

The Messenger of the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia

Number 3

Chesterfield County, Virginia

April 1983

News Notes:

The Chesterfield Historical Society has been in existence now for one and one half years. In this short time it has become an active, creative, influential working organization of which we can all be proud. The membership now stands at 404 (27 of these are out of state). An example of the positive influence this Society is exerting may be seen in the case of the Maury Cemetery records. Pattie Grady, disturbed by the poor condition of the records, sent a letter about them to Judge W. E. Spain. He called her the next morning and voiced his concern. Dr. Manarin of the Virginia State Library was immediately contacted, and the records to date have been microfilmed. Our Society will index the film. As a result of this action the State Library has checked other cemeteries in Richmond whose records have not been microfilmed and are now in the process of completing them.

George Beadles was called upon to research the origin of Maury Cemetery. It proved to be very difficult, but George completed the task. On January 26, 1983 Judge Spain ordered the following recorded in the court records:

MAURY CEMETERY

The City of Manchester acquired 96.6 acres of Buck Hill Estate from Walter K. Martin and Christopher C. McRae, Trustees, parties of the first part, and E. H. Vaden, wife of Thomas Vaden, party of the second part, to the City of Manchester, party of the third part, by Deed dated April 22, 1874, and recorded in Deed Book 57, pages 406, 407 and 408, in the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County, Virginia. This land was located outside the City limits of Manchester at that time, but was brought into the City of Richmond by the annexation of 1914, Manchester and Richmond having consolidated in 1910. A plat of the land recorded in the aforesaid Deed Book at page 408 is attached hereto.

The original old jury table has come home to stay in the Old Jail. It has been beautifully restored and refinished by the Chesterfield County Vocational Services located on Whitepines Road near the airport.

After the resignation of Pattie Grady as Chairman of the Historical Committee, Margaret Burgess was appointed to fill this position. Because of the large area covered by this committee, it was decided that breaking it down into smaller units would make it more efficient. The new organizations and their chairmen are as follows:

Cemeteries—L. L. Cashion and Pattie Grady
Indexing—Angie Wilderman
Historical Research—Barbara Burchett
Archaeology—William Childs
Picture Collection—Hugh Goodwyn
Library—Waverly Winfree, Sherry Watkins and
Jean Childs
Preservation and Site Markings—unfilled

Anyone who did not go on the Society's Midlothian Christmas House Tour arranged by Bob Woodcock missed a beautiful and charming experience. It was a trip back into another world and time period. The Tour was done with professionalism and authenticity, and we can all be proud of it. The Society would like to thank Bob for all his hard work and also thank the home owners: Mr. and Mrs. Barton J. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Jay G. Kauffman and Mr. and Mrs. Alex Smith.

List of officers:

President—Judge Ernest P. Gates
First Vice-President—Lucille Cheatham Moseley
Second Vice-President—Judge Lawrence A. Belcher
Recording Secretary—Robert Preston Jones
Corresponding Secretary—Vera Robertson
Treasurer—George W. Moore, Jr.

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—the Editor, Mary Ellen Howe

Our County Records and Clerks

by Beth Landi

As anyone who ever attempted historical research in Chesterfield knows, the county's record room offers an amazingly complete set of wills, deeds, and other vital papers dating from the county's inception in 1749. Researchers in other Virginia localities often discover that many of the records they need to examine have long since been burned or otherwise destroyed.

How did Chesterfield earn such a distinction? The credit goes to those custodians of the court records—the court clerks. Two of these men, in fact, single-handedly saved the valuable documents from encroaching armies—the British in 1781 and the Union troops in 1865. While they did not

actually engage in hand-to-hand combat with the invaders, these patriotic county servants made certain the records were safely hidden until the conflicts were over.

Thomas Watkins, Chesterfield's second clerk who served the county for 33 years between 1779 and 1812, is responsible for keeping the records out of British hands in the spring of 1781. At that time, Generals Benedict Arnold and William Phillips, having defeated the Americans at Petersburg, were marching through Chesterfield. Phillips led part of the British forces through the court house area leaving behind burned-out shells where the courthouse buildings, a hospital and barracks had stood. Fortunately, Clerk Watkins had anticipated such a destructive spree and had carted away the records before the enemy arrived. He reportedly hid the papers in the vicinity of Clay's Church, which was located about five miles west of the courthouse. The church burned in about 1890.

It was during another April, this one in 1865, that another clerk saved the records from certain destruction. Confederate President, Jefferson Davis, had ordered all county and city papers moved to Richmond for safekeeping. Chesterfield's clerk, Nathan Hale Cogbill evidently sensed the impending fate of the capital city and refused to heed the official demand. Once again the county's records were on the road. According to Mrs. Margie Cogbill Hicks, the granddaughter of Nathan Hale Cogbill, he hid the records in the nearby woods.

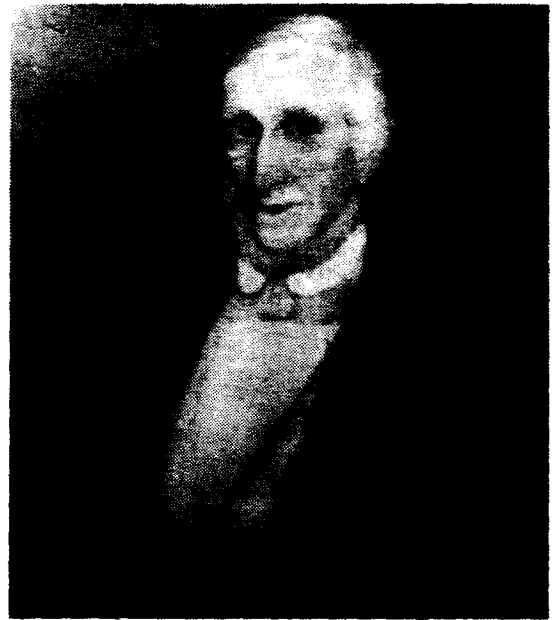
Mrs. Hicks stated that Nathan Cogbill and his wife both died at a young age leaving a son, Nathan Herbert, in the care of his uncle, Marcus "Mac" Cogbill and maiden aunt, Molly Lee. Marcus, who never married and later became clerk of the county himself, tried to inspire his nephew in the same occupational direction. The younger Cogbill, however, did not want to be confined to an office and later opened a small store. He also served for 50 years as the county jailor.

Much of the county's history is reflected in the lives of the thirteen men who have acted as clerks for the county and/or circuit courts. Preceding Thomas Watkins in the position was Benjamin Watkins. He was elected the county's first clerk at the session of the newly formed Chesterfield court on July 7, 1749 and served in the capacity for the following 30 years. Among his many accomplishments, Benjamin Watkins made the survey of the town site for Manchester before its incorporation in 1769. He also represented the county in the House of Burgesses at Williamsburg (then the state capital) during those important sessions held prior to the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Parke Poindexter, the county's third clerk, served for 35 years beginning in 1812. Three years after his election, The United States Government purchased several acres in the northern part of Chesterfield for the purpose of building what would become Bellona Arsenal. Poindexter handled the transaction between the government and the land's owners, William and Polly Trabue and Mary Reddy.

Silas Cheatham took the reigns in 1847 and remained in office until 1865. Cheatham was clerk during the famous trial(s) of John S. Wormley for the 1851 murder of his son-in-law, Anthony Robiou. The latter had apparently, angered Wormley, a prominent farmer and attorney, when he filed a divorce suit against his daughter on the grounds of infidelity.

Although Wormley was ultimately convicted of the crime and hanged, it took two trials to achieve this end. He was convicted after the first trial, but his lawyers contended the verdict could not stand because the jurors had been entertained with liquor by the deputy sheriff, George W.



Portrait of Parke Poindexter hangs in the Old Jail.

Snellings. The alleged party took place at the home of county clerk Cheatham.

During most of Cheatham's tenure as county clerk, W. W. T. Cogbill shared the duties of the clerk of the circuit court, serving between 1847 and 1863. Cogbill was an initial trustee of the Salem Academy, a private school established in 1856—one of several private institutions begun in the county prior to the emergence of the public school system after the Civil War. When Virginia seceded from the Union in 1861, Clerk Cogbill and several of the county justices readily joined the Confederate cause and became leaders of Chesterfield's military units. Captain Cogbill's leadership took him to Gettysburg where he died at the head of Pickett's charge in the fateful 1863 battle.

Nathan Cogbill, who saved the records from the Union soldiers at the close of the war took over the circuit court clerk duties upon W. W. T. Cogbill's death. In 1865, he added the county court to his domain and served both until 1874.

For the next thirteen years, Confederate veteran Marcus A. Cogbill, Nathan's brother, served as clerk of Chesterfield. Aside from these duties, Cogbill was among one of the 30 incorporators of the Chesterfield Agricultural Society whose purpose was to sponsor fairs and exhibitions and generally to promote the rural way of life. Four years later he joined four other county men in chartering what was to become an unsuccessful railroad venture—the Chesterfield Railway Company.

E. H. Flournoy shared the circuit court duties during Cogbill's stint as county clerk. In 1861, when Governor John Letcher called a statewide convention to consider Virginia's position in the growing rift between the slave-holding states and the non-slave-holding states, Flournoy was among those county leaders advocating secession for Virginia. At least four mass meetings were held in Chesterfield prior to the convention. Each resulted in a resolution favoring secession and the resolutions were forwarded to the county's convention delegate, Judge James Cox. Flournoy helped draw up the resolution after the meeting at Skinquarter.

Chesterfield's next clerk was Philip Valentine Cogbill, a cousin of Marcus and Nathan. Prior to his election as clerk in 1900, Cogbill served as deputy clerk between 1878 and 1887. For the following three years, he was the county's Commonwealth's Attorney. Once elected clerk, Cogbill was

never opposed for re-election and served until his death in 1940. Cogbill also served in the State Senate from 1899 to 1904 representing the district then comprised of Chesterfield, Powhatan and Goochland counties and the town of Manchester.

Walter N. Perdue took over the clerk's office upon Cogbill's death and continued in the position until Lewis Vaden was elected in 1952. Many years previous, in 1895, Perdue had the dubious honor of being one of only two male students attending the primarily female Chesterfield Collegiate Institute, a private school established in 1893.

In 1962, Vaden was named State Treasurer and resigned the clerk position to fulfill the duties of his new office. Attorney William R. Shelton was appointed to succeed Vaden. Prior to his appointment as clerk, Shelton served, on a part time basis, as assistant to the county's Commonwealth's Attorney in addition to his private practice. He served as clerk until March, 1966 when he left to go on the county court bench. Judge Shelton remains in that position today.

When Shelton left the clerk's office, Mack T. Daniels was appointed to fill his unexpired term. Eighteen months later, Daniels was elected to the clerk's position after defeating several opponents. In 1974, he resigned as clerk to pursue a private practice. His law office is in Chester.

Lewis Vaden, who had served as vice president for First & Merchants National Bank after his term as State Treasurer ended, returned to the county to complete Daniels' term. Vaden was later elected to the office. The elected term ends this year.

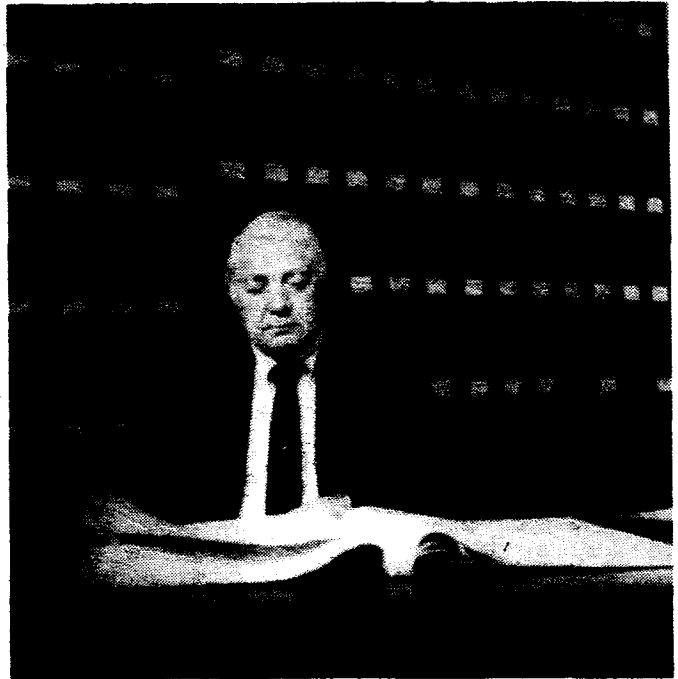
Federally appointed clerks

During the Civil War, and in spite of the problems it created, Chesterfield officials continued with the county business as usual. But, when the fighting stopped, they were faced with a dilemma. Virginia was now known as Military District One and local government leaders did not know if their actions were legal.

In an effort to alleviate some of the confusion, Virginia Governor Francis H. Pierpont called for elections to be held July 18, 1865 for the purpose of choosing regular county officers. Nathan Hale Cogbill, who had served as clerk so gallantly during the conflict, was elected to continue in that capacity.

In an unexpected move four years later, however, federal military authorities appointed a new clerk. During a special session of the county court on April 7, 1869, new justices were chosen for Chesterfield and Joseph Walker was named clerk. On August 9th of the same year, Samuel F. Maddox was appointed clerk by the same authorities. It is unknown whether Maddox was appointed to share the clerk responsibilities with Walker or to replace him in the position. Whatever the case, theirs was a shortlived clerkship.

On January 26, 1870, Virginia regained her statehood. The General Assembly met shortly thereafter and one of its first acts was to elect James H. Cox as the first full time judge for Chesterfield. Cox began his term on April 11, 1870 and one of his first acts was to remove the federally appointed clerk from office. Nathan Hale Cogbill took over once again and served uninterruptedly until 1874.



Lewis Vaden among County records.

Photo by Beth Landi

Interview With Lewis Vaden

by Beth Landi

Q. Mr. Vaden, what is your exact title and specific duties?

A. My title is Clerk of Chesterfield County and as such, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Chesterfield County.

As for my duties, I keep all the court records of the circuit court. The courts not of record, the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts and the General District Court, transfer their warrants and other court papers here which we index in this office. And we keep their papers until the statute of limitations will allow us to destroy them. There are a few papers, such as misdemeanor warrants, that can be destroyed after ten years. But we do keep the indexes to these papers.

Also, every title to any land held in Chesterfield County is recorded here. We keep all the land records and related papers like judgments, delinquent taxes, and anything that would be a lien on the property. When people search titles, they have to search all these different things to see if the property is clear of any encumbrance.

The clerk of the circuit court is in effect a probate judge. In many states there is a separate court known as the probate court, but in Virginia, the clerk of the court of record probates wills, appoints administrators and guardians, and takes care of fiduciary matters.

We also issue marriage licenses, hunting and fishing licenses and other supernumerary things.

Q. How many employees do you have in this office?

A. I have 17 full time deputies. And I have four ladies that work part time.

Q. How long have you served as Chesterfield's Clerk?

A. Approximately 19 years. I began January 1, 1962 and served until February of 1962, at which time I was appointed State Treasurer by (then) Governor Almond. I served in



A section of Chesterfield County's 1600 deed books

Photo by Beth Landi

that capacity for two four-year terms.

Then I was offered a job at First & Merchants Bank, which at that time was the largest bank in Virginia. And I served as vice president until a vacancy came in Chesterfield on the circuit court. I came back the first of October, 1974, and have been here since that time. I was appointed in 1974 and then came up for election in 1975. Fortunately, I had no opposition, so I was elected for an eight year term which will expire at the end of this year.

Q. What made you decide to leave the bank and return to the county?

A. At that time F&M had 117 branches. I served as their public finance officer. It was a very fascinating job and one I liked tremendously, but it just came to the point where I was traveling all the time. I'd leave home sometimes on Monday morning and wouldn't come back until Friday night. That gets pretty dull after awhile. I felt it was important to be with my family more than the job at the bank would permit me to be.

Q. What is your educational background?

A. I have a degree in accounting from Virginia Tech, and I've taken several graduate courses at Northwestern University. I never had the burning desire to practice public accounting, but there is a lot of accounting in the clerk's job, plus law. Though I don't have a degree in law, I have studied the laws applicable to clerks, and it's been estimated that there are more than 4,000 sections of the Code of Virginia relating to clerks of court.

In July of 1951, I won the primary, which was paramount to being elected, I went and understudied Charles R. Purdy who was the clerk of what is now Division II of the City of Richmond (South Richmond). He was known then as the "Dean of Clerks", and he had me go to school under him. I

would study so many sections of the code, and he would give me a test on them every afternoon. I did this for about six months before I actually came into this office. Mr. Purdy is deceased, and his wife, Iva, who was chief deputy under him, is now the clerk.

Q. Has the office grown in the past several years?

A. It's grown tremendously, because Chesterfield doubled in population from 1970 to 1980. As far as this office is concerned, I guess you might say it was like having a bull by the tail—if you didn't know what you were doing then, you didn't have much time to run and look up anything. But our population now is estimated to be 160,000 people and in the beginning of 1970, it was about 76,000. It was the fastest growing area on the east coast during the late 70's and early 80's, and I guess it will be again if the interest rates go down.

Q. So when you returned to the county clerk's office in 1974, it must have been like coming back to a different place.

A. It was an entirely different world. I really hadn't realized the extent to which the county had grown, although I continued to live in Chester while I was away from the clerk's office.

Q. Tell us something about the deed books stored in the county record room. How far do they date back and how many are there?

A. We have approximately 1600 deed books. the first 200 books cover the period between 1749 and 1929—the year of the stock market crash. We have a complete set of records in Chesterfield which is something no other city or county of our age has. The one that most nearly competes with us in that respect would be New Kent County. And they were in the process of complying with Davis' order during the war to move all the records to Richmond. They were carrying the

books by mule and wagon, when they were apprehended at about Seven Pines near the Byrd International Airport. The Yankees allegedly mutilated three deed books with their sabers before they gave up and turned the wagon loose. The driver went to a nearby farmhouse and the farmer kept the records until after the war. So, the great growth of Chesterfield has been subsequent to 1929, and we have 1400 deed books representing that time period.

Q. What has been done to preserve our records? Are they kept in a specially designed room?

A. The record room is actually like a bank vault. It has vault-type doors and the walls are fire proof. We keep the temperature constant, but there is really no way we can regulate the moisture content of the air which is necessary for keeping records.

When I first came back to the office in 1974, the state clerks asked me to be the chairman of their legislative committee. And they had found out that in some other states, the people were having their records microfilmed so that in the event of a fire, they could be reproduced. Then I found out that our state library had received a grant to institute this procedure in Virginia, and a bill was passed permitting the state library and archives to proceed with the microfilming of records for the purpose of safety. I was fortunate in pursuing it with the state library and Chesterfield was able to avail itself of this service. We were placed second or third on the list of localities waiting to have their records microfilmed.

There was no cost to the county. The state sent people here and microfilmed every deed book, will book and similar permanent records that we had. All the books will be stored indefinitely in the state archives, where they will receive perpetual care. I've already transferred over 500 books to the state. But, within the next several years, I think all of our hardbound books will be over there, and we'll just have the microfilm here.

Another reason for going to the microfilm—other than for safety's sake—was the cost. We got to a point where we were doubling in population and we had to do something. We had two choices: we could double the size of the record room or go to microfilm. The best estimate we got for doubling the room, which would have involved putting on a second story, was five million dollars. Now, the microfilm equipment is not cheap. Each one of the viewers costs almost \$14,000. They're really the Cadillac of viewers. The total cost of the equipment was about \$400,000 as compared to five million. And the space they can save is amazing. On one cassette, which is a little bigger than a silver dollar, we can put the equivalent of two deed books.

Now, listen to the time saved. Let's say, for example, you need to look at page 683 of deed book 1260. You pull the cassette #1260 and place it in the viewer. Then you push buttons six, eight and three and in a fraction of a second, it has searched that cassette and put that page up on the screen. So you could come out here and search ten titles in the time it used to take to search just one. That's good for all the lawyers and others who deal with it day in and day out.

Q. What organizations on the state or national levels do you belong to in connection with the record keeping?

A. As I mentioned before, I belong to the Virginia Court Clerks Association. Most of the clerks of courts of records in Virginia belong to this organization, and they try to make it a business of seeing that the laws passed are equitable so far as preserving records. They've made great strides in making uniformity—for example, if you're going to file a

divorce suit in Highland County which is a county of less than 3,000 people, the cost of filing the suit there should be identical to filing it here. Everything is supposed to be uniform throughout the state so far as procedure is concerned.

The members of the Association come from all different size offices. I think the greatest thing is that in this group we've got little clerks and medium clerks—I'm speaking of the size of the offices, of course, not their physiques. It's a method of learning from each other. I think the Virginia Court Clerks has performed a great function in inspiring clerks to make for uniformity in price and procedure throughout the state.

Q. Are you among the "big" clerks in this organization?

A. Yes, I would say I'm a big clerk. There's only three offices bigger than Chesterfield. They are Fairfax, Norfolk and Virginia Beach. Richmond has a population of about 219,000, but they have two courts, Division I and II.

Q. How has the establishment of the Chesterfield Historical Society helped this office as far as the preservation of the records is concerned?

A. They're going to help tremendously. You've undoubtedly noticed the numerous pull-out files around the walls of the record room. They're what we call loose papers. Some of them are court cases, some are old marriage licenses. It could be just anything in those files. There wasn't an orderly process of record keeping for marriage licenses until the Bureau of Vital Statistics was established in 1913. I guess until that time, people in the clerk's office collected these papers in a barrel or something, when they didn't know exactly where to file them. And then at some period they gathered them up and put them in these little drawers. Now there are so many of these papers, it's impossible to know



Lewis Vaden at the Old Clerk's office.

Photo by Beth Landi

what they all are. The state archives has made 33 rolls of microfilm of these papers and will store them (the old papers) along with the deed books. Several volunteers from the Chesterfield Historical Society, with the help of a viewer that was loaned to them, are running all the film and indexing it. We've never had an index to these loose papers before. I used to have to get after some researchers and genealogists who would just plow through these old papers, and often they'd end up on the floor and torn. And sometimes the people were just looking for stamps. At one time, you used to have to put federal stamps on the old deeds. But now all these papers are on microfilm and eventually will be indexed, thanks to those members of the Historical Society.

Q. There has been an increase in recent years in the study of family histories. Have you noticed more people using the Chesterfield record room for this purpose?

A. Yes. Years ago there were just two or three people in the area who did genealogy work. If somebody in Kentucky or California would write in, we would refer them to these genealogists. But I think the trend now is for those people in California or wherever to come to Virginia and check on their ancestry themselves. They figure it might be a good trip for them. They can visit Williamsburg and other historical places. I think more are doing the research themselves, because they call on us more to show them how to look up things. Sometimes I have to write these people back and tell them we don't do research. We get all sorts of correspondence to look up things, but it's all we can do to make the records that are current.

Q. Has anything unusual or significant occurred concerning the county's history since you've served as county clerk?

A. Yes. It has to do with a document we aquired. In 1749, before we had our independence, the county had a document known as the Peace. It now hangs just outside my office. It literally formed the county. Then, we were under British domain. A few years ago, somebody sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors saying that they had bought this document in a second-hand book store in Brooklyn, New York. It had disappeared during the War Between the States. It wasn't until they received that communique that anybody ever knew what had happened to it. And they still don't know how it got to Brooklyn. The man that had bought it let the county have it for the same amount of money that he paid for it. It is known as the Commission of the Peace that established Chesterfield County and was issued by one of the governors appointed by the English.

Q. Tell us a little about your family's history in Chesterfield.

A. I guess my people have been here a long time. My mother was a Cox. A lot of the history in the western part of the county has to do with the Cox family. The first full time judge of the court of record was Judge James H. Cox. But both sides of my family go back many generations. The Vadens were members of the French Huguenots who settled in the nothern part of the county. The Coxes were British.

This is interesting. I had one great grandfather who froze to death in what was known as "Cox's Snow", because he died in it, and one great grandfather who burned to death in "Cox's Mine". The first, Dr. Joseph Cox, had been the mayor of Petersburg. He had a daughter who lived at Winterpock on a farm near Clover Hill. The story goes that she had a sick child, and her father set out during one of the worst snowstorms in the county's history to visit her



Gen. Robert E. Lee reportedly ate at this table during his visit to Clover Hill.

Photo by Beth Lawdi

with hopes of doctoring the child. He never made it. He and a companion froze to death. I think they had gotten out to open the gate to the farm and were unable to get back in the buggy and froze.

The other great grandfather (I don't know his name) burned to death as the result of a mine explosion in Cox's shaft. They used to sink shafts 1,000 feet deep and then tunnel out to mine the coal. I think he had something to do with the operation of the mine.

The Coxes owned a lot of property. One district in the county (Clover Hill) is named for their farm where these mines were. This property was in my family until it was transferred to a man named Horace Chalkley, who was once Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. And then Dr. Lush bought it from him. It hasn't been out of my family for very long. I have a table that was handed down to me by my mother that was once at the Clover Hill Plantation. General Robert E. Lee is said to have eaten several meals at that table. He camped at Clover Hill for several days waiting for his troops to catch up. They were on their way to Appomattox and the ultimate surrender. Judge James Cox lived there at the time.



Museum News:

Although much still remains to be done, we are now displaying some exhibits of interest in the basement of the museum. Among the exhibits is the Bellwood display which was donated to the museum some years ago. We have many empty cases which need to be filled with items about Chesterfield's history. If you have artifacts that fall into this category and would like to donate them, please call us.

The old jail cells on the second floor are now open to the public for viewing. Those interested in seeing this, please ask the host or hostess in the museum for a tour.

We are continually in need of additional volunteers to staff the Museum. If you would like to give a day a month of your time (10 A.M. to 4 P.M.) please call Buddy McGuire at 748-0291 or the Museum at 748-1026.

At its January meeting the Museum Board elected the following officers for 1983:

Edward A. Moseley, Jr. — President
Joseph H. Hillier — Vice-President
Olin Taylor — Secretary
Lewis H. Vaden — Treasurer

Information Sought:

\$25 reward offered for *proof* of the name of the first wife of Edward Bass (1754-1834), Clerk of Skinquarter Church, Chesterfield County for 30 years. He married (2) Elizabeth Jeffries in 1805 and (3) Rebecca Ann Moseley in 1807. Among the 13 children named in his Chesterfield County will were Richard, Phebe, Walthall, Elam, Martha Ann, Mary, Elizabeth, Ann, Daniel Benjamin, Rebecca Ann, Bolling and Lucy. Elam Bass married Mary Oliver, Lucy Bass married John Goode and Rebecca Ann Bass married William R. Moseley. \$25 also offered for *proof* of the parents of above named Elizabeth Jeffries.

Submitted by Miss Catharine Bass
12 Wactor Street
Sumter, S. C. 29150

Archaeology:

Unfortunately, there has not been a large enough response for us to establish our own archaeology class. However, for all who are interested, Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation will again feature the archaeology class as part of their spring program. Mr. Tom Hobbs will again teach the course and the cost is \$30.00. The class will be held at Providence Middle School and digs will be at three different sites. The tentative schedule is as follows:

Wednesday Evening, May 11th	Class
Saturday, May 14th	Dig
Saturday, May 21st	Dig
Wednesday Evening, May 25th	Class
Saturday, June 4th	Dig
Wednesday Evening, June 8th	Class

Parks and Recreation will be putting out their brochure in April, but those interested can call 748-1623.

They will also offer camp towards the end of July which will focus on both history and archaeology. This will be conducted at Rockwood Park and Mr. Hobbs will again be the instructor. Further information on this camp will be in the brochure. I hope those who are interested will avail themselves of these opportunities.

—William Childs

Corrections:

The October 1982 issue of the *Messenger*, page five, should read "Mr. O. B. Gates became Sheriff until 1960"; also, "Dr. Pretlow".

Our new return address:

Chesterfield Historical Society
P. O. Box 40
Chesterfield House
Chesterfield, Virginia 23832

Articles printed in the MESSENGER are footnoted as to sources of reference. The footnotes are on file with the Society and will be made available to anyone wishing to use them for research

All literary contributions submitted to the MESSENGER and published become the property of the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia.

Communications concerning the MESSENGER may be sent to the Editor, Mary Ellen Howe, 601 Ravenscroft Drive, Petersburg, Va. 23805.

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