

King William County Historical Society Newsletter

July 2013

From Our President

The annual July picnic meeting will be held at the courthouse complex on July 21st. We hope this will give you an opportunity to meet other members of the society. It will be inside, so we do not have to worry about heat or rain.

The board has been working on the following projects.

- Plans are being finalized to start repair and painting of the arcade of the Historic Court House.
- The board has recently submitted an application to the county to place the Acquinton Church property in a County Historic District. The King William County Planning Commission will hear our request on July 16 at 7:00 p. m.. at the administration building. If you are able, please come and support our request.
- We have been working with the county on a grant to be submitted our request. The grant is with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. It is a 50/50 matching grant for a total of \$10,000. Currently the county has not decided its level of support. Our plan is to raise money or use society funds if necessary. The grant is to do an architectural survey of the county. Existing data will be updated and a survey of 50 to 75 new sites will be completed. This work will provide ground work for future preservation planning activities.

I hope to see you all in July.

Carl R. Fischer
President

KWHS Membership Meeting March 16, 2013

The King William County Historical Society met on April 21, 2013 at the Zoar House at 2:30 p.m. Following a brief business meeting out on the grounds, visitors toured the grounds and outbuildings. Moving inside to the conference room, members were treated to a wonderful family history of the Pollard family by Mr. Jim Woolford.

Although the Zoar House is now part of the Virginia Department of Forestry, it has a significant role in the history of Aylett. The property was originally part of a large estate belonging to William Aylett, and was purchased in 1782 by Robert Pollard. He built a frame house on the land, calling it Mount Zoar. It was partially destroyed by an 1851 fire, and rebuilt. Another fire between 1884 and 1885 destroyed the structure, as well as its contents. The present house was built in 1890. The house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2007.



Audrey Mitchell
Corresponding Secretary

Annual Membership Dues

Dues are due now. Remember the fiscal year ends on June 30th, so if you have not sent in your dues for 2013-2014, please do so now.

The dues for annual memberships are:
Individual..... \$20 Family \$30
Student \$10

Lifetime memberships are:
Single Lifetime... .. \$250
Lifetime Couple.... \$300

Mail to: King William Historical Society
PO Box 233
King William, Va. 23086

Museum News

Volunteers are Needed

To do any of the following: Tour Guide and Hosting (please consider), Data Research and Entry, and Exhibit Planning and Care, call 804-769-9619 to volunteer.

In the Shadows

On June 1, 2013, members and friends of the King William Historical Museum Council met on the courthouse green for a luncheon and fashion show. The inspiration for the day was a white dress and matching slippers presented to the museum by Mary Neale Garrett, formerly of King William County and a longtime resident of Arlington, Virginia. She sent a dress box marked "Slaughter Bride... 1824."

In corresponding with Miss Neale, we have learned much about this Slaughter Bride. "The dress and slippers were worn by Sophie Slaughter when she married Lucian Dabney Robinson. Both the bride and groom were residents of King William County and both are buried in the cemetery at Jerusalem Christian Church."



The luncheon and fashion show event was held to call attention to the lovely dress and shoes, and to raise money for a suitable display case for these priceless artifacts. The current exhibit also includes presentations highlighting women who have been an important part of King William's history. There are six dresses on mannequins, as well as the women's corner featuring the historical accomplishments of these women "in the shadows."

The council wishes to thank Sharon T. Townsend, co-owner of Tiffany's Bridal and the Groom's Corner, for providing the Bridal Fashions. Mrs. Renee Mills and Mrs. Ashley Townsend were her able helpers. Gifts were provided by Governor's Antiques, Cold Harbor Antiques, and an anonymous donor. Nancy Johnson and friends catered a scrumptious lunch of chicken salad croissants, crab cakes, rice confetti, and fresh fruit. Dessert was wedding cake from William's Bakery.

The council also wishes to thank the beautiful young ladies who served as models for the fashion show. Miss Caitlin Puller, Miss Kate Dalton, Miss Rachel Gibson, Mrs. Samantha Stone, Ms. Caroline Dougan, Mrs. Marie Jennings, and little Misses Addie Johnson, Natalie Wechsler, Grace Simons, Ruby Kate Vincent, and Molly Vincent.

Rebecca Townsend

Honoring William Temple Mooklar

William Temple Mooklar was born at Mangohick in King William County, on April 22, 1875. Throughout most of his life he lived in the house in which he was born and his office was in this home at the time of his death. He served the county in many ways, not only as a judge, but as a leader in his church, local government, and community progress.

Judge Mooklar studied at the College of William and Mary and at Richmond College and received his law degree from the University of Virginia. He was admitted to the bar in 1901 and upon completing his degree he began to practice law in King William County. With the exception of six years that he worked in the mercantile business in Richmond, he continued his law practice in King William, Caroline and Hanover Counties until he became Trial Justice of King William and King and Queen Counties in 1942.

Although his service to the courts was exemplary, Judge Mooklar served the citizens in many other capacities. He was active and instrumental in the organization of a telephone company and even served as the manager for a few years. In 1907, he served as the postmaster at Mangohick and that same year was elected to the Board of Supervisors. He served the Mangohick district from 1908 until 1915. He was elected again to the Board of Supervisors in 1927, and served from 1928 until he resigned in 1942 when he was appointed as Trial Justice and later county judge for King William and King and Queen Counties.

Judge Mooklar worked for the construction of a good highway through the center of King William County. The highway, Route 30, extends the entire length of the county and was part of the route George Washington took from Fredericksburg to Williamsburg when attending the House of Burgess meetings. Route 30 today is marked with road signs

designating it as part of the Washington Burgess Trail.

His interest in public education was evidenced by the fact that he served as President of the Parent-Teacher Association for King William High School. Since he never married, his sister and niece often chided him about this asking whether he was qualified for this position as parent or teacher.

King William County has been extremely fortunate to have benefited from the service and commitment of Judge Mooklar. Although he passed away in March of 1964, just two weeks shy of his 88th birthday, Judge Mooklar has still had an impact on the community of King William and surrounding counties for the past 50 years. His portrait will be hung in the Historic Courthouse, where he served for so many years.

Editor's note: This article is an abridgement of the tribute that was presented to the Honorable John E. DeHardit, Judge of the Circuit Court of King William County in June of 1964