

BALCH COLUMN

Thomas Balch Library ■ 208 W. Market Street ■ Leesburg, Virginia 20176
703-737-7195 ■ Fax: 703-737-7150 ■ Email: balchlib@leesburgva.gov



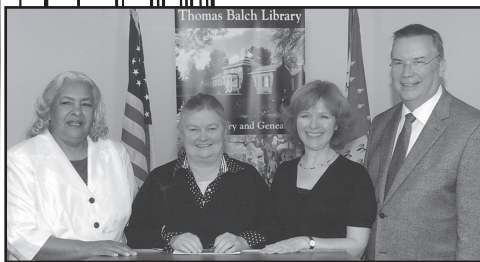
News

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Throughout the year Thomas Balch Library hosts many events. To share all of them would be wonderful, but space permits highlighting only a few of our activities.

On September 30 a special class for Loudoun County Public School social science teachers was presented as a joint project with Wendi Manuel-Scott, Chair of the African American Studies Program at George Mason University and Thomas Balch Library. The program opened with greetings on behalf of the Town of Leesburg by Kevin Wright, Vice Mayor, and was presented in three parts. James H. Hershman, Jr., on the faculty at Georgetown University and Vice Chair of the TBL Advisory Commission spoke first on massive resistance. Manuel-Scott then presented ideas for incorporating African American history into the curriculum and illustrated the challenges and opportunities teachers could encounter. The final part was a demonstration by the Library Director of resources available for teachers and students and a tour of the library, following which teachers participated in a research exercise. Beth Schuster and Stephanie Adams-Hunter, TBL staff assisted, along with volunteers: Becky Ottinger and Carolyn Whiteley, retired teachers, and Donna Jamison a former law librarian.

The Loudoun History Awards, sponsored by Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission, established in



1993, 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-term involvement in local history organizations.

The 2010 awards ceremony took place at the Library on November 14 with the recognition of four outstanding local historians: H. Vernon Davis, Arlean Hill, Lori H. Kimball, and Margaret T. Morton. Also present and recognized, was "TJ" Williams the 2010 recipient of the TBL Advisory Commission Social Science Fair Award for his project, "How Has Development Hurt the Dairy Industry in Loudoun County?"

Leesburg: An Exploration Through Time, a documentary about the town's 250 year history has recently been completed. It was premiered September 28 for the Town of Leesburg Council and for the general public on October 3. For those who missed the fall screenings it will be presented again during 2011.

Thomas Balch Library was the recipient of a generous bequest from the estate of long time volunteer, Virginia L. Bowie. In the fall of 2009 the Library received an initial distribution. This

fall the Library received the final distribution bringing the total bequest to over \$600,000. Ms. Bowie, a very unassuming and private person, as a volunteer was extraordinarily generous to the Library with her time and talents. With this bequest we hope to honor Ms. Bowie's memory by insuring that Thomas Balch Library will be here for residents for years to come.

Over the last year we have been operating with a reduction in full and flex staff. Despite staffing constraints, staff continued to provide quality service without a reduction in operational hours. We are all delighted to have joining us in the library three new flex staff members and hope you will join us in welcoming them: Bryan Fisher who has a BA in History from the University of Central Florida and an MLIS from Florida State University; Robert Goldberg who has a BA in Government from Oberlin College, an MPA from the University of Washington, Seattle, and an MLS from the University of Illinois at Champaign; and Elizabeth Preston who has a BA in History and an MLS from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and an MA in Public History from North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. They will be assisting at the reference desk and with projects in their respective areas of expertise. The addition of these individuals reflects a redistribution of existing flex hours over a greater number of people. The addition of these outstanding staff members does not reflect an increase in hours or funding.

The third annual Friends of the Thomas Balch Library fundraising event was held at Oatlands on September 19. The event raised over



\$10,000 for the Friends endowment fund used to support Thomas Balch Library activities. Although the library is owned, operated, and funded by the Town of Leesburg, it relies on support from the Friends endowment income and other funds to purchase special equipment and underwrite events, such as its popular lecture series. Attendees enjoyed wine and *hors d'oeuvres* and heard a lecture by Ronald F. Maxwell, the independent film-maker who produced the widely acclaimed films *Gettysburg* and *Gods and Generals*, part of an intended trilogy about the American Civil War.

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. James H. Hershman, Jr., vice chair of the TBL Advisory Commission, will be a panel speaker at the Forum. Additional information is available online at www.virginia-forum.org.

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



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.

LEESBURG: AN EXPLORATION THROUGH TIME

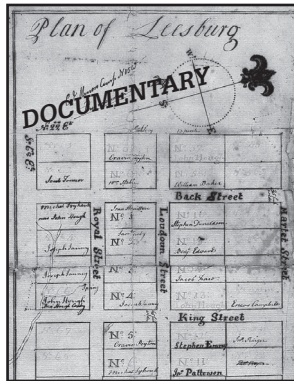
Saturday, 5 February 2011, 2-3PM

Wednesday, 9 March 2011, 12-1PM

Tuesday, 5 April 2011, 7-8PM

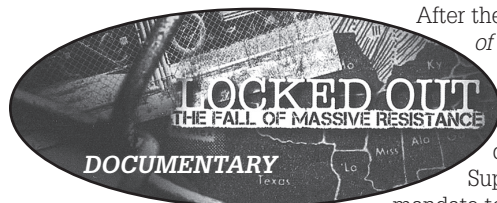
Sunday, 5 June 2011, 2-3PM

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, 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. The film lasts approximately one hour.



LOCKED OUT: THE FALL OF MASSIVE RESISTANCE

Sunday, 20 February 2011, 2PM



After the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, the Commonwealth of Virginia led other Southern states in defiance of the US 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 2, 1959. Mason W. Mills, who has directed earlier works on this period, produced the film. It has been nominated by the Capital Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for an Emmy Award.

BECTON: AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A SOLDIER AND PUBLIC SERVANT

Lt. Gen. Julius W. Becton Jr., U.S. Army (Ret.)

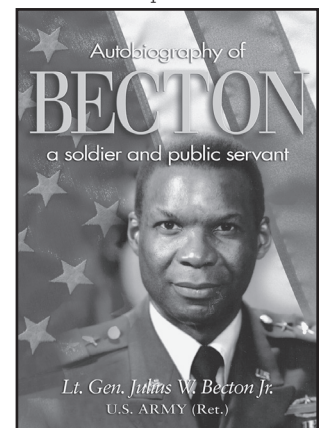
Sunday, 27 February 2011, 2PM

Julius W. Becton, Jr., joined the Army Air Corps Enlisted Reserves in 1943, entered active duty as a private in a segregated army in 1944. He was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry in 1945 from officer candidate school, and after serving almost 40 years in the United States

Army retired at the rank of Lieutenant General. He is a veteran of three wars (WWII, Korea, and Vietnam) and was the first graduate of Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) to attain flag officer rank in the military. Following retirement from the Army, he served as Director of the Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance in the Agency for International Development. Becton was confirmed and served (1985-1989) as the third Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. He served as the fifth president of PVAMU from 1989 to 1994, and between 1996 and 1998 as CEO and Superintendent of public schools in the District of Columbia. Becton has served on numerous boards and commissions including the American Battle Monument Commission, the Federal District Court's oversight committee in the case of *Knight v. Alabama*; as trustee of the Marshall Foundation, Valley Forge Military Academy and College, and Florida A&M University. He is currently a trustee for the American Public University System and the Association of the US Army and has served as a director on four corporate boards:

Illinois Tool Works, General Dynamics, Wackenhut, and Marine Spill Response Corp. Becton, listed several times by *Ebony* magazine as 'One of the 100 Most Influential Blacks in America,' has been the recipient of numerous awards. These include the George Catlett Marshall Medal (2007), Outstanding Alumnus of the Year, University of Maryland (2008), and the Raymond G. Davis Award for Distinguished Service in Korea by the American Veterans Center (2008).

Becton's book, *Becton: Autobiography of a Soldier and Public Servant*, published by the Naval Institute Press in 2008, highlights his career and reveals influences that have contributed to his success. Books will be available for purchase.



COLONIAL MIGRATIONS IN AND OUT OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY



Victor Dunn

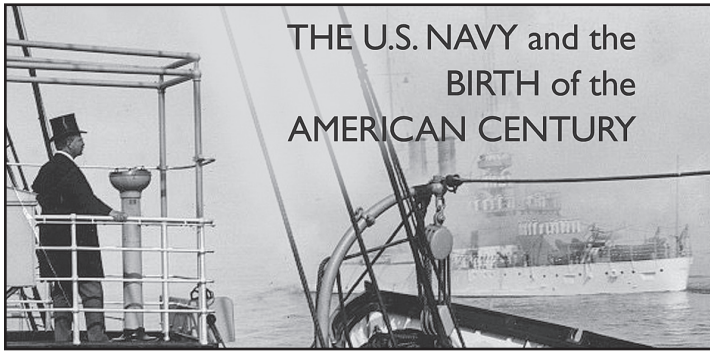
Sunday,

6 March 2011, 2PM

Victor S. "Vic" Dunn, Certified Genealogist, is a native of the Shenandoah Valley and is a descendant of many of its early settlers. Dunn is a

professional genealogist and the proprietor of Virginia Ancestry. He is a current instructor for the Virginia track at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and a trustee of the Board for Certification of Genealogists. He is a former treasurer of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) and past vice-president of the Shenandoah Valley Genealogical Society. He is a contributor to major genealogical publications with feature articles in *NGS Quarterly*, *NGS News Magazine*, *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*, and the *Virginia Genealogical Society Newsletter*.

Before migrating to the Carolinas or westward, many Scotch-Irish, English, and Germans first came down through the Valley on the Great Wagon Road. "Colonial Migrations In and Out of the Shenandoah Valley" examines the ethnic and religious groups that traveled from the Northern states as well as Eastern Virginians who crossed the Blue Ridge into the Valley. County-by-county origins are examined.



THE U.S. NAVY and the
BIRTH of the
AMERICAN CENTURY

**THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S
NAVAL DIPLOMACY: THE U.S. NAVY
AND THE BIRTH OF THE AMERICAN
CENTURY**

Cdr. Henry J. Hendrix, USN

Sunday, 20 March 2011, 2PM

Theodore Roosevelt's Naval Diplomacy examines President Roosevelt's use of United States naval sea power to advance diplomatic efforts to facilitate emergence of the US as a great power at the dawn of the twentieth century. The author introduces new material to document the development of Roosevelt's philosophy with regard to naval power and his implementation of this strategy. It illustrates Roosevelt's use of the Navy and Marine Corps to advance American interests during the historically controversial Venezuelan Crisis (1902-03), Panama's independence movement (1903), the Morocco-Pericaris Incident (1904), and the choice of a navy yard as the site for the negotiations that ended the Russo-Japanese War. The author touches on the voyage of the Great White Fleet and Roosevelt's actions to technologically transform the American Navy. New information is provided on the controversy about whether Roosevelt did or did not issue an ultimatum to the German and British governments in December 1902, bringing the United States to the brink of war with two of the world's great powers. It also reveals a secret war plan developed during Panama's independence movement that envisioned the US Marine Corps invading Colombia to defend the sovereignty of the new Panamanian republic. *Theodore Roosevelt's Naval Diplomacy* brings new understanding to how the U.S. Navy was used to usher in the American century.

Cdr. Henry J. Hendrix, USN, is a career naval officer. In his twenty years of active service he has made six operational deployments and earned advanced degrees from the Naval Postgraduate School and Harvard University, as well as a PhD from King's College, London. A Naval Historical Center Samuel Eliot Morison Scholar and the 2006 recipient of the Alfred Thayer Mahan Award for Literary Achievement, he is the author of numerous articles in professional journals. Books will be available for purchase.

**THE LAST LINCOLN CONSPIRATOR:
JOHN SURRATT'S FLIGHT FROM THE
GALLOWS**

Andrew C. A. Jampoler

Sunday, 3 April 2011, 2PM

The Last Lincoln Conspirator: John Surratt's Flight from the Gallows tells the remarkable story of John Harrison Surratt. Finally captured in Egypt

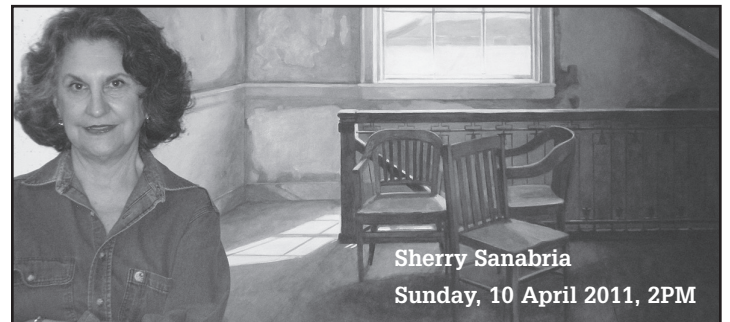
eighteen months after his mother's execution on the same charge, Surratt was the last person to go on trial for his role in John Wilkes Booth's plot to assassinate President Lincoln, and the



only one to escape conviction. As the first full-length treatment of Surratt's escape, capture, and trial, the book provides fascinating details about his flight from New York, where he was on a Confederate spy mission scouting the Union prisoner of war camp in Elmira, through eastern Canada to a hideout in Liverpool, England, and on to France and the Papal States. His twenty-month flight, including nearly one year of enlisted service in the Papal Zouaves, is a remarkable adventure through mid-century Europe and locations unknown to most Americans of the time. Despite an uncontrollable tendency to babble to strangers about who he really was and what he had done, Surratt, frequently sheltered by sympathetic Roman Catholic priests, managed to stay at large during a flight that took him across three continents and over the Atlantic Ocean and half the Mediterranean Sea. Finally caught in Alexandria, Egypt, he was returned to Washington to stand trial in 1867. After his trial, Surratt lived out his life peacefully in Baltimore, marrying a relative of Francis Scott Key and dying at the age of seventy-two.

Andrew C. A. Jampoler is an alumnus of Columbia College and the School of International and Public Affairs, both of Columbia University, in New York City, and of the US State Department Foreign Service Institute's School of Language Study. During more than twenty years on active duty with the US Navy, Jampoler commanded a land-based maritime patrol aircraft squadron and a naval air station. After retiring from the US Navy, he became a sales and marketing executive in the international aerospace industry. He is author of the award-winning book *Adak* as well as *Sailors in the Holy Land*. Books will be available for purchase.

**ARTIST PAINTINGS OF SITES OF
CONSCIENCE**



Sherry Sanabria

Sunday, 10 April 2011, 2PM

For many years images of interiors and façades of old buildings have made up the theme of Sherry Sanabria's paintings. Many of the paintings are "sites of conscience," places in which society has imposed punishment, often undeserved: *Lagers* - four concentration camps, *Unforgotten: Slave Quarters and Other African American Sites*, and *The Corrections*- prisons and mental hospitals in the US, all "Sites of Conscience." Even sites thought of as happy places such as Ellis Island or travel spots such as Southwest France, the Baltics, and India have a back-story of painful memory. Join artist Sherry Sanabria as we look at paintings from her painting series as she discusses the stories behind the images.

A native of Washington, DC, Sanabria's 27 one-person exhibitions at public and private spaces, include the Phillips Collection, Washington, DC; American Institute of Architects, Washington, DC, Ellis Island Immigration Museum, NYC, and Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, MD. Her work has also been shown in over 40 group exhibitions including the Williams College Museum, MA; American Academy of Arts and Letters, NY; University of Richmond, VA; Vanderbilt University, TN; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; and the Bermuda National Museum, Hamilton, Bermuda. Sanabria's works are included in permanent collections of museums or other public spaces, as well as in numerous corporate and private collections, both nationally and in Europe. Her art has been featured in many publications, including *American Artist* and the *Washington Post* and featured in the books, *Fixing the Worlds* and the *Ashen Rainbow* by Ori Soltes. Sanabria is an active member of the Black History Committee of Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc.



LAFAYETTE: LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP FROM THE IDEALIST GENERAL

Marc Leepson

Sunday, 1 May 2011, 2PM

The Marquis de Lafayette is an icon of American and French history and his life story is the stuff of legend. Born into an aristocratic French family of warriors, made lieutenant in the French Royal Guard at age 14, and married into the royal family at 16, he traveled to the colonies at his own expense to fight in the American Revolution. By age 20, he was embraced by George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, who became life-long friends. Leepson delivers an insightful account of the great general whose love of liberty and passionate devotion to American and French independence shines in the pages of history.



Marc Leepson, journalist, historian, and author of six books, most recently *Desperate Engagement*, the story of the Civil War Battle of Monocacy and Confederate General Jubal Early's subsequent march on Washington, has taught US history at Lord Fairfax Community College in Warrenton, Virginia. He holds a BA and an MA in History from George Washington University. A former staff writer for *Congressional Quarterly* in Washington, DC, his work has appeared in many magazines and newspapers, including *Civil War Times*, *America's Civil War*, *Vietnam*, *Smithsonian*, *The Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *New York Times Book Review*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *USA Today*, among others. He also was a long-time contributor to the *Encyclopedia Americana Yearbook* and writes for the *Encyclopedia Americana*. Leepson's books will be available for purchase.

ARMCHAIR WARRIORS: PRIVATE CITIZENS, POPULAR PRESS, AND THE RISE OF AMERICAN POWER

Joel R. Davidson

Sunday, 15 May 2011, 2PM



Armchair Warriors is a history of the interplay between popular media's coverage of the nation's wars and the perceptions of ordinary Americans regarding military issues from the Spanish-American War through the Cold War. The book begins with the premise that the press provided most Americans with their primary source of insight into the practical military problems confronting the United States. In a nation

where military service was the exception rather than the rule, the public relied on news outlets to make sense of what war "really" was. These articles and editorials not only celebrated the country's successes in war, but also attempted to explain its setbacks as well as the perils and opportunities that lay ahead. American people responded to this information by taking an active role in the intellectual aspects of the nation's military effort. Often encouraged by various media sources, ordinary citizens produced proposals aimed at solving particular tactical or strategic conundrums. These armchair warriors often sidestepped the press, seeking to bring their ideas directly before those entrusted with directing the armed forces. Together, media accounts of military issues and practical-minded suggestions from the masses, constitute a heretofore unexamined national dialogue about one of the most important aspects of American history. The author utilizes hundreds of letters from average Americans to explore a previously unexamined aspect of popular participation in America's rise to global dominance. These letters provide a unique window into the minds of patriotic citizens grappling with issues ranging from grand strategy to the deadly imperatives of individual combat. With the aid and often encouragement of the popular media, these citizens devoted their creative energies to finding means and methods of furthering national military goals. This level of intellectual engagement belies images of a supine public passively following the war news doled out by the powers that be.

Joel R. Davidson was educated at Boston University and Yale Law School and received a PhD in history from Duke University. He is the author of *The Unsinkable Fleet: The Politics of U.S. Navy Expansion in World War II*. He has worked as an attorney in Washington, DC, and as an historian for the National Building Museum, the President's Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States, and the Army Center for Military History. Books will be available for purchase.

WALKING TOUR OF LEESBURG



James P. Roberts

Saturday,

14 May 2011, 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.



CLERK'S OFFICE TOUR, LOUDOUN COUNTY COURTHOUSE HISTORIC RECORDS

John Fishback ■ Monday, 16 May 2011, 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.



THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY CLASSES

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

A series of classes offered introducing 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, will be limited in size, registration will be required, and will repeat periodically.

Introduction to On-Line Genealogical Resources

Thursday, 3 February 2011, 10-12AM

Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director, will provide a general overview of on-line resources available at Thomas Balch Library to conduct genealogical research. Particular attention will be paid to subscription databases such as *AncestryLibrary*, *HeritageQuest*, *Footnote*, and non-subscription databases such as The Library of Congress: *Chronicling American Newspapers*.

Information Seeking Strategies for Historical Research

Thursday, 3 March 2011, 10-12AM

Under the direction of Elizabeth E. Preston, Library Reference Associate, participants will learn techniques for developing and implementing effective search techniques. While the techniques discussed are applicable in a wide variety of environments, specific attention will be paid to Thomas Balch Library's subscription databases, including *America: History and Life* and *Access Newspaper Archive*.

Researching Court Records

Thursday, 7 April 2011, 10-12AM

Jeanette Irby, Leesburg Town Attorney, will discuss how to use court records and other resources for data that are frequently overlooked in genealogical and historical research. Irby will demonstrate how to mine court records for clues that can be used to collect information for genealogical research. Examples of these records include real estate records, chancery suits, estates, and indexes. Jeanette Irby, previously employed by Fauquier County, has researched land records dating from the 1700s and participated in genealogical seminars sponsored by the Warrenton Court House Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of which she is First Vice Regent. She holds a BS from Central Michigan University and a JD from Thomas Cooley Law School.

Manuscript and Archives Research

Thursday, 5 May 2011, 10-12AM

Stephanie Adams Hunter, Library Archives Specialist, will introduce users to manuscript and archives holdings at Thomas Balch Library. The kinds of materials available, how they may be accessed, and their use in historical and genealogical research will be discussed.

Researching with On-Line Newspapers

Thursday, 2 June 2011, 10-12AM

Elizabeth E. Preston, Library Reference Associate, and Stephanie Adams Hunter, Library Archives Specialist, will introduce participants to both free and Thomas Balch Library subscription databases of online newspapers. Participants will explore the different methods of accessing information in these important historical resources.

Traditional Genealogical Resources

Thursday, 4 August 2011, 10-12AM

Mary Fishback, Library Assistant, will introduce participants to basic genealogical research utilizing materials in the collections of Thomas Balch Library and how to organize their research.

Introduction to Digital Resources

Thursday, 6 October 2011, 10-12AM

Participants in the session will learn about digital resources available at Thomas Balch Library. Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director, and Stephanie Adams Hunter, Library Archives Specialist, will demonstrate databases and other online tools available for researchers, showing types of information to be found and suggesting research strategies. Resources to be demonstrated include *JSTOR*, *America's GenealogyBank*, and *America's Newspapers*.

Using Visual Collections

Thursday, 3 November 2011, 10-12AM

Stephanie Adams Hunter, Library Archives Specialist, will introduce users to visual collections at Thomas Balch Library. Types of images available and how they may be accessed will be discussed.

Deed Research

Thursday, 1 December 2011, 10-12AM

Wynne Saffer, author of *Loudoun County, Virginia 1860 Land Tax Map*, will use a case study to demonstrate how to establish chain of title using deed indexes and other types of land ownership changes such as wills, marriages, old advertisements, and chancery cases.



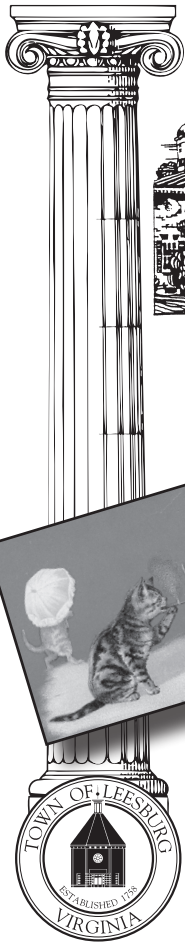
THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY EXHIBITS

MARGARET MERCER ROOM

January	World War II Memorabilia - John Wyrick
February	Black History Month - Herbert Duvall
March	Postcards - Thomas Balch Library
April	4-H Club - Ann Ludwick
May	Loudoun Sketch Club - Sarrita Moffatt
June	US Route 15 Postcards - Josie Ballato
July-August	Loudoun Artifacts from the Civil War Era - John Creamer
September	Loudoun Academy of Arts - Gail Waldron
October	American Archives Month/New Collections - Thomas Balch Library
November	Paxton Home/Loudoun Preservation Society - Lori Kimball
December	Loudoun Arts Council - Lee McKinster

LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM

January-March	Old Stone Spring Houses of Loudoun County - Jim Baker
April-June	National Park Service - Frank Ruggles
July-September	Leesburg: Now and Then - K D Kidder & Neil Steinberg
October-December	Seasons in Nature - Susan Potter



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WINTER/SPRING 2011 LECTURES AND EVENTS

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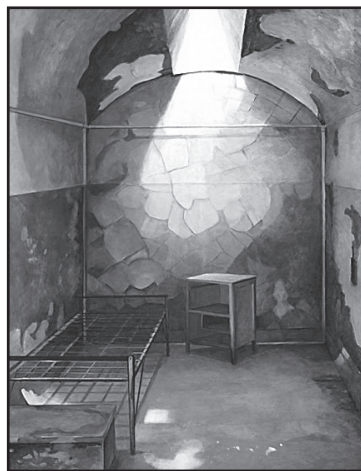
OTHER ACTIVITIES

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. The public is always welcome. For more information, visit www.balchfriends.org or call 703/737-2166. **The 2011 annual meeting will be held at 2PM, Sunday, 16 January (snow date, Sunday, 23 January), at Thomas Balch Library; guest speaker, James P. Lucier whose topic will be "Dedicated to Art: The Corcoran and Eustis Families."**

Black History Committee of Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc., meets at the Library the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7PM. The public is always welcome. For more information, visit www.balchfriends.org or call 703/737-2166.



Black History Committee member Sherry Sanabria's painting, *Red Door in Shadow #2*, will be included in the Holiday Show at Art Square, 12 Cardinal Park Dr. SE, Leesburg VA, (703)777-5498, December 10, 2010 to January 8, 2011, and her painting *Eastern State Cell with Cot*, has been selected to be included for the JWAN National Juried Exhibition: *Sanctuaries in Time* to be held at The Columbia/Barnard University Kraft Center in NYC, January 18 - March 1, 2011.

Loudoun County Civil War Round Table

meets at the Library the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM except January and February. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in Loudoun County's history during the American Civil War.

15 March 2011 - Lew Wallace - Gail Stephens

12 April 2011 - America as a Failed State: Lincoln, Fort Sumter, and the Coming of the Civil War - Frank Cooling

10 May 2011 - Seizure of North Carolina's Coastal Forts - Teej Smith

14 June 2011 - Lt. Peter C. Hains and First Bull Run - Harry Smeltzer

12 July 2011 - Military Actions in Western Virginia in 1861 - Clayton Newell

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. James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA will host the 2012 Virginia Forum.