

# Fairfax County History Commission Annual Report 2014



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

*Windsor Herald and Registrar*

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## CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

The mission of the Fairfax County History Commission is to advise the Fairfax 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 2014 annual report that documents the wide array of projects undertaken by the Commission this year. 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, 2014 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 meets on the first Wednesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. An independent 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 included 362 sites at the end of 2014.
- The Commission advises the Board of Supervisors 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 Libraries, 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.
- Pays special attention to the possibilities for tax incentives for preserving historic properties.
- 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 represents 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.
- 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:
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - Assists in reprinting County history publications.
  - Provides a juror for the annual Fairfax County Exceptional Design Award.
- 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.
  - Published three books on Fairfax County history.
  - 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 collaborated 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.

Throughout the five year commemoration, the Sesquicentennial Committee planned a wide variety of activities and educational resources to support the County Sesquicentennial initiatives. Some of these activities included collaboration with the City of Fairfax to commemorate the Skirmish of Fairfax Courthouse (June 1, 2011); 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); and the research, development and marketing of nine "Civil War in Fairfax County" educational outreach kits for school teachers, groups and community organizations (2014). 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>).

As the Commemoration drew to a close, the State Sesquicentennial Commission presented the Fairfax County Sesquicentennial Committee with an outstanding achievement award that recognized the activities and achievements of Fairfax County's historical organizations.

## FAIRFAX COUNTY RESIDENT CURATOR PROGRAM

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

As reported in previous History Commission Annual Reports, the History Commission has continued to partner with the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Park Authority to explore the implementation of a Resident Curator Program. The County contracted with John Milner Associates to prepare a report that reviewed how states and localities with established resident curator programs operated and make recommendations for the establishment of a resident curator program in Fairfax County.

The Final Resident Curator Program Study report was delivered to the Board of Supervisors September 30, 2014. The Board of Supervisors adopted a new chapter, Chapter 125, Resident Curator Program Ordinance, to the Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, establishing Resident Curator Program, on November 18, 2014. The ordinance requires that in order to be eligible for the program, properties must be publicly owned and must be eligible for or listed in the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites.

The Park Authority hired a limited term project manager and assigned staff to the Resident Curator project work team. Other Fairfax County agencies have assigned staff as project work team members. The Site Summaries compiled for each potential property are being updated to ADA acceptable format for the web page in preparation for the Request For Information. The project manager is currently developing drafts of Deliverables based on the Charter for committee review and adoption.

## TENTH ANNUAL HISTORY CONFERENCE – 2014

### “Fire, Flight & Fury” – The War of 1812 in Fairfax County – 200 Years Later!!

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Fairfax County History Conference was held on Saturday, November 8, 2014 at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center in the City of Fairfax. A record 120 participants, along with over 15 authors and exhibitors, were in attendance to enjoy the theme of “Fire, Flight & Fury” – The War of 1812 in Fairfax County – 200 Years Later!! The day was filled with living history including song and verse.

The conference featured the following presentations:

- “The Ships of the Potomac”, Michael Bosworth, DC Navy Yard, in the uniform of an 1812 Naval Commander
- “The 60th Militia of Fairfax City”, Richard Orly in militia uniform
- “Dolley Madison’s Flight into Fairfax County”, Carole Herrick in period dress
- “The Battle of Bladensburg”, Helen Wirka, Carlyle House, Alexandria, Virginia
- “Fairfax County & The War of 1812”, Patrick O’Neill, local researcher and archaeologist
- “The Star Spangled Banner”, Alan Gephardt, noted Francis Scott Key reenactor

Special guests included Virginia State Delegate Ken Plum from Reston. Eleventh District Congressman Gerry Connolly joined Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova to share comments and to present the Commission’s annual awards. The Awards are listed in the Awards Committee Report.

Conference attendee packets included an attractive and thorough War of 1812 timeline prepared by Committee members Michael Irwin and Esther McCullough. Trivia prizes included CDs of the works of the First Annual History Conference keynote presenter, Ron Maxwell, independent film director and writer, most famous for writing and directing American Civil War epics. Jason’s Deli provided a superb breakfast and lunch – with remaining food taken to one of the county’s homeless shelters.

Chaired by Lynne Garvey-Hodge, the Conference Planning Committee included History Commission members: Barbara Naef, Esther McCullough, Naomi Zeavin, Sallie Lyons, Carole Herrick, Mary Lipsey, Phyllis Walker Ford, Rachel Rifkind and Michael Irwin. In addition, the Committee included Liz Crowell, Fairfax County Park Authority; Susan Gray, City of Fairfax and Jenée Lindner, local historian.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Fairfax County History Conference is scheduled for November 7, 2015 at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center in the City of Fairfax. For the details, see the website, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/event.htm>.

## 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 website. (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/awardsprogram.htm)

The following awards were presented at the November 8, 2014 Fairfax County History Conference:

**Fairfax Heritage Awards:**

The Ross Netherton Prize

**Patrick O’Neill** for his thoroughly researched and footnoted 311 page book, *To Annoy or Destroy the Enemy*, documenting the events that led to the Battle of the White House (near the Belvoir manor ruins) in the aftermath of the burning of Washington by the British during the War of 1812. This is a one of a kind publication that connects and describes people, places and events in a refreshing, singularly insightful fashion.

**Recognition Awards:**

Lifetime Achievement

**Irma Clifton**, a long-time member of the History Commission, for her lifelong passion to preserve, protect and promote the history of her native Lorton area. Particularly important to her is the Lorton Correctional Complex. Her efforts led to not only to the transfer of the property to Fairfax County, but also the creation of the Workhouse Arts Center, which includes a museum of the prison’s history and the famous suffragists imprisoned there, as well as, the adaptive reuse of the penitentiary and the reformatory complexes.

Distinguished Service

**L. Anthony Bracken** for his comprehensive history of the creation and development of the Lake Barcroft community near Falls Church. He included extensive background information, photographs, and documentation of early citizen contributions and neighborhood events.

**Neal McBride** for his tireless community activism on behalf of the Newington Forest Community Association as well as his formal and informal community involvement in the Laurel Hill Planning Task Force, South County Schools’ Alliance, Mt. Vernon Area Plan Review Task Force, Central Springfield Area Revitalization Committee, Lorton Arts Foundation’s Workhouse Museum’s Steering/Operating Committee, Sydenstricker Schoolhouse Committee, Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Committee, Occoquan Historical Society and many other organizations.

**Win and David Meiselman** for their dedication to preserving the history of one of Fairfax County’s few remaining antebellum homes, “Merrybrook.” In 2006, they founded the “Friends of Laura Ratcliffe House” an organization devoted to the preservation of the house and to preserving the legacy of Confederate spy Laura Ratcliffe, who once lived there. Further, they were instrumental persuading the State Legislature to pass legislation that allows the creation of Resident Curator Programs, which will allow the preservation of publicly-owned historic buildings.

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

**PUBLICATIONS**

The Publications Committee currently has three projects: reprinting *Beginning at a White Oak*; an update and reprint of *Mount Air*; and publishing *Fairfax County in 1860: A Collective Biography*.

Members of the Publications Committee are Carrie Ann Alford, Anne Barnes, Carole Herrick, Elise Ruff Murray and Anne Stuntz. At present there is no chairman.

## BUDGET

### Fairfax County History Commission Income and Expenses FY 2014, FY 2015 and Estimated FY 2016

	FY 2014	FY 2015	Estimated FY 2016
Beginning Balance July 1	\$30,780	\$25,806	\$32,170
Revenues:			
Fairfax County	\$21,013	\$21,013	\$21,013
Interest Earned	3	4	—
Total, Revenues	\$21,016	\$21,017	\$21,013
 Total Available	 \$51,796	 \$46,823	 \$53,183
Operating Expenses	\$25,990	\$14,653	\$25,000
Accruals for the preservation and publications programs	—	—	\$28,183
 Ending Balance June 30	 <u>\$25,806</u>	 <u>\$32,170</u>	 —

Major expenditures in FY 2014 and FY 2015 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.

## WEBSITE

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 Supervisors 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.

## 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 \$2040.

Three markers were approved and installed in 2014—The Huldah Coffey House in Burke, Clover Hill on Centreville Road near Franklin Farm Road in western Fairfax County, and William Watters (the first itinerant Methodist minister) in McLean. Clover Hill was a proffered marker funded by the Peterson Company, a developer. The William Watters marker was fully funded by the William Watters Foundation affiliated with the United Methodist Church, and the Huldah Coffey House marker was partially funded by the Burke Conservancy. In addition, two markers approved in 2013 were dedicated in 2014—The Bethlehem Baptist Church in Gum Springs and The George A. Malcolm marker in Lorton.

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

## ETHNIC/ORAL HISTORY

The Ethnic 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 create a program for recording and presenting oral history in Fairfax County. The Oral History subcommittee offers support to groups in Fairfax County seeking to record and collect oral histories.

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

## CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION SECTION GRANTS

The Commission provides grants to the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section (CRMP). Over the years the grants have funded a variety of things including data entry, archival supplies and interns. The most recent grant funded an intern who wrote computer code that integrated many of CRMP's various databases, excel spreadsheets and other tracking documents into one cohesive unit to assist in an upcoming American Alliance of Museums accreditation.

## 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.

There was no Comprehensive Plan Amendment for 2014 to update the Inventory tables, references to Inventory sites in the text and other technical corrections because there were no additions to the Inventory.

As of December 2014, the Inventory stood at 362 listings. To date the following sites were added in 2015:

### Additions to the Inventory of Historic Sites

As of July 2015

Site Name	Date Added	District	Location
Fairview Farm	1/7/2015	Lee	Alexandria
Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority Headquarters	7/1/2015	Springfield	Fairfax Station

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/)) Laurie Turkawski, Heritage Resource Specialist, is working with the Tinner Hill community in Falls Church to prepare an example for a district nomination.

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.

## SPEAKERS 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 Speakers Bureau List includes a variety of countywide history topics with related speakers and contact information, including name, email address and phone number. It is updated from time to time and with additional information gathered from the 2014 Annual History Conference will reflect additional speakers beyond the Commission members listed here.

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

**Anne Barnes** presents talks on historical Fairfax County's Shiloh Baptist Church to interracial audiences.

**Gretchen Bulova** offered a series of preservation workshops to local community organizations, including the Vintage Ladies Society and the St. Mary's of Sorrows Italian Club. The workshops included hands on demonstrations, information, and practical tips on preserving family photographs, digital images, family textiles, and documents.

**Carol Herrick** gave numerous lectures throughout the Greater Washington area regarding the War of 1812, particularly the burning of the City of Washington on August 24, 1814 and the flights of the Madisons into Fairfax County. The McLean Community Center began a "Lifetime Learning" program for seniors for which she is a principal speaker in its lecture series.

**Jack Hiller** continued to have a busy speaking schedule in 2014, which included three presentations before the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University. 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 Railroad 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 “Stories in Stone – Understanding Cemetery Iconography”.

**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, Old Colchester Park and Preserve and Mason Neck, speaking frequently to groups and at the History Conference.

**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.

**Carrie Ann Alford** was recently appointed to the Old Mount Vernon High School Reuse Task Force as the History Commission representative.

**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 Vice President (Programs) on the Virginia Association of Museum’s (VAM) Board, and helped to plan the 2015 VAM Conference in Richmond 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 in Hampton, representing Alexandria and Fairfax County. In addition, Gretchen planned 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** served as chair of “An Afternoon with the Madisons,” a War of 1812 bicentennial event held at the McLean Community Center exactly 200 years to the day after the British invaded and burned the City of Washington. She portrayed Dolley Madison, Montpelier’s John Douglas Hall represented James Madison, and Roger Mudd stepped in as the honorary chair. She was chair of “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. She 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 1890s 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 continue as directors and active members.

**Sallie Lyons** formed and incorporated the Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Cultural Resources, FOFA, supporting the Cultural Resource Management and Protection Branch of the Park Authority. **Barbara Naef** was among the charter members. **Elise Ruff 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 Ruff Murray** serves as vice president of the Friends of the Virginia Room and continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the Historical Society of Fairfax County.

Commissioner **Barbara Naef** continues to participate in the Park Authority American Alliance of Museums (AAM) reaccreditation project, working as a volunteer consultant with staff of the Resource Management Division charged with this multi-year effort.

**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. She is an active member of the Historical Society of Fairfax County, serves on the Sully Foundation and Flint Hill Cemetery Association and Friends of the Virginia Room boards, 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.

**Carrie Ann Alford**—our newest member is a native of Chicago, IL, who lived in the Alexandria area from 1996-2002 and returned in 2010 for graduate school at George Washington University where she earned a MPS in Legislative Affairs. She simultaneously completed an online program, the Certificate in Advanced International Affairs with an emphasis in National Security Policy from the Bush School of Government at Texas A&M University. She also holds dual BA degrees in Journalism and Old Testament Literature and Jewish Studies from the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. Since 2013, Ms. Alford has worked as Legislative Assistant to Senator Toddy Puller, where among other responsibilities, she works closely with Mount Vernon and Gunston Hall on historical issues in the General Assembly, and with Fort Belvoir and Marine Corps Base Quantico on military issues. She is a member of the John Alexander Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), in Alexandria, VA, where she is Chaplain, immediate past Project Patriot Chair and Page at the Virginia State Conference and Continental Congress. She is also a Prospective Member, Virginia Society, National Society of the Colonial Dames of America (NSCDA).

**Anne M. Barnes**—originally from Georgia, is a longtime Fairfax County resident who 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 Director for a federal and 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 in several notable New York City and Washington area architecture firms prior to starting his own practice in Falls Church in 1989, which provides design services for historic architectural restorations at the local, state and national levels. Mr. Beach has served as the Architect member of the Commission since 2000, as Vice Chairman in 2004–2005, and as Chairman in 2006–2008, as Committee Chairman of the Fairfax County Resident Curator Program 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) has served as a local Chapter Board member and represented the AIA Northern Virginia Chapter Board as a Virginia Society AIA Director. He is also a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED, AP, BD+C) specializing in building design and construction and is a member of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Mr. Beach is a Georgetown University Architectural Thesis Advisor in the Real Estate and Urban Design 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. On November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Mr. Beach was presented with the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Virginia). This accolade recognizes him for his outstanding work as a citizen architect as his efforts have raised the standard of architecture throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. In March, Mr. Beach was presented with the 2015 Pratt Institute Alumni Achievement Award which recognizes outstanding graduates who have distinguished themselves in their fields; have earned a high degree of respect among their colleagues and in the general community, and whose impact has been felt on a regional, national and/or international level. These two awards also recognized Mr. Beach for his design of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, which will honor the lives of the suffragists who worked for the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment giving women the right to vote. Bob 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 served through 2014.

**Irma A. Clifton**—retired from the Commission during 2014 when she moved to her home in the Falmouth, Virginia Historic District. She was born and raised in Lorton and resided in a 90-year-old farmhouse purchased by her parents in 1945. She is a longtime 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 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 education programs at the Laurel Grove School and the Franconia Museum. She served as the Commission’s Secretary in 2010.

**Carole Herrick**—lives with her husband, Philip, in McLean. As a nationally ranked tennis player, she attended Los Angeles State College, where she received her BA in history. In November of 2012 she was inducted into the National Women’s Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame. Herrick is the current Chairman of the Fairfax County History Commission and a re-enactor of Dolley Madison. She served three terms on the Governing Board of the McLean Community Center, followed by four years as Chair of Friends of the McLean Community Center and continues to serve on that board. She is a past president of the McLean Historical Society and serves today as its vice-president. Herrick chaired McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia, 1607-2007, and served on the board of Fairfax 2007, two organizations that promoted the quadricentennial anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. She chaired the “McLean Centennial Celebration,” an event held in June of 2010 commemorating the beginning of McLean. The following year she chaired “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. She also chaired “An Afternoon with the Madisons,” an event held at the McLean Community Center on August 24, 2014, exactly 200 years after the British burned the City of Washington. She has received the “Heartbeat of Rotary” and “Friend in Deed” awards. Herrick has written numerous articles for publication about McLean and the Northern Virginia area and has authored seven books: *A Chronological History of McLean; Virginia, Yesterday – 100 Recollections of McLean and Great Falls, Virginia; Yesterday – Additional Recollections of McLean and Great Falls, Virginia; Images of America: McLean, August 24, 1814: Washington in Flames*, and *Ambitious Failure: Chain Bridge, The First Bridge across the Potomac River*. Her most recent publication is *Legendary Locals: McLean*.



**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, Jr. 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 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 Railroad 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, Advocacy and Bylaws Committees. 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**—has been a resident of Fairfax County for over 20 years. 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 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 received 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 Lyonshare Studios, LLC, a technical computer graphics company that provides illustrative and word support for planning, preservation, publication and other technical fields. She is founder and current president of FOFA, the Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Cultural Resources, supporting the Cultural Resource Management and Protection Branch of the Fairfax County Park Authority. She is an active member of several local and state archaeology and history organizations.

**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 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. The Archaeologist Representative on the Commission, she serves on the Inventory of Historic Sites Committee, Budget Committee, the annual History Conference Planning and Implementation Committee and the Resident Curator Program Committee.

**Rachel Rifkind**—who stepped down in 2014, 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 former 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, served as Vice Chairman from 2012 through 2014, and is again the Commission’s Secretary.

**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 an 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. 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.

**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. Ms. Zeavin is listed in the Who’s Who of American Politics.