



## SPRING 2010

Charles F. Gillette and Woods Hill  
of Franklin, Virginia, page 4



# broadSIDE

the magazine of the

**LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA**  
**SPRING 2010**

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## THE INSIDE STORY

# Virginia Is for History Lovers

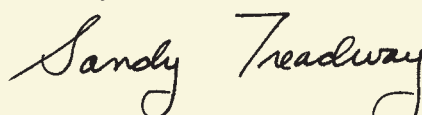
*Upcoming commemorative events highlight our diverse culture's shared history*

Years ago when I graduated from college, my announcement to family and friends in New Jersey that I was headed to graduate school to study history was greeted by polite smiles and silence. They did not regard becoming a historian as a practical path to future employment. When I arrived in Charlottesville as a first-year graduate student, however, I encountered a different reaction. Everyone I met seemed cognizant and appreciative of Virginia history. The bank teller who helped me open a local account, for example, asked if I had been to Monticello yet and then told me about several other historic sites within a short drive that I absolutely had to see. History is something that is valued in Virginia, both intrinsically and because it fuels the state's vibrant tourism industry. Virginia is a place where history lovers feel at home and where public and private organizations actively promote research and interpretation of the past.

Virginians love history and enjoy holding public events that mark important historic milestones. In the past, these events have been primarily celebratory in nature, concentrating on the heroic deeds of great Virginians. In recent years, though, event planners have favored commemorations that attempt something more. The year of Jamestown 2007, for example, focused on more than just the arrival of the *Susan Constant*, the *Godspeed*, and the *Discovery* in May 1607 to establish the first permanent English colony in the New World. Instead, the organizers of Jamestown 2007 took full advantage of the educational opportunities that the 400th anniversary afforded to sponsor programs, exhibitions, and activities that explored early Jamestown's historic encounter between English, Native American, and African cultures as well as the evolving legacies of colonial and national government, culture, and society through four centuries. A desire for inclusiveness and an emphasis on education remain evident in the planning for two other upcoming events—the Virginia Bicentennial of the American War of 1812 and the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. Recognizing that these events have national interest and significance, too, Virginia has established official commissions to coordinate and oversee the state's remembrance of these conflicts.

The Library of Virginia is proud to contribute to the work of both commissions and to collaborate with museums and historic sites throughout the commonwealth to augment the educational value of these commemorations. We know that the Library's collections preserve countless and varied stories and voices from the past, and we are eager to share them with modern audiences. Understanding our shared history can enrich our lives today and cause us to be better citizens—but then, Virginians have always known that.

Sincerely,



Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia



## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

# Ticket to The Big Top

## Recent broadside purchase spotlights train travel to Barnum & Bailey's circus

Issued by the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad, this 1897 broadside recently purchased by the Library of Virginia announces one of the few appearances that the Barnum & Bailey circus made in Richmond at the time. The broadside advertises a combined price (50¢) for a circus performance and a round-trip rail ticket to Richmond from the surrounding town's stations, some of which don't exist today.

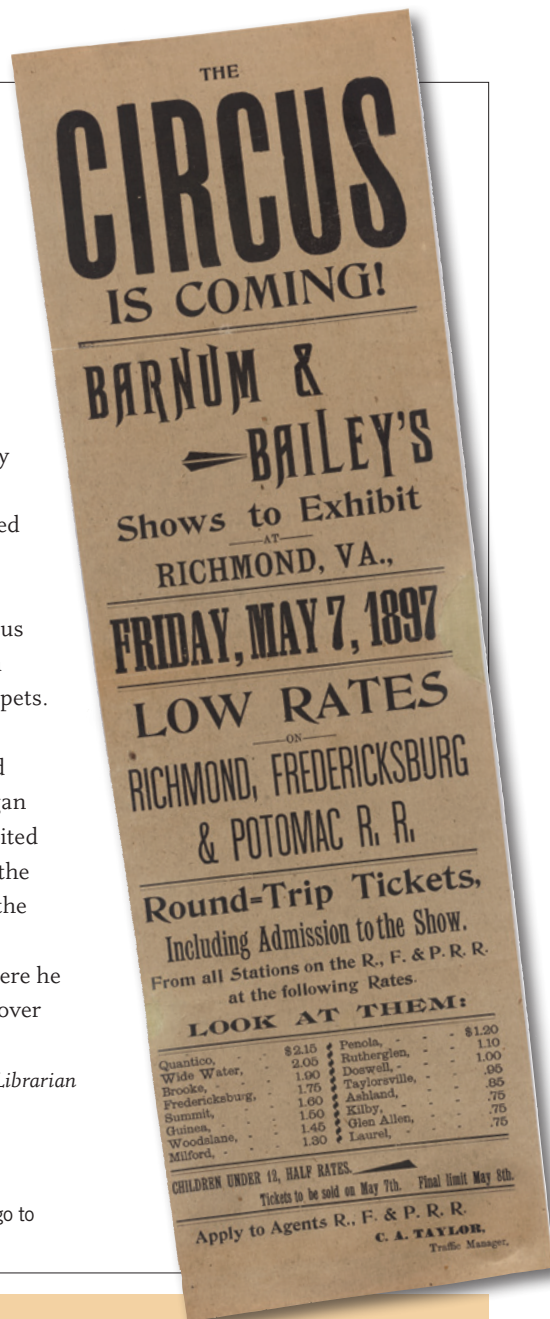
"Coming direct from New York City for a Grand Tour of the Southern States," the circus offered Richmond only one day of entertainment, Friday, May 7, 1897. The event featured a street parade with a 40-horse team and a "Columbus pageant," announced by blaring trumpets. The circus held two downtown performances that day—at 2:00 and 8:00 PM. A *Richmond Dispatch* review, printed the day after the performances, proclaimed that the circus reigned supreme with enormous attendance numbers. There was a scramble for seats, the band began to play, and "all settled down for a two hours' taste of absolute happiness." The circus exhibited a football-playing dog and 70 thoroughbred horses in concentric rings. The review praised the diversity and length of the program, describing how there was never a "dull moment from the time the great procession filled the ring until the final chariot race had been won and lost."

After the U.S. shows concluded that fall, Bailey took the circus across the Atlantic, where he began a tour of Europe that lasted for the next five years and spread the circus's popularity over the continent.

—Audrey C. Johnson, Senior Rare Book Librarian

### ALL ABOARD

This 1897 broadside offered one price for a circus performance and a round-trip rail ticket to Richmond from surrounding towns. To see this broadside (call number: Broadside 1897 .T39 FF) and others in the collection, go to [www.virginiamemory.com/collections/collections\\_a\\_to\\_z](http://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/collections_a_to_z) and scroll down to "Broadside Collection."



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Welcome to the Library of Virginia, the state's oldest institution dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's history and culture. Our resources, exhibitions, and events attract more than 200,000 visitors each year. Our collections, containing nearly 110 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens.

# gracious gardens

Charles F. Gillette Papers and Photograph Collection  
document historic projects

## LIGHT & SHADOW

One of Gillette's residential projects, Meadowbrook Manor near Richmond, Virginia, was photographed by Harry Bagby about 1935. Written on the back of the photograph: "An interesting treatment of the swimming pool; made a feature of the garden; a reflecting pool of all year beauty."

Charles F. Gillette is nationally recognized as one of the premier landscape architects associated with the restoration and re-creation of historic gardens in the upper South and especially Virginia. The Charles F. Gillette Virginia Photograph Collection (from the Charles F. Gillette Papers, 1918–1969) consists of 892 images that depict Virginia houses, estates, gardens, and other private and corporate landscape projects designed by the landscape architect. The collection, which can be found online at [www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/opac/gilletteabout.htm](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/opac/gilletteabout.htm), includes approximately 200 images by professional photographers Harry Bagby and George Moffett as well as many personal photographs of Gillette, his wife, Ellen Cogswell Gillette, and the various homes in which they lived. Gillette's papers contain approximately 7,000 drawings and nearly 50 cubic feet of correspondence, client files, personal papers, and other materials.

"People can view the photographs online, but researchers do come in to look at other materials in the collection, such as landscape architectural drawings," said Virginia Dunn, manager of the Library's Archives Research Services. "Sometimes it's a garden club member looking to restore a garden, but more often it's a property owner researching their property to see whether they had a Gillette garden, with the possibility of restoration. Some researchers already know that Gillette landscaped their property and they want to restore it to its former beauty. People are also interested in the client correspondence because in some cases they can find textual information about a garden."

## Master of the "Virginia Garden"

Charles Freeman Gillette (1886–1969) established a regional style—known as the "Virginia Garden"—characterized by its understated classicism and attention to detail. He linked architecture and landscape in a manner seldom found today, not only emphasizing the traditional features of landscape design but also carefully shaping each of his creative outdoor environments to complement the most distinctive elements of his clients' homes and broader surroundings. Although most of Gillette's work involved domestic landscape designs for individual clients, he also worked on large-scale corporate, educational, and government projects.

Born in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, Gillette by 1909–1911 was serving as an apprentice in the Boston office of Warren Manning, a leading landscape architect at the turn of the century. Gillette married Ellen Cogswell in 1912 and moved to Richmond in 1913 to

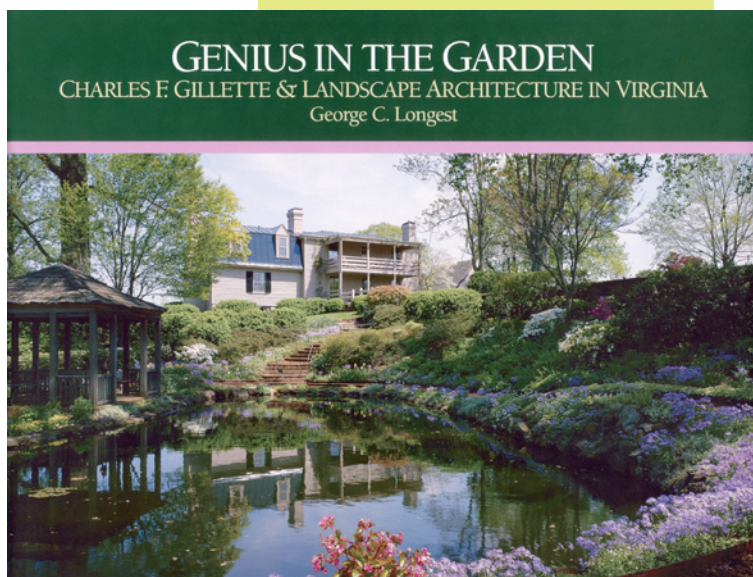
## GARDEN LOVERS

Charles and Ellen Gillette, shown here in an undated photograph, moved to Richmond in 1913 because of Gillette's work supervising the landscape design for the University of Richmond under landscape architect Warren Manning.





supervise the completion of Manning's landscape design for the University of Richmond's new campus. In 1915 he began designing the grounds of the Nelson House in Yorktown and in 1924 commenced work on the landscape restoration of Kenmore in Fredericksburg. A few years later, he initiated plans for the landscaping of Virginia House and Agecroft, both reconstructed English manor houses located in Richmond's Windsor Farms neighborhood. Extensive additions to the Virginia House gardens were completed in 1939. During the 1950s, Gillette redesigned the gardens of Virginia's Executive Mansion at the request of Governor Thomas B. Stanley and also designed the grounds for the Richmond headquarters of Reynolds Metals Company and Ethyl Corporation. His commissions also included hundreds of residential projects throughout Virginia and North Carolina. ■



## new blooms

### Garden Club of Virginia donates photograph collection to Library

The Garden Club of Virginia Photograph Collection includes approximately 6,000 photographs, negatives, and 35mm slides from the 1930s through 2009. The photographs, donated to the Library of Virginia in 2009, were used by the Garden Club for presentations and publications about notable gardens dating back to colonial times. The informational value of the collection is extensive since many of the images show landscapes and garden designs that have changed over time or no longer exist. The items are currently being processed, but will be open

to researchers in the future. For more information, contact Special Collections at 804.692.3703 or [picture@lva.virginia.gov](mailto:picture@lva.virginia.gov).

The Garden Club of Virginia, established in 1929, is an active association of 47 garden clubs from around the commonwealth. Its purpose is to restore and protect historic gardens and landscapes, and to inspire a love of gardening through educational programs. Most notably, the Garden Club of Virginia is recognized for its Historic Garden Week, a statewide tour of gardens and homes. Proceeds from the tour are used to fund garden restoration projects throughout Virginia.

—Dale Neighbors, *Prints and Photographs*  
Collection Coordinator

#### ON THE RIVER

This undated image from the Garden Club of Virginia Photograph Collection features the 1726 mansion and terraced boxwood gardens of Berkeley, one of the historic James River plantations in Charles City County, Virginia. The back of the photograph describes it as the "home of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Jamieson."

### AVAILABLE IN THE VIRGINIA SHOP

***Genius in the Garden:  
Charles F. Gillette and Landscape  
Architecture in Virginia***

by George C. Longest

**74 color and 57 black-and-white  
illustrations, Library of Virginia, 1992.  
\$39.95.**

From the 1920s through the 1960s, the name Charles F. Gillette was synonymous with the best in landscape design in Virginia and the upper South. Famous for landscaping hundreds of Virginia's suburban estates, Gillette also undertook numerous large-scale educational, corporate, and government projects, leaving his unique imprint on public as well as private space. George Longest unravels the process through which Gillette established a distinctive regional style and set a tradition of quality and professionalism that became the standard in his field.

*Interesting both as a social  
document of turn-of-the-  
century America and as a  
biography of a designer and  
a description of the elegant  
gardens he made.*

—*American Horticulturist*

# Gillette & Woods Hill

*Researcher discovers his family's ties to famous landscape architect*

by Parker C. Agelasto

As a child early in the 1980s, I don't remember thinking that the beautiful property called Woods Hill could have been man-made. I saw the lake surrounded by dogwoods and azaleas as an oasis. It seemed native to the quiet town of Franklin, Virginia, and befitted a grandchild's visit to see his grandparents. What I later came to appreciate was that Charles F. Gillette's skillfulness as a landscape architect and the family's patronage of his work made it seem so natural.

Sol Waite Rawls Jr., his wife, Ann Peace Rawls, and their four young children moved into their newly constructed home in 1951. Woods Hill was the culmination of years of collaboration between

court. Over the course of more than 60 years, my grandfather completed most of Gillette's plan with the exception that the pool was reduced in size and the tennis court never built.

I happened to learn about the Charles F. Gillette Papers at the Library of Virginia through my mother's involvement with the Garden Club of Virginia. I searched the online database of drawings and correspondence to learn more about the plan for Woods Hill and other family properties in Franklin. I was amazed to see the breadth of the Library's collection, including correspondence between my grandparents and Gillette beginning in 1946. I also found correspondence between Gillette and my great-grandmother

Rena Camp Rawls, who commissioned a garden in 1952.

Gillette's designs in Franklin included those for several of my cousins, as well as commissions for the

I was amazed to see the breadth of the Library's collection, including correspondence between my grandparents and Gillette beginning in 1946.

Franklin Baptist Church, Poplar Spring Cemetery, and Southampton Memorial Hospital. I realized that the family's patronage was widespread and that I had taken for granted the many places I visited that shared the same vision and design aesthetic.

Despite all of the wonderful materials in the Charles F. Gillette Papers at the Library of Virginia, it lacked a copy of the plan for Woods Hill. I learned that many of Gillette's plans for private residences are not in the collection—neither originals nor copies. It was not surprising, therefore, that John Metz (director of Collection Management Services) and Dale Neighbors (prints and photographs collection coordinator) asked if my grandfather would donate his only copy of the Woods Hill plan, weathered from 60 years of handling. My grandfather agreed to give it to the Library for the use of future researchers.

Meanwhile, I provided digital images showing the house and garden from the 1950s to present day that supplement the professional photography of Harry Bagby and George Moffett in George Longest's book *Genius in the Garden: Charles F. Gillette and Landscape Architecture in Virginia*. Just as Longest perceived Woods Hill to display the exceptional qualities of Gillette's abilities, I see in it my family's love and devotion for the natural beauty he envisioned. We hope that our gifts of this additional documentation will enhance the great resources at the Library of Virginia. ■

Parker C. Agelasto is an independent scholar specializing in American art and printmaking.



## CALM OASIS

Woods Hill—the 1951 residence of the author's grandfather in Franklin, Virginia—features two ponds and more than 1,000 azaleas in a landscape designed by Charles F. Gillette. The family has donated the landscape plan, shown here and on the cover, to the Library of Virginia. Photographs on cover and above by Mark H. Rainer.

the homeowners, architect Alan McCullough, and landscape designer Charles F. Gillette. Gillette and his wife were the first overnight guests at the house, on which occasion Ellen Cogswell Gillette presented a garden plaque she personally crafted for the young couple.

I recently spoke with my grandfather about the construction of Woods Hill and the significance of the Gillette gardens. He pulled out a blue-line drawing (the reverse of a blueprint) and commented on the original design. He was 27 years old when he approached Gillette about designing an estate. He requested a plan that could be implemented in stages as he lacked the necessary finances—having just returned from serving in World War II and starting a new family.

In the first phase, Gillette sited the location of the house and two man-made ponds. The upper pond filtered sediment from the water flowing into the larger secondary pond. More than 1,000 azaleas were also seeded and later transplanted throughout the property after they were hardy. The original plan called for a greenhouse, swimming pool, pool house, horse stable, dog kennel, and tennis



## WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB

### Constitutional Documents, Virginiana, and Photographs Galore

*New digital collections and content available  
on [VirginiaMemory.com](http://VirginiaMemory.com)*

#### **“Shaping the Constitution” Web site highlights a remarkable legacy**

Our new “Shaping the Constitution” Web page brings to the classroom—and to the general public—important documents from the Library of Virginia and the Library of Congress related to America’s Founding Era and the United States Constitution. The Library received funding for the program through the Library of Congress’s Teaching with Primary Sources Initiative, which fosters collaborations between the Library of Congress and the educational community to increase instructional use of digitized primary sources within K–12 classrooms. ([www.virginiamemory.com/online\\_classroom/shaping\\_the\\_constitution](http://www.virginiamemory.com/online_classroom/shaping_the_constitution))

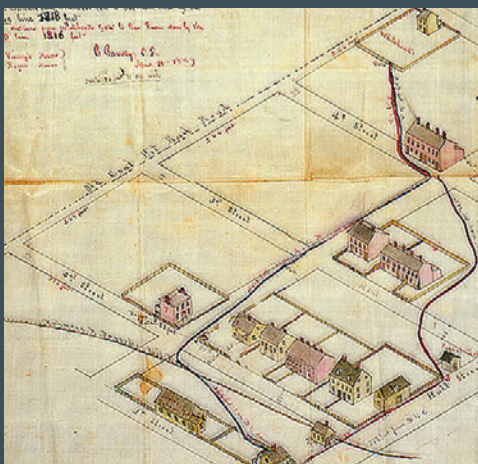


#### **“Virginiana” articles highlight discoveries made while processing collections**

New digital collections are not all that’s new on Virginia Memory. Be sure to explore our “Virginiana” section, featuring articles written by archival staff members as they process collections and make new discoveries about the records and people of the commonwealth. Some recent Virginiana articles include crime scene maps from the Local Records collections, a story about the public privy on Capitol Square, and the account books of R. D. (Robert Davidson) Hufford, a late-19th-century physician from Tazewell County. The variety and richness of our collections shine through in every Virginiana article. ([www.virginiamemory.com/reading\\_room/virginiana](http://www.virginiamemory.com/reading_room/virginiana))

##### **PICTURING HISTORY**

This 1870 Chesterfield County crime scene map is part of a “Virginiana” article on Virginia Memory.com.



##### **WORLD VIEW**

A view from the Peaks of Otter, an area along the Blue Ridge Parkway, is part of the 1939 World’s Fair Photograph Collection available online.

#### **Digital 1939 World’s Fair Photograph Collection is now even easier to use**

Not all new digital collections are, in fact, new. Take a moment to check out the images from the 1939 World’s Fair, Virginia Memory’s featured collection. Library staff members from Information Technology, the Picture Collection, and Technical Services worked together recently to move the collection from the catalog, where it was available online for many years, to DigiTool, our digital asset management system. This change allows us to provide thumbnails for browsing the collection, as well as enhanced viewing options. More than 3,000 images are available, depicting recreation and sports, travel, historic buildings and sites, and the natural and physical beauty of the commonwealth—all representations of Virginia displayed at the 1939 World’s Fair in New York City. ([http://virginiamemory.com/collections/online\\_photo\\_collections](http://virginiamemory.com/collections/online_photo_collections))

#### **Virginia Legislature Photograph Collection reveals changes in culture and fashion**

Arranged chronologically, the Virginia State Legislature Photograph Collection contains annual composite portraits of the General Assembly, consisting of the House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia. The photographs range in date from 1857 to 2004, and are primarily the work of the Foster Studio and later the Dementi Studio of Richmond. In addition to illustrating evolving styles in hair and clothing over the years, the group portraits show cultural changes. For example, the House of Delegates sessions of 1871 and 1872 include African American members. In the years that follow, African Americans disappear and are not represented again for nearly a century. To browse the collection, go to [www.virginiamemory.com/collections/whats\\_new](http://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/whats_new) and select “Virginia State Legislature Photograph Collection.”

#### **Carneal & Johnston Architectural Photograph Collection now on Virginia Memory.com**

As promised in the Fall 2009 issue of *Broadside*, the Carneal & Johnston architectural photograph collection is now available online. Visit Virginia Memory and click “What’s New” to enjoy these 215 images from one of Richmond’s most-renowned architectural firms. ([www.virginiamemory.com/collections/whats\\_new](http://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/whats_new))



## The Land We Live In, The Land We Left: Virginia's People

Through October 30, 2010  
Lobby and Exhibition Gallery

# Virginia's People

## The state's immigrants prosper and enrich the lives of others

The ink on the weathered paper is difficult to read, but the emotion driving the mid-nineteenth-century writer is clear: "I looked all around, and I saw I was alone." This poem, written by an unknown immigrant in the Shenandoah Valley sometime after 1847, expresses a sentiment shared by other immigrants to—and emigrants from—Virginia for the last 400 years. Leaving friends and family to make a life in a new place is never easy. But as the Library of Virginia's current exhibition shows, Virginia's population has been shaped and strengthened by generations of people willing to make that sacrifice.

*The Land We Live In, the Land We Left* explores the reasons that immigrants came to Virginia as well as the reasons that emigrants left the state. It plumbs the Library's extensive collections of government records to reveal the story of the now-forgotten Board of Immigration, which recruited immigrants to the state after the Civil War. And it honors the artifacts of everyday life—wedding clothes, sports jerseys, walking canes, banjos—that tell the real stories of immigrants' lives.

We share three such stories here. They are a sampling of the range of stories featured in the exhibition. A series of programs digs deeper into the history of immigration in Virginia and illuminates current debates on the topic. In March curator Lisa Goff offered a lecture on how she used the Library's collections to generate themes for the exhibition, in April the Library hosted a panel of Virginia experts on immigration, and in May the Library presents a music program (see page 7).

### David Ross: "I am ready to stand or fall for my adopted country"

Born in Scotland about 1739 and the son of a Port Glasgow tax collector of modest means, David Ross sought his fortune overseas, immigrating to Virginia in the mid-1750s to work for a Scottish merchant. With a distinct talent for entrepreneurship, he had become by 1772 a partner in Eilbeck, Ross and Company, the second-largest tobacco exporter from the upper James River, with offices in Petersburg, Richmond, and Norfolk.

Like many other merchants of Scottish origin during the Revolution, Ross was suspected of holding Loyalist sympathies. He was able to prove his dedication to the American cause

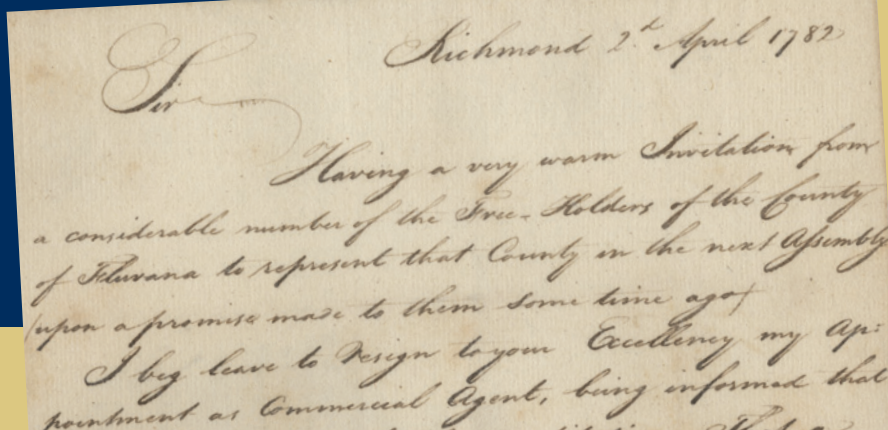
through commercial and industrial assistance to the state. His Oxford Iron Works, near Lynchburg, became the commonwealth's largest iron producer, and by 1779 he was supplying the government with high-quality iron for the manufacture of more than 200 cannons as well as other products. Appointed

*The Library of Virginia is grateful for the generous support of our exhibition sponsor*



#### DEDICATED AMERICAN

In this 1782 letter to Governor Benjamin Harrison, Scottish immigrant David Ross resigned as Virginia's commercial agent in order to serve as a delegate from Fluvanna in the General Assembly.





the commonwealth's commercial agent at the end of 1780, Ross was in charge of manufacturing and importing all kinds of military supplies during the most crucial part of the Revolutionary War. His plantation at Point of Fork, in Fluvanna County, became the state's most important supply depot and the target of a British raid.

In 1780 Ross acquired more than 7,000 acres of land in Goochland and Fluvanna counties that had been confiscated from British subjects, and by 1788 he was one of the wealthiest men in Virginia. In 1789 he joined Patrick Henry in founding the Virginia Yazoo Company, which bought large landholdings in what became the state of Mississippi.

Rich in property, Ross was short of cash after the Revolution. As late as 1787 he was still trying to get the state to reimburse the personal funds he had expended as its commercial agent. David Ross died at his home in Richmond in 1817 and was buried on the grounds of Cobham, his Cumberland County plantation. His estate was so complicated that his executor was required to post a bond for the then-enormous sum of \$300,000 and probate was still incomplete 17 years after his death. Ross was survived by two daughters and two sons.

—William Bynum, Research Archivist

## Antonio Sansone: Fresh Produce and Upward Mobility

As ports of entry for immigrants, cities such as Norfolk, Baltimore, and New York have long been natural centers for diverse populations. Newly arrived from Italy or Syria or Germany or one of thousands of other places, immigrants settled in ethnically diverse neighborhoods, established businesses, and worked to bring members of their families to the United States.

Antonio Sansone was born in 1856 in Termini Imerese, Sicily, and immigrated to the United States in 1880. At first he worked as a shoemaker, but by 1899 he had established

Truck farming developed into a major industry in Tidewater Virginia, and Norfolk was a major port for exporting fresh produce to northern cities.

Antonio Sansone & Company, a wholesale dealer of fruit located on East Main Street, near the city market, in Norfolk. Truck farming developed into a major industry in Tidewater Virginia, and Norfolk was a major port for exporting fresh produce and fruit to northern cities. Other members of

the Sansone family immigrated to the United States and engaged in selling fresh produce, sometimes on their own or occasionally for a competitor. The Sansone house was a full one when the census taker visited in 1900. In addition to his wife, Annie Sansone, the family included six daughters and two sons, as well as a nephew and Sansone's mother, Salvatora Sansone. Other family members lived nearby in a neighborhood that was a mixture of immigrants and native-born Virginians who worked in a variety of occupations.

Sansone retired from business after his wife's death in 1931. The Sansone Fruit Company continued under the management of his son Augustus Sansone and Thomas L. Amato, an immigrant from the same village in Sicily, who joined the company as a sales clerk about 1900. By midcentury, the extended Sansone family had experienced a typical immigrant trajectory of upward mobility as children and grandchildren moved into other trades and into white collar and professional positions.

Antonio Sansone died on October 8, 1956. His children, nieces, and nephews survived him as did 22 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

—Barbara Batson, Exhibitions Coordinator



### FAMILY BUSINESS

Norfolk's Sansone Fruit Company, shown about 1915, stayed in the family for nearly half a century. Harry C. Mann, photographer.

## FREE EVENT



Friday, May 21 | 6:00–7:30 PM

### PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP Ireland Meets Appalachia: A Conversation in Music

Place: Conference Rooms

As a part of the exhibition, the Library will host a special musical program exploring the cultural connections between folk music from Ireland and the traditions that still survive in Virginia's Appalachian region, featuring Mary Dailey, Jimmy Costa, and Patrick O'Flaherty. Cosponsored by the Richmond Folk Music Society and Irish-American Society of Greater Richmond. For more information call 804.371.2126.



## Pearl Fu: Dragon Pearl

Pearl Fu lived what she calls a “cloistered” childhood in Yunnan Province, a remote, mountainous region of southwestern China that is home to more than a third of China’s ethnic minorities. Born in 1941, Fu grew up in a prominent political family. Her grandfather was a provincial governor of Yunnan Province. Her mother nurtured the traditions of the Yi, teaching her children to cook their native cuisine.

Inspired by her grandfather, Fu fell in love with all things American. “Broadway songs, jazz recordings—one year I even had my own Christmas

Fu found people in the Valley “warm and welcoming—they embrace newcomers.” But her ethnic pride was roused when, at a dinner party hosted by Taiwanese immigrants, she heard acquaintances, who were Han, slander the Yi.

In 1991 she discovered a forum to express her pride in her Yi heritage. Local Colors, the city’s fledgling international festival, was struggling. Working without a salary for the first ten years,

**Fu transformed a tiny street-corner festival into an annual celebration that draws as many as 30,000 people.**

Fu transformed a tiny street-corner festival into a year-round celebration of ethnic and racial diversity, offering monthly programs and an annual celebration that draws as many as 30,000 people to Roanoke on the third Saturday of every May.

Fu has become a local legend in Roanoke, promoting diversity every chance she gets. She is a common sight at ethnic celebrations, often dressing in the costume of the featured ethnicity. A recent week found her at a Filipino debutante ball, a Latina luncheon, and a Scandinavian festival, where she posed wearing a blonde wig and a Viking helmet.

Says Fu, “You can acclimate to this country, contribute to it, become a citizen, but also keep your heritage alive at the same time.”

—Lisa Goff, Exhibition Curator

### DIVERSITY BOOSTER

The force behind Roanoke’s annual international festival, Pearl Fu can often be found at local ethnic celebrations dressed for the occasion.

tree,” she recalls. When she turned 18, she surprised everyone by insisting on attending college in the United States. “I started living up to my Chinese surname, which means ‘dragon,’” she says.

In 1959 Fu immigrated to the United States and enrolled in college, first in a Catholic girls’ school in Pennsylvania and then at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. She graduated with an arts degree in 1963 and, still dreaming of Broadway, had a brief singing career before marrying C. C. Fu, an engineer. They lived in New Jersey before moving with their three daughters to Roanoke in 1986.

# WELCOME NEW CITIZENS

## Library hosts U.S. naturalization ceremony in connection with immigration exhibition

Seventy-five new citizens recited the *Oath of Allegiance* at a special naturalization ceremony on January 13, 2010, at the Library of Virginia. The event was held in conjunction with the Library’s exhibition on immigration, *The Land We Live In, the Land We Left: Virginia’s People*.

“In discussing programming in support of the exhibition, we thought it would be fitting to consider more recent immigrants to Virginia,” said Tameka Hobbs, the Library’s program and education manager. “The idea of hosting an immigration ceremony seemed perfect and very appropriate.”

The Honorable Roger L. Gregory of the United States Court of Appeals, Fourth District, presided during the ceremony; Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia, gave welcoming remarks; Ja-Nel C. James, field office director for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, presented the countries represented by the new citizens; Chryssi Maria Dessypris, Library of Virginia reference librarian and a naturalized citizen, led the *Pledge of Allegiance*; Joye B. Moore, a former Library of Virginia staff member, sang the *National Anthem*; and the cadets of Franklin Military Academy presented the colors.

The new Americans are originally from the following 33 countries: Afghanistan, Antigua-Barbuda, Australia, Bangladesh, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Canada, the People’s Republic of China, Colombia, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, India, Iran, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Laos, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Rwanda, South Korea, St. Kitts-Nevis, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

To highlight the importance of U.S. citizenship, USCIS naturalization ceremonies are often held at prominent national and historic sites nationwide.

### NEW VIRGINIANS

LEFT: New citizens recite the *Oath of Allegiance*; BELOW: The group to be naturalized represented 33 countries.





# Sharing History

New docent program benefits Library, visitors, and volunteers

What is a docent? The word comes from the Latin word *docere*, which means “to teach” and, according to Merriam-Webster OnLine (merriam-webster.com), it refers to “a person who leads guided tours especially through a museum or art gallery.”

The Library of Virginia, which attracts 200,000 visitors annually, saw its 2009 tour numbers increase by nearly 50 percent over the previous year. To meet this growing need, the Library established a volunteer docent program last year to help welcome visitors, guide exhibition tours, and assist with educational programs.

*“In a year when the Library has suffered budget and staff losses, it’s a privilege to have the gift of their time and talents.”*

The Library’s first group of docents enabled the Library to meet the increase in tour requests by school groups during the *Poe: Man, Myth, or Monster* exhibition. Members of the group have also assisted at book talks and other events and consulted on projects such as developing educational resources for younger visitors.

“The program has been a tremendous success,” said Tameka Hobbs, the Library’s program and education manager. “In a year when the Library has suffered budget and staff losses,

it’s a privilege to have the gift of their time and talents. They are essential to the success of our outreach programs and have shown commitment to supporting the Library in whatever ways they can.”

**Alyson Taylor-White**, who has two decades of experience as a local museum docent, has found that giving exhibition tours to middle and high school students is the most rewarding part of her work. “Even though Poe’s prose and poetry can seem removed in terms of his archaic and elevated use of the language,” she said, “his message of feeling unique, alone, and challenged by life seemed to be totally understood by teens.”

**Kerry Dahm**, another Library docent, graduated with a bachelor’s degree in history from Virginia Commonwealth

University last year, but, because of the economy, jobs in her field are scarce. “I love history, and being involved with the subject—whether in a paid or unpaid position—is always a rewarding experience,” said Dahm. “Witnessing how much students and adults love to learn has been an inspiration for me.”

Retired school counselor **Barbara Howson**, has fielded some amusing questions while leading tours. “As I was explaining to a



## GUIDING FORCES

ABOVE: The Library’s first group of volunteer docents poses with Library staff members. FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: Donna Shumate, Elyse Gefell (Donor Services Assistant), Alyson Taylor-White, Tameka Hobbs (Program and Education Manager), and Gregg Kimball (Education and Outreach Director). MIDDLE ROW FROM LEFT: Kathryn Watkins, Lucy Negus, and Angela Love. BACK ROW FROM LEFT: Art Moody, Barbara Howson, and Ray Johnson. NOT PICTURED: Kerry Dahm, James Eggleston, and Rachel Payne.

BELOW: Docent Donna Shumate (CENTER, IN BROWN JACKET) leads a tour group through the Library’s exhibition *The Land We Live In, the Land We Left: Virginia’s People*.



school group about Poe’s being the first modern detective writer and that M. Dupin had been the inspiration for the Sherlock Holmes character, one young man asked, ‘When was Sherlock Holmes born?’” she said. “I was sorry to have to tell him that Sherlock Holmes was a fictional character. But, hey, he was listening and asked a question—all good!”

**Interested in becoming a docent? The Library will be recruiting again this fall. For more information, contact Tameka Hobbs at 804.371.2126 at [tameka.hobbs@lva.virginia.gov](mailto:tameka.hobbs@lva.virginia.gov).**



# Chronicling Virginia

Virginia Newspaper Project sheds light on regional history and culture

The Virginia Newspaper Project continues to seek out and find recent publications as well as historical newspapers. The project is part of the United States Newspaper Program, a national effort to locate, describe, inventory, preserve, and provide public access to the U.S. imprint newspapers housed in the commonwealth. Using grant funds made available through the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Virginia Newspaper Project was established at the Library of Virginia in 1993.

VNP colleague Henry Morse recently traveled to Norfolk to visit the special collections of Norfolk State University and the Norfolk Public Library. Although the Library is aware of the significant collections held in Norfolk, the wealth of unique materials from this region was certainly unexpected. *The Spartan Echo*, Norfolk State University's student paper, is an invaluable historic record of the African American university experience during the latter half of the

Manuscript newspapers are exceedingly rare, and these wonderful examples by students of the Petersburg Classical Institute have been carefully conserved by the Etherington Conservation Lab.

20th century and brings to life the hopes of the community through the eyes of its young writers. Thanks to the generous assistance of Lucious Edwards, of Virginia State University, and Tommy Bogger, of Norfolk State University, the Library is currently filming a run of this publication from the 1950s to 2008.

Several titles of note were also discovered among the eclectic collection of the Norfolk Public

Library. Among them, the *Growler*, a small-format, illustrated, political newspaper published in Norfolk from 1905 to 1906, offers uncommon insight into the politics of the region as it entered the 20th century. A 1974–1976 run of the *Ghent Press*, an alternative monthly devoted to music news and named after the historic Ghent district of Norfolk, was also lent for filming and, thus far, is only known to be held at New York University, Dartmouth, and the University of Michigan. The *Virginia Observer*, yet another significant newspaper among these materials, offers a rich look at local politics, including the sometimes-controversial happenings of the Norfolk City Council, from 1967 to 1992. Thanks to the partnership between the Norfolk Public Library and the Library of Virginia, these newspapers, so valuable to Norfolk's history, will be available on microfilm in the coming year.

In addition to our recent fieldwork discoveries, four manuscript—or handwritten—newspapers were found in the archival records of the Petersburg Classical Institute, a boys' school established in 1838, where “the higher branches of liberal education” were taught. Published from 1842 to 1843 by the students of the institute, with titles such as the *Tattler* and *Hit Him Again*, the papers contain hand-drawn and

## TALES OUT OF SCHOOL

Published in the mid-1800s by the students of the Petersburg Classical Institute, these manuscript—or handwritten—newspapers feature poetry, student gossip, political news, and illustrations. Titles include the *Tattler* [TOP], and *Hit Him Again* [LEFT] and *Dies Festus Tempora* [OPPOSITE PAGE].



# GENIUS OF LIBERTY.

LEESBURG, VA. PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY B. W. SOWER.

VOL. XVII.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1833.

NO. 34.

## Full run of early-19th-century newspaper filmed for the collection

You'll discover dozens of *Times*, a profusion of *Posts*, and gobs of *Gazettes* in the microfilm catalog compiled by the Virginia Newspaper Project, but, until recently, only a modest handful of *Geniuses*. New Jersey can boast of two *Genius of Liberty* newspapers, in New Brunswick (1795-1796) and Morristown (1798-1811); Fredericksburg, Virginia, saw a *Genius* of short duration (1797-1798); and two 1840s-era anti-slavery papers, in Vermont and Illinois, also choose the *Genius of Liberty* title for their cause.

The enormous gaps in the dateline, so to speak, are gone. Our catalog now boasts a continuous run of full-title *Geniuses*—the *Genius of Liberty* (1817-1843) from Leesburg, Virginia. Thanks to a tip from Rebecca Ebert, director of the Handley Regional Library in Winchester, and a generous loan from a privately held collection, this acquisition for the Library of Virginia edges the VNP closer to the milestone of 500 microfilmed newspapers.

"No question, this is a real find. And in superb condition, handled and preserved with great care," said Errol Somay, VNP director. "We treated it with the respect you might reserve for a family heirloom, because—well, it is. To possess a filmed record of a paper originating this early in the 19th century, of this duration, in uninterrupted sequence, plus carrying such a distinctive title, is very gratifying."

**"To possess a filmed record of a paper originating this early in the 19th century, of this duration, in uninterrupted sequence, plus carrying such a distinctive title, is very gratifying."**

The weekly *Genius of Liberty* made its first appearance two months before the inauguration of James Monroe and vanished just over a quarter century later, in the middle of the John Tyler administration. Samuel B. T. Caldwell, founder of the *Genius of Liberty*, saw a prospering Leesburg and an established newspaper, the *Washingtonian* (1803-1903), wanting for competition. Possibly

Caldwell had a stronger interest in paper than in news, for after two years he handed over the operation to new manager Brook W. Sower in order to concentrate on his stationery store—whose advertisements continued to run in the paper, appearing within a privileged block of the front page. Sower settled in for a term of 15 years as mastheads altered, dimensions expanded, letters shrunk, and words per square inch jumped. With the arrival of his successor, George Richards, the political rhetoric of the newspaper heated up.

The *Genius of Liberty* title, unusual for its proud, bold abstractness and lack of geographic focus, might have been suggested by this motto

from the 1787 masthead of upstate New York's *Northern Centinel & Lansingborough Advertiser*: "The press is the cradle of Science, the Nurse of genius, the Shield of Liberty."

—Henry Morse, Project Assistant Cataloger

cut-out illustrations as well as poetry, student gossip, political news, and advertisements. The students' writing, which focuses primarily on school happenings, sometimes verges on the nonsensical and is often humorous and satirical. Manuscript newspapers are exceedingly rare, and these wonderful examples from the Petersburg Classical Institute have been carefully conserved by the Etherington Conservation Lab. Photocopies of the papers are available in the Library's boxed newspaper collection, while the originals will remain with the Library of Virginia's Petersburg Classical Institute archive.

As 2010 progresses, the Virginia Newspaper Project will continue to catalog historical newspapers in the Library's collection. While microfilming—which is an integral part of the newspaper digitization process—must temporarily be halted because of serious budgetary concerns, efforts to digitize newspapers will continue through the National Digital Newspaper Program, an ongoing initiative to provide free access to text-searchable digital images of historical newspapers. The NDNP's Web site, *Chronicling America*

(<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>), offers free access to digitized newspapers published in Virginia, among other states, from as early as 1878 to as late as 1912. For more information on the Virginia Newspaper Project, go to [www.lva.virginia.gov/public/vnp](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/vnp).

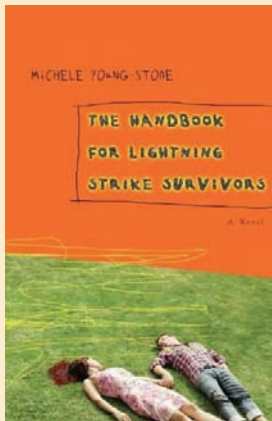
—by Kelley Ewing, Lead Project Cataloger,  
and Errol Somay, Newspaper Project Director



# calendar

Spring 2010 Events

All events are free unless otherwise noted.



**Thursday, May 20**  
5:30–7:30 PM  
**“BOOKS ON BROAD”**  
FEATURING  
**MICHELE YOUNG-STONE**  
**The Handbook for Lightning Strike Survivors**

Place:  
The Virginia Shop  
Join us for the first  
“Books on Broad”  
Book Club at the  
Virginia Shop, an  
informal gathering

where Richmond author Michele Young-Stone will speak about and read from her debut novel, *The Handbook for Lightning Strike Survivors*.

**Friday, May 21 | 6:00–7:30 PM**

**PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP**  
**Ireland Meets Appalachia:**  
**A Conversation in Music**

Place: Conference Rooms

As a part of the exhibition *The Land We Live In, the Land We Left: Virginia's People*, the Library will host a special musical program exploring the cultural connections between folk music from Ireland and the traditions that still survive in Virginia's Appalachian region, featuring Mary Dailey, Jimmy Costa,



and Patrick O'Flaherty. Cosponsored by the Richmond Folk Music Society and Irish-American Society of Greater Richmond. For more information call 804.371.2126.

**Wednesday, June 2 | Noon–1:00 PM**

**BOOK TALK BY LAURA BROWDER**

**When Janey Comes Marching Home**

Place: Conference Rooms

Laura Browder, author of *Her Best Shot: Women and Guns in America* and an English professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, will speak about her book *When Janey Comes Marching Home*. The book, which grew out of an exhibition created by Browder that combined interviews and photographs to tell the story of women in modern combat, explores the myths and cultural ideas surrounding the military, motherhood, and femininity. A book signing will follow the talk. Photographer Sascha Pflaeging also will be present to answer questions and sign books.



**Wednesday, June 16 | Noon–1:00 PM**

**BOOK TALK BY PAUL GASTON**

**Coming of Age in Utopia:**  
**The Odyssey of an Idea**

Place: Conference Rooms

Paul Gaston, historian and civil rights activist, will discuss and sign his memoir, *Coming of Age in Utopia*, which reveals his deep roots in Fairhope, the utopian Alabama community founded by his grandfather and later led by his father. By the 1950s the South was changing and Gaston looked to enter the struggle against racial injustice. His memoir focuses on his career at the University of Virginia, where he taught from 1957 to 1997. The story Gaston tells of social change both in the city of

Charlottesville and at the University of Virginia is one in which he played significant roles.

**Thursday, June 24 | 5:30–7:30 PM**

**“BOOKS ON BROAD” FEATURING BELLE BOGGS**

**Mattaponi Queen**

Place: The Virginia Shop

Join us for the “Books on Broad” Book Club at the Virginia Shop, an informal gathering where Belle Boggs will speak about and read from her debut collection of short stories, *Mattaponi Queen*. Set on the Mattaponi Indian

Reservation and in its surrounding counties, the stories in this linked collection detail the lives of rural men and women through stark realism and plainspoken humor.



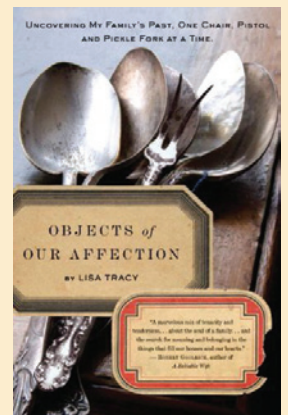
**Saturday, June 26 | 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**Discover the History Around the Corner**  
**Or in Your Attic**

Place: The Virginia Shop

Author Keshia Case will be in the Virginia Shop between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM to sign copies of her latest book, *Richmond: A Historic Walking Tour*, and will offer walking tours of Capitol Square. Tours are free but limited to 30 participants.

To reserve your space or for more information, please call the Virginia Shop at 804.692.3524. Tours depart from the main entrance of the Library of Virginia at 10:00 and 11:30 AM and 1:00 PM. The event will also feature a noontime book talk and signing by Lisa Tracy on *Objects of Our Affection*, a sentimental look at the objects that tell the story of our family histories. Positive Vibe Cafe and the Virginia Shop will offer specials throughout the day, with discounts on featured book titles.





## exhibitions at 800 east broad

Through mid-October 2010 | Café Extension  
**The Art of Liberty**

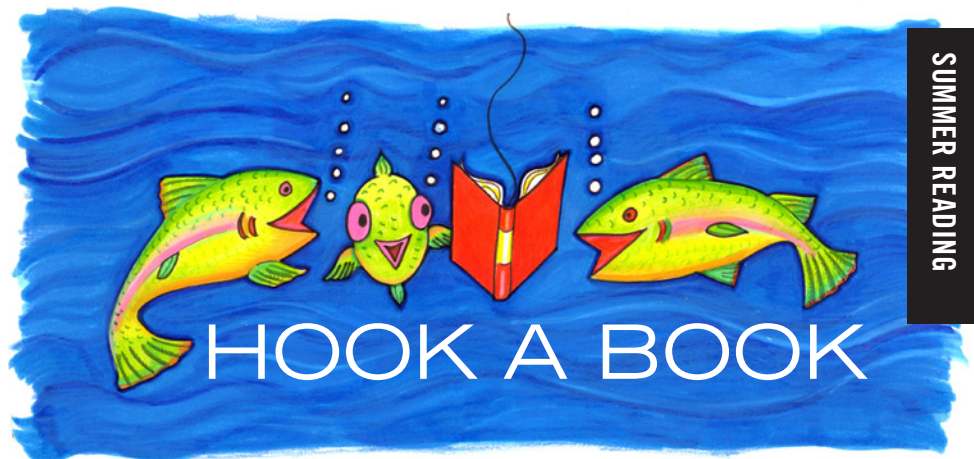
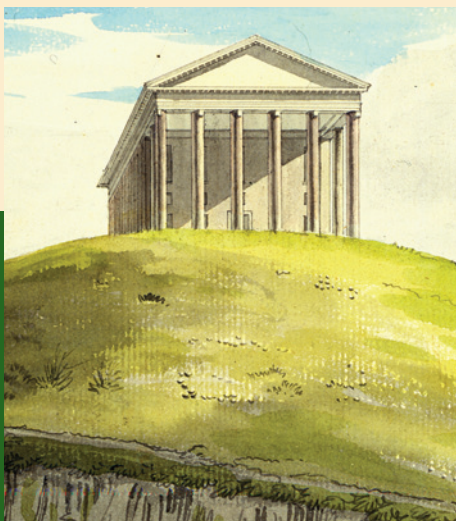
This year marks the 65th anniversary of both V-E Day (Victory in Europe, May 8) and V-J Day (Victory over Japan, August 15). To commemorate the occasions and to honor



those who fought overseas and on the home front, *The Art of Liberty* highlights a few of the WWII posters sent to the Library of Virginia as part of the Federal Depository Library program.

Extended through Saturday, October 30, 2010  
Exhibition Gallery & Lobby  
**The Land We Live In, the Land We Left: Virginia's People**

Raising his glass at a July 4th celebration in 1852, a young Irish-American resident of Virginia toasted "the land we live in; not forgetting the land we left." The sentiment reflects the history of more than four centuries of Virginia immigrants. The exhibition explores immigrants' varied stories and examines their contributions to the state's increasingly diverse cultural composition. This exhibition is sponsored by the Norfolk Southern Foundation.



SUMMER READING

### *Library of Virginia sponsors 2010 programs for children and teens at public libraries*

Kids who read succeed, and children who read during June, July, and August maintain and often improve their reading skills during their break from school. Every summer, Virginia's 91 public library systems (81 main libraries, 265 branch libraries, 31 bookmobiles, and 16 library stations) encourage their communities to be inspired, enlightened, and delighted by the written word. The Library of Virginia has supported reading programs for children and teens through its statewide summer reading programs since 1982. With funding from the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the Library of Virginia Foundation, the Library provides public libraries with summer reading program materials such as manuals, posters, bookmarks, and certificates.

"Hook a Book," the theme for the 2010 summer reading program, is illustrated by Nancy Carlson, an accomplished children's book author and illustrator who has published more than 50 books. Carlson believes that life should be fun for everyone, but especially for children.

This optimistic message permeates her artwork and provides a positive counterpoint to much of what children are influenced by in today's society.

"Submerge Yourself at the Library," the theme for the 2010 teen summer reading program, is illustrated by Kevin Sherry, an author and illustrator of three books. His illustrations are refreshingly uncluttered, with colorful shapes rendered in watercolor, cut paper, and ink.

For more information, contact Enid Costley, Children's and Youth Services consultant for the Library, at [enid.costley@lva.virginia.gov](mailto:enid.costley@lva.virginia.gov).



### *Library Creates Exhibitions for Capitol Visitors Center*

Working with the General Assembly of Virginia, the Library of Virginia was pleased to create two exhibitions that opened on January 11, 2010, in the Visitors Center of the Virginia State Capitol. The long-term installation *Virginia's Capitol* explores Thomas Jefferson's role in designing the Capitol and how the building has changed over time to meet the needs of the General Assembly. *Working Out Her Destiny*, which examines the role women have played in shaping and influencing Virginia, will be on view through the summer of 2010.

# Save a Piece of the Past

Private support is more critical than ever during budget downturns

Early last year we wrote in *Broadside* about a renewed emphasis on soliciting donor funds for the specific purpose of conservation care. The "Adopt Virginia's History" program gives you the opportunity to save a bit of history by enhancing our conservation budget for the preservation of items from the Library's unrivaled collections.

Thank you, adopters! The response from our donors was immediate and overwhelming. In the year since we first wrote about these needs, donors stepped in and began adopting pieces from our collection, allowing us to safeguard them for future generations.

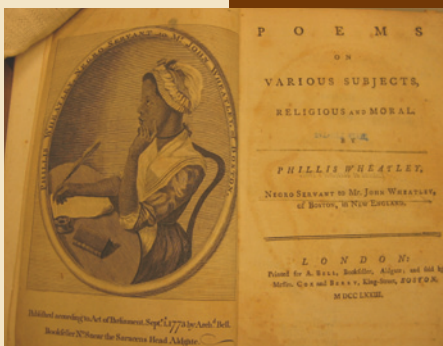
"It is during periods of budget downturns that private funding for the support and continuation of our preservation initiative is even more critical," said Tom Camden, director of Special Collections at the Library of Virginia. "Our treasures represent the lives of many individuals and speak to a common past. Together, they create a rich heritage of shared experience for all Virginians."

With those words in mind, we would like to introduce you to the latest items available for adoption in the program. Please keep in mind that gifts of all sizes are welcome. Conservation can involve a simple repair and cleaning to make an item more accessible to the general public, which can cost as little as \$100. A larger, more complex work can cost as much as \$5,000 for a complete restoration.

In addition to preserving history, the program offers these benefits:

- We will acknowledge your generous adoption or contribution with a certificate.
- Your gift will be recognized in our online catalog according to your wishes—in celebration of a birthday, in memory of a loved one, or for another reason.
- For a contribution of \$100 or more, you will be invited for a personal visit to Special Collections to see your adopted item after conservation.
- Your contribution is tax deductible.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Dan Stackhouse at 804.692.3913 or by e-mail at [dan.stackhouse@lva.virginia.gov](mailto:dan.stackhouse@lva.virginia.gov).



*Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* by Phillis Wheatley, negro servant to Mr. John Wheatley, of Boston, in New England

Genre: Book | Date: 1773

Author: Phillis Wheatley, ca. 1753–1784

**Description:** *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral* is the first published book of poetry by an African American author—male or female. Phillis Wheatley helped to shape our collective early written history as

Americans and became an icon of early American literature. Born in West Africa about 1753, Wheatley was named for the slave ship, the *Phillis*, that brought her to Boston on July 11, 1761, and her new owner, John Wheatley. A bright child, Phillis was tutored by Wheatley's children in English, Latin, history, geography, religion, and the Bible. She began to write poetry as early as 1765, producing work that reflected the religious and classical nature of her New England education. Published in London in 1773, her book earned Wheatley instant literary recognition and fame, unheard of for a slave. She corresponded with General George Washington and

was admired by Benjamin Franklin and the French philosopher and writer Voltaire. Wheatley was granted her freedom in 1773 and later married a free black man, John Peters. Her attempt to find a publisher for a second book of poetry was not realized before she died at age 31 in 1784.

**Restoration Needs:** Conservators will repair and strengthen the worn book hinges with Japanese tissue, fix tears, clean pages, consolidate and dress the leather, fill in and repair the leather corners on the original boards, and have a custom clamshell box made.

**Estimated Restoration Cost:** \$275



**Miller Manual Labor School, Albemarle County**

Genre: Photograph | Date: ca. 1880s

Creator: Lee Gallery, Richmond Virginia

**Description:** The Miller School of Albemarle is currently a coeducational day and boarding college preparatory school outside Charlottesville, Virginia. It first opened its doors in 1878 as a boys school with 33 students. The school first enrolled girls in 1884, making it one of the nation's oldest coeducational boarding schools.

**Restoration Needs:** This albumen photograph will be removed from the original acidic mount, lined with Japanese tissue, and remounted on acid-free mat board.

**Estimated Restoration Cost:** \$125

**Great Wicomico River**

Genre: Map | Date: November 15, 1893

Author: Charles H. Deetz, 1864–1946

**Description:** This manuscript oyster chart (pen-and-ink and pencil, 55 x 97 cm) identifies public oyster grounds and forms part of the Oyster Survey, Charts of Public Oyster Grounds, 1892–1896, Collection.

**Restoration Needs:** Conservators will remove old linen and silk repairs, line the map with Japanese tissue, and clean the surface. This is one of several manuscript oyster charts that need to be cleaned.

**Estimated Restoration Cost:** \$150



—Contributed by Cassandra Farrell, Map Specialist and Senior Research Archivist;  
Audrey C. Johnson, Senior Rare Book Librarian;  
and Dale Neighbors, Prints and Photographs Collection Coordinator



## Profile: The Virginia Shop

### MANAGER KATARINA SPEARS

The Virginia Shop reopened late last year under the management of Katarina “Kat” Spears, a veteran retail specialist. *Broadside* had a chance to talk with Spears about her vision for the retail outlet of the Library of Virginia.

**Broadside:** Fans of the Virginia Shop heralded its reopening last year. Tell us a bit about your product plans going forward.

**Kat Spears:** My plan is, whenever possible, to feature the many fine products made here in Virginia. There are so many amazing representations of Virginia’s artistic, cultural, and culinary heritage from across the state. The possibilities are endless. Since I started working here I’ve realized that many people, even those right here in Richmond, are unaware of just what an extraordinary collection the Library of Virginia preserves and maintains. The range is incredible—oil paintings to historic postcards and everything in between. I am really looking forward to exploring the collection and offering reproductions on items like note cards, tote bags, glassware, and more creative ventures. I’ve enjoyed many of the Library’s exhibitions and programs over the years and I’m very interested in highlighting those activities through the shop as well.

**Broadside:** The look and feel of the shop have changed a bit too. What’s your approach to the store’s layout?

**Spears:** You know, for many years I worked tending bar as a second job—long after I *had* to do it to pay my way through school. I did it because I loved interacting with the different people who came to sit at my bar. I always treated the restaurant where I worked as if it were my home—I wanted people to feel invited, welcome, comfortable. I’m trying to accomplish the same thing with the Virginia Shop. Whether it’s with background music, food and beverage samples, or how I arrange the furniture, I just want people to feel that they are welcome to come in.

**Broadside:** The economy has certainly taken its toll on retailers over the past year or so. What kind of price points, and even bargains, might Virginia Shop customers expect?

**Spears:** I’m trying to provide a good mix of price points and find those items that provide exceptional value. So, while there are plenty of things in the shop that will retail for under \$25, or even under \$10, we’ll definitely carry things that can be viewed as an extravagance. That way, my husband will always know where to go if he wants to buy me something really nice.

**Broadside:** Tell us more about your retail background.

**Spears:** Actually, my real professional background is in museums,

most often as a business or site manager for a variety of museums and historic sites. In that role the job of managing the gift shop was usually part of the deal, and it’s one aspect of my jobs that I always enjoyed.

**Broadside:** Is there one product that you are really excited about? Something that can only be found at the Virginia Shop?

**Spears:** I’m excited about all of the new merchandise coming into the shop, but recently I found a Virginia glass artist who makes wine stoppers, bowls, and platters that are each completely unique and very colorful. I really love her work. But the shop will always be changing—with each new exhibition, each new author signing, even with each change of administration. We’ll always look for new ways to represent the Library’s mission and feature different Virginia artisans.

The Virginia Shop is located in the lobby of the Library of Virginia and offers the finest of the commonwealth’s artistic, historical, cultural, and culinary traditions. Free parking is available in the underground garage for shoppers. For more information, call 804.692.3524.

—Betsy Moss for the Library of Virginia Foundation

#### CORNER SHOP

New manager Kat Spears creates a welcoming atmosphere in the reopened Virginia Shop with background music and food and beverage samples.



## A Gift to Virginia

Help us continue the vision by making a bequest in your will

Founded by the Virginia General Assembly in 1823, the Library of Virginia organizes, cares for, and manages the state’s collection of books and official records, many of which date back to the early colonial period. It houses what is believed to be the most comprehensive collection of materials on Virginia government, history, and culture available anywhere.

*A few simple words in your will can help us continue the vision that began so many years ago. Please consider a gift to Virginia by including a bequest to the Library of Virginia in your will.*

Make your bequest by providing the following language to your attorney:

“To the Library of Virginia in Richmond, Virginia, I give \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my residuary estate.” Or you can name a fixed dollar amount. Please contact us if you need additional information on how to make a bequest in your will.

For more information on planning your gift to Virginia, please contact Dan Stackhouse at 804.692.3913 or by e-mail at [dan.stackhouse@lva.virginia.gov](mailto:dan.stackhouse@lva.virginia.gov).

PHILANTHROPY

in circulation

## Remarkable Rise

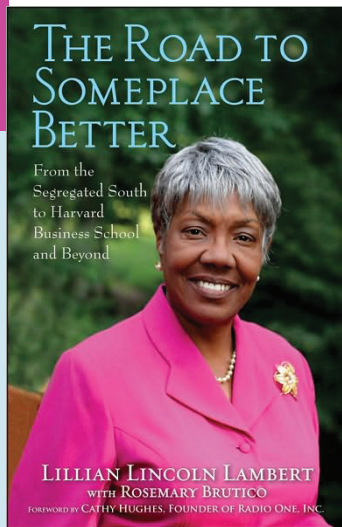
Entrepreneur and author Lillian Lambert packs the house at book-talk event



The Library of Virginia's Book Talk Series continues to welcome a variety of audiences and topics.

In February, author Lillian Lambert's inspiring memoir drew a standing-room-only crowd. Her new book, *The Road to*

*Someplace Better*, tells the remarkable story of her rise from humble beginnings as a farm girl in the segregated South to become the first black woman to earn an MBA from Harvard and, later, the founder of a \$20 million maintenance company with 1,200 employees. The event was cosponsored by the Links, Inc., the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia, VMFA Community Affairs, and VMFA Friends of African and African American Art.



### GROUNDBREAKER

FAR LEFT: The first black woman to earn an MBA from Harvard, author **Lillian Lambert** shares a moment with a fan at the book-signing table; BELOW: The event brought out a standing-room-only crowd.



## by the numbers...

GIVING

Your support of the Library of Virginia makes a huge difference. Here are some of the things we do—thanks to you.

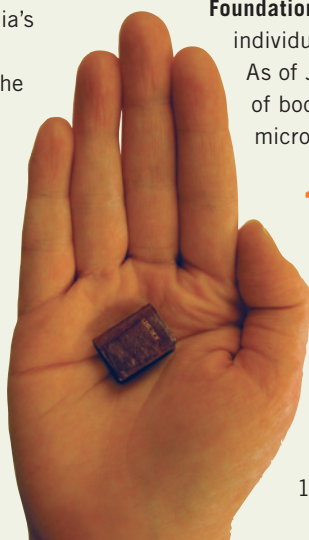
**3,619,024**

The number of yearly hits to the Library of Virginia's Web site. **Visitors to [www.lva.virginia.gov](http://www.lva.virginia.gov)** come to do genealogical research, learn about events at the Library, find historic photos, and much more.

**46,947**

The number of **patrons who took advantage of free Internet use** at the Library of Virginia in 2009.

**22,358** The number of **patron hours spent on the Internet** completing a myriad of tasks including employment research and filling out job applications in 2009.



**865**

The number of **books purchased with Foundation funds** or received as in-kind donations from individuals and other foundations during fiscal year 2009. As of June 2009, the Library of Virginia's collection of books, periodicals, government publications, and microforms totaled 1,879,015 items.

**13/16" x 9/16"**

The **size of smallest book** in the Library of Virginia's collection. A miniature book entitled *The Addresses of Abraham Lincoln* was the first presidential miniature published by the Training Division of the Kingsport Press of Kingsport, Tennessee, as a student exercise in 1929. It contains four complete speeches in 160 pages, with approximately 50 words per page in 10 lines of two-point type.



# WHY MEMBERSHIP MATTERS:

## Mary Beth McIntire

DIRECTOR, LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA FOUNDATION

Supporters of the Library of Virginia, not unlike our collections, come in many forms. And we are continually thankful for the generosity of all who give their time, money, and other gifts to the Library in order to preserve Virginia's history.

But, simply put, we were "in orbit" last autumn when support of the Library of Virginia extended to outer space. Yes, really—outer space.

Virginia native and NASA astronaut Leland Melvin first came to the Library in February 2009, when he was an honoree at our African American Trailblazers program.

As a former co-manager of NASA's Educator Astronaut Program, Melvin has traveled across the country, engaging thousands of students and teachers in the excitement of space exploration and inspiring them to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Once he became connected to the Library through

the Trailblazers program, a bond was formed. Melvin's belief in the power of teamwork and education corresponds perfectly with the Library's goal of encouraging learning.

As a crew member of the STS-129 mission of the space shuttle *Atlantis* in November 2009, Melvin chose to honor the Library of Virginia by including a piece of Virginia history among his personal commemorative items to carry onboard during the flight.

The keepsake chosen was a facsimile copy of the title page and frontispiece illustration of a rare astronomy book from the Library's collections. This title, *A Brief Explanation of the Principal Terms made use of in Astronomy* by Robert Goodacre, is one of only four recorded copies in the world.

We are honored by the gesture—as we are honored daily by all those generous supporters who come from near . . . and far.

—Mary Beth McIntire



### FANTASTIC VOYAGE

NASA astronaut Leland Melvin brought a piece of Virginia history with him on the space shuttle *Atlantis* last fall.

## ✂️ Enjoy the Benefits of Membership THE SEMPER VIRGINIA SOCIETY

Membership gives you the opportunity to help the Library of Virginia fulfill its mission as guardian of the world's most important collection of materials about Virginia and early America. Your gift will have an impact on areas such as preservation, acquisitions, and public programming, which are in critical need of resources. Benefits include advance notice of lectures, readings, and events, as well as a 10% discount in the Virginia Shop (located on the Library's first floor), and more. For a complete list of benefits, or to join online, visit [www.lva.virginia.gov](http://www.lva.virginia.gov) or call 804.692.3900. Mail form with payment to: Library of Virginia Foundation, 800 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219-8000.

**Yes! I want to join The Semper Virginia Society.** CHOOSE YOUR GIVING LEVEL:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sir Francis Wyatt Circle (\$100-249) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sherwood Anderson Circle (\$2,500-4,999)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Johnston Circle (\$250-499)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ellen Glasgow Circle (\$5,000-9,999)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clementina Rind Circle (\$500-999)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Douglas Southall Freeman Circle (\$10,000+) |

Mr. | Ms. | Miss | Mrs. | Mr. & Mrs. | Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print name as it will appear in membership listing)

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Please include me in special interest mailings on: ☐ Map/Cartography Events ☐ Literary Events

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## Likely Signed by Lee

### Carte-de-visite photographs were popular Civil War-era keepsakes

Tucked away within the numerous photographs of the Jones Family papers (Accession 44050) are two autographed carte-de-visite prints of Confederate general Robert E. Lee, taken in the studio of renowned photographer Matthew Brady. The Lee signatures on the back may be authentic autographs as opposed to reproduced or duplicated ones. Though the two signatures are not identical, they are very similar, indicating that the autographs came from the same hand. Perhaps a member of the Jones family—possibly John Wigginton Jones (1807-1894) or Edward Valentine Jones (1844-1923)—sent Lee these cards and considered himself rewarded when they were returned autographed.

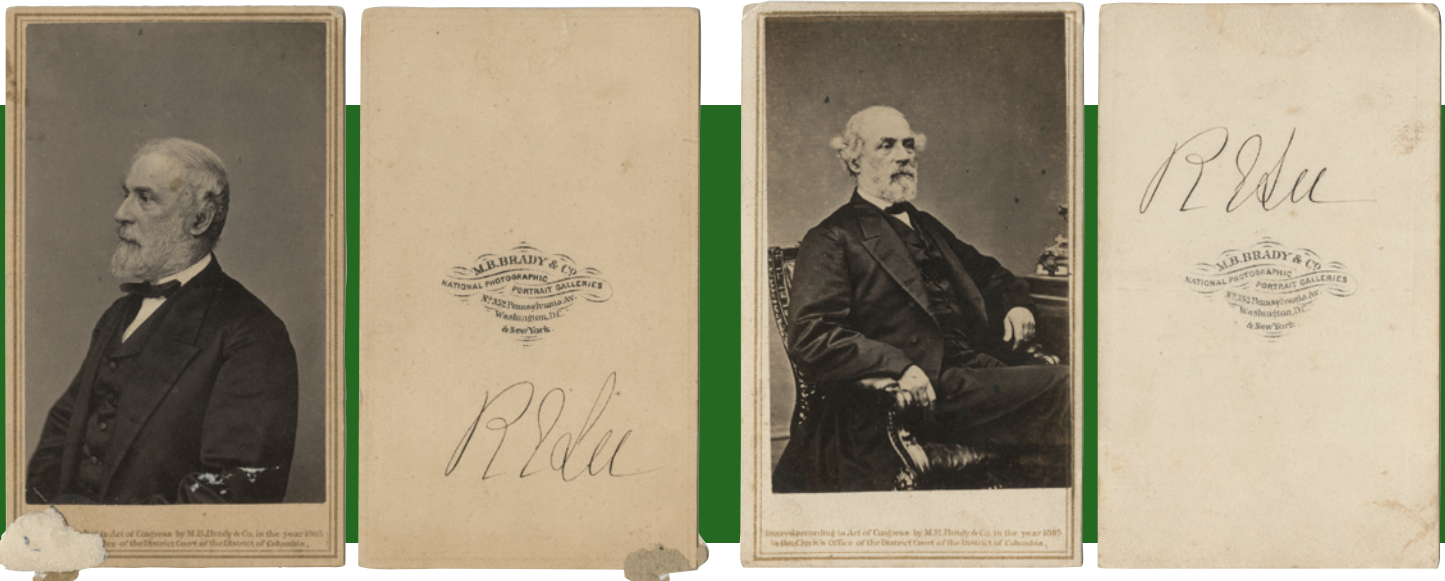
Introduced by French photographer André Adolphe Eugène Disdéri in 1854, the carte-de-visite photograph—a small albumen

print mounted on a card (2 1/2 inches by 4 inches)—was less expensive and easier to produce than the daguerreotype and the ambrotype. Images of celebrities were mass produced and sold to a clamoring public, and the carte-de-visite's popularity exploded across Europe by 1859 and in the United States by 1860. Photographs of presidents and generals became big sellers. At the start of the Civil War, soldiers marching off to battle gave the prints to their loved ones as keepsakes. The carte-de-visite's reign ended in the 1870s when it was eclipsed by a larger print called a cabinet card.

—Trenton Hizer, Senior Finding-Aids Archivist

A version of this article originally appeared in the Library's in-house online newsletter, The Delimiter.

SPOTLIGHT



**CROWD-PLEASING PORTRAITS** These carte-de-visite prints of Confederate general Robert E. Lee may include authentic autographs. In the 1860s, the public purchased these prints of celebrities and often sent them to those individuals in the hope that the photographs would be signed and returned.