

# Fairfax County History Commission Annual Report 2013



*The Armorial Bearings and Supporters of  
**THOMAS 6<sup>TH</sup> LORD FAIRFAX**  
as recorded at the College of Arms, London*

*J. Colman OBE  
Windsor Herald and Registrar*

## **Fairfax County History Commission**

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## CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

The mission of the Fairfax History Commission is to advise the County Government, to promote and encourage public interest in all matters bearing on the history of Fairfax County, and to help identify, document, record and preserve Fairfax County's historic past in Northern Virginia.

In support of this mission, the History Commission is pleased to present its 2013 annual report that documents the wide array of projects undertaken by the Commission. In particular, the Commission focused efforts on the presentation of its annual History Conference, working with County staff to study and develop a Resident Curator program, and partnering with regional organizations to commemorate both the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War and the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. The Commission is proud of its contributions and looks forward to continuing its efforts to work with and educate the public about the County’s diverse and rich historical interests.

On behalf of the Fairfax County History Commission, thank you for your generous support of the Commission and your dedication to preserving and promoting the history of Fairfax County.

Gretchen M. Bulova, Chairman

## OVERVIEW

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors officially created the Commission in 1969. It grew out of the Landmarks Preservation Committee established in 1965. There are 20 members. The Commission has no employees. The Commission meets on the first Wednesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public and a contractor prepares minutes. In addition to the regular meetings, members put in many volunteer hours each month on the Commission’s committees.

The Commission carries out the Board of Supervisors’ mandate in various ways:

- The Commission maintains the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites, which now includes 362 sites.
- The Commission advises the Board and appropriate agencies on matters involving the history of the County in the following ways:
  - Works closely with the Department of Planning and Zoning; the Architectural Review Board; the Park Authority, especially the Cultural Resource Management and Protection programs; and the Public Library, especially the Virginia Room.
  - Proposes and monitors Historic Overlay Districts. A member of the Commission, Elise Ruff Murray, serves in an *ex officio* capacity on the Architectural Review Board.
  - The Commission is consulted on development or demolition of old or historic structures, whether on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites or not.
  - Advises the State Review Board and Historic Resources Board about historic and cultural sites recommended for inclusion on the National Register.
  - Participates in matters under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties, particularly with regard to Fort Belvoir and cell phone tower applications. Sallie Lyons is representing the Commission at reviews for the Route One Improvements at Fort Belvoir.
- In order to generally promote the public interest in all matters bearing on the history of Fairfax County, the Commission:
  - Cooperates with the Fairfax County Public Schools, Northern Virginia Community College and George Mason University in local history activities.

- Provides advice and assistance to local historical societies, churches and citizens' groups on matters of historic preservation.
- Assists in negotiations for preservation easements.
- Promotes the establishment of volunteer citizen special interest groups.
- Attends meetings, conferences and seminars for continuing education.
- Participates with other state, national and local organizations in joint programs. Carole Herrick is representing Fairfax County on the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Planning Committee for the region—Maryland, D.C. and Northern Virginia. See also the Civil War Sesquicentennial section of this report.
- Pays special attention to the possibilities for tax incentives for preserving historic properties.
- Acts as a liaison with public and private historical agencies in the County and on the state and national levels.
- Supports and encourages activities at all educational levels that will stimulate interest in the archeological and historical background of Fairfax County.
- Supports oral history programs in Fairfax County.
- Supports the collections of the Virginia Room of the City of Fairfax Regional Library and the preservation of materials held therein. The Commission makes an annual grant to the Virginia Room for preservation and research materials.
- Supports the Park Authority Cultural Resources Management and Protection programs (CRMP) that include the County archaeology program. The Commission makes grants to Cultural Resource Management Section for interns and consultants to perform archeological and architectural surveys as needed.
- Specific programs to promote the public interest in all matters bearing on history in Fairfax County include:
  - Grants to DPZ for preservation consultants to work on the Inventory of Historic Sites and to perform surveys and studies.
  - Fairfax County's Historical Marker Program that marks appropriate historical sites throughout the County.
  - Awards programs to honor achievements in Fairfax County history and historic preservation.
  - Publishes books and maps on Fairfax County history and assists in reprinting County history publications.
  - Annual History Conference to educate County citizens about Fairfax County history.
  - Compiles and makes available to the public a list of local historians willing to speak on a variety of topics related to the history of Fairfax County.
  - Provides a juror for the annual Fairfax County Exceptional Design Award. In 2013, Richard Zambito served as a judge.
- Since 1969 the Commission has contributed the following to the County:
  - Completed a program to index, abstract and microfiche early Circuit Court Records.
  - Prompted the creation of the Fairfax County Records Management Program.
  - Initiated the establishment of the County Archaeology program.
  - Prepared property identification maps and a census of Fairfax County in 1860.

## CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL

In 2011, Fairfax County joined forces with other localities across the Commonwealth to form a local Sesquicentennial Committee in order to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Virginia. Members of the Commission continue to collaborate with Visit Fairfax, the Park Authority, the City of Fairfax, and representatives from local groups and societies to work with the State Sesquicentennial Commission, plan events and activities that highlight the County's role in the Civil War, and to promote Fairfax County's rich Civil War history. Gretchen Bulova is the Commission's representative to the Fairfax County Sesquicentennial Steering Committee and serves as Chair of the History Commission's Sesquicentennial committee.

Members of this committee include Carole Herrick, Mary Lipsey and Naomi Zeavin. They have planned a wide variety of activities and educational resources to support the County Sesquicentennial initiatives. Some of these activities include collaboration with the City of Fairfax to commemorate the Skirmish of Fairfax Courthouse (June 1, 2011); a suggested reading lists for both children and adults (2011); the coordination of a series of 18 Civil War Trail markers throughout the County (2012, 2013, 2014); the creation of a driving tour of Fairfax County Civil War sites "Footsteps to Fairfax Trail" (2012); the research, development and marketing of nine "Civil War in Fairfax County" educational outreach kits for school teachers, groups and community organizations (2014); and a Civil War in Fairfax County smart phone app (Spring 2015). Information and links to these initiatives and historical resources can be found on the Commission's website (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/civil-war.htm>). In addition Naomi Zeavin made a video on the story of Mason District Park Civil War Trails Marker.

## FAIRFAX COUNTY RESIDENT CURATOR PROGRAM

As noted in the 2012 Annual Report, the Commission—along with Department of Planning & Zoning (DPZ) and Park Authority staff—is participating in the ongoing effort to investigate the creation of a Resident Curator Program (RCP) for Fairfax County. Currently, a consultant is preparing a program implementation study that will analyze potential benefits and risks of an RCP program, establish the potential RCP's structure and define its management.

Robert Beach (Chair), Gretchen Bulova, Michael Irwin and Barbara Naef have served on the Commission's RCP Committee since 2011.

In March and April 2013, a member of the Commission's RCP committee participated in the Request for Proposal interviewing and consultant selection process. A consultant was hired by the county in July to conduct the program implementation study. Stakeholder meetings were held in August at Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center and Green Spring Gardens Park, with Commission representatives present.

Finally, as of May 1st, the Commission, through its RCP committee, has reviewed the consultant's second draft study report with comments submitted to DPZ staff, as required. The Commission anticipates the final report during 2014 and its continued participation to initiate the Resident Curator Program in Fairfax County.

# NINTH ANNUAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

## Voices for Freedom

“Voices for Freedom” Abolitionists, Oral History and Documenting the Past was the theme for the Fairfax County’s 9th Annual History Conference held on Saturday, November 9, 2013, at the Stacey C. Sherwood Community Center in the City of Fairfax. Coordinated by the Fairfax County History Commission, Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, the conference was sponsored by Visit Fairfax and the Seeds of Independence Committee of Gunston Hall. There was a capacity attendance of 130. Nearly 75 percent had attended a previous conference.

Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Sharon Bulova and Congressman Gerry Connolly, 37th District, Virginia, kicked off the conference sharing their passion for history by recounting the importance of Fairfax County’s history to the history of the United States. Congressman Connolly also announced the launch of a Civil Rights Archival project intended to gather and honor information, photographs and stories that occurred during the 1960’s Civil Rights Era in Fairfax County.

Re-enactors began the program:

- Frederick Douglass-19th century slave, orator and U.S. Marshal to the District of Columbia, re-enacted by Albert Williams;
- Angelina Grimké-early 19th century, Abolitionist and Quaker women’s rights activist from South Carolina, portrayed by Lynne Garvey-Hodge; and
- Julia Ward Howe-19th century Abolitionist and lyricist of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” portrayed by Jenée Lindner.

Esther McCullough, Chair of the Commission’s Ethnic and Oral History Committee led a session on gathering and preserving oral histories throughout the county. The session featured four actors from FREED (Female Re-enactors of Distinction). Each presented the story of a slave who had lived, survived and even thrived during and after the Civil War – one became a lawyer and another, a doctor. Based in the African American Civil War Museum in Washington, DC, under the Direction of Patricia Tyson, the troupe of actors is frequently called upon to “tell their stories” to interested historians, students and citizens.

Fairfax County History Commission member, Debbie Robison provided a detailed look at the resources available for exploring local history. Ms. Robison provided the audience with stories reflecting a summary of the wealth of information that can be found by accessing online research sites. Links to online local history research sources are available at <http://novahistory.org/Research/Research.html>.

The conference ended with Dr. Spencer Crew, Robinson Professor of American, African American and Public History at George Mason University, who spoke on “African Americans and The Underground Railroad in Fairfax County during the Civil War.” He noted the success of the “Railroad” is evidenced by the scant amount of documentation available on it – hence, those who participated took their roles of secret information bearers quite seriously. Over four million slaves lived in this country during the Civil War, yet only some 100,000 were able to find their way to freedom successfully. Marion Dobbins, one of his students and the founder of the new Fairfax County African American History Society introduced Dr. Crew.

Jason’s Deli provided a continental breakfast and delicious lunch. Over 22 exhibitors and authors participated. History Commission member Jack L. Hiller took photographs of the conference. In a special touch, Sally Lyons graciously allowed the use of her late husband’s Civil War era desk, which had been passed down to him through his mother whose father had served in the 16th Kentucky Infantry.



The Conference Planning Committee includes History Commission members Lynne Garvey-Hodge (Chair), Barbara Naef, Anne Barnes, Esther McCullough, Naomi Zeavin, Mike Irwin, Phyllis Walker Ford, Carole Herrick, Mary Lipsev and Sally Lyons; Susan Gray, Fairfax Museum and Visitor’s Center; Elizabeth Crowell, Park Authority; and Jenée Lindner.

The 10th Annual History Conference will be held on November 8, 2014 at the Stacey C. Sherwood Community Center with a focus on the War of 1812.

## BUDGET

### Fairfax County History Commission Income and Expenses

#### FY 2013, Estimated FY 2014 and Actual First Three Quarters FY 2014

	FY 2013	Estimated FY 2014	First Three Quarters FY 2014
Beginning Balance July 1	\$27,858	\$30,780	\$30,780
Revenues:			
Fairfax County	\$21,013	\$21,013	\$21,013
Interest Earned	3	3	2
Total, Revenues	\$21,016	\$21,016	\$21,015
Total Available	\$48,874	\$51,796	\$51,795
Operating Expenses	\$18,094	\$25,000	\$23,177
Accruals for the preservation and publications programs	—	\$26,976	—
Ending Balance June 30	\$30,780		

Major expenditures in both FY 2013 and the first three quarters of FY 2014 included a grant to the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section, historical markers and their maintenance, and the history conference.

All unspent funds from previous years have been committed to publications projects such as “Fairfax County in 1860,” Civil War Sesquicentennial projects, and to preservation and oral history programs.

## WEB SITE

In addition to providing History Commission members' contact information, the History Commission's web page describes the various programs the Commission offers to promote interest in local history extending from pre-history to the recent past. The History Commission's Publication Grant encourages the sharing of local history research. The Awards Programs recognize individuals and groups for their efforts in researching or promoting history. Procedures and application forms for the Publication Grant and the Awards Programs are available online. Promotional information on the annual Fairfax County History Conference is placed on the website as it becomes available each year.

In addition, a historical resources page provides information on property owners in 1860, lists of Board of Supervisor members, and links to the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites and an external database of Fairfax County historical markers. The Sesquicentennial page provides information on the Civil War in Fairfax County, including suggested reading lists and a Fairfax County Civil War driving tour. The website serves as an easy, up to date and readily available tool for anyone interested in our County's history. Debbie Robison manages the website. The webmaster is Greg Chase with the Department of Planning and Zoning. ([www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/))

## AWARDS PROGRAMS

The Fairfax County History Commission maintains awards programs to honor research and achievements in Fairfax County history and historic preservation:

- Heritage Awareness Awards: Established in 1995, this program is designed to stimulate and reward original research in Fairfax County history using standard social, political and economic sources in written narrative form, a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places or a video documentary.
- Recognition Awards: To recognize contributions of individuals and groups to the preservation of history in Fairfax County.

These programs are open to the public. A full description of the programs, along with rules and requirements can be found on the Commission's web site. ([www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/awardsprogram.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/awardsprogram.htm))

The Awards Committee included Lynne Garvey-Hodge (Chair), Naomi Zeavin, Robert E. Beach, Jack L. Hiller and Elise Ruff Murray.

## PUBLICATIONS

The Fairfax County History Commission's Publications Committee continues to work on several reprints including "Beginning at a White Oak: Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, Virginia;" "Legato School: a Centennial Souvenir;" and "Mount Air, Fairfax, Virginia." The committee is working on publishing "Fairfax County in 1860" which is a portrait of the County shown through property identification maps and an aggregation of census data. The maps are posted online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/1860maps.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/1860maps.htm). The Commission's publications are available for purchase in the Virginia Room.

The Publications Committee is working on dispersing local history publications from the County Warehouse.

The Commission has established a grant program, whereby an individual or a group may apply for a grant of up to \$500 to aid in the research and publication of local history.

Members of the Publications Committee are Mary Lipsey (Chair), Anne Stuntz, Elise Ruff Murray, Barbara Naef, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Anne Barnes and Carole Herrick.

## ETHNIC/ORAL HISTORY

This committee was formed in the fall of 1997 in response to the increasing demographic diversity of Fairfax County's population. The one hundred languages spoken within schools show the diversity of the population. It has been estimated that in less than fifty years the County's white population will drop below 50 percent. The committee set as a goal to explore the ways in which more ethnic segments might be encouraged to record their experiences and community history since their arrival in Northern Virginia.

In 2004, at the suggestion of then-Chairman Connolly, the Commission formed a subcommittee of the Ethnic Committee to seek a project for recording and presenting oral history in Fairfax County. The Oral History subcommittee will plan more on the value and use of oral history.

The members of these committees are Esther McCullough (Chair), Naomi Zeavin, Anne Barnes, Sallie Lyons, Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Anne Stuntz.

## INVENTORY OF HISTORIC SITES

The Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites is one of the History Commission's longest standing responsibilities. It serves as both an honorific and a planning tool. The Comprehensive Plan includes the Inventory sites in the Heritage Resources section of each Planning District.

The Comprehensive Plan Amendment PA 2013-CW-6CP, to update the Inventory tables, references to Inventory sites in the text and other technical corrections, was approved by the Planning Commission on March 27, 2014 including a request for inclusion of whether the property is National Register eligible. On April 29, 2014, the Board of Supervisors adopted the amendment as shown in the staff report and recommended the Planning Commission request be researched for next year due to the annual cycle of this amendment. Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) Planning Division staff completed the plan amendment with review by the Commission's Inventory Committee.

As of December 2013, the Inventory stands at 362 listings. The following sites were added in 2013:

### Additions to the Inventory of Historic Sites

**2013**

Site Name	Date Added	District	Location
Georgetown Pike	9/4/2013	Dranesville	McLean and Great Falls
McLean Volunteer Fire Department/Fairfax County Fire Station Number 1	11/6/2013	Dranesville	McLean

The current Inventory list along with its background, nomination forms and research guidelines are accessible to staff and the general public on the County website. An Inventory nomination form, instruction guide and example are also available. ([www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/historic/ihs/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/historic/ihs/))

Sallie Lyons, Elise Ruff Murray, Barbara Naef, Debbie Robison and Anne Stuntz serve on the Inventory Committee, in cooperation with Laurie Turkawski and Linda Cornish Blank of DPZ.

## HISTORICAL MARKERS

Fairfax County's Historical Marker Program began in January 1998 when the History Commission approved a design and agreed to fund a distinctive historical roadside marker for Fairfax County. While this marker is generally modeled after Virginia's roadside markers, by state code it must have a distinctive appearance. With colors derived from George Washington's Fairfax Militia uniform, these buff and blue roadside markers emblazoned with the Fairfax County seal, stand ten feet from ground level.

In the sixteen years the program has existed 51 historical roadside markers (including six state markers) have been approved for installation by the History Commission. Many requests for historical markers are initiated by the public, which provides for approximately one half of the funding. Some markers, including those requested by developers, are funded entirely by the requesting party. All requests are reviewed by a committee for historical accuracy and editorial continuity before being submitted to the entire Commission for approval.

During the 2012 calendar year, the Commission agreed to limit the funding of historical markers to the equivalent cost of two markers due to budget restraints. The current cost of fabricating a marker is \$1960.

Two markers were approved by the Commission in 2013—at the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Gum Springs and in Lorton a marker commemorating Deputy Sheriff George A. Malcolm, the first known law enforcement officer to die in the line to duty in Fairfax County (1905). Both markers were partially funded by the requesting parties. Both markers will be dedicated in 2014.

Serving on the Marker Committee are Jack Hiller (Chair), Anne Barnes, Michael Irwin, Mary Lipsey, Esther McCullough, Debbie Robison and Page Shelp.

## CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION SECTION GRANTS

Since 2000, the Commission has provided a modest grant to Vicki Monken for entering archaeological data into the computer for the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section (CRMP). In September 2013, the Commission provided a grant of \$10,860 to assist in CRMP's efforts to update databases and physical spaces for an upcoming American Alliance of Museums accreditation. Intern, Chip Marshall, (Senior, GMU) wrote computer code that integrated many of CRMP's various databases, excel spreadsheets and other tracking documents into one cohesive unit. In addition, some supplies such as archival paper and file folders were purchased. This project is ongoing.

## SPEAKER'S BUREAU

At the Board of Supervisors request, the Commission compiled a list of people willing to speak on topics related to Fairfax County history. The resulting Speaker's Bureau List includes a variety of countywide history topics with related speakers and contact information, including name, email address and phone number. An update is in progress.

Members of the Fairfax County History Commission continue to be active in speaking before various civic, community and historic groups.

Anne Barnes has presented talks on the early historical Fairfax County "Colored" schools at the annual Fairfax County History Conference, Gunston Hall and historic one room Laurel Grove School located in Franconia, Virginia.

Irma Clifton speaks to groups throughout the area on Lorton history, prison history and women's history. She is also a scheduled speaker to tour groups visiting the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

Jack Hiller continued to have a busy schedule in 2013. Typically, he is asked to speak in public schools, to civic associations, historical groups, senior citizens or private groups. Many of Hiller's lectures are

given with slides and focus on Springfield. Titles of his lectures include: “Murder at the Mill: Historian as Detective,” “Henry Daingerfield and Origins of Springfield,” “The Hidden History of Hidden Pond Park,” and “An Introduction to Fairfax Archaeology.”

Lynne Garvey-Hodge re-enacts Progressive Era Suffragist Mrs. Robert Walker for numerous community events, educational groups and Cox Cable Channel 10, traveling throughout Virginia to do so. Ms. Garvey-Hodge has also taken on two new characters: Angelina Grimké an early 19th century, Abolitionist and Quaker women’s rights activist from South Carolina; and from the Gilded Age and early days of America’s railroad industry, Mrs. John Henry Devereux (wife of railroad magnate and Civil War Rail Road “General” John Henry Devereux). Lynne also speaks on the history and background of the historic Town of Clifton, has researched, and authored a book, published by Arcadia Publishers in their Images of America Series, *Clifton*. She has given presentations on the history of Clifton to local groups and cablevision shows. She speaks to local educational forums and civic organizations on “Women of the Progressive Era in Fairfax County,” “The Progressive Era in Fairfax County,” “Victorian Mourning Customs” and “Pictures in Stone - Symbolism in Cemeteries.”

Mary Lipsey continues to provide presentations on a variety of topics related to the “Braddock’s True Gold” project, local history, women's history and firsts in American history.

Sallie Lyons promotes preservation and archeological and historical research in the old town of Colchester, Colchester Park and Preserve and Mason Neck, speaking frequently to groups and at the History Conference.

Debbie Robison spoke to various historical societies on Matildaville and Conn’s Ferry. In addition, she made a presentation at the History Conference on researching local history.

Anne Stuntz speaks on the history of Vienna and its environs.

Naomi Zeavin speaks and shows history videos at the Rotary, schools, senior groups and Fairfax Museum on Historic Mason District.

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Fairfax County History Commission members continue to be active in a variety of ways in the community. The following summary, though not a comprehensive list, highlights the wide variety of outreach activities performed by commission members.

Anne Barnes is a member of the Board of Directors of the Laurel Grove School Association.

Anne Barnes and Sallie Lyons are members of the Seeds of Independence Committee of Gunston Hall, tracing African American History on Mason Neck.

Architect member, Robert E. Beach, AIA, LEED, AP, BD+C designed the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, which will be located in Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton and will pay tribute to the women who endured harsh imprisonment to secure voting rights for women. Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Irma Clifton serve on the committee for the project.

Gretchen Bulova serves as the Northern Virginia Museum Representative on the Virginia Association of Museum’s (VAM) Board, and is helping to plan the 2014 VAM Conference in Alexandria for more than 400 museum professionals. She was appointed to the State War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Commission, as a citizen member to plan the 2014 Legacy Conference, representing Alexandria and Fairfax County. In addition, Gretchen is planning Alexandria’s War of 1812 Commemoration activities.

Irma Clifton is the President of the Lorton Heritage Society, Inc. and is historian and collections manager for the Lorton Arts Foundation. She owns a historic house in Falmouth where she also is active in historic preservation.

Carole Herrick was chair “McLean Remembers the Civil War,” an all-day event commemorating 150 years of the beginning of the Civil War, held at the McLean Community Center on October 22, 2011.

Carole Herrick is a past president of the McLean Historical Society and currently serves as vice-president.

Lynne Garvey-Hodge serves on the Town of Clifton Historic Preservation Committee, which she initiated; serves as chair of the Clifton Betterment Association’s Clifton Oral History Project; and chaired the Clifton Community Woman’s Club Spring Homes Tour in 2011 and her historic 1890’s home on Blue Dan Lane was on the 2012 tour.

Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Mary Lipsey co-founded the non-profit Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc., whose goal is to preserve and protect family cemeteries in Fairfax County. Both are officers.

Sallie Lyons formed and incorporated the Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Cultural Resources, FOFA, supporting the Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section of the Park Authority. Barbara Naef was among the charter members. Elise Murray is also a member.

Sallie Lyons continues to promote preservation and archaeology in Colchester and provide *pro bono* graphic design through Lyonshare Studios for CRMP historical interpretive trailside displays. She is an active member of the Lorton Heritage Society, Preservation Virginia and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia.

Elise Murray joined the board of the Friends of the Virginia Room in 2012, serves as vice president, and continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the Historical Society of Fairfax County.

As the Archaeologist Representative on the Commission, Barbara Naef continued to meet regularly with the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection (CRMP) Section Manager, to keep advised and updated on the various activities and projects involving the countywide archaeology programs that are managed through CRMP.

The volunteer assignment to coordinate the Park Authority Resource Management Division’s American Association of Museums (AAM) accreditation self-study that Barbara Naef accepted in 2009 continued through 2013 with Barbara now a member of the full staff committee.

Debbie Robison continues to research local history and write articles about historical sites and events in Fairfax County. In addition, she regularly assists the public by answering research questions. She is a member of the Historic Centreville Society Board and serves on the Centreville Joint Committee reviewing proposed developments in the Centreville Historic District.

Anne Stuntz serves as the president of Historic Vienna, Inc. and as chairman of the Vienna Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee. In addition, she is an active member of the Historical Society of Fairfax County, serves on the Sully Foundation and Flint Hill Cemetery Association boards, serves on the nominating committee of the Friends of the Virginia Room and is secretary of the Fitzhugh Families in Virginia.

Naomi Zeavin serves on the board of directors of the Capitol Hill Civil War Roundtable.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

A brief examination of the background of the Fairfax County History Commission reveals a wide and diverse variety of backgrounds that members bring to their work.

**Anne M. Barnes**—originally from Georgia, is a longtime Fairfax County resident who now lives on Mason Neck. She received a BS in Criminal Law from Savannah State College and a MA in Government from Johns Hopkins University. She worked on an archeological project in South Carolina in the mid-1980s. She is a former Marine Corps Officer, U.S. Congressional staffer, American History teacher and is currently the Resource Manager for a Department of Defense strategic training center. She served as Vice Chairman of the History Commission in 2006-2008 and as Treasurer in 2010-2012.

**Robert E. Beach**—after receiving his Bachelor of Architecture from Pratt Institute in New York in 1982, he practiced architecture there and in several notable Washington area architecture firms prior to starting his own practice in Falls Church in 1989, which does historic architectural restoration on local, state and national levels. The Architect member of the Commission, he has served since 2000, as Chairman in 2006–2008 and Vice Chairman in 2004–2005, and multiple times on behalf of the Commission as a juror for the Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards. Professionally, Mr. Beach is a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) representing the AIA Northern Virginia Chapter Board as a Virginia Society AIA Director, and a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED, AP, BD+C) specializing in building design and construction. He is also a member of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Mr. Beach is a Georgetown University Architectural Thesis Advisor in the Real Estate Studies Graduate Program. In addition, he is a Boy Scouts of America Architecture and Aviation Merit Badge Counselor and is a licensed instrument rated private pilot who volunteers flight time for Angel Flights several times a year. He lives in Fairfax, Virginia.

**Gretchen M. Bulova**—from the Braddock District, brings a wealth of museum experience to the Commission. She holds a BA in Anthropology and a BA in Classical Studies from the College of William and Mary and an MA in Museum Studies from The George Washington University. Ms. Bulova is the Director of Gadsby’s Tavern Museum and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum in Alexandria, Virginia. She specializes in the interpretation of late 18th-century material culture and lectures widely on a variety of topics related to Alexandria and Gadsby’s Tavern and is active in the local museum community. Ms. Bulova is Vice-President of Programs on the Virginia Association of Museums Council, and is President of the Historic House Museums Consortium of Washington, DC. Ms. Bulova is committed to the preservation of local history and inspiring the next generation to love museums and our nation’s rich heritage. Elected the Commission’s Chairman in 2012, she continues to serve.

**Irma A. Clifton**—was born and raised in Lorton and presently resides in a 90-year-old farmhouse purchased by her parents in 1945. She has long been an advocate for preservation and adaptive reuse issues. From 1967–1993, she held a variety of positions related to management and security at the D.C. Department of Corrections Correctional Institution in Lorton, Virginia. In addition to her regular assigned duties, she assembled and maintained a museum containing documents and items associated with the Department of Corrections and acted as Corrections historian. She studied Historic Preservation at Mary Washington College. After retiring in 1993, she volunteered for numerous charity and civic activities. She also owns a home in the Falmouth Historic District. She has served on numerous committees and task forces over the years to help develop a plan for use of the D.C. Prison at Lorton after it closed. On the Commission, she served as Treasurer 2007 through 2009.

**Phyllis Walker Ford**—appointed in February 2009, earned a BA in Business Administration from Bluefield State College, Bluefield, West, Virginia and a MBA from Trinity College, Washington, D.C., leading to sixteen years in the Telecommunications industry. A direct descendent of the family who donated land in 1881 for the Laurel Grove Colored School, a school to serve the African American children in the Franconia area, she was instrumental in restoring the school, establishing a museum and searching out its history. She is also active in educations programs at the Laurel Grove School and the Franconia Museum. She served as the Commission’s Secretary in 2010.

**Carole Herrick**—lives in McLean. As a nationally ranked tennis player, she attended Los Angeles State College, where she received her BA in History. Active in McLean civic and historical groups, she has written five books and numerous articles for publication about McLean and the Northern Virginia area, recently finishing *Ambitious Failure, Chain Bridge: the First Bridge across the Potomac River*. She is the chair of the History Commission’s War of 1812 Committee and serves on the Publications, History Conference and Civil War Sesquicentennial Committees. Ms. Herrick represents the History Commission on the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Planning Committee and the Salona Task Force. She has served as the Commission’s Secretary since 2012.

**Jack Lewis Hiller**—lives in West Springfield and has been a member of the Fairfax County History Commission since 1981. Hiller holds a bachelor's degree in history from the College of William and Mary ('53), a master's degree in education from the University of Virginia ('66) and a master's degree in history from Carnegie-Mellon University ('69). He taught history for 30 years at Groveton High School and West Potomac High School before retiring in 1988. He also taught history at Northern Virginia Community College. He initiated the Fairfax County Public School's Summer Archaeology Program that operated between 1973 and 1988. He frequently presents an Introduction to Fairfax Archaeology to schools and civic groups. He chaired the History Commission in 1994-1995 and currently chairs the Historical Marker Committee. Hiller also writes and speaks on topics about the Springfield area and has written a history of Springfield. Other activities have included volunteering as a docent for ten years at Gunston Hall, home of George Mason; and working as a freelance photographer. Hiller’s portrait of Martin Luther King is part of the permanent collection at the National Portrait Gallery.

**Lynne Garvey-Hodge**—has been a resident of Fairfax County for 29 years and has been a resident of Clifton, Virginia for 14 years, where she is extremely active in preserving the historicity of Clifton. She has a BFA from the University of Colorado, majoring in art history, an MPA (Masters in Public Administration) with a major in Human Resources also from the University of Colorado and a MTS (Masters in Theological Studies) from Wesley Theological Seminary. She re-enacts Progressive Era Suffragist Mrs. Robert Walker. Ms. Garvey-Hodge has also taken on two new characters: Angelina Grimké an early 19th century, Abolitionist and Quaker women’s rights activist from South Carolina; and from the Gilded Age and early days of America’s railroad industry, Mrs. John Henry Devereux (wife of railroad magnate and Civil War Rail Road “General” John Henry Devereux). Ms. Garvey-Hodge has published a book for Arcadia Publishers' Images of America Series, *Clifton* in 2009. She is in her fifth term on the Commission. She served as Chair in 2004 and 2005 and represented the Commission on the Exceptional Design Awards jury in 2005, 2006 and 2008. She spearheaded efforts to launch the First Annual Fairfax County History Conference in 2005 and has chaired the History Conference Committee since 2006. She currently is the chair of the Awards Committee and also sits on the Ethnic/Oral History committee. She is the co-founder and an officer of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc. and sits on the Board of VolunteerFairfax, a non-profit organization. Lynne is a member of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, Historic Centreville Society, Clifton Community Woman’s Club, The Falls Church Victorian Society, the Burke Historical Society and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum.



**Michael R. Irwin**—is a 20-year resident of Fairfax County. Born in Pennsylvania, he grew up with a deep interest in American History. In high school he was a volunteer with the Pennsylvania State Museum and Historical Commission working in the registrar’s office at the William Penn Memorial Museum in Harrisburg and in college served an internship in the same office. He graduated from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., with a BA in History (concentration in American History), a minor in Fine Arts History. Since moving to Virginia, he can often be found at the Smithsonian Institution or one of the other historic venues in the greater Washington area. His main interests are the World War II period, especially the war’s impact on social structures on the home front and early American industrial history.

**Mary Lipsey**—was born in Atlanta and raised in Fairfax County. She received a BA in History and Sociology from Mary Washington College (1972) and a Masters in Middle School Education from Virginia Tech (1989). In June 2003, she retired after 30 years of teaching seventh grade American History in the Fairfax County Public Schools. She has been a volunteer docent for the American History Museum of the Smithsonian since 1980 and for the National Archives since 2004. Her interest in local history has found outlets through co-authoring *Braddock’s True Gold*, writing articles on local history and women’s history and speaking to senior citizens groups. She has been a member of A Look Back at Braddock project that promotes historical events for the residents in Braddock District. As a member of the Commission, she serves on the Markers, Publications and History Conference Committees. She is the co-founder and former president of the non-profit Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc., whose goal is to preserve and protect family cemeteries in Fairfax County. Mary is also an active volunteer with her community and a local park. She has recently published *A Christmas Flight: Aviation Pioneer Dr. Christmas*.

**Sallie Lyons**—a native North Carolinian, was raised in University Park, Maryland. She has an AB in Art History from Duke University, worked at the Library of Congress and held a teaching assistantship in Anthropology as a graduate student at the University of Maryland. She did urban archaeological excavation in Winchester, the capital of Saxon England. She moved to Mount Vernon District in 1970, living on Brick Yard Point in Wellington Villa until moving to the old town of Colchester on Mason Neck in 1984. Living on two potential archeological sites made her keenly aware of history and preservation in the Mount Vernon area. She has spent over 25 years supporting preservation and research in Colchester, Mason Neck and Lorton. Partnered with her late husband, Gerald Lyons, she founded Lyonsshare Studios, LLC, a technical computer graphics company that provides illustrative and word support for planning, preservation, publication and other technical fields. She is an active member of local and state archaeology and history organizations and founder of The Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Cultural Resources (FOFA).

**Esther W. McCullough**—grew up in Longview, Texas and received her Bachelor of Science in Clothing and Textiles from North Texas State University (now The University of North Texas). After moving to Fairfax County in 1996, she could not find information on the history of African-Americans in the area, so she created a brochure, “African-American Sites in Fairfax County before 1900.” She is the Chair of the Ethnic and Oral History Committee and sits on the Marker Committee and the History Conference Committee. She served as the Secretary of the Commission from 2004–2007. She has led sessions on oral history at more than one History Conference. Scrapbooking memories and preserving history are two things that she treasures. She has led workshops for senior citizens in nursing homes using scrapbooking techniques. Esther volunteers throughout Fairfax County.

**Elise Ruff Murray**—grew up in Vienna, Virginia and now resides in Reston. She earned a BA in History from the University of Virginia and is interested in archaeology, history and preservation. Her interests have led her to serve as the Commission’s liaison with the Architectural Review Board since 1992. A member of the Commission since 1983, she served as Chairman in 1988–1989, worked on the Commission’s finances and budget submissions since 1986, served as Treasurer from 1990–2005 and as Vice Chairman from 2009-2011. After working for a year and a half on an archaeology project in Northeastern Mississippi, she worked as an economic consultant advising on anti-trust and commercial litigation matters for over 20 years.

**Barbara M. Naef**—has been a resident of Reston since 1968. She earned a BA in History, Phi Beta Kappa from Duke University and a MA in American History from the University of Delaware. She retired in 2002 after 23 years working to preserve and interpret our county history at the Fairfax County Park Authority. She continues to work as a volunteer for the Park Authority and for other historical organizations including the Reston Historic Trust and Museum. The Archaeologist Representative on the Commission, she serves on the Publications Committee, Inventory of Historic Sites Committee, Budget Committee, the annual History Conference Planning and Implementation Committee and the Resident Curator Program Committee.

**Rachel Rifkind**—the newest member, was raised in Stafford County Virginia in an old farmhouse where she grew to appreciate the historic significance of the area – site of one of several Union Army winter encampments. She earned a BA in English from Virginia Tech in 1976 and since 2000 has worked as a documentation specialist for a union pension fund in Washington, D.C. Prior to that, for 23 years she worked as a technical editor for a Department of Defense contractor in Alexandria. In 2003, Governor Mark Warner appointed her as his representative on the Virginia Horse Center, a public/private partnership focusing on preserving the equestrian tradition in Virginia. She served as Supervisor Penny Gross’s appointee to the Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) from 1999-2009.

**Debbie Robison**—lives in Centreville and is a long-time resident of Fairfax County. She manages the historic preservation/restoration program for a local architectural and engineering firm. Ms. Robison holds a Bachelor of Science degree from VA Tech and a Historic Preservation Certificate from NOVA. She is active in Centreville historical matters. Her interest in researching local history has resulted in her authoring numerous articles about general aspects of northern Virginia’s past and the history of specific sites. To promote preservation and facilitate local history education, Ms. Robison hosts a website, [www.novahistory.org](http://www.novahistory.org). She served as the Commission’s Chairman 2009-2011 and currently serves as Treasurer.

**Page S. Shelp**—while originally from California, has lived in Fairfax County for most of her adult life, moving west from Falls Church and McLean to Great Falls. She received her Bachelor's degree in History and in Art History from Colorado Woman's College, her Secondary School Education Teaching credentials in history and in English at Mills College and her Master's degree from Georgetown University. She has taught history, but spent the greater part of her career (25 years) as the executive director of the McLean Community Center where she became especially interested in and involved with local history and the preservation of community institutions.

**Steven Sherman**—was born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Arlington, Virginia. He has lived in Northern Virginia for over 60 years, graduated from Wakefield High School in 1964 and attended Morris Harvey College in Charleston, West Virginia and Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia, where he majored in Accounting and History. He is President/Broker of Sherman Properties, Inc., located in Franconia and has been in the real estate business for the past 40 years. Since 1984, he has owned the historic “Five Oaks Estates” manor house built in 1910 located off Blake Lane in Fairfax County. He is the secretary of the Board of Directors of Celebrate Fairfax, served on the Board of Directors of the Franconia Museum for the past seven years and is a past president. Mr. Sherman served as the Commission’s Secretary in 2011 and has served as Vice Chairman since 2012.

**Anne Stuntz**—grew up in Vienna, Virginia and comes from a family of historians and genealogists. She has a degree in art history from Princeton University and a MBA from Columbia University. After a career in finance on Wall Street and in the City of London, Anne returned to her historic family home in Vienna with her husband and three sons, and is devoted to preserving the history of the area. She is president of Historic Vienna Inc. and the chairman of Vienna's Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee. She is active with the Historical Society of Fairfax County, the Sully Foundation, Flint Hill Cemetery Association, Friends of the Virginia Room and the Fitzhugh Families of Virginia.

**Richard C. Zambito**—who stepped down in 2013 is resident of Mason District. An architect, currently with HDR Architecture, Inc. in Alexandria, he received a Bachelor of Architecture in 1984 and a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture in 1982 from the City College in New York, NY. Since September 2007, he has served as the Vice President of the Parklawn Civic Association. He has been a member of the Bailey’s Crossroads Redevelopment Corp. since September 2009 and served on the committee for planning of the Fairfax County History Museum.

**Naomi Zeavin**—is a resident of Falls Church. She was born in New Britain, Connecticut and majored in Speech and Drama at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts. She conducts research and makes videos on local history, especially Mason District, African-Americans and the Civil War. A presidential advisor on the arts during the administration of President Ronald Reagan, she has been appointed to and served on numerous advisory boards, commissions and committees on the both the national and local level. She is president of U-R-Unique, a company of video productions. Ms. Zeavin restored a Jewish cemetery in her father’s birthplace in Poland. On the Commission, she served as Secretary from 2007 through 2009.