

The Messenger

OF THE CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Issue Number 47

January 1999

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Procrastination

To those who live by the adage, "I'll do it tomorrow" rather than do it now, live also by the philosophy "Tomorrow never comes, thus today never ends", therefore they still have plenty of time to do it later!

—Mason T. Chalkley

Knowledge

If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it away from him. —An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.

—Benjamin Franklin

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Chesterfield Historical Society 1999 Winter Lunchtime Lecture Series

Wednesday, Feb. 17: Historical Impressions living history members: "Sweet Savage Land...": An English soldier and an indentured woman experience life on the early 17th-century Virginia frontier. (This lecture is co-sponsored by the Friends of Chesterfield's Riverfront.)

Wednesday, Feb. 25: Speaker: Robert P. Davis, First Sergeant, US Army, retired, Historian and Author: "Chesterfield County in the Last Year of the American Revolution"

Wednesday, March 3: Speaker: Dr. Joseph Goldenburg, Chairman, History Department, Virginia State University: "The Transatlantic Slave Trade from the 1500s to the Civil War"

Wednesday, March 10: Speaker: Davyd Foard Hood, Architectural & Landscape Historian, Vale, North Carolina: "Gardens, Groves, and Glades: The Public Cemeteries of Virginia"

Wednesday, March 17: Speaker: Mark R. Wenger, Architectural Historian, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation: "Privacy in the Great House: Eppington's Place in the Virginia House-Planning Tradition"

Wednesday, March 24: Speaker: Nancy Carter Crump, Executive Director, Chesterfield County Historical Society & Foodways Historian: "From Hearth to Cookstove: A Look at Virginia's Culinary Past"

All lectures will be held in the 1917 Courthouse, at 12:30 P.M. Admission: \$3.00 CHS members; \$5.00 non-members. Bring a bag lunch (beverages will be provided) and join us. Call the Society office at 777-9663 to register and for further information.

**Chesterfield
Historical Society
Officers**

President — T. Palmer Condrey

1st Vice-President - Rebecca Badger

2nd Vice-President - Doris M. Hancock

Recording Secretary - Susan Poe

Corresponding Secretary - Tamara Puster

Treasurer — David Brown

Directors

Beverley Coleman,
Russell Harris, Laurie Horner,
Rachel Lipowicz, Betty C. Leviner,
Horace "Pete" Mann, III,
Dr. George Partin,
Marshall Pearman,
Bettie Weaver, Angela Wilderman

Staff

Nancy Carter Crump,
Executive Director

James W. Hollomon,
Assistant Director

Jan Suttentfield, Secretary
Tamara Puster, Gift Shop Manager

**Hours
of
Operation**

All Museums

10:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.

Monday - Friday

1:00 P.M. — 4:00 P.M. on Sunday

Call (804) 777-9663 for Information

Editor

Mason T. Chalkley

**Contributing
Editor**

James W. Hollomon

Recent Acquisitions to Museum Collections

Our thanks to the following who have made contributions to the Museum Collections:

Confederate Foot Officer's Sword, c.1850, Gift of Mr. J. Michael Jernigan;

Coverlet, c.1850, red and blue wool, handmade, Gift of Mildred LaPrade Blanton;

Key Cutting Machine, c.1907, Yale Mfg. Co., hand crank, Gift of Boyd Blanton.

Library Acquisitions

Our thanks to the following who have made contributions to our research library:

Richard T. Baker, The Longwood Family, a collection of papers;

Nancy Carter Crump, The Golden Age: A Climate for Greatness, Virginia 1732-1775;

Carole Farmer Cusack, Genealogy of Carole Farmer Cusack;

Shirley Diller, Marriages of Amelia County, Virginia 1735-1815, Marriage License Bonds of Northampton County, Virginia 1706-1854, Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Sussex County, Virginia 1754-1810, Parish Register of St. Peter's, New Kent County, Virginia 1680-1787;

William D. Eppes, Collection of Papers Pertaining to John Wayles Eppes;

Mary Geschwind, The Osterbind Family of Oldenbury and Richmond;

Pattie M. Grady, House Histories: A Guide to Tracing the Genealogy of Your House;

Houses and Homes: Exploring Their History: Respectful Rehabilitation: Caring for Your Old House: What Style Is It? A Guide To American Architecture;

Heirloom Press, Colvet Family Chronicles: The History of the Colvet Family;

Ed Moseley, Powhatan: A Bicentennial History, 1980;

Elizabeth Quaiff, Ettrick Citizens' Improvement League Minute Book 1912-1915;

Page Thomas Steele, The Dunn Genealogy;

Elizabeth Old Young, Rolfe/Bolling Genealogical Chart 1560-1898.

Virginia Commonwealth University's 1999 Field Archaeology Program At Castlewood

This summer we are looking forward to beginning an exciting new project in Chesterfield County in collaboration with the Chesterfield Historical Society. We will be conducting a survey and initial test excavations in the yard of Castlewood, a late 18th century plantation house in Chesterfield, Virginia. The project will be under the supervision of Dr. L. Daniel Mouer.

Castlewood is the new home of the Chesterfield Historical Society, and the work we do will help to provide a more complete interpretation of life on this plantation. Our initial survey will be throughout the grounds immediately surrounding the house, but our more intensive testing will be focused on identifying and testing the slave quarters, the kitchen and other workshop/workyard buildings and features. Preliminary inspection suggests that the site has suffered very little disturbance. It should be in pristine condition, and this should prove to be an exciting and valuable project.

To participate for credit, enroll in Field Archaeology (ANTH375) 6 Credits. The class runs July 15th -August 13th, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 - 4:30. We will meet initially at the Sociology and Anthropology Department, 312 North Shafer Street, conference room. After the first few days of orientation we will meeting daily on site in Chesterfield. For those living in Richmond without transportation, we will arrange a car pool with expenses to be shared.

Costs for the program vary considerably depending on the enrollment status of the student. The typical student will be charged approximately \$930 for tuition and fees. Please consult the VCU Summer Studies Schedule of Classes for more details. This publication is available online at <http://www.vcu.edu/ocp/summer/docs/99registration.html>; There will also be a small cost for your personal field excavation kit.

Volunteers are welcome and appreciated as long as they are 16 or over and willing to commit to a minimum of five days work on the site. Please contact me for more information.

I look forward to seeing a great turnout for an exciting project this summer. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me.

Dan Mouer
Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology
Virginia Commonwealth University
804-225-4036
<http://saturn.vcu.edu/~dmouer/homepage.htm>
dmouer@saturn.vcu.edu

New Members

Regular

Ms. Jane P. Andrews
Ms. Beth Baker
Ms. Susan M. Bradbrooke
Mrs. Cindy Bradford
Mr. Louis Diller
Mr. Rodney W. Fitzgerald
Mrs. Betty Hay
Mr. Richard W. Hogan
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph M.
Hopfensperger
Mr. L. Ralph Jones, Jr.
Ms. Billie T. Kelley
M/M Ronald W. Lester,
Brock, Holly and Gene
Ms. Margaret Martin
Mrs. Susan Prugh
Ms. Sally Richards
Ms. Sharon K. Thompson
Mrs. Liesbeth Vanderlinden-
Brusse
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel L. Westra,
Rachel and Reed
Ms. Ann Whipp
Ms. Pamela C. Wiley
Mr. Timothy L. Wilson
Ms. Nancy M. Woodall
Mr. Wayne Young

Benefactor

Many thanks for our first
benefactor membership:

Dr. and Mrs. James L. Abbott



**Attention Residents
of Chesterfield County**

SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENA

My husband, Bill, and I are compiling a book on angelic happenings, ghostly manifestations, hauntings, apparitions, or other supernatural phenomena that have taken place in Chesterfield County through the years. If you (or a friend, neighbor or relative) have a story to tell or you know of someone who might be willing to share their story, experiences and information with us, please take the time to E-mail us at www.JaneBennett@MCI2000.com or telephone us at 804-748-5610.

**New
Lord Chesterfield Batteau**

While participating in the 1998 James River Batteau Festival, the crew discussed and committed to building a second batteau, due to the wear and tear the original craft has endured during its 13 years of service in re-enacting 1800s living-history projects throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. During this time the batteau has been poled over 2,000 miles on the Appomattox, James, Rapahannock, Potomac, and Staunton Rivers, and towed 3,000 miles on its trailer. These activities along with the weather, bug infestation, and wood rot led us to this decision.

The Batteau Committee has purchased new oak beams for the king plank and ribs, as well as cypress boards for the hull planking. We have arranged with the Chesterfield Technical Center to use their carpentry shop power tools to cut the beams, and the Virginia Forestry Service for use of a shed to construct the new boat.

We will launch the second LORD CHESTERFIELD BATTEAU on the James River in Lynchburg, June 18th, so we can continue to represent the Society and the County in the 14th JAMES RIVER BATTEAU FESTIVAL.

Museum Moments

By Jim Holloman, Assistant Director

Spring is finally here again! It is a welcome time of change when everything blossoms. Blossoming is also going on within our museum. Right now we are again bursting out with school groups. They are scheduled every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from late January through the second week of June. This keeps us busy and as always, we are looking for good volunteers to help with the school children.

The museum itself is blooming with new changes in conjunction with the celebration of the 250th anniversary of Chesterfield County. Following a renovation of the back gallery last year, the front gallery is now undergoing a transformation with generous funding from Chesterfield County. It will create space for two special exhibits during the anniversary celebration; one featuring the life and times of Lord Chesterfield, and the other on tobacco history in Chesterfield. Following the anniversary year, one front gallery will house the permanent exhibit of Chesterfield history while the two remaining galleries will be for changing exhibits. These changes in the exhibit space will move the museum forward into the next millennium, with new ideas for the new century.

The Historical Society also continues to procure objects for the collections that can aid in telling the exciting story of our county. Two recent acquisitions to the collections include a pair of 1960s dresses and a 1943 poll book from the Midlothian district of Chesterfield County. If you have any objects you might like to donate, I would be happy to talk with you. Please give me a call at 777-9663.

Notice

Chesterfield Historical Society "Web Page:"
<http://members.AOL.com/angenatree/cchsva.html>

Fax Number is 804-777-9643

OUT ON A LIMB:

QUERIES

LOCKETT. CHEATHAM. PRIDE. WATKINS, Francis Lockett and Mary Cheatham of Chesterfield. Mary's parents were Francis Cheatham and Mary Pride. His parents were Thomas Cheatham Jr. b. ca 1686. These people were from Chesterfield Co. VA. Francis Lockett's son, James Lockett, married 1784 Elizabeth Watkins, daughter of John and Mary Hudson Watkins. Sharon Kay Thompson, RR #1, Box 60, Orleans, NE 68966

The Society received this obituary notice from K.W. Blankenburg:

HAZEL CHEATHAM BLANKENBURG (10113115 11113197) was a sixth-generation descendant of Thomas *Chetham (1644145.1126), who was in Henrico County as early as 1677 and in 1691 purchased 300 acres on Proctor's Creek from Martin and Frances Elam for 2,000 pounds of tobacco.

*Hazel's immigrant ancestors always spelled his name as I have above i.e., Chetham.

The National Genealogical Society's 1999 NGS Conference in the States will be held in Richmond, Va at the Richmond Centre from May 12 through May 15, 1999. Call NGS 103-525-0050 for further information & registration.

The Genealogical Records Committee is formatting data from the county's marriage records. These records include consent letters, bonds, and minister returns from 1711-1853. Our goal is to get the book to the printer before the next millennium.

The library has received request on the following surnames and places: Morrissette, Archer, Clarke, Daniel, Hudson, Lockett, Gates, Woodson, Logwood, Baugh, Roberts, Bolling, Gibbs, Woodcock, McCollum, Puckeft, Goins and Whitby Estate.

Some tips for managing your genealogy project:

- (1) Start with yourself and work back.
- (2) Verify your information.
- (3) Cite your sources.
- (4) Interview family and friends.
- (5) Use family group sheets to organize.
- (6) Check the chronology of events in your ancestor's life.
- (7) Visit the Chesterfield County Historical Society Library!

** The Historical Society library is open to the public on the second Wednesday of each month from 7:00 until 9:00 P.M.

DFA Richmond Meeting Set In June

The DuVal Family Association will hold its first meeting in over half a century June 3 - 6 at the Omni Hotel in Richmond, Va.

The weekend will include a genealogy workshop/seminar; visits to historic Ware and Abingdon churches, dinner at Seawell's Ordinary, a visit to Clay Bank where Daniel DuVal arrived on March 5, 1701; and a tour of Highgate, the site of the DuVal home near the Piankatank River at Freeport.

A visit to St. John's Church, site of Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty" speech, is also on the agenda. Samuel DuVal was a member of this church and is interred on the grounds.

Questions: Call Cy Rilee at 505-828-0249 or Katherine Lewis at 804-360-1087

LIBRARY NEWS

We thank the following friends who have so generously contributed books to our library:

-Bruce Burton, Burton Chronicles of Colonial Virginia, a history of an old county family.

-Donald Traser, Virginia Railway Depots, including several in Chesterfield County.

-Arthur C.S.S. Winfrey, Ancestors and Relatives of Arthur C.S.S. Winfrey, as well as the Winfrees of Chesterfield.

Please note a correction to a contribution acknowledged in our last issue. We inadvertently listed a collection of papers donated by Richard T. Baker as The Longwood Family. It should be The Logwood Family. We apologize for the error.

VOLUNTEERS! VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers are urgently needed in the following areas:

Docents for Magnolia Grange and Museum

Gift Shop

Library

Office

Please check the area you would be interested in and mail to the Chesterfield Historical Society, P. O. Box 40, Chesterfield, VA 23832 or call 777-9663.

NAME

PHONE NUMBER

We extend a warm welcome to our two new Castlewood volunteers, Marie Butler and Jackie Westra, who have joined us in recent weeks. Jackie will be working with special projects on an as-needed basis. Marie is with us every Wednesday as part of the great team of Castlewood volunteers (Anne Mann - Tuesday; Irma Kaufman - Friday). We hope to fill the Monday and Thursday slots in the very near future.

Donations of Chairs in the 1917 Historic Courthouse

The following sponsors have responded to the "Adopt A Chair Program" in the 1917 Courthouse to help raise funds for educational programs planned at Castlewood:

Richard T. Baker - 1 chair
 Mr. & Mrs. James W. Bratt - 1 chair
 Theodora Cogbill - 1 chair
 Mr. & Mrs. Earnest P. Gates - 2 chairs
 Manchester Moose Lodge - 1 chair
 Mr. & Mrs. Pete Mann - 1 chair
 Joyce Lee Smith - 1 chair

QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chesterfield Historical Society will hold it's quarterly meeting at the *Bellwood Officers' Club*, Defense Supply Center Richmond, 8000 Jefferson Davis Highway, at 12:30 P.M. on Sunday, January 24th. A buffet will be served beginning at 12:30, with the meeting starting at 1:00. Cost for the meal is **\$10.50 per person**, including tax and gratuity. Reservations are required by the end of business, Tuesday, January 19th.

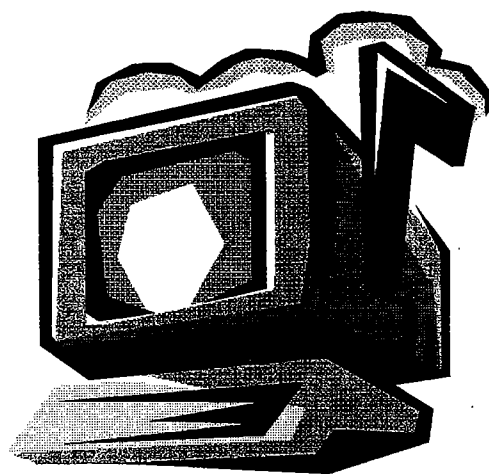
Guest speaker for the meeting will be 250th Special Events Coordinator, Michael Steen.

The topic of the talk will be: *Sesquiduplecentennial* ? Chesterfield County's 250th Anniversary Celebration. Please call the office at Castlewood at 777-9663, for further information.

URGENT!

This is a plea for help from the membership. There are three more issues of *The Messenger* to be produced for the year 1999. We need volunteers to assist with the production and editing of these issues. Our current editor, Mason Chalkley, will be travelling for a large part of 1999 and will be unavailable to do the newsletter the rest of this year. This is a big year, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the county. Our next issue comes out in April. Give us a call at Castlewood at 777-9663. Thanks for your help.

**YOU CAN
HELP!**



New Members

Honorary

Betty Townsend
 Roy Hamilton
 Jon Hudert

Lifetime

George Beadles

Regular

James P. Thrower
 Dorothy W. Lawson
 Catherine A. Knaub
 Margaret A. Russell
 Donald R. Jones, Jr.
 Elinor Sue Burney
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Paradiso
 Mr. & Mrs. Alan C. McCann



Membership Application
(Membership Year: January 1 - December 31)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: (_____) _____

- _____ Student Membership \$ 10.00 per year
- _____ Individual Membership \$ 20.00 per year
- _____ Senior Citizen (65+) \$ 15.00 per year
- _____ Household (in same house) \$ 30.00 per year
- _____ Benefactor Membership \$ 500.00 per year
- _____ Corporate Membership \$ 1,000.00 per year
- _____ Renewal _____ New Member

- _____ Honorary Membership
(approved by Board of Directors)
- _____ Two Years \$ _____
- _____ Donation \$ _____

Hours of Operation
All Museums
10:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.
Monday — Friday
1:00 P.M. — 4:00 P.M. on Sunday
Telephone (804) 777-9663

Return to:
The Chesterfield Historical Society
P.O. Box 40
Chesterfield, Virginia 23832

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

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