

Fall 2005

# Dispatch

A NEWSLETTER OF THE JAMESTOWN-YORKTOWN FOUNDATION

## New Gazebo Gathering Place For Outdoor Tours



A gazebo at one end of Jamestown Settlement's visitor services and gallery complex is now the starting point for regularly scheduled guided tours of the Powhatan Indian, 1607 ships, riverfront and colonial fort interpretive settings. The one-and-a-half-hour tours are offered several times daily. The gazebo is located at the exit of the new permanent gallery building where exhibits are under construction and will open in late 2006. A "great hall" spanning the length of the building has been temporarily open to visitors. Connected to the rotunda of the theater and special exhibition wing, where the introductory film *Jamestown: The Beginning* is shown and a transitional exhibition provides an overview of 17th-century Virginia, the "great hall" ultimately will provide, with illustrations and text, a chronological journey through the 1600s. ❖



## Noland Foundation, Citizens and Farmers Bank Among New Donors to 'Campaign for Jamestown Settlement, 1607-2007'

The Noland Memorial Foundation of Newport News has committed \$200,000 to "The Campaign for Jamestown Settlement, 1607-2007." Gifts to the campaign, which has attained nearly \$15 million toward a \$24.2-million goal, support artifact acquisition and conservation, capital improvements, educational programming, exhibitions, and endowment to ensure future excellence.

Jamestown Settlement is undergoing a revitalization of its facilities and exhibits in preparation for 2007 – when the 400th anniversary of the founding of America's first permanent English colony will be commemorated – and future decades.

The Noland Memorial Foundation, headed by Lloyd U. Noland, Jr., was established in 1955 and awards grants in the areas of community development, education and museums. A terrace adjoining the education wing of Jamestown Settlement's new visitor services and gallery complex will be named in recognition of the Noland Memorial Foundation's support.

Other new major commitments to The Campaign for Jamestown Settlement are \$75,000 from Citizens and Farmers Bank, headquartered in West Point, and \$18,000 from the Verizon Foundation, based in New York, N.Y., for technology applications in new exhibition

galleries opening in late 2006; \$50,000 from Floyd D. Gottwald, Jr., of Richmond; \$30,000 from the Chesapeake Corporation Foundation, headquartered in Richmond; and \$25,000 from Harry and Sally Pearce of Williamsburg. Mr. Pearce is a member of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors.

York County provided a grant of \$40,000 in support of educational and interpretive programming and a lecture series at the Yorktown Victory Center. ❖

The holiday season is an ideal time to remember or honor a family member or friend with a gift to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund. A personalized holiday card will notify the individual you select.

Lasting recognition is available through the purchase of an engraved brick at Jamestown Settlement's new welcome plaza. Donors may designate a name to be engraved on a 4" x 8" brick paver with a gift of \$500, or on an 8" x 8" brick paver with a gift of \$1,607, garnering membership in The 1607 Society.

For more information, call (757) 253-4139 or toll-free (888) 593-4682, or visit [www.historyisfun.org](http://www.historyisfun.org) and click on "Support Our Museums."

## Sailing Scenes Filmed For New Jamestown Settlement Production



Jamestown Settlement's *Susan Constant* (right) and the *Maryland Dove* (left) from Historic St. Mary's City were filmed together in August in the Chesapeake Bay for Jamestown Settlement's new introductory film. The docudrama, sponsored by Dominion and the Dominion Foundation, will provide an overview of the first two decades of America's first permanent English colony and the cultures that converged in early 1600s Virginia, complementing new gallery exhibits opening in late 2006. ❖

Photo by Trevor Wrayton,  
Virginia Department of Transportation

## Riverfront Discovery Area Explores Three Cultures' Life Along the Water

The Powhatan Indians used digging sticks to turn soil and weed gardens and fields. English settlers and Africans who arrived in Virginia in the 17th century used hoes with metal blades to dig deeper into the earth.

Comparing and contrasting technology of the three primary cultures of 17th-century Virginia is an important aspect of Jamestown Settlement's riverfront discovery area, which opened two years ago as the museum's first new interpretive area since 1957.

Visitors can learn about 17th-century piloting and mapping, boatbuilding techniques, methods of fishing, and the importance of trade among the Powhatan Indian, English and, later, African cultures that came into contact at Jamestown. Pathways lined with wattle fencing lead visitors to discovery stations to investigate the use of waterways for exploration, transportation, fishing, economic activities and cultural interaction.

"One of our strengths in the riverfront is our ability to compare the three cultures and really examine what happened when these diverse people came together," said Lara Templin, interpretive supervisor of the riverfront discovery area. "Newly acquired African reproduction objects, such as axes, hoes, baskets and cloth, help us to better illustrate the African story and compare all three Jamestown cultures side-by-side."

Visitors can learn about the importance of mapmaking for explorers in the 17th century, and how English colonist John Smith gathered details about rivers, villages and forests through his own exploration and through insight provided by Powhatan Indians to develop his 1612 Map of Virginia.

Powhatan, European and African cultures were all familiar with fishing, but fishing tools and techniques varied. Powhatan men fished with hooks of bone, made stone and bone points for spears, and made nets and traps of natural cordage. West Africans worked with nets and lines made of twisted bark and hooks of iron and copper. English fishermen also used nets, lines and metal hooks. Methods of cooking and preserving fresh catch also are compared at the riverfront.

To learn about watercraft, visitors can scrape a charred tree trunk with an oyster shell, the Powhatan method of creating dugout canoes, and then watch as an interpreter repairs an English shallop – through sawing and sanding, even steaming, wooden ribs and planks to form the boat shell.

Ships and waterways were the means of importing and exporting commodities from and to England. After attempts at several different enterprises, the successful cultivation of tobacco led to the economic growth of the Virginia colony. The tobacco trade and the need for a labor source to work the tobacco fields led to the development of the slave trade in the late 17th century.

Waterways also facilitated trade among the cultures, and visitors can examine examples of goods valued by each culture. The English relied on the Powhatan Indians for food, information and other commodities, and the Powhatans looked to the English to obtain metal tools, weapons, European glass beads and copper. As they exchanged goods, they also exposed one another to new languages and cultures. ❖

– Tracy Perkins  
Media Relations Specialist



The riverfront discovery area provides opportunities to learn about the watercraft of different cultures. Here, historical interpreter Joe Freitus repairs an English-style shallop, and visitors scrape out a charred log to help fashion a Powhatan canoe.

## Toward 2007 ... an update on planning for the Jamestown quadricentennial.



The new America's 400th Anniversary online store at [www.Americas400thAnniversary.com](http://www.Americas400thAnniversary.com) features more than 30 official commemorative logo items, including shirts, hats, jackets, rain gear, tote bags, mugs, glasses, stickers and pens. The line will soon be available at retail outlets, including selected visitor information centers throughout Virginia. Proceeds from sales support the educational and awareness initiatives of Jamestown 2007, the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, APVA Preservation Virginia and the National Park Service.

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Two nationally prominent consulting firms will work with Jamestown 2007 to develop public relations initiatives and corporate sponsorships. Ruder Finn has been retained to ensure participation in the commemoration by celebrities and dignitaries, conduct national media campaigns and support sponsor visibility efforts. The 400th-anniversary account will be managed by the Washington, D.C., office, with Ruder Finn's offices in other major U.S. cities and in Europe playing integral roles in building awareness for the commemoration and its signature events. Velocity Sports and Entertainment, the nation's leading sponsorship firm, has been retained to secure additional corporate support.

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Travelers in Virginia will be able to identify the many communities commemorating America's 400th Anniversary in 2006 and 2007, courtesy of the Virginia Department of Transportation. VDOT is making the founding of Jamestown and Virginia's 400-year heritage the focus of the 2006-2008 edition of the Official State Transportation Map, which will be available in Spring 2006. The map will feature America's 400th Anniversary with cover photography and a special inset on the commemoration. The map's index of cities, towns, communities and counties will highlight the listings of localities, numbering more than a hundred, that achieved Official Virginia 2007 Community designation by September 15, 2005.

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The National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Virginia High School League have approved the use of commemorative patches on the uniforms of the state's college and high school athletic teams. The number of commemoration partners is now more than 50.

\* \* \* \* \*

In preparation for the execution phase of the commemoration, the staff of Jamestown 2007 has expanded to 15. New staff members include Director of Operations Howard L. Gevertz, previously manager of group interpretation for Colonial Williamsburg; Manager of Partnerships Alta E. Cassidy, previously coordinator of the Main Street Program for the Alabama Historical Commission; and Manager of Public Relations and Promotions J. Kevin Crossett, formerly a reporter and editor at the Lynchburg News & Advance. ❖

# 'LEGACY OF YORKTOWN' EXHIBITION WILL PROFILE INDIVIDUALS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS

"The Legacy of Yorktown: Virginia Beckons," a long-term exhibition opening in the Yorktown Victory Center's Mathews Gallery in October 2006, will examine the many cultures that shaped Virginia society, from the Powhatan Indians to those who arrived in 1607 and later – English colonists, Africans and others from around the world. The primary focus of the exhibition will be on individuals and groups who came between 1607 and 1830, and the impetus to immigration created by the formation of a new nation with the adoption of the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Immigrants to British North America searched for many things: farmland, economic independence or the freedom to follow their religion. Virginia, with its abundant land, deepwater ports and growing towns, drew many immigrants south from New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore after their transatlantic journey. The contributions made by the original inhabitants and immigrants to Virginia's landscape, agriculture, foodways and decorative arts remain part of its regional identity today.

The exhibition will tell the stories of diverse people who came to call Virginia home: Scots-Irish settlers, French Protestant refugees, English adventurers, Jewish families in Petersburg and Norfolk, German frontier settlers in the Shenandoah Valley, and immigrants from other states.

Loans from international museums include tools and other objects similar to what each group would have known. The World Museum Liverpool is lending gold weights, gold dust boxes and tools associated with the West African gold trade, objects that would have been familiar to West Africans transported as slaves to Virginia in the 18th century. The National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland's Ulster American Folk Park is lending tools for dairying and household lighting – a wooden noggin and an Irish rush light – that Scots-Irish immigrants in the Shenandoah Valley and in ports like Petersburg might have brought with them or reproduced here. Snuff spoons and grinders and tobacco boxes, loaned from the National Museums of Scotland, recall Dutch planters and Scots-Irish

immigrants who came to Virginia to work at growing and selling tobacco.

One of many individual stories to be told is that of Mary Craig Cumming, born in County Ulster, Ireland, in 1791. Mary came to Petersburg, Virginia, in 1811 as the bride of a Glasgow tobacco broker. Although her time in Virginia was short – she died in 1815 – her extensive correspondence with family members survives and provides an illuminating account of her impressions and experiences and her nostalgia for home. Mary delighted in her crops of peas, strawberries and watermelons and earned regular income selling produce and calves at market. She planned to buy tobacco and import linen with her earnings. Her vivid descriptions of life in Petersburg tell of the coming of the War of 1812, three earthquakes and "Washington's Birth-Night Ball," and how "men, women, and children are all politicians in this country."

Among others to be profiled in the exhibition are Jewish settlers Rebecca and Haym Samuels of Petersburg and Moses and Elizabeth Myers of Norfolk, German veteran of the American Revolution Peter Lauck and his wife Amelia, and Pennsylvania Quaker immigrants Isaac Zane, an iron master, and Goldsmith Chandlee, an instrument maker. ❖

– Mary Anne Caton, Senior Curator



© National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland, Ulster American Folk Park



Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation collection

**Objects associated with various immigrant groups will be exhibited in "The Legacy of Yorktown: Virginia Beckons." Harnen stands like the one above were used in Ireland and by Irish immigrants to toast breads on the hearth. The compass at left was made by Goldsmith Chandlee, a Quaker immigrant from Pennsylvania.**

## Four New Members Named To Governing Boards

Virginia Delegate Harry R. "Bob" Purkey of Virginia Beach and Norma C. Ramsey of Great Falls have joined the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees.

Delegate Purkey was appointed by House of Delegates Speaker William J. Howell to succeed James H. Dillard. He represents the 82nd District in the House and is a vice president of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.

Ms. Ramsey was appointed by Governor Mark R. Warner to fill the unexpired term of Robert V. Hatcher, Jr., through June 2006. She is director of The Ramsey Foundation, a private charitable foundation dedicated to children, education and healthcare.

Governor Warner reappointed

Stuart W. Connock, Shirley Custalow-McGowan and Patrick O. Gottschalk to four-year terms on the board, through June 2009.

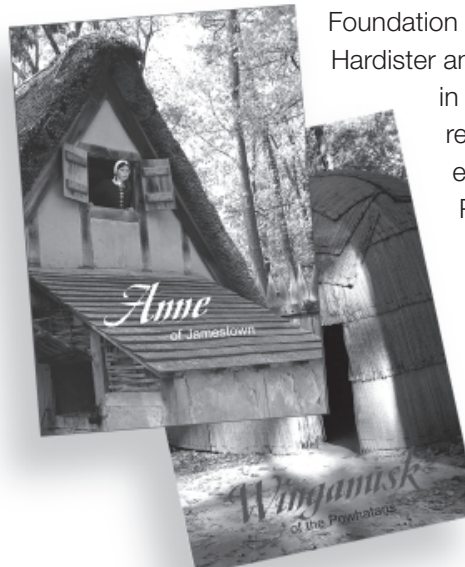
Lloyd U. Noland III and Thomas D. Rutherford, Jr., were elected to four-year terms on the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors, beginning January 1. Mr. Noland is senior executive advisor of Noland Company, a wholesale distributor of mechanical equipment and supplies based in Newport News.

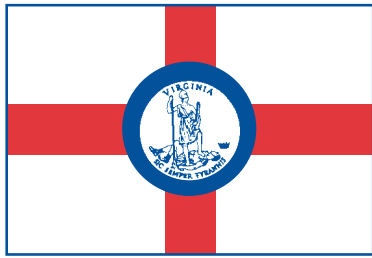
Mr. Rutherford leads the Rutherford Companies, providing insurance brokerage, risk-management and business support services, as chairman and CEO of Thomas Rutherford, Inc., and president of Rutherford International, Inc. ❖

## Foundation Gift Shops Publish Children's Books Set in 1600s Virginia

Two books newly published by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation gift shops explore life in the Jamestown colony and among the Powhatan Indians from the perspectives of young people. *Anne of Jamestown* and *Winganusk of the Powhatans* each chronicles a day in the life of a fictional pre-teen girl and her siblings and friends, about the year 1612.

The books, written by Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation museum educators Anne Price-Hardister and Janet Gallagher, engage children in learning about history by presenting realistic portrayals of young people in early 17th-century English and Powhatan families. Each contains a glossary, recommended reading list and historical overview. Illustrated with photographs taken at Jamestown Settlement, the books are accompanied by a line of companion products, including Anne and Winganusk dolls, clothing and toys. ❖





The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, an educational agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, administers Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center living-history museums. For more information, call (757) 253-4838.



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Volume 19, No. 3  
Printed November 2005

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## Calendar

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation  
**Winter Lecture Series**  
3:30 p.m.  
January 18 and 25, and February 1  
Yorktown Victory Center

Free public lectures on three Wednesday afternoons in January and February explore various topics on 18th-century Virginia, including Yorktown's pivotal role in the American Revolution.

**Jan. 18:** "The March from Williamsburg to Yorktown: An Overview of the Siege of Yorktown," by Chris Bryce, Colonial Historical National Park historical interpreter. 2006 is the 225th anniversary year of the American victory at Yorktown.

**Jan. 25:** "The Legacy of Yorktown: Virginia Beckons," by Mary Anne Caton, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation senior curator. A new exhibition opens at the Yorktown Victory Center in October 2006. (See story on page 3.)

**Feb. 1:** "Black-White Intimacy in Virginia Before the Civil War" by Melvin Ely, College of William and Mary history professor. The lecture, based on his book *Israel on the Appomattox*, explores a free black community in Prince Edward County during the 18th century.

December 17-31

### **A Colonial Christmas**

Jamestown Settlement  
& Yorktown Victory Center  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed Christmas Day

Experience holiday traditions of centuries past. At Jamestown Settlement, a film and interpretive presentations compare and contrast English Christmas customs of the period with how the season may have been observed in the difficult early years of the Jamestown

colony. At the Yorktown Victory Center, hear accounts of Christmas and winter in military encampments during the American Revolution and glimpse holiday preparations on a 1780s Virginia farm.



March 18-19

### **Military Through the Ages**

Jamestown Settlement  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Centuries of military history unfold as re-enactors depicting soldiers and military encounters from the Middle Ages to modern times demonstrate camp life, military tactics and weaponry.

Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center tell the story of the nation's beginnings, from the 1607 arrival of America's first permanent English colonists in Virginia, to the American Revolution and the formation of the new nation. Both museums feature gallery exhibits and living history in outdoor re-created settings – Powhatan Indian village, three ships, colonial fort and riverfront discovery area at Jamestown Settlement, and Continental Army encampment and 1780s farm at the Yorktown Victory Center. The museums are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily year-round, except Christmas and New Year's days. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. from June 15 through August 15. Guided tours of Jamestown Settlement's outdoor areas are offered several times daily, and both museums have ongoing and specially scheduled demonstrations of military, economic and domestic activities of the 1600s and 1700s. For more information, call (888) 593-4682 toll-free or (757) 253-4838 or visit [www.historyisfun.org](http://www.historyisfun.org).