

Greetings!

I am honored to introduce myself to you: Dianne L. Mallory, your new Executive Director for the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia. (See "Announcement" from Scott Williams, Board President).

We are off to an exciting start! The Society is coming back and regrouping from being shuttered over the last few years. The 2024 Winter Lecture Series is in full swing with the last two lectures upcoming on March 8th - "80th Anniversary of D Day: 1944-2024" and March 22nd -"Chesterfield County's 275th Anniversary". The Chesterfield County Museum, a replica of the first courthouse in Chesterfield, has rotating and highly informative exhibits. We are gearing up to celebrate Chesterfield's 275th anniversary and the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. The Society, along with the African American History Committee, unveiled a wonderful and permanent exhibit on Cornelius Mimms, Chesterfield's first African American Supervisor for the Midlothian District. Our Research and Genealogical Library has over 25,000 items in its collections and our local researchers are some of the best in the region; they know Chesterfield History – inside and out. We sponsor programs for Scouts and in conjunction with County Parks and Recreations. We look forward to connecting with our youngest residents through their schools - to share the history of the county they call home. We do cemeteries, Civil War, and collections. Oh, we have spirits, too – you will have to come to one of the paranormal events to see for yourself! Plans are underway to hold the antiques evaluation show back by popular demand – which will be co-sponsored with the Bon Air Historical Society. There are so many more programs and events provided by the Society - too many for this minimessage so please drop in our website and sign up for our programs and events.

I will take the first few months 'on the job' and do lots of learning and, most importantly, listening. I will meet with the Board, staff, volunteers, the community, and business representatives. I have some 'housekeeping' tasks to complete. In the meanwhile, feel free to contact me at <u>admin@chesterfieldhistory.com</u> (NOTE: Soon, that email address for me will change.) I appreciate your patience and support as I round this very early stage of my learning curve.

As I close – the first of my mini messages to you - here is my first "from the heart" request of you as your new Executive Director:

PLEASE – today - become a member and/or renew your membership with the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia (CHSV). Go to our website: <u>www.chesterfieldhistory.com</u> – and pick the membership level that best fits your needs. Look at your membership as a very modest and vital investment in your future – by getting to know your history, too!

Díanne