for his sales or trade. There were times when he would buy his horses from older persons that weren’t able to care for their animals, thus helping them as well as himself. He went to northern Virginia in 1905 to trade and sell his stock. He stayed there for some time. He wrote his mother that he would be home soon. He came back in the 1920s and camped out at their home place. His wagon resembled an old milk wagon. In the 1940s he purchased a truck to haul his horses. He had moved to the Aters place on Woodpecker or River Road. He did some farming. My husband told me that his Uncle Ernest raised sorghum for animal feed as well as make sorghum molasses. He was an adventurer and traveler, never wanting permanent roots. He was born April 22, 1886 in Scottsburg.. He died August 8, 1943 and is buried at Maury Cemetery. His siblings auctioned his possessions in 1943 at the Aters place, thus ending a career that he enjoyed by always being a free spirit and working for himself.

### **Early Schools of Chesterfield County**

Hazel Bowman Cole

Rock School was a one room school located on Courthouse Road near Dakins Road. Emma Leonard Luck attended this school. Information on the school was provided by Mae Foulkes Luck.

Spring Hill School—information from Richmond News Leader interview, January 13, 1988, with D.C. Phillips, born 1899. He completed the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. D.C. Phillips’ store was located on River Road near Riverway Rd.

Osborne School was located on Otterdale Road near Woolridge Rd. It is a private dwelling now. In the late 1970’s or 1980’s, Mr. Leroy Coward and his wife lived in the renovated school house. My mother went to school there in the early 1900’s. She often spoke of Charlene Gill that went to the school.

My great aunt, Mary Etta Seymour Winn, visited me in 1967 from Kankakee, Illinois. She went to school on River Road, in the early 1900’s. The location is now Lee’s Chapel on River Road. She didn’t tell me the name of the school. We also visited a cemetery at Woodlawn Church at Swift Creek on Route 1. This is now Colonial Heights, VA. I have been told that the bodies were removed and reinterred at Blandford Cemetery in Petersburg. Her mother, Jenny Seymour, was buried there.

**The Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia  
Museum Gift Shop**

*Shop for the holidays at Magnolia Grange*

Represented here is a small selection of items for sale in the Society’s gift shop at Magnolia Grange. Please visit to see our full inventory featuring museum-quality items for all ages. Local-history books, reproductions, maps, jewelry, gifts, Christmas ornaments featuring local historic sites, and unique crafts made in Chesterfield County and other Virginia localities make the Museum Gift Shop a must-see.

<p><b>Royal Horticultural Society “Magnolia Blooms” paper products</b></p>		<p><b>Plates and napkins in two sizes, also guest towels.</b></p> <p><b>Trays in gold or silver</b></p>	<p><b>\$4.00 to \$6.95 ea.</b></p> <p><b>\$6.50 &amp; \$7.50 ea.</b></p>
<p><b>Fine porcelain magnolia flower with bud</b></p>		<p><b>Hand-Painted, approximately 4” dia.</b></p>	<p><b>\$10.00 ea.</b></p>
<p><b>Stuart Nye Hand wrought sterling silver jewelry</b></p>		<p><b>Assorted dogwood designs in pins and earrings, in a selection of sizes</b></p>	<p><b>\$24.00 to \$42.00 ea.</b></p>
<p><b>Hand crafted pewter by Camelot Pewter of Chesterfield County</b></p>		<p><b>Candy dish Jefferson cup Virginia cup</b></p> <p><b>County Seal also available</b></p>	<p><b>\$51.00 ea. \$24.00 ea. \$34.00 ea.</b></p>
<p><b>Child’s Tea Set</b></p>		<p><b>Teapot measures 4” tall</b></p>	<p><b>\$25.00 set</b></p>

<p><b>Eastern Shore Tea Company</b></p>		<p><b>Pkg. of 20 foil wrapped tea bags, Assorted Flavors</b></p>	<p><b>\$5.00 pkg.</b></p>
<p><b>Tile Coaster Sets</b></p>		<p><b>Choose from County history in color, or historic sites in black and white</b></p>	<p><b>\$19.95 set of 4</b></p>
<p><b>Thomas Dale wooden keepsake box with tile insert</b></p>		<p><b>Approx. 6" sq., Other tile designs available</b></p>	<p><b>\$19.99 ea.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Bestseller!</u> Bread and Bun Warmer, 6" dia.</b></p>	 <p><b>Also available with Mag. Grange image</b></p>	<p><b>"... Virginia women... have much more personality than other American women... 1791"</b></p>	<p><b>\$15.00 ea.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Bestseller!</u> The Virginia Gentleman book by Richard E. Crouch</b></p>		<p><b>A Field Guide, and Owner's Manual, a History, and a Way of Life</b></p>	<p><b>\$14.00 ea.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Stealing with Style</u> book by Emyl Jenkins</b></p>		<p><b>A Sterling Glass Mystery involving old families and their antiques</b></p>	<p><b>\$12.95 ea.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Hot off the press!</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Bermuda Hundred Campaign Tour Guide</u>, book by Robert J. Forman</b></p>	<p><b>Many photos and maps</b></p>	<p><b>\$12.00 ea.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Just reduced! 50% off!</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>The Full Plate</u>, cookbook compiled by CHS and the Friends of the Library</b></p>	<p><b>Great Gift for the holidays!</b></p>	<p><b>Now only \$10.00 ea.</b></p>

To Order: Call Tamara at 804-796-1479 Charge (except Am. Express) or Check

# 2009 Fall Events Series

presented by the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia

October 3

**EPPINGTON HERITAGE DAY**  
11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
House tours, period music and dance, living history, carriage rides, and children's activities  
FREE • 804-751-4946



October 17

**MID-LOTHIAN MINES DAY**  
11 a.m.-3 p.m. Guided tours every hour, living history, music. Satellite parking, shuttle rides provided  
FREE • 804-751-4946



October 30

**HAUNTED LANTERN TOUR AT MAGNOLIA GRANGE**  
Tours at 7, 8 and 9 p.m.  
Refreshments served.  
\$2/adults, \$1/children  
Call 804-796-7003 for reservations and specify your time preference.



November 14

**"WHO OWNS THE PAST? VIRGINIA INDIANS TODAY & YESTERDAY"**  
Magnolia Grange,  
11 a.m. Lecture by Karenne Wood, director of the Virginia Indian Heritage Program at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities  
FREE • 804-751-4946



Presented in partnership with the Chesterfield County Department of Parks and Recreation. For more information, visit [chesterfieldhistory.com](http://chesterfieldhistory.com).

# Revisit: Our History

Author and Speaker Symposium  
presented by the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia and John Tyler Community College.

**Featuring**  
Jon Kukla – *Mr. Jefferson's Women*  
William G. Clotworthy – *George Washington in the West*  
John Robison of Southern Horizons – *History of the Banjo & 19th Century Period Music*

**October 10**  
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (registration begins at 9:00 a.m.)  
Nicholas Student Center  
John Tyler Community College – Chester Campus  
13101 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Revisit: Our History is free and open to the community.  
For more information, visit [www.jtcc.edu/revisit](http://www.jtcc.edu/revisit) or [www.chesterfieldhistory.com](http://www.chesterfieldhistory.com).




## Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia and Community Honors our Veterans

### Veterans Day Memorial Ceremony

Chesterfield County Historic 1917 Courthouse  
10011 Iron Bridge Road,  
Chesterfield, Virginia

November 1, 2009 2 P.M.  
Speaker

Charles E. Sepich  
Medical Center Director  
Hunter Holmes McGuire Richmond VA Medical Center

Veterans--come share your story!

### Exhibits

Chesterfield County Museum  
Hunter Holmes McGuire Richmond VA Medical Center  
United States Army Women's Museum  
Private Exhibit  
Refreshments provided courtesy of Dale Ruritan Club



**The Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia**  
**P.O. Box 40**  
**Chesterfield, VA 23832**

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit #28  
 Chesterfield, VA 23832

Current Occupant or:

**Membership Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Report** by Rachel Lipowicz

Membership stands at 584. We extend a warm welcome to six new members this quarter: Samantha Bortell, Barbara Mait, Maryam Patton, Audrey M. Ross, Stan Weidner and Marie-Anne Martino.

Dues Reminder: Our membership year ends on December 31, 2009. You may remit your 2010 dues using the form below or just wait for your bill to arrive in early January. Your membership expiration date is located in the upper right corner of the mailing label. If you wish to change your membership level, please send the desired level amount and mark the form or bill with the words "level change". Our members are very important to us. We thank you for your continued support!

**Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia Membership Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Levels:           **New**                           **Renewal**  
 \_\_\_ Student (\$10)    \_\_\_ Senior (\$15)                      \_\_\_ Senior Couple (\$25)                      \_\_\_ Sustaining (\$100)  
 \_\_\_ Individual (\$20)    \_\_\_ Household (\$30) \_\_\_ Benefactor (\$500)                      \_\_\_ Life (\$250)

- Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the membership category listed above.
- I am making a contribution in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and have included that amount with my dues.
- Please contact me about volunteering. I am interested in one or more of the following committees:  
 \_\_\_ African-American    \_\_\_ Archaeology    \_\_\_ Bateaux    \_\_\_ Bermuda Hundred    \_\_\_ Cemetery    \_\_\_ Civil War Sites  
 \_\_\_ Fund Raising    \_\_\_ Genealogy    \_\_\_ Gift Shop    \_\_\_ Historic Sites    \_\_\_ Hospitality    \_\_\_ Library    \_\_\_ Membership  
 \_\_\_ Military History    \_\_\_ Newsletter    \_\_\_ Office    \_\_\_ Programs    \_\_\_ Site Docent    \_\_\_ War Memorial

**CHS use only:**

N R level \_\_\_\_\_ yr \_\_\_\_\_ AIM RB Nlet xf ch# \_\_\_\_\_ inv# \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the Chesterfield Historical Society.

Mail to: Chesterfield Historical Society, Membership, P.O. Box 40 Chesterfield, VA 23832