# King William Historical Society Assuring Our Future By Preserving Our Past October 2016 Newsletter

Come join us for our next meeting on October 16th, 2016 at 2:30 pm at the Historic St John's Church. This will be a joint meeting with the King & Queen Historical Society

and the West Point speaker will be Director & Curator of Weems.
He will give an entitled "Church Revolutionary Immediately there will be a jazz



Historical Society. The Robert Teagle, Education of the Historic Christ Church

educational presentation and State In Colonial and Virginia". following this presentation trio concert at 4 pm.

Everyone is invited to attend the free concert [donations are encouraged].

### President's Message

There is a tremendous feeling of momentum with our society and the plans of the last few years are coming to fruition. The recent work at our newest property, the Lanesville Christadelphian Church, is not only documenting the past but preserving it for the future. It will serve as a future meeting venue for the society and will be open for special events, and hopefully open to the public in the future. Thanks to the hard work of Carl Fischer and Ron Parker, we are replacing rotten siding, removing shutters that needed repair, fixing the front door, and general maintenance to this historic building. Special improvements include the electrification of the beautiful chandeliers and the installation of an energy efficient HVAC system, which requires us bringing power to the building for the first time. We're excited to show off the progress, and will continue to provide updates on this important effort as the summer progresses and the fall season is upon us.

At our museum we are benefiting from the hard work of Rebecca Townsend and her mighty group of docents and museum board members. As they continue to spruce up old exhibits, fix some faulty electronics, and maintain our exquisite historic facility, they also look at further recognizing the important role of

women in our county's history. Expanding our recognition of King William's most significant individuals includes acknowledging the roles of Virginia Indians, African Americans and many other women who have gone without the attention they deserve. Their history is our history, too.

Don't forget that we are hosting the first joint meeting of the King & Queen, West Point, and King William County historical societies. Highlighted later in this newsletter, you will find a wonderful program hosted by Historic St. John's Church that will allow for our organizations to enjoy each other's company and share in our love of history. You'll also see highlighted our work with Rappahannock Community College and their Institute for Life Long Learning. We are lucky to have several historic museums in the county and look forward to continued investment and collaboration in preserving and sharing our region's history with our citizens and visitors to our county. Please consider reaching out to our own museum, at the King William County Courthouse, and get involved. The museum committee is looking for passionate history lovers and your efforts would not only help us keep our museum open and enjoyable by tourists to the county, but a resource for our own community to learn from. So get involved and help make a difference!

Dr. David A. Brown President, King William County Historical Society

# WANTED:

A Few Good People Needed To Accomplish Important
Historical Tasks!

King William County Museum needs docents --- contact Rebecca Townsend at <a href="mailto:1042jptownsend@gmail.com">1042jptownsend@gmail.com</a>.

**Bibb Edwards needs help to transcribe** two more volumes of "Caroline's Journals"-- email him at <u>BibbEdwards@mac.com</u>.

# Minutes of the King William County Historical Society Membership Meeting Sunday, July 17, 2016

The Membership Meeting of the King William Historical Society was called to order by President David Brown at 3:10 p.m. on Sunday, July 17, 2016 at the King William County Administrative Offices Board Room. Thirty two members and guests were present.

The Minutes of the April 17, 2016 Membership Meeting were approved as submitted.

The Treasurer's Report shows the following balances as of July 17, 2016:

 Checking
 \$ 14,447.65

 Museum Savings
 \$ 3,781.59

 Museum Savings CD
 \$ 20,049.31

 Church Maintenance
 \$ 40,920.87

 Wells Fargo Museum Fund
 \$113,054.86

 Total
 \$192,254.28

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Carl Fischer reported that 40% of the siding at the Lanesville Christadelphian Church was found to be rotted. The Society is replacing the siding, the back side first to allow for the electricity to be installed soon. The chandeliers are now wired for electricity. HVAC will be installed when the electricity is connected; the end of summer is the estimated date of completion of the electrical work. The siding work will continue through the end of the summer.

#### **New Business:**

David Brown reported the Society will hold a joint meeting with the King and Queen County Historical Society and the West Point Historical Society on Sunday, October 16 at 2:30 p.m. at Historic St. John's Church.

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2016/17 year.

President: David Brown Secretary: Fran Freimarck

Corresponding Secretary: Anne Jackson

Treasurer: Ron Parker

Board Members: Robbie Moran, Patricia Haile, and Sally Pearson

The slate was elected as presented.

President Brown thanked the Nominating Committee for their work and outgoing board members for their efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. after which all enjoyed an indoor picnic and fellowship.

Respectfully Submitted: Fran Freimarck, Secretary

Please consider attending the Fall 2016 Rappahannock Institute for Life Long Learning (RILL) Course at Rappahannock Community College entitled: "The Fascinating History of King William County: Churches, Historic Homes, and the Oldest Continuously Active Courthouse in Virginia." It will be held on early afternoons Wednesdays, October 26, November 2, and November 9. The instructors are Dr. David

Brown and Thane of the King William and Museum, and Rebecca

The course description is history of King William remarkable religious, buildings, spanning the early 20th century. These the community, connecting historic fabric and landscape. This course on County through several of St. Johns, Acquinton, and Church, and historic iconic political center: the



Harpole with the support County Historical Society specifically Carl Fischer Townsend.

as follows: The fascinating County is preserved in its political, and domestic early 18th century through the landmarks are touchstones for all of us to the past through the surrounding the history of King William its historic churches, including the Lanesville Christadelphian houses, as well as the county's oldest continuously active

courthouse in Virginia. Beginning with a tour of the courthouse and the King William County Historical Society Museum, each day will include multiple site visits and tours, incorporating recent archaeological discoveries, historical research, and landscape analyses which are altering how we interpret the past and how we preserve these significant places for future generations. Brown and Harpole received their undergraduate degrees from the College of William and Mary and have conducted archaeological research and outreach in Gloucester County since 1994. Both are founding members of the Werowocomoco Research Group and attended the graduate program in Historical Archaeology at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. They are the co-directors of The Fairfield Foundation in Gloucester County. Dr. Brown recently completed his dissertation at the College of William and Mary in history. Contact Sharon Drotleff and she can connect you with all the information on the course as well as sign up information. Her email is sdrotleff@rappahannock.edu.

#### → WANTED!!!WOMEN OF DISTINCTION!

The King William Historical Museum is searching for women who were either born or lived in King William County. The objective is to recognize King William County Women who have contributed to the success of our county, state, nation and the world. All legitimate information will be collected for the Museum archives.

From the Nominations, the Museum will develop an exhibit in it's "great room" dedicated to outstanding women in King William County. See our website for contact information Or mail the following:

Your name: phone:
email
Snail mail
WOMAN NOMINATION:
Name of Nominee
Birth dateDeath dateOR
approximate era of lifetime
Major area of contribution (ex. Arts, household skills, medicine, education, business, politics, public/social serviceetc.)

Documentation....(Please enclose copies of letters, newspaper/ online articles, family lore, Family bibles, etc., when appropriate.)

Do you have artifacts that may be borrowed for the exhibit? [Please elaborate]

All nominations are due in to the Museum, No later than November 31, 2016. Contact us at <a href="mailto:kwhm@kingwilliamhistory.org">kwhm@kingwilliamhistory.org</a>. Or P.O. Box 233, King Wm., Va. 23086 Or call 804-769- 9619.

The Exhibit will be completed for the March Museum opening.

The KWHM does not discriminate by race, color, creed, religion, age, disability, or gender... Although the museum welcomes information of all types, this exhibit will focus only on deceased feminine nominations.

## Treasurer's Notes

The **Edwards Family** of King William County recently held its **87th** family reunion. Resultant of this reunion, a \$50 donation was made this year to the King William County Historical Society Museum.

Just a reminder that your Annual Membership expires twelve(12) months after your last dues payment, so if you haven't paid in the past year, please send in your dues to remain a member.

Individual...... \$20 Student ...... \$10

Family ...... \$30 Lifetime ...... \$250

Donor Levels:

\$150 and above: Artifact Level

\$300 and above: Pamunkey /Mattaponi Level \$500 and above: Thomas T.H. Hill Benefactor Level

\$500 and above: Corporate Sponsorship

<u>Mail to</u>: King William Historical Society

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