



President's Message

Bright colors of spring are popping out and reminding us of the fresh feeling of new growth and warmer weather. As spring arrives, the Tidewater Virginia Historical Society (TVHS) Board is offering you an opportunity to “grow” with a basketful of stellar lectures by recognized experts, private tours and two bus excursions to behind-the-scenes tours of sites you have not visited.

We are growing and continue to try new things. This fall will bring programs to the Kimball Theatre.

A gentle reminder: your continued support of paying your Annual Dues (Jan–Dec) is greatly

appreciated and makes it possible for the Board to provide you exceptional lectures and tours. For membership details see TV-HS.org.

The Board looks forward to seeing you actively participate and assist us in making these events memorable for you. Your suggestions for programs and tours are always welcome. If you have visited a “not well-known” historic site and want to share, please send an email to hello@TV-HS.org.

Sharon Short
TVHS President



Sunday, April 14th | 2PM

Jack Gary Speaking Event

Bruton Heights School, Lane Auditorium

The Lane Auditorium is within the historic Bruton Heights School, where for a quarter of a century it served as an all-black institution educating a generation of African American children in Williamsburg.

Jack Gary, Director of Archaeology for Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, will be providing an update on the progress of some of Colonial Williamsburg's most exciting projects, which include the First Baptist Church (one of America's oldest African American churches), the Bray School and Custis Square, where the 18th-century home and gardens of John Custis IV once stood and much more.

Thursday, April 25th | 2-4PM

Custis Square Private Tour

Colonial Williamsburg, Corner of Nassau & Francis St.

Meet at the Custis Square in Colonial Williamsburg. Tour the site, view some of the artifacts and get one-on-one with Colonial Williamsburg archaeologists as we learn more about this 18th century garden.

Thursday, May 9th | Time TBD

Bus Tour to Richmond, VA

Join us for a visit to the "River City", Historic Richmond. We have an exciting line-up for the Capital City, kicking off the day at the 1814 Robert Mills designed Monumental Church. Today it is the only surviving example of the five-domed churches that Mills designed. The church stands as a monument to those (72) Richmonders who lost their lives in the Richmond Theater fire of 1811.

Masons' Hall is the nation's oldest continuously used Masonic building. Constructed from 1785 to 1787 it is one of the oldest intact structures in Virginia from the colonial period. Masons' Hall served as a meeting place for founding fathers, Virginia delegates, the first office for John Marshall, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, a hospital during the War of 1812 and many more historically prominent events.

Our tour will include visiting Historic St. John's Church (1741) with a special talk, lunch in a relaxing local restaurant and one or two additional historic sites before returning home to Williamsburg.

Membership Updates

As of March 2024, we have a total membership of 155 wonderful supporters!

Tired of not knowing who is a member and who is not at our TVHS gatherings? So are we. Beginning this fall, TVHS members will have name tags to wear at all events. Don't have a name tag? Please pay your dues.

- \$40 - Individual Membership
- \$60 - Couple Membership (two persons living in the same household)
- \$75 - Family Membership (three or more members living in the same household)
- \$100 - CENTURY Membership – one individual. *Benefits include invitation to private TVHS annual event, reserved seating on trips and programs, and two guest passes.*
- \$500 – LIFETIME Membership – one individual. Never pay dues again. *Benefits include invitation to private TVHS annual event, reserved seating on trips and programs, and two guest passes every year.*

To pay your dues, mail your check to:

TVHS
PO Box 427
Williamsburg, VA 23187
ATTN: Melissa McCue

NOTE: beginning this September, we are charging non-members and guests (\$10) to attend our lectures, programs and walks. Bus trips will continue to have two rates – members and non-members.

Why not join today and save money? You too can have a grand time enjoying the many adventures TVHS offers.

Questions?

Feel free to contact Janie Moyers,
Membership Director at
janiemoyers@gmail.com OR
804/874-2381.



The TVHS Board and Dr. Lynn Price Robbins, speaker on "Martha Washington" March 17, 2024.

*From left Melissa McCue (Treasurer), Paige Jesse (Programs), Janie Moyers (Membership), Ben Arney (VP), Sharon Short (President), Carol Harrison, Dr. Lynn Price Robbins, Fred Siegel, Jeannie Takesian, and Sherri Phillips.
Absent: Krista John, Carl Lounsbury, Carl Bass, and Ellen Peters (Secretary).*

Happening Around Town

- Friends of Bruton Parish Church have sponsored an updated version of a book on the Cemetery of Bruton Parish Church. *The Tombs & Memorials of Bruton Parish Church* is available for purchase in the Bruton Parish Gift Shop. This book is part of the Church's many activities to celebrate their 350th Anniversary.
- Carl Lounsbury, a TVHS Board Member, will be presenting a lecture in Currituck County, NC for the Historical Society in April on "Court Day in early Virginia".
- On Sunday, April 21st at 2pm, the Isle of Wight County Historical Society presents Thomas Jefferson, portrayed by Clay Jenkinson. Mr. Jenkinson has performed before Supreme Court justices, presidents, and countless public audiences including The Today Show.

[*Click Here for Isle of Wight Jefferson Ticket Information*](#)



Bruton Parish Church

Did you know?

The Isle of Wight County Museum

The Isle of Wight County Museum - 103 Main Street, Smithfield, VA
www.historicisleofwight.com

This museum is a hidden gem and popular for visitors to Smithfield, VA. Take a moment for the museum's film. There are attractions a family will enjoy exploring such as the general store which reflects items from the early 1900s, (my teenage grandchildren were amazed with some items they had never seen). As the museum's website explains, the focus

is the local economy, from the water, ham, and agriculture industries. You must see the world's oldest, edible cured ham as well as the world's oldest peanut. As you turn a corner, there will be a Native American exhibit, prehistoric fossils, and many other historic artifacts. Staff is friendly and there is a little gift shop attached.