

Preserving Yesterday Enriches Tomorrow



Madison County
Historical Society

www.madisonvahistoricalociety.org

January 2020

Terry Miller to discuss "The Psychological Power of Ownership"



The speaker for the February 16th, 2020 Madison County Historical Society quarterly meeting will be Ms. Terry Miller.

Ms. Miller is the founding curator of the John J. Wright Museum of Educational and Cultural History in Spotsylvania, Virginia, the Lawrence E. Graves Museum of Dunbar History in Washington, DC, and the Carver 4-County Museum

in Culpeper, Virginia. She is principal author of **African Americans of Spotsylvania County**, and author of **Southampton County**. She received a BA in political science from Texas Christian University, did doctoral studies in comparative politics and ethnic nationalism at Brandeis University and earned an MBA at the University of Maryland.

The topic of Ms. Miller's presentation will be "The Psychological Power of Ownership," and will essentially focus on voting. She says this power of ownership is rooted in the United States Constitution and our democratic system of government. Although we are so fortunate to live in a democracy, many in contemporary society seem not to know or understand the responsibilities and privileges that go with being citizens of this democracy—responsibilities such as the ownership of property or businesses and the ultimate question of what to do with a lifetime of possessions. Once stripped of possessions perhaps the only real items an individual owns are his or her mind and body. How then, are one's mind and body used to demonstrate the freedom afforded by the U. S. Constitution? One example is by voting. The discussion will be supplemented with photographs, pamphlets and framed copies of documents from the late 1800s, 1950s, and over the past few years.

In February 2018, Ms. Miller set up a two-week display which was well received at the Madison County Library entitled "From There to Here" showing and discussing Modern Meaning in Madison's African American History.

Ms. Miller has extensive education and a broad range of knowledge, particularly as it pertains to African Americans and specifically in our region. This should be an interesting and thought provoking presentation.

The meeting will be held in the Madison County Administrative offices auditorium at 2:00pm Sunday February 16th. Everyone is invited to attend, and refreshments will be served following the meeting.

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 16th, 2020. The Board consists of twelve members, each serving staggered three-year terms, so that four memberships expire each year.

The current Board members whose terms expire in 2020 are Phil Brockman, Janice Carpenter, Sandy Stowe, and Beppy White. All are willing to serve another three-year term if re-elected.

In addition to the nominations by the nominating committee, the bylaws specify that 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.

A Note From The President

Another year has passed us by, but it was a very good one for the Madison County Historical Society. Our program in November was about World War One. It was mostly about a Kemper ancestor who was a doctor in France during the war. Kemper's Great Grandson talked about the hardships the soldiers faced. He emphasized that even the medical staff was not without its challenges. The program was well presented to a nice audience who asked a lot of questions.

We have had a lot of visitors this year. The 4th Grade class at Waverly Yowell came to visit in November just prior to the Colonial Days program that we did for them at the school. It was really nice to be able to have them come to the Museum for a visit. They were very interested in the Roman numerals that were marked in the chinking to indicate what year the Servant's Quarters was redone. How many know what MMIX is? They also really liked the first bank of Madison.

The apple harvest festival at Graves Mountain was a huge success as we spread the word about the displaced mountain people, and in the process, sold about \$1000 worth of books about those people. Many thanks to the Graves Family for allowing us to use that venue for a good fundraiser as well as the opportunity to tell folks about what happened when Shenandoah National Park was formed.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers for their contributions during 2019. We would not be able to do the things we do if not for their hard work. We have a wonderful Board of Directors who give of their time to keep the History alive. From arranging programs to taking care of the exhibits and manning the Museum 3 days a week, all Board members and Volunteers are needed to keep everything going smoothly. Many thanks for all of this good work.

We will conduct a tour for a group of Home-Schooled students during the month of January. We definitely welcome the opportunity to do that for them.

Here's hoping that 2020 brings lots of good things to the Society and to you, our members. Membership dues and donations are the life blood of our Society and without them, we would be very challenged to find the finances to operate in the manner that we wish.

Thanks,

Max Lacy (By the way, it's 2009.)

THE MOUNTAIN MUSEUM

We now have a signed lease for our Mountain Museum. We will resume work on the building as soon as we can, weather permitting. As you see when you drive by the site, we have a new handicap ramp in place, thanks to Culpeper Wood, Mike Jenkins, David Coffee, and Donald Nicholson. Thanks to Phil Brockman and Warren and Martha

Breeden, the old carpet in the large, front room has been removed and the floor cleaned and waxed. We also have a closet full of things to display thanks to Jean Coates

Two gas heaters already in the building have been serviced and are ready keep us nice and warm. We have installed a land line telephone to communicate with the outside until the tower gets in at Graves Mountain Lodge. With a temporary Porta John behind the building, the Electoral Board was able to use our building for the November 2019 election. We have plans to remodel the bathroom and install an electric incinerator toilet, since there is no running water or septic system on our property.

We are also ready to begin preparing the space for displaying pictures and other artifacts. A first step in this process is to replace the windows that are currently so fragile that we are afraid to wash them! To help finance this project, we want to sell "naming rights" for the replacement windows. The new installation will include an aluminum wrap that will not need painting. A plaque will be placed near each window to show the name of the donor. Contact Max Lacy if you are interested in buying a window.

All monetary and in-kind donations will be graciously accepted, as we operate strictly with volunteers. There will be a wall plaque listing and thanking donors. Already a special thank you goes to "Uncle Dave's Popcorn" for his generosity each year at the Graves Apple Harvest Festival.

We are eager to get photographs from any families from the Park that wish to share them. We will scan the pictures and make copies to hang on the wall. We also have plans for a Criglersville room which will contain pictures, articles, and artifacts that pertain to the village, and especially the school. We already have some things but want more! We would like to display pictures of Criglersville teachers, school events, and folks who went to school there. We will announce a day and time for scanning so that we can scan and return photographs on the same day. If you have suggestions or want to donate something, call the Museum office and leave a message if no one answers. The number is 540-395-5119.

Thanks to the County of Madison County, its citizens, and all of our volunteers for making this Museum come to fruition.



The William Terrill's Grant

By

Dewey Lillard

When I wrote *Land Grants of Madison County, Virginia, 1722-1865*, in 2000, I never dreamed that I would eventually visit the site or examine William Terrill's actual parchment grant. Who would have thought that the parchment grant would still be in existence and that it was still held within sight of the land itself? I encountered this grant while looking for grants that lay in the Madison County area, and became familiar with its location, known locally in Graves Mill as the "Bluff". As stated in the book's preamble, land was granted by the King of England in this area while it was part of the County of Spotsylvania, formed in 1720 from Essex County whose county seat was all the way on the Eastern Shore and is called Tappahannock. Land within the succeeding counties of Spotsylvania, Orange, and Culpeper continued to be granted and bought of the King's agents and other owners until the State of Virginia claimed the land after the Revolutionary War and issued warrant titles in their own right.

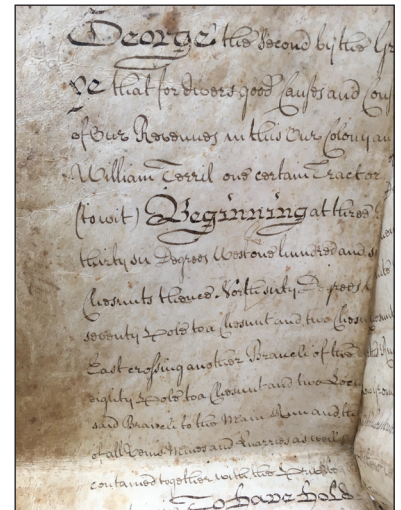
The Terrill Grant itself was issued on October 3, 1734, in Spotsylvania County and consisted of 600 acres of land lying on the north side of Garth's Run against a mountain bluff. The owner had three years to make improvements upon the land (building a house, clearing fields for crops, planting a fruit orchard, running livestock, or building fences to contain them) in order to become owner of the land. Orange County was formed in 1734 so any mention of these improvements would have been recorded in that county's records. Unfortunately, the records upon which Terrill's improvements would have been recorded are missing. On the tithable list of 1739, William Terrill is listed as "Wm. Terrill's Quarter, 2 tithables." The notion of "Quarter" indicates that Terrill had this land

as an investment and probably had a tenant or overseer living on the land, with slaves helping to seat that land.

How did this piece of parchment survive all these 286 years? Randall Lillard approached me to examine a document and decipher its writing in 2014 when he and his wife were going through several boxes of materials from the estate of Elmo Utz.

Randall's father Hume Lillard was the executor of Utz's estate, and his grandfather Thomas Lillard was the auctioneer at the estate's sale. Elmo owned the general store at Graves Mill and was not only the merchant but also a collector of local history items ranging from Civil War swords and letters to Indian arrowheads bought from local boys for candy or a few pennies. Anyway, as the Lillards went through these items that were boxed up in 1957 and stored in an outbuilding on their farm, they came across many documents and letters, one of which was the parchment grant. It was folded up and very stiff and dark with age and stains, but the inside was very legible and clear. The gaul ink was still in good shape, though some of the writing on the outside has faded. All in all, a remarkable find of Madison County history, after being forgotten all these years!

Thanks to Randall and Ruth Lillard, the actual parchment grant is now in the hands of the Madison County Historical Society which is researching ways to preserve, store, and display it. Watch for an announcement of when it will be available for public inspection. And wait for the next edition of this newsletter to read more of the fascinating history of this tract of land.



History Along the Roadside



5195 Oak Park Road

Do you take the time to stop and read historical highway markers? If not, you may be missing out on some interesting local history focusing on people, places, or events with state, regional, or national significance. Virginia has the oldest historical marker program in the United States. It began in 1927 when markers were placed on US 1 between Mt. Vernon and Richmond. Today there are more than 2,500 markers in Virginia in a program currently administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Virginia Department of Historical Research. Beginning in 2020, historical markers found in Madison County will be featured periodically in our quarterly newsletter. Drive carefully, enjoy the scenery, and discover some Madison County history with us!

Next Tea: March 25, 2020



Plans are underway for the Spring Luncheon Tea on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at 12:30 p.m. in the Kemper Residence. Reservations are being accepted now from members of the Historical Society and friends. If spaces are still available on March 1, the public will be offered an opportunity to attend the tea.

The menu will include warm scones served with homemade lemon curd, tea sandwiches and tempting sweets, accompanied by unlimited cups of delicious Kemper Tea.

You can enjoy these generous goodies for a \$28 donation to the Madison County Historical Society. The food is prepared, donated and served by volunteers, so all proceeds are contributions to support the Society.

To make a reservation, call 540-547-4398 and leave a message with your name, telephone number, and the number of reservations you request. You will receive a return call to confirm. We welcome singles or groups up to six.

Once again, we will be able to offer accessible seating downstairs in the Madison Museum. The Historical Society Board of Directors has offered to arrange space for a few tables on the lower level, so you can enjoy the tea surrounded by Madison history! If you wish to request museum seating, please so indicate when you make your reservation.

In response to many requests, containers of popular Kemper Tea will be available to purchase for your own enjoyment or for gifts. Jars are \$5 each. (And if you have empty jars from past purchases, we will gladly recycle them!)

The Museum during 2019

Several articles in this issue of the newsletter reference school groups visiting the Madison Museum. We are so happy that they came; and we encouraged them to return and bring their parents! Of course, there were other visitors, too! Here is our "Annual Report."

The Museum was open 130 days, 122 on our regular Tuesday/Thursday/Friday schedule, one for Taste of the Mountains, and seven when we opened for limited hours to accommodate special requests. We welcomed 695 visitors during 2019. To do this efficiently, we need at least two volunteers to supervise the Gift Shop and conduct tours whenever the museum is open. Group visits require even more help, so we are always eager to "break in" new volunteers. If you want to learn more about what we do, send us an email, call the museum, or just show up in person when the museum is open.

Who visited during 2019?

Student groups: Oak Grove Mennonite School (11 students, 2 adults), Waverly Yowell SCA (17 students, 2 adults), Woodberry Forest School (9 students, 1 adult), Waverly Yowell summer school (17 students, 4 adults), Parks and Recreation (15 students, 3 adults), Waverly Yowell 4th Grade (approximately 150 students, 10 adults)

Organizations: Germanna Foundation, local chapters of Colonial Dames and DAR

Family group: Baker-Porter Reunion Group

Regular visitors came from as close by as the town of Madison, from all over Virginia, and from at least eighteen other states. If you have never visited the museum, please come! Read the 4th grade article to get a feel for some of our displays. We could not show the students everything in half an hour so there is much more for you to see and discuss. Exhibits also change as we acquire more items and swap others in and out.

Wine and Cheese Party

As the Madison Historical Society Museum closed for the season on December 17, 2019, the volunteers who so willingly staff the Museum and Gift Shop were all invited to our "Wine and Cheese Party", held upstairs in the beautiful Kemper Residence. The Christmas tree in the parlor was glowing, and poinsettias graced the party room.

This event was our way of saying "thank you" to the volunteers who open the Museum for visitors from March to December and share the history of Madison County with them. We appreciate so much all these volunteers do to make the Museum a welcome place for our visitors. Members of the Kemper Tea Team were also guests of honor. They host two Kemper Teas each year with all proceeds donated to the Madison County Historical Society. The Board is grateful for all the support we receive for maintaining a welcoming atmosphere to our visitors and all members of the Society.



Fourth Graders Take over Museum!

On Wednesday, November 18, 2019, the Museum was “invaded” by the entire fourth grade from Waverly Yowell School. The eight of us on duty were too busy to count the visitors, but we think there were approximately 150 students and 10 adults. It was a busy morning! The weather was a bit nippy, but otherwise beautiful for their walk down Main Street from the School to the Kemper property. Six groups left the school on a staggered schedule so that the first arrived just at 9:00 AM and the last left at 12:00 NOON. Upon arrival, each class was divided into two smaller group for tours. That means we had to do each presentation twelve times! Kayla Davis was the liaison between the school and the Historical Society. She helped us plan for such a big group and established the timing for the visits. All of us were most impressed by how organized the Waverly Yowell teachers were when accompanying the students and by how well they adapted to our desire to show off the Museum while also protecting its exhibits.

Upon arrival, one subgroup walked to the rear of the Residence where Max Lacy talked about the Germanna trunk (dubbed the First Bank of Madison because it held valuables for the second group of Germanna immigrants who left Germany in 1717 and later moved to Madison’s Robinson River Valley) and conducted a tour of the Cabin, restored in 2009. The others entered through the main Museum door for a lesson on what our area was called in colonial times and a look at the Hoover exhibit and the train. A highlight was letting the young folks study the 1929 Hoover Day photograph carefully enough to spot the barn that still stands at Hoover Ridge. The groups then followed schedules that let them see other areas of the house without crowding into each other.

For the record: During colonial times, the area currently known as Madison County was under the control of Alexander Spotswood and part of his Spotsylvania County. We were part of Orange County from 1734 to 1748 when Culpeper County was created. In 1792, the Virginia legislature formally carved our current land from Culpeper and named it Madison County.

In the main Museum rooms, the students looked at Native American artifacts found in the county. They also were introduced to several antique toys, the loom, an oil lamp and other household items, and the foot operated dental drill. On the upper floor, they saw the children’s’ room (with dresses for boys!), a trundle bed, more oil lamps, a chamber pot, and a wash bowl and pitcher. Despite discussion of these latter items, the question “Where is the bathroom?” continued to be a big concern for these 21st Century fourth graders.



The Historical Society hopes this tour and the subsequent Colonial Days activities help these students imagine a life without electricity and indoor plumbing and develop respect for our ancestors who lived in what we would call “primitive conditions.” We were excited to share parts of the county’s history with a rising generation.

Thanks again to Waverly Yowell teachers and staff led by Kayla Davis and our volunteers. Max Lacy, Jim Lillard, and Martha Breeden deserve huge thanks for greeting and teaching all twelve groups. Beppy White and Jean Busboso assisted

Jim in the main museum room. Arlene Aylor, Joyce Gentry, and Judy Mahanes led discussions about county history in the entrance room. Judy also acted as “traffic cop” to keep the groups moving along so they could visit each area without being in the way of the next group.



Waverly Yowell School Colonial Days 2019

We had a very successful Colonial Days celebration at Waverly Yowell on November 26, from 9 AM until 12 noon. This year we were happy to have more demonstrators that we have had in recent years. All of the 4th graders who study Colonial History during November seemed to really enjoy the different things that we presented to them. The visit by the entire class to the Museum two weeks earlier led nicely into this program. (Read more about that visit in another article in this issue.)

Here is a list of the different demonstrations arranged for the 4th graders:

- Basket Making from splits made on-site by Clyde Jenkins of Stanley, VA
- Outdoor Cooking by Susan Williams from Burgandine House in Culpeper
- Travel difficulties in colonial times by David Reeves
- Quilting by Pam Nelson and Laura DeBoer of the Madison Quilters Guild and Marietta Shank and Violet Anderson from Oak Grove Mennonite Church
- Blacksmithing by Blackie Watts
- Spinning and weaving by Vickie Watts
- Paper making by Waverly Yowell teacher Katie Gigliott

And last, but not least, Jim Lillard presented his program about the local people who were displaced during the formation of the Shenandoah National park. This presentation was not really a colonial program, but the teachers thought that it would be a good history lesson about families of Madison County.



This year, we were grateful to have a group of students from Oak Grove Mennonite School and a group of Home-Schooled students from the county attend the program. Many thanks to the faculty and administration of Waverly Yowell for allowing these young people to attend.

Finally, we extend many, many thanks to everyone who led demonstrations and helped make the event possible. It would not have happened without the help of all of these folks. We also thank the Waverly Yowell teachers and Principal for their hard work in organizing things at the school. This year we were especially pleased to have the Superintendent of Schools and her assistant come as spectators. It is really nice to have the support of the school administrators for the

programs of the Historical Society. We hope next year will be even better!



John Lynch Discusses Junius Lynch at November Meeting

The speaker for the November 17th, 2019, Madison County Historical Society quarterly meeting was Mr. John Lynch. John Lynch is a retired Federal civil servant and member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Society of Colonial Wars. An avid historian, he also has early ties to Madison County. These ties were the subject of his talk to the Society: "Madison County Connections: A Medical Officer in the American Expeditionary Force, 1918-1919."

That connection was Col. Junius Lynch, M.D., John's great grandfather, a descendant of Lynch men who served as Confederate physicians and studied the Dead Sea. Commander Shaw, grandfather of Junius, served in the Revolutionary War. In 1891 Junius married Lucy Virginia Kemper (John's great grandmother) at the bride's father's house. Miss Kemper was a daughter of James Lawson Kemper and Belle Cave and was born at her father's house in Madison in January 1867. Junius was an 1888 graduate of the Medical College of Virginia. He joined the Virginia militia and was always interested in everything military. He rose through the ranks and formally became its Surgeon General in 1910. He was first in the Virginia Militia to have a typhoid shot; all others followed in 1916 when The Virginia Militia became the Virginia National Guard.



During WWI, Junius Lynch volunteered at age 50 and became assistant Division Surgeon at Camp McClellan, Alabama. He then moved on to Surgeon of 372 Regiment at Newport News and was sent to France. On March 3, 1918 he landed in Calais joining Rainbow Division 42nd Evacuation Hospital #2 at Baccarat where he treated gas victims in addition to all other wounds. In June 1918 he was transferred to Chalons air training facility camp hospital. John related several anecdotes about Virginia units and the flu epidemic in Sept 1918. Dr. Lynch was there for the celebrations when the war ended, and in December he became the hospital commander for the largest United States Army Air Service installation in France. He later became Chief of Surgery at Base Hospital #57, Paris.

Upon returning to the U.S. in June 1919, Dr. Lynch resigned from the service and went home to recuperate. He became involved in the American Legion, achieved senior leadership positions in Virginia and later became a member of the American Legion's National Committee where he worked to help recognize WWI veterans.

Destroyer 373 the USS Shaw 1936-1945 was the second destroyer named for his ancestor.

2019 Society Finances in Review

The total income for 2019 was \$15,176.54. Of this amount, \$2,584.00 was income from Kemper Teas and \$5,055.00 came from Member Dues. We also received more than \$3000 in donations, most of which (\$2,661.08) was designated for the Mountain Museum.

Expenditures totaled \$15,507.94. Utilities and security for the Arcade, Kemper Property, and Criglersville accounted for \$4,652.97 of this amount. We also spent \$3,344.74 on projects at the Mountain Museum.

The year-end balances in our Checking and Savings accounts and cash drawer total \$20,073.91.

Madison County Historical Society
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Return Service Requested



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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 and donations, major sources of income for the Society, are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Membership application forms are available at the Museum and on-line at www.madisonvahistoricalsociety.org. (Click "About Us" and scroll down the page.) Memberships run for one calendar year and include the following categories:

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

For more information about any of our activities, call the Society Office at 540-395-5119. Leave a message if no one answers so we may return your call. Our email address is madisonvahistory@gmail.com.

Our physical address is 412 N Main Street in the town of Madison.