

# 1735 TIMES

Brought to you by the Foundation for Historic Christ Church, Inc.



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CHRISTCHURCH1735.ORG

## A Message from Our President

Jill Worth, FHCC President



I was recently told by an acquaintance that the "Raise the Roof" Craft Beer Fest is the most important thing at Historic Christ Church & Museum. That opinion surprised me, but it started me thinking about relative importance.

The *Craft Beer Fest* is important and attracts a certain demographic, but is it any more important than the demographic attracted by the September 28 *Bringing Music to Life Concert Series* concert featuring The Wren Masters baroque quartet, or the *Sunday Speaker Series* on October 13, when Connie Lapallo will speak?

Fixing our *Rising Damp* problem is important, but is it more important than the need to install an up-to-date security system for the facility, especially active smoke detectors for our highly combustible attic?

Or, for that matter, is it one bit more important than any of the other twenty-one recommended repair items on the 2012 Condition Survey which is the guideline for our Preservation Committee? And what would happen to the day-to-day maintenance of our property without our Building and Grounds Committee?

Is our Education Committee more important than our Research Committee? Or our Library Committee? The work done by the Finance and Development Committees is extremely important, but without our donors, large and small, there would be no need for them. Anyone who attends HCC&M programs and who supports us monetarily is no less or no more important than those who give hours of their time as volunteers. And, of course, each staff member is vital to the success of the entire operation.

Is the spring education program, which is open to all our volunteers and to which the public is invited, any more or less important than our *Hands-On History Camp* or the tours given to our many visiting school groups, both of which introduce the next generation to colonial history in general, and to Historic Christ Church in particular?

Is the Red Book less important than the continuing stream of new information from our researchers? And which of our two introductory films is more important, the Roger Mudd film or the new youth and family-oriented film?

Docents are no more important than receptionists. Committee members' participation is no more important than the participation of the Foundation's board members. The gentleman who opens and closes the building on weekends and holidays is light years more important than the FHCC president.

I could go on ad nauseum with these assessments. So much more goes into making the complex organization which is Historic Christ Church & Museum.

To make one final and obvious observation: Historic Christ Church & Museum offers unlimited opportunities for an endless variety of participation for every person whatever his or her skill or interest set. Each of us is an integral part of a remarkable whole. See you at Historic Christ Church and Museum!

### About Our President

Since becoming a volunteer at HCC&M in 2008, Jill has served as a docent and receptionist, co-chair of the "Raise the Roof" Craft Beer Fest, co-chair of the Hospitality committee, and chair of the Volunteer Council, Vice President; and now President. In Irvington, she is a member of the Village Improvement Association. Her husband, Larry, volunteers as a docent.

In her spare time, Jill enjoys reading, preparing food, and watching baseball. She and Larry had been visiting The Northern Neck for over 30 years when they finally moved to Irvington full-time in 2003. They live on a branch of Carter's Creek.

## HANDS-ON HISTORY CAMP 2019



Who says history is only for the older generation? The Hands-on-History campers who relived history the first week in August at HCC&M would prove those naysayers wrong. This year's campers were enthusiastic and fun to work with and it shows in their faces. From left front row are Chrissy Reuwer, Jessna Knowlton, Nolan Pittman, Shrade Knowlton and Cheralyn Riley; middle row far right Khloe Hohensee and Anna Bugg; and back row Stone Kennedy, Brooks Reuwer, Braylee O'Donnell, Riley Viets, and Kayla Moore. Surrounding the campers is a halo of camp staff who certainly deserved one for their work in planning and implementing the program. From the lower left are HCC&M volunteers Marge Page, Kathie Galgano, Susan Bober, Pam Ward, and Carol Poundstone, junior counselors Jaedyn O'Donnell and Makayla Galgano, and Director of Programs & Communications Robert Teagle. The costumed dolls just visible behind the group were part of a large collection that volunteer and FHCC Board member Regina Gaskins Baylor contributed.

## 2019 Sunday Speaker Series

October 13 2:00 PM  
**Connie Lapallo**  
Forgotten Heroines:  
Virginia's First Women and Children



Award-winning author Connie Lapallo transports us to 1609 and the journey of Joan Peirce and her daughter, who survive a hurricane at sea and Jamestown's Starving Time to make a new life in the fledgling Virginia colony.

November 3 2:00 PM  
**Brent Tarter**  
The First General Assembly  
of Virginia  
July-August 1619



Few know more about Virginia history than Library of Virginia scholar Brent Tarter, who explores the origins of Virginia's General Assembly, the first representative legislature in the New World.

Tickets: \$30 Purchase at  
[ChristChurch1735.ticketleap.com](http://ChristChurch1735.ticketleap.com).

Presentations are Sundays at 2:00 p.m. at HCC&M, 420 Christ Church Road, Weems.

Wine & cheese reception with each presentation. Remaining 2 presentations \$30 each. Purchase at

[ChristChurch1735.ticketleap.com](http://ChristChurch1735.ticketleap.com), at the HCC&M office, or at the door.

Tickets do not include any book purchases.

For more information, please call 804-438-2441.

All proceeds benefit preservation and education programs at Historic Christ Church & Museum.



2 2019 VOLUNTEER NEWS & UPDATES



3 PRESERVATION RISING DAMP



4 SAVE THE DATE 2020 EVENTS

# 2019 Volunteer Highlights

## *It takes a Community and a Family of HCC&M Volunteers....*

Volunteers are the face of HCC&M. They perform a variety of roles such as researchers, docents, gardeners, receptionists, writers, and event planners, just to name a few. They dedicate hundreds of hours each month to ensure that visitors have an opportunity to experience one of the great buildings of colonial America and to enjoy our museum and gift shop. As we celebrate another successful year, we are mindful that the future of our organization and our community rests on the shoulders of a strong volunteer corps. Enjoy these volunteer snapshots from what has so far been a great 2019!



Anne Warner, Chair, *Burying Ground Committee* and new Board member in May 2019, with Ed Feddeman, Chair, *Volunteer Council* and Laura Shults, Vice Chair, *Volunteer Council*



The Education Committee held the annual orientation session for potential volunteers in the Spring. Eight "newbies" attended and 6 to 7 more indicated they were interested in joining our HCC&M Volunteer Family. Some of the orientation attendees included School Programs Chair Carol Poundstone, Volunteer Council Chair Ed Feddeman, Costume Chair (and Education Co-Chair) who rejoined the Board in May, Dr. Pamela A. Ward, Receptionist Chair Shirley Crockett, new volunteers Pam Lillquist, Linda Coye, and Barbara Touchette, Flower Chair Karin Lamb, new volunteer Janet Smith, Research Committee Chair (and Education Co-Chair) Dr. Kathleen ("Kathie") Galgano, and Ronnee Taylor, who heads the HCC&M Readers.



The 2019 Louise Belote Dawe Award winner Robert N. ("Bob") McKenney (right) joins fellow HCC&M Research Committee member Dr. Patrick J. Heffernan at the Spring Celebration following the 61st Annual Meeting on May 17th. Bob began his volunteer work 34 years ago, and as a career teacher and dedicated historian, has been instrumental in enriching our understanding of the people, culture, and history of Historic Christ Church and the Northern Neck.



The first crawl of 2019 was a double header with a special reception, speaker and a bus trip focused on events at Jamestown in 1619 and the present day. The event began on June 13 with a presentation by curator Bly Straube on the women of Jamestown and early Virginia and finished the next day with a visit to Historic Jamestowne (site of the original fort) and Jamestown Settlement.

The evening before the crawl started with a reception hosted by the Hospitality Committee in the Bayne Center and Courtyard. Jill Worth, Melissa MacKimm, Tania Bozarth, Marge Oliver, Robert Teagle and Jo Manson prepared towers and platters of delicious treats. Larry Worth, Randy Bozarth and Dick Manson generously poured beverages. Sharon Stieber arranged the gorgeous centerpiece.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation by renowned curator Bly Straube who led the audience through the discoveries that have made Jamestown one of the richest archaeological sites in the world. Bly's extensive knowledge of Jamestown's material culture was portrayed in slides showing period artworks, primary documents and photographs of Jamestown artifacts.



Community Outreach at the Irvington Farmers Market

Kathy Moeller and Mary Anne Campbell on Saturday, May 4th. Kathy Moeller was part of the morning set-up crew, while Mary Anne Campbell had the first two-hour shift from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Clyde and Carolyn Ratcliffe took the second shift from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and served as the take-down crew as well.

The volunteer effort follows the same pattern at the future markets the 1st Saturday of each month: May - October: a set-up crew, two shifts of "marketees," and a take-down crew.



The June Farmers Market in Irvington saw Ronnee and Jim Taylor at the HCC&M table from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Julia Putney-Brandt took over until 1:00 pm. Kathy and Joe Moeller set up and took down the tent.



Pam Ward at the July market with the new display items created by HCC&M staff member Carter Bonner and volunteer Regina Gaskins Baylor. The pull-up banner on the left, for example, encourages viewers to "Be a part of the magic at HCC&M" as a volunteer or a participant. Table-top stands highlight upcoming events like the Craft Beer Fest and Hands-on History Camp. Handouts for each event were also available.

**Stay current with HCC&M News!**

1735 Times is mailed in the Spring & Fall. To keep up with all of our exciting programs and special events, sign up for our E-Newsletter, produced and edited by Dr. Katheen ("Kathy") Moeller. Email Office Manager Trish Geeson at [tgeeson@ChristChurch1735.org](mailto:tgeeson@ChristChurch1735.org) to subscribe.



The 6th Annual "Raise the Roof" Craft Beer Fest held on July 13th at HCC&M had it all: sunny weather, a lively crowd, hot bands, and great barbecue plus local craft beers. The guests set up their chairs in shady spots, and Bobby "Black Hat" Walters and Good Shot Judy had them dancing and singing along in the big tent. The striped tent covered beer pullers from That Damn Mary Brewing Company in Gloucester and the Kilmarnock Brewhaus in Kilmarnock, along with HCC&M volunteers who worked the taps of Al Pugh Distributing in Warsaw. The featured vineyard was The Dog and Oyster Vineyard of The Hope & Glory Inn. Barbecue from Willaby's had four sauces to choose from, including South Carolina, East Carolina, Memphis and straight hot sauce. All of the ice cream flavors from Short Lane Ice Cream in Gloucester were popular, according to the volunteer scoopers. The Beer Fest was a feast indeed, and its success is due to our extraordinary volunteers and Business Program Partner supporters!

## PRESERVATION NEWS - RISING DAMP CAMPAIGN

In 1735 George Washington celebrated his third birthday just a few miles down the road at Pope's Creek in Westmoreland County. In New York that August a jury acquitted the printer John Peter Zenger of seditious libel. In Philadelphia Benjamin Franklin and his friends added new titles in history and science to their growing collection at the Library Company, America's first public library, which they had founded several years earlier. In London two operas from Handel premiered at the Royal Opera House, while in Parliament lawmakers passed the Witchcraft Act abolishing trials for witchcraft, sorcery and the like.

Closer to home, John Carter finished construction of the magnificent brick church his father Robert "King" Carter had begun five years earlier. To John and likely many of his fellow Virginians, the church had "none in this Country to be compared to it." But Christ Church was more than a stunning architectural achievement or a place of worship: it was the center of a parish community. People of all sorts came together in the churchyard on Sundays to exchange news and socialize with friends and relatives. They read advertisements posted on church doors and heard laws read from the pulpit. They talked about tobacco and horses and displayed the

latest fashions imported from England. Parishioners met and fell in love here, and some were buried here.

What do these memories have to do with the importance of preserving an old church? Why should we care? History enables us to understand, reflect and learn from the past. The study of colonial Virginia and Christ Church Parish opens a window where we can investigate a world that existed before the Revolutionary War, the creation of the Constitution, and the birth of the United States of America. Historic Christ Church is not just an old building, or even just another old church. Its preservation is important because its existence is tied to the enduring story of America and the events that make us who we are today.

Our next preservation initiative will be one of the most challenging and expensive in the 284-year history of Christ Church. Over the past century, rising damp has caused repeated and serious damage to the church's renowned brickwork, stone trim, plaster and interior woodwork. Guided by best practices from leading preservationists and scientific studies that have identified the sources, pathways and mechanisms of rising damp at Christ Church, FHCC has

developed plans for a stormwater drainage system to capture and divert water away from the church.

We are awaiting the results of a grant application with Save America's Treasures, a National Park Service program that helps preserve nationally significant historic properties and collections. We are also developing plans for a capital and public relations campaign to build support and secure funding for the project.

The preservation of our past is a vital part of our future. We hope you will join us as we seek to secure the church for generations to come to enjoy.



## A History Mystery...

Visitors to Historic Christ Church & Museum ask all types of questions about Robert "King" Carter (1663-1732) and his two wives, Judith Armistead and Betty Landon. Two of the most common come as they tour the Carter tombs, which stand on the east end of the church: 1) Why is the tomb for Carter's second wife Betty larger than that of his first wife Judith? 2) Why did Carter, one of the wealthiest and most powerful men of his time in North America, never marry again after Betty's death in 1719? "He would have been such a great catch!"

Robert and Judith Armistead Carter married in 1688, when she was 23 and he 25. The couple had five children together before Judith's death in 1699 at the age of 34. Two years later Carter married Betty, the widow of Richard Willis of Middlesex County; she was 18 and Carter 38. Robert had ten children with Betty, who died in 1719 at age 36. Ten of Carter's fifteen children survived into adulthood, with nine marrying into other prominent Virginia families. Today his descendants number upwards of 40,000.

A precise individual, Robert Carter ordered his wives' tombs from England and likely wrote the inscriptions for each of them. These epitaphs record the virtues and accomplishments admired in elite women like Judith and Betty. Visitors learn of the "sweet perfume of a good reputation" Judith left behind. Betty's epitaph recounts her roles as Christian, wife, mother, mistress, neighbor, and friend, noting her "conduct was equaled by few excelled by none." Both highlight their family lineages and roles as mothers.

Visitors quickly notice that Betty's tomb, which is marble and stands in the middle, is larger than Judith's, which is limestone and stands just north (right facing the church) of Betty's. While visitors joke that Betty might have been more deserving of a larger tomb because she had ten children compared to Judith's five, we really have no evidence to explain the difference. Perhaps it was just the variation in materials (limestone vs. marble) or style twenty years apart or that the London agents who filled Carter's order for Betty's tombstone simply gave broad instructions on its size and design. The only mention we have of Betty's comes a year after her death, when Robert Carter wrote London agent William Dawkins that some earrings and the tombstone he had ordered had "cost abundance more than I expected or intended."

For his own burial, Carter left specific instructions in his 18,000 word will for his body to be "laid in the yard of Christ Church

near and upon the right hand" of his wives with a "Proper Inscription" to be written by his son John Carter (1696-1742). He requested that his tombstone be "of about the value of my last wives Tombstone." Though slightly larger than Betty's, Robert's is also marble and features similar decorative motifs.

A year after Betty's death, Carter, still in mourning and in his mid-50s, expressed his intentions to remain unmarried in a letter to Bristol merchant Joshua Franklyn:

*"I'm oblig'd to You for Yor. Comassionate terms of Condolence however after we have preach'd up all the Lessons of resignation we are Masters of So long as we carry flesh & blood abt. us, nature will have It's turns of victory over the best ballanc'd minds & all our Philosophy will sometimes recoil & give ground under such severe tryals. I remain a mourner to this Day, and propose to myself to Continue in my Single State until the time comes when I must put on Immortality."*

Carter would live another 13 years in his "Single State." Despite his wealth and power, it appears that towards the end of his life earthly matters were not as significant as they once had been. He was a widower a second time, his Corotoman mansion would burn in 1729, close friends had died, and his health was poor. In 1730 Carter turned his attention to something that would transcend this life: construction of a new brick to replace the wooden church built by his father. But like his father before him, Carter did not live to see the church he commissioned completed. His time to "put on Immortality" came August 4, 1732 at the age of 69.



Carter tombs from left to right: Robert "King" Carter (1663-1732), Betty Landon Carter (1683-1719), Judith Armistead Carter (1665/66-1699), and (flat marker) Mary Walker Carter, granddaughter (1736-1770).

## COLLECTION Spotlight



### Ladies Protestant Episcopal Aid Society

In the years following the Civil War, women played critical roles in sustaining and rebuilding the Episcopal Church across Virginia. At Christ Church, an organization known as the Ladies Protestant Episcopal Aid Society helped save the parish from utter collapse.

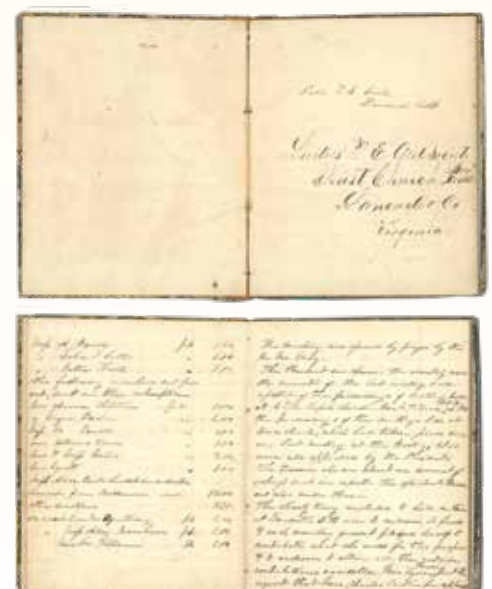
In December 1865, Christ Church Parish minister Edmund Withers returned from his work with sick and wounded soldiers in Richmond to report that the "casualties of war have left us in an enfeebled and embarrassed condition." The churches and rectory had decayed, membership had dwindled, and the vestry had no money to pay Withers, who would leave in 1867 despite his optimism earlier that year that "a tone of vital piety is increasing among us, and for this we thank God and go forward."

Go forward the parish did, but not without vital assistance from the Ladies Protestant Episcopal Aid Society. Comprised of women from the parish's leading families, including several who were wives of vestrymen, the group held its organizational meeting at the rectory on Easter Monday, April 13, 1868. The fifteen charter members declared it "their duty at this time to aid to [the] uttermost their beloved church in this emergency."

Holding fairs at Lancaster Court House and appealing for support from churches in Baltimore and elsewhere, these determined ladies raised critical funds for the parish, much of which went to repairing and furnishing the rectory. At various points the society also helped pay the rector's salary, and on one occasion they even outfitted him with a horse and carriage. No doubt they were much of the reason Rev. George May observed in May 1869 "a kinder and more loving people I never expect to serve."

*Above: The HCC&M Museum exhibit with the Minute Book on display.*

*Below: Minute Book of The Ladies Protestant Episcopal Aid Society (1868-1873)*





**Historic  
Christ Church  
& MUSEUM**

Post Office Box 24  
Irvington, Virginia 22480



Voted Best Historic Site  
in the Eastern Region of Virginia  
Virginia Living Magazine  
Best of Virginia 2019

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c. 1890



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Rappahannock Hang-Ups, Inc.  
Select Properties of Virginia  
The Shultz Team - Your Family Realtors:  
Beverly, Neill & Lisa

### A Reminder...

Our current visitors' hours  
remain in place until November:

Monday - Saturday  
10 am - 4 pm

Sundays 1 - 4 pm

Last Tours at 3:30 pm

In November our hours will be:

Friday - Saturday 10 am - 4 pm

Sundays 1 - 4 pm

Grounds open daily dawn to dusk

*The last day of the 2019 Visitor Season  
is Saturday, November 30th.*



### A Traditional Carol Sing

Monday, December 9, 2019 – 3:30 pm

Celebrate the season at Historic Christ Church & Museum with traditional songs, carols, and music. Join this seasonal songfest in the beautifully "greened" church. Featuring members of The Chesapeake Chorale and the Christchurch School Cantorion. Dress warmly. Refreshments follow in The Bayne Center.

*Admission: Two (2) non-perishable items per person for the Healthy Harvest Food Bank*

## VISITOR HOURS

### OPEN APRIL & NOVEMBER:

Friday and Saturday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Sundays 1:00-4:00 PM

**LAST TOURS** at 3:30 PM

### OPEN MAY-OCTOBER:

Monday-Saturday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Sundays 1:00-4:00 PM

**LAST TOURS** at 3:30 PM

**GROUND OPEN DAILY  
DAWN TO DUSK**

### GROUP TOURS

For 8 or more persons  
throughout the year

by appointment 804-438-2441.

## VIRTUAL TOUR IS HERE!

### Historic Christ Church & Museum Unveils Exciting New Feature

See Historic Christ Church & Museum from the ground up in our new Virtual Tour! A fun and fact-filled journey throughout the Church and its grounds, plus the Museum, Gift Shop & Event Center. You decide where you go and what you see, with a 360 degree view of every location. Videos, slide shows, historical information and more tell the story of this National Historic Landmark.

In May Brandon Hull of Hullfilm.com arrived to shoot a 360-degree self-guided tour of the Church and its grounds, including the Museum and Event Center. Prior to his arrival, Brandon mentioned he was happy to film this "little" church – then, just like everyone before him who has visited this amazing building, he remarked that "It was a lot bigger than I



*was expecting!"* Brandon has a wealth of experience in creating virtual tours at historic locations and has tours of both Mount Vernon and Monticello in his portfolio.

HCC&M prepared points of interest - video, photos and information which illustrate the tour. Viewing the tour, you simply scroll left, right, up & down and click on the various items that are marked with icons or indexed links. The virtual tour is located at [christchurch1735.org/virtual-tour](http://christchurch1735.org/virtual-tour).

**save  
the date!**

### 2020 UPCOMING EVENT INFORMATION

#### APRIL 3

Spring Opening of Church, Museum & Gift Shop

#### APRIL 26

Kirking of the Tartans Service

#### MAY 25

Memorial Day Service

#### JULY 3

Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence

#### OCTOBER 17 - NEW DATE!

"Raise the Roof" Craft Beer Fest

#### DECEMBER 9

"The Holly & The Ivy" A Traditional Carol Sing



**Historic  
Christ Church  
& MUSEUM**

Since 1735, as it came from  
the hands of its builders  
A Virginia and National Historic Landmark  
Listed on the  
National Register of Historic Places

### Foundation for Historic Christ Church, Inc.

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