



# Preserving Yesterday Enriches Tomorrow



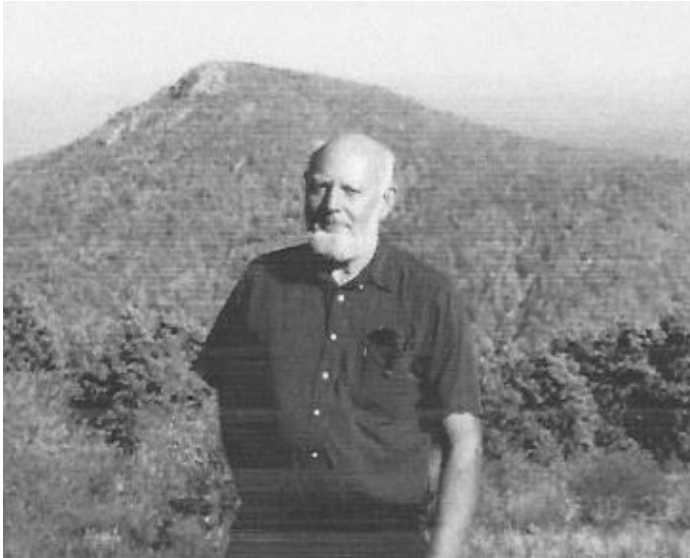
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[http:// www.madisonvahistoricalsociety.org/](http://www.madisonvahistoricalsociety.org/)

P.O. Box 467, Madison, Virginia 22727

May 2014

## HISTORY OF THE MENNONITE COMMUNITY AT MAY MEETING



Elmer V. Miller Jr.

Our speaker for the May 18<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting of the Madison County Historical Society will be Mr. Elmer V. Miller, Jr. and the topic of his talk will be the history of the Mennonite Community in Madison County which began in 1957. Mr. Miller himself arrived in 1960 and is a mason by trade.

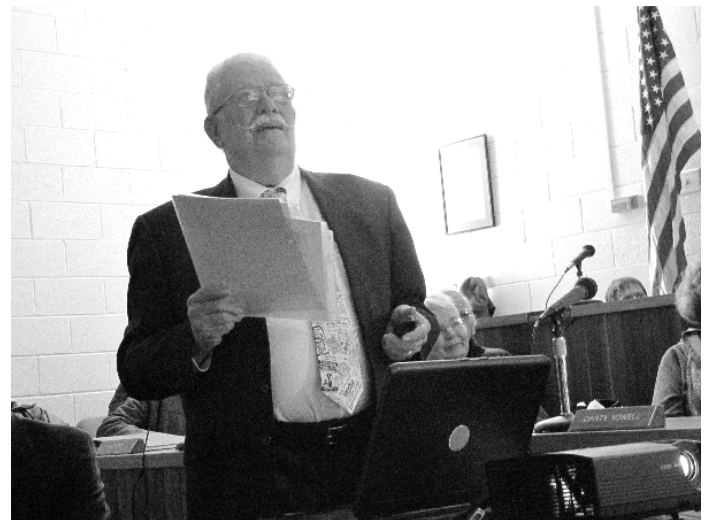
A group of Anabaptists broke from the Protestant and Catholic ranks in 1525 in Switzerland and in 1536 a former Dutch Catholic priest, Menno Simons, joined their ranks rising to a leadership position and the church eventually became called Mennonites, after him. To avoid persecution, Swiss German Mennonites migrated to the United States in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, first settling in Pennsylvania and then moving to the Midwest states. Mennonites are found throughout the

world but the largest concentrations are in the United States and Canada. Mennonites believe the Bible is divinely inspired and that Jesus Christ died on the cross to save humanity from its sins.

Mr. Miller will tell us about the Mennonite Church from before Madison but will concentrate on the history of the Madison Mennonite Community and time will be allowed for the audience to ask questions. This should be quite an interesting presentation as the Mennonite community is very active and well known in Madison County.

The meeting will be held in the county administrative offices auditorium at 2:00pm Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to attend and refreshments will be provided in the Kemper residence next door following the presentation.

## MAX LACY PRESENTER AT FEBRUARY MEETING



Max Lacy

Our speaker at the very well attended February 16<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting was Maxwell Lacy,

Madison County native and fourth generation Lacy postmaster at Oak Park. Beginning in 1866, Mr. Lacy's great grandmother, grandfather, father and he himself have served as Postmasters at Oak Park so he has acquired much history of this institution and long been a part of it himself.

The presentation was "Madison County Post Offices Then and Now," a history of County Post Offices since the county was formed in 1792. In the power point presentation Maxwell showed us pictures of Post Offices that no longer exist as well as those which still exist in Madison County along with post marks from each and other items of interest from these Post Offices where available. He also had on hand for guests to view a list of all Postmasters who have served in Madison County to date. It was very informative and fun to see pictures of these places, some of which no longer exist, particularly for those who have lived here and conducted business at these Post Offices which have been such a central part of County life for generations. The question and answer session which followed the presentation reflected the interest of the guests.

## **BOARD HONORS PAST PRESIDENT BILL SCHOLTEN**



Bill and Bertha Scholten

Society Board members met on Friday, March 7 to honor Bill and Bertha Scholten and thank Bill for his many, many years of service and leadership to the Society. He began as a board member for the Madison Heritage Foundation as early as 1998 and was on the board when that organization evolved into the current Madison Historical Society in 1999 under the leadership of President Rita Cunningham. Bill became

Vice-President in 2004, Co-President (with Jane Volchansky) in 2008, and President in 2009. During his tenure, he has also served as Treasurer and Chief Maintenance Man for the Kemper Mansion and Arcade and volunteered to help out in every capacity. No wonder that board members began to quake when it dawned on them that Bill really meant it when he said it was time for him to turn the reins over to new leadership. Thanks to Max Lacy for stepping up to meet this challenge!

## **IN MEMORIAM: DONALD D. STRODE**



Don Strode documenting a site in 2000

Donald D. Strode, formerly of Malvern, died at age 91 on March 25, 2014 at Kendal in Lexington, VA, where he and his wife, Julia, moved in 2005. Julia predeceased Don by several years, and while her loss was exceedingly difficult for him, he created around himself a community of friends, was sustained by a large and loving family, and remained proud of his research legacy that has changed our understanding of Native American history in the Central Piedmont. A retired wildlife biologist with the U.S. Forest Service, Don was known to MCHS members as a tireless collector of Native American artifacts. I am fortunate to have attended his funeral in Lexington on March 29, along with Maury Hanson, former MCHS President and resident of Kendal. Don's memorial service included many references to his and Julia's time in Madison and his love of the outdoors – and of course, his artifact collection.

**"It's not what you find; it's what you find out."**

I spent many, many hours with Don and Julia (who always fed me) while working on my doctoral dissertation on the Native American archaeology of Madison County. I knew of Don's interests when we started the Madison Archaeology Project (MAP) in 1990, and the MCHS committee invited him to be a founding member of that undertaking. What we didn't know at the time was how many artifacts he had found – over 10,000. Asking permission of local landowners, Don walked plowed fields and collected an extensive sample of surface artifacts from twenty-nine sites in Madison County. Just when we thought we had inventoried all the artifacts, he would invariably find another box that needed attention. I will always remember the look of consternation/amusement on Julia's face when Don would remember there was something else to see.

As a trained field scientist, Don recognized the importance of documenting this evidence as part of the heritage of the County. While we enjoyed going through the artifacts and visiting the sites, we would say to each other, "It's not what you find; it's what you find out." Because Don meticulously documented the collection, it is possible to associate almost all of the artifacts with the site from which they came. He was contributing to scientific research by pasting onto 96.5% of the 10,000 artifacts a small letter designating the site and tied to maps he'd made. That time-consuming, remarkable act of sitting at a manual typewriter, typing a capital letter over and over (imagine A A A A A A A A for the 500 artifacts from Site A!), cutting them out, and pasting them onto each artifact, made all the difference. Don's devotion created a study collection that will continue to make great contributions to the discipline of archaeology.

Don and Julia donated The Donald Strode Collection to the Madison County Historical Society in 2004; today, that collection is on repository at the Arcade, along with an exhibit that shows how the work will benefit research and heritage. Ranging in age from ca. 13,000 to 400 years old, the artifacts tell researchers critical information about each site: when it was occupied; what kinds of activities took place there; and where the Native people had been prior to coming to the site. In addition, archaeologists can compare site locations to understand a larger picture of the long-term Native settlement of the county:

what kinds of sites were occupied during specific periods; the preferred locations for sites; group boundaries; and changes in overall lifestyle.

#### **What's included in the Collection?**

The Strode Collection is comprised primarily of stone objects, as these tend to survive in our temperate climate (while organic artifacts decompose quickly). Included are:

- \*formal chipped stone tools (spear points and arrowheads, knives, scrapers, drills, graters, awls);
- \*expedient (one-time use) stone tools;
- \*cores of rock that were transported for tool manufacture;
- \*debitage (waste flakes from tool manufacture) and hammer stones (used for chipping flakes from cores);
- \*ground stone tools (axes, adzes, pestles, grinding stones, nutting stones, wedges, atlatl weights, and steatite bowl fragments).

The collection also includes a handful of stone ceremonial objects, including gorget fragments (pendants), a chunky stone fragment (game piece), and carved stone smoking pipe fragments.

In addition, Don collected pottery sherds from some of the sites. Prior to his work, only three pottery-bearing sites were known for the county; now, we have information on twenty such sites. Pottery was first made by Native people in the Virginia Piedmont around 3000 years ago and is a marker of a more sedentary, horticultural way of life.

#### **A Final Gift**

Upon Don's passing, the Strode family asked that the donations in his memory be made to MCHS to maintain the Donald Strode Collection of Native American Artifacts. I know Don would have liked that, and we are grateful to the Strodes for thinking of this. I miss my friend and fellow researcher, and I hope that we will always remember what he left Madison County.

*(Contributed by Carole Nash, Ph.D., RPA, Assistant Professor, Department of Integrated Science and Technology, James Madison University)*

## **ARCADE NEWS**

This past winter, while the Arcade was closed, was spent cleaning out a closet and going through old Madison County Eagles. We cut out Madison obituaries which are being put into alphabetical



order by volunteer Ruth Penn. We also cut out some articles we thought would be interesting for our research files.

We will be publishing small articles in the Newsletter which we think will be of interest to our members. These first 3 are from the Feb. 1934 Eagle

son.

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**OAK PARK SCHOOL**

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**Honor Roll**

First grade—Ervel Carpenter,  
Third grade—Catherine Johnson.

**Perfect Attendance**

Ervel Carpenter, Mary Beahm,  
Edward Marshall, Tommy Childs,  
John Beahm, Hilda Marshall,  
Louise Peacher and Virginia Peacher.

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**GRAVES MILL SCHOOL**

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**Honor Roll**

First grade—Cilistine Hawkins.  
Second grade—Leon Hawkins.  
Third grade—Morris Breeden.  
Seventh grade—Anna Berry.

**Perfect Attendance**

Dona Graves, Louise Jenkins,  
Bernice McDaniel, Clarence Shiflett,  
Leon Hawkins, Jimmy Hawkins and Ernest Shiflett.



**"THESE THIRTY YEARS"**

A picture filled with excitement, delightful romance, thrills and fun.

Presented by the Ford Motor Company.

At  
Central Theater

SATURDAY NIGHT, FEB. 15TH.  
Two Shows—7:30 p. m. and 9 p. m.  
No Admission

**EDDINS MOTOR CO.**  
Madison, Virginia

**STARTING WORK ON NEW BRIDGE ON ROUTE 29**

Work started Tuesday morning on construction of the new bridge over the Robinson river on Route 29, one and one-half miles north of Madison. Eight men commenced grading, building tool houses, sheds, etc. It is planned to add more men to the job until the number reaches about 30.

Rhoades & Walters, of Culpeper and Orange, contractors at \$29,-804.80, have 90 days to finish the work.

The bridge will be about 100 yards below the present site and is so located as to cross the river in a straight line from the hills on both sides. It will be of concrete, 193 feet long, with approaches and new roadway approximating 1½ miles.

## UPCOMING EVENT: GERMANNA

On Friday afternoon July 18, 2014, the Kemper Mansion will be a featured stop on the Germanna Foundation's annual tour of the areas in Culpeper, Fauquier, and Madison Counties where the early Germans settled. Unlike past years when one bus explored First Colony territory and the other the Second Colony land here in Madison, this time there will be one Germanna Heritage Tour that incorporates both areas. Several things make this a special year. 2014 marks the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Colony (2017 is the anniversary year for the Second Colony.), and the Foundation will be hosting approximately thirty Germans who want to see the areas where their relatives settled when they came to Virginia. The Kemper residence is special because James Lawson Kemper was a First Colony descendant who settled in Second Colony territory. Look for three tour busses to arrive in Madison about 3:30 pm on July 18.

The Germanna group will also be at the Madison Fire Hall for a BBQ dinner on Friday, July 18, before heading to Hebron Lutheran Church for an evening event. This program, starting at approximately 8:00 PM, is free and open to the public. John Blankenbaker and Douglas Harnsberger will speak briefly about the history and construction of Hebron Church, and a Germanna descendant will play the Tannenberg organ.

The Madison Historical Society will have a table at the Vendor Hall at the Germanna conference on Saturday, July 19. This event is held at Germanna Community College's Daniel Center in Culpeper. We welcome volunteers to staff this table as well as greet our guests at Kemper on Friday. Contact the Society at 540-948-5488 or [madisonhistory@verizon.net](mailto:madisonhistory@verizon.net) to let us know that you can help.

For additional information about Germanna reunion events, go to [www.Germanna.org](http://www.Germanna.org).

## SPRING TEA A BIG SUCCESS



Attendees enjoy spring tea

Once again, the Spring Tea was a resounding success, bringing together some guests who were new to the event along with stalwart supporters who rarely miss one of the semi-annual teas. The proceeds added almost \$800 to the Society's income.

We too rarely thank those responsible for making the teas-- and income to the Society-- possible. As you may know, this generous and loyal group prepares and donates all the food, time after time, so income from guests goes directly to Society projects.

Pam and Bob Krause, of Rochelle, have been part of this team almost from the beginning, eleven years ago. Their daughter Meredith, who lives in Northern Virginia, takes a vacation day twice a year to be a part of this group, just because she enjoys it and wants to help. This year, her husband, John, came to lend a hand, and it was a huge help to have sets of strong, younger legs and hands!

Maryvonne Longley, Kay Reiss and Heidi Sage have helped host the events for most of the successful run of the Kemper Teas. Valuable assistance is provided each time by Jill Schreiner and Bill Scholten, who lend their talented hands in several ways.

If you have not attended one of our teas, you are missing out on one of Madison's most popular events. They are an enjoyable way to have a relaxing lunch with friends, in a lovely historic setting, while benefiting Madison County Historical Society. Plan now to join us for the Fall tea, scheduled for Wednesday, October 1, 2014.

## MEMBERSHIP

We would like to welcome the following new members to the Society since the last newsletter:

Rosa Page  
Donald Murray  
David & Anne Jenkins  
John & Jill Quinley  
Linda Yurinak  
Randy & Sharon Soderquist

We are happy to have you with us and hope you have a rewarding membership experience.

## NEW SIGN BOARD FOR ARCADE



New sign

Recently Jim Lilliard was at the Great Deals retail store in Brightwood and noticed that they build easels. He asked about a sandwich board for the Arcade Museum. Dave Holt is the

manager and Jim described what was needed and the message for the board. He not only agreed to build one but donated it to the museum. The new board has been picked up and it is now in use. . The sign looks great and is a great ad for the museum open hours.

Thanks to Dave Holt at **GREAT DEALS** for his generous donation.

## ARCADE TO OPEN ON SATURDAYS IN THE SUMMER

The Historical Society is pleased to announce that in addition to its weekday schedule the Arcade will also be open on Saturdays during the summer months this year beginning with the Saturday after Memorial Day and ending with the Saturday before Labor Day. Madison County citizens, who previously could not visit the Museum because of a weekday work schedule, can now take advantage of the Saturday summer openings. Weekend visitors to Madison County will also have an opportunity to enjoy the history and heritage of the county as well as the Native American artifacts. They may find the pictures and history of the families displaced by the Shenandoah Park of particular interest.

## MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON FACEBOOK

The Society now has a presence on Facebook. We will try and post information and events on Facebook whenever possible. Please "like" us on Facebook when you get a chance. The web address for the page is:

[www.facebook.com/madisonvahistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/madisonvahistoricalsociety)

## MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY GIFT SHOP PRICE LIST

These items may be purchased at the Society Museum in the Arcade  
building. You may order  
by calling 540-948-5488 or sending an email to  
<[madisonhistory@verizon.net](mailto:madisonhistory@verizon.net)>.  
Mail orders will be charged tax and S & H.

ITEM	Price	Tax	Total
Society Ornament – any year	\$5.00	\$0.26	\$5.26
Jamestown Medallion Key Chain	\$5.00	\$0.26	\$5.26
<b>BOOKS</b>			
Images of America: Madison County	\$21.95	\$1.15	\$23.10
Adopted Son By Greg Glassner	\$12.00	\$0.63	\$12.63
Madison County, A Revised History By Margaret Davis	\$15.00	\$0.79	\$15.79
Madison County Land Grants 1722-1865 By Dewey Lillard	\$25.00	\$1.31	\$26.31
Shenandoah National Park and its Neighbors	\$21.99	\$1.15	\$23.14
President and Mrs. Hoover's Rapidan Camp	\$1.00	\$0.05	\$1.05
Ask for Nothing By Maxine Weaver Crane	\$18.00	\$0.95	\$18.95
A Sky-Line Drive by Reed Engle	\$16.95	\$0.89	\$17.84
Everything Was Wonderful by Reed Engle	\$16.95	\$0.89	\$17.84
Light of the Mtn. Moon by Reed Engle	\$16.95	\$0.89	\$17.84
In the Shadow of Ragged Mountain By Audrey Horning	\$16.95	\$0.89	\$17.84
The Dean Mtn. Story by Gloria Dean	\$5.50	\$0.29	\$5.79
Shenandoah Secrets by C & J Reeder	\$13.95	\$0.73	\$14.68
Shenandoah NP Undying Past By Darwin Lambert	\$19.95	\$1.05	\$21.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Driving Tour of Madison County	\$5.00	\$0.26	\$5.26
Madison County Almanac 1907	\$4.50	\$0.24	\$4.74
Madison County Directory 1896	\$4.50	\$0.24	\$4.74
Bicentennial Plate	\$10.00	\$0.53	\$10.53
1776 Map Culpeper, Madison, Rappahannock	\$10.00	\$0.53	\$10.53
Note Cards (Arcade) - per package	\$1.00	\$0.05	\$1.05
Note Cards – Photos by Martha Cornwell	\$1.25	\$0.07	\$1.32
Legacy of the Land note cards, series 1	\$15.00	\$0.79	\$15.79
Legacy of the Land note cards, series 2	\$15.00	\$0.79	\$15.79
Sheet Music – Madison Song	\$1.25	\$0.07	\$1.32
Madison County Calendar - any year	\$2.00	\$0.11	\$2.11
Twelve Generation Family Charts	\$4.00	\$0.21	\$4.21
Cemetery CD	\$10.00	\$0.53	\$10.53
Jack's Shop CD Set	\$20.00	\$1.06	\$21.06

The Madison County Historical Society is a non-profit organization founded and operated for the perpetuation and preservation of Madison County heritage and traditions. The mission of the Society is to record, preserve, and stimulate interest in the history of Madison County, its families, occupations and way of life.

Memberships expire at the end of the calendar year. Membership and other contributions to the Society are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Types of Membership:

Sustainer.....	\$500 or more	Business	\$50
Benefactor	\$250 to \$499	Family	\$30
Partner	\$100 to \$249	Single	\$20
Friend	\$50 to \$99	Student	\$5

Membership applications are available at the Arcade and the Kemper Residence, and on-line at the Society's web page - [www.madisonvahistoricalociety.org](http://www.madisonvahistoricalociety.org). (Click on "ABOUT US", and then on "application"). For more information call the Society Office at 540-948-5488. Please leave a message if no one answers. We will return your call. You can also email us at [madisonhistory@verizon.net](mailto:madisonhistory@verizon.net).

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