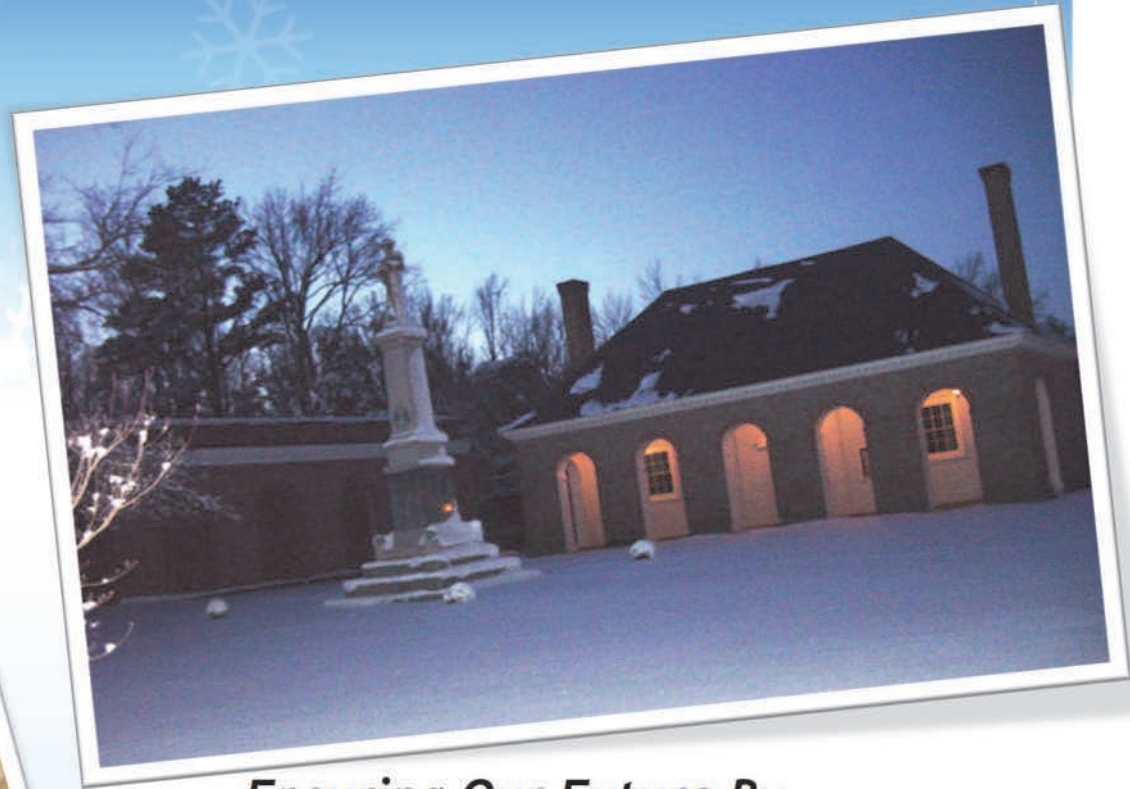


J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 8

# King William Historical Society Newsletter



## *Ensuring Our Future By Preserving Our Past*



Come join us at our next membership meeting!

January 21, 2018 2:30pm

King William Administration Building

Come join us for our captivating  
lecture

by Bobby Watkins on the moonshiners  
and moonshine busts of King William  
County and surrounding counties.

Refreshments served

**President's message:**

I write this on snowy evening in King William, the first of potentially several this holiday season. In a brief moment of silence (I have two kids under seven years old), I am reminded not only of things I am grateful for in 2017, but also the optimism I have for the year ahead. I am also writing this following a productive meeting of your board of directors, and I am happy to report some wonderful news that we think will excite all of you. But first, the good news from this past year...

The King William County Historical Society was happy to support and be involved with the opening of an amazing exhibit at the county's museum focusing on the women who made significant contributions to the history of our community, with particular kudos to Rebecca Townsend and a core group of dedicated volunteers. Anne Jackson took on the challenge of Museum Chairperson, with Rebecca acting as her co-chair. Visitors continue to rave about our small and exceptionally well-put together museum and we look forward to having you get involved with us there in the year to come.

The membership enjoyed several dynamic speakers this year, both at our usual meeting spot (The King William County Administration Building, behind the historic courthouse) as well as the Lanesville Christadelphian Church. Repairs and improvements to that building continued throughout the year, with the installation of power and HVAC, repaired siding, a new "old" door (matching ones from historic photos), and many other small but important works. We are also near completion with our nomination of the church to the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

The most significant event this last year, though, was receiving word that Harry and Alma Coon dedicated a fund from their estate that will benefit our society for generations to come. Their love of the courthouse and its surroundings, and overall dedication to historic preservation in King William County, will allow us to truly make a difference for years to come.

The year ahead will certainly build on that momentum created in this past year. In the early months of 2018, expect to see the launch of our society's facebook page, where you'll find up-to-date information on meetings, events of historic interest, and other interesting happenings in our museum and historic sites. We are also revising our website and will work with Bruce Nelson Photography to improve our web presence, with plans for a gift shop and expanded research resources. We also look forward to reaching out to each of you and reconnecting with what you want to see from our society in the year ahead. This is an exciting time to be a part of our society and it is an honor to be your president.

Sincerely - and with the most joyful holiday greetings,



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



Join us January 21, 2018 @ 2:30 @ the King William Administration Building for Bobby Watkins, retired 35 year Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control agent for the Middle Peninsula & Northern Neck. Bobby Watkins, a long-time resident of Tappahannock spent a great deal of his life chasing bootleggers as a 'revenuer'. Many people think moonshining takes place primarily in mountainous regions, but Bobby shows that the illegal business of distilling liquor is Not Necessarily in Them Thar Hills.

Bobby says that the biggest moonshine bust was in King William County!

Come hear 'the rest of the story'!



# MUSEUM NEWS

Come join the fun & enrich your community.....

## BECOME A MUSEUM DOCENT

Contact Anne @ (804) 627-3387



The Museum is open **March thru November, Sat. and Sun. from 1-5 p.m.**

Or by a **prearranged appointment:**  
call 804-769-9619, or email [kwhs@kingwilliamhistory.org](mailto:kwhs@kingwilliamhistory.org)



## Minutes of the King William County Historical Society Membership Meeting of October 15, 2017

The Membership Meeting of the King William County Historical Society was held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at the King William County Administration Building Boardroom. There were approximately 20 members and guests present.

President David Brown called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.

The Minutes of the July 16, 2017 Membership Meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer Ron Parker's report shows the following balances as of October 15, 2017.

Checking	\$17,377.34
Museum Savings CD	\$ 20,289.45
Church Maintenance	\$ 16,204.85
Wells Fargo Museum Investment	<u>\$123,058.92</u>
Total	\$176,930.56

Reporting for the Museum, Anne Jackson noted that 85 members of the Chesterfield Institute of Lifelong Learning toured the Museum on October 9, 2017. The group, on two tour buses, also toured the Pamunkey Museum that day. She thanked Carl Fisher for facilitating the use of chairs from St John's Church for the tour group. King William County officials have toured the Museum to investigate water problems are working to fix the problem in the building.

President David Brown reported that an archeological survey on the 18th-century site surrounding Acquinton Church was done in September. The survey found graded and eroded areas, wine bottle glass at the rear of the church and potential evidence of brick kilns along with the earlier foundations for the portions of the church taken down in the 19th century. The finding will be used to create a detailed map with graves, fence lines, etc. and the findings will be added to the Society's updated application for evaluation (PIF) of Acquinton Church on the Virginia State Historic Landmarks Register which will be submitted by the end of 2017.

The Lanesville Christadelphian Church outdoor siding and window frames are completed. Painting of the church is to be done before winter. The full nomination for Lanesville Christadelphian Church's inclusion on the Virginia State Historic Landmarks Register is underway with the final decision expected in Spring 2018. The Society has issued a request for bids to update and maintain the Society's web site.

President Brown reported that the Board will create a draft plan for expenditure of the Coon Fund. He is clarifying permitted uses of the money with the Community Foundation. 2017 uses of the money are to be reported to the Foundation by March 2018.

He reminded the members about the Native American Film Festival, Pocahontas Reframed, to be held at the Byrd Theater in Richmond in November. He invited members to renew their membership by paying dues to Treasurer Ron Parker.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. and the group enjoyed a potluck meal together.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fran Freimarck, Secretary

*Membership Form:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

*Annual Membership expires twelve(12) months after your last dues payment.*

- △ Family..... \$30
- △ Individual ..... \$20
- △ Student ..... \$10
- △ Lifetime ..... \$250
- △ Artifact Level.....\$150+
- △ Pamunkey /Mattaponi Level<sup>[SEP]</sup>..... \$300+
- △ Thomas T.H. Hill Benefactor Level .....\$500+
- △ Corporate Sponsorship .....\$500+

*Annual Membership expires twelve(12) months after your last dues payment*

*Mail to: King William Historical Society<sup>[SEP]</sup>*

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 PO Box 233  
 King William, VA 23086

