



# The Messenger

Issue #31 • January 1995

## WINTER FUN FLURRIES AT THE CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**January**  
10 Courthouse  
Quilters, first  
meeting, 7:30 PM,  
Historic Courthouse



19 Civil War Sites  
Committee Planning  
Meeting, 7 PM, Historic  
Courthouse.

22 Annual Lunch/  
Quarterly Meeting,  
Sheraton Park South, 1  
PM (see next col.)



**February**  
2 Lecture:  
Sergei Troubetzkoy:  
19th century Table  
Settings, Historic  
Courthouse, noon



7 Lecture: Dr. Dan  
Mouer, "Rebecca's  
Children ...", 7:30PM,  
Historic Courthouse.



**March**  
7 Lecture:  
Nancy Carter Crump,  
Native American  
Foodways, 7:30 PM,  
Historic Courthouse



## Annual Luncheon Meeting to Be Held January 22nd

The winter luncheon meeting of the Chesterfield Historical Society will be held on Sunday, **January 22, 1995 at 1:00 PM** at the Sheraton Inn Park South Hotel at 9901 Midlothian Turnpike. Our speaker will be archaeologist Colonel Howard A. McCord, Sr. whose topic will be "Indians and Archaeology of Chesterfield County, Virginia." Col. MacGord encourages visitors at this meeting to bring Indian artifacts to be identified by him after his presentation.

A native of Washington D.C., Col. MacGord retired from the United States Army in 1962. While still in the army he began the pursuit of scientific archaeology as a hobby and did extensive fieldwork in Japan, among other locations. Since his retirement he has worked as staff archaeologist for the Virginia State Library and as Executive Director-Archaeologist for the Archaeological Society of Virginia. In addition, he has done free-lance work and has written various reports on Virginia Archaeology.

Our luncheon menu consists of grilled chicken with a lemon herb sauce accompanied by a vegetable medley, house salad, baked potato, chocolate mousse and your choice of tea or coffee at a cost of \$15.00



## UKROP'S GOLDEN GIFTS DUE SOON

CHS is once again participating in the Ukrop's Golden Gifts Campaign. Through this program, Ukrop's Supermarkets will donate a portion of the proceeds from their sales in September through December to the charities of their customers' choice.

In the past it was necessary to save your gold Ukrop's receipts and turn them into the organization at the end of December. This year, it is much easier! Simply by using the newly issued Valued Customer Card, you can give to CHS. Everytime you make purchases at Ukrops and present your card, Ukrop's will keep a running total of your purchases. Soon you will receive a card in the mail from them letting you know how much you have accumulated and asking to what organization you would like your donation to go. Simply write THE CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY and send it in. It's that easy and every little bit helps! Thanks

per person. **Please send your check made payable to the Chesterfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 40, Chesterfield, Virginia 23832 by Tuesday, January 17, 1994.**

This meeting is open to the public so please bring or invite guests. Prior reservations are required for lunch.



## Welcome New Members

We extend a warm welcome to those new members who have joined us as of October 1, 1994:

Linda Holt Armstrong  
 Jennifer Bailey  
 Julie Bailey  
 Katelyn Bailey  
 Scott Bailey  
 Annie Brown  
 Linda Conte  
 Elizabeth Fleming  
 Virginia Hess Floyd  
 Maj. Gen. & Mrs.  
 Donald R. Gardner  
 Julia Good  
 A. Franklin Hicks  
 Ashley Hicks  
 Kimberly Hicks  
 Patrick Hicks  
 Charles Hoffert  
 Robert Krick  
 Cynthia Moshier  
 Magnolia Patron  
 Marilyn Rees  
 Mr. & Mrs. Samuel  
 Shearer  
 Joyce Taffer  
 Donald Wheeler  
 Kathleen Wheeler  
 Helen White

## A Quilt Is Worth A Thousand Words

Everyone has a quilt with a story. Whether it lined the crib belonging to your first born or it was stitched by your great grandmother during the Civil War, every quilt has a unique history.

In celebration of this craft, we will be mounting a quilt exhibit at Magnolia Grange to open on Plantation Day, May 7, 1995 at the historic house. We would like to include your quilt and story (next column)

- historic and/or sentimental - in our exhibit. Plans are still in development. If you have a quilt you would be willing to lend through July 4, 1995, or would like more information, please call Jennifer Grau at 748-1026.

## Calling All Quilters!

Do you enjoy quilting? Would you like to learn how to or improve your quilting skills? Do you enjoy meeting and working with others? If you said yes to these questions, we invite you to join a new group, The Courthouse Quilters. The first meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 10, 1995 at 7:30 PM and every second Thursday of the month thereafter in the Historic Courthouse. If you are interested in participating, call Ruby Williams at 748-0886.

## Civil War Sites Committee to To Hold Planning Meeting

The Civil War Sites committee will be holding a planning meeting on Thursday, January 19, 1995 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at CHS headquarters in the Old Courthouse at the County Administration complex.

There will be a presentation on the Bermuda Hundred campaign and then a planning session on projects for the 1995 year. If there are any questions please call George Fickett, Chairman, Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00, 751-4664, or at home 6:00-10:00PM 541-3333, please limit calls.

*The Messenger* is the quarterly newsletter of the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia. Questions, comments, and suggestions should be addressed to Jennifer Grau, *Messenger* Editor, Chesterfield Historical Society of VA, P.O. Box 40, Chesterfield, VA 23832.

## Plans Underway for Centralia House Tour

Please make plans to attend the Chesterfield Historical Society's Centralia Historic House Tour to be held on Saturday, April 22, 1995 from 10 AM to 4 PM. The sites to be included on this tour include Buckhead Springs, Circle Oaks, Hedgelawn, the Peyton Grymes House, and the First Baptist Church of Centralia.

Anyone who would like to assist with this project, may contact Laurie Horner, House Tour Chairperson, at 739-2837. Further details will be in the next issue of *The Messenger*.

## HISTORIC MIDLOTHIAN COALFIELD RAILROAD TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED

Several remnants of the tram railroad used to haul coal from Midlothian to Manchester in the mid 19th century still remain in the County. Responding to a proposal made October 18, the Executive Board has established a task force to investigate ways to preserve at least one of the remaining sites.

The goals of this task force have not yet been established. They may be merely to have the areas designated historic sites or to try to acquire, stabilize, develop, and interpret one of the sites as a passive, historic park.

We need energetic and enthusiastic persons interested in serving on this task force to suggest ideas, investigate methods, and possibly take action as authorized by the executive board. Some legal, real estate, and resource development skills are also greatly needed. As the name indicates, once this task has been completed, the task force will cease to exist. If you are interested, or would like to suggest any names, please contact Wayne Beachy at 379-9745.

**Thank You!**

We thank the following individuals for their generous gifts to the Society:

**Emmie Lou Chandler**  
- Manuscript: Pride Family in Virginia, North Carolina and Northern Alabama.

**Earle Crump Goode**  
- Manuscript: Bailey Family Bible Records, 1844-1890.

**Pattie Grady** -  
Manuscript: Wilkinson Family Genealogical Papers.

**Frank S. Hall, Jr.** -  
Manuscript: Flournoy Family Genealogical Chart, 1509-1929.

**Frank B. Hart, Jr.** -  
Book: Holy Bible, containing records of the Cheatham Family of Chesterfield County, 1769-1884.

**Clare Hobson** -  
Book: Virginia History in Documents, 1621-1788, Parts I and II.

**To Magnolia Grange:**

**Family of J.G. Hening** - silvered baby shoe of J. Garland Hening

**Lunchtime Lecture Series to Begin**

Sergei Troubetzkoy will be the featured speaker in the first of our Brown Bag Lunchtime Lecture series, scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 1995 at 12 noon. His topic will be early nineteenth-century table settings and food presentation. Formerly the Assistant Director of Tourism in Petersburg, Mr. Troubetzkoy is now Director of the Staunton-Waynesboro-Augusta County Department of Tourism. He is President of the Victorian Society in Virginia and a member of the Board of Directors for the Victorian Society of America.

**Pocahontas Exhibit Opens Thanks to the Work of Mary**

On Thursday evening, November 15th, a new exhibit, "Pocahontas Images of an American Princess" opened at the Chesterfield Museum. The exhibit was launched with a lecture given in the 1917 Courthouse by Daniel Hawls, Curator at the Jamestown Settlement, who spoke on literary and visual images of Pocahontas as compared with those of Elizabeth I of England (for a follow-up to Dan's lecture, please see his letter on page 4 of *The Messenger*). Following the lecture, a reception was held in the museum, with some 110 guests in attendance.

Credit and heartfelt thanks must be given to those who helped to make the exhibit and opening reception so successful. Many friends, volunteers, and CHS board members gave their valuable time. Among them are Jennifer Grau, who acted as principle curator, along with her husband, Jeff, who helped to mount the exhibit; Dan Hawls, who was essential to the exhibit's development; and Betty Leviner, Curator of Public Buildings at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, who acted as consulting curator.

At the 1917 Courthouse, the beautiful fall arrangement on the registration desk was created by Kathy

Chain, proprietor of the Herbs of Happy Hill. Fay Cecil, Dick and Sarah Page, Lyda Cunningham, Sam Hilbert, Jim Daniels, and Jim Emory helped with registration, greeting and assisting attendees, and ushering. The elegant museum reception was organized by Shirley Hudson, who is a new member of the museum committee, with the able assistance of Marguerite Christian. Those who contributed food and helped to serve included Anna Belle Reed, Laurie Horner, Robin Daniels, Rebecca Badger, Dottie Armstrong, Rachel Holmes, Doris Hancock, Ann Shelton, and Mildred Daffron.

Part of a statewide effort commemorating the 400th anniversary of Pocahontas's birth, the exhibit contains artifacts and objects on loan from the Jamestown Settlement, The Library of Virginia, Pattie Grady, Mary Ellen Howe, Dick Page, Jim Emory, and Nancy Carter Crump. It will be open through April 2nd.

**Veterans Remembered**

Once again this year, the Chesterfield Historical Society and the South Chesterfield Ruritan Club honored Chesterfield veterans of all wars with a wreath laying ceremony at the Confederate Monument on the Court Green on Veteran's Day, November 11, 1994. Baxter Perkinson, coordinator of the event along with the Chesterfield Historical Society wishes to thank those who participated in the ceremony including Lt. Gen. Samuel V. Wilson, President of Hampden-Sydney College who gave the keynote address, Steve Turner and the Thomas Dale High School Band who provided music for the occasion, and Reverend Dr. Larry Sizemore, Pastor, Second Presbyterian Church who delivered the benediction. County officials Brad Hammer and M.D. "Pete" Stith are also thanked for their participation as are the Honorable J.L. McHale, III, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, the Honorable Ernest P. Gates and the Honorable John Hancock who also participated. (next page)

**Hours of Operation**  
County Museum  
&  
Magnolia Grange  
10 AM - 4 PM, M-F  
1 PM - 4 PM, Sun.  
  
Genealogical Research  
Library & CHS Office  
10 AM - 4 PM, M-F  
2nd Thurs. of each  
month  
7 PM - 9 PM

### ***From the Recording Secretary***

The regular quarterly meeting of the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia was held Sunday, Oct. 23, 1994 at 2:30. The meeting was called to order by President Jim Daniels at Bellona Arsenal on a beautiful fall day. Jim suggested that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. Fay moved we approve minutes. There was a second, and they were passed.

Laurie Horner thanked Cary Easterly for allowing us to have our meeting on her lawn at Bellona Arsenal.

Wayne Beachy announced that he is chairman of a new task force to preserve and protect remaining Midlothian gravity coal train sites. He is looking for people to serve on the task force and to help him with ideas about protecting the sites.

Nancy Carter Crump announced the opening of a new exhibit on Pocahontas. (next column)

Dan Hawks will speak and artifacts have been borrowed from Jamestown Settlement, The Library of Virginia, and private individuals for the event.

On Dec. 3 and 4 there will be a Revolutionary War encampment at Magnolia Grange. A Christmas open house will be held of Dec. 4. Terry Roach won a volunteer drawing and Samuel Terry won the membership drawing.

Bettie Weaver announced that she had written a new book on Midlothian.

Laurie introduced our speaker, Lyle Browning, who gave an interesting talk on the history of Bellona Arsenal. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tamara Puster  
Recording Secretary

### **VETERANS**

*(continued from P. 3, col. 1)*

Special thanks is given to the 61 organizations and individuals who layed wreaths.

CHS continues to raise money to build a memorial wall that will encircle the historic courthouse green. To date over \$17,700 has been raised by our War Memorial Committee for this project. If you would like to contribute, send a check made payable to the Chesterfield Historical Society of VA, P.O. Box 40, Chesterfield, Virginia 23832. Please note with your check that your contribution is for the war memorial. Thank you.

### **Correction**

*Editor's note: The following letter was sent to Executive Director, Nancy Carter Crump. Mr. Hawks, the featured speaker at the opening of the Pocahontas exhibit, asked us to print this correction to remarks made during his lecture.*

Dear Nancy:

I have just learned that Pocahontas most definitely does not marry Captain John Smith in the soon to be released Walt Disney film. Please convey this information to the members of the Chesterfield Historical Society in your next newsletter.

There were two sources for my remarks, both of whom I have always considered to be very reliable. Unfortunately, I did not check the information with the ultimate authority - the Walt Disney Studio.

I offer my apologies to your members for misleading them, and to the Disney organization for any problems my remarks may cause. This was certainly not my intention.

Sincerely yours,  
Daniel M. Hawks  
Curator  
Jamestown Settlement  
12/12/94

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

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