



JAMESTOWNE SOCIETY FIRST MARYLAND COMPANY

GOVERNOR'S CORNER

Did you ever think you would be grateful for an opportunity to meet with people virtually? To be honest, I don't think "virtual meeting" was even in my vocabulary until about a year ago. Admittedly Zoom, and to a lesser extent Face Time, have allowed us to meet face-to-face even when miles apart. For that I'm grateful. But my gratitude will expand exponentially when we return to real face-to-face meetings!

I've missed each of you. Our lost opportunities to share a meal and learn more about the lives and times of our Jamestowne ancestors make me sad. While we're not quite at the point of actual meetings yet, it looks like our country, Maryland, and even Montgomery County are headed in that direction.

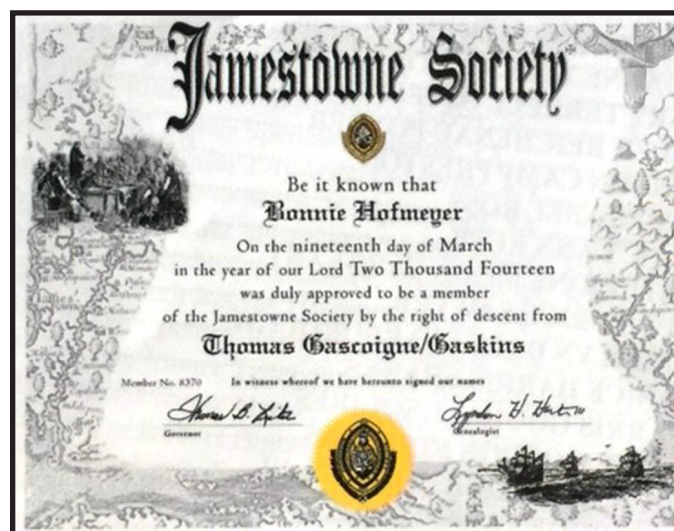
Our Council and I recently met to plan First Maryland Company's activities once we're able to resume actual meetings. Think of it, if you will, as "Escape from COVID-19" planning. Of course, we recognized that in-person meetings may yet be a way off and at the same time considered virtual activities as an option.

Professor Timothy Fritz at Mount St. Mary's University has agreed to be our speaker for the virtual (Zoom) meeting in May and tell us about piracy in early Virginia. You may remember he was our scheduled speaker for our March 2020 meeting, which we had to cancel because of COVID-19. As much as we'd like to get him to speak to us at an in-person meeting, we think May is still too soon. Looking farther ahead, we haven't held a meeting in or near Baltimore in over two years so we're exploring venues in that general area for a Fall meeting. We'll announce specific dates and places once we can pin down the details. These are just a few of the thoughts discussed. I hope you're as excited by prospects for resuming meetings as I am.

On an unrelated note, have you received your Spring 2021 issue of *Jamestowne Society Magazine*? If so, did you notice the article on the back cover concerning the new Society membership certificate? When he was our society's National Governor, our company treasurer, Jerry Zillion, was instrumental in its development. You might want to thank him sometime for his leadership that resulted in this new certificate. While Jerry didn't make the new certificate by himself, he was a driving force for it. And he's the one Jamestowne Society member involved in that effort who belongs to our Company!

I look forward to seeing all of you again. Until then, please stay safe and healthy!

Harry



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!
COMPANY SPRING MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021
2:00PM
via Zoom

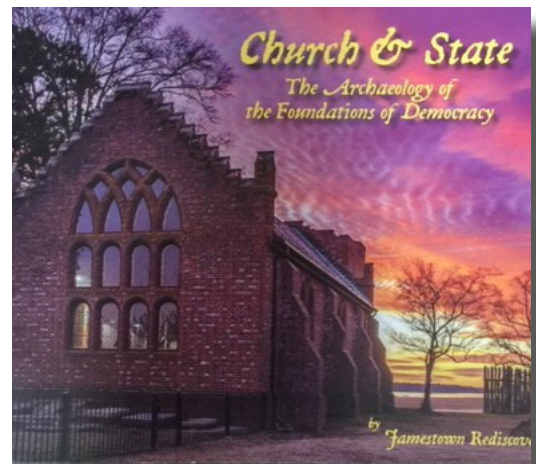
(You will receive the link by email)

Speaker: Professor Timothy Fritz of Mount St. Mary's University,
Thurmont, MD will speak on "Early Virginia and Pirates."
A Question and Answer period will follow.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW
MEMBERS

Erika Forsthye, Fruitland, MD
Frances Woods, Chambersburg, PA

Treasurer's Report
Checking Account Balance
(1/29/21)
\$1,853.86



Company Copy of Church & State is
available for members to borrow
contact bmyers137@live.com

Governor Harry C. Redd III
Lieutenant Governor Anne Henninger
Treasurer Jerry Zillion

Secretary Rebecca Myers
Chaplain Barbara Greeley
Historian/Registrar Cynthia Johnson

Councilor George Calvert
Councilor William Spencer
Councilor Lucien Votta

JAMESTOWNE SOCIETY
ZOOM EVENTS SPRING 2021

Our National Society is offering the following ZOOM events in March and April

Monday, March 22nd 2 pm Eastern Time- *The Powhatan uprising of 1622*

On the 399th anniversary of the attack join Mark Summers, Jamestown Rediscovery Director of Public & Youth Programs as he provides a presentation on the uprising of the Powhatan People. Approximately 347 colonists lost their lives and 20 female colonists from Martin's Hundred were taken captive on that day. This uprising greatly impacted the Anglo-Powhatan relations. Mark Summers will be available for questions after his presentation.

Monday, April 12th 2 pm Eastern Time- *Eastern Expansion Dig*

Join Jamestown Rediscovery Head Archaeologist Dave Givens and Jamestowne Society Executive Director Bonnie Hofmeyer as they visit the Eastern Expansion Dig which is funded by the Jamestowne Society. We will learn about the importance of the dig and artifacts found. Dave and other archaeologists will be available for questions from our members.

Links to these two events will be added on the Jamestowne Society Facebook page and emailed to company governors. We will pass the links along to all members when they are sent to us.

Thursday, March 25th Book Club

The first book club meeting will be held in March. We are reading *The Jamestown Project* by Karen Ordahl Kupperman. Members must register in advance and read the book.

For more information and to register, contact

jamestownesocietybookclub@gmail.com

If many members are interested, additional book club groups will be formed to keep meeting size small and allow for participation from all.

Other Activities Conducted By Our National Society

Over 100 new lines have been added to the Lineage Paper Project. This is where applicants and members can purchase someone's approved application and rely on it for generations in common. Click on the link below to visit this page-

<http://www.jamestowne.org/lineage-paper-project.html>

FIRST MARYLAND SETS A FUNDING GOAL FOR THE ELIZABETH B. WINGO RESTORATION OF RECORDS FUND

The Restoration of Records Fund was established in 1979. This fund conserves early court records from the 17th and 18th centuries. Many deed books, marriage bonds, and record books have been conserved and made available to the public. Mostly Virginia counties, but not limited to Virginia. Counties such as Charles City, Princess Anne, Norfolk, Rappahannock, and Henrico were early projects. The fund was renamed to the **Elizabeth B. Wingo Restoration of Records Fund** after her death in 2002. She was the long time chair and personally transcribed records for Norfolk and Princess Anne counties. Recent projects were the 17th century land grants signed by Governor William Berkley, Surry Co., marriage bonds, the 1690-1702 Charles City record book. These records are now digitized when they are in the conservation process.

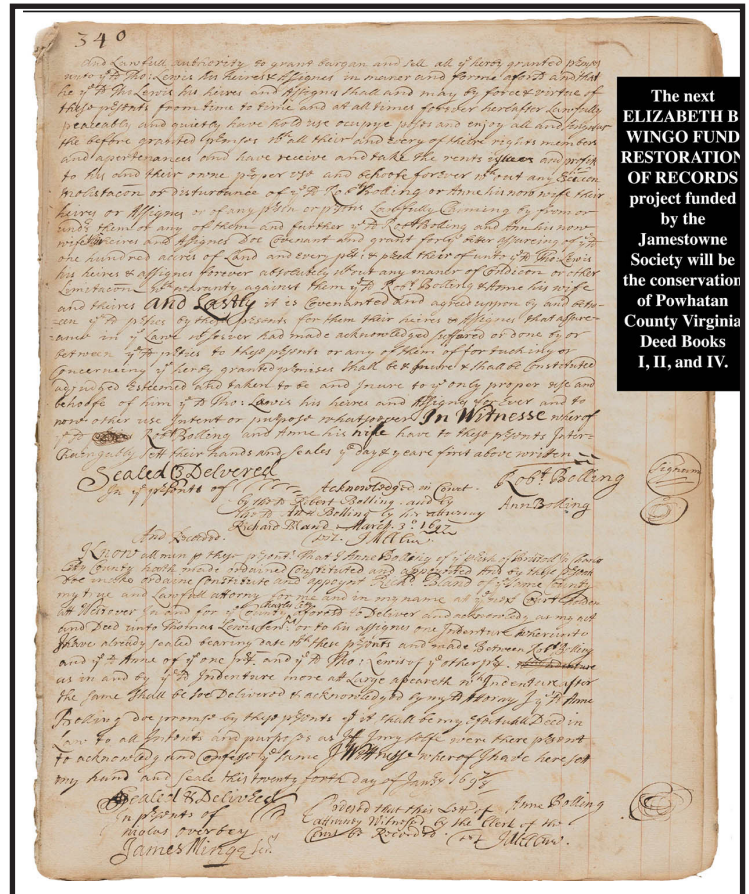
According to Bonnie Hoffmyer, executive director of the Jamestowne Society, projects have not been able to start because of the Pandemic, but they hope to announce a new project later this year.

The Governor's Council of The First Maryland Company felt the company needed a special project and recently voted to support the Elizabeth B Wingo Restoration of Records Fund. The goal is to donate \$1,000.00 in the name of the Company.

Any donation amount will be greatly appreciated! Please send a check payable to The First Maryland Company:

Jerry Zillion, Treasurer
13324 Pepper Court
Germantown, MD 20874-1432

Please designate the check for the Wingo Fund.



JS Magazine vol.41, No.1 Spring 2017 p.11

Photo Courtesy Library of Virginia

One of the 300 pages of Charles City County will and deed records, dated 1692-1700 restored in 2017.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE WINGO FUND

<http://www.jamestowne.org/publications.html>

See JS Magazine Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017 (cover photo is pre-conservation), Spring 2019

SOME ANCESTOR STORIES

Colonel William Claiborne

Harry Redd's Qualifying Jamestowne Society Ancestor

Twenty-one year old William Claiborne arrived in Jamestowne in 1621 with Governor Sir Francis Wyatt. He came as Surveyor for Virginia, which gave him a salary and the right to patent 200 acres. He remained Surveyor when Virginia became a Crown Colony, during the first year of which he gained five more parcels of waterfront land, totaling 900 acres. He was active in the colony's government. By 1623 Claiborne was named to Virginia's Council of State. He twice was Secretary of State: 1626-1635 and 1652-1660, as well as Treasurer 1642-1660. During the Commonwealth period, he was one of the Commonwealth government's representatives. He also served in his colony's defense, being wounded in a 1624 retaliatory raid against the Powhatan Indians and having a leadership role in an army that responded to an Indian attack in 1644.

Claiborne's explorations and trading interests led to a dispute with Maryland. In 1629 he discovered and named Kent Island and established a trading post there. In 1632 King Charles I gave George Calvert the land we now call Maryland and his son Cecil Calvert forced Claiborne from the island. Claiborne retook the island by force of arms only to be driven out again. The Kent Island ownership dispute continued until at least 1677.

Stephen Hopkins

Anne Caussin Henninger's Qualifying Jamestowne Society Ancestor

Stephen Hopkins was baptized on 30 Apr 1581 at Upper Clatford, Hampshire, England. By 1604 he had moved to Hursley, Hampshire, where he married Mary Kent. Their first child, Elizabeth, was baptized on 13 Mar 1603/4. Their second daughter, Constance, was baptized on 11 May 1606, and son Giles was baptized on 30 Jan 1607/8. The following year Stephen Hopkins was hired by a minister, Rev. Richard Buck, to be his clerk and to read the Psalms and Chapters

at Sunday services for the Virginia Company. He left his wife and children, embarking for Jamestown, Virginia aboard the *Sea Venture* on 2 Jun 1609. While in route to Virginia, the ship was caught in a violent storm and shipwrecked in Bermuda. Over the next nine months the passengers and crew built two pinnaces and sailed for Jamestown.

Stephen Hopkins remained at Jamestown for several years. In May, 1613, his wife died. He received this news in Sep 1614, when a letter arrived in Jamestown asking that he return home on the next ship. When his contract with the Virginia Company expired, he returned to England to take custody of his orphaned children. He moved to London, remarried, and in 1620 returned to North America on the *Mayflower*. Stephen Hopkins died in 1644.

Sir Warham St. Leger

Barbara Greely's Qualifying Jamestowne Society Ancestor

Sir Warham St. Leger of Ulcombe, County Kent, England, was the son of Anthony St. Leger of Ulcombe and of Leeds Castle, Kent and his wife Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Scott. Sir Warham was knighted 13 Jun 1608, was a member of the Virginia Company and subscriber to the Third Charter, 1611/2 and was an officer in Sir Walter Raleigh's ill-fated expedition to Guiana, 1617-18, commanding his own ship the *Thunder* with 76 men and guns. The losses from this expedition compelled him to sell Leeds Castle. Sir Warham married Mary Hayward, daughter of Sir Rowland Hayward of Salmeston, Kent, who was twice Lord Mayor of London. Sir Warham died 11 October 1631. His widow who later lived at Lenham, Kent died 1662. From *Adventures of Purse & Persons*

George Calvert

George Davis Calvert's Qualifying Jamestowne Society Ancestor

George Calvert's (A1313) eligibility is a stockholder in the second Virginia Company. He was born in 1579/80 to Leonard Calvert and Alicia Crossland of Danby Wiske, Yorkshire, a Catholic family constantly harassed by the Yorkshire High Commission. At one point, he and his brother Christopher were sent to be tutored under an Anglican Minister. Leonard was forced to pay £100 to guarantee that the boys would not leave without license. George matriculated at Oxford, then Lincoln's Inn and in 1601, to the Continent, returning in 1603 with a packet for Sir Robert Cecil, Secretary of State to James I. He became a minor under-secretary to Sir Robert Cecil, the beginning of George's career at court. George was always interested in the colonization of new lands and in 1609 invested in second Virginia Company. He was knighted (1619), and after his profession of Catholicism, given the Irish title, Baron of Baltimore (1625). He went on to be the founding father of Maryland, although he died before the charter was sealed by the King, leaving his son, Cecil, along with his brother Governor Leonard, to plant the colony of Maryland.

My descent is through the Lords Baltimore to Benedict Calvert, the natural son of Charles, 5th Lord Baltimore, and to Benedict's youngest son, George of Riversdale. George's son, Charles Benedict Calvert was instrumental in founding the Department of Agriculture as well as the Maryland Agriculture College.

Edward Dale, Burgess

Cynthia Ringgold Johnson's Qualifying Jamestowne Society Ancestor

Little is known of Edward Dale's origins in England. Born circa 1613, Edward may have been a member of the Dale family of Northamptonshire and London. Edward left England as a result of Cromwell's Revolution. Arriving in Virginia in 1642 he settled on the north side of the Rappahannock River.

He married Diana Skipwith, daughter of Sir Henry Skipwith and Lady Amy Kemp. Edward had three daughters. There was controversy for many years that the two eldest, Katherine and Mary, may have been born of an unknown first marriage, however, recent documentation attributes all three daughters to his marriage to Diana Skipwith.

Edward served in the House of Burgesses for Lancaster County for two terms, high sheriff for four years, justice for fourteen years, and clerk for nineteen years. Edward died 2 February 1695. Edward Dale and Diana Skipwith Dale, are believed to be buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's White Chapel, Lancaster County, however, no tombs have been located.

Although my ancestor, Edward Dale, was not an original colonist, the fact that he held office as a Burgess qualified him for Jamestowne. Additionally, I am thankful that he married well! This marriage allowed me to trace many lines through my "Gateway Ancestor," Diana Skipwith.

John Clay, Ancient Planter

Rebecca Pollard Myers' Qualifying Jamestowne Society Ancestor

John Clay came to Virginia as a musketeer on the ship *Treasurer* in September 1612 and stayed as a colonist in February 1613-14. He was designated as an "ancient planter" because he arrived to the colony before 1616 and stayed 3 years. He is listed in the Musters of Inhabitants in Virginia 1624/25. Clay acquired land and settled in an area known as Jordon's Journey on the south side of the James River, below the present city of Hopewell. He later acquired more land at Clay's Closett.

It seems that John Clay was serving aboard the ship *Treasurer* under the command of Captain Samuel Argall whose commission was to remain in Virginia in support of the

colony and to drive out foreign intruders from the country.

The ship *Treasurer*, has quite a storied past which is chronicled in other publications. John Clay seems to have given up that life in exchange for farming. He acquired land through the headright system and also by providing for the transportation of 22 other individuals to the colony.

Robert Beheathland

Lucien Votta's Qualifying Ancestor

Robert Beheathland was an original settler of Jamestowne coming over most likely on the ship *Susan Constant* in 1607. He was the youngest of four sons, born in St. Endellion in County Cornwall. Being the fourth son, he had no future of any inheritance. At approximately 15 years old, most likely not his own will, he set sail with the crews of the three ships toward what is now America.

On the trip over Captain John Smith was placed in the brig by Captain Newport who found Smith to have an excess of bravado. Beheathland was placed as Smith's caretaker. They struck up a bond. Upon reaching our shore it was found in the Jamestowne Company charter that Smith was to be an officer. After they founded the settlement on the James River, Captain Smith and young Robert, whom Smith trusted, took off to explore and map the Chesapeake.

Beheathland later returned to Cornwall and married. He came back to Jamestowne and passed in 1627. Beheathland is the only original settler with any existing descendants, due to his adventures with Captain John Smith.

Dr. John Woodson

William Spencer's Qualifying Jamestowne Ancestor

Dr. John Woodson ("The Immigrant"; 1586-1644) and his wife Sarah sailed January 29, 1619 aboard *The George*, arriving in Jamestowne, Virginia Colony, April 29, 1619. He was a surgeon to the "Fleur De Hundred Colony", and settled at the Flowerdew Plantation 30 miles above Jamestowne on the south side of the James River. His wife Sarah (nee Winston) was a Quaker, and rather than make her give up her religion, he immigrated with her to the colonies. On April 19, 1644, while returning from treating patients, he was killed in an Indian uprising (led by Chief Opechancano, who was the son of Chief Powhatan). His wife Sarah saw the attack, and hid their two sons; Robert in a wash tub, and John in a potato bin, and with the help of their son's teacher killed about 15 of the attackers, and survived. Descendants of John are called "potato hole Woodsons, and descendants of Robert are called "Tub Woodsons". I am a "Tub Woodson".

Do you have an interesting story about your qualifying ancestor? We would like to hear from you! Please send a brief bio sketch (250 words or less) about your ancestor and we will include it in the next newsletter.

Email to: bmyers137@live.com