

The Messenger

OF THE CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Issue Number 51

January 2000

IN THIS ISSUE

Society Personnel & Hours of Operation	2
Advance Notice	2
New Members	2
Important Notice	2
Museum Moments	3
Lunchtime Lectures	3
Gift Shop	4
Out On A Limb	4
Some Genealogy	4
Notices, Hither & Yon	4
Musick Family	4
Just A Reminder	5
250th Update	6
January Quarterly Meeting	6
President's Message	7
Membership Application, Society Rates and Address	B

Life

The truest view of life has always seemed to me to be that which shows that we are here not to enjoy, but to learn.—F.W. Robertson

2000chsnl1.pub

Director's Message

by Dennis P. Farmer

As many of you may know there has been a change in the administration of the Chesterfield Historical Society. After more than five outstanding years of leadership, Nancy Carter Crump retired from the job of Executive Director. During Nancy's tenure there were many wonderful projects such as the Museum renovation and 250th anniversary celebration. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank Nancy for her time and energy and wish her the very best.

On November 15, I started work as the Chesterfield Historical Society's third Executive Director. So let me introduce myself. My name is Dennis P. Farmer. I am a native of Michigan and the first American in my family, the son of Michael and Terry Farmer, of Seminole, FL (every Canadian's dream retirement). With my bride of nearly sixteen years, Carol, we moved to Southside about two years ago and have a nice brick ranch just outside Chester on Harrowgate Road.

My museum career started as a docent and volunteer providing living history demonstrations in Michigan and Ohio in the late Sixties. Professionally I started work as an educational outreach instructor at Stony Point, NY. Then I was curator of the Monroe County, MI Historical Society followed by a decade as both curator and director of museum operations for the Old Fort Niagara Association, Youngstown, NY. From Niagara I became museum director of Genesee County, NY at the Holland Land Office ("doing a Land Office business"). Most recently I have been employed at Pamplin Historical Park in Dinwiddie as Interpretation and Visitor Services Coordinator and Chief of Education.

Both my wife and I enjoy reenacting from 17th to mid 19th century periods, reading and traveling. In addition, I am a miniature figurine painter and a member of the Ship's Company, Dogwatch (with Mike Steen), a group that sings 17th to 19th century sea shanties. A long time target shooter in both small arms and black powder artillery, I have the rather odd hobby of live firing early reproduction cannon when time, money and military artillery ranges are available.

Jan and I have moved the Historical Society offices upstairs at Castlewood in order to allow full use of this marvelous building for public functions this year, so drop by some time and say hello. One of my short term goals is to increase our wonderful corps of volunteers and docents so if you can provide your time and energy to the Society, I think we can provide a fun, educational and vital role in representing our lovely County to the world. I am very much looking forward to Chesterfield's next 250 years.

**Chesterfield
Historical Society
Officers**

President — Rebecca P. Badger

1st Vice-President - Doris Hancock

2nd Vice-President - Rachel Lipowicz

Recording Secretary - Phyllis K. Bass

Corresponding Secretary - Tamara Puster

Treasurer — G. David Brown

Directors

Beverley Coleman,
Russell Harris, James Daniels,
Paul H. Shelton,
Horace "Pete" Mann, III,
Dr. George Partin,
Arline McGuire,
Betty Matthews, Angela Wilderman

Staff

Dennis P. Farmer
Executive Director

James W. Hollomon,
Assistant Director
Jan Suttentfield,
Administrative Assistant
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

ADVANCE NOTICE

Please note
the **April** quarterly meeting
will be held
at Adventure Hill,
April 30, 2000
at 2 P.M.
in the afternoon.

Please plan to attend.

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members
who have joined the
Chesterfield Historical Society:

Baynard, Mrs. Ruth P.

Beckett, Mrs. Linda S.

Davis, Ms. Ruth T.

Howlett, Dr. William A.

Vest, Mr. Howard R.



Important Notice

In order to publish *The Messenger* in a timely fashion, we wish to remind you that guidelines have been established for submissions, as follows:

December 1 for January issue

March 5 for April issue

June 5 for July issue

September 5 for October issue

Editor Mason Chalkley's schedule is very full and if he is to continue his volunteer commitment to *The Messenger*, it is important that this schedule be kept. He asks that all articles submitted be copied to a floppy disk in Word 6, Windows 95, with hard copy attached for editing purposes. Thank You.

Museum Moments

Happy holidays and greetings to one and all. We are on the verge of closing out another year at the Historical Society. It has been a memorable year for us. We participated in numerous activities involving the 250th anniversary of the county and began major renovations in our museum as part of the celebration. Work will continue in the museum with improvements in areas such as lighting, security, storage, and the eventual reinstallation of the permanent Chesterfield History exhibit.

At the close of this year, though, there is special significance to the old saying, "out with the old, in with the new." As we are all very aware, this year closes not only another year and decade, but also a millennium. This is an interesting time as far as museums and collecting objects are concerned. It will not be too many years before even objects we used in the 90's will be considered "old" by another generation because they were in an entirely different century!

We have received a few recent acquisitions to our museum collections this quarter. Mr. Thomas Kidd gave an original 16mm film of WWII veterans on parade in Matoaca in 1947. He also included a video copy of the film. Nancy Spencer donated some assorted pieces of early 20th century clothing from the estate of Chesterfield resident Florence Louise Fuqua. Mary Ellen Howe completed a copy of the Patrick Henry portrait from the Virginia Historical Society. It is currently hanging at Castlewood for those who would like to see it.

Many thanks to those who have "given" this last year. That includes not only those who have given objects to the collections, but also those who have given their support, time and talents, helping with tours, exhibits, programs and operations of the sites. Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Chesterfield Historical Society 2000 Winter Lunchtime Lecture Series

250th anniversary activities concluded with the December 4th encampment at the County Courthouse. Historical Society events will continue throughout the winter. Dates for the 2000 Winter Lecture Series have been set. The series of six lectures will run on Wednesday afternoons at 12:30 PM beginning on February 16, 2000. The list of speakers and topics is listed below.

Contacting the Historical Society office at 777-9663 can get further details on these programs.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Wednesday, February 16 | Dennis Farmer, Executive Director, CHS -
"The Burning Chesterfield Courthouse, 1781" |
| Wednesday, February 23 | Peter Post, Peter Post Restorations -
"Restoration of an 1803 House, A Look at the Details" |
| Wednesday, March 1 | Keith Hardison, former Executive Director of Beauvoir, Davis' final home -
"Jefferson Davis" |
| Wednesday, March 8 | Joyce Smith, Doll collector, former teacher and historian -
"A Hundred Years of Dolls" |
| Wednesday, March 15 | Laura Brooks, Chief of Interpretation, City of Henricus -
"Mount Malady: The First American Hospital" |
| Wednesday, March 22 | Jennifer Legates, Education Specialist, Pamplin Park, -
"Family Life 1840 to 1870" |

All lectures will be held at 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. To register, call 777-9663 for further details.

Gift Shop

**From the charming
to
the elegant,
our Gift Shop has it all!
And
remember,
CHS membership
entitles you
to a 10% discount.**

Out On A Limb

Submitted by Angela Wilderman

The Genealogical Records Committee is making progress on the 1860 census, tithables, and the index to the marriage book. We plan to have a pre-publication sale next year. Thanks to Louise Armstrong, Kathleen Baker, Linwood Hudson, and Frances Norris for all your work on this committee - abstracting information, typing, and answering researchers questions. Thanks also to Ley Diller for her assistance in research and contributions to a surname databank.

Some genealogy.....

Andrew Laing a native of Ireland this day declared on oath that it is bonafide his intention to become a citizen of the United States and to renounce forever all allegiance to any foreign Prince potentiate state or sovereignty whatever and for particularly to Victoria the present Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Monday 9th January 1854, Court Order Book 37, page 232.

Chesterfield April 1788. On the motion Anderson Britton, for leave to have a water grist mill on Westham Creek he be owner of the land on the one

side thereof, ordered that the sheriff with a jury do go on the aforesaid lands the property of Obadiah Smith and lay off and value as the law requires and that the same be done on the thirtieth day of this month. Court Order Book 8 page 82.

Chesterfield July Court. On the motion of Abraham Salle it is ordered that a Writ of Ad Quod Domnium do issue on a place petitioned for to build a mill on by Archibald Cary which has since become the property of the said Abraham Salle. Court Order Book 8 page 129.

Notices from hither and yon.....

Genealogical Society of Page County, Virginia, 10th Anniversary Celebration: April 28-30, 2000, in Luray, Virginia. April 28, research at the Page County Courthouse and the Page Public Library. April 29, Morning, lectures: Chancery Records and Virginia=s Manuscript Collections by Barbara Vines Little, M.Ed.; Tracing Your Civil War Ancestor by Robert Moore, II; and The Skeltons- from Page County, Virginia to the World by Earl F. Skelton, Ph.D., C.G. Afternoon, tour local landmarks and churches. Evening, Anniversary Banquet with Charles Ballard, author of Assessing Slavery in Page and Rockingham Counties, Virginia. April 30, non-Denominational Church Service at the Mauck Meeting House and tour of Calendine. Registration deadline March 31, 2000. Cost: \$40 members, \$45 after March 15; \$50 non-members, \$55 after March 15. Walking tour of Luray \$5. For more information, please contact: Teresa Kelley, 5359 Macwood Dr, Dale City, VA 22193, phone: 703-670-5381, email: takelley@erols.com or visit our web site at: www.rootsweb.com/~vagspc/pcgs.htm

Musick Family Association of America is looking for descendats of George Musick, Sr. If you would like information about this organization, please contact Donald G. Music through e-mail MusicFamily@listbot.com or Doyle Music, 2202 Brandon Ln SW, Conyers GA 30094-5091.

Just

a

Reminder

By Rachel Lipowicz

It's time to renew your membership with Chesterfield Historical Society. Payment may be enclosed with the membership form printed in The Messenger. Your continued support is appreciated and we hope you'll enjoy the many activities CHS has planned this year.

The Chesterfield Historical Society has formed a committee for African-American Historical Research. The focus of this group is to explore the history of the various African-American communities and churches in Chesterfield County as well as individual genealogies. This group meets at 10 AM on the first Thursday of each month in the library at the 1917 courthouse. All interested persons are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

The Cemetery Committee has sold almost all copies of Gone But Not Forgotten. This book contains information on over 9,000 burials in Chesterfield County. At present there are about 20 books left. Gone But Not Forgotten may be purchased in the Museum Gift Shop or you may use the enclosed order form.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Gravestone Inscriptions & Burials of Chesterfield County, Virginia

Each book \$24.00 plus \$1.08 tax. Postage & handling \$4.00, first book; \$1.50 per additional book.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Number of copies ordered: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

Payable to: Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia

Send order form & payment to: Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia/ PO Box 40/ Chesterfield, VA 23832. Attn: Cemetery Committee

If you wish to save on postage and handling by receiving your copy at the Chesterfield Historical Society, indicate here and we will call you. _____

(cemetery committee use only)

Amount Received: _____ Date: _____

Received from: _____

Received by: _____

Mail _____ Hold _____

250th UPDATE by Pete Mann

The Chesterfield Historical Society and the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee worked jointly on three of the major events that were scheduled for the 250th anniversary celebration of the County. These events included the DuVal Wedding, the Baptist Preachers' Trial and the Spirit Walk. The 250th Anniversary Committee sponsored these events; the Chesterfield Historical Society received the proceeds from the sale of the admission tickets.

The Historical Society realized from ticket sales, \$432 from the DuVal Wedding, \$806 from the Baptist Preachers' Trial and \$582 from the Spirit Walk. The total from the three events was \$1820.

In addition, another joint effort between the Historical Society and the 250th Anniversary Committee resulted in the Historical Society receiving approximately \$84,000.00 from Chesterfield County to support the renovation of the County Museum and the establishment of two exhibits for the 250th Anniversary celebration. One exhibit related to the history of tobacco in Chesterfield, the other exhibit related to the County's namesake, Lord Chesterfield.

Announcing
the Chesterfield Historical Society's
January Quarterly Meeting

The January quarterly luncheon meeting
will be held January 23, 2000
beginning at 1 p.m. at Wrexham Hall

Cost of luncheon will be \$15.00 per person.
Reservations and payment must be received
by January 12, 2000

Menu

Pork Tenderloin, potatoes, vegetable,
bread, drink and dessert

Speaker:

Mark K. Greenough, Living History Associates, Ltd.

Topic:

Soldier Turned Sailor: The River Defense of Richmond 1864.
Meet Samuel Warwick, a deserter from the U.S. Navy later hired by the southern army,
and transferred to the James River Squadron.

Call the Historical Society office at 777-9663 to make reservations.
Send payment to Chesterfield Historical Society,
P.O. Box 40, Chesterfield, Virginia 23832
by Jan. 12, 2000

President's Message by Rebecca Badger

The proposed Veterans Memorial Wall that Baxter Perkinson Sr. has so exquisitely shepherded for the last eight years received a tremendous infusion this fall. The Chesterfield Board of Supervisors voted to match the Memorial Wall Committee's fund balance of \$25,000. At our annual Veterans Day Service on November 11, Bradford S. Hammer, Deputy County Administrator announced that the first phase can now proceed with the current \$50,000 balance. Architectural drawings will be immediately rendered with ground breaking to follow. The brick wall will serpentine around the Courthouse with recesses built to house plaques. These plaques will list the names of Chesterfield residents who served our Nation in war time.

Donations have been collected in sums great and small through the years. The watercolor created by Rev. Dr. Ivan W. Perkinson has garnered much of the funding as well. The print depicts the 1917 Historic Courthouse, the Soldier's Memorial and Color Guard representing our military from 1611 to present day. This handsome rendition of history is still available for \$35.00. A copy can be viewed at the Society's gift shop. To order a print or make a donation, send your check to:

Ms. Joyce Honderich, Treasurer,
V.M.W Committee
P.O. Box 40
Chesterfield, VA. 23832

We are half way to our goal of \$100,000 to see the completion of this fitting memorial. It can be done with your support.

A call to Chesterfield veterans:

In 2000 the museum will be upgraded in Phase III of the renovation efforts already in place. However, we are seeking Korean War, Vietnam and Gulf War materials to a proposed new exhibit on Chesterfield military veterans from all services. If you're a vet, please help remember all those who we can not forget, with your kind donations.

[While all artifacts are important, please avoid dress uniforms as these are fully represented.] Donations may be made to Dennis Farmer, Executive Director at Castlewood, 777-9663, or Jim Holloman, Assistant Director, 748-1026.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: daytime: () _____ evening: () _____

Names of others included at the Household Level: _____

Type of Membership: ___ New ___ Renewal ___ 2 years
___ Student* -\$10. ___ Individual -\$20. ___ Benefactor -\$500.
___ Senior** -\$15. ___ Household - \$30. ___ Corporate -\$1,000.

___ I wish to volunteer. I am interested in the following committees:
___ African-American ___ Financial Fund Raising ___ Membership ___ Site Docent
___ Archeology ___ Genealogy ___ Newsletter (Magnolia Grange,
___ Batteaux ___ Gift Shop (Messenger, Journal) Museum, 1917
___ Cemetery ___ Historic Sites ___ Office Courthouse)
___ Civil War Sites ___ Library ___ Program/Hospitality ___ War Memorial

Membership year is January 1-- December 31 (pro-rated membership not available). Please make checks payable to: Chesterfield Historical Society.

* Please include photo copy of student ID. Return to: *Chesterfield Historical Society*
** 65 + years. *P0 Box 40*
Chesterfield, VA 23832
Attn: Membership

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

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

