

# King William Historical Society

JULY 2018

Membership Meeting  
July 15, 2018 @ 2:30 PM  
KW Administration Building

Join us for our annual membership meeting where we will have our business meeting with election of officers, a wonderful speaker: William & Mary Archivist Jay Gaidmore, a picnic, and fellowship.

**BRING YOUR APPETITE & A DISH TO SHARE!**



JAY GAIDMORE has served as the Marian and Alan McLeod Director of the Special Collections Research Center in the William & Mary Libraries since July 1, 2013. He has been an archivist for over twenty years, having served as a Private Papers Archivist at the Library of Virginia, the University Archivist at Brown University, and the head of University Archives and Records Management Services at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He moved to Virginia from New Hampshire in 1995 to get his M.A. in History from Old Dominion University in Norfolk. He received his degree in 1999, writing his thesis on the Virginia Conservative Party of the 1960's, using the 20th century political papers at Swem Library. He then attended the University of South Carolina in Columbia for his Masters in Library and Information Sciences, specializing in digital libraries and digital preservation, graduating in December 2005.

He is a member of the Virginia State Historical Records Advisory Board, having been appointed by Governor Terry McAuliffe in 2015 and reappointed in 2018. He is also the current President of the Williamsburg Historic Records Association, an organization dedicated to the preservation of the post-colonial history of Williamsburg and the surrounding area.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have to admit I felt unprepared to write a final President's Message. It certainly doesn't feel like I've been President that long, but as I look back over the last several years (two terms of two years each) I guess it has been a little while. I am extremely proud of the Society's Board of Directors and our efforts to not just provide excellent meetings with interesting and engaging speakers, but to also care so passionately about protecting the county's past and sharing it with the present (and future) citizens of King William County and others. When I joined the board several years before, I was enamored with the museum. I was surprised that a small, rural county had such a delightful resource that exhibited both its passion and style. It is why I was happy to serve as a docent (and why I encourage all of you to do the same). I was least surprised, though, by quality of the people who made up our society, and especially the Board of Directors. Their efforts, and that of the Museum Council, remind me of what we can accomplish when we all work together.

I look into the rear view mirror and I see exciting moments and genuinely significant accomplishments. I am proud of our acquisition of the Lanesville Christadelphian Church through the generous gift of the late Carol Lee Walker, and its restoration and, very soon, placement on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register. I am encouraged by the continued support for the preservation of our county records, largely spurred on by the great documentation project conducted by Bibb Edwards, Anne Jackson, Lloyd Huckstep and others. I continue to be in wonder over the inspirational exhibit on the women of King William County, still on display at our museum and the hard work of Rebecca Townsend, Anne Jackson, and their core group of museum volunteers. And I'm sure I'm missing something else.

I look to the road ahead, though, and I am even more excited. Our push to see Acquinton Church placed on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register is underway, and potential improvements on the property to continue its use as a quality, inexpensive wedding venue and historic site. The Harry and Alma Coon Fund will greatly expand the number and type of opportunities for the society, and our board is busily considering the adventures this will support in 2018 and beyond. Whether our new website (coming very soon) or better storage capacity for our records, we have many great reasons to keep you involved and to grow our little society in the years ahead.

It is an honor to serve the society as its president, and I look forward to my role as "past president" over the next two years. I hope to see you at the next meeting when we vote to install new board members and move the King William County Historical Society to the next stage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. David A. Brown

President

King William Historical Society



## **Minutes of the King William County Historical Society Membership Meeting Sunday, April 15, 2018**

The Membership Meeting of the King William County Historical Society was held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 15, 2018 at the King William County Administration Building Boardroom. There were approximately 26 members and guests present.

President David Brown called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. and welcomed several new members and guests as well as the membership.

The Minutes of the January 21, 2018 Membership Meeting were approved as submitted.

Reporting for the Museum, Anne Jackson announced that she conducted a workshop and seven new docents were trained. The Museum now has enough docents to keep the Museum open on Sundays throughout the season. More docents are needed for Saturdays. The Museum hours are posted on the Facebook page.

Treasurer Ron Parker's report shows the following balances as of April 15, 2018.

Checking	\$5,851.20
Museum Savings CD	\$20,402.11
Church Maintenance	\$3,940.93
Wells Fargo Museum Investment	<u>\$126,645.71</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$156,839.95</b>

Unfinished Business: Carl Fisher reported that painting is underway at the Lanesville Christadelphian Church. The sign will be installed outside when the painting is finished. David Brown reported the Lanesville Christadelphian Church is on the agenda for the State Review Board Meeting in June 2018 and should be listed on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register at that time. Listing on the National Register of Historic Places should follow before the end of 2018.

New Business: David Brown reported that the Society's Facebook page now has 116 followers. The new website is under construction. David Brown noted the death of Dorothy Krewatch, a long time, active Society member. He announced the formation of a Nominating Committee for the upcoming election of Society officers and board members that will take place at the July 15, 2018 meeting. He encouraged all to volunteer to serve as an officer or Board member.

Patricia Haile introduced Mr. Charles Belfield who presented the program. Mr. Belfield, from Richmond County, is an officer in the James Monroe Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Richard Henry Lee Chapter of SAR, the Northern Neck Historical Society and the War of 1812 Society in Virginia. In the program, Mr. Belfield portrayed his ancestor Captain John Belfield who served with George Washington for three years as a scout and spy and was at Valley Forge. He walked home to the Northern Neck in 1779, passing through King William County bringing messages from local soldiers and news of the war. Mr. Belfield's authentic uniform and program are the result of ten years of research and study. He encouraged all to investigate their family history.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. after which the group enjoyed conversations with Mr. Belfield and each other and refreshments organized by Patricia Haile.

Respectfully submitted:

Fran Freimarck Secretary

## MUSEUM NEWS



The King William Museum is open Sundays from 1 PM - 5 PM  
and by prearranged appointment.

{We are closed for major holidays.}

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*Annual Membership expires twelve(12) months after your last dues payment.*

*Family..... \$30      Individual ..... \$20*

*Student ..... \$10      Lifetime ..... \$250*

*Artifact Level.....\$150+      Pamunkey /Mattaponi Level ..... \$300+*

*Thomas T.H. Hill Benefactor Level .....\$500+      Corporate Sponsorship .....\$500+*

*Mail to King William Historical Society, PO Box 233, King William, VA 23086*

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