



# Preserving Yesterday Enriches Tomorrow



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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

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P.O. Box 467, Madison, Virginia 22727

(540) 948-5488

February 2016

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## SOCIETY MEETING FEBRUARY 21, 2016



Matt Reeves

The speaker for the February 21, 2016 Madison County Historical Society quarterly meeting will be Matthew Reeves, Ph.D., Director of Archaeology and Landscape Restoration at James Madison's Montpelier in Orange, Virginia. The subject of his presentation will be the restoration of the plantation landscape at Montpelier. Matt's specialty is sites of the African Diaspora including plantation and freedmen period sites, and Civil War sites. Over the past fifteen years at Montpelier, he has enjoyed and been fascinated with the excavation of two plantation complexes of the Madison family, locating through survey dozens of Civil War encampments, slave quarters, mill sites and work areas. Most recently his department's work on a four year study excavating the

remains of slave homes at Montpelier has yielded very detailed information on the homes of enslaved individuals dating to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Dr. Reeves has worked on plantation sites in the Caribbean, Maryland and Virginia. He grew up in Fairfax, Virginia and received his doctorate from Syracuse University. For his dissertation, Matt researched and excavated two early 19<sup>th</sup> century slave settlements in the center of the island of Jamaica. In his work over the past two decades, he has maintained a focus on finding ways to engage the public through archaeology, most specifically descendant groups.

The meeting will be held in the County Administrative Offices auditorium at 2pm Sunday February 21<sup>st</sup>. Everyone is invited to attend and refreshments will be served following the presentation.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

Members of the Society will elect four members to the Board of Directors at the general membership meeting scheduled for February 21, 2016. The Board consists of twelve members, each serving staggered three-year terms, so that four memberships expire each year. Article IV, Section 3. Of the Society's By-Laws states:

*The Board of Directors shall be elected by the general membership. One third of the Board shall be elected at the first designated regular membership meeting of the calendar year. A Nominating Committee shall nominate members.*

*Nominations may also be made from the floor. Any one so nominated must have agreed in writing to serve prior to the nomination. A Board member whose term has expired may be re-elected.*

As noted above, in addition to nominations by the nominating committee, a member can run for a seat on the Board by submitting his or her desire in writing prior to the general membership meeting. These can be submitted to a current Board member or by mailing them to the Society at P.O. Box 467, Madison, VA.

The current members of the Board are as follows, with the year of their term expiration in parentheses: Maxwell Lacy (2016), Pat Lattin (2016), Carole Milks (2016), Roger Schreiner (2016), Marise Craig (2017), Rosa Page (2017), Sandy Stowe (2017), Beppy White (2017), Penn Bowers (2018), Martha Breeden (2018), Jean Busboso (2018) and Judy Mahanes (2018).

The full content of the By-Laws can be accessed on the Society's web page at:

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

## **MINORITIES IN THE MILITARY**

The speaker for the November 22, 2015 quarterly meeting was Teresa Roane, Archivist/Librarian for the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The topic of her talk was Minorities in the Confederate Military: Combat Support. Though books about slavery are numerous, not many books have been devoted to the topic of Free People of Color. The most suppressed history remains Persons of Color in the Confederate Military. Historians did not consider people of color as part of the army but people of mixed ethnicity both slave and free, were the hidden people of the Confederate Army. About a quarter million free people of color lived in the South and they made significant contributions. They are truly the forgotten people but evidence of their existence lives on in documents throughout the South. In spite of much documentation, many do not believe that people of color were actually part of the Confederate States Army and historians have tried their best to marginalize combat support partly because they do not understand logistics or how an army operates.

There was a hire out system where slaves were rented to others and shared wages with their owners; a slave could possibly buy his freedom.

Many enlisted and received a bonus for doing so. They were musicians, teamsters, cooks (both men and women), and laundresses. These support people were paid more than white privates and many who were captured were exchanged for imprisoned Union soldiers.

They were considered part of the army, were pensioners after the war and welcome at reunions. Very interesting that the Confederate military was integrated but the U.S. military was segregated.

Ms. Roane has done extensive research on this most interesting subject. She is a most entertaining speaker and her presentation was enlightening and informative.

## **A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

It seems like it went too fast, but 2015 is over. I just want to thank the Board and all of the many volunteers for the wonderful things they did this past year. We are still looking for more space, but some good ideas are being discussed; perhaps 2016 is the year that we get it done.

A special thanks to Jim Lillard for taking the Monument Project and running with it. Other people had a hand in it, but it took his dedication to get it done on time. I was very impressed with the turnout at the Dedication, and thanks to all who had a hand in it.

Thanks to all of the groups that helped with the various things that were done this past year. The Servant House looks great with all of the furnishings done by the Questers. The Historical Teas as the Kemper House were a great success as usual thanks to Mary Haught and her Tea Ladies. The garden at the Arcade was wonderfully kept, thanks to the Garden Club.

Thanks to Candace Fountain for getting the Loom in working order. She has some fine tuning to do before it is ready to exhibit. The Questers are looking for a bench, which will make it easier to operate.

A heartfelt thanks is given to the Officers and project chairs for the many things that got done during the year. The Kemper House was a huge hit during "The Taste of The Mountains", as we had lots more visitors than normal.

I look forward to the many things that we anticipate getting done during 2016.

Max Lacy

President, Madison Historical Society

## 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COLONIAL DAYS DEMONSTRATION

We held our 5<sup>th</sup> annual colonial Days Demonstrations on November 24, 2015 at Waverly Yowell School. We had six different demonstrations that were very much enjoyed by the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students.

Melondy Phillips from Orange explained the process necessary to tan and make things from deer hides. She always lets the students feel some of the different stages that she uses. A lot of the students can relate to the deer as they see plenty of them now.

Clyde Jenkins from Stanley demonstrated the art of basket making. He shows the whole process from splitting the wood to putting the basket together. The students always enjoy what he does. He always has helpers with him and that gives the students some hands on experience.

Pauline Racer and Frances Lacy demonstrated the quilting process. The students get to put some patches together and see what it takes to make quilts. Pauline always brings some finished quilts for the students to see and feel.

Steve Hoffman demonstrated the art of Shingle Making. He always brings old shingles with him and he is so good at telling tales, etc. that the students enjoy his presentation. He also brings lots of old tools with him and explains their uses.

Katie Gigliotti, one of the teachers at Waverly Yowell, demonstrated the art of paper making. This is always very interesting to the students. The other demonstrators also enjoy seeing her work. It is nice to have one of the teachers involved with our program.

We had a new demonstration this year from The Burgandine House (the oldest house in Culpeper) in which early travel and cooking was demonstrated. Susan Williams and David Reeves told the students about what it was like to travel during Colonial times and they showed them how cooking was done with what you had, because sometimes food was scarce. The girls were told that they should wear dresses, as during Colonial times the girls wore dresses from the time they were born until they died. The students had the opportunity to sample the stew that was made from what they had. Most of them enjoyed the stew.

The students this year were one of the best behaved groups we have had in the 5 years. It is fun to watch the youngsters as they learn.

## PIECES OF THE PAST



Madison County's First Bank

"The First Bank of Madison" had neither a strong steel vault nor tellers. In fact, it didn't have walls, a door, or a roof.

In the mid-1720s, when immigrants from the Germanna colony (in what then was Spotsylvania County) moved to the Robinson River Valley in present-day Madison County, their collective wealth was kept in a stout camelback trunk constructed in Germany just for that purpose.

The trunk—35 inches long, 21 inches wide, and standing 20 inches high—is bound with two iron straps and has a keyhole for what appears to have been a stout lock.

The German settlers, who in 1740 built the still-in-use Hebron Lutheran Church, each year elected a treasurer to manage the trunk and its contents—in essence serving as the community's banker.

Mrs. Phillip Morrison purchased the trunk from a Mr. Hoffman, a grandson of the last man to serve as treasurer. In 1980 she donated it to the Madison County Historical Society.

## MEMBERSHIP

We have several new members this quarter.

Steven A. Colvin

JoAnn Aylor Halaby

Kristie Kendall

Mitchell H. & Barbara V. Bernstein

Cindy Taylor & Joe Myers

Sharon Koehn

Anne Meade & Harold Faulconer  
Rea & Linda Brown

Welcome to the Society.

Remember that Society membership is a wonderful gift any time of the year. A copy of the Society membership application can be obtained at the following link:

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

Applications can also be obtained at the Arcade or by mailing a request to the Society.

For those that have renewed your membership for 2016, many thanks. Society dues are our major source of income.

## THANKS TO MADISON QUESTERS



Furnished interior

The Madison Questers have been a long time supporter of the Historical Society. They have been involved with many past Society projects, funding restoration of a doll and knife discovered on the property. They provided funds for the restoration of the Servant's Quarters' chimney including obtaining a matching \$3000.00 grant from Questers International. They have recently completed furnishing these quarters and are now in the process of furnishing General Kemper's law office. For their valuable assistance the Society is most grateful.



The Madison chapter was founded in September of 2006. It is part of the larger Questers International organization which can be found in 41 states as well as provinces in Canada. The organization is dedicated to appreciating, preserving and restoring antiques.

To fund these projects the Questers hold an annual fundraiser called "Games Day Luncheon". This year's event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at the Madison Presbyterian Church. You can obtain further information from Sue Riley at 540-923-4292. The Society hopes you will support the Questers' endeavors.

## ARCADE NEWS

During the winter closing volunteers are making plans for changing some of the displays in the museum. Jane Volchansky and Beppy White are entering acquisitions into the database and preparing them for storage. Our general information files are being organized into improved categories so that they will be more easily accessible to visitors.

Our genealogy files have been organized. We depend on private citizens to donate their family histories for our files so please consider doing this.

We are adding some new books to our sale rack and investigating new gift items.

If you have ever thought of being a museum volunteer, we hope you will come by or email us at [madisonhistory@verizon.net](mailto:madisonhistory@verizon.net). We really need to have 2 volunteers on duty each day we are open. Some days are very busy and some are very quiet. On quiet days you will have a chance to do some reading and studying on

Madison history. This is a fun and dedicated group.

Following a thorough cleaning we will reopen on March 1, 2016. Arcade Museum hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

## SPRING TEA SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>

In spite of current chilly temperatures, thoughts have already turned to preparations for the Spring Luncheon Tea scheduled for 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 30, 2016, at the Kemper Residence. Reservations are being accepted now from members of the Historical Society and friends. If spaces are still available, the public will be offered the opportunity to attend after March 1<sup>st</sup>.

As has become the custom, we will offer a varied menu beginning with warm scones served with homemade lemon curd, tea sandwiches and tempting sweets, accompanied by unlimited pourings of delicious Kemper House tea.


"In March, the weather may still be on the cool side, and enjoying this popular lunchtime experience in a warm, historic setting at the Kemper Residence is a perfect way to welcome Spring," said Mary Haight, tea coordinator.

You can enjoy this generous menu of tasty goodies for a \$25 donation to the Madison County Historical Society. The food is prepared, donated and served by volunteers, so all proceeds are contributions to support projects of the Society.

To secure your place, call 547-4398 and leave a message with your name, telephone number and the number of reservations you are requesting. You will receive a return call to confirm. We welcome singles or groups up to six. You may also call the number above with questions, or email [tealady@madisonvahistoricalsociety.org](mailto:tealady@madisonvahistoricalsociety.org). In response to many requests, we will offer varying

sized containers of popular Kemper House Tea for your own enjoyment or for gifts.

## BLUE RIDGE MEMORIAL DEDICATION DAY



Madison Blue Ridge Heritage Memorial Dedication  
Criglersville, Virginia  
Sunday November 8, 2015 ~ 2pm

PROGRAM	
Gathering Music	Hurt Holler Band
Greeting	Max Lacy
Invocation	Henry Daniel Aylor
Opening Remarks	Max Lacy
Greetings from Board Of Supervisors	Clay Jackson, Vice Chair
Greetings from 30th District of VA Delegate	Ed Scott
Greetings From Director of Tourism	Tracey Gardner
Introduction of Speaker	Bill Henry, Blue Ridge Heritage Project
Speaker	Jim Lillard
Unveiling of Monument	Alvin Meadows and Culton Goodall
Closing Remarks	Max Lacy
Benediction	Henry Daniel Aylor
Refreshments	

### Dedication Day program

Dedication day dawned clear and beautiful. The hundreds who poured into the old Criglersville school parking lot enjoyed music by The Hurt Holler Band and refreshments provided by Historical Society members. There were several speakers including Sue Eisenfeld, author of *Shenandoah*, who held a book signing.

At last the Mountain Memorial was unveiled by two of Madison's oldest citizens Culton Goodall and Alvin Meadows. On the front of a beautiful stone chimney built by Daryl and Jackie Whidby with help from Jim Lillard and his wife Linda, is a bronze plaque with the names of the Madison families who were moved from the mountains to create Shenandoah National Park.

There are too many people to thank by name but Jim Lillard and Linda were the driving forces behind the creation of this memorial. Many enjoyed Linda's scrapbooks with pictures of the whole endeavor from start to finish.

## A black and white photograph showing a group of approximately 15 people, mostly women, gathered in a wooded area. They are standing around a large, dark, rectangular object that appears to be a piece of equipment or a large box. The background features a line of trees and a hillside. The scene is outdoors, and the lighting suggests it might be late afternoon or early morning.



Blue Ridge Heritage Project  
Madison County Historical Society

Timeline for Establishment of the Memorial at Criglersville

February 2012	Premiere presentation of Jim Lillard's "Mountain Memories" at the quarterly meeting of the Madison County Historical Society. (Jim subsequently gave the presentation to numerous groups within and beyond Madison County.)
2013	Jim Lillard kept the MCHS Board up-to-date on his involvement with BRHP.
June 2014	Jim attended a MCHS Board meeting to ask the Society to create a fund within its accounting to hold funds donated for a memorial in Madison County. The Board approved this request, and the fund was established.
June 29, 2014	Public meeting in Madison to introduce citizens to BRHP and plans for a memorial within the county. Bill Henry and Jim Lillard spoke and fielded questions from the audience.
July 31, 2014	The Madison County <i>Eagle</i> published two articles (one by Kit Johnston, one by a reporter) about displacement and the project.
August 2014	Jim distributed flyers and talked to attendees at the Hoover Day celebration in Madison. (It was at this event that the project came to the attention of Marc Wheat, President of the Germanna Foundation.)
August 2014	An article about the project and ways to contribute money appeared in the MCHS newsletter.
Fall 2014	Jim displayed a portable memorial sign and distributed information sheets at numerous meetings and at the two Holiday Markets at the Madison Fire House.
April 2015	The Madison County Board of Supervisors approved erection of a portable memorial sign on the grounds of the former Criglersville School. Jim Lillard and his crew promptly erected the sign under a small shelter. Strong media coverage kept interest in the project high and explained how the public could contribute financially.
July 2015	The Madison County Board of Supervisors approved construction of a permanent memorial at the Criglersville site. Construction, under the direction of Jim Lillard, began immediately. Media coverage continued to be strong, and generous donations funded construction of the memorial.
November 8, 2015	The completed Memorial was unveiled at dedication ceremonies arranged by the Madison County Historical Society.

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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**February 2016**