

# The Messenger

OF THE CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Issue Number 52

April 2000

## IN THIS ISSUE

Society Personnel & Hours of Operation	2
Important Notice	2
New Members	2
Museum Moments	3
Fund Raiser	3
War Memorial Wall	3
Saturday Festivities	4
Out On A Limb	4
Genealogy Queries	4
Notices, Hither & Yon	4
President's Message	5
Museum Grand Opening	5
April Quarterly Meeting	6
Volunteer Coffee	7
Membership Application, Society Rates and Address	B

### Observation

It is the close observation of little things which is the secret of success in business, in art, in science, and in every pursuit in life. Human knowledge is but an accumulation of small facts, made by successive generations of men, —the little bits of knowledge and experience carefully treasured up and growing at length into a mighty pyramid.  
—Samuel Smiles (1812-1904)

2000chsnl2.pub

## Director's Message

by Dennis P. Farmer

Springtime always comes to me as a time of wonder and nothing is quite as fine as springtime in Virginia. To all of you, from our hundreds of members, to the many outstanding volunteers, the board and perhaps most of all to our staff, I wish to offer my thanks. In less than four months here, you have all made me and my good lady feel very welcome. The snowstorms and ice of the winter are passing us now and the renewal of the season sees the Historical Society nearing its twenty-year anniversary.

As many of you are aware, on January 14 of this year the Circuit Court Judges made known that they have determined that the old 1917 Courthouse is necessary for the performance of trials and other court functions. By our November 7, 1990 Custodial Lease and Use Agreement, the Court informed both the County and ourselves that they will be back in operation on July 1, 2000 in the 1917 Courthouse. While this is not the best news we have had lately, I feel very firmly that we can make the most of this situation and use it as an opportunity for reorganization for the Historical Society and its near and long term growth in the decade to come.

In the short term, here is the plan...the Library will go over to Castlewood, to the Parke Poindexter parlor, the front cross passage and the south hallway. With the outstanding support of the Department of General Services, new bookshelves will be added to the parlor along with those others needed to hold our great collection of materials and equipment. Our phone system upgrade will allow the Chesterfield Historical Society to go "on line" effective this May, so that both members and visitors can E-mail the Society. The big moving week is April 24-29 so that by the time of the quarterly meeting (April 30) we will be almost finished and back into operation.

The Museum Shop will go into the north wing, with its storage in the north second floor bedroom. If you are interested in bargains, look for some good ones in April and May from our shop. The Museum Shop will have moved in early April so by the time you read this Tamara will be looking for you at our grand opening sale! An annex shop will be added to Magnolia Grange to provide for our patrons coming into our new focal point for visitation. Jim Hollomon's office will be on the second floor of the Grange in the exhibit room with those artifacts and displays remounted or to be used in the phase III museum display.

### **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 Sutzenfield,  
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

### **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.

### **New Members**

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

Mr. Benjamin Anderson

Mrs. Coralee Baker

Mr. Robert Beasley

The family of Mrs. Cindy Bradford:

Mr. Smith Bradford, Corey & Cortney

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Farmer (Carol)

Mr. Thomas F. Garner, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hahn (Susan)

Ms. Mary S. Jones

Mr. Turner S. Nelms

Mr. James H. Petty

Ms. Angela F. Pollard

Ms. Ann Rest

Ms. Monica Rumsey

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Scott

Mr. Charles P. Taylor

Mr. and Mrs. Bart Vanderherchen (Lynn)

Ms. Evelyn Wallace

Mr. Clarence Williams



Our apologies to Dr. Wendell A. Howlett. We accidentally gave his name as Dr. William A. Howlett.

All of us appreciate YOU

# Museum Moments

By Jim Hollomon  
Assistant Director

Change - for such a small word it can certainly have big meaning. It can be scary or exciting, but one thing in life is assured - it will come. But, after all, change is a part of what the Historical Society is all about. We just finished celebrating 250 years of change in the history of our county. Without it, things might have been rather dull and ordinary.

We as an organization recognize, document, study, collect, interpret and exhibit the changes in history to our members and interested public. Sometimes these changes directly affect us as an organization. In recent months the Historical Society has gone through many changes. The metamorphosis continues in the museum. We have seen new galleries created with new and improved exhibits. We hope to continue this upgrade of our facilities through phase III and the re-installation of our enlarged permanent Chesterfield history exhibit. These changes become a part of the history of the organization.

Now some very difficult changes within the Society are facing us. Though difficult, they must be viewed in a positive light, with the emphasis on internal growth and strength which can come from them. The Historical Society has been a part of the 1917 Courthouse for over a decade. We are being forced to give up that tie so the facilities may be used again by the court system. It is more difficult when put in the position of having to accept changes, but even then they can be good. It will be difficult for all of us - staff, volunteers, members and the public in general, to adapt to moving our services to another location. Hopefully, in this move to Castlewood of the library and museum shop, and my office to Magnolia Grange, our functions will be improved overall. Stay tuned for further developments as the move occurs!

On a final note, yet continuing the topic of changes, I again appeal to you for help as volunteers. We are in the midst of our school group season now and need docents to assist with school tours. We also need regular docents to work week-days and on Sunday afternoons. I will especially need assistance during the week, with my office moving to Magnolia Grange. When the library and shop move to Castlewood, I lose the support staff and volunteers which were available when we were all centrally located. If you or someone you know might be interested, please give me a call! Thanks.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Fashion Show and Musicale Fund Raiser - June 10

Keep Saturday, June 10, open for the Fashion Show and Musicale Fund Raiser at Castlewood. Music and fashion from 1611 to 1999 with fun, entertainment and a nice lunch to go with a slice of fashion...and all for a good cause! Also featured will be a "Silent Auction" with gifts, book and lots of good things to bid on. The program will feature from 1611 to 1981, with refreshments, lunch and musical entertainment from 10:00 to 2:30. One tickets gets any or all, come and go as you like it, for an enjoyable day. Featuring, A Company Waites, 1611 to 1750. Elizabeth Berry on the harp, The Ship's Company, Dog Watch with 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century sea shanties, a little good ol' fiddle musick by Mr. Al Neale, and The Rhythm-Aires, big band sound.

\*\*\*\*\*

## War Memorial Wall

This year is it! With Baxter Perkinson's skilled efforts as well as many friends and members the Veterans Memorial Wall at the Old Courthouse is coming soon. Having gotten the first \$50,000 in hand, Baxter has gotten pledges and gifts to start us to our goal of \$100,000. A request mailing is going out to over one hundred local businesses but your donation is vital as well. Please send donations care of the Chesterfield Historical Society War Memorial fund today.

*"An Affair In Old Bon Air"*

**SATURDAY, MAY 13th  
11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

**FESTIVITIES AT  
BON AIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
AND THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY**

**TROLLEY RIDES -  
CRAFTS - ENTERTAINMENT**

**PARADE BEGINS AT 11:00 A.M.**

**Out On A Limb .....**

Submitted by Angela Wilderman

*The Genealogical Records Committee, in conjunction with the Genealogical Research Institute of Virginia (GRIVA) and the Chesterfield County Central Library, is sponsoring a genealogy workshop on Saturday, April 15. Look for details soon.*

**Some genealogy and history.....**

At a Court held for Chesterfield County on Thursday the tenth Day of September one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight, present Abraham Salle, David Pattison, Blackman Moseley and Creed Haskins, Gentleman Justices William Scott moving the Court, that he may be removed from the Jail, set aside for Criminals, to that intended for Debtors but it appearing to the Court that the said Jail intended for Debtors is not sufficient for the Purpose of confining him. Upon consideration whereof it is ordered that the Sheriff recommend the said Scott to the Criminals Jail untill the Debtor's Jail can be repaired and made sufficient and that it be used as the Debtor's jail. Court Order Book #8, page 167

**Chesterfield County October Court 1788**

On the Motion of Thomas Branch for leave to erect a Water Grist Mill on Pocoshock Creek he being owner of the Lands on such site of the said Creek where he is desirous of building the said Mill it is ordered that a Writ of ad quad Domain do issue and that the Sheriff impanel a Jury at the Place aforesaid on the eighteenth Day of this Month.

**Queries .....**

**Charles Taylor, 3640 Carrizo Creek, Nacogdoches, TX 75961** is seeking information on Joseph Taylor, who died in Chesterfield County on 11 January 1802. Will dated 4 November 1801 names wife Sarah, children Richard, Joseph, Edmund, Willam, Vincent, John, Arthur, Sarah and Mary. Richard enlisted Continental Line in Amelia County 28 February 1777.

**Jennifer Williams Gaskins, 110 S. Massy St., Selma, NC 27576** is the great... grand daughter of Thomas Gregory from Chesterfield County. I am seeking the marriage record of James Gregory and Rosena Dyson, birth record for Oval Lee Gregory, and marriage record of Oval Lee Gregory and Mary Eugenia Banks.

**Notices .....**

If you are interested in attending the Clopton Family Association Reunion 2000, August 3-6, 2000, at Port Ludlow Resort, Port Ludlow, Washington, or would like other information about the association, contact Carroll Everett, 14246 SH240, Electra, TX 76360-4706 or visit the Clopton Family web page <http://www.seanet.com/~Clopton/>

Visit the Chesterfield Historical Society web page <http://members.aol.com/angenatree/cchsva.html> for news and information.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ge.nc.al.o.g.y**

The study or investigation of ancestry and family histories. [Middle English *genealogie*, from Old French, from Late Latin *gene3logia*, from Greek : *genea*, family. —The Editor

## **President's Message** by Rebecca Badger

Executive Director Dennis Farmer accompanied Pete Mann to the Chesterfield Board of Supervisors meeting on March 22 to request \$106,000 in order to complete Phase III of the Chesterfield Historical Society Museum expansion. Pete made a thoroughly convincing presentation to that board. Last fiscal year we were granted \$82,400 to complete Phase II.

As of July 1<sup>st</sup> the Chesterfield Circuit Court will be utilizing the Historical 1917 Courthouse to ease their over loaded docket. Under the terms of the custodial agreement the Society has with the County proper, notice was given by the courts system. Our new "front door" becomes Magnolia Grange which will house Assistant Director Jim Hollomon's office and the volunteer center. Our genealogical library and gift shop will relocate to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Castlewood. Naturally the visitor tour will refocus to other aspects of our rich local history.

Now is the time to join our ranks as a volunteer. We are very excited about creating other ways that can portray more living history to adults and children alike. There will be a volunteer coffee on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 at Castlewood. Please plan to offer your talent to our renewed volunteer ranks.

\*\*\*\*\*

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE  
GRAND OPENING  
OF THE NEW  
CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MUSEUM SHOP  
AT CASTLEWOOD  
ON THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2000  
10:00 A.M. UNTIL 6:00 P.M.**

**COME JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS, DOOR PRIZES  
AND A 25% OFF SALE ALL WEEK LONG!**

**STORE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY  
10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

# **QUARTERLY MEETING**

**To be held at Adventure Hill  
Home of David and Pam Howell**

**Sunday, April 30, 2000, 2 p.m.**

## **PROGRAM:**

**Dearest James, Dearest Ann  
Presented by Historical Impressions**

## **Directions:**

**From Hull Street: Turn onto Winterpock Road and go to intersection of Winterpock and Beach Road (3 miles Crump's Store on left). Stay on Winterpock Road and go approximately 1.3 miles. Take a left onto Adventure Hill Lane. Take the first right, which is the entrance to "Adventure Hill".**

**From: Chesterfield Court House: Turn onto Beach Road. Stay on Beach Road until you come to the intersection of Beach and Winterpock Roads. (Crump' Store on right). Take a left onto Winterpock Road and go approximately 1.3 miles. Take a left onto Adventure Hill Lane. Take the first right, which is the entrance to "Adventure Hill".**

## **Parking:**

**If there has not been much rain, some cars may park in the small grass area to the right of the entrance to Adventure Hill. Please bring a lawn chair in case the meeting can be held outside.**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A  
VOLUNTEER COFFEE**

**THURSDAY, MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>  
10:30 A.M.**

**AT CASTLEWOOD  
(10201 IRON BRIDGE ROAD)**

**COME AND RENEW  
OLD ACQUAINTANCES,  
MEET NEW MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS,  
AND SEE WHAT FUN  
YOU CAN HAVE BY**

***VOLUNTEERING***

**AT THE  
CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

***R.S.V.P. 777-9663***

**CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: daytime: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ evening: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Names of others included at the Household Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

\_\_\_\_\_ Student\* - \$10. yearly \_\_\_\_\_ Individual - \$20. yearly \_\_\_\_\_ Benefactor - \$ 500. yearly

\_\_\_\_\_ Senior\*\* - \$15. yearly \_\_\_\_\_ Household - \$30. yearly \_\_\_\_\_ Corporate - \$1,000. yearly

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to volunteer. I am interested in the following committees:

African-American _____	Fund Raising _____	Membership _____	Site Docent _____
Archeology _____	Genealogy _____	Newsletter _____	(Magnolia Grange, Museum)
Batteau _____	Gift Shop _____	Office _____	War Memorial _____
Cemetery _____	Historic Sites _____	Program/Hospitality _____	
Civil War Sites _____	Library _____	Bermuda Hundred _____	

Membership year is January 1-- December 31 (pro-rated membership not available). Please make checks payable to: Chesterfield Historical Society. Questions? 804-777-9663

\* Full-time students  
Please include copy of student ID

Return to: *Chesterfield Historical Society*  
*P0 Box 40*  
*Chesterfield, VA 23832*  
*Attn: Membership*

\*\* 65 + years

**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
---

