



THE CHRONICLE

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF STRATFORD HALL · FALL 2011

Our Phone Numbers Have Changed!

Please note that when calling us, phone numbers for the various departments at Stratford Hall have now been changed. The main number remains 804-493-8038, but departments and staff can now be reached through a direct line number. **For a listing of new department numbers, please see the back page.**

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Most 2012 Programs Will Be Free to Friends of Stratford Members



Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society dancers perform at the Christmastide event.

With 30 programs scheduled for 2012, no matter what your interest might be, there will be plenty of reasons to visit and enjoy Stratford and its serene surroundings

during the year. From Civil War-related programs to Grandparent/Grandchild summer camps, from birding programs to star gazing, from the Easter Egg Hunt in April to Christmastide in December, there is a program just right for you and your family. And as an added benefit, most 2012 programs, with certain exceptions, will be offered free to Friends of Stratford members during the year.

“We are pleased to offer a wide variety of events focusing on the land, the lives and the legacy of the Lee family here at Stratford Hall,” said Paul Reber, Executive Director. “Many of our programs are family friendly, so bring the kids or grandchildren and introduce Stratford to a new generation.”

Civil War-related programs in 2012 include the *Robert E. Lee Symposium on Civil War History* on April 13–15, *Songs and Remembrances: the Civil War on the Northern Neck* on May 19, and *Surgery and Medical Advances during the Civil War* on November 3. These programs are in recognition of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War.

Stratford’s popular Grandparent/Grandchild camps will be offering sessions on June 26–28, July 10–12 and August 7–9. The expanded number will make it even easier to pick a camp that will fit into everybody’s schedule. For more information on the camps visit the website and click on “Learn” and then click on “Camps” on the sidebar menu.

For a complete up-to-date listing of upcoming programs for the entire year, go to www.StratfordHall.org and click on “Visit” and then click on “Events and Programs” on the sidebar menu. This listing will also show you which programs are free to Friends of Stratford members. In addition, you can sign up on the website for our e-newsletter to get more information about upcoming programs.



A wide range of programs, from Grandparent/Grandchild summer camps to history programs, are being offered in 2012. For more detailed program information, visit the website at www.StratfordHall.org



President of the University of the South and Historian John McCardell, Jr., Addresses Lee Circle Members

Activities include special tour and talk on china collection

Over 70 guests were honored during the Lee Circle donor recognition event that was held at Stratford on October 15–16, 2011. Kathy Hendricks, Director for Georgia, and her husband, Pete Hendricks, served as the chairmen for this year's event.

Highlights of the event included Friday evening cocktails in the Great House followed by dinner and dancing under a tent near the Boxwood Garden. On Saturday morning, John M. McCardell, Jr., Vice Chancellor and President of the University of the South, gave a very informative talk on how the Civil War is remembered in the South. The talk was followed by a special tour of new installations in the Great House by Stratford Curator Gretchen Goodell. On Saturday afternoon, Ron Fuchs from Washington and Lee University presented a talk on Stratford's Society of the Cincinnati china collection.

John McCardell is a distinguished historian and respected national leader in liberal arts education. He is the author of *The Idea of a Southern Nation*, developed from his Ph.D. dissertation, as well as many essays, chapters, articles and book reviews. His specialty is U.S. History in the 19th century with

special emphasis on the South and on American historiography.

The Lee Circle is a concept based on the circle of Lee family and friends who lived and gathered at Stratford during the formative, sometimes volatile, early years of this nation. It was established in 2006 to recognize those who give \$5,000 or more annually to support Stratford.

This generous group of donors supports the restoration, research and preservation of the Great House and other aspects of Stratford. Important assistance is also provided for on-going educational programs for school children, teachers and the general public.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Lee Circle or in one of the other giving options, contact Regina Pitts in the Development Department at 804-493-8038 or by email rpitts@stratfordball.org.



John McCardell, Jr., addresses Lee Circle members in the Great Hall during the donor recognition event held in October.

Ron Fuchs from Washington and Lee University presented a talk on Stratford's Society of the Cincinnati china collection.



Lee Circle attendees gather for a reception in the Great Hall.



Rutherfordoords Create Challenge Gift for Director of Landscapes



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Cultural Landscape Report Will Direct Future Efforts



Jeannie Rutherford

The gardens and natural landscape at Stratford Hall comprise some of our most valuable and attractive assets. Many people, as a part of groups or individually, come to Stratford specifically to tour our gardens each year. Understanding this, Washington D.C. Director Jeannie Rutherford and her husband Tom have chosen to play a major role in the evolution of our landscape. The Rutherfordoords recently made a significant contribution to ensure the timely completion of the landscape study that we are

engaged in with the University of Georgia and the Jaeger Company. This study will give Stratford Hall a plan for how to proceed with the care and changes in our gardens and grounds. A final report should be completed by Summer 2012.

The Rutherfordoords also know that, in order to proceed with the plans that result from the landscape study, Stratford Hall will need a knowledgeable and experienced staff person dedicated to the work. The Rutherfordoords have issued a challenge gift earmarked for the first three years of a Director of Landscapes position at Stratford Hall.

Once donors have committed \$160,000 towards the first two years of a Director of Landscapes salary, the Rutherfordoords will fund the third year of the position. We are grateful at Stratford Hall for the Rutherfordoords' generosity and their dedication to studying and improving our natural surroundings.

If you have any questions about the Director of Landscapes position, the landscape study or other opportunities to contribute to the home of the Lees, please contact the Development Office at 804-493-8919 or rpitts@stratfordball.org.

“We feel that studying Stratford’s gardens and natural landscape is so important to understanding how the Lees lived, and we hope that others will join us in ensuring that the recommendations coming out of the study are carried out responsibly and efficiently. Hiring a Director of Landscapes who can do this work, that is so important to so many of us, is vital to Stratford’s future.”
—Jeannie Rutherford



Friends of Stratford Committees Host Events

Over 115 people attended an Oyster and Game Roast Dinner at Stratford in October that was hosted by the Northern Neck Friends of Stratford chairmen and in coordination with Georgia Director Kathy Hendricks.



Become a Friend of Stratford and Plan Your Visit Today!

This is a perfect time to take advantage of all the benefits of a Friends of Stratford membership. As a cardholder, you receive free admission so you can make unlimited visits to:

- Walk the grounds and see the beautiful gardens and wildflowers when in bloom
- Hike the nature trails and see a variety of wildlife and enjoy some birdwatching
- Visit the beach where you might find a shark's tooth or just relax and enjoy the Potomac River view
- Tour the Great House — no matter how many times you've seen it, there is always something new to learn
- Check out the Gift Shop and use your 10% member discount to find a special treat for yourself

Memberships start at just \$35. Use the enclosed envelope, join online at www.stratfordhall.org/give, call 804-493-8919 or better yet, plan a visit and join while you're here. Your membership also ensures the your subscription to *The Chronicle* continues, so you don't miss out on all the exciting things happening at Stratford Hall. Join us today!

Our Friends of Stratford Committees continue to promote Stratford around the area by hosting events to thank donors and to introduce Stratford and the heritage of the Lee family to new audiences.

DELAWARE

On October 2, Martha Anne Jackson, RELMA President and Delaware Director, hosted a reception at her home in Dover, Delaware, to thank donors. Executive Director Paul Reber attended and updated donors on Stratford activities.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The District of Columbia Friends of Stratford Committee will host a lecture by Jeffrey Wirt, Civil War expert and author of *A Glorious Army: Robert E. Lee's Triumph, 1862-1863*, on January 15, 2012 at 5 p.m. at American University.

FLORIDA

Carol Price, Virginia Director and a past RELMA President, and her husband Ted Price, will host a reception in honor of Robert E. Lee's birthday in Vero Beach, Florida, on January 16, 2012.

FREDERICKSBURG

On October 14, the Fredericksburg Friends of Stratford Committee hosted its annual event. This year the event was held at the home of Ann Sears and Tom Wack. The turnout was the biggest yet, with over 200 people.

NEW YORK

A reception was held November 2 in New York City. Mary Jane Brock hosted a reception, attended by Ginny Day, Connecticut Director, Custis Glover, Lee Descendant Director, and Anne Reiss, New Jersey Director, at her home. This event also gave us an opportunity to thank donors and introduce Stratford to more people.

NORTHERN NECK

The Northern Neck Friends of Stratford chairmen, in coordination with Georgia Director Kathy Hendricks, hosted an Oyster and Game Roast Dinner at Stratford on October 15. Over 115 people attended. Special thanks to our Northern Neck chairmen for all their hard work in making the event a success.

duPont Library Collection to be part of The Founding Fathers Library Consortium

Bar-coding rare book collection continues for on-line catalog



Thanks to Julia Hurwitz's energy, nearly half of the rare books were readied for the digital catalog.

Nearly 4,000 rare books have been listed and bar-coded in readiness for entering them into a digital catalog shared with Mount Vernon and Gunston Hall. With probably less than 1,000

what can be found in our collection, help us to locate the books faster, make it easier for researchers to access the information they need, and share resources among the three historic sites.

Work on the digital catalog project officially began last summer with the arrivals of intern Julia Hurwitz and a large stack of self-stick barcodes. Julia's internship involved finding the books that matched the titles in the lists we already had, inserting acid-free identification strips in each book, putting identical barcodes on the identification strip and listing for each volume, and compiling a list of titles that were not represented on any list the library has.

She made many trips up and down the rolling library ladder and successfully located and bar-coded over 2,500 books.

Thanks to Julia's unflagging energy, superb organizational skills, and multi-lingual skills, all of the rare books in the duPont Room were readied for the digital catalog.

Judy Hynson, Director of Research and Archivist, with the help of volunteer Maurice Capone, have now begun identifying and bar-coding the rare books housed in the library basement in order to complete the project.



An example of a bookplate from the rare book collection in the duPont Library.

Spotlight on a Recent Acquisition into the Stratford Hall Collections

Clothespress on view in lower level boy's bedchamber

For the Virginia gentry, the clothespress was a popular furniture form for the secure storage of expensive household linens and personal clothing. At least two are noted in the 1776 household inventory of Stratford. While most clothespresses were outfitted with shelves and drawers for folded storage, this unusual example has a row of wooden pegs inside, indicating that it was used for the hanging storage of clothing. Much like our modern "wardrobe" might function.

We are continually looking for locally-produced furniture to furnish the house and its outbuildings. The donor knew of this need and we are grateful for the addition to the collections. This clothespress is currently on view in the Boys' Bedchamber on the lower level of the Great House.

Do you have something you think belongs in our collections? Visit the website at www.stratfordhall.org/learn/collections/ for more information on the collections and making donations.



Clothespress
Tidewater, Virginia
Walnut and yellow pine, 1765-1780
Gift in memory of Leighton Huske III
[2010.021]

Robert E. Lee Symposium on Civil War History to Focus on the Battle of Antietam

Symposium to be held on April 13–15, 2012



Part of the Robert E. Lee exhibit in the Visitor Center.

Join noted historians Peter Carmichael and Gary Gallagher for the fourth annual symposium dedicated to the further study of General Robert E. Lee. This year the symposium will explore the battle of Antietam and is part of Stratford Hall's acknowledgment of the national 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The symposium is being offered with support by the Lee-Jackson Educational Foundation.

The Battle of Antietam was the conclusion of the Maryland Campaign of 1862, the first invasion of the North by General Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia. In Kentucky and Missouri, Southern armies were advancing as the tide of the war flowed northward. Lincoln had written the Emancipation Proclamation in the spring of 1862, but

the war had gone badly and he was desperately seeking a victory to redefine the reason for the war and the increasing loss of life. Robert E. Lee had other plans — invade the North. When Lee's strategy fell into the hands of the Union Army, the result was the single bloodiest day in American history at the Battle of Antietam in Sharpsburg, Maryland.

This symposium will concentrate on the military leadership and strategies of Robert E. Lee, and the opposing Union generals during the battle of Antietam. We invite you to join us as we explore this critical battle of the American Civil War through primary source documents, tour discussions, lectures, and battlefield tours.

Dr. Peter Carmichael is the Fluhner professor of history at Gettysburg College and Director of the Civil War Institute. Carmichael earned his Ph.D. in history at Pennsylvania State University in 1996. Some of his published works include: *The Last Generation: Young Virginians in Peace, War, and Reunion*; *Lee's Young Artillerist: William R. J. Pegram*; and *Audacity Personified: The Generalship of Robert E. Lee*. Carmichael's next book project, "Black Rebels," will explore the

experience of slaves who served as Confederate soldiers.

Gary W. Gallagher is the John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War at the University of Virginia. He received his Ph.D. in 1982 from the University of Texas at Austin. He taught for twelve years at Penn State University before joining the faculty at the University of Virginia in 1998. Some of his published works include: *Stephen Dodson Ramseur: Lee's Gallant General*; *The Confederate War*; *Lee and His Generals in War and Memory*; *The American Civil War: The War in the East 1861–May 1863*; and *Lee and His Army in Confederate History*.

The program fee includes two nights lodging at the Clarion Hotel, dinner and lecture Friday evening, breakfast buffet, box lunch and dinner Saturday evening, a breakfast buffet Sunday, April 15, and all lecturer fees, tour bus costs, and handouts. For a complete listing of program fee options, please visit the website and click on the events page, or contact Jon Bachman at jbachman@stratfordhall.org or call 804-493-1972.

Peter Carmichael (second from left) and Gary Gallagher (fifth from left) lead attendees of last year's symposium on a tour of the Chancellorsville battlefield.



Weathering the Storm(s) at Stratford

Hurricane Irene does widespread damage



This fall we believe we have had everything Mother Nature could possibly throw at us — smoke from the wildfire in the Great Dismal Swamp, an earthquake, a hurricane, and floods from tropical storm Lee (appropriate enough) that washed out Route 3 in several places in Westmoreland County.

While Stratford suffered no damage during the earthquake that was centered in Virginia, Hurricane Irene was not so kind. Trees came down everywhere,

from the main entrance all the way down to the gristmill. The dining room/cabin area was particularly hard hit. Power was out for almost an entire week. Stratford's dedicated farm and maintenance crew, along with outside contractors, worked non-stop removing trees and making repairs. Currently, the only parts of the plantation still closed due to storm damage are the nature trails.



Robert E. Lee Memorial Association, Inc.
483 Great House Road
Stratford, Virginia 22558-0001

Stratford Hall
HOME of THE LEES of VIRGINIA
& BIRTHPLACE OF ROBERT E. LEE
The Land. The Lives. The Legacy.

Calendar of Events

For more info visit StratfordHall.org

February 25

Reflections on Black History:

Telling One Story Part 1

“Telling One Story” is a series of presentations developed in collaboration with the Westmoreland County Museum and the A.T. Johnson Museum in Montross. Part 1: The Foundation; Enslavement to 1959. A.T. Johnson Museum will host the program from 3–5 p.m.

March 24

Growing up Female in the 18th Century

This symposium will explore the lives of representative classes of women: the enslaved, the lower classes, the “middlings,” and the elite, or gentry, class. What were the lifestyles and limitations for women two hundred years ago? The symposium will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in the duPont Library.

April 7

Easter Egg Hunt

Sponsored by the Northern Neck Lodge 32 of the Fraternal Order of Police, this annual event is free to participants and their parents. The event begins at 11 a.m. on the Oval. Please bring a basket or bag to pick-up eggs. No rain date.

April 13–15

Robert E. Lee Symposium on Civil War History

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Visitor Center	804-493-8038
Accounting	804-493-1977
Collections	804-493-1943
Development	804-493-8919
Dining Room	804-493-1968
Education, Programs, Camps	804-493-1973
Gift Shop	804-493-1969
Lodging	804-493-1968
Library	804-493-1940
Preservation	804-493-1975
Public Relations	804-493-1971

The Chronicle is a newsletter published quarterly by the Marketing and Public Relations Department. The Robert E. Lee Memorial Association is a private, non-profit organization that has owned and operated Stratford since 1929.

Stratford preserves the physical and intellectual legacy of the Lee family and its plantation community to inspire an appreciation of our nation’s past and encourages people to pursue the Lees’ ideals of leadership, independent thought and civic responsibility.

Executive Director: Paul Reber
Editor: Jim Schepmoes

Questions, comments and address changes should be directed to:
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