Two Library Board Members Are Greatly Missed

Meyera Oberndorf and Chip Woodrum exemplified the best in public service

Goodbyes are never easy. Sadly, during the past several months the Library of Virginia has had to say goodbye to two very special members of our extended Library family—one who resigned and one who passed away—and their absence is keenly felt by us all.

Meyera Oberndorf, of Virginia Beach, resigned from the Library Board because of illness in December 2012, having served on the board since July 2009. A lifelong supporter of libraries, she was a member of the Virginia Beach Public Library Board for ten years before stepping down in 1976 to make history as the first woman elected to the Virginia Beach City Council. Oberndorf served there from 1976 to 1988, when she was elected mayor of Virginia’s most populous city. The city’s first female mayor, she was re-elected four times, serving until January 1, 2009. She has won numerous awards throughout her long career, most recently the Bishop’s Humanitarian Award from the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. The honor she seems most proud of was the renaming of the largest library in the Virginia Beach system as the Meyera E. Oberndorf Central Library. While on the Library of Virginia Board, Oberndorf served enthusiastically as a member of the Public Library Development Committee and as vice chair and chair of the 15-member board.

Clifton A. “Chip” Woodrum III, of Roanoke, a member of the Library Board since 2004 and chair from 2011 to 2012, passed away suddenly on February 19, 2013. Although he often described himself as a simple country lawyer, that was definitely tongue-in-cheek, for he was anything but. Woodrum had a sharp wit and an amazingly deep knowledge of history, literature, and politics that made him one of the most widely quoted and influential members of the Virginia House of Delegates, in which he served from 1980 until his retirement in 2003. Known for his integrity and commitment to open and transparent government, Woodrum was responsible for spearheading the modernization of Virginia’s Freedom of Information Act in the General Assembly in the 1990s and for urging the creation of the state’s Freedom of Information Advisory Council. Woodrum was passionately committed to public libraries and to the Library of Virginia, and we were delighted in 2006 when he gave his legislative and personal papers to the Library for use by future researchers.

Board meetings are just not the same without the sage political advice, sparkling conversation, mischievous good humor, and beaming smiles of these two.

Board meetings are just not the same without the sage political advice, sparkling conversation, mischievous good humor, and beaming smiles of these two. They exemplified the very best in public service, and we will cherish their legacy always.

Sincerely,

Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia
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 115 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens.

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ADMISSION IS FREE
Some special programs may have fees. Check calendar listings for details.

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UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS
Dark Side: Night Photography in Virginia
June 10–October 5, 2013

The Importance of Being Cute:
Pet Photography in Virginia

DINING
Monday–Friday, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM
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The Library provides relevant and useful educational material on Virginia’s history, culture, and people to educators, students, and lifelong learners of any age.

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SPRING 2013

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Night photography compels viewers to look at the world from a slightly different perspective. *Dark Side: Night Photography in Virginia* introduces us to this unique world of darkness and shadows. With a display of more than 40 photographs, the exhibition will survey the many ways in which professional and amateur photographers have used their cameras over the past century to create compelling nocturnal images of the commonwealth. While it examines the materials and historic processes that made night photography possible, *Dark Side* also introduces several contemporary Virginia photographers who are currently using it as an artistic medium.

The history of night photography is almost as long as the history of the medium itself. Prior to the 1890s, however, the limited sensitivity of most photographic processes made capturing low-light images difficult. It wasn’t until the introduction of modern lighting technologies and faster film at the turn of the last century that artists truly began to explore and document the hours between dusk and dawn.

Throughout his career, Norfolk photographer Harry C. Mann (1866–1926) worked with an 8” x 10” view camera. A large-view camera is cumbersome even in the daytime, and must have been especially difficult to work with at night. Regardless of the technological limitations, Mann was fascinated with the introduction of electricity to the urban landscape, and through a series of photographs of street lights and department store windows he managed to capture the magic of early commercial illumination. A generation later, photographer O. Winston Link (1914–2001) became equally preoccupied with a technology that was at the end of an era rather than the beginning. From 1955 to 1960, Link traveled the small towns of Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina documenting the steam locomotives of the Norfolk and Western Railway. Creating an unparalleled collection of night images of trains, Link often used complex arrangements of flashbulbs and lights wired along the tracks to capture the moment. Through the works of photographers such as Harry C. Mann and O. Winston Link, as well as little-known or unidentified artists, *Dark Side: Night Photography in Virginia* brings some fascinating new imagery to the public.

It wasn’t until the introduction of modern lighting technologies and faster film at the turn of the last century that artists truly began to explore and document the hours between dusk and dawn.

—Dale L. Neighbors, Prints and Photographs Collection Coordinator
DARK SIDE: NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY IN VIRGINIA

June 10–October 5, 2013 | Exhibition Gallery

OUT OF THE SHADOWS

Clockwise from below: 1. Store windows were major attractions not only for the display of new merchandise, but also for the nighttime illumination they provided. Norfolk, ca. 1910. Photograph by Harry C. Mann. 2. Early floodlighting was used to amplify the special architectural features of such landmarks as Norfolk’s City Hall, ca. 1910. Photograph by Harry C. Mann. 3. Street lighting along Jefferson Avenue outlines a clear path forward for automobiles. Richmond, 1960. Photograph by Adolph Rice.
Annabelle McAllister’s bequest funded the creation of the Library of Virginia Foundation  

by Jim Greve

Generous Genealogist

Annabelle McAllister’s bequest funded the creation of the Library of Virginia Foundation

Her sister’s desire to join the Daughters of the American Revolution sparked her own interest in her family history.

Above the doors leading from the Library’s circulation area into the West Reading Room are the words “The McAllister Wing.” Many people pass through these doors each day, but few have heard of the McAllisters. Who were they and why are their names above the door?

Annabelle Cox, born in Henrietta, Clay County, Texas, on February 4, 1904, was the daughter of David D. Cox (1882–1935) and Nellie Frances Davis (1884–1967). She graduated from William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, in 1927, where she met Edward Nevill McAllister. They married on January 29, 1929. He was born in Paducah, McCracken County, Kentucky, on September 9, 1904, and was the son of Edward Severn McAllister (1872–1968) and Pearl Annette Nevill (1876–1971). Following his graduation from William Jewell College in 1926, McAllister attended the University of Chicago, graduating in 1928 with a master’s degree in chemistry. He then began a career with the Esso Oil Company.

McAllister’s career in the oil industry took him and his wife to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, then in 1945 to Cranford, New Jersey, and finally to Houston, Texas, in 1961. Annabelle Cox McAllister had ancestors from Virginia, and her sister’s desire to join the Daughters of the American Revolution sparked her own interest in her family history. Her great-great-grandfather Leonard Brassfield (1787–1867) was born in Madison County, Kentucky, which at that time was a part of Virginia. Brassfield later settled in Missouri. In 1829, he was granted 80 acres in Clay County, Missouri, from the federal government.

Beginning about 1929, the McAllisters spent the next 35 years researching the Brassfield (an alternate spelling of “Brassfield”) family history. Their notes were gathered on “vacation” trips to the New York Public Library, National Archives, and Daughters of the American Revolution Library, and on numerous visits to archives, libraries, and county courthouses throughout the South. The couple kept detailed diaries of some of their excursions, noting the repositories they visited and the places where they lodged and dined along the way.

In 1959, they published *Brasfield-Brassfield Genealogies*, a 720-page comprehensive family history. Soon the couple contemplated another work, this time on the Estes family, an allied line of the Brassfield family. Much of the information for the proposed book had been accumulated when they were researching the Brasfield volume, but they considered it to be too much material to include in *Brasfield-Brassfield Genealogies*. Ancestors in these particular Estes lines had settled in King and Queen and Henry Counties in Virginia and in Clay County, Missouri.

At the same time, the couple also joined numerous genealogical and hereditary organizations, such as the Colonial Dames of America, Daughters of the American Revolution, Houston Genealogical Forum, Huguenot Society of New Jersey, Huguenot Society of Texas, Magna Charta Dames, and Society of Colonial Wars.

Edward McAllister died suddenly on September 13, 1968, at a Tulsa hospital while he and his wife were returning to Houston.
Annabelle McAllister’s untimely death in 1983 did not stop her from completing the Estes book. In 1972, *Estes Genealogy: Estes Families of Old Clay County, Missouri, Their Ancestors and Their Descendants* was published, presenting a comprehensive genealogy of the Estes family from King and Queen County, Virginia, to Missouri.

The McAllisters spent countless research hours in the commonwealth, including at the Library of Virginia. Annabelle McAllister never forgot the wonderful resources and helpful staff who assisted them in their work. At her death in 1983, she left the papers she and her husband had accumulated to the Library. The collection is available for research and includes their research notes, correspondence with other researchers and family members, and drafts of their books on the Brasfield and Estes families. There are abstracts, copies, and transcriptions of Bible records, census records, city directories, deeds, land grants, marriage records, military and pension records, tax records, wills, and published sources, as well as genealogical charts and maps. Some original family records are also included, such as an 1829 land grant signed by President Andrew Jackson.

The collection also contains material concerning the McAllisters’ involvement in various genealogical and hereditary organizations.
AN IRONWORKING

Recently donated collection tells story of a 19th-century German immigrant and his family

by Gregg D. Kimball

COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: 1. The second two generations of Osterbinds to work at Tredegar Iron Works were Carter Clarke Osterbind (left) and his father, Henry Carter Osterbind, shown here with an exterior image of Tredegar, ca. 1905–1910. 2. Anton Osterbind built these houses (IN CENTER OF ROW) at 621 and 623 South Belvidere Street in Richmond in 1849. 3. Henry Carter Osterbind appears in casual or work clothing here, which is unusual for a posed 19th-century portrait.
Spending 27 years working in the field of history in Virginia can present some problems. Folks call and quizz you on things you wrote more than twenty years ago and expect you to recall the fine details of sources and stories. The exhibition you worked on in 1991 is now someone’s museum studies thesis topic, but the details are more than a little hazy. It’s embarrassing when you can’t recall the year that you presented a talk to a Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp—or the topic—but you can remember the exact date of a long-ago historical event. Yet some things come back clearly. For me, it is the many fascinating people that walked into my life through my study of Virginia’s past. I may not recall the year that I met them, but I can see them in my mind’s eye and hear their voices. Last year I received an e-mail regarding one of those special people who enriched my life. Her son was writing to inquire whether the Library would be interested in her family papers. It was a name I had not heard for many years.

Mary L. Geschwind walked into the Valentine Museum (now the Valentine Richmond History Center) to visit with me about 1990. She carried with her a remarkable collection of papers and photographs that documented the various branches of her family. She patiently walked me through the genealogy of the Osterbinds, the Haases, and other related families.

FAMILY’S TALE

We met and talked many times over the next few years about her research. Mary was affable, modest, and recalled family events and tales with a wry sense of humor. She also struck me as very German. Why do I say that? Was it the care she took with her finely tuned binders of materials? An impression based on the several years that I myself spent in Germany? I’m not sure, but I think that I’m right, and I mean it in the most positive way. Her visits were always enjoyable and stimulating.

The materials she brought with her were equally exciting. At the time, I was researching the lives of laboring people and immigrants in 19th-century Richmond and preparing to work on the restoration of the Tredegar Iron Works. I spent long hours in the Tredegar company records at the Library of Virginia, gleaning stories from the business records kept by the mill’s owners. Small windows into the workers’ lives appeared in snatches within letters, time books, and ledger entries—a Scottish machinist here, a Welsh puddler (ironworker) there—but Mary’s cache of papers fully illuminated three generations of a family that labored at the ironworks: the immigrant Anton Geschwind’s great-great-grandfather Anton Guenther Bernhard Osterbind (1820–1919) immigrated to the United States from Atens, Oldenburg, Germany, about 1838 and settled in Richmond, where he made a living as an ironworker and foreman at Tredegar Iron Works. He married twice—to Mary Ann Copeland (1817–1860) in 1842 and to Sarah J. Jordan (1827–1919) in 1860. His son, Henry Carter Osterbind (1851–1914), also worked at Tredegar Iron Works. Father and son are both buried in Richmond’s Hollywood Cemetery.

The collection includes abstracts and transcriptions of church and court records, accounts and receipts, artwork, brochures, class notes, clippings, correspondence, estate administration records, family group sheets, genealogical notes and charts, greeting cards, invitations, obituaries, pedigree charts, photographs, postcards, programs, published sources, sheet music, sympathy cards and notes, tombstone inscriptions, and yearbooks. To view an online guide to the collection, visit: http://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaxtf/view?docId=iva/vi03726.xml.

PAY DAY

A page from an 1852 Tredegar Iron Works paybook is one of many records in the collection.
Ironworking, from previous page  genealogists, her collection stands out because of the general paucity of papers from mid-19th-century immigrant families in the South. The importance of their experience to the historical record is bolstered by the fact that southern cities like Richmond had significant immigrant populations. The foreign-born made up 13 percent of the city’s population in 1860, and about a fifth of the total white population. Richmond has never had as large an immigrant population before or since, although that may change soon with the forthcoming census. The Haase and Osterbind letters, photographs, and other papers illuminate this poorly understood world. You can imagine my enthusiasm when I learned that the collection was being donated to the Library!

Archivist Jim Greve has carefully processed the collection and a full guide is available in the Library’s catalog.

Gregg D. Kimball is director of Public Services and Outreach at the Library.

BEYOND VIRGINIA

Information contained in the collections at the Library of Virginia not only documents people, places, and events in the commonwealth, but also throughout the country. An example is found in the Mary Geschwind Papers. Minnie Guenther Osterbind Kimball (1879–1952), daughter of Henry Carter Osterbind, studied medicine at the University of Michigan, where she met her future husband, Dr. Arthur Stevens Kimball Sr. (1875–1921). In 1886, his father, also a physician, built an elegant 14-room Queen Anne–style home in Battle Creek. The Geschwind Papers contain rare photographs of the exterior of the home, and letters written by Minnie Osterbind Kimball when she lived there following her husband’s death. Today, the home is open to the public as the Kimball House Museum, owned and operated by Heritage Battle Creek (http://heritagebattlecreek.org).

MICHIGAN MANSE

The Geschwind Papers contain photographs of an 1886 family home in Battle Creek, Michigan, including these undated exterior shots—one of Minnie Osterbind Kimball outside the home on a snowy day. The house now serves as the Kimball House Museum.

NEW CITIZEN, CA. 1851

Mary Geschwind found her great-great-grandfather Anton Osterbind’s naturalization document in a Henrico County Court Minute Book. This ca. 1866 portrait shows Osterbind, the patriarch of the family and the first to be employed at Tredegar Iron Works.

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Mary Geschwind did extensive research on her family at the Library of Virginia, pouring over federal census records, local court and land records, church records, and many other sources. She must have been extremely excited to find Anton Osterbind’s naturalization document in the Henrico County records. For most of the 19th century, naturalizations could be done in a federal, state, or local court. Hundreds of these records can be found in county and city order and minute books. If you are searching for an immigrant ancestor, read the Library’s Research Notes Number 12: Virginia Naturalizations, 1776–1929 (www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/m12_natural1776.pdf), to learn about the laws on naturalization of foreigners, the naturalization process, and other resources for immigrant history.
Both had served separate terms as president of the Huguenot Society of Texas. There are clippings, correspondence, lineage papers, meeting information, membership lists, minutes, newsletters, proceedings, programs, registrar worksheets, reports, and yearbooks.

In addition to the donation of their papers, Annabelle McAllister left a large monetary bequest to the Library of Virginia. In the years following her death, the Library established the Library of Virginia Foundation with the proceeds. When the Library’s current building opened in 1997, the McAllister Wing was named in honor of the couple.

In a letter to former state librarian Donald Haynes, McAllister’s executrix wrote, “Annabelle and her husband did much of their research at the Virginia State Library and I am certain that it was in appreciation of its resources and to perpetuate its public service that she made your Library the principal beneficiary of her estate.”

Similar gifts to the Library of Virginia Foundation from supporters in Virginia and throughout the world continue to build on the McAllisters’ generous legacy and to provide vital support for the Library of Virginia.

Jim Greve is a senior collection development archivist at the Library. For more information about the McAllister Family Papers, contact him at 804.692.3752 or james.greve@lva.virginia.gov.
All events are free unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, June 6
Noon–1:00 pm
BOOK TALK BY JOHN RAGOSTA
Religious Freedom: Jefferson’s Legacy, America’s Creed
Place: Conference Rooms
John Ragosta’s book focuses on the importance of personal religious beliefs in shaping Thomas Jefferson’s attitude toward religious freedom. Basing the idea for the First Amendment on Jefferson’s vision, Ragosta redefines the views of how and why the amendment was adopted. A book signing follows the talk.

Wednesday, June 19
6:00–7:30 pm
OFF-SITE BOOK TALK BY STUART L. BUTLER
Defending the Old Dominion: Virginia and Its Militia in the War of 1812
Place: Churchland Branch, Portsmouth Public Library, 757.686.2538
Stuart L. Butler will discuss the effects of Virginia’s politics and military on the War of 1812 within the commonwealth and the United States. His book examines how the Virginia militia’s lack of preparedness combined with inadequate ordnance and arms affected its ability to defend the state against the British during the war.

Wednesday, June 12
5:30–7:30 pm
“BOOKS ON BROAD” FEATURING VIRGINIA PYE
River of Dust
Place: Conference Rooms
Set in China during the early years of the 20th century, River of Dust follows a missionary’s epic search for his stolen child. Virginia Pye reads from and discusses her new work. Reception (wine and cheese) 5:30–6:00 pm, book talk 6:00–7:00 pm, and book signing 7:00–7:30 pm.

Thursday, June 20
Noon–1:00 pm
BOOK TALK BY DONALD McCaig
Mr. and Mrs. Dog: Our Travels, Trials, Epiphanies
Place: Conference Rooms

Tuesday, July 16
Noon–1:00 pm
BOOK TALK BY KITTY SNOW
From a Richmond Streetcar: Life Through the Lens of Harris Stilson
Place: Conference Rooms
Kitty Snow’s book features the work of her great-grandfather Harry Stilson, a Richmond streetcar motorman and photographer. Taken from his streetcar, his photographs of the working class in Richmond capture a rare view of how the city looked at the beginning of the 20th century.

For the latest event information…
Check our online calendar: www.lva.virginia.gov/news/calendar.asp
Sign up to receive our monthly E-newsletter: www.lva.virginia.gov/news/newsletter
The Virginia Literary Festival promotes a lifelong love of the literary arts through an annual series of educational programs and awards honoring Virginia literary achievements. For more information or to register for programs, visit the Virginia Literary Festival website (www.literaryva.com) or call Katarina Spears at 804.356.1928.

Tuesday, October 15 | 6:00–7:30 PM
Poetic Principles featuring Charles Wright & Ellen Bryant Voigt
Place: Library of Virginia Conference Rooms & Lobby | Cost: Free
The Library of Virginia, in partnership with Blackbird online journal of literature and the arts, presents an evening of poetry with 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Charles Wright and National Book Award finalist Ellen Bryant Voigt. A wine-and-cheese reception and book signing will follow the presentation.

Wednesday, October 16 | 6:00–7:30 PM
BOOK LAUNCH: Buried Leads by LynDee Walker
Place: Library of Virginia Lecture Hall & Lobby
Cost: Free
Richmond author LynDee Walker will present a book talk to launch the release of Buried Leads, the second book in her Nichelle Clark Headlines in Heels mystery series. A wine-and-cheese reception and book signing will follow the talk.

Thursday, October 17 | 5:30–7:30 PM
BOOK LAUNCH: Guests on Earth by Lee Smith
Place: Library of Virginia Lecture Hall & Lobby
Cost: Free
Award-winning Virginia author Lee Smith, recipient of the Library’s 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award, will present a book talk to launch the release of Guests on Earth. A book signing and reception will follow the talk.

Thursday, October 17 | 6:00–8:00 PM
Teen ‘13 Book & Author Celebration
Place: Richmond Public Library | Cost: Free
A group of award-winning and best-selling Virginia authors of books released in 2013 will host an evening of celebration for teen readers and all fans of teen fiction. Enjoy food, fun, book sales, signings, and giveaways.

Thursday, October 17 | 7:15 PM
FILM SCREENINGS: To Kill a Mockingbird & Hey Boo
Place: The Byrd Theatre | Cost: Free
Join us at the Byrd Theatre as we celebrate one of America’s most beloved works of fiction with a double feature of To Kill a Mockingbird and Hey Boo, a documentary that explores Harper Lee’s personal story as told through the experiences of her book’s characters.

Friday, October 18 | 9:00 AM–4:00 PM
James River Writers Workshops
Place: Virginia State Capitol, House and Senate Rooms 3
Cost: Visit www.jamesriverwriters.org
Half-day workshops will explore techniques in writing and strategies for seeking publication. Visit www.jamesriverwriters.org for more information.

Friday, October 18 | 11:30 AM–1:00 PM
Cooking with My Sisters: A Culinary Adventure with Adriana Trigiani
Place: Woman’s Club of Richmond, Bolling Hall House
Cost: $75 for members of the Semper Virginia Society or the Woman's Club; $100 for nonmembers
This elegant luncheon will feature a three-course meal prepared with the cookbook Cooking with My Sisters, a collaborative project of Adriana Trigiani and her four sisters. Trigiani and her family will host the event, which includes a presentation and book signing.

Friday, October 18 | 1:00 PM
BOOK TALK: Martha Jefferson Randolph, Daughter of Monticello by Cynthia Kierner
Place: Wilton House Museum | Cost: Free
Historian Cynthia Kierner discusses and signs her book Martha Jefferson Randolph, Daughter of Monticello: Her Life and Times. Tours of Wilton House will also be available before and after the talk.

Friday, October 18 | 3:30–8:00 PM
CSI for Mystery Writers with the VCU Department of Forensic Science
Place: Virginia Commonwealth University, Dept. of Forensic Science Lab
Cost: $40 (includes all materials and snacks)
In this engaging hands-on workshop, mystery writers age 16 and older will learn writing techniques from a well-known Virginia author and investigative techniques from VCU Department of Forensic Science faculty members. Space is limited. To register, visit www.literaryva.com or call Kat Spears at 804.356.1928.

Friday, October 18 | 6:00–9:00 PM
Art Meets Literature: An Undying Love Affair
Place: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Pauley Center | Cost: $5
The Library of Virginia and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts have created the Mary Lyn Kotz Award for Art in Literature, which will be presented here for the first time, along with a presentation exploring the relationship between poetry and the visual arts. A wine-and-cheese reception will follow the program.

Friday, October 18 | 6:30 PM
AUTHOR APPEARANCE & BOOK SIGNING: Guests on Earth by Lee Smith
Place: Sam Miller’s Restaurant | Cost: Free
Fountain Bookstore hosts author Lee Smith for a talk and book signing at Sam Miller’s restaurant.

Saturday, October 19 | 10:00–11:30 AM
Create Your Own Book: A Workshop for Kids
Place: Henrico Public Library, Tuckahoe Branch
Cost: Free
Richmond author and educator Kathryn Starke will lead a workshop for aspiring authors ages six to nine. Participants will turn their story ideas into an illustrated, bound book. All materials will be provided.

Saturday, October 19 | 11:30 AM–1:00 PM
Literary Luncheon
Place: Greater Richmond Convention Center
Cost: $45 before October 1 ($50 after)
The Library of Virginia’s annual Literary Luncheon features medal presentations for all Virginia Literary Award finalists and a keynote presentation. Finalists will be available for book signings after the luncheon. To register, visit www.literaryva.com or call Kat Spears at 804.356.1928. A complete list of finalists will be available at www.literaryva.com on July 15, 2013.

Saturday, October 19 | 2:30–4:30 PM
AUTHOR APPEARANCE & BOOK SIGNING: Philippa Ballantine and Tee Morris
Place: Chop Suey Books | Cost: Free
Enjoy an afternoon of fantasy and steampunk. Meet Philippa Ballantine and Tee Morris, co-authors of the award-winning Ministry of Peculiar Occurrences series, and get their latest book signed at Richmond’s best-loved independent bookseller.

Saturday–Sunday, October 19–20
9:00 AM–5:00 PM
James River Writers Conference
Place: Greater Richmond Convention Center
Cost: Visit www.jamesriverwriters.org
This annual three-day educational conference for writers features nationally and internationally known authors and sessions with literary agents. For more information or to register, visit www.jamesriverwriters.org or e-mail fallconference@jamesriverwriters.org.

Saturday, October 19 | 6:00–10:30 PM
Library of Virginia Literary Awards Celebration
Place: Library of Virginia
Cost: $175
The Library of Virginia’s annual Literary Awards Celebration will once again feature host Adriana Trigiani for 2013, plus Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Charles Wright. A cocktail reception will be followed by dinner and the ceremony. Tickets include a cocktail reception with the authors, seated dinner, presentation, and open bar for $175 per person. For more information or to register, visit www.literaryva.com or call Mary Beth McIntire at 804.692.3590.
BEHIND THE SCENES

Library kicks off new day-trip series with a visit to the Smithsonian Institution libraries

The Library of Virginia is pleased to offer day trips to some of the greatest private libraries and archival institutions the mid-Atlantic has to offer!

In March 2013, we traveled to Culpeper for “Sips and Screenings: The Library of Congress Film Archives and the A. Smith Bowman Distillery,” a behind-the-scenes tour of the Library of Congress Packard Campus for Audio-Visual Conservation. Guests learned about the film archives’ special collections, state-of-the-art conservation techniques, and management of current materials. The group then traveled to Fredericksburg for a private tour and tasting at the A. Smith Bowman Distillery.

COMING UP


The Library has arranged a trip to Washington, DC, for a private tour of the National Gallery of Art Library, which features some extraordinary items in its rare book room, and the Folger Shakespeare Library, home to the world’s largest collection of Shakespeare materials and other rare Renaissance books, manuscripts, and works of art. The trip will include time for holiday shopping at the Folger Shop, the Gallery Shop, and Library of Congress Shop. The cost is $75 for Semper Virginia Society members ($100 for nonmembers) and includes round-trip coach transportation from the Library of Virginia, lunch, and a snack en route both ways.

LOOKING AHEAD

Literary Tour of England Coming in Spring 2014

Downton Abbey, anyone? A literary tour of England is in the planning stages for spring 2014. The trip will include a tour of Highclere Castle, the country estate that is the main filming location of the British television series Downton Abbey, and other sites such as Chawton House, Jane Austen’s house museum that now serves as a library for women’s literature. Details on the trip, including cost and itinerary, will be available this summer.

For more information on these trips or membership, please contact Mary Beth McIntire at 804.692.3590 or marybeth.mcintire@lva.virginia.gov.
**Wednesday, May 15 | 5:30–7:30 PM**  
Jonathan Coleman  
*West by West: My Charmed, Tormented Life*  
*New York Times* best-selling author Jonathan Coleman has collaborated with LA Lakers legend Jerry West (whose NBA-logo silhouette is recognizable to millions) to produce a sports memoir like no other.

**Wednesday, June 12 | 5:30–7:30 PM**  
Virginia Pye | *River of Dust*  
This beautiful novel set in China during the early years of the 20th century follows a missionary’s epic search for his stolen child.

**Wednesday, July 24 | 5:30–7:30 PM**  
Patricia Cecil Hass  
*Monument Avenue Memories: Growing Up on Richmond’s Grand Boulevard*  
Enjoy the recollections of Richmond residents who grew up on historic Monument Avenue during the zenith of its reputation as the home for prominent Richmond families.

**Wednesday, August 7 | 5:30–7:30 PM**  
Ellen Crosby | *Multiple Exposure*  
Join us in celebration for the launch of Ellen Crosby’s newest mystery series featuring sleuth Sophie Medina. Crosby is best-known for her Virginia wine country mysteries and is a perennial favorite of the Library of Virginia.

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**MEET THE AUTHORS**

Interact with Virginia writers at the Books on Broad book club

“Books on Broad” brings authors and book lovers together in an informal setting with refreshments, stimulating conversation, and an introduction to the Library’s collections through our exhibition gallery and other programming. Reading the book beforehand is never required—just bring your curiosity and a desire to meet new people.

Our “Books on Broad” events take place in the Conference Rooms at the Library of Virginia. Light refreshments (wine and cheese) will be served (5:30–6:00 pm), followed by author talk (6:00–7:00 pm), and book signing (7:00–7:30 pm). Free underground parking is available for visitors. For more information, please call the Virginia Shop at 804.692.3524.

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**The Virginia Shop at the Library of Virginia offers great gifts for writers and booklovers.**

Members of the Semper Virginia Society can double their discount at the Virginia Shop during the week of June 24–29, 2013. A 20% discount will be given at the register to members on all regularly priced merchandise.
recognizing women

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH COMMEMORATED WITH SERIES OF EVENTS IN MARCH

As designated by Congress, March is National Women’s History Month. The Library of Virginia celebrated the month with a series of book talks, programs, and lectures that commemorated women and their role in Virginia’s history.

“Women have played an integral part in Virginia from its beginnings, yet their contributions have often been overlooked in the history books,” said Librarian of Virginia Sandra G. Treadway. “The Library of Virginia is very proud to recognize and celebrate women’s accomplishments in all walks of life during March through these very special events.”

BOOK EVENTS

Changing History: Virginia Women through Four Centuries, published by the Library of Virginia, tells the important and inspiring stories of women—both famous and lesser-known—who have influenced the course of history in the Old Dominion. At the book launch event, authors Cynthia A. Kierner and Megan Taylor Shockley participated in a roundtable discussion moderated by Librarian of Virginia Sandra G. Treadway.

In a separate event, Mary Jane Hogue, executive director of Historic Richmond Foundation, discussed the images and preservation of historic architecture presented in her book Official Guide to Historic Richmond. The first historic site in the country was founded by a group of women, and the legacy continues with women taking a management role in the historic preservation field. Hogue was joined by Katarina Spears of the Library of Virginia Foundation, author of Richmond Landmarks.

Her book features more than 200 images from the Library of Virginia’s historic photograph collection that provide a historic overview of the city.

LECTURE ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN VIRGINIA

Speaker Kathleen Pablo focused on the personalities and singular courage of some of the major figures in the long struggle to ratify the 19th Amendment, and on the turning point in that struggle. The program was presented in association with the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association and was enhanced by a display of items from the Library of Virginia’s collection that belonged to Pauline Adams (1874–1957), a formidable woman suffrage activist in Virginia.

VIRGINIA WOMEN IN HISTORY AWARDS CEREMONY

The month-long commemoration of women was concluded with one of the Library’s signature events, the Virginia Women in History awards ceremony and reception. The evening recognized eight outstanding Virginia women who have made important contributions to Virginia, the nation, and the world.

Host May-Lily Lee and former First Lady Ann Holton present the Virginia Women in History award to NBC News journalist Ann Compton. Compton spoke fondly of her relationship with the Holton family, whom she covered as a reporter for Roanoke’s WDBJ television station.
Groundbreakers
Event celebrates African American contributions to history

In observance of February as Black History Month, the Library of Virginia and Dominion honored eight distinguished Virginians as the 2013 Strong Men and Women in Virginia History for their contributions to Virginia and the nation. The awards ceremony and reception were held at the Marriott Hotel and hosted by Cheryl Miller of Richmond’s WTVR CBS 6.

Charitable Donations
Your tax-deductible gifts support our mission

The Library of Virginia Foundation was created in 1985 as a way for individuals with a particular interest in the Library to help it grow and thrive. In the 28 years since then, the Foundation has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Library of Virginia, with a mission of strengthening the programs and collections and helping the Library serve its patrons more effectively. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, and any and all contributions received are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Understanding tax rules can be a complicated business in the best of times, and the recent federal budget uncertainties have not made things any easier. In January 2013, the president signed into law the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012. One positive outcome of this law for most Americans is the continuation of incentives for charitable giving to organizations such as the Library of Virginia Foundation. While changes may come in future years, the vast majority of our patrons are still able to deduct the full value of their donations.

Each year, the Library of Virginia Foundation is fortunate to count on the extraordinary generosity of our members. These in-person and online Library visitors come from throughout Virginia, across the country, and around the world. Thanks to them, the Foundation is able to help the Library fulfill its vision of being a place that inspires learning, ignites imagination, creates possibilities, encourages understanding, and engages Virginia’s past to empower its future. We could not do it without you. If you have any questions about giving to the Library of Virginia, please do not hesitate to call the Foundation at 804.692.3590.
WHEREAS, Earl Hamner Jr., a Virginia treasure, is commended for his many contributions to the cultural landscape of the Commonwealth and nation through his many literary accomplishments in radio, television, film, and print; and
WHEREAS, one of eight children, Earl Hamner grew up in the small community of Schuyler in Nelson County, nestled in the scenic foothills of the Blue Ridge mountains and not far from where his famous ancestor, Italian immigrant Anthony Giannini, once helped Thomas Jefferson with the vineyard at Monticello; and
WHEREAS, Earl Hamner showed a natural inclination toward and talent for the written word at a young age, penning the poem "My Dog," which was published in the children’s section of the Richmond Times-Dispatch, when he was just six years of age; and
WHEREAS, as the nation descended into the Great Depression, Earl Hamner’s family experienced hardships, but enjoyed their times together, relying on one another and their friends and neighbors; and
WHEREAS, Earl Hamner’s upbringing and experiences during those times amidst his family and the natural beauty of the Blue Ridge mountains would etch themselves into his heart and mind, providing a wealth of material for and profoundly influencing his work throughout his life; and
WHEREAS, a gifted writer, Earl Hamner earned a scholarship to the University of Richmond, where his studies were interrupted when he was drafted into the United States Army during World War II; he continued to write while serving and began to submit stories for publication; and
WHEREAS, after his discharge, Earl Hamner completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Cincinnati before moving to New York City, where he wrote radio scripts for NBC while also working on his first book, Fifty Roads to Town, which was published in 1953; and
WHEREAS, in 1961, Spencer’s Mountain, the heart-warming portrayal of a family living through the Great Depression near the Blue Ridge mountains, based on Earl Hamner’s family, was published, and, in 1970, The Homecoming, the story of a father’s return to his family on Christmas Eve, was published; and
WHEREAS, the novella became a popular CBS Christmas special and led to the Emmy-award winning television series The Waltons, which captivated audiences with its focus on simple living and the strength of family and introduced the memorable phrase “Goodnight John Boy”; and
WHEREAS, Earl Hamner reached back to his family’s Italian winemaking roots for inspiration when he created the prime time soap opera Falcon Crest, based in the vineyards of California and focused on the rivalries among family members involved in the wine industry; and
WHEREAS, among his many creative endeavors, Earl Hamner wrote episodes for Rod Serling’s The Twilight Zone; produced an Australian series, The Man From Snowy River; and coauthored the book Odette: A Goose of Toulouse; and
WHEREAS, over the course of his illustrious career, Earl Hamner was awarded a Television-Radio Writers Award, George Foster Peabody Award for Distinguished Journalism, Virginian of the Year Award from the Virginia Press Association, and Emmy Award for Outstanding Drama Series for The Waltons; and
WHEREAS, Earl Hamner also received the Man of the Year Award from the National Association of Television Program Executives, Virginia Association of Broadcasters Award, and Frederic Ziv Award for Outstanding Achievement in Telecommunications from the University of Cincinnati; and
WHEREAS, in 2011, Earl Hamner returned to Virginia to receive the prestigious Literary Lifetime Achievement Award from the Library of Virginia for his long-lasting and lifelong contributions to literature; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend a native son, Earl Hamner Jr., on his lifetime of extraordinary literary accomplishment; and, be it
RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Earl Hamner Jr. as an expression of the General Assembly’s admiration for his immense talent and remarkable achievements.
Membership Has Its Privileges

How You Can Help

As a member of the Semper Virginia Society, your support goes to the area of greatest need within the Library, including acquisition, conservation, education, and outreach. All gifts to the Library of Virginia Foundation are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

MEMBER BENEFITS
All donors to the Library of Virginia Foundation at the Friend level or higher receive:
- A 10% discount at the Virginia Shop at the Library, at the Virginia State Capitol, and online at www.thevirginiashop.org
- A 10% discount on digital reproductions of images from the Library’s collections
- A 10% discount at the Discovery Café
- Discounted tickets to special member day trips, tours, and programs
- Invitation to an annual members program at the Library

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE BENEFITS
All benefits above, plus:
- An invitation to a special reception each year featuring a behind-the-scenes tour of the Library’s collections
- A Library of Virginia publication, chosen by the Foundation staff

FOUNDER’S CIRCLE BENEFITS
All benefits above, plus:
- A personalized tour of the Library’s collections for you and up to 10 guests
- A high-quality reproduction of an iconic document or image from the Library’s collection, hand-selected by the Library staff

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Leadership Circle: $1,000–$2,499
Founders’ Circle: $2,500+

Love History?
Love Literature?
Love to Travel?

Watch this space for news about a VERY exciting member tour coming in spring 2014! Want to know more? Call 804.692.3590.
EXHIBITION COMING SOON

June 10, 2013–Feb 22, 2014
Library of Virginia | Lobby

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING CUTE

PET PHOTOGRAPHY IN VIRGINIA 1840–2013

ON THE COVER
Brightly lit storefronts, combined with street lighting and electric signs, added energy and excitement to Norfolk’s East Main Street in the 1940s. Photograph by Alan Fisher.