

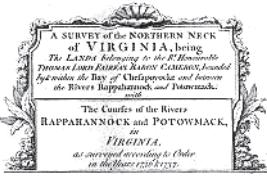
THE BALCH COLUMN

THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY • 208 W. MARKET ST. • LEESBURG, VA 20176 • 703-737-7195 • FAX: 703-737-7150 • EMAIL: balchlib@leesburgva.gov

Programs sponsored by Thomas Balch Library are held in the downstairs meeting room and are free unless otherwise noted. Due to limited seating we recommend registering in advance by calling 703/737-7195. For updated news on events visit our website at: www.leesburgva.gov/ThomasBalchLibrary/publications or follow us on Facebook.

FROM SERVITUDE TO SLAVERY IN BERMUDA AND VIRGINIA'S NORTHERN NECK, 1609-1705

Steven Harris-Scott • Sunday, 12 September 2010, 2PM



Race remains one of the most relevant issues of our day yet its creation through the institution of Atlantic slavery is not clearly understood. Scholars disagree as to how early American slavery and racial prejudice relate, questioning if one caused the other or if both coalesced around each other. The nexus of this long-standing debate has largely centered on colonial Virginia and around whether the transition was based on bald economics or pre-existing racism. Much of the historical discussion about the advent of slavery in British America has revolved around England's initial settlements on the Chesapeake's Eastern Shore, Virginia's more densely settled regions along the James River, and the rich sugar-producing island of Barbados. These trends have provided a limited picture of unfree labor in the seventeenth-century British Atlantic World. They forsake the rest of Virginia, like the "backcountry" counties of the Northern Neck region and almost completely ignore Bermuda, England's second permanent colony. The overall picture, along with my initial thoughts on these omitted regions, will be the focus of this talk. Steven Harris Scott is a fifth-year doctoral student in George Mason University's History Department. He first became interested in seventeenth-century Virginia while earning a Master's degree at the University of New Orleans under the tutelage of Dr. Warren M. Billings. He holds a Bachelor's degree in physics from Millsaps College.

THE NAMES OF LEESBURG

Robert Regan and Jeffrey Wingard • Sunday, 19 September 2010, 2PM

Much of Leesburg's history is preserved and presented in names given to its streets, buildings, and subdivisions. These are used routinely throughout every day with little notice to the meaning behind them. Thus, this work, a study of names that adorn the town of Leesburg, evolved. *The Names of Leesburg* tells the story of the origin of the names of many of the town's features as well as the origin and development of many of the features themselves. It is offered in the hope it may help residents and visitors further enjoy and appreciate Leesburg.

Bob Regan, author, is a Research Professor at the University of Pittsburgh and a consultant specializing in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). His professional career includes senior level positions in the federal government, major corporations, and universities. His avocation is writing local history books and this is his fourth book. Previous publications are: *The Steps of Pittsburgh*; *The Bridges of Pittsburgh*, and *The Names of Pittsburgh*. He is currently working on a book on Heinz Field, home of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Jeff Wingard, photographer, has been passionate about photography since childhood. At age 11, he began taking pictures with his first SLR, a 25 mm Olympus OM-10 – a camera he still owns. An 18 year resident of Leesburg, Jeff now shoots mostly in digital and owns Creative Imagery, LLC. Books will be available to purchase on-site.

SHENANDOAH LANDSCAPES AND THE GREAT VALLEY ROAD

Warren R. Hofstra • Sunday, 26 September 2010, 2PM

Warren R. Hofstra, Stewart Bell Professor of History at Shenandoah University has written or edited books on various aspects of American regional history including *The Planting of New Virginia: Settlement and Landscape in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia Reconsidered: New Histories of the Old Dominion*, and *Cultures in Conflict: The Seven Years' War in North America*. His long-term research program focuses on regional history of the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia and its communities from the eighteenth to the twentieth century. His current work ranges broadly and includes an interpretative study of American frontiers in the eighteenth century as a product of European imperial expansion throughout the Atlantic World, a collaborative essay project on Scots-Irish migration, an examination of the global economy of grain and flour production beginning in the eighteenth century as it influenced the Shenandoah Valley, and a cultural history of Winchester, Virginia, in the 1950s as it shaped the career of Patsy Cline and country music. *The Great Valley Road of Virginia: Shenandoah Landscapes from Prehistory to the Present* chronicles the story of one of America's oldest, most historic, and most geographically significant roads. Books will be available to purchase on-site.

LEESBURG: AN EXPLORATION THROUGH TIME

Sunday, 3 October 2010, 2PM

Thomas Balch Library presents *Leesburg: An Exploration Through Time*, a documentary about the town's 250 year history. Directed by Matthew Exline of Living Stones Productions, a recent graduate of Patrick Henry College, and with production assistance from library staff members Stephanie Adams Hunter and Beth Schuster, the film highlights both the community of Leesburg residents as well as the town infrastructure. A variety of materials from Thomas Balch Library's archival holdings and newly recorded oral history interviews, as well as materials from collections in other repositories, have been utilized in producing the film. Following the screening, which will last approximately an hour, Exline, Hunter and Schuster will be available to take questions.

CLERK'S OFFICE TOUR, LOUDOUN COUNTY COURTHOUSE HISTORIC RECORDS

John Fishback • Monday, 4 October 2010, 7PM

Meet in the parking lot of Thomas Balch Library by 6:45PM. John Fishback, Historic Records Manager for Loudoun County, will lead a tour of the Clerk's Office. He will discuss the extent of Loudoun County's records holdings, where to look for records of births, deaths, marriages, and deeds, and how to use these records in research. No one is permitted to enter restricted areas of the Clerk's Office after 7:00PM, so the group will leave the library promptly at 6:45PM.

News FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



It is such a pleasure to sit down and write these letters, to share with our readers hints of our activities and opportunities. Since my last letter there have been many exciting developments. Among these are a memorandum of understanding with George Mason University, Library and Preservation Week proclamations, third annual social science fair award, Facebook presence, and WiFi for patrons in the library.

This last year Thomas Balch Library and George Mason University entered into discussions to explore how we could work together for better opportunities for Leesburg and Loudoun County residents. In March, Leesburg Town Manager John Wells, and Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director, Town of Leesburg, met with Jack R. Censer, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences for George

Mason University and Brian Platt, Associate Professor, Chair of the Department of History and Art History at George Mason University, to sign a Memorandum of Agreement for academic cooperation. The agreement provides for an arrangement with George Mason University as they move into Loudoun County and Thomas Balch Library in Leesburg to provide opportunities to connect with established and developing scholars by providing educational programs for the community. The agreement also establishes cooperative benefits with regard to internships through professional experiences for students in processing collections at the library that will be made available for researcher use.



At Loudoun County Public Schools' 14th annual Social Science Fair in June, Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission selected Thomas "T.J." Williams, Jr., a rising sophomore at Freedom High School, as the recipient of the Commission's local history research award for his research paper entitled "How Has Development Hurt the Dairy Industry in Loudoun County?" A sixth-generation farmer, T.J.'s research project explored the detrimental effects of growth and development on Loudoun County's dairy industry, a topic which he has firsthand knowledge. At one time there were over 300 dairy farms in Loudoun County; today, only one remains in operation. T.J.'s family owned one of the dairy farms no longer in existence. The Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission established the local history research award at the Social Science Fair in 2008 as part of the Town's 250th anniversary celebration. The award complements the Loudoun History Awards, hosted by the Commission in November each year.

The library now provides keyword searching of its archives and manuscript collection guides. These guides describe special collections holdings in detail, providing researchers with historical and contextual information about the materials and their creators. In addition, friends and researchers alike may follow Thomas Balch Library's activities on Facebook. An eye catching feature of our Facebook presence is "This Week in Loudoun." Posted weekly, it includes images and snippets of information on historic events in Leesburg or Loudoun. For researchers visiting the library, we now offer WiFi.

Martha Schonberger has stepped down following eight years of dedicated service as a library advisory commissioner, three as chair. Robert Hodge has been appointed to fill the vacancy. Councilmember Kathryn Sheldon Hammler has replaced Councilmember Thomas S. Dunn, II, as the council representative.

As always it will be my pleasure to welcome you when visiting Thomas Balch Library or when attending programs and exhibits.

Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission sponsors the annual Loudoun History Awards and an award for excellence in historical research at the annual Loudoun County Public School Social Science Fair. It meets at the library the second Wednesday of each month at 7PM. The public is always welcome.

Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc., a 501c3 organized to provide support for Thomas Balch Library, meets at the library every other month. Visit www.balchfriends.org or call 703/737-2166.

An Evening at Oatlands • Friends of the Thomas Balch Library 2010 Fundraiser

Sunday, 19 September 2010, 5:30-8:30PM



Ron Maxwell, best known for writing and directing American Civil War epics *Gods and Generals* and *Gettysburg* will be the key note speaker. He will present, *For the Love of Tender Kinship: a Filmmaker's Journey Through the Civil War*. This year's location will be historic Oatlands. The mansion and gardens will be open for our guests' enjoyment and delicacies will be provided by Karen Harper-Fuog Catering. The proceeds from this event will be used to establish an endowment for Thomas Balch Library. Tickets are limited, so make your reservations by September 10th. For information or to purchase tickets, call Friends of the Thomas Balch Library at 703-737-2166.

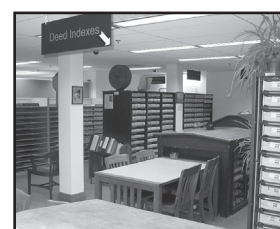
Black History Committee of Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc., meets at the library the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7PM. Visit www.balchfriends.org for further information.

Art Square Gallery Exhibit • 12 Cardinal Park Dr. SE, Leesburg, VA • 703-777-5498

Sherry Sanabria, member of the Black History Committee, will be showing her series of paintings, "French Suite," Sept. 10 - Oct. 2. Opening is Friday, Sept. 10 from 6-9PM. Sanabria will be speaking at the gallery Sept. 19 at 3 PM. Historical structures in the villages and towns of southwest France have their own unique character, diversity, charm-and darkness. *French Suite* focuses on the stirring light and mysterious and lingering presence of past lives.



Virginia Forum The sixth annual Virginia Forum focusing on "Different Virginias" will be held March 25-26, 2011, at Washington & Lee University and Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, VA. Additional information is available online at www.virginiaforum.org.

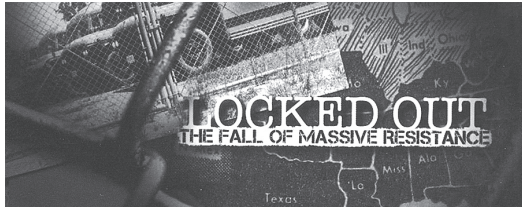


Loudoun County Archives Grand Opening

Please join Gary M. Clemens, Clerk of the Circuit Court, and staff of the Loudoun County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in celebrating the Grand Opening of the recently remodeled Archives Department on Friday, 1 October 2010, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Enjoy a tour of the Archives, located in the Law Library wing of the Loudoun County Courts Complex on King Street, and examine the treasure of documents Loudoun County has dating back to the formation of the County in 1757.

LOCKED OUT: THE FALL OF MASSIVE RESISTANCE - VIDEO PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

James H. Hershman, Jr. and Mason W. Mills
Sunday, 17 October 2010, 2PM



After the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education decision, the Commonwealth of Virginia led other Southern states in defiance of the U.S. Supreme Court's mandate to end segregation in public education. Acting under state law, in September 1958, the governor closed nine schools under federal desegregation orders in three

localities, denying over 12,000 students the chance for an education. Even after federal and state courts overturned the state laws, one locality, Prince Edward County, in a final act of defiance, closed all its public schools for five years. *Locked Out: The Fall of Massive Resistance* sheds light on this dark moment in the Old Dominion's past through interviews, academic commentary, and archival footage from the era. It offers first-hand accounts from African-American students who found themselves on the front lines of a bitter desegregation struggle that drew the attention of national and international press.

The documentary was produced by the Community Ideas Stations in conjunction with the University of Virginia Center for Politics to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first desegregation of Virginia's schools on February 2nd, 1959. Mason W. Mills, who has directed earlier works on this period, produced the film. It was nominated by the Capital Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for an Emmy Award.

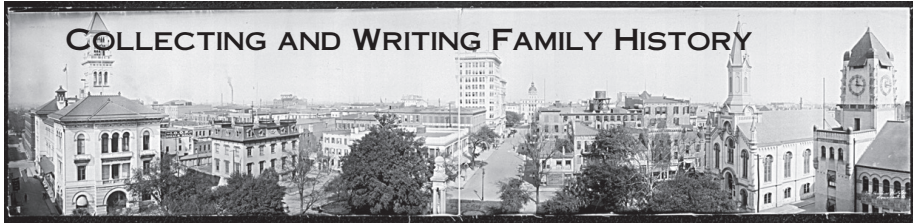
As an independent Producer and Senior Producer for the Community Idea Stations, central Virginia's public television, Mason Mills has produced many nationally released public television documentaries including *Locked Out: The Fall of Massive Resistance*; *Wilder: An American First*; *Questioning The Constitution*, and *Witness To A Century*. He also produced a music performance series *The Music Seen*, the art series *Junction 301* and the comedy special *Laughing Matters with Brett Leake*, all distributed nationally. Over the course of twenty years Mason has won national recognition by earning Emmy, Telly, and Communicator awards and was selected for the PBS/WGBH Producer's Academy in 2006. Mason is currently the Digital Arts Manager for the Genworth Brightlights Education Center at Richmond CenterStage. He also is an adjunct professor at Virginia Commonwealth University where he teaches video editing for Sculpture and New Media.

James H. Hershman, Jr., writer and scholar, has taught courses in American History at the University of Virginia, Wake Forest University, and Georgetown University. His articles and reviews have appeared in the *Journal of Southern History*, *Journal of Negro Education*, *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, and *The Moderates' Dilemma*. He was a consultant on and appeared in the documentary film, *Locked Out: The Fall of Massive Resistance*. Currently, he is co-editing a book on Massive Resistance and Civil Rights in the Old Dominion for the University Press of Virginia. Hershman holds a Ph.D. in Southern History from the University of Virginia. He has worked for the Federal Government, served on the senior staff at the Brookings Institution, and a senior fellow at the Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University. Currently he serves on the Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission.

WALKING TOUR OF LEESBURG

James Roberts ■ Saturday, 23 October 2010, 9-12AM

James Roberts, a native of Leesburg, member of Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission, and 2008 recipient of a Loudoun History Award, will lead a walking tour of Leesburg. The tour is an insider's commentary of local people, places and points of interest both in and around Leesburg. Particular detail is paid to how Leesburg has grown and evolved through the years architecturally, economically, and racially. Factual, historical, and anecdotal information is intertwined and presented in storytelling fashion as only someone who lived through it and thoughtfully observed it, can do. This unique tour will leave from Thomas Balch Library parking lot at 9AM.



Mary Burgan ■ Sunday, 24 October 2010, 2PM

Mary Burgan served as professor of English at Indiana University-Bloomington, 1964-1994. She was Distinguished Visiting Professor at Marquette University, 1992-93. In 1994, she became General Secretary of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), located in Washington, DC. Her publications include *Illness, Gender, and Writing: The Case of Katherine Mansfield*, and *What Ever Happened to the Faculty?* as well as many articles on literature and higher education. She retired from the AAUP in the summer of 2004 and in the following year worked at the Rockefeller Residence in Bellagio, Italy and at the Center for the Study of Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley. She is now working on a family memoir tentatively entitled, "Songs My Father Taught Me: Lies My Mother Told." Her presentation at Thomas Balch Library will report on family research for this project. In writing the memoir of her family she has visited the birthplaces of her mother and father. "I have made invaluable discoveries in both locales," she writes, "in walking their streets and by-ways, getting access to their local official records, talking to old-timers, visiting graveyards, and simply standing in places where that young man and woman stood a hundred years ago."

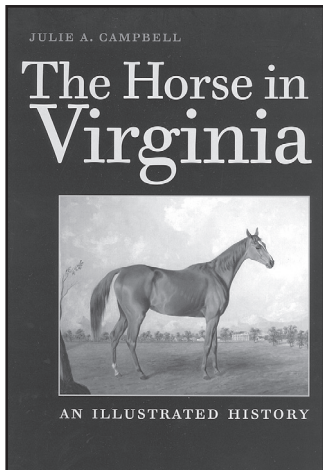
LOUDOUN HISTORY AWARDS

Sunday, 14 November 2010, 2PM

Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commissioners will present the eighteenth annual Loudoun History Awards. This event honors individuals who have made significant contributions to preserving Loudoun's past through collection of county documents and memorabilia, preservation of historic landmarks, visual arts, writing, and long-time commitment to local history organizations. For a brochure or information on nominating individuals, contact the Library Director at 703/737-7195.

THE HORSE IN VIRGINIA: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

Julie A. Campbell ■ Sunday, 5 December 2010, 2PM



Virginia's horse tradition goes back 400 years to when horses accompanied some of the first settlers in Jamestown. Since then, the state's special relationship with the horse has never waned. Virginia has been home to some of the most notable breeds in the world - nurturing the Thoroughbred and actually birthing the Quarter Horse - as well as to some of the most famous individual horses, including the great Triple Crown champion Secretariat and Misty of Chincoteague, one of the most beloved horses to grace children's literature. The most significant figures in the Commonwealth's history have almost invariably enjoyed a special bond with horses, from George Washington - whom Thomas Jefferson called "the best horseman of his age" - to Robert E. Lee, who rode into battle on his well-known gray, Traveller. This tradition has continued into the present day, as horse farms are still a proud feature of the Virginia countryside, and famed equestrians such as David and Karen O'Connor have represented their state and country in the Olympics. This is the first book to cover the complete history of the horse in the Old Dominion.

Julie Campbell, author of *The Horse in Virginia: An Illustrated History*, is associate director of communications and public affairs at Washington and Lee University. She holds a BA in history from Arizona State University and an MA in history from the University of Arizona. Following publishing positions in Denver and Tucson, Campbell moved east to Richmond where she was editor of *Virginia Cavalcade*, the illustrated magazine of history at the Library of Virginia, until it ceased publication in 2002. Campbell has contributed articles and book reviews to journals, newspapers, and books; is a past president of Virginia Press Women and of the Friends of the Richmond Mounted Squad; serves on boards of the Friends of the Rockbridge Regional Library and Friends of the Washington and Lee Library, and serves on an advisory committee to the Museum of the Virginia Horse. Books will be available to purchase on-site.

THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY CLASSES 2010

Maximizing Your Time at Thomas Balch Library: An Introduction to the Library, Its Resources and Research Techniques

A series of classes offered to introduce researchers to resources at Thomas Balch Library. Classes will include a tour of the facility, subject-specific training by experienced staff, handouts, and an opportunity to ask questions. These classes, held the first Thursday of each month, are limited in size, registration will be required, and will repeat periodically.

Introduction to Digital Resources at Thomas Balch Library

Thursday, 7 October 2010, 10-12AM

In this session, participants will learn about digital resources available at TBL. Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director, and Stephanie Adams Hunter, Library Archives Specialist, will demonstrate databases and other online tools available for researchers, show types of information to be found, and suggest research strategies. Resources to be demonstrated include *JSTOR*, *America's GenealogyBank* and *NewsBank*.

Loudoun County Historic Building Files, Assessment and Parcel Database

Thursday, 4 November 2010, 10-12AM

This class, recommended as a companion to the Leesburg Historic District presentation, will demonstrate various Loudoun County land records and mapping systems available to the public and how to use them in researching historic properties. Included will be a brief overview of the library's Lewis/Edwards and Historic Leesburg files, tax records, and maps. Mary A. Pender, a part-time librarian and cataloger at Thomas Balch Library received her BA from the College of William & Mary and MLIS from University of Texas at Austin. A Project Manager for Loudoun County's Land Records System, she has been employed with the Building and Development Department since 1998. John Berfield, a Library Assistant, earned his BA in Geography from Virginia Tech. He retired from Loudoun County Department of Building and Development in 2005. His work, as a planner, included contributing toward the addition of several historic structure files, including chain of title information, to the Lewis/Edwards Files.

Leesburg's Historic District Files and Sanborn Maps

Thursday, 2 December 2010, 10-12AM

Annie McDonald, Leesburg Preservation Planner, will delve into using resources available at Thomas Balch Library for researching a property's history. She will explain the purpose behind the architectural surveys of the late 1990s and how to use architectural survey files, Sanborn fire insurance maps, and historic photographs to identify how a building changes over time. The talk focuses only on the Leesburg historic district, and this session is recommended as a companion to the county records presentation. Previously employed by a DC-based preservation consulting firm and by a regional NGO based in Chattanooga, Tennessee, she has been with the Town of Leesburg since September 2005.

THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY EXHIBITS 2010-2011

Margaret Mercer Room

September	George C. Marshall – Dodona Manor
October	American Archives Month – Thomas Balch Library
November	Loudoun History Awards & New Accessions – Thomas Balch Library
December	Local Art – Loudoun Arts Council
January	World War II Memorabilia – John Wyrick

Lower Level Meeting Room

July-September	Virginia Flowers in Bloom – Gary Mester
October-December	Morven Park: A Unique Look at the Old Mansion – Fran Poston
January-March	Old Stone Spring Houses of Loudoun County – Jim Baker

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FALL 2010 LECTURES AND EVENTS

The Balch Column

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